



# DISTRICT NEWS

## INDIANA

# King of Kings



“ God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. He says, ‘Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.’ The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.” **Psalm 46 NIV**

On the last Sunday of the church year, we rejoice in Jesus, who is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. It’s important to remember that fact, particularly when we think about the end times.



**Rev. Daniel May**  
District President

As our thoughts turn in this direction, we may even find ourselves thinking, “Come Lord Jesus! And today would be good!” It would be good, of course, for

Christ to return soon, but if today isn’t that day, we trust that God has more for us to do.

As we approach the last Sunday of the church year, then, we have an opportunity to look forward with great confidence in God who is our “refuge and strength.” Since the “God of Jacob is our fortress,” and since He is with us, we take each new day and church year as a gift from His hand. As we conclude this church year, remember to give hearty thanks to God for the year now past, and then enter the Advent season with the sure hope we have in the promise of the Bethlehem Babe!

### Small-town ministry



### A precious joy

**By Rev. Jared Raebel**  
Faith Lutheran Church, DeMotte

Like Indiana native John Cougar Mellencamp, “I was born in a small town” (Amelia, N.D.); I was raised in a small town (Red Lake Falls, Minn.); and now I live and serve a church in a small town (DeMotte).

In my small-town stays, I still experience the joy of being surrounded

by many who have what I call a pre-Industrial Revolution Christian faith. My sainted father, who served as a pastor in a small town for many years, first pointed out that of all the vocations of the parishioners he served, it is the farmer who exhibits the most dependent faith. My father said this is because the farmer knows

he is directly dependent on the Lord for his bounty. His crops need the right amount of sunshine, rain and protection from destructive weather elements. The farmer knows that only the Lord, “whom the wind and the sea obey” (Mark 4:41), controls them. Thus, when dry weather conditions occur, we hear the farmer say, “We need some rain,” which is not only a statement of fact; it is a prayerful petition.

In the rural church I serve, there is only one member who is a farmer. The

rest of the congregation, however, still drives by Indiana cornfields and during a dry season prays the farmer’s prayer, “We need some rain.” Their rural lives have made them more aware of the connection between those crops and their food on the table.

This trust in the Heavenly Father is a joy to witness and work with in rural America. Here, it is easier to preach man’s total dependence upon God for salvation. Through the Father’s Son, Jesus Christ, He has procured something for us we can’t procure for ourselves. Thus, when the dry season of death surrounds us and we call to the Lord, “We need some refreshing rain (Acts 3:21),” the Lord happily obliges, refreshing us with His means of grace. In them, He empowers us to put our trust in His promise to give us a bountiful harvest in heaven.

For this reason, it is a joy to share the Gospel of Christ with a rural community.

## Challenges in rural ministry

**By Rev. Craig Muhlbach**  
St. John Lutheran Church, Sauers

In my 25 years of ministry, I have had the privilege of serving the church in a rural and small-town setting, from towns with populations of 175 to communities of 18,000. Rural ministry has been a joy and sometimes a challenge. However, it has always been a blessing as God works in the lives of His people through His Word and Sacraments.

One of the joys of serving in a rural ministry is living in the same community with the people in your congregation. Everyone knows everyone else and often looks out for one another. I will always remember how the congregation welcomed my family and helped my wife, especially when the children were young. The children grew up in relative safety; they learned the importance of hard work and responsibility and grew to be strong church leaders like their parents and grandparents. The collective wisdom of long-time members is a tremendous gift as

the people of God seek God’s direction.

But with the many joys also come many challenges. For example, with the blessing of living in the community comes the challenge of dealing with conflict, since the complexity of family relationships and traditions are woven into the fabric of the congregation and community.

Ministry in a rural setting also means your life is integrated into the community in many ways. This may involve school events, nursing homes and sports teams. Here, the lack of resources, as well as the need to learn administrative and time-management skills, can be challenging.

