DISTRICT NEWS

INDIANA

LCMS CONVENTION

FOR FAITH AND LOVE AND OUR FELLOWSHIP IN CHRIST

Rev. Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch
District President

As we look forward to the Synod convention in the latter half of July, it is helpful to consider the significance of our Synod fellowship and, along with that, to remember the real point and purpose of our triennial conventions. After all, it is easy to get lost in all the numerous logistics involved in our life together, and especially in the coordination of such a large and lengthy gathering of pastors and laity from across the entire country.

There is also the temptation to become cynical and discouraged in consideration of the politics involved, especially in matters of controversy and division.

As in the case of each of our congregations, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is, in one respect, an earthly institution and a human corporation, one that exists and functions in the world. To that same extent it has temporal cares and concerns to manage to the best of its ability, relying on human wisdom, reason and strength in the fear of the Lord and under the authority of His divine Word.

As there are a great many things that God has not spelled out for us in the Holy Scriptures — which He has left to His people to determine in the freedom of faith and the service of love — we have established a polity that relies upon the majority consensus of the Synod's member congregations. Each are represented by a pastor and a layperson at the circuit and district level (and in the election of the Synod president), and by a circuit pastor and a circuit layperson on behalf of their circuit congregations at the national level. That polity necessarily involves voting on resolutions and on the election of various office holders, which is an inherently political process. It is not perfect, far less infallible, but it serves the purpose in a godly way.

The voting that we do, and the people we elect to serve the Synod in a variety of positions, determines not only matters of temporal concern, but also the stewardship of finite resources in the service of the mission and ministry of the church on earth. Here, too, there are decisions to be made within the wide freedoms the Lord has afforded to His people in this body and life. But the aim of our decisions is to be governed by the Word and will of God for the salvation of sinners through repen-

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God bless our chaplains

We give thanks for the faithful service of our Indiana District military chaplains and ask God for His continued protection and blessing upon them. Please keep the following in your prayers as they care for and proclaim Christ to the brave men and women who serve in our armed forces.

- Rev. Kurtis Bueltmann (U.S. Air Force, serving at Dyess Air Force Base, Abilene, Texas)
- Rev. Dr. Matthew Prince (U.S. Navy, serving our of Norfolk, Va., aboard the USS John C. Stennis)
- Rev. Dr. John Bombaro (U.S. Navy Reserve and senior pastor, St. James, Lafayette)
- Rev. Barry Malone (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and pastoral candidate)

Pictured are, above (from left) Rev. Barry Malone, Rev. Dr. Matthew Prince, Rev. Dr. John Bombaro and, at right, Rev. Kris Bueltmann (at podium).

MESSAGE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

tance and faith in the Gospel of Christ Jesus. Although there can be — and certainly there are — differences of opinion as to how best to go about the work that God has given us to do, as a fellowship of the church we are collectively striving to preach, teach and confess all that our Lord Jesus has taught us to believe and do in His name.

Here we are already touching on that, as in the case of each of our congregations, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is more than an earthly human entity. It is a fellowship of churches, of pastors and congregations of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church — on earth as it is in heaven. All of our political life and functions are intended to serve and support this deeper and more profound reality, and it is necessary that we keep that fact in mind as we approach and enter upon our Synod convention.

Whatever strategies we may employ, whatever politics we may exercise, everything from start to finish depends upon the Word and work of God in Christ Jesus. As obvious as that sounds on the surface, it is remarkable how easily we fall into the trap of supposing that the church depends upon our cleverness and creativity, our strategies and machinations, our plans and purposes and programs, and so on.

What binds us together as a fellowship of the Body of Christ is His Word. It is His Word that calls us to repentance and to faith in His forgiveness of sins. And it is His Word that teaches and enables us to live, by such faith, in love for God and for each other — to the praise and glory of His holy name. So, too, it is His Word that we are given to confess, to pray, to sing and to convey to our neighbors in this world, to our own households and families to begin with, and to all those whom the Lord will yet call to Himself.

