



# DISTRICT NEWS

## INDIANA

### Strengthening Our Families



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**Rev. Daniel May**  
District President

joy we experience in our families! Of course, no family is perfect, and while some of the historic TV pictures of family (think Ozzie and Harriet) were not always realistic, they did portray what the culture considered to be idealistic and desirable for families at that time.

As we all know, real family life doesn't always match this ideal, and that's been

**T**he month of May is a time to thank God for the gift of family. God's design is great, and the effect of family on the individual, the church and the society is a tremendous blessing! What

true since Eden! The Scriptures contain a long record of trouble, including family trouble. It is hard for us to live in harmony with anyone — even family. We are fallen people who do not always think, speak or act according to God's will. Unfortunately, domestic violence is rampant in a culture that tries to redefine God's divine family design. Pain and suffering of all types are experienced in many homes today.

That's where the church comes in. We have an essential mission within the homes and personal lives of many hurting families today. Some of these families are members in our own congregations, while others are outside of our congregations. Both are in need of the healing grace that comes in Jesus Christ. It is for the messes and pains of human life that Jesus gives His life on the cross. Forgiveness can come only by

the power of the Gospel as it is lived in real and human relationships.

We celebrate and enjoy that Gospel as we come together in worship, prayer and family devotions. It is this Gospel that changes the discussion around the table, allows joyful laughter as we enjoy time together and strengthens us so that we can strengthen others at difficult times.

What a gift family life in Christ is for us. In our kitchen hangs a sign that says "Our Family — Many branches — One root." That root is the baptismal grace we share in Jesus! Let us encourage and help those families that are around us!

# Workshops Train Leaders About Abuse and How the Church Can Help

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod recently hosted a series of workshops on domestic violence and child abuse, in response to the LCMS convention asking for programs and resources on these topics. These workshops were held April 9 and 23 at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, as well as on Sept. 30, 2015, at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. The workshops, sponsored by the Synod's Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Task Force under the auspices of the LCMS Office of National Mission (ONM), were designed to help participants identify, understand and intervene on behalf of victims of domestic violence and child abuse.

The workshop on domestic violence highlighted that domestic violence is not a sudden, anger-induced loss of control, but instead is a deliberate pattern used to gain control over someone. In addition to physical violence, abuse can be sexual, verbal, psychological, emotional, spiritual, economic and social. Abuse is the leading cause of injury to women — more than car accidents, muggings and rapes combined—and most victims never seek help. Pastors and other church workers who become aware of an abusive situation need to assist the victim in obtaining appropriate help. Trying to help directly, without expertise in doing so, will endanger the woman and her children. Helpful conversations with a domestic violence victim might include the points that you believe her, you are concerned, abuse is always wrong and experts can help. Pastors might want to have a ready list of resources and referrals to give to abuse victims, even as they offer to continue to provide spiritual care.

The workshop on child abuse pointed out that it's not unusual for "hard-core" child molesters — those with more sexual-offense convictions and victims — to be well-respected members of Christian congregations. Many sexual predators consider churches as safe

havens, with trusting, forgiving adults and easy access to children. Religious people can be easier to fool than most people, say researchers, and will often stand with the offender, vouching for his good character and even showing up in courtrooms for support.

Churches can help prevent child abuse by:

- Developing a written child-protection policy, defining what is and not allowed, such as no one-to-one adult-child contact and prohibiting children's events at adult workers' homes, and share it with all current and potential church workers and volunteers.
- Thoroughly screening all potential church workers and volunteers by checking references, arrest records and social-media posts.
- Immediately dismissing a worker or volunteer who breaks any part of a child-protection policy, and calling the police if an offense occurs.
- Providing safety training for children, parents, workers and volunteers. The basic message: "If someone touches you [inappropriately], you should tell

and keep on telling until somebody helps you."

According to workshop coordinator Deaconess Kim Schave, chair of the Synod's Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Task Force and director of Project and Policy Administration in the LCMS Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, it's "extremely important that the Synod offer such training opportunities to help church workers and others be better prepared to handle instances of domestic abuse that may surface within their congregations and schools."

Schave has heard from countless women and men in the past two years who have shared deeply personal stories about their own experience with abuse. All too often, the church responded in a way that caused individuals to walk away from the church and the faith altogether. "The church needs to be prepared to respond in a Gospel-centric manner that emphasizes the healing and restoration that comes by way of faith in Jesus Christ," says Schave. "It is through Him that individuals who have suffered the effects of abuse can be made whole again."



