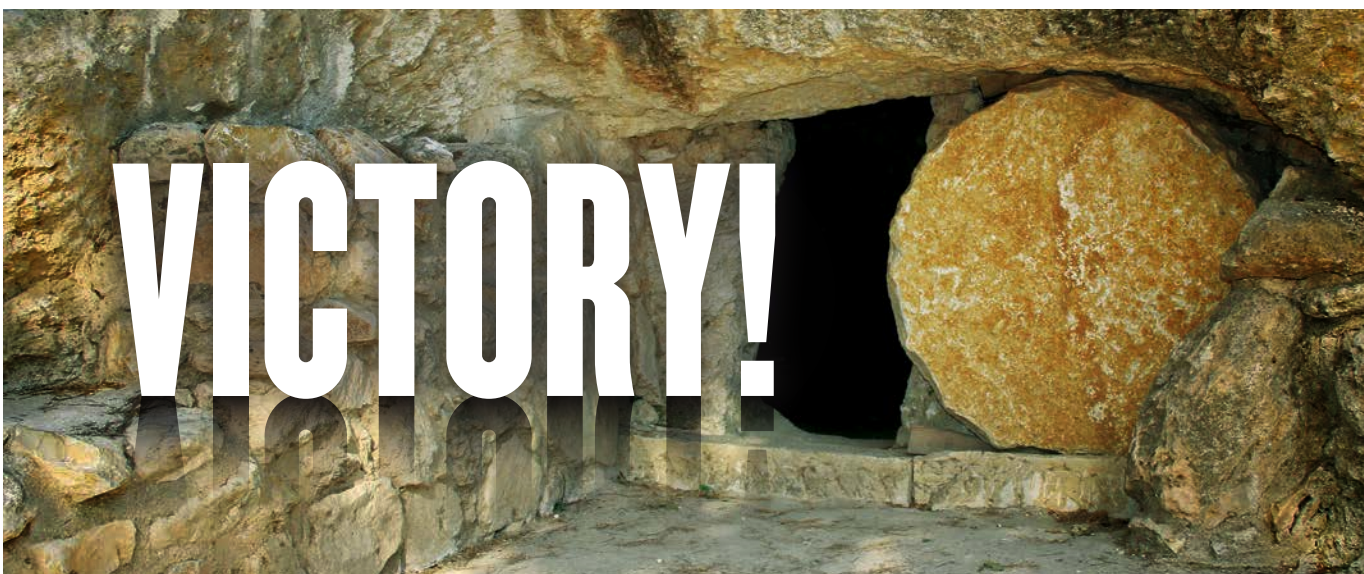




DISTRICT NEWS

INDIANA



VICTORY!



“Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.” –Mark 16:6 NIV

We don’t always win, but this month we celebrate having won the BIG ONE! We join together with Christians everywhere in singing “Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!” The resurrection of our Lord means that our sins are truly forgiven and our eternity is secured. This pivotal moment in history means everything.



Rev. Daniel May
District President

The victory of Easter means that death and Satan have been put in their places, and we have been freed from the fears

they represent. In the future, it will be the only thing that finally matters for you, and it will be a matter of celebrating the victory of Jesus forever and ever. In the meantime — that is the rest of our lives — we share the message of this victory with all the world. We celebrate in our sanctuaries, but we also “take it to the streets” and to the ears of our neighbors, friends and family. Whatever you have on your bucket list, this message is the most important thing you have to give!

We are urged to share this message freely and fully in every way that we can imagine. If you are shy about saying much about the faith that burns within you, I would urge you to pray for bold-

ness. If your team won the national title, would you break your shyness, mentioning it to your friends and neighbors? My guess is that you would find a breakthrough with a victory announcement like, “My team won! It was a great game and very exciting!”

So why not find the courage to say, “Our Lord won! It was a great victory forever and for sure and for you! I thought I should mention it!”

Have a joyous Easter! The victory is yours in Christ Jesus our risen Lord!