69th Regular LCMS Convention

July 18–23

Phoenix Convention Center

THEME:

"Christ Is Risen Indeed"

(1 Cor. 15:20–22)

It is the Word of God in Christ Jesus that brings us to and from the font, to and from the altar, to and from our vocations and stations in life. It is His Word that feeds us with the Word-made-flesh, His body and His blood, that we should thus abide in Him — and He in us — unto the Resurrection of the body and the Life everlasting of body and soul in paradise with Him and with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Thus, the ongoing catechesis and confession of His Word is the main and most important purpose of our entire life together as a Synod, and so also the central point and purpose of each and all of our Synod conventions.

District updates role of mission executive

As he shared with the district Board of Directors and at the District Pastors' Conference this past fall, and as he expressed in the May *Lutheran Witness*, Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Robinson will retire on July 31 after 19 years of faithful service as our Indiana District mission executive.

We have been deeply blessed by his commitment to the Holy Scriptures and our Lutheran Confessions, and by his conscientious efforts to serve and support the mission and ministry of the Gospel throughout Indiana and northern Kentucky. We give heartfelt thanks for all that he has contributed over the course of these past two decades, and we pray for God's continued blessing upon his faith and life in Christ.

In looking ahead, the district Board of Directors at its March meeting entrusted the praesidium — president, vice-presidents and secretary — to engage the search process for a new district executive, an assistant to the president who focuses on mission, mercy, outreach and pastoral care. This servant will provide broad assistance to the district president while also serving and supporting the circuits, congregations and pastors of the district in caring for the members of our parishes and their neighbors in the world. Whoever steps into this role will not only have Dr. Robinson's big shoes to fill, but he will undoubtedly help to shape the position with his own unique talents and abilities.

The praesidium met in April and began gathering the names of potential pastoral candidates for this assistant to the president position, in the hopes of presenting a short list of names to the Board of Directors at its May meeting. It was hoped that as you are reading this article, by God's grace, a call has been extended to one of those pastors. Whether that is yet the case, or whether the search process continues, please keep all these matters in your prayers.

As the Lord so wills and enables, we are hoping that the new Assistant to the President—Mission, Mercy, Outreach, and Pastoral Care will be ready and able to begin serving the district in August or September. Whoever that man may be, there will be transitions involved on all sides, a learning curve, and invigorating opportunities to advance the catechesis and confession of Christ and His Word throughout our Indiana District, from Lexington, Louisville and Evansville to Fort Wayne, South Bend and Munster!

God grant it to be so, for Jesus' sake! And God grant His continued blessing and providential care to His dear saints, to all the pastors and parishes of our fellowship in the Body of Christ.

'Hope, dignity and belonging'

The mission of Cedar Lake is simple but powerful — to create a community where adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities experience abundant possibilities and are surrounded by unconditional love. Those two ideas shape everything, from the homes people live in to the friendships they build and the faith that grounds the organization's work.

Founded in 1970 by a group of parents in the Louisville area, Cedar Lake began with a heartfelt concern: What will happen to our children when we're no longer here? Out of that question grew a faith-based nonprofit committed to providing lifelong support, stability and opportunity. What started modestly has grown into the largest private provider of residential and community-based services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Kentucky.

Cedar Lake's services focus on helping people live full and meaningful lives. Residential options range from homes with around-the-clock support, independent living arrangements that encourage confidence and autonomy, and specialized care homes that offer therapy and 24-hour nursing care and support. Each setting is designed not just as a place to stay, but as a true home, where individuals are known, valued and supported in everyday life.

Beyond housing, Cedar Lake offers community living supports that help individuals with disabilities build skills and connections. Transportation services, life-skills development and opportunities for employment all open doors to greater independence. The Enrichment Center provides activities that spark creativity, foster friendships and encourage community involvement. Every service is centered on the belief that each person has gifts to contribute and new opportunities to explore.

Spiritual life is woven naturally into the rhythm of Cedar Lake. The organization affirms the God-given worth of every individual and seeks to nurture the whole person — body, mind and spirit. Pastoral care, connections to local churches and a culture of prayer and encouragement reflect the value of unconditional love in action. Faith is not about obligation; it's about creating space for hope, dignity and belonging.

