



DISTRICT NEWS

INDIANA

The Kingdom of God is at hand

August has begun, and we're in the final days of the Synod Convention in Milwaukee. No doubt there will be many mixed feelings and competing perspectives on the decisions made and the actions taken by the assembled delegates.



Rev. Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch
District President

Regardless of the outcomes, and notwithstanding all the frailties and foibles of our polity and processes, sincere thanks are due to those who have served as pastor and lay delegates from across our LCMS. While we would never claim to be flawless or inerrant as a human institution of the Lord's church on earth, it is nevertheless the case that our Synod has always been deliberate and intentional in its efforts to be faithful to the Word of the Lord as revealed in the Holy Scriptures and confessed in the Book of Concord.

Living in a fallen and perishing world — and all of us being sinners — it is far too easy to become cynical, jaded and perhaps even bitter about various aspects of our life together as a Synod. That is all the more true in the wake of a convention. It is meet, right and salutary that we should contend for the integrity of our teaching and practice, and that includes argument

and debate, properly understood and carried out in love for one another. But we witness the strife and ill will that surface even among brothers, and we are sometimes sadly disappointed (or worse) by the words and actions of some within our fellowship who espouse and evidence a seemingly different understanding of the faith once delivered to the saints.

It is beneficial to remember that the church on earth has always struggled with such challenges and difficulties. The old evil foe sows tares among the Lord's wheat (**MATT. 13:24-30, 36-43**), and both good and bad fish are gathered together in the great dragnet of the public ministry of the Gospel (**MATT. 13:47-50**). Even so, Paul acknowledges that "there must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized" (**1 COR. 11:19**). By the same token, as "iron sharpens iron," so "one man sharpens another" (**PROV. 27:17**). All of which is a call to be vigilant and on guard against the allure of false doctrine and all the assaults and accusations of the devil; to be constant in prayer and intercession for ourselves, for the church and for our neighbors in the world; and to be humble and repentant concerning ourselves, placing all our trust in Christ Jesus alone. Let us ever be ready to listen to and learn from one another, testing everything by the Word of the Lord, and open to the correction, reproof, admonition

and encouragement of the Spirit in the Holy Scriptures.

For all of that, it is all the more necessary to bear in mind and take to heart that, by the mercies of God in Christ Jesus, His church on earth remains and persists even in the midst of sin and death, and in spite of the devil and all his works and all his ways. Indeed, the almighty power of God, perfected for us and all the world in the absurd weakness of the cross, continues to uphold, sustain and prosper His church by the "foolish" preaching of that cross and the apparent futility of water, bread and wine.

And that church is not simply a human institution. It is the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven, not by any power of our own or best efforts, but by the grace of God, by the ministry of His Gospel, and by the working of His Spirit through Word and Sacraments.

In St. John's preaching and Baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, in the preaching and miracles of the Lord Jesus Himself, in the ministry of His apostles and all those who are called, ordained and sent in His name, even to the close of the age, the Kingdom of God is at hand because the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are actively present and at work in the Gospel of Christ Jesus. And according to His long-suffering patience and steadfast loving-kindness, He has caused that Gospel to be preached among us in the congregations of the LCMS. Let us never cease to give thanks for this gracious gift and to pray, daily, "Thy Kingdom come."

INSTALLATIONS

Rev. Daniel Fickenscher was installed as associate pastor of **St. Paul (Clifty), Columbus**, on May 7. His wife, **Deaconess Taylor Brown-Fickensch**er, was also installed. The Fickenschers will serve the congregation's Hispanic outreach. From left, (front row) Revs. Gene Ernst, Jared Tucher, Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch, Daniel Fickensch, Dr. Don Wiley, John Cordrey, Ken Davidson, Tim Carter; (back row) Jeff Patterson (associate pastor), Paul Gaschler, Richard Kolaskey, Dr. Carl Fickensch (Daniel's father), Tom King, Adam Rodriguez (associate pastor), Dr. Geoff Robinson, Jeff Pflug and Doug Bauman (senior pastor).