And while rural communities and congregations may or may not be growing, they are all changing. Economic challenges, an influx of more immigrants and an aging demographic all impact rural ministry. The rural community is also not exempt from the destructive paths of our culture. Even in the midst of such change, there is the conviction of the people of God that with a living faith



in Christ comes the grace to meet the challenges around them. The Church is Christ’s, and He is the Good Shepherd that feeds and cares for His flock. He is their strength and shield!

Although filled with challenges, rural ministry is among the most rewarding as the Holy Spirit is at work in the lives of Christ’s redeemed. How did I ever get to serve in a rural and small-town setting? It is an opportunity that God has given — for which I am grateful.

# New name, new locations...



## Mission still based on **CHRIST** and His **WORD**

In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of ministry, Carmel Lutheran Church has changed its name to Cornerstone Lutheran Church, positioning the church for expansion to new locations in Fishers and downtown Indianapolis. Committed to identifying as one congregation in multiple locations, the church chose one unified name for all current and future ministry sites.

“Our leadership has been deliberate in ensuring that the same DNA experienced at the Carmel site will be transferred to each future site of our church,” says the Rev. Luther Brunette, senior pastor. “The 40-year ministry

of Carmel Lutheran Church continues, even as we expand to additional sites. We remain faithful to our mission to reach out, care for and build people toward maturity in Christ as one congregation in multiple communities.”

In choosing the name “Cornerstone,” the church deliberately sought “a unique Lutheran scriptural name for our ministry that describes our mission given to us by Christ Himself,” says Brunette. “Our mission and ministry are clarified and focused, knowing that everything we do is built on Christ Jesus — who is our ‘chief cornerstone’ (Eph. 2:20) — and His Word.”

Cornerstone’s multisite model retains one staff serving the whole church in multiple locations (though additional staff may be hired with church growth) and through one church budget.

Cornerstone Lutheran Church is a 2,000-member congregation with locations in:

- ▶ Carmel (4850 E. Main St.)
- ▶ Fishers (opening Nov. 20 at 13450 E. 116th St.)
- ▶ Downtown Indianapolis (719 Virginia Ave. in “The Hinge” office building).

Established in 1976, the church is celebrating 40 years of ministry in 2016. For more information, visit [CornerstoneLutheran.church](http://CornerstoneLutheran.church).

# First conference a success

Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Avon, partnered with the Indiana District Outreach and Evangelism office to host an evangelism conference Sept. 9-10. Special thanks to the members of the district Council of Congregational Outreach, who worked so hard to make this conference, a year in the making, a reality. Also thanks to the Rev. Daniel Lepley and his congregation for helping to make the event such a great success. The congregation went out of its way to provide attendees with a wonderful space to meet, learn, socialize and enjoy meals together.

Participants learned about various ways to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Those attending the conference commented that they learned much and gained ideas for reaching out with the Gospel of Christ in their communities.

Many participants returned surveys evaluating the conference and overwhelmingly asked for another evangelism conference in the future, so stay tuned!



Clockwise from top, conference attendees gather for food and fellowship; attendees included, from left, Chaplain Paul Lepley and Rev. Daniel Lepley; Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast Jr., president, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, gave the keynote address.

## New video captures Outreach Kentucky mission

Imagine a place in the Indiana District where the majority of the people don't attend a church of any kind. Or a place in the Indiana District where there never has been a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation. That place is real, and it's Richmond, Ky.