Victor Vieth, executive director emeritus of the Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center in Winona, Minn., addresses the Synod's first Workshop on Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Sept. 30 in St. Louis.



From left, Emily Cave and Jenny Wallach practice asking questions and "active listening" in a role-playing exercise during the workshop.



## Faith at Home

Everyone knows the importance of family. From the very beginning, God designed marriage and the family in His image and with powerful influence. For some, home is where we first experience love. We feel safe and accepted, and experience peace and well-being. Christian families are the kind of structures where children learn Bible stories, fold their hands, close their eyes, bow their heads and talk to God.

Unfortunately, many people never experience that kind of home. For many, the word “family” brings memories of arguments, fear, violence and tears. Many families are buckling under the pressures and burdens of everyday life as they face significant struggles in communication, sexuality, finances — and faith. Cohabitation and divorce have become a norm, and parental/familial responsibilities, including faith formation, have been outsourced. Today’s families need help!

It’s no wonder we’ve been hearing an alarm echoing throughout our churches and schools about family life and the need for intentional family ministry. Congregations like yours can do much to build strong, Christ-centered families, no matter what that family looks like — nuclear, single parent, blended, aging and others. All family types need strengthening to face the attacks of today’s world and the onslaught of Satan, who continues to wreak havoc against

the basic building block of society, the family. Ministry to the Christian family is more than a program or event, or even a series of events. It certainly includes these things. But at its heart is a concern, an emphasis, an attitude to minister to families through Word and Sacrament so that homes become all God intends them to be. How does the church, and how can you, accomplish this goal?

First, faithfully proclaim and teach God’s Word in a culture that does not know or understand the truth regarding marriage and the family. Genesis 2 and Ephesians 5 picture the divine institution of marriage between one man and one woman mutually submitting to and loving one another. We also need to share God’s intention for the relationship between parent and child. Deuteronomy 6 gives us the image of the household being the center of faith formation and teaching the faith to the next generation.

Second, faithfully proclaim and teach the truth regarding sin and grace. The Genesis 3 account of the Fall gives the backdrop for the turmoil we face. It’s a recurring theme — rebellion, repentance and return. We, the church, have a wonderful message that God has reconciled and restored us:

“God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them.” **2 Cor. 5:19**

And that message, through Word and Sacrament, we must clearly proclaim and apply in our ministry to families.

Our church does this by celebrating “milestones,” including a family blessing in the front of church, and giving spiritual resources to children at various milestones in their lives.

Finally, pray. Remember the admonition of James: “You do not have, because you do not ask God” (James 2:2) and “The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective” (James 5:16). Pray for the Lord’s blessing upon the marriages and families of your congregation. Encourage others to pray for their own marriage and family, asking God to forgive them for their sins and failures as spouses and parents, seeking His mercy through their Savior Jesus Christ.

Now is the time to take a stand in this spiritual battle being waged today that impacts families, parents, children, youth and adults. Families need what we, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, have to offer: God’s Spirit working through Word and Sacrament to strengthen them for the battles they face. Will you take a stand? Will you speak for family life? Will you seek to strengthen marriages? Will you model the faith in your family and church? Will you help equip parents to teach their children?

*Brian Horning serves as director of Youth and Family Life at St. John Lutheran Church—Bingen, Decatur. He also serves as the president of the Northeast Indiana Family Life Ministry Council, administrator of the Northeast Indiana Family Friendly Partners Network and advisory board member of the Concordia Center for the Family (CUAA).*

# Planning a Family Legacy

By Rev. Philip Krupski, Planned Giving Counselor, LCMS Foundation



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Imagine you have been planning a family vacation for months. During one of these days, as everyone is relaxing, sitting on the deck of the cottage, talking, reading, playing games or getting ready to head out on the lake, you call them together for an important conversation, one that you have been thinking about and planning for just as much as you have planned for the vacation itself.

What is this conversation all about? Passing on a heritage of great stewardship! In this imaginary scenario, you share with your family

your intention to create a Family Gift Fund (Donor Advised Fund). Through this fund, you can place some of the gifts the Lord has given you to manage throughout your lifetime. (Your estate plan might add even more.)

Each year, you might make it your intention to meet as a family and identify ministry to support out of this fund. Maybe you set a goal of 5 percent of the value of the fund. You challenge your family to come up with congregational mission efforts, LCMS missionaries or Lutheran educational scholarships to support.