Rev. Joshua Dub was ordained and installed as pastor of **St. John's, Peru**, on May 14. Pastor Dub is a recent graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary and is pursuing his doctorate. From left, (front row) Revs. Bill Winter, Dr. Cameron MacKenzie, Dr. John Pless, Joshua Dub, Peter Brock, Berett Steffen, Dr. Robb Roloff, Dan Mackey; (middle row) Phil Rittner, K. C. Dehning, Mark Loder, John Dreyer, Gerald Gauthier II, Fredrick Hearn, David Stout; (back row) Dr. Roland Ziegler, Dr. John Nordling, Timothy Lorenz and Dr. Jeff Pulse.



Rev. David Putz was installed as pastor of **Holy Cross, Crawfordsville**, on April 30. From left, Revs. Alan Barber, Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch, Nathan Janssen, David Putz, Chris Truelsen, Dennis Ouellette and Bill Winter.



Rev. Brian Nygaard was installed as pastor of Trinity Memorial, Merrillville, on June 18. He is a recent graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary. From left, (front row) Revs. Donald Johnson, David Paape, Michael Wakeland, Mark Pflughoeft, Brett Satkowiak, Brian Nygaard, Dale Hetherington, Donald Stock, Ronald Brauer, William Metzger, Richard Heinz, Jeremy McDonald, Dr. Ryan Tietz, Dr. Jeffrey Pulse, Hal Toenjes, Hermann Thoeke, Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch, William Johnson, Dr. Charles Gieschen and Bryan Payne.



Rev. Steven Latzke was installed as pastor of Living Christ, Plainfield, on May 21. From left, Revs. Chris Truelsen, Nathan Janssen, Alan Barber, Dennis Ouellette, Steven Latzke, Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch, Bill Winter, Kurt Cockran, Ronald Brauer and Jeremy Latzke.



Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW), held its Vicarage and Deaconess Internship Assignment Service on April 24 and its Candidate Call Service on April 25. Candidates are Joshua Dub (St. John's, Peru), Paul Norris (St. Matthews, Delphi) and Brian Nygaard (Trinity Memorial, Merrillville). Vicars are Justin Chester (Shepherd of the City, Fort Wayne), Daniel Kinley (St. John, Columbia City) Matthew Machemer (Martini and St. Paul, New Haven), Sean McNeil (Grace, Muncie), Nathan Raugutt (Faith, Churubusco), Grant Tapken (Redeemer, Highland) and Jeff Windoloski (Our Hope, Hometown). Deaconess intern is Stephanie Kinley (CTSFW). Pictured are, from left (seated) Stephanie Kinley, Zoe Windoloski, Katie Chester, Michaela Dub, Heather Norris, Ann Nygaard, Andrea Machemer; (standing) Rev. Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch, Grant Tapken, Daniel Kinley, Jeff Windoloski, Justin Chester, Joshua Dub, Paul Norris, Brian Nygaard, Matthew Machemer, Nathan Raugutt and Sean McNeil.

Look for ways to help



Ken Schilf
Council of
Resources

Someone once said, “When it comes to giving, many people will stop at nothing.” However, 2 Corinthians 9:7 says:

God loves a cheerful giver.

What’s the reason for that?

It is because you are most like God when you give, and you know that He stops at nothing to bless you. He doesn’t give grudgingly, and neither should you. Actually, your giving determines how much you receive from God. Really?

Let’s look at Malachi 3:10, which says when you give to God, He will “throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” In other words, you cannot outgive God.



There was a Puritan who once sat down to a meal of bread and water. He bowed his head and declared, “All this and Jesus too?” Yes! Jesus, the biggest and best gift of all.

Let’s look for ways to bless others as God, our Father, has blessed us. Our called workers, our colleagues, our neighbors and that cashier at the grocery store are just a few we can bless.

It is more blessed to give than to receive.
ACTS 20:35

BEST PRACTICES registration still open

Be sure to save the date for this fall’s Best Practices for Ministry: Heartland conference, to be held Oct. 11–13 at Cornerstone Lutheran Church, Carmel.

What is Best Practices for Ministry? With the goal of helping other congregations most effectively use their God-given gifts, Christ Lutheran Church, Phoenix, Ariz., began this free conference over 10 years ago. Participants have been greeted with warm hospitality, great speakers and practical workshops.

The conference has grown significantly and expanded to the Midwest in 2015 when Carmel Lutheran Church (now Cornerstone Lutheran) brought it to Indiana to make it more easily accessible to congregations “in the Heartland.” Since that time, Best Practices for Ministry: Heartland has also been hosted at St. Peter’s, Columbus, and St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth, Mich.

