



# DISTRICT NEWS

## INDIANA

### When do we learn wisdom?

*"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge." Prov. 1:7*



Rev. Daniel May  
District President

I have a confession to make. I didn't go to kindergarten. Of course, many of you know that Robert Fulghum believed all he really needed to know he learned in kindergarten,

which makes me wonder if I missed a most important part of my education. Naturally, I am a big fan of early-childhood education, but I am an even bigger fan of Christian education, especially the Christian education that occurs in our Lutheran schools.

The mission of our Lutheran schools is to help the whole child mature in knowledge and wisdom, which are two different things. Real knowledge includes history, math, science and literature, but maturing in eternal knowledge and wisdom comes from God's Word. Consider Paul's advice to Timothy—and to us:

"Continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." **2 Tim. 3:14**

That's a great reason to celebrate the mission of our Lutheran schools, don't



you think? As we wrap up Lutheran Schools Week, I thank God for the wisdom and knowledge that are shared every day in every grade in every one of our schools. Of course, in order for this to happen, we need well-trained and highly dedicated teachers and school administrators. These people keep the focus sharp as we strive to prepare students for life in the world and, even more importantly, for living out our baptismal life, which is without end.

As you know, the Indiana District is deeply committed to our Lutheran schools — so much so that we are currently in the process of helping to open more new schools, even as

we work to strengthen our existing schools. We are blessed indeed to have our Lutheran schools as a critical part of our life together in the Church. It is with deep gratitude that we thank God for this tremendous gift. Truly, this is our life together in Christ.

As to whether we really learn everything we need to know in kindergarten, all I can say is that in our Lutheran kindergartens, children do learn the Holy Scriptures, "which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus."

# Lutheran South Unity School meets student needs through enrichment room



**T**riston Richards, a fourth grader at Lutheran South Unity School (LSUS), Fort Wayne, loves bugs, animals and science. His mom, Debbie, couldn't believe his ability to identify dinosaurs at a young age. In spite of his interest in science, however, school hasn't always been easy for Triston.

**During kindergarten and first grade, his teachers noticed he lagged behind other students** in reading and began making accommodations for his learning needs as a result. But by third grade, Triston was still struggling and tested at only a first-grade reading level. Triston needed specialized help, and the enrichment room at Lutheran South Unity School provided just that, giving Tristan the support he needed for his abilities to improve.

**With a focus on students who have gaps in learning or other deficiencies,** including reading, math, or learning disabilities, the enrichment room builds student confidence and makes learning more enjoyable. “We have a full special education program,” teacher Malissa Desormeaux says, “with two Title I teachers, one full-time teacher to work with the school’s [enrichment program], and others who work with kids with disabilities.” This support gives kids like Triston the help they need to gain learning success.

**Last year, Desormeaux served as Triston’s third grade teacher** before moving into her current role as enrichment room coordinator. She noticed Triston’s discouragement with learning. “Last year,” she says, “he was down on himself. He felt bad that he was way different than others.” That’s when the teachers in the enrichment room sprang into action, focusing on Triston’s learning deficits in reading, spelling and writing, customizing their teaching techniques to his deficiencies. They also collaborated with his classroom teachers, who continued the same techniques in class. Volunteers tutored him as well, reading with him

for an additional hour every day to improve his reading proficiency.

**Because of the efforts of teachers and staff at LSUS,** Triston jumped from a first-grade to third-grade reading level in one year. This improvement in reading scores has also helped Triston’s confidence to soar. He’s not embarrassed about his reading anymore. His spelling scores have improved as well. Desormeaux says, “He’s even gotten perfect spelling tests.” Now that Desormeaux works as a full-time enrichment room teacher, she is also using techniques like Feuerstein’s Instrumental Enrichment method, intentionally allowing kids to practice certain “brain games” that will build cognitive development.