LCMS/Erin M. Lunsford

THEOLOGY...

The 'breath' of CUS

A student hangs a cross in The Center for Liturgical Art at Concordia University, Nebraska, in Seward, Neb.

By Rev. Dr. Dean Wenthe

President, Concordia University System

The colleges and universities of the Concordia University System have served The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod with distinction. The administrations, faculties, staffs, students and graduates have been the Lord's instruments to bestow innumerable blessings upon the church. Now these colleges and universities, with the church, are facing a dramatically different culture in higher education and in society at large.

In the case of higher education, there is a widespread identity crisis.

Jonathan Sacks, chief rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the British Commonwealth, describes how this state of affairs permeates Western culture as a whole.

"What the secularist forgot is that *Homo sapiens* is the meaning-seeking animal," Sacks writes. "If there is one thing the great institutions of the modern world do not do, it is to provide meaning. ... Science, technology, the free market and liberal democratic state ... are among the greatest achievements of human civilization ... but they do not answer the three questions that

every reflective individual will ask at some time in his or her life: Who am I? Why am I here? How then shall I live?" ("Swords Into Plowshares," *The Wall Street Journal*, Oct. 3-4, 2015, C1.)

It is not an exaggeration to say that in many academic settings, questions about the meaning of human life are considered off-limits or simply naïve. Rather, with rigorous implementation,



Students participate in a classroom discussion at Concordia University Irvine in Irvine, Calif.

LCMS/Erin M. Lunsford

academic inquiry is limited to an expression of "critical thinking" that assumes no truth can withstand thorough cross-examination and critique.

This version of "critical thinking" results in the sterile, utilitarian knowledge that reduces the university's capacity to engage what was previously viewed as central to its calling, namely, virtue and wisdom. Of course, to inquire adequately into virtue and wisdom, the prior questions must be addressed: "Who are we? Why are we here? And, then, how shall we live?"

This is where the Concordia University System shines, opening up opportunities for a rich and vibrant future. Why? Quite simply because the schools are equipped to address the questions of meaning and virtue and wisdom! The Concordias are fountains of living water in the parched desert of higher education.

Such a claim in the contemporary academic marketplace is quite radical, even threatening, for it challenges the hegemony of the intellectual elites. For them, the church is the enemy of, rather than the servant of, the truth. But such a claim is based on another radical claim: Christ is Risen!

This statement changes everything. It changes our self-understanding. It changes our intellectual endeavors. It changes our social and ethical lives. It changes what a college or university is and does.

The Resurrection provides the means for higher education to address and to speak about meaning with intellectual integrity and, in so speaking, articulates and confesses the truth about God and the truth about human beings. It is crucial and critical, therefore, that Christ's resurrection—the confession of the church—permeate the Concordia University System even as the church is called to send her children and to support such Resurrection-informed learning heroically. May it never be said that the church moves away from the universities or they move away from the church!

This article is excerpted from a longer paper by Wenthe. To read the paper in its entirety, go to in.lcms.org/.../7/02/Theology-The-Breath.pdf.

CUAA launches new SCHOOL OF NURSING

School produces *high-caliber Christian nurses* who bring a *passion for patient-centered care*

By Rachel Ferry

CUAA Manager of Campus Communications

Concordia University Ann Arbor (CUAA), Ann Arbor, Mich., is preparing the next generation of Christian nurses with its newly opened School of Nursing.

The university announced the addition of its latest academic school in November 2015 and welcomed its first two cohorts of students during the fall 2016 and spring 2017 semesters. The university has also made great strides with inter-professional education (IPE) simulation throughout the campus community and within the Michigan Simulation Network.

“Our nurses will be better skilled and better prepared because of their Christ-centered, Concordia education,” said Dr. Cindy Fenske, who joined the CUAA faculty as campus dean of nursing from the University of Michigan. “We have dedicated instructors, a hands-on, rigorous curriculum and an amazing facility that is state-of-the-art in all aspects.”