What truly sets Cedar Lake apart is its atmosphere. Staff members, families, volunteers and residents form a genuine community, one in which relationships matter deeply and every milestone is celebrated. Abundant possibilities is not just a phrase; they are seen in daily achievements, growing independence and strengthened friendships.

At Cedar Lake, people don't simply receive services. They find a place to belong, to grow and to experience a future filled with possibility. Learn more at **cedarlake.org**.

Christo-centric catechesis

Nathan Wingfield
District Executive for Christian Education

A great temptation in any Christian classroom is to reduce the Holy Scriptures to a collection of morals. Under the pressure of character education and social emotional learning, it is easy to transform the giants of the faith into mere prototypes for student behavior.

We tell our students to "be brave like Daniel," "be faithful like Ruth," or "be a leader like Moses." While these figures are indeed examples of faith and virtue, a Christo-centric catechesis recognizes a deeper, more vital truth: these men and women are, first and foremost, sinners in need of the same Savior our students need.

When we teach "moralisms," we inadvertently teach a religion of the Law. We set up heroes of faith as teachers of works, suggesting that the point of the biblical narrative is self-improvement. This approach leaves the student with only two options: pride if they believe they have mimicked the hero, or despair when they inevitably fail.

A Christo-centric approach kills this moralism. Instead of teaching students to rely on their own "bravery" in the face of modern lions, we teach them to rely on the God who delivered Daniel, Ruth and Moses. David is not a model for "overcoming giants" in our personal lives; he is the type and shadow of Jesus Christ, the true David, the living God who died and rose to crush the head of our greatest enemy.

In our schools, catechesis must remain about Christ and His work, not a seminar on being a better Christian. On the road to Emmaus, our Lord points out our problem: we are slow to believe what all the prophets have spoken. Rather than leaving those disciples, and us, in despair, what does He do? He teaches them what is said in all the Scriptures concerning Him.

By centering every lesson on the work of Christ, we give what has been passed down for centuries. We do not want our students to leave the classroom thinking, "I must try harder to be good," but rather, "Christ has been perfect in my place." In the death of moralism, the student finds true life in the Gospel.

Anniversaries *(50 and over)*

Calvary, Indianapolis
John and Barbara Ryan, 69, June 1
John and Margaret Mowery, 54, June 3
Rev. Harvey and Carol Lange, 74, June 6
Gary and Susan Weldeln, 56, June 6
Douglas and Susan Wright, 54, June 9
Don and Pat Meyer, 60, June 10
Al and Pat Struss, 60, June 11
Ron and Bonnie Brink, 61, June 12
Jim and Ellen Vance, 57, June 21
Steve and Laura Currier, 54, July 1
Paul and Kathy Brakke, 51, July 5
Ed and Peggy Davison, 58, July 5
Pete and Diane Joseph, 58, July 6
Jim and Susan Richert, 55, July 17
Rick and Shari Shaker, 50, July 24
Tony and Dcs. Emily Spelde, 50, July 24
Ron and Donna Price, 66, July 29

Calvary, Plymouth
Bob and Barb Roach, 52, June 1
Chester and Shirley Gut, 62, June 13
Ron and Cheryl Geik, 57, June 14
Don and Debbie Buchtel, 53, July 7
Rick and Alice Huff, 52, July 13

Christ, Woodburn
Richard and Naomi Hoeppner, 55, June 26
Mike and Sue Lothamer, 54, July 15

Concordia, Greenwood
Don and Cindy Boesenberg, 50, June 19
Herb and Barb Hoeltke, 63, June 22
Mike and Heidi Ford, 60, June 23
Dick and Betty Economou, 56, June 27
Ray and Ruth Everson, 64, July 14