Once a year, you can gather as a family and discuss and pray about what the Lord's will is for that year. Then advise the LCMS Foundation to make a donation to fulfill what the Lord has laid on your family's heart. Doesn't that sound interesting?

This is a great way to gather families in faith and to pass down a heritage of great stewardship.

Contact the Rev. Philip Krupski at 317-840-3202 or [philip.krupski@lfnf](mailto:philip.krupski@lfnf) to find out more about how to create this family legacy.

# Keeping Our Focus

**H**ave you ever felt that your life was so full of distractions, with so many pulls on your time that you have lost your focus? It can happen all too easily, can't it? But as God's stewards, our goal is to live our lives for God's purpose, according to His grace given us by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament. Getting our priorities straight and sticking to them is one of the most difficult tasks we face, but face it we must. Faith, family and friends are all gifts from God and should be above all other earthly matters. Keeping our focus is vital if we wish to influence people's faith. In fact, did you know that the top four faith-producing factors in a person's life, according to Search Institute, are:



**Ken Schilf**  
Council of Resources

1. Talking about faith with a mother
2. Talking about faith with a father
3. Participating in family devotions
4. Doing family projects to help other people

Churches need to partner with homes to strengthen and pass on faith in Jesus Christ to this generation and those that follow. Even though generations relate differently to God, Scripture calls us to

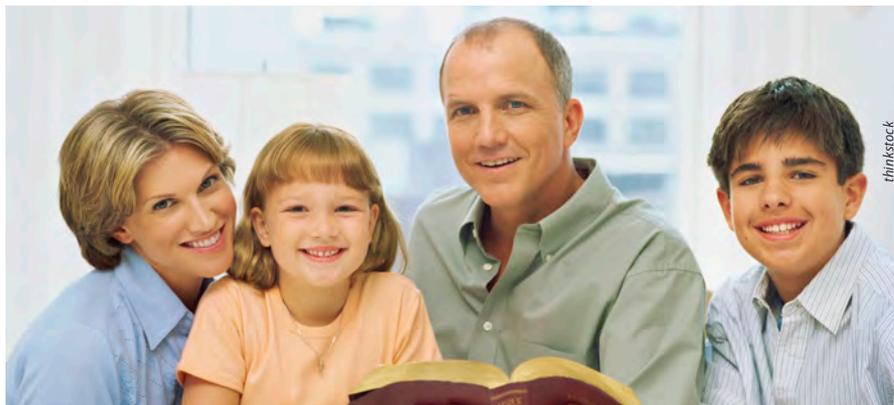
“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commands that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them upon your children. Talk about them when you sit at home, and when you walk (drive) along the road, when you lie down, and when you get up.” **Deut. 6:5-7**

Our homes need to be characterized as those that pass on the faith to the third and fourth generations, but we need to prioritize the time to do such. In addition, we need to share our faith by modeling. “Be imitators of God ... and live a life of love.” (Eph. 5:1) As chief stewards of our families, we should be examples of showing how we are using our God-given gifts of time, talents, and treasures. Don't let the busyness of society interfere with “Keeping Your Focus” with your family to love, serve, trust, and obey Christ our Savior.

If you wish to use outside resources to help you accomplish these goals, let me suggest the following:

- Family Friendly Partners Network by Ben Freudenburg (734-995-7348 or [familyfriendlypfn.com](http://familyfriendlypfn.com))
- Stewardship Advisors by Ron Chewning ([stewardshipadv@aol.com](mailto:stewardshipadv@aol.com) or 248-644-6150)
- The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod ([lcms.org/stewardship](http://lcms.org/stewardship))
- Search Institute ([search-institute.org](http://search-institute.org) or 800-888-7828)

Let's continue to keep our focus where it belongs — on faith and family!