For more information and to register, visit cornerstonelutheran.church/bpmh.

LUTHERAN LIFE VILLAGES

‘A better way of living’

Lutheran Life Villages (LLV) has provided high-quality living options and care to older adults in northeast Indiana since 1931. LLV offers residential living, assisted living, skilled nursing, short- and long-term rehabilitation, memory care, respite care and cottage-style living in a pocket neighborhood. It currently operates five communities in the Fort Wayne area: The Village at Anthony Boulevard, The Village at Kendallville, The Village at Pine Valley, Piper Trail cottage community, and the newly added Village at Inverness, a memory care assisted living community.

“Lutheran Life Villages is dedicated to being a provider and an employer of choice,” said Alex Kiefer, LLV president and CEO. “The addition of The Village at Inverness increases our ability to provide residents with the specialized care they need, when they need it.”

LLV serves over 700 individuals each



month, employs a staff of over 550, and is blessed with over 100 dedicated volunteers. It also sponsors The Fort Wayne Foster Grandparent and Rock Steady Boxing programs.

Anyone wishing to become a part of the LLV community as a resident, staff member, volunteer or donor can learn more by visiting lutheranlifevillages.org or stopping by any of the campuses.

Questions? Call Kevin Naber, director of Marketing and Outreach, at 260-447-1591, ext. 2116, or knaber@lutheranlifevillages.org.

LLV’s mission statement is: “As an expression of Christ’s love, we serve individuals and their caregivers with compassion and respect for independence, wellness, and spiritual life.”

WANTED

Catechisms for Liberia



Over 6,000 students are being taught in 15 Lutheran schools in Liberia. Under the direction of Joe Boway, these numbers have only grown since the inception of the ministry in 2004.

Joe says, “One of the goals for 2023 is to help provide Luther’s Small Catechism for 5,000 students. Thanks for providing over 800 catechisms so far. We are still in great need of additional catechisms. Will you please help us reach our goal?”

Contact Joe at 260-409-8006 or bowayj@aol.com for more information about the Liberian Children’s Ministry, including where to drop off donated catechisms. You can mail your collection of catechisms to New Life Lutheran Church; 2424 S. Coliseum Blvd.; Fort Wayne, IN 46803.

LWML ‘springs forth new’

“Springing Forth New” (based on Is. 43:19) was the theme for the LWML Indiana District Spring Retreat, held April 14–15 in Nashville, Ind. The keynote speakers were Rev. Lewis King (author of *The Reinvented Man*) and his wife, Joy (author of *The Reinvented Woman*).

Over 100 participants spent time learning how we can put aside our past and concerns and change our vision of things so that we are able to let God help us “spring forth new.” Our pastoral counselors, Revs. Bill Mueller and Andrew Becker led the ladies in several uplifting devotions. Over \$1,200 was raised for King’s Community Outreach, which works to bring mercy and care to families in urban Fort Wayne. — Submitted by Cathie Wakeland

TV ministry opportunity

The Lutheran Hour offers six programs for children. The Lutheran Mission Federation would like to get these programs on television in Louisville. To do this, at least \$6,000 needs to be raised. Can you help? For more information, contact Ronald Rieckers at rjrieckers@live.com; or Brandon Hunsley at bhunsley@jcbank.com or 812-524-4411. Donations may be mailed to Lutheran Mission Federation, Brandon Hunsley Trust Dept, P.O. Box 1001, Seymour, IN 47274-1001



Happy 120, Emmaus

Emmaus Lutheran Church and School, Indianapolis, turned 120 years old on April 22. A celebration was held on April 16 with guest preacher Rev. David Shadday, senior pastor of St. Paul’s, Indianapolis. The service was followed by a dinner and auction to raise money for the growing school. The Emmaus congregation gives thanks and praise, honor and adoration to the Lord for His many blessings on their beloved church, school and pantry in the inner city of Indianapolis. Pictured are, from left, Revs. Raymond Smith, Emmaus pastor, and David Shadday.

COMING EVENTS

St. Paul (Clifty), Columbus, will celebrate its 175th anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 24, with worship and fellowship. Rev. Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch, Indiana District president, will be the guest preacher. Special music will be provided by St. Paul choirs and the Columbus Brass Quintet.

Brunch will be served between services. Fellowship will be continued in the afternoon and evening with the Harvest Fest at the Schroer Ranch.

