



## New overalls for Dad

**M**y dad worked hard to support his family. It was always a labor of love, and we appreciated the endless hours he spent in the field and barn of our northern Indiana farm. He was reluctant to spend money on himself; new shoes or overalls could always wait. He kidded that the cows were not fashion conscious and didn't mind his patched britches.

It was evidently true — they never complained! It was a deep love that drew us, his four young children, to save up enough money so that we could buy him new overalls. It took all of us contributing and counting our coins daily, but what a joy it was to save together and then present him with the new overalls!

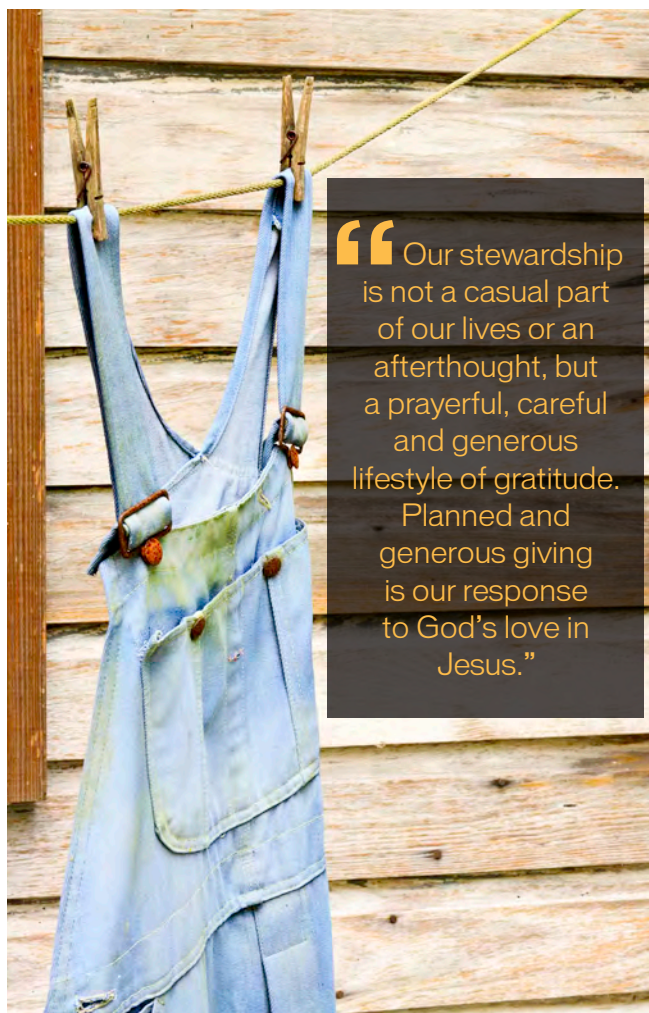
In the same way, the gifts we give to God are a

response to God's love for us in Jesus Christ. When we as a district look at the mission field, we know that an intentional and bold ministry calls for faithful and joyous sacrifice. Faithful stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes. When God's Word and love fill our hearts and minds, our stewardship is not limited to specific acts, but, instead, becomes a lifestyle. Our lives and all of our gifts have a purpose.

As the Body of Christ in the Indiana District, we are one in that spirit and purpose! Lutheran Christians in particular are thoughtful in our use of God's gifts. We look for bargains, save for what we need and avoid buying on impulse. We pray and think about our offerings as we look at our family budgets and plan our giving to God. Our stewardship is not a casual part of our lives or an afterthought, but a prayerful, careful and generous lifestyle of gratitude. Planned and generous giving is our response to God's love in Jesus. And that response allows the Church to plow deep and wide in our communities, district and around the world.

Which brings me back to those overalls. When dad opened his present, we wanted him to try on the overalls and start using them right away. After all, we gave them to him for a purpose. We maybe even hoped the cows would appreciate his new barn fashion statement! Likewise, the offerings we bring to God flow out of our response to God's love for us, and we pray that they will be used for His holy purposes.