**Triston has found great success with these specialized methods.** Debbie acknowledges that the teachers at Lutheran South Unity have been instrumental to her son’s success. They have even taught her ways to help Triston complete homework. That success has continued into his fourth-grade year, with additional improvements in reading and spelling. Now that he is reading grade-level books, he no longer feels embarrassed about his learning challenges. In fact, he’s proud of how far he’s come.

**This is the difference that Lutheran South Unity School provides for their students.** They meet the needs of students by providing them with the best in enrichment room resources. But Triston, our avid bug collector, doesn’t have to explain that to anyone. You can see it in his smile when he tells you about the latest book he’s reading.

## Resources available for students

All Lutheran schools receive Title I services, including speech, occupational and physical therapy from our public school corporations.

### Concordia Lutheran High School, Fort Wayne

- Full-time study center with two hours available after school
- Three full-time personnel in the study center
- One part-time tutor (through Fort Wayne Community Schools)

### Emmanuel St. Michael, Fort Wayne

- One full-time resource room teacher
- Two part-time teachers
- After-school tutoring through Title I

### Suburban Lutheran, Fort Wayne

- One part-time tutor through Lutheran Special Education Ministries
- One part-time Title I tutor
- Additional part-time tutor

### Emmaus, Fort Wayne

- Two part-time tutors
- One part-time Title I tutor

### St. John, Kendallville

- Full-time resource teacher





## Expansion increases education opportunities for St. John's Lutheran Church, Lexington

**S**t. John's Lutheran Church, the oldest Lutheran congregation in Lexington, has been God's instrument for more than 100 years, committed to sharing the life and love of Jesus in central Kentucky and throughout the world. Over the past four years, God has richly blessed its commitment to proclaiming His life-saving Gospel, with the average worship attendance growing from 170 to 229, and Sunday morning Bible class rising from 25 to 65.

This growth has placed increased

demands upon the congregation's aging, limited facilities, which could dictate how large and far St. John's could grow. For example, the current preschool operates in the church basement. Under these conditions, the school could never expand. Neither could it obtain certification, placing definite limits on its Christian educational outreach. These conditions also limit the size and quality of the church's Sunday school program.

Thanks to a new building campaign, "Building on Our Faith," all that

is about to change. Slated for construction sometime in the spring of 2016, a brand new, state-of-the-art facility will address these concerns and provide space for future ministry. Included in the facility are a brand new education wing, fellowship hall and sanctuary, along with dedicated office space.

For more information on St. John's building campaign, please visit their website at [stjohnslexington.org](http://stjohnslexington.org), and look for construction updates soon.



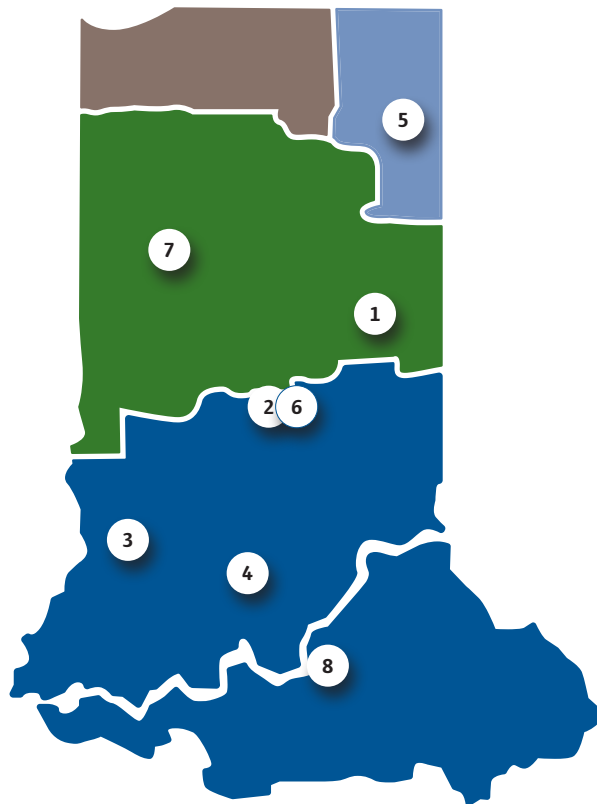
**The ordination for Rev. Adrian Krebs was held on Saturday, Nov. 28 at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Seymour.**