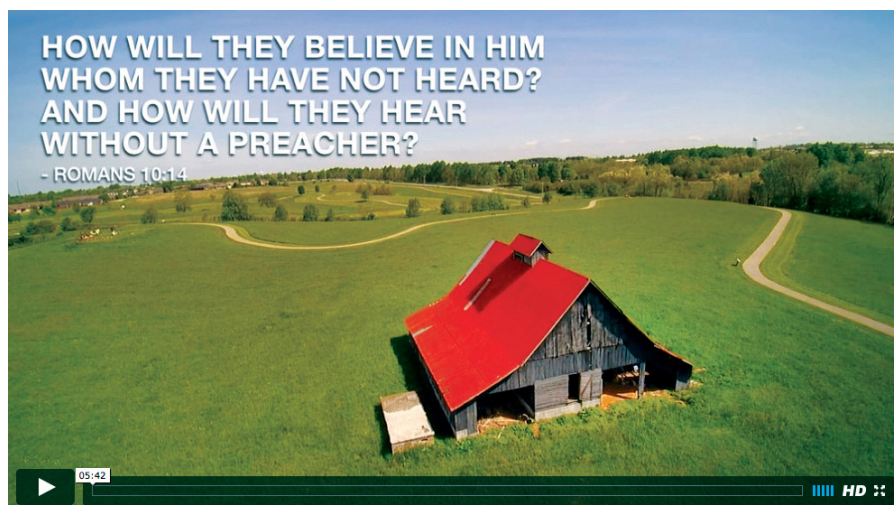
"As our congregation watched the recent Outreach Kentucky video, we were struck by loss of the privileged place that the Church once had among us as we heard the sad voices of those living in the mess of our own American spiritual confusion," says the Rev. Peter Cage, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School, Fort Wayne. "People are crying out. They need the clear Word of God's love in Jesus and the support of all our congregations. May God bless the mission of Outreach Kentucky."

The Rev. Steve Schave, director of LCMS Church Planting and LCMS Urban & Inner-City Mission, said this after watching the Outreach Kentucky video: "If you are not completely sure why we need to concentrate our efforts on church planting in the United States and calling missionaries to serve

domestically, then you need look no further than to this video. It captures perfectly the context of *Mission Field: USA* ... a nation where even the Bible Belt is under a cloud of dark confusion and unbelief. I urge you to consider how you can support the work of Outreach Kentucky, to bear witness to the Gospel among college students and others who so desperately need the Good News in these dark and latter days."

Outreach Kentucky is a joint effort of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and the Indiana District to plant a new congregation and campus ministry in Richmond.

You can learn all about this vital mission, watch the five-minute Outreach Kentucky video and learn how you can support this mission by visiting [in.lcms.org/outreach-kentucky](http://in.lcms.org/outreach-kentucky).



## Selfish vs. Selfless

What's the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear "November?" Perhaps you think of Thanksgiving, no work, no school, a month until Christmas, or Black Friday. Of course, when I was growing up, we didn't have a name for the day after Thanksgiving. Now everyone knows it as Black Friday, when merchants depend on a monster sales day to help finish the year (hopefully) in the black.

Of course, there's nothing wrong with finding a good deal — or with saving money. But all too easily, Black Friday can cause us to fall into the trap of thinking that we need all these sale items — for our family and ourselves. Jesus warns us against this kind of thinking in Luke 12:15 (NIV):

"Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

Perhaps we should take a cue from King David, who wrote in 1 Chron. 29:13-14 (NIV):

"Now, our God, we give you thanks and praise your glorious name. 'But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from You, and we have given you only what comes from Your hand.'"

David understood God's awesome love and generosity. He saw the joy in his people when they responded to God's love and care by giving to the building of the temple. It was David's prayer that their commitment and generous giving to the Lord would continue forever.

In this Thanksgiving month, we, too, need to remember that giving to God expresses our gratitude and thanksgiving and demonstrates our faith and obedience to Him. Just as Christ reached out to help the needy, so too can we use our lives and resources to do likewise.

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." Gal. 6:10 (NIV)

We may not be wealthy, but neither was the widow who gave her mite. Even in our smaller congregations, we can support our church's mission and ministry. By pooling our treasures of time, talents and money, we will enable our local church to spread the Good News of Jesus' love and saving grace to both the church and unchurched. And that's worth remembering, not just in November, but all year through!

## Go back in time — to Bethlehem

Back by popular demand, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 3496 E. Morgan St., Martinsville, will present its fourth annual Bethlehem Walk from 7 to 10 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 9. This expanded live Nativity will take participants back in time to experience a night like no other, the night our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, was born.

