

August 2016 Newsletter

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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To the people of God at Our Redeemer,

Enclosed in the newsletter, on page 3, is a copy of a letter from the Elders and Church Council concerning the financial status of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. Please take the time to read it. The leaders of our church want everyone to be aware of the conversations we have had in recent times. We want everyone to be involved in this conversation as we move forward. The reality is that we cannot have \$50,000+ deficits without a decrease in our programs. We no longer have the cushion of cash reserves to fund a deficit budget.

The circumstance is not as dire as it appears. Our shortfall for the year is once again about \$1000 per week, just as it was last year. The leaders of our church are striving to be good stewards of what has been given to Our Redeemer, just as all of our members are encouraged to be good stewards of what God has given to them.

It is important at this time to have a conversation about our financial status before the situation gets critical and we are forced to make hard choices. I am overjoyed to be the pastor of a congregation which is so mission-minded and has a long history of giving back to God the first fruits of what He has given. Our 75+ years of faithful mission and stewardship has brought us to be a wonderful gathering of baptized and redeemed children of God continuing to gather together around God's Word Sacraments. Keep our church in your prayers as we continue to look for opportunities to share the full accounting of Christ.

In Christ,
Pastor Eden

January – June 2016 Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

Income	<u>Jan – Jun 16</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
001 · 001 General Offerings	139,603.73	147,000.00	-7,396.27	95.0%
002 · 002 Together in Mission	3,705.00	3,866.02	-161.02	95.8%
003 · 003 Loose Plate	1,917.55	3,000.00	-1,082.45	63.9%
008 · 008 PLS Fund-Raising	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.0%
011 · 011 General Fund Interest	290.80	24.98	265.82	1,164.1%
019 · 019 ORLC Scrip Fund	<u>0.00</u>	<u>3,050.02</u>	<u>-3,500.02</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Total Income	145,517.08	159,445.52	-13,373.94	91.6%
Expense				
Mission	12,116.00	12,366.00	-250.00	98.0%
Personnel	91,825.37	92,228.02	-402.65	99.6%
Program	67,016.10	69,238.10	-2,222.00	96.8%
Property	<u>17,869.93</u>	<u>17,384.94</u>	<u>484.99</u>	<u>102.8%</u>
Total Expense	188,827.40	191,217.06	-2,389.66	98.8%
Net Income	-43,310.32	-32,326.04	-10,984.28	134.0%

Who's Who at Our Redeemer

President	Chet Vahle (2nd term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2016
Vice-President	Jeff Wolfmeyer (2 nd term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2016
Secretary	Wanda Spohr (2 nd term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2016
Treasurer	Donna Haire (1 st term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2016
Financial Secretary	Evelyn McDowell (1 st term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2016
Education Board	Melissa Knapp, S.S. Supt., ex officio	Appointed
	Gretchen Wolfmeyer (2 nd term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2017
	Randy Wolfmeyer (1 st term)	Oct. 2014 – Sept. 2016
	Ryan Vaughn (1 st term)	Oct. 2014 – Sept. 2016
Board of Elders	Larry Foster (1 st term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2017
	Darrell Drescher (1 st term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2017
	Brad Essington (1 st term)	Oct. 2014 – Sept. 2016
	Stan Yelton (2 nd term)	Oct. 2014 – Sept. 2016
	Steve Schoch (1 st term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2016
	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	
Evangelism Board	Michele Clevenger (1 st term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2017
	Ruth Ann Snowden (1 st term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2017
Property Board	Jeff Smith (2 nd term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2017
	Steve Kaiser (1 st term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2016
Stewardship Board	Larry Ehmen (2 nd term)	Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2017
	David Pellman (1 st term)	Oct. 2014 – Sept. 2016
Youth Ministry Board	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	

ORLC Financial Status as of July 2016

Dear members of Our Redeemer,

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church is a congregation which has been mission-minded from its very beginning and has a long history of giving back to God the first fruits of what He has given. Our congregation has been blessed over the years to be able to afford normal church operations and extensive mission work without incurring debt.

Within our \$380,000 annual budget, budgeted mission work for this year is approximately \$140,000. Of the \$140,000, St. James School tuition assistance totals \$112,000. For many years our mission work and the funding of Christian education has been financed by deficit budgets offset by generous bequests, memorials, church assets, and financial reserves allowing us to pay our bills and fund our school and other mission projects without asking for extra contributions.