## May Prayer List

### Week of May 2

- > Wyoming District
- > Circuit 11
- > Trinity, Culver
- > Trinity, Goodland
- > Grace, Lafayette
- > St. James, Lafayette
- > St. James, Logansport
- > Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Monticello
- > **Mission:** Global/Local Immigrant Ministry, Concordia, Fort Wayne
- > **RSO:** Lutheran Ministries Media, Fort Wayne

### Week of May 9

- > Atlantic District
- > Circuit 24
- > Holy Trinity, LaGrange
- > Holy Cross, Shelbyville
- > Divine Savior, Shepherdsville
- > Good Shepherd, Bardstown
- > Resurrection, Louisville
- > **Mission:** Global/Local Inner City Ministry, Concordia, Fort Wayne
- > **RSO:** Lutheran School Partnership, Fort Wayne

### Week of May 16

- > California/Nevada/Hawaii District
- > Circuit 3
- > St. Paul, Chesterton
- > St. Paul, Kouts
- > Immanuel, Michigan City
- > St. Paul (Otis), Westville
- > St. Peter, Portage
- > **Mission:** Gypsy Ministry, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne
- > **RSO:** Lutheran Social Services, Fort Wayne

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

# EVENTS

## TELL US YOUR NEWS!

Do you have exciting news you'd like to see published in the Indiana District Lutheran Witness? We love to hear updates, news, and see photos of around our district! If so, be sure to send in your submissions, especially if you enjoy writing or taking photos at church events.

### The deadline for the August issue of *The Lutheran Witness* is June 10.

Your stories and photos are welcomed and most appreciated. Please send all submissions to Jan Koenig at:

**jan.koenig@in.lcms.org**

or 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.

## May Prayer List

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

### Week of May 23

- > Central Illinois District
- > Circuit 6
- > St. John, Kendallville
- > Lake George, Fremont
- > Trinity, Ligonier
- > Messiah, Wolcottville
- > Shepherd by the Lakes, Syracuse
- > Living Water, Wolf Lake
- > **Mission:** Japanese Outreach, Trinity, Indianapolis
- > **RSO:** Lutheran Special Ed Ministries, Fort Wayne

### Week of May 30

- > Please see back page (8).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MAY

**2-4**

Southern Pastors Conference  
*Camp Lakeview*

**9-11**

Northern Pastors Conference,  
*Oakwood Resort*

**19**

Deaconess Placement  
*Concordia Theological Seminary*

Martin Luther — a Reformer of the Family,  
Lutheran Child and Family Services  
*Indianapolis*

**20**

Graduation  
*Concordia Theological Seminary*

### JUNE

**13-14**

Indiana District Early Childhood Conference  
*Indianapolis*

**24-26**

Indiana District LWML Convention  
*Bloomington*

**28- JULY 1**

Higher Things Youth Conference\*  
*Vanderbilt University, Nashville*

### JULY

**5-8**

"Higher Things" Youth Conference\*  
*University of Northern Iowa,  
Cedar Falls, Iowa*

**8-14**

LCMS Convention  
*Milwaukee, Wis.*

**16-20**

LCMS National Youth Gathering,  
"In Christ Alone"  
*New Orleans*

**21-22**

Indiana District Administrators Conference  
*Brown County*

**26-29**

Higher Things Youth Conference\*  
*Colorado State University,  
Fort Collins, Colorado*

### SEPTEMBER

**9-10**

Evangelism Conference  
*Our Shepherd, Avon*

**16-17**

Junior High Youth Gathering — South

**17-18**

Junior High Youth Rally — North

**19**

Deaconess Placement  
*Concordia Theological Seminary*

Martin Luther—a Reformer of the Family,  
Lutheran Child and Family Services  
*Indianapolis*

\*More information and registration for the Higher Things Youth Conference is available at [breadoflife2016.org](http://breadoflife2016.org).