The School of Nursing is housed in CUAA’s North Building, a university acquisition in fall 2015. The building boasts an assessment lab with eight exam rooms, a 10-bed skills lab, pod-style learning stations to facilitate student collaboration and five high-acuity simulation rooms as well as a simulation apartment.

“Because of our facility, we don’t have to say to our students, ‘pretend this is happening,’ or ‘make-believe this is going on,’” Fenske says. “Every day, they experience realistic situations that they will see among patients in their clinicals and in their careers.”

Concordia nursing students are in simulation labs for at least 90 minutes every week for the entire six semesters of their nursing curriculum. Simulations are based on the lessons being learned in the classroom that week, including both nursing-focused simulations and IPE simulations that integrate students from other majors and professional fields on campus.

Fenske shares that a Concordia education is about more than preparing the heads and hands of



▲ Nursing students practice skills on computerized mannequins in one of Concordia’s simulated hospital rooms.



◀ CUAA sophomore Turome Chandler executes an inter-professional education exercise in Concordia’s simulated apartment.



Pod-style learning stations facilitate student collaboration in CUAA’s North Building classrooms.



CUAA’s North Building features a 10-bed skills lab, where students practice nursing procedures and skills.

Photos by Kelly Photography

future nurses; it’s about preparing their hearts.

“Our mission as Concordia’s School of Nursing is not only to provide an excellent education for our students in both knowledge and skills; we are also providing an education that

is compassionate and Christ-centered.”

For more information about the CUAA nursing program, go to cuaa.edu and under “Academics,” select “Nursing” from the drop-down menu.

All Systems Go!



Renderings courtesy of Keystone Architecture.

University Lutheran Church receives green light for relocation project

University Lutheran Church (ULu) received final approval for its much-anticipated relocation to the heart of Purdue University's campus, directly across from the Engineering Mall. On Feb. 6, the West Lafayette City Council granted the rezoning necessary for ULu to move into the former Exponent building at 460 Northwestern Ave.

The city council's vote marks the final step in the initial approval process, clearing the way for #ULuOnTheMove to progress according to schedule. (To read more about the project timeline, in.lcms.org/project-timeline-for-university-lutheran-church-relocation)

According to the Rev. Justin Herman, ULu pastor, "the hope is that the move will greatly increase student contacts, both with our Lutheran students and with those who have never heard of Jesus at all."

Steve Strauch, Lutheran Church Extension Fund district vice president, agrees. "For years," Strauch says, "campus ministry at ULu has not been on campus. The move to the former Exponent

building means that we will be right there for people to touch and feel and understand what University Lutheran is. This, in turn, will create more contacts and a more robust campus ministry.

"The hope is for this ministry at ULu to be one of the most dynamic Lutheran campus ministries in the nation, and this move helps ULu to meet this challenge."

Students aren't the only ones who will benefit from the move. According to Susan Linson, ULu building committee chair, the new location will open doors to people with disabilities as well. "One of the problems with our Chauncey Hill

location is that it isn't wheelchair accessible," Linson says. "With the new location, we'll have an elevator to the sanctuary, and all kinds of people who might not have come to our

church because of accessibility issues can come now."

John Maylath, University Lutheran Church member and retired educator, is excited about other potential ministries in the new location as well. "The central location of the Exponent building lends itself to opportunities for expansion of

current ministries and new partnerships," he says, citing the potential for a community literacy outreach and other activities involving Purdue's international population.

Indeed, the three-story building (plus basement) will provide more than just a new sanctuary for the University Lutheran congregation. With multiple-use spaces for campus ministry and community outreach, including a coffee shop, meeting spaces and church offices, the new building is slated to create a highly visible, diversified

and strengthened outreach to Purdue students and the community at large.

As the project moves forward, please make plans now to join ULu in a celebration service on Commencement Sunday, May 14, as it honors the ministry

The hope is for this ministry at ULu to be one of the most dynamic Lutheran campus ministries in the nation, and this move helps ULu to meet this challenge."