The evening begins in the church sanctuary with a short introduction. Guests then proceed outside to walk through the gates of Bethlehem, where they encounter Roman guards and tax collectors, hear the words of the prophets and wise men, shop at the merchants' tents, encounter a variety of animals and visit the inn and the



stable. Prince of Peace members will serve cookies and hot chocolate in the fellowship hall following the walk.

Tickets for this event, issued in 20-minute time increments, are free and may be secured by calling the church office at 765-342-2004, by emailing [popchurchlcms@hotmail.com](mailto:popchurchlcms@hotmail.com), or by visiting [popmartinsville.org](http://popmartinsville.org).



Ken Schilf  
Council of Resources

## November Prayer List

### Week of November 7

- > Oklahoma District
- > Circuit 14
- > Our Shepherd, Avon
- > Christ, Brownsburg
- > Holy Cross, Crawfordsville
- > Peace, Greencastle
- > Messiah, Indianapolis
- > Living Christ, Plainfield
- > Immanuel, Terre Haute
- > **Mission:** Liberian Children's Mission, New Life, Fort Wayne
- > **RSO:** Bethesda Lutheran Communities, Fort Wayne

### Week of November 14

- > Pacific Southwest District
- > Circuit 19
- > St. Paul, Columbus
- > Bethlehem, Greendale
- > Holy Trinity, Greensburg
- > Faith, Madison
- > **Mission:** Burmese Buddhists, New Life, Fort Wayne
- > **RSO:** Camp Lakeview, Seymour

### Week of November 21

- > Rocky Mountain District
- > Circuit 1
- > Grace, Dyer
- > St. Paul, East Chicago
- > Concordia, Hammond
- > Trinity, Hammond
- > Redeemer, Highland
- > Trinity, Lowell
- > St. Paul, Munster
- > Peace, Schererville
- > **Mission:** Burmese Muslims, New Life, Fort Wayne
- > **RSO:** Camp Lutherhaven, Albion

### Week of November 28

- > SELC District
- > Circuit 9
- > Promise, Fort Wayne
- > Martini, New Haven
- > St. Paul, New Haven
- > Christ, Woodburn
- > Zion, Woodburn
- > **Mission:** Burmese Karen, Southwest, Fort Wayne
- > **RSO:** Cedar Lake Lodge, LaGrange, Ky.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please add these important dates to your personal calendar as we look forward to a fun and fulfilling fall season.

### NOVEMBER

**2-6**  
Luther Hostel 2016,  
*Concordia Theological  
Seminary*

**3-5**  
National Rural and  
Small Town Mission  
Conference, *Wichita, Kan.*

**6-8**  
Good Shepherd Institute  
Conference 2016,  
*Concordia Theological  
Seminary, Fort Wayne*

**9-10**  
Circuit Visitors  
Conference, *Fort Wayne*

**11-13**  
Indiana District Youth  
Gathering, *Columbus*

### DECEMBER

**23**  
The district office  
will close at noon

**25**  
A blessed Christmas!

**26**  
District office closed

### JANUARY

**4-6**  
LCMS Campus  
Ministry Conference,  
*College Park, Md.*

**17-18**  
Symposium on Exegetical  
Theology — "The Spirit  
of Reformation Exegesis  
Today," *Concordia  
Theological Seminary*

### 18-20

Symposium on the  
Lutheran Confessions  
— "The 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the Reformation  
Continuing the  
Celebration," *Concordia  
Theological Seminary*

### 22-28

National Lutheran  
Schools Week —  
"Upon This Rock"

### 27-29

LCMS Life Conference

### FEBRUARY

#### 10-12

"Katie Retreat" for  
pastors' wives, *Inn at  
DePauw, Greencastle*

## SHARE YOUR NEWS!

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

**The deadline for the January issue of The Lutheran Witness is Nov. 10.**

Your stories and photos are welcomed and most appreciated. Please send all submissions to Jan Koenig at [jan.koenig@in.lcms.org](mailto:jan.koenig@in.lcms.org) or mail to:

**Lutheran Witness Editor  
LCMS Indiana District  
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.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

### NOVEMBER 2

**Emma Melcher, 107**  
St. John, Monroeville

### NOVEMBER 4

Lois Schmidt, 95  
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne  
Marge Sahlhoff, 94, Calvary, Plymouth

### NOVEMBER 5

Lois Case, 92, Concordia, Greenwood  
William Terry, 92  
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Ruth Pederson, 91, Faith, DeMotte

### NOVEMBER 6

Mildred Franke, 94  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne  
Rhea Bohnke, 90  
St. John, Monroeville

### NOVEMBER 7

Jacqueline Bock, 90  
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne  
Norma Russell, 90  
Immanuel, Seymour

### NOVEMBER 8

Lily Harper, 94, Cornerstone, Carmel

### NOVEMBER 9

John Meiser, 92, Zion, New Palestine

### NOVEMBER 10

Pat Horman, 91  
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

### NOVEMBER 11

Anna Clymer, 92  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne  
Ginny Voelker, 91  
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

### NOVEMBER 12

**Nelda Dome, 103**  
**Emmanuel, Tell City**  
Grace Wolf, 95, Calvary, Indianapolis  
Eleanor Peter, 93, Trinity, Dillsboro  
Carol Smith, 92, Zion, Decatur

### NOVEMBER 13

Lucille Psilas, 98  
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne  
Bill Eshcoff, 91  
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

### NOVEMBER 14

Alta Boyce, 94, Trinity, Dillsboro

### NOVEMBER 15

Treva Stahl, 94, Immanuel, Seymour  
Herbert Kleeman, 92, Zion, Garrett  
Marcella Sheets, 91  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne  
Paul Christensen, 90  
Calvary, Plymouth  
Morgan Jones, 90, St. Paul's, Evansville  
Dorothy Lindstrom, 90  
Concordia, Greenwood

### NOVEMBER 16

Ruth Alice Carey, 99  
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

### Vivian Purvis, 97

Bethlehem, Fort Wayne  
Bettie Engelbrecht, 96  
St. Paul's, Evansville

### NOVEMBER 17

Audrey Schwicho, 90  
Concordia, Greenwood

### NOVEMBER 20

Luke Koch, 93, St. Paul's, Evansville

### NOVEMBER 22

Amelia Nienaber, 92  
St. Paul's, Evansville

### NOVEMBER 23

Mary Lee Thompson, 91  
Grace, New Albany

### NOVEMBER 25

Emily Brown, 95  
St. Peter, North Judson

### NOVEMBER 26

Thomas Kalberer, 93, Trinity, Hobart  
Dale Schott, 91  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne

### NOVEMBER 28

Harriett Kaiser, 95  
Trinity Memorial, Merrillville

### NOVEMBER 29

Helen Woodson, 97  
St. Paul's, Evansville  
Catherine Snouffer, 90  
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

### NOVEMBER 30

Anna Cockerham, 91  
St. John's, Vincennes

## Belated Birthdays

### SEPTEMBER 9

Herman Guenin, 92  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne

### SEPTEMBER 26

Elbert Fuhrmann, 94  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne

### OCTOBER 7

Bernie Biberdorf, 92  
Cornerstone, Carmel

### OCTOBER 10

Evelyn Baker, 91, Trinity, Evansville

### OCTOBER 14

Walter Nielsen, 91  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne

### OCTOBER 18

Joan Domrow, 91  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne

### OCTOBER 14

Walter Nielsen, 91  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne

### OCTOBER 26

Neletta Reidenbach, 92  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne

**NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

**NOVEMBER 1**  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Koestring, 63  
Our Redeemer, Evansville

**NOVEMBER 2**  
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Peterson, 60  
Immanuel, Tracy

**NOVEMBER 3**  
Mr. and Mrs. Norm Jacobs, 60  
Heritage, Valparaiso

**NOVEMBER 4**  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fox, 66  
St. Paul's, Bremen

**NOVEMBER 5**  
Mr. and Mrs. George Wilson, 61  
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne  
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Wilson, 50  
Christ Irvington, Indianapolis