True, it was a sacrifice to buy those new overalls, but a happy sacrifice. In the same way, we are happy to make sacrificial offerings to God. Remember, God loves a cheerful giver! That's us when we understand stewardship as a proper and important expression of who we are and whose we are in Christ Jesus. It is a joy to see our gifts blended together to serve God in a myriad of exciting ministries in the Indiana District — even more exciting than new overalls!



“Our stewardship is not a casual part of our lives or an afterthought, but a prayerful, careful and generous lifestyle of gratitude. Planned and generous giving is our response to God's love in Jesus.”

*Rev. Daniel P. May*

**Rev. Daniel May**  
President, Indiana District



## LCEF helps Our Savior prepare for current – and future – growth

When people began joking that the HVAC technician should have a dedicated parking spot at Our Savior Lutheran Church and School, Louisville, Ky., they knew it was time to make some updates to their buildings. Unfortunately, there was no room in the budget for such changes — until the church treasurer called the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) for help. Refinancing the church's mortgage through LCEF provided the funds needed for several physical improvements, including an updated heating and cooling system, renovated welcome center, new carpeting and a parking-lot makeover.

“When you're competing with other schools, physical appearance is important — especially when you're trying to draw people who aren't necessarily Lutheran,” said Rev. Charles Fausel, Our Savior pastor. Fausel calls the refinancing “a very smart move for us, leveraging our assets instead of pouring money into some inefficient heating and cooling systems.”

But the support didn't stop there. Through LCEF's VisionPath, the

congregation has also developed a “20/20 Missional Plan,” helping it prepare for future growth. “We're looking five years out (to the year 2020) and seeing more clearly,” Fausel said, somewhat tongue-in-cheek. Through VisionPath, Our Savior has been able to clarify ministry goals and identify the steps needed to turn those objectives into accomplishments.

Some of those goals include calling a second pastor to enhance community outreach and work with families and youth, as well as boosting the school's pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade enrollment from its current 182 students to the 225-student capacity through a scholarship endowment fund, making a Christian education affordable for more families. “Many congregations equate growing with building — the bricks-and-mortar kind of building, typically supported by a capital campaign,” Fausel said. “Our Savior wants to grow in ministry, not necessarily in bricks and mortar. We knew we needed to do something like a capital campaign, but not a campaign that has anything to do with an

architectural drawing.”

Working with the Rev. Dennis Goff, agency vice-president of LCEF's Capital Funding Services, the congregation examined ministry strengths, community needs and opportunities to better connect the two. They started with a new mission statement to communicate Our Savior's core purpose: Teach, Love, Connect. “No one could remember or easily say our old mission statement — it didn't flow,” said Fausel, who credits Goff with encouraging the congregation's missional planning department to “clearly describe Our Savior's direction into the future in a way everyone can understand.”

Starting a maintenance fund is another key component in the biblically based capital stewardship campaign Our Savior is discussing with Goff. “We want to make sure we have money for future maintenance projects,” Fausel said. “We don't want to have to keep borrowing, making our children pay on the building forever.” With Our Savior's new 20/20 vision and some big steps toward stronger outreach, that won't be a problem. In fact, through LCEF, Fausel sees nothing but exciting ministry opportunities in the church's future.



# The joy of **GIVING**

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

**(2 Cor. 9:7)**

Most of us are familiar with the idea that God loves a cheerful giver. Some of us even sang songs about it in Sunday school. As an adult, I find it interesting that when the Apostle Paul wrote those words, he also took time to explain the reason why we can be cheerful when we give. It's simply this: when we give, God multiplies our gift. Consider these verses:

*“He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every*



*way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God” (2 Cor. 9:10-11).*

In other words, God blesses us when we give. That's certainly reason enough to be cheerful, don't you think, especially when we contemplate how God uses our gifts to further His kingdom.