— Steve Strauch



CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Endowment blesses ULu ministry



The Rev. Daniel P. May speaks to the ULu congregation. To his right is the Rev. Philip Krupski.

During service on Jan. 29, the Rev. Philip Krupski, LCMS Foundation gift planning counselor, announced the creation of the LaNelle Geddes Endowment for Ministry at University Lutheran Church (ULu), with Indiana District President Rev. Daniel May present. Currently, \$2.69 million has funded the endowment, and a seven-figure addition will take place later this year. This permanent endowment will enable the Indiana District to expand its ministry at Purdue University, reaching students with the Gospel of Jesus.

Dr. LaNelle Geddes was the director of the nursing program at Purdue University and a member of ULu.

Of course, ministry gifts don't need to be as large as this endowment to be important. Each one of us uses the gifts entrusted to us for good stewardship for the Kingdom of God.

If you would like more information about planning your estate for the care of your family and support of ministries dear to your heart, contact Rev. Krupski at 317-840-3202 or philip.krupski@lfn.org.

RELOCATION

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

at Chauncey Hill and celebrates all God has in store for ULu in years to come. This special weekend kicks off with an open house from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 13, followed by worship services on Sunday at 10:30 a.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m., to accommodate Purdue's commencement program. The services will be followed by a brief reception for people to reminisce with ULu family and friends.

"We appreciate the legacy at our Chauncey Hill location," Herman says. "It was a great chapter, and

many lives were touched. With the move, we are hoping to build on that legacy by touching many more people with the Gospel of Jesus. That's really what the mission of University Lutheran has always been about."

The goal is to pursue the projected move carefully but quickly, and formally launch the new University Lutheran this fall, just in time for the 500-year anniversary of the Reformation. Your earnest prayers and continued support for this exciting new phase of University Lutheran ministry are appreciated.



REPURPOSING HISTORY

By Rev. Justin Herman
Pastor, University Lutheran Church

University Lutheran Church (ULu) is on the move! We are excited about all the ways God is using us to reach out to the Purdue student body through our new space, which is ideally suited for campus ministry.

As we prepare for the move to Northwestern Avenue, we have considered which items from our Chauncey Hill location could be repurposed for the new building, and which items we could make available to churches that might need some sanctuary furniture and would like a piece of history from Chauncey Hill.

The pieces of sanctuary furniture pictured above will soon be used by other missions and churches. We are thrilled that our move came with the added blessing of making these items available to other ministries. If you would like to see if there are more items available from Chauncey Hill, please contact the ULu office at 765-743-2472.

April Prayer List

Week of April 3

- › Michigan District
- › Circuit 12
- › Christ, *Anderson*
- › Emanuel, *Arcadia*
- › St. Peter, *Huntington*
- › Good Shepherd, *Kokomo*
- › Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, *Kokomo*
- › Zion, *Kokomo*
- › **Mission:** Campus Ministry, *West Lafayette*
- › **RSO:** Cedar Lake Lodge, *LaGrange, Ky.*

Week of April 10

- › Mid-South District
- › Circuit 24
- › Gloria Dei, *Elizabethtown*
- › Holy Trinity, *Leitchfield*
- › Faith, *Louisville*
- › Our Savior, *Louisville*
- › Peace, *Louisville*
- › **Mission:** Campus Ministry, *Muncie*
- › **RSO:** Cranach Institute, *Fort Wayne*

Week of April 17

- › Minnesota North District
- › Circuit 14
- › Immanuel, (Tracy), *Hamlet*
- › First, *Hanna*
- › Our Redeemer, *Knox*
- › St. John, *LaCross*
- › St. John, *LaPorte*
- › **Mission:** Campus Ministry, *Louisville*
- › **RSO:** Cross Connections, *Fort Wayne and Indianapolis*