In 2015, we had a budget deficit of \$52,446. In 2016, it was our hope that we would be able to continue our regular operations without further depleting our reserves. This year's budget shortfall has brought us to a point where we are exhausting our available cash reserves. As of the first of July, we have a \$30,000 deficit for 2016 and will likely incur another \$30,000 by year's end which would greatly deplete the available reserve funds we have been using to cover deficits.

The good news is that the Lord has blessed us with ample resources to continue the regular work and ministry of Our Redeemer. **However, it is clear that simply maintaining the status quo is no longer an option. Either our giving must increase, or we will be forced to make difficult choices** including not be able to continue investing in the Christian education of our youth at St. James Lutheran School at the current level.

The goal of balancing the budget is not simply a financial issue. The goal of balancing the budget is so that we can continue and even expand the ministry of the church and offer more opportunity for the Gospel to be heard. **It is the will of the Elders and Church Council for all of our members to understand that, for the long term good of the church, we cannot responsibly operate next year without a balanced budget.**

In Christ,

ORLC Elders and Church Council

The Widow's Mite---

And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." **Mark 12:42-44 ESV**



UPCOMING...

July 30th...Serving the blind at St. James with a noon meal

Aug. 4th...Monthly mtg. @ 6:30pm

Sept. 1st...Monthly mtg. @ 6pm, carry-in @ Reva's

Sept. 20th...Fall Rally @ Our Redeemer

June 22 - 25,

August 2016

July meeting highlights –

This month we celebrated everyone's birthdays with a great evening of fun & fellowship at Sprout's Restaurant hosted by Joann Reichert and Barb Vahle. No business meeting was held.

June highlights –

Our June picnic, hosted by Malinda and Pastor, was held after the cut-off date for the newsletter printing last month, so, "just so you know", what a beautiful evening we had at Wavering Park. The weather was perfect and the food was delicious! Of course, the sharing is always outstanding and we enjoyed the company of a few ladies from the congregation who helped us out tremendously with the Rummage Sale!

Think you might like to be a part of the mission of LWML???

Please...attend one of our upcoming meetings or events! We welcome you to join us in "Serving the Lord with Gladness"!

"Featured" CID LWML Mission Grant

Student Aid For Church Workers – \$25,000

This Grant provides funding to students from the CID so they may realize their dream of becoming full-time church workers.

*Lutheran Women
in Mission*



Please contact any LWML member or Colleen Westberg at 217-223-5702 to learn more or go to www.lwml.org to read about the mission and great history of the LWML!

National Mission Grant Bulletin Bytes

LWML has donated over \$100 million since 1942!!!

Rosa Young Academies – Rosa Young Projects Initiative...\$14,063.94

Rosa Young, the 'mother of Black Lutheranism in central Alabama', was instrumental in the founding and development of 30 Lutheran elementary schools and 35 Lutheran congregations throughout Alabama. LWML is supporting the start of Rosa Young Academies and After School Programs targeting areas where churches are struggling or have lost significant memberships. For more information about this mission or to donate to this grant, go to www.lwml.org/mission-grants.

Remembering In Our Prayers



REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE IN OUR NATION'S MILITARY SERVICES:

Mark and Kari Adams, Mark Borg, Paul Boriack, Steve Clark, Aaron DeWerff, Michael Goodwin, Robert Goodwin, John Haines, Zach Howerton, Ryan Keller, Jason Klauser, Levi Meyer, Jeremy Schwartz, Aaron Schmitt, Ryan Thruston, Andy Tipton, Marc Troxel, Brandon VanBastian, and Charles Wheeler.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE WITH ONGOING HEALTH NEEDS:

Nick Austin, Carolyn Bruemmer, Sutton Perry-Brockemeier, Sean Burner, Richard Grathwohl, Lynda Hinkamper, Elaine Hyer, Becki Jones, Kim Long, Meghan Meyer, Michael Morgan, Michelle Reinberg-Page, David Rickey, Cole Schullian, Kory Tournear, Bee Wagner, Jacob Weimer, Vicki Wemhoener, Jackson Wepler, Betty Wolfmeyer.



REMEMBER OUR SHUT-IN MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Carolyn Bruemmer, Ralph Genenbacher, Mary Hurley, Cleada Mason, Marilyn Newman, Anna Mae Parsons, Dolly Powers, Don Sass, Joyce Southward, Ida Utterback, Bee Wagner, Robert Wemhoener, Lucille Wiskirchen.

Keep Our Missionaries in Your Prayers

Apple of His Eye Mission Society

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latvia

The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Harlow, Essex, U.K.

The Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church in Germany

Mrs. Alvina Federwitz in Liberia, West Africa

Jonathan and Carrie Federwitz and their children in Papua New Guinea

Danny and Becca DeLoach and their children, 8001 Hope Lane, Waxhaw, NC 28173

Mrs. Julie Lutz, home on furlough

Rev. Peter Kolb in Sri Lanka

Our Seminary Students

Concordia Theological Seminary, Saint Louis, MO:

Chris Troxel, 42720 Pheasant Run Dr., Sterling, MI 48313

(Associate Pastor of Christian Growth)

Jeremiah Jording, 347 S. Lincoln Ave., Orchard Park, NY 14127 (Vicarage)



Our Mission

To the glory of God we are SHARING Our Redeemer by ...

CARING for one another in Christian love and compassion

ENCOURAGING growth and outreach through worship and Bible study

Sunday School Staff

Superintendent – Melissa Knapp

Pre-school – Gina Eickelschulte, Jessica Campbell

Kindergarten – Suzanne Troxel

Grades 1 & 2 – Monica Foster

Grades 3 & 4 – Sandy Callahan

Grades 5 & 6 - Donna Haire

Grades 7 & 8 – Karol Ehmen

High School – Gretchen Wolfmeyer

Upcoming Events

Next Senior Singles Lunch is Tuesday, August 2, 11:30 AM at "Village Inn". The sign-up sheet along with a menu is on the Narthex table.

Summer Choir: While Senior Choir is on "Summer Break" they invite you to join them in singing a hymn from LSB one Sunday a month. This will be sung in unison; we will rehearse briefly downstairs at 8:40 AM. We will be singing again **August 21**.

CHURCH SECRETARY – St. James is seeking a talented, energetic individual with prior experience in office support. Must be familiar with MS Word/Powerpoint. Must have excellent clerical and organizational skills. Ability to interact with volunteers and maintain confidentiality is important. Position is full-time with benefits. Please drop resume off to the church office.

Dr. Paul L. Maier will speak on **Saturday, October 15, 2016** at Christ Lutheran Church, Normal, IL. The seminar will cover 2 topics, "Defending the Faith" and "Christianity and the Competition". Dr. Maier, Professor of Ancient History at Western Michigan University, is one of our country's leading authorities on the biblical world and a widely acclaimed author and speaker. His seminars add a fresh dimension to the Scriptures, illuminating them with important new evidence from archaeology and secular history. Doors open at 9:00 A.M. for coffee and rolls. Tickets are \$15 per person, which includes lunch. You may reserve tickets by phoning the church at (309) 452-5609 or by email at clcms@frontier.com by Friday, October 7, and paying for them when you arrive.

Thrivent Financial: At the request of Donna Schoch, Joshua Schenk of Thrivent will be presenting an informal 1 hr. workshop on Long Term Care. You may pick from 2 different times on either **Aug. 2 or Aug. 4**. Reserve your space by calling the church office at 223-1769, or use the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

New PLuS Officers Elected at our May meeting. President, Ryan Vaughn
Vice President, Gretchen Wolfmeyer
Secretary, Stacy Kuhn
Treasurer, Amy Killday

The PLuS group would like to thank Malinda Eden for her many years of service as Treasurer!

Save the Date: Tuesday, **Sept. 20th**. ORLC's LWML is hosting Quincy Zone Fall Rally this year.

The Rev. Christopher Troxel was ordained & installed this weekend on **July 2** at Trinity Lutheran Church, Utica, Michigan. His father, the Rev. Larry Troxel, officiated at his ordination. The Rev. Norm Koy, senior pastor at Trinity, then installed Chris as an associate pastor of Trinity congregation. The entire Troxel family thank the Men's Club of all three Quincy congregations and others who have supported Chris and his family during his years at Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis. Your kindness and prayers have meant so much!

A special collection is being taken to send to Rev. Christopher Troxel in celebration of his ordination. Please use the envelopes on the usher's stand or Narthex table and indicate that the funds go to him.

CAMP CILCA is looking for auction donations for their 2016 Chicken Fry and Auction on **Sun., Sept. 4**. If you would like to donate an item for auction please contact the camp office at 2174877497. Thank you in advance for your continued support!

Please come join St. John's Lutheran Church in New Berlin on July 24, 2016 as we celebrate the ministry of our Christian Day School with Alumni and Friends. St. John's is preparing to demolish their school building in August to make room for future ministry plans. Following the 10:00 am Sunday worship service there will be an Outdoor BBQ and Public auction of the Schools contents to raise money for the future of Lutheran education in New Berlin. The auction is being coordinated by Derek Long Auction Service through a generous donation of time and talent. If you know someone who has attended St. John's Lutheran School please let them know about this joyous celebration as we celebrate our mission of "Proclaiming Christ by Caring for ALL". You can find out more information on the church's Facebook page and website stjnb.org.