**Consider these ministries we support throughout our district:**

## › Campus ministries

Did you know that right here in Indiana, we have a large number of international students? University Lutheran Church (ULu), West Lafayette; University Lutheran Church, Bloomington; and Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Muncie, have the ability to impact people from many different cultures, and we don't have to travel overseas to do it. They are coming to us! These ministries are in desperate need of renovations and updates to their facilities in order to continue their outreach to students. So whether you're a Boilermaker, Hoosier or Cardinal fan, you can make a difference in the lives of college students when you give to these ministries.

## › Ministerial Excellence Fund

Most people don't realize that many pastors leave seminary with a load of debt. Unfortunately, the typical pastor's salary makes paying back those loans a long, slow process. That's where our Ministerial Excellence Fund comes in. Through your gifts to this fund, you can help pastors retire this debt so they can minister freely in our congregations without carrying those financial burdens.

## › Local congregations

Finally, I always promote tithing an individual's estate to the local congregation. Appreciated stock and other taxable assets are always welcome by the congregation or local ministry.

Paul wrote to the Corinthians, *“But just as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us — see that you also excel in this grace of giving.”* (2 Cor. 8:7)

As Christians, our greatest incentive to give to worthy ministries rests directly on our greatest example of giving: our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherever you decide to give, let's remember that we have every reason to rejoice as we work together to further God's kingdom.

## STEWARDSHIP

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# New parish record!

St. John, Indianapolis, welcomes **17** new members



St. John, Indianapolis, welcomed 17 new members and their families into the fellowship of believers on Sunday May 17. This is the largest new-member welcoming that St. John has had. The pastor is the Rev. Philip Krupski. A congregational reception, luncheon and presentation about assimilating into the congregation was held immediately after church, sponsored by the board of Parish Fellowship and hosted by Paul Johnson, director of Outreach and Assimilation.

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## Deadline for submissions

The **deadline** for the November issue of *The Lutheran Witness* is **Sept. 10**. Your stories and pictures are most appreciated. Please send them by:

- › email to [jan.koenig@in.lcms.org](mailto:jan.koenig@in.lcms.org)
- › or postal mail to:  
*Lutheran Witness Editor*  
*Indiana District LCMS*  
*1145 South Barr St.*  
*Fort Wayne, IN 46802*

Please remember that photos sent electronically should be in jpeg format with a minimum 300 dpi.

**BEST PRACTICES**  
**HEART** FOR MINISTRY  
**LAND**  
The pulse of God's mission.  
**September 16–18, 2015**

Carmel Lutheran Church | [info@carmellutheran.org](mailto:info@carmellutheran.org)  
4850 E. Main St., Carmel, IN 46033 | 317.814.4252



## New warehouse...

### *opens doors of opportunity*

The Indiana regional office of Orphan Grain Train (OGT) dedicated its new warehouse storage facility in Jonesville during a special ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house on July 26. The festivities marked the culmination of a months-long construction project and even longer capital campaign to support the endeavor, as well as countless hours of volunteer efforts to aid in the new construction.

The new location replaces a former operational site in nearby Elizabethtown, which consisted of one small building and a series of semi-trailers for sorting and storage. And while Gene Wint, former program director, and many

volunteers did a fabulous job of working with the resources available, that setting was less than ideal for the growing local and global outreach that has developed over the years.

“We are so appreciative of everything Gene has done for this ministry with so few resources,” said Rev.

“We want to connect this avenue for meeting people’s physical needs with an opportunity to address their spiritual needs as well, planting the seeds of the Gospel. This space gives us the opportunity to do that.”

Doug Bauman, OGT pastoral advisor and pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Columbus.

The new facility creates some much-needed space and opens many new doors of opportunity for OGT “We’re so

blessed with the new space, which will give us the benefit of everything — sorting and storage — under one

◀ Participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for Orphan Grain Train’s new Indiana branch were, from left, Jennifer Tape, Gene Ernst (manager), Jerry Maley, Marge Lazzell, Vivian Ernst, Charlie Meier, Irene Shireman, Carol Maley, Gene Wint, Elinor Brown, Jerry Brown and Al Lazzell.

roof,” Bauman said. “We are also blessed with a new manager (Gene Ernst). The Lord does provide.”