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

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|--|---|--|--|
| <p><b>MAY 1</b><br/>Eleanor Rodenbeck, 96<br/>St. Paul's, Fort Wayne</p> <p>Myrtle Trubey, 93, Trinity, Hobart</p> <p>Merium "Pat" McQuern, 91<br/>St. James, Lafayette</p> <p><b>MAY 2</b><br/>Margaret Moeller, 90<br/>Heritage, Valparaiso</p> <p><b>MAY 3</b><br/>Margaret Gutt, 91, Heritage, Valparaiso</p> <p><b>MAY 5</b><br/>Glenna Turner, 95, Trinity, Dillsboro<br/>Emmagene Sellers, 94, Trinity, Dillsboro<br/>Doris Axtell, 92, Faith, DeMotte</p> <p><b>MAY 7</b><br/>Alberta Duwe, 94, Immanuel, Seymour<br/>Fred Bieberich, 92<br/>St. Paul (Preble), Decatur</p> <p><b>MAY 8</b><br/>Fran Sapper, 92, Trinity, Hobart</p> <p><b>MAY 9</b><br/>Korothy Darlage, 90<br/>St. Peter's, Brownstown</p> | <p><b>MAY 10</b><br/>Kathryn Adams, 90, Trinity, Dillsboro</p> <p><b>MAY 11</b><br/>Norman Wetzel, Sr., 97<br/>Calvary, Indianapolis</p> <p>Lowell Brown, 94, St. James, Lafayette<br/>Bernice Freeman, 93, Zion, Garrett<br/>Lois Linker, 90, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne</p> <p><b>MAY 12</b><br/>Oguerita McKinney, 94<br/>St. Peter's, Brownstown<br/>Leslie Meyer, 90, St. John, Indianapolis</p> <p><b>MAY 14</b><br/>Mildred Baxter, 96<br/>Concordia, Greenwood<br/>Doris Hackman, 90, Immanuel, Seymour</p> <p><b>MAY 15</b><br/>Justine Kramer, 93<br/>Emmanuel, Fort Wayne</p> <p><b>MAY 17</b><br/>Dora Evans, 98 Carmel<br/>Kathleen Dickerson, 91<br/>St. John, Indianapolis</p> | <p><b>MAY 18</b><br/>Mildred Krampe, 93, Carmel<br/>Francis Zollman, 93, St. John, Lanesville<br/>Neil Aase, 91, Carmel</p> <p><b>MAY 20</b><br/>Donald Voelker, 91<br/>St. John's, White Creek<br/>Charles Adams, 90, Heritage, Valparaiso</p> <p><b>MAY 21</b><br/>Anne Wyss, 93, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne<br/>Audrey Ortel, 92, Zion, New Palestine</p> <p><b>MAY 24</b><br/>Opal Foertsch, 93, Faith, Salem</p> <p><b>MAY 25</b><br/>Dean Bennett, 91, Calvary, Plymouth</p> <p><b>MAY 26</b><br/>Charlotte Welch, 96<br/>Emmanuel, Fort Wayne</p> <p><b>MAY 27</b><br/>Harriett Facks, 91<br/>Holy Cross, Fort Wayne</p> <p><b>MAY 29</b><br/>Laverne Bernhardt, 93<br/>Calvary, Indianapolis</p> | <p><b>MAY 30</b><br/>Geneva Braun, 96, Emmanuel, Tell City<br/>Bob Hegerfeld, 92, St. John, Monroeville<br/>.....</p> <p><b>Belated Birthdays</b><br/><b>FEB. 25</b><br/>Leona Kleaving, 91, Emmanuel, Tell City</p> <p><b>MARCH 8</b><br/>Edna Pieper, 92, Trinity, Dillsboro</p> <p><b>APRIL 30</b><br/>John Brumbaugh, 93<br/>Prince of Peace, Goshen</p> |
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## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p><b>MAY 1</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hayes<br/>62, Holy Cross, Fort Wayne</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Sonner, 51<br/>St. John, Lanesville</p> <p><b>MAY 2</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Gene Baumgartner, 59<br/>St. Paul (Preble), Decatur</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Diederich, 57<br/>Zion, Garrett</p> <p><b>MAY 3</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. John Zabel, 64<br/>Concordia, Greenwood</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Smith, 59<br/>Immanuel, Avilla</p> <p><b>MAY 5</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. William Koch, 65<br/>St. Paul's, Evansville</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Wade O'Brien, 61<br/>Shepherd of the Hills, Georgetown</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Roger Stuckwisch, 54<br/>St. Peter's, Brownstown</p> <p><b>MAY 6</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Ness, 66<br/>St. Peter, North Judson</p> <p><b>MAY 9</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Don Diekmann, 63<br/>St. Paul's, Evansville</p> <p><b>MAY 11</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Don Woelker, 69<br/>St. John's, White Creek</p> | <p>Mr. and Mrs. Phil Minton, 59, Carmel</p> <p><b>MAY 12</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. John Myers, 65<br/>Calvary, Plymouth</p> <p><b>MAY 14</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Wortmann, 61<br/>Trinity, Darmstadt</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Carson Pettijohn, 56<br/>Our Redeemer, Evansville</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Jack Myer, 55<br/>St. James, Lafayette</p> <p><b>MAY 15</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kinser, 62<br/>Calvary, Indianapolis</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Jim Kleiman, 57<br/>St. Paul's, Evansville</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Ken Folk, 51<br/>Calvary, Plymouth</p> <p><b>MAY 16</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Alan Collins, 52<br/>Calvary, Indianapolis</p> <p><b>MAY 18</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Erich Rensner, 59<br/>Calvary, Indianapolis</p> <p><b>MAY 21</b><br/>Rev. and Mrs. Richard Maassel, 56<br/>St. Paul's, Fort Wayne</p> <p><b>MAY 22</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Pete Reigert, 62, Carmel</p> | <p>Mr. and Mrs. Chester Rust, 61<br/>Immanuel, Seymour</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Karl Scheumann, 51<br/>Holy Cross, Fort Wayne</p> <p>Rev. and Mrs. Paul Borg, 50, Carmel</p> <p><b>MAY 23</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Don Brown, 52, Zion, Decatur</p> <p><b>MAY 25</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Don Feagley, 59<br/>Trinity, Darmstadt</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Louis Herring, 53<br/>St. Peter, North Judson</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Ed McCoy Sr., 53<br/>Trinity, Darmstadt</p> <p><b>MAY 26</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Jim Walston, 62<br/>Trinity, Dillsboro</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hackman, 53<br/>St. Peter's, Brownstown</p> <p><b>MAY 27</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Edward Nance, 55<br/>St. John, Lanesville</p> <p><b>MAY 28</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Schulte, 61<br/>Immanuel, Seymour</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Wiese, 66<br/>St. John, Indianapolis</p> | <p><b>MAY 29</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Bill Nash, 62, Carmel<br/>Mr. and Mrs. Everett Nass, 62, Zion, Decatur<br/>Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Voelker, 61<br/>Emmanuel, Fort Wayne<br/>Mr. and Mrs. Fred Woodward, 51<br/>Holy Cross, Fort Wayne</p> <p><b>MAY 31</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Scheer, 58, Carmel</p> <p><b>Belated Anniversaries</b><br/><b>FEB. 20</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gallmeyer, 50<br/>St. Paul (Preble), Decatur</p> <p><b>MARCH 7</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mulzer, 52<br/>Emmanuel, Tell City</p> <p><b>MARCH 16</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Glen Rahe, 59<br/>Trinity, Dillsboro</p> <p><b>APRIL 1</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Robert Benter, 60<br/>St. Paul, Brownstown</p> <p>Mr. and Mrs. Erman Shoemaker, 50<br/>Trinity, Vallonia</p> <p><b>APRIL 12</b><br/>Mr. and Mrs. Gib Foertsch, 58<br/>Emmanuel, Tell City</p> |
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## Teaching the Faith in the Home, Church and Community