Cornerstone, Carmel
Pete and Andrea Barber, 60, June 4
Randy and Jan Shields, 50, June 5
Richard and Diane Wilson, 50, June 5
Jim and Karyn Beissler, 59, June 10
Dave and Debby Hilgendorf, 54, June 10
John and Carol Valentine, 59, June 11
Bill and Sandy Culbertson, 61, June 12
Fred and Robyn Scheel, Jr, 57, June 14
Sharon and Tony Van Hoozer, 51, June 14
Ronald and Sherry Lane, 58, June 15
Rick and Corinne Powell, 52, June 15
Neal and Linda Schwier, 59, June 17
J. Bates and Judy McIndoe, 66, June 18
Bill and Judy Shaffer, 66, June 16
David and Nancy Moore, 62, June 20
Douglas and Jan Holtz, 51, June 21
Bob and Sue Danley, 54, June 24
Joe and Joy Law, 50, June 27
Ron and Debbie Reinking, 57, June 27
Jon and Marjie Williams, 52, June 29
Richard and Gail Schulenburg, 57, July 5
Ralph and Ellen Kerwin, 64, July 7
Paul and Lisa Filliman, 55, July 11
Ken and Kristi Parrent, 55, July 11
Brent Higgins Higgins, 57, July 12
Dennis and Linda Perryman, 57, July 12
Neil and Carolyn Schuch, 51, July 12
Paul and Vicki Groth, 55, July 17
Barry and Donna Bobb, 53, July 21
Jim and Mary Lenz, 64, July 22
Rev. Rollin and Betty Kuznik, 60, July 23
John and Deborah Watson, 55, July 24
Verne and Ellen Hanson, 60, July 29

Emanuel, Dudleytown
Alan and Brenda Rothert, 51, June 28
Stephen and Debra Klinge, 54, July 15
Norris and Sandra Kovener, 61, July 24

Emmanuel, Tell City
Bob and Chris Tudor, 52, June 22
Allen and Corliss Krueger, 54, June 24

Epiphany, Westfield
John and Marcia Cox, 54, June 3
Fritz and Joyce Levenhagen, 58, July 7
Rev. Weldon and Jan Leimer, 65, July 15

Faith, Bloomington
Dave and Carol Ebeling, 63, June 22

Grace, Muncie
John and Judith Pape, 58, June 15
Bill and Janet Walker, 66, June 19
Marvin and Pam Addison, 54, June 25
Gary and Jill Boyd, 60, June 30
John and Wilma Harman, 53, June 30

Grace, New Albany
Randall and Marilyn Wolpert, 53, June 1
Bob and Phyllis Erber, 53, June 2
Larry and Joyce Traub, 51, June 7
Steve and Marilyn Belden, 52, June 8
Tom and Vivian Stuckwisch, 53, June 9
Tom and Linda Lockmund, 59, June 11
Rev. Bruce and BecKy. Kischnick, 53, June 16
Stephen and Denise Coots, 57, June 28
Henry and Serene Loppnow, 67, July 25

Heritage, Valparaiso
Butch and Betty Werner, 62, June 20
Ken and Sue Schroeder, 55, July 10
Lynn and Judy Steimel, 52, July 20

Immanuel, Seymour
Delbert and Alberta Tormoehlen, 68, June 1
Jim and Marilyn Hurt, 63, June 2
Mike and Marie Harmon, 53, June 3
Dennis and Karen Peters, 50, June 5
Duane and Dona Williams, 55, June 5
Ron and Joan Preloger, 56, June 6
David and Tina Stark, 51, June 7
Steve and Donna Koerner, 52, June 8
Jon Cullen and Laura Jo Stahl, 59, June 10
Don and Janet Benter, 55, June 11
Alan and Lisa Lewis, 50, June 12
Dennis and Linda VonDielingen, 50, June 12
Ron and Donna Pollert, 51, June 14
John and Betty Irwin, 58, June 15
Clifton and Nancy Tatum, 56, June 19
Michael and Rita Luedeman, 56, June 21
Michael and Teresa Thias, 51, June 21
Larry and Marilyn Cooper, 59, June 24
William and Sandra Brandt, 62, June 26
Doug and Susan Lynch, 50, June 26
Joe and Donna Hackman, 53, June 30
John and Rebecca Hill, 53, June 30
William and Linda Marsh, 60, July 2
Robert and Linda Emily, 60, July 3
Richard and Betty Stanfield, 58, July 20
Jerry and Marilyn Christopher, 63, July 28
Dennis and Peggy Kern, 54, July 28
Andy and Carol Denny, 54, July 29
Jack and Debbie Lambert, 50, July 30