The new warehouse also creates a space for OGT staff to meet with local people in need. “Our goal is to be intentional in our ministry,” Bauman said. “We want to connect this avenue for meeting people’s physical needs with an opportunity to address their spiritual needs as well, planting the seeds of the Gospel. This space gives us the opportunity to do that.”

Truly, OGT’s impact, both locally and globally, has already expanded as a result of the move. “Locally, we can respond immediately with disaster relief with food, clothes and furniture, depending on the need,” Bauman said.

Globally, the ministry will continue to identify areas where needs exist and where it can serve people in Christ’s name. An expanded volunteer base, which has developed in response to new excitement and awareness about the ministry, has increased donations and fueled new passion for the project. OGT has already collected clothing and raised shipping costs to send out the first overseas shipment to orphanages in Latvia.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the development of OGT’s new location in Jonesville, and to all volunteers and supporters of this vital outreach to people throughout the district — and around the world!

# CELEBRATIONS

## September Birthdays (90 and older)

**May 30** – Geneva Braun, 95, Emmanuel, Tell City  
**June 14** – Esther Kvalo, 99, Grace, Muncie  
**Aug. 9** – Ruth Koehnmann 98, St. John, Vincennes  
**Aug. 13** – James Sattler, 92, St. James, Lafayette  
**Aug. 16** – Irene Bieberich, 90, St. Paul (Preble), Decatur  
**Sept. 1** – Arlene Foth, 91, St. James, Lafayette  
**Sept. 2** – Dorothy Good, 98, St. James, Lafayette  
**Sept. 3** – Betty Peters, 92, St. John, Monroeville  
**Sept. 4** – Helen Hendricks, 90, Calvary, Indianapolis  
**Sept. 5** – Elizabeth McKinney, 94, St. John's, White Creek  
**Sept. 6** – Wynema Murphy, 91, St. John's, Vincennes  
**Sept. 6** – Mable Hankey, 90, Carmel  
**Sept. 7** – Mabel Schwark, 94, Calvary, Indianapolis  
**Sept. 8** – Margaret Bleitner 93, St. James Lafayette  
**Sept. 8** – Mary Jane Peck, 92, Calvary, Indianapolis  
**Sept. 10** – Nellie Franck, 92, St. Peter's, Brownstown  
**Sept. 12** – Opal Atwood, 97, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
**Sept. 12** – Berneice Newsom, 93, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
**Sept. 16** – Dorothy Crawford, 98, Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

**Sept. 17** – Marvin Stoppenhagen, 100, Zion, Freidheim  
**Sept. 17** – Kathleen Boyer, 92, Immanuel, Avilla  
**Sept. 17** – Russ Denzine, 90, Heritage, Valparaiso  
**Sept. 18** – Malinda Bieberich, 96, St. Paul (Preble), Decatur  
**Sept. 18** – Norma Blank, 93, St. John, Lanesville  
**Sept. 18** – Marlin Keidel, 91, Zion, Freidheim  
**Sept. 20** – Virginia Kniesly, 94, St. James, Logansport  
**Sept. 20** – Marcell Schoen 90, St. John, Lanesville  
**Sept. 21** – Doris Graessle, 95, Redeemer, Seymour  
**Sept. 22** – Harriet Briney, 93 Trinity, Hobart  
**Sept. 25** – Marty Koerner, 92, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
**Sept. 25** – Lorraine Yates, 91, Calvary, Indianapolis  
**Sept. 26** – Evelyn Rippe, 96, Trinity, Hobart  
**Sept. 27** – Marion Boerger, 93, St. John, Monroeville  
**Sept. 29** – Frederick Franzwa, 96, Trinity, Hobart  
**Sept. 29** – Peter Savoldi, 91, St. James, Lafayette  
**Sept. 29** – Bettye Southwood 91, St. Paul's, Evansville  
**Sept. 30** – Virginia Brewer, 92, St. Peter's, Brownstown