**From left, (front row) Rev. Andrew Currao, Rev. Adrian J. Krebs, Rev. Daniel Lepley**

**(Back Row) Rev. Paul Neuman, Rev. Ed Keinath, Rev. Phil Bloch, Rev. Jimmy Rodriguez and Rev. Greg DeVore**

# Campus ministries carry on faith traditions, expand our reach

Christian education plays a vital role in our life together in Christ and includes everything from early-childhood education programs and Sunday school activities to our Christian schools. But Christian education doesn't stop when youth graduate from high school. In fact, for some it is just beginning, thanks to our campus outreach ministries across the district. Bible studies, worship services and mission trips — even free English lessons — are just part of our outreach to college and university students. At each campus, we help students explore their faith while we reach out to unchurched students and the surrounding community. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with our campus pastors and locations, and be sure to say a special prayer for our campus outreach efforts.



- 1. Ball State University**  
Muncie,  
Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church  
[lcmsubsu.com](http://lcmsubsu.com)
- 2. Butler University**  
Indianapolis  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
[stpetersindy.weebly.com](http://stpetersindy.weebly.com)
- 3. Indiana State University & Rose-Hulman Institute**  
Terre Haute  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
[immanuelevluth.com](http://immanuelevluth.com)
- 4. Indiana University**  
Bloomington  
University Lutheran Church  
[indianalutheran.org](http://indianalutheran.org)

- 5. IPFW** (Indiana University – Purdue University Fort Wayne)  
Fort Wayne  
[facebook.com/lutheranstudentfellowshipatipfw](https://facebook.com/lutheranstudentfellowshipatipfw)
- 6. IUPUI** (Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis)  
Indianapolis  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
[stpetersindy.weebly.com](http://stpetersindy.weebly.com)
- 7. Purdue University**  
West Lafayette  
University Lutheran Church  
[ulupurdue.org](http://ulupurdue.org)
- 8. University of Louisville**  
Louisville, Ky.  
Concordia Lutheran Church  
[concordia-lutheran.com](http://concordia-lutheran.com)

## February Prayer List

### Week of Feb. 1

- > Northern Illinois District
- > Circuit 9
- > Martini, New Haven
- > St. Paul, New Haven
- > Christ, Woodburn
- > Zion, Woodburn
- > Promise, Fort Wayne
- > Mission: Gloria Dei Hispanic, Valparaiso
- > RSO: Siberian Mission Society

### Week of Feb. 8

- > Northwest District
- > Circuit 11
- > St. John, Rensselaer
- > St. Luke, Rensselaer
- > St. James, Reynolds
- > St. John, Rochester
- > Redeemer, West Lafayette
- > University, West Lafayette
- > Mission: African Immigrants, Concordia, Louisville
- > Other: Valparaiso University

### Week of Feb. 15

- > Ohio District
- > Circuit 22
- > Concordia, Evansville
- > Immanuel, Evansville
- > Messiah, Evansville
- > St. Paul, Evansville
- > Trinity, Evansville
- > St. John Vincennes
- > St. Peter, Vincennes
- > Mission: Tamil Indian, Calvary, Indianapolis
- > RSO: Wittenburg Village, Crown Point

### Week of Feb. 22

- > Oklahoma District
- > Circuit 1
- > Grace, Dyer
- > St. Paul, East Chicago
- > Concordia, Hammond
- > St. Paul, Munster
- > Trinity, Hammond
- > Redeemer, Highland
- > Trinity, Lowell
- > Peace, Schererville
- > Mission: Burmese, Karen Ministry, New Life, Fort Wayne
- > RSO: Bethesda Lutheran Communities, Fort Wayne

# EVENTS

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

5-7

Katie Retreat for Pastors Wives,  
Inn of DePauw, Greencastle

18-20

Best Practices for Ministry Conference,  
Phoenix, Ariz.