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN SCHOOL

RETIREMENT OPEN HOUSE for teacher Sherry Strackeljahn will be **Sunday, August 14 from 2 – 4 pm** in the school cafeteria. Please come and join us in celebrating the many years that God has blessed our school through the dedicated work of Dale and Sherry.

PTL ICE CREAM SOCIAL is **Thursday, August 18th from 5-7 pm**. Everyone is invited! A new parent orientation will take place at **7:00 pm** in the church.

Miscellaneous Constant Information

Newsletter Deadline – All newsletter submissions must be sent in **no later than the 20th of each month**. Newsletters must be mailed out on or before the 25th of each month to ensure they are received in time for everyone to use.

Calendar Deadline is also the **20th of the month prior** since it is always enclosed with the Newsletter. If you see an error or need to change a date for an event, please contact the church office. Our weekly calendar is always based on the calendar sent with the newsletter, so please let us know if there are any changes right away.

GREETING CARDS (sponsored by the PLuS group) Be sure to check out the variety of assorted greeting cards. Cards are \$.50.

PLEASE SAVE LABELS - Please continue to save HyVee UPCs, General Mills Box Tops, Campbell's products "point" labels, and Tyson A+ labels. Place them in your child's classroom container or give them to Madeline Hagemann or put them on the white drawer marked "labels" in St. James' narthex or by the secretary's office @ ORLC Thank you!

Drawer Cart by the Office Steps

Top Drawer: Campbell's labels & General Mills box tops for education, HyVee UPCs, & Tyson A+ labels. They benefit the St. James school library. They can't use the Betty Crocker or the Kool-Aid points though. Thanks!

2nd Drawer: For any type used greeting card fronts. Good Samaritan home uses them to make things.

3rd Drawer: For cancelled stamps for missions. They must be complete stamps.



Rada Cutlery is an on-going fundraiser. Rada as a variety of, products: cutlery, stone-ware soy wax candles, and quick mixes. We have started taking orders for our next RADA order. Once we

have \$60 in orders, we will place the order. So, if you don't see some-thing in our many "in stock" items, go ahead and fill out an order form with payment. Please **visit the Rada display in the old chapel. You may leave a completed Rada order form with payment at the scrip table.** Thank you for your support of PLuS!

Church Office Hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5 PM with time out for lunch between 12 and 1. Staff may be in the office before or after these hours, but please call before stopping in so that we can have items ready for you (keys, sermon copies, envelopes, etc.) and can do our best to help you when you arrive.

Concordia Food Bank If anyone is interested in mailing coupons to the Seminary Food Bank, the address is: Concordia Food Bank, 801 Seminary Place, St. Louis, MO 63105.

Attention Parents of College Students:

If your child is away at college, please let the church know their new address and/or email as soon as you get it. We would like to nurture those relationships, pray for them, and help to keep them informed.

Want to Go Paperless?

We would be happy to email you any church correspondence and newsletters if that is the option you prefer. Contact the church office, write your email on the bottom of your attendance card, or email secretary@ourredeemerquincy.org.



Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois



Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois' professional licensed counselors can help with any problem. They provide individual, couple, marital and family counseling to help address all types of situations. Insurance is accepted. Call 800-363-LCFS (5237) to schedule a FREE confidential initial consultation.

Considering adoption? Lifelink International Adoption (a ministry of Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois, LCFS) is seeking families interested in adopting from Korea. We're receiving child referrals again after a temporary break and have a limited number of families on our waiting list. Our South Korean program is one of our most enduring (twenty-nine years) and reliable. Learn more about Lifelink's adoption programs at www.lifelinkadoption.org or contact us at 630-521-8281 or intadopt@lifelinkadoption.org. Lifelink International Adoption is a program of Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois.