## September Anniversaries (50 or more years)

Aug. 10 – Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Lerch, 57, St. James, Lafayette  
Aug. 14 – Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Crouse, 55, St. James, Lafayette  
Aug. 20 – Mr. and Mrs. Byron Ginzel, 55, St. James Lafayette  
Aug. 21 – Mr. and Mrs. George Eickhoff, 60, St. Peter, Huntington  
Aug. 21 – Mr. and Mrs. Edward Clark, 50, St. James, Lafayette  
Aug. 23 – Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Werling, 57, St. Paul (Preble), Decatur  
Aug. 26 – Mr. and Mrs. Lester Smith, 54, St. Paul (Preble), Decatur  
Sept. 1 – Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cords, 64, St. James, Lafayette  
Sept. 1 – Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bickhart, 59, Emmanuel, Fort Wayne  
Sept. 1 – Mr. and Mrs. Ken Schueler, 58, St. Paul (Preble), Decatur  
Sept. 1 – Mr. and Mrs. Robert Keuneke, 53, St. Paul (Preble), Decatur  
Sept. 1 – Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Linnemeier 53, Zion, Freidheim  
Sept. 1 – Mr. and Mrs. Ross Springer, 53, Carmel  
Sept. 2 – Mr. and Mrs. Bob Nicholson, 64, Trinity, Darmstadt  
Sept. 2 – Mr. and Mrs. Clark Matson, 60, Immanuel, Avilla  
Sept. 2 – Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Bieberich, 54, Zion, Decatur  
Sept. 2 – Mr. and Mrs. Carl Eckelman, 54, St. James, Lafayette  
Sept. 3 – Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bailey, 54, Shepherd of the Hills, Georgetown  
Sept. 3 – Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kamman, 54, Zion, Seymour  
Sept. 4 – Mr. and Mrs. Alton Egolf, 63, Immanuel, Avilla  
Sept. 4 – Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Holle, 60, St. Peter's, Waymansville  
Sept. 5 – Mr. and Mrs. Gene Schroeder, 51, Epiphany, Westfield  
Sept. 5 – Mr. and Mrs. Butch Ruddick, 50, Redeemer, Seymour  
Sept. 6 – Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hawkins, 63, Zion, New Palestine  
Sept. 6 – Mr. and Mrs. Albert Arendt, 57, Trinity, Darmstadt  
Sept. 6 – Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kolanowski, 50, Faith, DeMotte  
Sept. 7 – Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Lambertus, 63, St. John, Lanesville  
Sept. 7 – Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hackman, 57, St. Peter's, Brownstown  
Sept. 8 – Mr. and Mrs. Louis Carroll, 59, Concordia, Evansville  
Sept. 8 – Mr. and Mrs. Jim Ruff, 58, Trinity, Darmstadt  
Sept. 8 – Mr. and Mrs. Montie Prince, 52, Redeemer, Seymour  
Sept. 9 – Mr. and Mrs. Gary Heckman, 70, Zion, Freidheim  
Sept. 9 – Mr. and Mrs. Melvin "Doc" Cleeter, 58, Trinity, Dillsboro  
Sept. 10 – Dr. and Mrs. Arden Christen, 60, Carmel  
Sept. 10 – Mr. and Mrs. Bart Blum, 54, St. Paul (Preble), Decatur  
Sept. 10 – Mr. and Mrs. Dick Larkey, 54, Zion, New Palestine  
Sept. 11 – Mr. and Mrs. Ken Fehd, 67, Trinity, Darmstadt  
Sept. 11 – Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Griffin, 61, Zion, Garrett