Week of April 24

- › Minnesota South District
- › Circuit 7
- › Faith, *Churubusco*
- › Sub. Bethlehem, *Fort Wayne*
- › Holy Cross, *Fort Wayne*
- › St. Paul, *Fort Wayne*
- › Trinity, *Fort Wayne*
- › Our Hope, *Huntertown*
- › Emmanuel, *Fort Wayne*
- › Praise, *Fort Wayne*
- › St. Augustine, *Fort Wayne*
- › **Mission:** Campus Ministry, *Terre Haute*
- › **RSO:** Hands of Mercy, *Fort Wayne*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

- 18-19**
DCE Spring Conference
- 22-27**
Council of Presidents
- 24**
Vicarage Assignments, *Concordia Theological Seminary (CTS), Fort Wayne*
- 25**
Call Service, *CTS, Fort Wayne*
- 26**
Call Services, *Concordia Seminary, St. Louis*

MAY

- 1-3**
Southern Pastors Conference, *Camp Lakeview*
- 15-16**
Northern Pastors Conference, *Oakwood Resort*
- JUNE 8**
Musician Workshops, *CTS, Fort Wayne*

18-25

Phoebe Academy High School, *CTS, Fort Wayne*

JUNE 18-JULY 1

Christ Academy High School, *CTS, Fort Wayne*

25-28

Higher Things Conference, *Valparaiso*

JUNE 25-JULY 3

Church Interpreter Training Institute, *CTS, Fort Wayne*

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 1

Marion Teibel, 91
Trinity Memorial, *Merrillville*

APRIL 3

Margaret Ross, 95
St. Paul's, *Fort Wayne*

Jack Janz, 92
St. Matthew's, *Delphi*

APRIL 4

Richard Scheumann, 97
Zion, *Friedheim*

Esther Blank, 93
St. John, *Lanesville*

Peter Vitkus, 92
Cornerstone, *Carmel*

Bill Abel, 91
Holy Cross, *Fort Wayne*

Florence Koenig, 91
Heritage, *Valparaiso*

APRIL 5

Eugenia Gruenke, 91
St. James, *Lafayette*

APRIL 6

Dorothy Gutzler 99
Trinity, *Hobart*

APRIL 7

Evelyn Ross, 97
Holy Cross, *Fort Wayne*

APRIL 8

Doris Meilahn, 95
Trinity, *Hobart*

APRIL 9

Marcille Burtch, 90
Emmanuel, *Fort Wayne*

APRIL 10

Ted Decker, 93
Calvary, *Plymouth*

Lorraine Holm, 92
Trinity Memorial, *Merrillville*

APRIL 12

Lorna Connelly, 94
St. Paul's, *Evansville*

APRIL 15

Clois Kull, 99
St. James, *Lafayette*

Orpha Emkes, 93
Zion, *Seymour*

Clark Matson, 92
Immanuel, *Avilla*

Gloria Bauman, 91
Epiphany, *Westfield*

APRIL 17

Dorothy Wiegman, 96
Emmanuel, *Hobart*

APRIL 19

Mary Macke, 90
Holy Cross, *Fort Wayne*

APRIL 21

Doris Householder, 91
Immanuel, *Avilla*

Harold Wolf, 91
St. John, *Indianapolis*

APRIL 22

Robert Scheumann, 96
St. John (Bingen), *Decatur*

Eugene Gordon, 94
St. James, *Lafayette*

Naomi Krueckeberg, 91
Zion, *Decatur*

APRIL 23

Clifford Sierp, 97
Immanuel, *Seymour*

APRIL 24

Estelle Wick, 93

Holy Cross, *Fort Wayne*

APRIL 25

Velma Wischmeier, 92
Redeemer, *Seymour*

Helen Busche, 91
St. Paul's, *Fort Wayne*

Ruth Merriman, 90
St. James, *Lafayette*

APRIL 26

Edna Marie Kellermeier, 100
Immanuel, *Seymour*

Ruth Fuhrmann, 90
Calvary, *Indianapolis*

APRIL 28

Eleda Barille, 93
St. Paul's, *Fort Wayne*

Werner Hospers, 92
Heritage, *Valparaiso*

Ivan Wortmann, 90
Trinity, *Darmstadt*

APRIL 29

Lucille Scott, 102
St. James, *Lafayette*

Charlotte Doepping, 99
Heritage, *Valparaiso*

Betty Zimmermann, 97
St. Paul's, *Fort Wayne*

Dot Crosbie, 96
Holy Cross, *Fort Wayne*

Charlotte Brown, 92
St. Peter, *North Judson*

APRIL 30

Virginia Hubbard, 94
Immanuel, *Seymour*

Edith Hawkins, 92
St. James, *Lafayette*

Dottie Bruick, 91
Holy Cross, *Fort Wayne*

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL 1
Mr. and Mrs. Erman Shoemaker, 61, Trinity, Vallonia
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Marks, 56, St. James, Lafayette

APRIL 2
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Meek, 51 Grace, New Albany
Rev. and Mrs. Mark Pflughoft, 51 Faith, DeMotte

APRIL 3