**NOVEMBER 6**  
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Konrad, 62  
St. Peter, North Judson

**NOVEMBER 11**  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Caruso, 56  
St. John, Indianapolis.  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Gallmeyer, 54  
St. Paul (Preble), Decatur

**NOVEMBER 10**  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dodge, 77  
St. James, Reynolds  
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wohlschlegel, 64  
Faith, Louisville  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Handschy, 58  
Calvary, Indianapolis  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Braukhoff, 52  
St. Paul's, Evansville

**NOVEMBER 11**  
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Heideman, 54  
Immanuel, Seymour  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Bennett, 50  
Immanuel, Seymour

**NOVEMBER 16**  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Christianson, 58  
Calvary, Plymouth  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Gordy, 53  
St. James, Lafayette.

Mr. and Mrs. David Gunsett, 53  
Zion, Decatur

**NOVEMBER 18**  
Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf Czerny, 66  
St. John, Indianapolis.  
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Smith, 55  
St. John, Lanesville

**NOVEMBER 21**  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Baker, 71  
Trinity, Evansville  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Klasing, 63  
Calvary, Indianapolis  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ayres, 58  
St. John, Indianapolis  
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Payne, 57  
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

**NOVEMBER 23**  
Mr. and Mrs. Willis Baumgart, 66  
St. John, Lanesville  
Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Schoch, 61  
Grace, New Albany  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald McFarland, 54  
Calvary, Indianapolis  
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Halcomb, 53  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**NOVEMBER 24**  
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rump, 71  
St. John, Indianapolis  
Mr. and Mrs. Donnie Snyder, 60  
Calvary, Plymouth  
Mr. and Mrs. James Such, 59  
Trinity, Hobart  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Huebschman, 55  
Emmanuel, Tell City

**NOVEMBER 25**  
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Lenburg, 66  
Trinity, Hobart  
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Wagner, 62  
Zion, Garrett  
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Brown, 57  
St. James, Lafayette  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Oyer, 52  
Calvary, Indianapolis  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Brown, 51  
Immanuel, Seymour

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Kanning, 51  
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

**NOVEMBER 26**  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Schneider, 66  
Immanuel, Seymour  
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Swart, 62  
St. Paul's, Evansville  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Eisert, 56  
Shepherd of the Hills, Georgetown  
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Ricks, 56  
St. James, Lafayette  
Mr. and Mrs. John Hassel, 52  
Trinity Memorial, Merrillville  
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cook, 51  
Zion, New Palestine  
Mr. and Mrs. George Corrie, 61  
Faith, DeMotte

**NOVEMBER 27**  
Mr. and Mrs. Russ Denzine, 62  
Heritage, Valparaiso  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Vandre Sr., 62  
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne  
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Becher, 58  
Zion, Decatur  
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Krueckeberg, 51  
Zion, Decatur  
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Simpson, 51  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**NOVEMBER 28**  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mesenbrink, 52  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**NOVEMBER 29**  
Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Fox, 58  
St. John, Indianapolis  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vatne, 53  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**NOVEMBER 30**  
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Roth, 59  
Our Redeemer, Evansville  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kirkpatrick, 54  
St. James, Lafayette  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Schweiger, 53  
Trinity Memorial, Merrillville

**Belated Anniversaries**

**SEPTEMBER 3**  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bultemeyer, 55  
St. Johns (Bingen), Decatur  
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bieberich, 50  
St. Paul (Preble), Decatur