Sept. 12 – Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schultz, 62, Trinity Memorial, Merrillville  
Sept. 13 – Mr. and Mrs. Dale Catt, 63, Trinity, Hobart  
Sept. 13 – Mr. and Mrs. William Toborg, 62, Redeemer, Seymour  
Sept. 13 – Mr. and Mrs. Ron Hunter, 57, Trinity, Hammond  
Sept. 13 – Mr. and Mrs. James Kahre, 57, Trinity, Darmstadt  
Sept. 14 – Mr. and Mrs. Henry Morgan, 69, Faith, Louisville  
Sept. 14 – Mr. and Mrs. Duane Lupke, 58, Emmanuel, Fort Wayne  
Sept. 14 – Mr. and Mrs. Richard Teising, 52, St. John's, Vincennes  
Sept. 14 – Mr. and Mrs. Otto Weber, 52, Our Shepherd, Avon  
Sept. 15 – Mr. and Mrs. John Downing 64, Heritage, Valparaiso  
Sept. 15 – Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Meyer, 59, St. James, Lafayette  
Sept. 16 – Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hesterman, 65, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Sept. 16 – Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Markel, 54, Immanuel, Michigan City  
Sept. 17 – Mr. and Mrs. Jim Rosser, 54, Carmel  
Sept. 17 – Mr. and Mrs. Don Gehres, 50, Zion, Freidheim  
Sept. 18 – Mr. and Mrs. Bob Zoller, 61, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Sept. 18 – Mr. and Mrs. William Bender, 60, Trinity, Hobart  
Sept. 18 – Mr. and Mrs. Jim Crosby, 60, Zion, Freidheim  
Sept. 19 – Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Anderson, 56, Grace, Muncie  
Sept. 19 – Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Knutson, 56, Trinity Memorial, Merrillville  
Sept. 19 – Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Meyer, 51, St. John's, White Creek  
Sept. 20 – Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Selking, 57, St. Paul (Preble), Decatur  
Sept. 22 – Mr. and Mrs. John Berger, 65, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Sept. 22 – Mr. and Mrs. Donald Buckles, 53, Immanuel, Avilla  
Sept. 24 – Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Mueller, 66, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Sept. 24 – Mr. and Mrs. Les Brandt, 55, Calvary, Indianapolis  
Sept. 24 – Mr. and Mrs. Cal Kassuelke, 55, Carmel  
Sept. 24 – Mr. and Mrs. George Krietemeyer, 55, Trinity, Darmstadt  
Sept. 24 – Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ewell, 54, St. Paul (Preble), Decatur  
Sept. 25 – Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sterrett, 50, St. James, Lafayette  
Sept. 26 – Mr. and Mrs. Dave Bradtmueller, 51, St. John, Monroeville  
Sept. 26 – Mr. and Mrs. Michael Busse, 51, Zion, Decatur  
Sept. 26 – Mr. and Mrs. Larry Linnemeier, 51, Emmanuel, Fort Wayne  
Sept. 26 – Mr. and Mrs. William Steele, 51, St. James, Lafayette  
Sept. 27 – Mr. and Mrs. Donald Moffatt, 63, Carmel  
Sept. 28 – Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, 63, Our Shepherd, Avon  
Sept. 29 – Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hoffman, 53, St. John's, White Creek  
Sept. 30 – Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Sterling, 52, St. Peter's, Brownstown



## September Prayer List

### Week of Sept. 7 - Labor Day

#### Week of Sept. 14

- California-Nevada-Hawaii District
- Circuit 13
- *Trinity*, Indianapolis
- *Zion*, New Palestine
- *Holy Cross*, Indianapolis
- *Christ*, Noblesville
- *Lord of Life*, Westfield
- *Epiphany*, Westfield
- **Mission:** Gospel Friendship to Muslims-Concordia, Fort Wayne
- **RSO:** Lutheran Social Services, Fort Wayne

#### Week of Sept. 21

- Central Illinois District
- Circuit 18
- *Calvary*, Bedford
- *St. Paul*, Brownstown
- *St. Peter*, Brownstown
- *Emmanuel*, Leesville
- *Good Shepherd*, Medora
- *Faith*, Salem
- *St. John*, Seymour
- *Trinity*, Vallonia
- **Mission:** Gypsy Ministry, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne
- **RSO:** Lutheran Special Ed Ministries, Fort Wayne