Promise, Fort Wayne
Larry and Charlene Jung, 55, June 19

Redeemer, Seymour
Charles and Kathryn Clark, 65, June 6
Ed and Charlotte Kasting, 68, June 29
Terry and Pam Underwood, 51, July 19
David and Diane Isaacs, 60, July 23
Nippy and Carol Schneider, 60, July 23
Ronald and Shelby Metz, 58, July 28

Shepherd of the Hills, Georgetown
Larry and Judie Moore, 57, June 7
Dallas and Rose Johnson, 56, June 26
Mel and Lillie Rahe, 66, July 2

St. James, Lafayette
Kenneth and Dorothy Welther, 65, June 3
David and Nancy Sattler, 56, June 6
Stephen and Linda Decker, 62, June 7
Ronald and Julia Adams, 59, June 17
Richard and Eunice Maurer, 60, June 19
Ed and Susan Diebold, 51, June 21
David and Carol Huth, 52, June 22
Burk and Sharon Fleming, 55, June 26
Donald and Debra McDole, 52, July 20

St. John–Bingen, Decatur
Larry and Rae Lynne Fuhrmann, 54, June 3
Loren and Brenda Heckman, 53, June 9
Michael and Lea Ann Fifer, 54, June 10
Fritz and LouAnn Bultemeyer, 56, June 14
Arnold and Faith Witte, 61, June 18
Steve and LaDonna McBride, 58, June 22
Greg and Pamela Bultemeier, 50, June 25
Tom and Sonia Croucher, 57, July 19

St. John's–Farmers Retreat, Dillsboro
John and Linda Pruss, 50, June 14
Gene and Sandy Lang, 54, June 19
Barry and Judith Pruss, 54, July 3

St. John's, Lanesville
Larry and Judie Moore, 57, June 7
Gene and Lucille Stewart, 71, June 25

St. John's, Seymour
Edward and Viola Kern, 58, June 8

St. John, Vincennes
George and Marilyn Fischer, 55, June 12
Don and Beth Wade, 55, June 17

St. Michael, Fort Wayne
David and Dolli Hollmann, 52, June 1
Dave and Janet Davis, 61, June 5
Ron and Sandra Heilman, 61, June 5
John and Jenny Hendrickson, 52, June 8
Steve and Jan Smith, 52, June 8
Frank and Gloria Helfrich, 55, June 12
Bob and Manna Bruckner, 58, June 15
Harry and Margaret Jones, 55, June 19
Jim and Carol Weide, 50, June 19
Russell and Jane Grose, 56, June 20
Jon and Cristie Gerken, 52, June 30
Terry and Sandy Butler, 59, July 31
Mark and Rebecca Childs, 51, July 19
Floyd and Carol Sims, 65, July 22
David and Kathryn Trinklein, 53, July 27
Paul and Barbara Gerken, 55, July 31

St. Paul's, Fort Wayne
Rev. Ralph and Janice Schmidt, 53, June 2
Thomas and Joan West, 64, June 2
Richard and Carol Glusenkamp, 61, June 5
Rev. Richard and Carole Radtke, 57, June 21
Dennis and Jane Jordan, 59, June 24
Larry and Cynthia Ashbaugh, 55, June 26
Vincent and Judy Backs, 62, June 27
Stanly and Martha Young, 51, June 28
Roger and Sue Couch, 60, July 16
Roland and Patricia Kerr, 68, July 19
Robert and Donna Goodwin, 55, July 20
Rev. Dr. Dean and Linda Wenthe, 57, July 25
Rev. Dr. Timothy and Annette Quill, 51, July 26

St. Paul, Munster
Joseph and Maxine Kolarczyk, 63, June 1
Rodney and Marlene Sohrbeck, 64, June 10
Helmut and Rosemary Baer, 66, June 11
Bill and Elsie Sippel, 65, June 17
Eric and Linda Stumpf, 55, June 19
John and Cynthia Bognar, 55, June 19
Gerhard and Gretel Trott, 60, June 23
Johnny and Linda Hamel, 61, June 26
Rolly and Patricia Brauer, 72, June 26