Services are held at 8 and 10:45 a.m. For more information, contact St. Paul at 812-376-6504 or secretary@stpaulcolumbus.org.

Concordia, Evansville, will hold a “Life Together” workshop on Saturday, Oct. 21. The workshop is designed to help the Christian overcome what can cause isolation or even alienation in the church. Registration deadline is Aug. 31, and the cost is \$15. For more information, contact Rev. David Wiist at 812-461-8171 or dave.wiist@gmail.com.

Concordia, Greenwood, will host its third annual gathering of Mission Quilts and Kits for Lutheran World Relief from 8 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 7.

For those unable to attend, the church will accept boxes during the week by appointment. Please call Becky Lanning at the church office at 317-881-4477 to arrange a time to deliver donations (*call from 9 a.m.-noon, Mondays and Thursdays; or 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays*).

Anniversaries (50 and over)

Aug. 1

Roger and Carol Doctor, 59
Grace, Muncie

John and Jane Hunter, 59
Zion, Decatur

Mark and Pam Ginder, 53
Trinity, Dillsboro

Aug. 2

John and Martha Harrell, 54
Faith, Bloomington

Roger and Peggy McFadden, 54
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

David and Teresa Robertson, 54
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Mike and Julianne Rohrbach, 54
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Michael and Carolyn Shaffer, 54
Cornerstone, Carmel

James Sr. and Sherye Ruddick, 53
Redeemer, Seymour

Aug. 3

Thomas and Joann Dietel, 55
St. James, Lafayette

Larry and Linda Eckerley, 55
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Steve and Gwen Kammeyer, 55
Christ, Woodburn

Leonard and Christine
Bultemeier, 51
Zion-Friedheim, Decatur

Aug. 4

Jon and Janel Cain, 50
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

Paul and Betty Marsch, 50
St. James, Lafayette

John and Linda Saurer, 50
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Aug. 5

Lester and Jan Zelt, 62
St. John-Bingen, Decatur

Marlin and Betty Austin, 56
Cornerstone, Carmel

Ken and Sally Schilf, 56
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

John and Kay Beatty, 51
Redeemer, Seymour

Aug. 6

John and Sue Brandt, 63
Cornerstone, Carmel

Dave and Lou Robisch, 52
Cornerstone, Carmel

Aug. 7

Ray and Dorothy Schaper, 69
Zion, Woodburn

Richard and Sarah Shade, 63
Cornerstone, Carmel

Dave and Reta Heinkel, 58
Grace, Muncie

Robert and Patricia, 57
Immanuel, Seymour

Gregory, Sr. and Sadie Puent, 53
Trinity, Crown Point

Roy and Martha Foreman, 52
Trinity, Hobart

Dan and Barabara Specksgoor, 52
Cornerstone, Carmel

Jim and JoAnn Wudy, 52
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Aug. 8

Harold and Barb Osborne, 64
Cornerstone, Carmel

Wendall and Carol
Borcherding, 58
Immanuel, Seymour

Joe and Becky Joiner, 53
Redeemer, Seymour

Aug. 9

Rolland and Delores Rebber, 70
Redeemer, Seymour

Rev. Herb and Donna Gerken, 56
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

Rev. Warren and Joan
Messmann, 54
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

Jeff and Glenn Olsen, 54
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

Aug. 10

Edward and Janice Grim, 66
Zion, Fort Wayne

Jerry Sr. and Barbara Love, 66
St. John-Flatrock, Monroeville

Max and Ruth Woebeking, 60
Zion, Woodburn

David and Sharon Bieberich, 55
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Allen and Janis Mundt, 54
Immanuel, Seymour

Aug. 11

Thomas and Janet Grotrain, 61
St. John-Flatrock, Monroeville

Steve and Connie Kreigh, 58
St. Paul-Preble, Decatur

Stanley and Teresa Stradley, 51
Redeemer, Seymour

Lynn and Joann Auman, 50
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Aug. 12

Jim and Janet Maxson, 56
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Dennis and Maxine Nahrwold, 56
Bethlehem, Ossian

Russ and Jan Reichert, 56
Cornerstone, Carmel

Dwight and Janice Schmidt, 56
Cornerstone, Carmel

Bob and Nancy Andrews, 51
Trinity, Hobart

Steven and Linda Bulmahn, 51
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne

David and Joni Scheppele, 51
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Mark and Cheryl Westphal, 51
Cornerstone, Carmel

Aug. 13

Jerry and Mary Nichols, 63
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Rev. Arthur and Susie
Klausmeier, 57
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Bo and Carol Kneueppel, 56
Trinity-Decatur Road, Fort Wayne

Jack and Cindy Sakowics, 54
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Michael and Donna Sitarski, 52
Trinity, Crown Point

Aug. 14

Ernie and Lenore Moehl, 69
Trinity, Hobart

Joseph and Shirley Smith, 67
St. John's-Farmer's Retreat,
Dillsboro

Duane and Carol Lupke, 66
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Bill and Pam Wiist, 57
LC of Our Redeemer, Evansville

Richard and Rita Baker, 56
Grace, New Albany

Dan and Deborah Coomer, 52
Christ, Woodburn

John and Theresa Dunlap, 52
Grace, New Albany

Larry and Cynthia Landmeier, 52
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

Larry and Sandy Young, 52
Grace, New Albany

Aug. 15

Roland and Betty Preuss, 70
Cornerstone, Carmel

John and Judy Tomke, 54
Cornerstone, Carmel

David and Judy Bauer, 53
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Mike and Vicki Thomas, 52
Cornerstone, Carmel

Aug. 16

Irvin and Carolyn Acton, 65
Redeemer, Seymour

Fred and Marilyn Knizer, 65
Calvary, Plymouth

Melvin and Marjorie Bishop, 54
Emanuel-Dudleytown, Seymour

Arthur and Marion Burkman, 54
Trinity, Crown Point

Jim and Marian Sullivan, 54
Cornerstone, Carmel

William and Dandy Werling, 54
St. Peter-Fuelling, Decatur

Aug. 17

Willie and Betty Chin, 76
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Sam and Judy Baumann, 55
Zion-Friedheim, Decatur

Phil and Cheryl Wiehe, 55
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Aug. 18

Fritz and Kathy Weinrich, 61
Cornerstone, Carmel

Ken and Edith Springer, 55
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Aug. 19

Richard and Bonnie Raabe, 67
Immanuel, Seymour

Jerry and Sandy Thompson, 67
Cornerstone, Carmel

Allan and Deloris Wessel, 61
Redeemer, Seymour

Jim and Lynn Hitzeman, 56
Cornerstone, Carmel

Ronald and Bessie Fuhrmann, 51
St. John-Bingen, Decatur

George and Jodi Mellencamp, 51
Redeemer, Seymour

Ron and Joyce Weck, 51
Christ, Woodburn

Aug. 20

Robert and Ann Mahan, 63
Immanuel, Seymour

Richard and Roberta Luke, 58
St. John's-Farmer's Retreat,
Dillsboro

Mike and Jean Bristol, 57
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Harold and Sue Thompson, 57
Trinity, Hobart

Ronald and Shannon Wehrkamp,
57
Emanuel-Dudleytown, Seymour

Cleon and Judith Nixon, 55
St. James, Lafayette

Aug. 21

Paul and Esther Goeglein, 68
Christ, Woodburn

Donald and Shirley Guske, 63
Trinity, Crown Point

Gary and Susie Connors, 58
Heritage, Valparaiso

Edward and Janice Clark, 57
St. James, Lafayette

Ron and Mary Hathaway, 52
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

Roger and Pam Hoepfner, 52
Christ, Woodburn

Charlie and Judy Wolf, 52
Cornerstone, Carmel

Aug. 22

Eugene and Carolyn Falkenstern, 64
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

James and Janet Herrick, 59
Trinity, Hobart

Richard and Shalon Junk, 59
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

Mell and Pat Welborn, 59
LC of Our Redeemer, Evansville

Dale and Ronda Floyd, 53
Trinity, Hobart

Ray and Kathy Girres, 53
Calvary, Plymouth

Norman and Carolyn Stevens, 53
LC of Our Redeemer, Evansville

Marshall and Brenda Isaacs, 52
Immanuel, Seymour

Ronald and Dian Krumme, 52
Emanuel-Dudleytown, Seymour

Aug. 23

Leroy and Marilyn Werling, 65
St. Paul-Preble, Decatur

Don and Barb Weaver, 64
Faith, Bloomington

Robert and Millie Akers, 54
St. John, Vincennes

Rev. James and Donna Cotter, 54
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Augie and Carol Hinz, 54
Grace, New Albany