#### Week of Sept. 28

- Eastern District
- Circuit 3
- *Faith Memorial*, Valparaiso
- *Heritage*, Valparaiso
- *Immanuel*, Valparaiso
- *Trinity*, Westville
- *Prince of Peace*, Valparaiso
- **Mission:** Japanese Outreach, *Trinity*, Indianapolis
- **RSO:** Siberian Lutheran Mission Society

## Calendar of Events

**Sept. 8** – Seminary Guild, “Getting to Know You Tea”  
1 p.m. in Luther Hall, CTS

**Sept. 13** – Opening Service  
3 p.m., Kramer Chapel, CTS

**Sept. 16-18** – Best Practices for Ministry Heartland  
*Carmel*

**Sept. 18-19** – Junior High Rally, South  
*Camp Lakeview, Seymour*

**Sept. 19-20** – Junior High Rally, North  
*Camp Lutherhaven, Albion*

**Sept. 24** – Board of Directors  
*District Office*

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**Oct. 8** – “Faith in the Halls of Power: Family, Marriage, Human Life and Religious Liberty in 21<sup>st</sup> Century America”, Tim Goeglein  
*7 p.m., CTS Sihler Auditorium*

**Oct. 8-10** – Prayerfully Consider Campus Visit  
*Concordia Theological Seminary*

**Oct. 18-20** – Circuit Visitors Conference  
*District Office*

**Oct. 28-30** – Luther Hostel  
*Concordia Theological Seminary*

**Oct. 29-Nov. 1** – Christ Academy/Phoebe Academy  
*CTS*

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**Nov. 1-3** – Good Shepherd Institution  
*CTS*

**Nov. 9-10** – All Church Worker Conference,  
*Sheraton Conference Center at Keystone Crossing, Indianapolis*

**Nov. 13-14** – Indiana District Youth Gathering  
*Emmaus Lutheran Church, Indianapolis*

# All Church Worker Conference slated to **FORTIFY, EDIFY AND UNIFY**

**Digital citizenship. Team ministry. Curriculum mapping. Healthy eating in a hurry.**

These are just a few of the wide range of topics our church workers and school personnel will experience in the upcoming All Church Worker Conference, scheduled for Nov. 9-10 at the Sheraton at Keystone Crossing in Indianapolis. The conference, designed to bring Indiana District professional church workers together for worship, study, reflection and fellowship, is gathering this year under the same theme as our Indiana District Convention, “One in Spirit and Purpose.”

According to Rev. Daniel May, president, “God has blessed us with a strong group of keynote speakers and some wonderful sectional presenters this year.” Of particular note is the keynote speaker, the Rev. Dr. Patrick T. Ferry, eighth president of Concordia University Wisconsin and author of numerous articles, reviews and essays on education, religion, and history, and, most recently, his book, “Faith in the Freshman: a Story of Hoops and Hopes.”

Other speakers of interest include Dr. Bernard Bull, assistant vice-president of Academics and associate professor of Education at Concordia

University Wisconsin; Drew D. Gerdes, a nationally sought-after speaker on a variety of topics related to early-childhood education; and Tim Goeglein, senior advisor to the president and vice-president for External Relations at Focus on the Family in Washington, D.C., and author of “The Man in the Middle: Faith and Politics in the George W. Bush Era.” The conference is also featuring Rev. Dr. Walter A. Maier III, Ben Freudenberg, Julie Dietrich, Steve Grunewald, Jack Preus IV, Kurt Bickel, Kathy Frank, Kristen Whirrett, Sue Hord, Beth Kumfer and many more.

Of course, the conference will begin with a special worship service hosted by Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Avon. Pastors, youth workers, teachers, DCEs and deaconesses alike will join together in fellowship, praise and prayer. To that end, we ask that all Lutherans in the district to please be in prayer for these conference presenters and attendees – that through these networking and educational opportunities, our church and school workers will find renewed energy for ministry as well as excitement about what they’re doing in the district in the coming year.



**November 9 & 10, 2015 | Indianapolis, Indiana | Sheraton at Keystone Crossing**