### MARCH

1

Deadline for call documents and  
vicarage applications to be in the district  
president's office for spring placement

### APRIL

22

Senior Adult Fest., Immanuel, Seymour

23

Senior Adult Fest., Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

25

Vicarage assignments/candidate  
placement services, Concordia Seminary,  
St. Louis

26

Vicarage/deaconess Internship  
assignments, CTS

27

Candidate placement service, CTS

### MAY

2-4

Southern Pastors Conference,  
Camp Lakeview

9-11

Northern Pastors Conference

19

Deaconess placement, CTS

### JUNE

24-26

Indiana District LWML Convention,  
Bloomington

### JULY

16-20

LCMS National Youth Gathering,  
New Orleans

## February Prayer List

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

### Week of Feb. 29

- > Pacific Southwest District
- > Circuit 10
- > Peace, Berne
- > Immanuel, Decatur
- > St. John, Decatur
- > St. Paul, Decatur
- > St. Peter, Decatur
- > Zion, Decatur
- > Zion, Friedheim
- > Mission: Liberian Children's  
Ministry, New Life,  
Fort Wayne
- > RSO: Camp Lakeview,  
Seymour



The installation of Rev. Adrian J. Krebs was held on Sunday, Nov. 29 at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Vernon.

Pictured: Rev. Andrew Currao, Rev. Matt Jung, Rev. Dr. John Reynolds, Rev. Adrian J. Krebs, Rev. Greg DeVore, Rev. Jeff Pulse, Rev. Ralph Blomenberg and Rev. Phil Bloch.

Also included in the picture are seminarian Rick Schneider and Vicar Alex Hoffmeyer.



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

FEB. 2  
Jean Ollman, 93, St. Matthew's, Delphi  
Irma Bell, 91, St. John, Lanesville

FEB. 3  
Ben Emkes, 94, Zion, Seymour  
Esther Miller, 91, Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

FEB. 4  
Harold Swarts, 90, Our Redeemer, Evansville

FEB. 5  
Lorien Cress, 92, St. Paul (Preble), Decatur  
Mid Grolich, 90, Calvary, Plymouth

FEB. 7  
Lowima Schneider, 95, Immanuel, Seymour  
Lyman Kasting, 90, Immanuel, Seymour

FEB. 8  
Jean Arndt, 90, St. Peter, North Judson

FEB. 9  
Genevieve Gary, 93, Calvary, Indianapolis  
Juanita Seeger, 93, Faith, DeMotte  
John Conway, 90, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

FEB. 11  
Mel Schott, 98, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

FEB. 13  
Betty Lorenz, 95, Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

FEB. 14  
**Gertrude Klausmeier, 104, Emmanuel, Fort Wayne**  
Harold Fischer, 97, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Helen Snyder, 92, Immanuel, Seymour  
Lois Kaufman, 91, Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

FEB. 15  
Gert Gresley, 94, St. John (Bingen), Decatur

FEB. 17  
Mary Ann McCartney, 99, St. John, Indianapolis  
Irma Koepke, 92, St. John, Indianapolis

FEB. 18  
Norma Lohman, 93, St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

FEB. 19  
Chester Sollman, 92, St. Paul's, Evansville

FEB. 21  
Joanne Hill, 92, Zion, New Palestine

FEB. 22  
Mary Rump, 91, St. John, Indianapolis

FEB. 23  
Ruth Habel, 99, St. Paul's, Fort Wayne  
Viola Arnold, 97, St. John, Indianapolis

FEB. 24  
Betty Janowski, 94, Our Redeemer, Evansville  
Paul Stein, 92, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Leroy Rode, 91, St. John, Indianapolis

FEB. 27  
Jerry Kohorst, 93, St. John, Vincennes

### Belated Birthdays

DEC. 10  
Rose Hussung, 91,  
Shepherd of the Hills, Georgetown

JAN. 5  
Alvera Knipstein, 93, St. John (Bingen), Decatur  
Florence Hoffman, 92,  
St. John (Bingen), Decatur

JAN. 11  
Virginia Peck, 90, St. John, Monroeville

JAN. 16  
Iona Wampner, 92, St. John, Indianapolis

JAN. 29  
Arthur Rump, 93, St. John, Indianapolis



## SHARE YOUR STORIES WITH US

The deadline for the **March** issue of The Lutheran Witness is **Feb. 10**.