St. Paul–Preble, Decatur
Rev. Daniel and Lynn Brege, 53, June 16
Jerry and Laurna Bulmahn, 57, June 14
Jim and Sandy Kolter, 57, July 26
Tom and Beth Reinhart, 50, July 10

St. Peter's, Brownstown
Earl and Mary Pottschmidt, 63, June 16
Bob and Janice Pottschmidt, 51, June 21
Mike and Debbie Rittman, 53, June 24
Steve and Betsy Smith, 50, July 3
Art and Glenda Neawedde, 59, July 15
John and Connie Sparks, 50, July 17
Floyd and Cathy Stuckwisch, 60, July 31

St. Peter–Fuelling, Decatur
Jim and Vickie Hammond, 51, June 14
Kenny and Sophie Busick, 67, July 3
Ian and Deb McDonald, 50, July 10
Rich and Sheryl Howard, 53, July 21
Jim and Lori Franz, 53, July 28

St. Peter, North Judson
Arthur and Christie Bachert, 54, June 17
Glenn and Nancy Gappa, 56, July 18
Frank and Lois Krulik, 62, July 18

The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, Evansville
Darrel and Elaine Lueders, 52, June 1
Rev. Bob and JoAnne Reinhardt, 66, June 4
Greg and Janice Kahre, 51, June 7
Steve and Nancy Frey, 62, June 23
Bob and Debbie Voegel, 50, July 10
Greg and Joyce Donaldson, 53, July 21

Trinity, Crown Point
Janet and Ted Ellis, 52, June 1
Linda and Dennis Thompson, 53, June 3
Marianne and Kenneth Manning, 55, June 5

Continued on next page

Sandra and Thomas Rosenwinkel, 53, June 16
Carolyn and Dale Cooper, 53, June 18
Gail and Thomas McPheron, 56, June 20
Stephanie and Elden Hildebrandt, 53, June 23
Diana and Raymond Dyba, 60, June 25
Karen and Phillip Kaemerer, 59, June 25
Florence and Darrell Sergent, 68, June 28
Elizabeth and Thomas DeMik, 56, July 4
Elaine and Fred Behke, 60, July 9
Donna and Joseph Witham, 53, July 14
Traude and Lothar Thoelke, 61, July 24

Trinity Evangelical, Fort Wayne
Joseph and Karen Miller, 62, July 16

Trinity, Henderson Ky..
Jim and Susie Clements, 54, June 6
Donald and Penny Letterman, 57, June 21

Zion, Decatur
Don and Sara Bultemeier, 57, June 7
Dean and Cindy Wass, 56, June 27
Wally and Rosie Bultemeier, 62, July 17
Les and Karen Conrad, 58, July 20

Zion, Woodburn
Don and Carolyn Rekeweg, 64, June 23
Charlie and Joan Wells, 69, June 29
Tom and Carolyn Hirsh, 54, July 22

Birthdays *(90 and over)*

Calvary, Indianapolis
Marcia Freeby, 98, June 4
Kathleen Klasing, 94, June 4
Pat Finke, 93, June 12
Pauline Miller, 97, June 15
Al Struss, 90, June 20

Calvary, Plymouth
Lucy Kniggendorf, 98, July 1

Christ, Woodburn
Erwin Knoblauch, 92, June 24
Esther Goeglein, 93, June 25

Concordia, Greenwood
Doris Roemer, 90, June 23
Ginny Emmons, 90, July 12
Glen Inman, 95, July 18

Cornerstone, Carmel
Ralph Kerwin, 90, June 14
Sue James, 91, June 19
Dick Culter, 92, June 21
Al Jennings, 95, June 21
Jim Buckhorn, 92, June 27
Marcy Culter, 91, June 30
Bates McIndoe, 90, July 28

Emanuel, Dudleytown
Marvin Christopher, 92, June 16

Emmanuel, Tell City
Imogene Lahee, 92, July 13

Faith, Bloomington
Betty Vance, 101, June 29

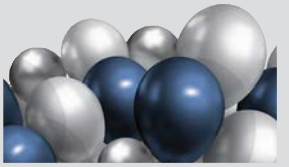
Grace, Muncie
Joan Anderson, 91, July 19