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Allman, 52 Immanuel, Seymour
Mr. and Mrs. John Mader, 52 St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

APRIL 4
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Braun, 53 Emmanuel, Fort Wayne
Mr. and Mrs. Guy Gardin, 53 St. Peter, North Judson

APRIL 6
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Price, 60 Shepherd of the Hills, Georgetown

APRIL 8
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hackman, 61 Immanuel, Seymour
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lambert, 56 St. Peter, North Judson
Mr. and Mrs. Travis Cummings, 55 St. John's, White Creek
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Brandt, 50 Zion, Friedheim

APRIL 9
Mr. and Mrs. William Rathjen, 61 St. John, Indianapolis

Mr. and Mrs. William Berger, 58 Grace, Muncie
Mr. and Mrs. William Moeller, 56 St. John, Indianapolis

APRIL 11
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bullard, 53 Immanuel, Seymour
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Wood, 53 St. John, Lanesville

APRIL 12
Mr. and Mrs. Gib Foertsch, 59 Emmanuel, Tell City

APRIL 15
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Upton, 50 Cornerstone, Carmel

APRIL 16
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Adams, 62 Cornerstone, Carmel
Mr. and Mrs. James Althoff, 58 St. John, Vincennes

APRIL 17
Mr. and Mrs. Marlin Keidel, 68 Zion, Friedheim
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Freeman, 63 Redeemer, Seymour
Mr. and Mrs. Norb Bultemeier, 58 Zion, Decatur

APRIL 18
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Nichols, 53 Trinity, Darmstadt

APRIL 20
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Leiter, 59 Immanuel, Avilla
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Coolman, 54 Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

APRIL 21
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Culter, 60 Cornerstone, Carmel
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Luenebrink, 54 Redeemer, Seymour



APRIL 22
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Buuck, 51 St. James, Lafayette
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Griffiths, 50 Zion, Decatur

APRIL 23
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lindeman, 51 Holy Cross, Fort Wayne
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Schellenbach, 51 Cornerstone, Carmel

APRIL 24
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Wernert, 52 Grace, New Albany

APRIL 25
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Tittman, 58 Emmanuel, Fort Wayne
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Claycamp, 52 Zion, Seymour

APRIL 26
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Wick, 70 Holy Cross, Fort Wayne
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Radeke, 59 Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

APRIL 27
Mr. and Mrs. Delin Franke, 55 Bethlehem, Ossian

APRIL 28
Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson Baumis, 66 St. James, Lafayette
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Goeglein, 66 Holy Cross, Fort Wayne
Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Turner, 55 Redeemer, Seymour

APRIL 29
Mr. and Mrs. Wilford Blank, 58 St. John, Lanesville.
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Luke, 56 St. John's, Farmers Retreat
Mr. and Mrs. David Hodges, 50 Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

APRIL 30
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Cecil, 57 St. Paul's, Evansville
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Woempner, 56 St. John, Indianapolis