Chuck and Judy Mihalik, 54
Cornerstone, Carmel

Chuck and Jackie Demlow, 51
Cornerstone, Carmel

David and Carol Locker, 51
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Aug. 24

William and Linda Borsits, 55
Trinity, Crown Point

James and Ann Kloote, 55
Immanuel, Seymour

Lemont and Judith McNab, 55
Trinity, Crown Point

Max and Connie Roeder, 55
Immanuel, Seymour

Carl and Cathy VonDielingen, 54
Immanuel, Seymour

Robert and Theresa Klemke, 50
Trinity Evangelical, Fort Wayne

Aug. 25

Gene and Bev Weber, 59
Zion, Decatur

Aug. 26

Dale and Connie Beickman, 63
Grace, New Albany

Lester and Pam Smith, 62
St. Paul-Preble, Decatur

Larry and Carol Linnemeier, 59
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Hoby and Drevli Lowery, 56
Cornerstone, Carmel

Richard and Susan Rodenbeck, 56
St. John-Flatrock, Monroeville

Aug. 27

Paul and Janet Bobb, 62

Emanuel-Dudleytown, Seymour

Jim and Judy VanOsdol, 62
Faith, Bloomington

Dennis and Janice Eickhoff, 57
Prince of Peace, Martinsville

Wayne and Jean Panning, 57
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

Joe and Janice Heimann, 52
Cornerstone, Carmel

Vern and Jeanine Lengacher, 52
Christ, Woodburn

Aug. 28

Donavon and Deanna Kieser, 63
Immanuel, Seymour

Wayne and Karon Wathen, 63
Trinity, Darmstadt

Earl and Sharon Rapp, 58
Cornerstone, Carmel

Robert and Arlene Schmielau, 58
Redeemer, Seymour

Aug. 29

Ralph and Marilyn Sauer, 65
Zion, Decatur

John and Belva Patterson, 59
St. Michael, Fort Wayne

David and Rosie Weiland, 54
Zion, Decatur

Tommy and Kris Ragsdale, 52
Concordia, Greenwood

Darrell and Karen Stevens, 52
LC of Our Redeemer, Evansville

Aug. 30

Dexter and Connie Hoyer, 55
Emmanuel, Fort Wayne

Larry and Patty Browning, 54
Redeemer, Seymour

David and Sandra Hawk, 54
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

Aug. 31

Al and Bonnie Tinsley, 65
Faith, Bloomington

Jim and Evie Fuhrman, 55
Zion-Friedheim, Decatur

Jerry and Sandra Melloncamp, 55
Immanuel, Seymour

Belated

July

7: Stanley and Kathy Veit, 50
Emmaus, Fort Wayne

8: Marlowe and Carol Hecht, 62
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

10: Patrick and Shirley Clare, 52
Trinity, Hobart

16: Roger and Sue Couch, 57
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

Lyle and Nelda Stevenson, 57
Trinity, Hobart

17: Waldo and Rosie Bultemeier,
59
Zion-Friedheim, Decatur

19: Carl and Helen Hoffman, 66
St. John, Monroeville

Roland and Patricia Kerr, 65
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne

20: Leslie and Karen Conrad, 55
Zion-Friedheim, Decatur

Continued on next page

Birthdays (90 and over)



- Robert and Donna Goodwin, 52
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne
- 25: Dean and Linda Wenthe, 54
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne
- 31: Mike and Jackie Fenchak, 58
Trinity, Hobart
- June**
- 2: Dennis and Becky Zehr, 50
St. John, Monroeville
- 7: Tom and Sara Bultemeier, 54
Zion-Friedheim, Decatur
- 8: Larry and Kathy Minich, 50
St. John, Monroeville
- 11: Steven and Donnalyn Unsicker, 5
St. John, Monroeville
- 14: Lyle and Suzenne Matthias, 53
St. John, Monroeville
- 15: John and Judy Pape, 55
Grace, Muncie
- 16: Charles and Donna Ewen, 61
Trinity, Hobart
- 19: Bill and Janet Walker, 63
Grace, Muncie
- 20: Tom and Marvene Buuck, 70
Zion-Friedheim, Decatur
- 25: Marvin and Pam Addison, 51
Grace, Muncie
- 27: Dean and Cindy Wass, 53
Zion-Friedheim, Decatur
- 28: Gary and Faye Truwe, 54
Trinity, Indianapolis
- Terry and Sharon Timmerman, 53
Trinity, Hobart
- 30: Gary and Jill Boyd, 57
Grace, Muncie
- John and Jane Harman, 40
Grace, Muncie