Your stories and photos are most appreciated. Please send them to Jan Koenig at: [jan.koenig@in.lcms.org](mailto: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 jpeg format with a minimum of 300 dpi.

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

FEB. 1  
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Walsh, 54, Faith, DeMotte

FEB. 2  
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Diehm, 59,  
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

FEB. 5  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Herald, 55,  
Calvary, Indianapolis  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rodenbeck, 61,  
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Koch, 50,  
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

FEB. 8  
Mr. and Mrs. Dale DeWitt, 57,  
St. James, Logansport

FEB. 11  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stebbe, 60,  
Calvary, Indianapolis

FEB. 12  
Mr. and Mrs. John Kohlmeyer, 67,  
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne  
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Lauderbaugh, 64, Carmel  
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Hacker, 55,  
St. John, Vincennes

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Miller, 50,  
St. John, Monroeville

FEB. 13  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Birch, 51, Zion, Seymour  
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Merkel, 56,  
Calvary, Plymouth

FEB. 14  
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Imler, 68,  
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hormann, 62,  
St. John, Monroeville  
Mr. and Mrs. Diz Steele, 58, Trinity, Hobart

FEB. 15  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Bruick, 71,  
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Spiller, 52, Carmel

FEB. 18  
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Buckhorn, 60, Carmel  
Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Dorward, 60  
Heritage, Valparaiso  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Oak, 60, Trinity, Dillsboro

FEB. 19  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Higginbotham, 61  
St. John, Lanesville  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wermund, 50, Carmel

FEB. 23  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mundt, 65,  
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Williamson, 62,  
St. James, Logansport  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bell, 52,  
Immanuel, Seymour

FEB. 25  
Mr. and Mrs. Pat Hallam, 54,  
St. James, Logansport

FEB. 26  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Willen, 61,  
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

FEB. 27  
Mr. and Mrs. James Way, 50,  
St. John, Indianapolis

FEB. 28  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Keck, 62, Trinity, Darmstadt

### Belated Anniversaries

JAN. 11  
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Davis, 58,  
St. John, Indianapolis



thinkstock

## What are you **TAKING** up for Lent?

**M**y mother would ask me each Lenten season, “Ken, what are you giving up for Lent?” In my younger years it was something like candy. I remember once in my teenage years I told her “broccoli.” Of course, that was not acceptable.



**Ken Schilf**  
Council of Resources

In my recent years, I decided to change *one* word in that question — “What are you *taking* up for Lent?” The answer has varied over the years from more quiet time reading Scripture, being in more prayer time, doing evening devotions in addition to morning devotions and so forth.

During this Lenten season, let me ask

you, “What are you taking up for Lent?” Let me offer some suggestions in accordance to your God-given talents.

In the area of Christian education in your congregation, I am quite sure there is a need for volunteers to use their talents in Sunday school, youth ministry, adult ministry, and vacation Bible school. How are you gifted?

Do you love kids? How about teaching or doing crafts for your Sunday school? VBS isn’t too far away. Planning will soon begin. How about making snacks or supervising the playground?

Do you love teenagers — yes, I said teenagers? How about chaperoning events or driving to field trips?

Working with and for adults: How about hosting a small-group Bible study, becoming a Stephen Minister or serving on the Board of Education?

We are reminded in Matt. 20:28:

“Even as the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

Jesus makes it abundantly clear that He wants all of us to develop a servant spirit. Furthermore, He states emphatically:

“Whoever would be great among you must be your servant.”

**Matt. 20:26**

In our society today, the notion of serving rather than being served is not necessarily a favorable one. But God’s love changes us from wanting to be “number 1” to a desire to serve others. 1 Peter 4:10 says it best:

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.”