Belated Birthdays

FEB. 12
Mae Fratzke, 103
Trinity Memorial, Merrillville

MARCH 6
Gloria Baeske, 90
Zion, Woodburn

Belated Anniversaries

Jan. 31
Mr. and Mrs. Orville Gloudeman, 67, Trinity Memorial, Merrillville

MARCH 12
Mr. and Mrs. Warren Costner, 57
Trinity Memorial, Merrillville

Trinity welcomes new assistant pastor

The Rev. Keith Knea was installed as assistant pastor at Trinity, Darmstadt, on Jan. 14. Brothers participating were, from left (front row) the Revs. David Wiist, Stan Temme, Knea, Daniel May, Rodney Schmelz; (back row) Martin Noland, Roger Sassamann, Tich Luu, Cory Estby, Jacob Sutton and Mark Moog.



The Age of Entitlement v. the Spirit of Easter

By Ken Schilf

Council of Resources

We are living in an Entitlement Age, one marked by those who feel the world owes them special treatment for no other reason than that they are special. I recently heard a clear example of this attitude when a fellow high school sports official had a horrible night, one of the worst in his seven years of officiating. After calling two technical fouls and excusing a fan from the gym, he encountered several fans who became rather abusive as he was leaving the game. These fans didn't like it that their team didn't seem to get the benefit of the calls he made. They felt their team was entitled to being treated differently. Ah, they wanted special treatment because their team was special!

Sports seem to be a microcosm of society. Just as in this sporting event, people today feel they are entitled to special treatment. Human beings no longer seem to be content with reflecting the image of the Creator in caring for this

world. Rather, like Adam and Eve, they feel that they are entitled to ownership, which is not theirs to claim. Good stewardship began all the way back at Creation, where Adam and Eve—and now we—were called by God to manage all of life and its resources for God's purposes. A godly steward is entitled to nothing. Instead, stewards need to be faithful to God, for everything belongs to Him.

A faithful steward seeks the benefit of the Lord's work for the sake of another over the comfort of self. This kind of service never goes unnoticed; serving a neighbor reaps a reward. Generous living and giving will be seen by others and become something the Word will lead them to emulate. The Holy Spirit will see to it that service will become contagious and help us fight the sinful pride of entitlement.

We have to look no further than Jesus Christ as our example. He wasn't concerned about His entitlements. He took all of our sins to the cross, defeated

the devil and rose on Easter Sunday. As faithful stewards, we need to follow Jesus' lifestyle in showing His love to others. After all, we love because He first loved us. That's grace, that's mercy, that's Jesus. He's done all things well.

Have a blessed Easter!

Portions of this article appeared in the October 2016 issue of *StewardCAST*, published by LCMS Stewardship Ministry.

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

Do you have exciting news you'd like to see published in the Indiana District *Lutheran Witness*? We'd love to share your news and see photos of what's happening in our district! Be sure to send in your submissions, especially if you enjoy writing or taking photos at church events.

The deadline for the June-July issue of *The Lutheran Witness* is April 10.

Your stories and photos are welcomed and most appreciated.

Please send all submissions to Jan Koenig at:
jan.koenig@in.lcms.org
or by 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 high resolution, with a minimum of 300 dpi.

Comfort in the midst of grief

In January, volunteers from the Indiana District's Critical Incidence Response Team (IN-CIRT) were able to bring comfort to grieving students at Emmanuel-St. Michael's Lutheran School, Fort Wayne.

Assistant Principal Alicia Levitt at Emmanuel-St. Michael's had requested this assistance after the school's beloved preschool teacher, Michelle Wolfer, died of cancer. Levitt asked specifically that comfort dogs join the IN-CIRT team.

The IN-CIRT volunteers worked with Lutheran Church Charities of Northbrook, Ill., to bring three comfort dogs and their handler to both buildings of this two-campus school during the two school days after the funeral.

As small groups of children came into the assigned room, the handlers stayed with the comfort dogs while IN-CIRT



volunteers and staff from Cross Connections Counseling and the school helped the children process this situation.

Many thanks to IN-CIRT for providing this valuable service!