- Aug. 3**
Karen Miller, 92
Trinity Evangelical,
Fort Wayne
- Aug. 4**
Lawrence Monroe, 94
Immanuel, Seymour
- Willis Wehmiller, 92
Immanuel, Seymour
- Aug. 7**
Mary Wisner, 96
Grace, New Albany
- Aug. 8**
Barbara Wyckoff, 95
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne
- Elizabeth Dressler, 94
St. Michael, Fort Wayne
- Aug. 9**
Harold Weirauch, 92
Christ, Woodburn
- Aug. 11**
Kathryn Sierp, 97
Immanuel, Seymour
- Aug. 12**
Jean Koestring, 91
LC of Our Redeemer,
Evansville
- Mary Kurz, 90
St. James, Lafayette
- Aug. 14**
Rabel Newkirk, 100
Immanuel, Seymour

- Florence Moser, 96
Zion, Decatur
- Evelyn Aumann, 90
St. John-Bingen, Decatur
- Aug. 16**
Russell Boettger, 100
Trinity, Crown Point
- Bob Adams, 90
Cornerstone, Carmel
- Aug. 17**
Ernie Moehl, 93
Trinity, Hobart
- Aug. 18**
Doris Yerger, 101
Zion, Fort Wayne
- Aug. 19**
Sharon Davis, 91
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne
- Gene (Irene) Kiess, 91
Zion-Friedheim, Decatur
- Aug. 21**
Ramona Scheimann, 91
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne
- Chester Rust, 90
Immanuel, Seymour
- Aug. 22**
Evelyn Zoller, 93
Holy Cross, Fort Wayne
- Aug. 25**
Eldora Fuelling, 91
St. Peter-Fuelling, Decatur

- Aug. 26**
Dick Fox, 95
St. Michael, Fort Wayne
 - Aug. 27**
Mary Anne Cordes, 91
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne
 - Bob Fischer, 90
Grace, New Albany
 - Aug. 28**
Doris Schauburger, 90
Emmanuel, Tell City
- Belated**
Gladys Ross, 100
Trinity, Hobart (July 5)
Rev. Donald Lutz, 95
Bethlehem, Ossian (July 6)
Helen Hegerfeld, 93
St. John, Monroeville
(July 7)
Anne Bruick, 92
St. Paul's, Fort Wayne
(July 13)

Share your news with us!

Submissions for the October issue are needed by Aug. 15.

Please send submissions to
LWeditor@in.lcms.org or
Lutheran Witness Editor
LCMS Indiana District
1145 South Barr St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Please ensure
photos sent
electronically
are high resolution. Send
the largest size from your
phone.



125 years of SBL

Over 250 current and former members, staff and invited guests assembled on April 30 at Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School (SBL), Fort Wayne, to celebrate the congregation's 125th anniversary.

Rev. David Mews, SBL graduate and confirmand, served as guest preacher for all three weekend services. Pastor Mews, his wife, Maggie, and their five children were also honored guests at the celebration dinner; as was former SBL pastor Rev. Richard "Kip" Smith and his wife, Lora, and many previous SBL principals, teachers and church staff. Mews currently serves at Guardian Lutheran Church, Dearborn, Mich.; and Smith is retired.

Along with the meal, a highlight of the dinner was a 30-minute video documenting, with pictures, the church's beginnings, early years, growing pains



and building projects, emphasizing God's guidance of the church's growth and His placement of leaders to guide the way.

Following the video, attendees were encouraged to share "I Remember When..." memories of their experiences at SBL. Members stepped up to share stories from as long ago as 60 years. The tales — some funny, many touching — all emphasized the grace of God shown at SBL over the past 125 years.

Members received a copy of the new church directory/history book, "Let HIS Light Shine," which was created

and published by the congregation. The directory features a fold-out timeline of the past 125 years and photos of church groups, activities, and current church families, reflecting favored interests, pastimes and locations.