Grace, New Albany
June Walden, 93, June 9

Heritage, Valparaiso
Rona Edquist, 98, July 10
Vee Gutt, 93, July 2

Immanuel, Seymour
Bill Kamman, 98, June 1
Doris Frey, 90, June 2
Norma Kriete, 94, June 15
Mildred Otte, 93, June 15
Clara Kamman, 90, June 27
Ruth Newkirk, 94, July 7
Norma Sue Pollert, 93, July 16
Faye Luedeman, 96, July 23
Patricia Bryant, 90, July 24
Pat Klosterman, 90, July 30

St. James, Lafayette
Phyllis Kessler, 91, June 19



St. James. Marion
Barbara Strasser, 98, June 27

St. John–Bingen, Decatur
Arthur Krauss, 94, June 19

St. John's, Lanesville
Polly Carr, 97, July 21

St. John, Vincennes
Donna Hacker, 91, June 7
Sue Fremder, 98, June 11
Polly Blubaum, 95, July 22

St. Michael, Fort Wayne
Roy Macke, 91, June 6
Arlene Killmer, 93, June 10
Robert Carter, 93, June 18
Connie Suter, 90, July 9

St. Paul's, Munster
Doris Wieland, 102, June 4
Hank Seehausen, 90, June 10
Marla Kindt, 92, July 2
Norinne Cornwell, 93, July 13

St. Paul–Preble, Decatur
Arlema Ehlerding, 90, April 16
Carol Selking, 90, Jan. 19

St. Peter's, Brownstown
Karl Turmail, 92, June 1

St. Peter, North Judson
Frank Kolanowski, 90, June 29
Clarabelle Troike, 98, July 7

The Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, Evansville
Bill Bosecker, 90, July 5

Trinity, Crown Point
Barbara Atkinson, 93, June 14
Dorothy Shreve,101, July 20
Marion Froberg, 92, July 22

Trinity–Darmstadt, Evansville
Albert Arendt, 90, June 16

Trinity Evangelical, Fort Wayne
Dorothy Hendricksen, 98, June 1
Vona Orr, 91, July 15
Renate Hormann, 99, July 20

Zion, Woodburn
Ray Schaper, 94, June 11
Charlie Wells, 90, June 17
Clarence Reichhart, 96, July 31

Prayer List

WEEK OF JUNE 7
Circuit 14 – Indianapolis Southwest
- Christ, Brownsburg
- Christ the King, Mooresville
- Holy Cross, Crawfordsville
- Immanuel Evangelical, Terre Haute
- Living Christ, Plainfield
- Our Shepherd, Avon
- Peace, Greencastle
- Prince of Peace, Martinsville

MINISTRY: Voice of Care
LCMS DISTRICT: Minnesota South

WEEK OF JUNE 14
Circuit 15 – Columbus
- Faith, Bloomington
- Faith, Columbus
- Good Shepherd, Franklin
- Grace, Columbus
- Shepherd of the Hills, Morgantown
- St. John's–White Creek, Columbus
- St. Paul's, Jonesville
- St. Peter–Waymansville, Columbus
- St. Peter's, Columbus
- Trinity, Ellettsville
- University, Bloomington

MINISTRY: Wittenberg Village, Crown Point
LCMS DISTRICT: Missouri

WEEK OF JUNE 21
Circuit 16 – Seymour
- Emanuel, Seymour
- Holy Cross, Scottsburg
- Immanuel, Seymour
- Lord of Life, North Vernon
- Peace, Seymour
- Redeemer, Seymour
- Zion, Seymour

RSO: Worship Anew, Fort Wayne
LCMS DISTRICT: Montana

WEEK OF JUNE 28
Circuit 17 – Brownstown
- Calvary, Bedford
- Emmanuel–Leesville, Bedford
- Faith, Salem
- Good Shepherd, Medora
- St. John–Sauers, Seymour
- St. Paul–Wegan, Brownstown
- St. Peter's, Brownstown
- Trinity, Vallonia