*The LCMS offers resources to strengthen families*

We read in Acts 4:20:

“For we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.”

In March, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod focused on teaching the faith as we nurture and strengthen faithful families and reach the lost by proclaiming God’s Word through teaching in the home, church and community.

The Synod’s various ministries help families in this regard. LCMS Worship aims to nurture an understanding and love for the Lutheran heritage in Christian worship.

Helpful, free resources include:

- *Let Us Pray* weekly prayers
- Lectionary summaries for Sunday readings
- Bible studies
- Children and youth resources
- Liturgy audio files
- Organ instructional videos
- Radio interviews on worship topics, including a series on the historic liturgy and numerous hymn studies
- *Unwrapping the Gifts*, an electronic publication about worship topics



LCMS/Erk W. Lunsford

To learn more about these and other resources, visit [lcms.org/focus/teachingthefait](https://lcms.org/focus/teachingthefait)

## Honoring Those Who Have Gone Before

*By Jim Lutterman*



On Memorial Day, May 28, the Lutheran Cemetery in Evansville, will host its eighth annual salute in honoring not only veterans but loved ones as well.

A service will be held on the cemetery grounds at 11 a.m., followed by a social hour with the cemetery staff serving cake, punch, and coffee.

With the help of local Lutheran youth groups, led by the Rev. Chad Eckels, pastor, St. Paul’s, Evansville, large American flags line the roadways of the cemetery and smaller American flags are placed on the graves of all known veterans. A tradition started in 2008, this display remains the entire week before Memorial Day. A large sign near the cemetery office bears the names of those loved ones being remembered and stays up for the following year.

The Lutheran Cemetery, located at 1305 N. Saint Joe Ave., has been in existence since 1853. Many prominent residents of Evansville are interred

in the cemetery, including four past mayors of Evansville, 13 Lutheran pastors, more than 220 veterans, including the Civil War, and many other civic leaders.

Please remember those who gave their lives for our freedom, and all our veterans and their families in your prayers the week of May 30.