The year-long observation began in January with a Celebration Service and will conclude in October with a Fall Anniversary Festival. The guest preacher for the weekend will be Rev. Don Meyer, whose first call following graduation from Concordia Theological Seminary was to SBL. He now serves as pastor of Zion, Paullina, Iowa.

Meet our new gift planning counselor

With thankfulness and great joy, the Indiana District announces that Mark Muehl has been called to be the new district Gift Planning counselor. Mark began his service with the Foundation on May 15, filling the vacancy created by the promotion of Andy Behrman to director of Ministry Partnership.



Chicago, Concordia Plan Services and Indiana's statewide non-public schools association, and in local school associations and local boards. Mark has also written monthly articles for LCMS School Ministry, led many accreditation visits and served on a variety of Indiana District and LCMS committees.

Mark's passion for Lutheran education is fueled by his father, a retired Lutheran school teacher and church musician, by experience as a student at various levels of Lutheran education and through the joy of boldly sharing Christ through Lutheran schools.

Mark is married to Dana, a Lutheran school teacher, and is dad to three married children (Ashley, Zachary and Tyler) and a proud grandpa of eight. Mark and Dana love their church, Zion, Fort Wayne where Mark is congregation president.

Welcome Mark and God's blessings on your new calling!

Mark joins the LCMS Foundation after a career in Lutheran education, most recently as the executive director of The Lutheran School Partnership, a consortium that supports the administrative and professional development needs of Lutheran schools in northeast Indiana.

He has served for nearly 40 years in a variety of vocations including teaching, coaching, directing adult ministry and administering schools, and he received the Lutheran Education Association's (LEA) *Christus Magister* award in 2017. Mark has served in on the boards of Concordia University

Exemplifying Christian compassion

Judy Kiess has been selected by the Lutheran Foundation as the recipient of the 2023 Maxine Rippe Award, given annually to recognize an individual whose past and present service to the Allen County community exemplifies Christian compassion by alleviating human suffering.



Judy served as the outreach director at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, since the retirement of Rev. Larry Merino.

Her gracious choice to fulfill this position as a volunteer made it possible for Holy Cross to call another individual to work with youth and families, to assist with the growing number of young families attending the school.

Judy was responsible for coordinating the outreach efforts for both people in surrounding communities and people in select communities throughout the world. The goal has always been to connect non-believers in Jesus Christ in these communities to Him and the Holy Cross community.

PRAYER LIST

WEEK OF AUG. 6

Circuit 9 – Decatur

- Bethlehem, Ossian
- Emmanuel-Soest, Fort Wayne
- Faith, Roanoke
- Immanuel, Decatur
- New Hope, Ossian
- Peace, Berne
- Prince of Peace, Hartford City
- St. John-Bingen, Decatur
- St. John-Flatrock, Monroeville
- St. Paul-Preble, Decatur
- St. Peter, Decatur
- Zion, Decatur
- Zion-Friedheim, Decatur

RSO: Cedar Lake Lodge, LaGrange

LCMS DISTRICT: New Jersey

WEEK OF AUG. 13

Circuit 10 – Lafayette

- Grace, Lafayette
- Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Monticello
- Redeemer, West Lafayette
- St. James, Lafayette
- St. James, Logansport
- St. James, Reynolds
- St. John, Rensselaer
- St. John, Rochester
- St. Luke, Rensselaer
- St. Matthew, Delphi
- Trinity, Goodland
- University, West Lafayette

MINISTRY: Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis

LCMS DISTRICT: North Dakota

WEEK OF AUG. 20

Circuit 11 – Kokomo

- Christ, Anderson
- Emanuel, Arcadia
- Emanuel, Tipton
- Good Shepherd, Kokomo
- Grace, Muncie
- Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, Kokomo
- St. James, Marion
- St. John's, Peru
- St. Peter, Huntington
- Zion, Kokomo
- Zion, Wabash

RSO: Cranach Institute, Fort Wayne

LCMS DISTRICT: North Wisconsin



WEEK OF AUG. 27

Circuit 12 – Indianapolis East

- Ascension, Beech Grove
- Christ, Indianapolis
- Faith, Greenfield
- Peace Deaf, Indianapolis
- St. John, Indianapolis
- St. Mark, Shelbyville
- Trinity, Indianapolis
- Zion, New Palestine

RSO: Cross Connections, Fort Wayne

LCMS DISTRICT: Northern Illinois