MINISTRY: Ablelight
LCMS DISTRICT: Nebraska

WEEK OF JULY 5
Circuit 18 – Aurora
- Bethany, Connersville
- Faith, Madison
- Holy Trinity, Greensburg
- St. John, Aurora
- St. John–Farmers Retreat, Dillsboro
- St. Paul–Clifty, Columbus
- St. Paul's, Cross Plains
- Trinity, Dillsboro

RSO: Amboss Inc. Fort Wayne
LCMS DISTRICT: New England

WEEK OF JULY 12
Circuit 19 – Lexington
- Bread of Life, Georgetown, Ky.
- Good Shepherd, Lexington, Ky.
- Our Redeemer, Lexington, Ky.
- Our Savior, Danville, Ky.
- St. John's, Lexington, Ky.

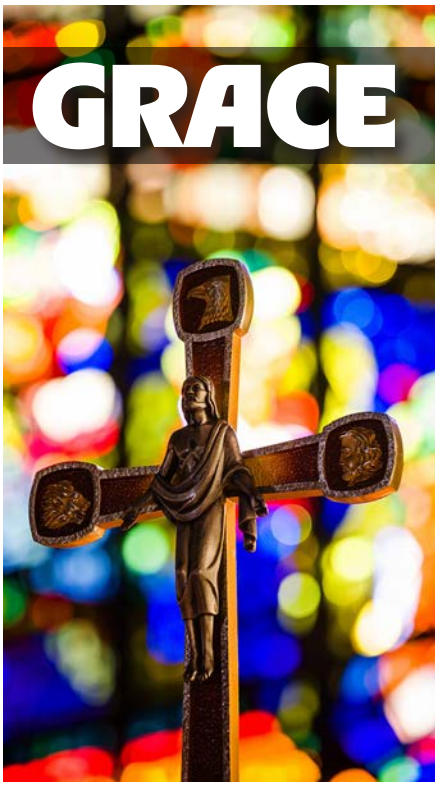
RSO: Camp Lakeview, Seymour
LCMS DISTRICT: New Jersey

WEEK OF JULY 19
Circuit 20 – Evansville East
- Emmanuel, Tell City
- Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, Evansville
- Our Saviour, Evansville
- Peace, Owensboro
- St. John, Evanston
- Trinity, Henderson

RSO: Camp Lutherhaven, Albion
LCMS DISTRICT: North Dakota

WEEK OF JULY 26
Circuit 21 – Evansville West
- Concordia, Evansville
- Immanuel, Evansville
- St. John, Vincennes
- St. Paul's, Evansville
- St. Peter, Vincennes
- Trinity, Evansville

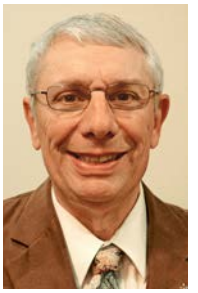
RSO: Cedar Lake Lodge, La Grange, Ky.
LCMS DISTRICT: North Wisconsin



What does grace mean? Oh my, that's a loaded question. Webster's dictionary has many definitions of grace.

- Unmerited favor or kindness bestowed upon someone.
- In a religious context, it refers to the free and unearned love of God toward humanity.
- Elegance or beauty in movement or expression.
- In interpersonal relationships, showing compassion and forgiveness.
- A virtue that enables individuals to act with kindness and humility.

The list is almost endless. What about saying "grace" before a meal? Have you ever met someone named Grace? I have. She was the wife of one of my pastors. She exhibited all but the second definition above. Then there's a "grace period" that is granted to pay off a debt.



Ken Schilf
Emmanuel,
Fort Wayne

But let's take a closer look at the second bullet point – God's grace given to humanity. Notice the adjectives listed in this secular dictionary: "free and unearned." Yes, indeed, God's grace is undeserved! All we have are gifts from God, chief of which is faith in Jesus!

To emphasize this, we read Eph. 2:8-9:

> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

But a Christian steward should not forget the next verse:

> For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ ... be with you all. **2 COR. 13:14**

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