**SEPTEMBER 28**  
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Kaltoff, 53  
Bethlehem, Fort Wayne

**OCTOBER 7**  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank McMurry, 60  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**OCTOBER 8**  
Mr. and Mrs. John Nine, 61  
Emmaus, Fort Wayne  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Weigel, 61  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**OCTOBER 9**  
Mr. and Mrs. George Eldridge, Sr., 56  
Emmaus, Fort Wayne  
Mr. and Mrs. Herman Franke, 52  
Zion, Seymour  
Mr. and Mrs. Les Malmloff, 51  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**OCTOBER 12**  
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Schultz, 53  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**OCTOBER 17**  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed White, 51  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**OCTOBER 20**  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Thune, 66  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**OCTOBER 28**  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom James, 60  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**OCTOBER 29**  
Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Roehm, 61  
Cornerstone, Carmel

**OCTOBER 30**  
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Ford, 52  
Zion, Seymour

**New pastor in Portage**

The Rev. Benjamin Ahlersmeyer was installed as pastor of St. Peter, Portage, on July 31. Participating in the celebration were, from left, (front row) the Revs. Robert Hauter, Marty Hufford, Kent Wartick, Juan Garcia, Daniel May, Benjamin Ahlersmeyer, Aaron Boerst, Michael Porter, Eric Schoech, Steven Ahlersmeyer; (middle row) James Wetzstein, Thomas Ahlersmeyer, Peter Ahlersmeyer; (back row) Richard Boshoven, John Albers, Alan Hellwege, Wallace Waite, Adam Ray, Donald Williams, Mark Fakh, Donald Langhoff and Paul Albers.





## WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS

# New pastor, renovated set highlight new season

**A**t the end of August, the *Worship for Shut-Ins* television program began production for a new season, which will begin airing in November. The new season ushers in several changes, including renovations to the set and a fresh face to the panel of regular speakers, all aimed at enhancing the viewing experience.

The Rev. William Mueller, senior pastor of Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, will join the existing group of five pastors as a regular speaker this season. Returning speakers include the Revs. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer, Dr. Daniel Brege, James Elsner, Dr. Walter Maier III and Paul Shoemaker. Shoemaker was one of the original five pastors who formed the rotation in 1994 in order to add more continuity to the program. Don Luepke will serve as the host, which he has done since 1992.

Matthew Leighty, executive director of Lutheran Ministries Media, says the addition of Mueller continues the trend of continuity started in 1994. "Adding Pastor Mueller and having fewer guest pastors on the program means people

participating in *Worship for Shut-Ins* will see a familiar face every week. It also will help maintain continuity over time. We hope this will keep enhancing the viewer's experience."

Viewers watching *Worship for Shut-Ins* on Sunday, Nov. 6, will also notice some changes to Wolf Chapel Studio, the program's home since 2010. Updates include new wall partitions, paint to add warmth and depth, carpet, pastors' chairs and LED lighting behind the stained-glass windows. Special thanks to the ad-hoc committee that carried out the plans. Members include Paula Schmidt, designer; John Schamber, volunteer; Beth Myers, volunteer/board member; Al Schumm, board member; Paul Melin, program director; Julie Beers, office manager; and Leighty.

Leighty shared that "it was a complete joy working with the committee, volunteers, contractors and those who supported the project. We hope it will enrich the viewer's worship experience as we seek to glorify our Lord."

Paul Wolf, a friend of the ministry who has supported this ongoing work,

says, "For a ministry like *Worship for Shut-Ins*, it is vital they have the space they need to reach people with God's Word." According to Leighty, further enhancements are expected in the coming months, with opportunities for people to come alongside the important work of the ministry to help further its mission to share Christ's love through ministry and media.

*Worship for Shut-Ins* was started in 1965 in Toledo, Ohio, by the Rev. Oswald Bertram and then transitioned to Fort Wayne with programs under Lutheran Ministries Media (LMM) in 1979 on television station WPTA channel 21 (ABC). Each telecast offers a new program, which includes Scripture readings, a sermon and musical selections. In addition to the Fort Wayne area, the show is now seen worldwide via antenna, cable, satellite and the Internet.

To learn more about how you can partner with *Worship for Shut-Ins*, along with a list of stations, times and sermon topics, visit [worshipforshutins.org](http://worshipforshutins.org).