August Birthdays

1 Austin Jones	9 Cameron Clevenger	20 Nicole Kaltenbach
1 David Rickey	10 Barbara Hall	20 Aubrey Robertson
1 Dalton Stockdale	11 Zhanela Church	21 Abby Hibbert
4 Ruth Essington	11 Abigail Fischer	22 Mike Murphy
4 Lauryn Schnack	11 Steven Hyer	23 Samantha Bowles
4 Michael Weisenburger	11 Teresa Kemp	24 Bradley Longcor II
5 Royal Bugh	13 Joshua Wemhoener	24 Dolly Powers
5 Jane Cleaves	13 Abigail Wolfmeyer	24 William Waterkotte
5 Austin Fischer	14 Matthew McDowell	25 James Dice
5 Melissa Smith	15 Hayley Harvey	25 Larry Post
6 Bonnie Blattner	15 Caroline Weisenburger	26 James Perry
6 Curtis Cramlett	16 Gary Gooding	26 Cynthia Stegeman
6 William Humphrey	16 Bonnie Hallerberg	28 Keaton Jones
7 Brenda Scharnhorst	17 Marion Allen	30 Shirley Dieringer
8 Audrea Fitch	18 Renee Benedetto	31 John Fodor
8 Jackson Goetz	18 Caleb Buss	31 Cynthia Spohr
8 Cristine Purcell	18 Tanner Clevenger	
8 Gage Scharnhorst	20 James Jones II	

August Baptisms

3 Dane Douglas	19 Anthony Ebel	25 Alayna Schlipman
4 Edwin Blumenkamp	20 Joann Harvey	26 Tracy Bugh
5 Gretchen Wolfmeyer	20 Teresa Kemp	27 Buddy Weisenburger Jr.
6 Vicki Wemhoener	20 Heather Meyer	27 Mike Weisenburger
9 Lee Hyer	23 Raven Bugh	29 Zoey Klauser
11 Mike Schoch	23 Jane Cleaves	29 Aubrey Robertson
13 Chet Vahle	23 Curtis Cramlett	30 Lynda Baker
17 Ruth Essington	24 Barb Creely	30 John Go
18 Billy Bowles	24 Tory Fitch	
18 Jessica Weisenburger	25 Julianna Eden	

August Anniversaries

- 1 Ray & Gina Eickelschulte
- 2 Adam & Amy Buss
- 4 John & Laurie Bronson
- 4 Bradley & Morgan Longcor II



- 28 Bernard & Jacquelyn Weisenburger Jr.
- 29 Randall & Michele Austin
- 29 Jerry & Deborah Manton

Volunteer Opportunities

Youth Group Leader Needed Looking for someone willing to lead our Youth Group. Please see Pastor or our Church President for more information.

Welcome Committee Needed Looking for friendly ORLC members to help follow up with new visitors and families that may need our help. Please contact Pastor Eden for more information.

American Heritage Girls Needs Volunteers for meetings 3 times a month to help with snacks, crafts, and working on badges. Please contact Tina Vaughn or Gretchen Wolfmeyer to help.

Pastoral Report
(June 1 – June 30, 2016)

Official Acts

Baptisms
First Communion
Adult Confirmation
Youth Confirmations
Marriages
Funerals

Donna T. Schoch – June 11, 2016

Membership Changes

Gains [+0B, +0C]

Baptisms [+0B, +0C]

Adult Confirmations [+0B, +0C]

Youth Confirmations [+0B, +0C]

Transfers In [+0B, +0C]

Affirmation of Faith (from other Lutheran) [+0B, +0C]

Losses [-1B, -1C]

Death [-1B, -1C]

Donna T. Schoch – June 7, 2016

Transfers Out [-0B, -0C]

Requested Removal [-0B, -0C]

Statistical Adjustment [+/-0B, +/-0C]

Membership	January 1, 2016	Gains	Losses	June 30, 2016
Baptized	575	+6	-11	570
Confirmed	440	+5	-8	437

August Puzzle Page Answer *(puzzle found on page 12)*

Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life. Revelation 2:10

Assignments for August 2016

Communion Assistants:

Saturday, August 6 at 5:00 p.m.	Bill Haire	
Sunday, August 7 at 9:00 a.m.	Larry Ehmen	Terry Morse
Saturday, August 13 at 5:00 p.m.	Bill Haire	
Sunday, August 14 at 9:00 a.m.	Brad Essington	Chet Vahle
Saturday, August 20 at 5:00 p.m.	Bill Haire	
Sunday, August 21 at 9:00 a.m.	Gary Hyer	Stan Yelton
Saturday, August 27 at 5:00 p.m.	Bill Haire	
Sunday, August 28 at 9:00 a.m.	Steve Schoch	Randy Wolfmeyer

Ushers:

Saturdays at 5:00 PM	Darrell Drescher
Sundays at 9:00 AM	Dick Reichert, Ryan Vaughn, Jeff Wolfmeyer, Larry Foster, Jerry Lunt

Registration Slips: Jane & Sonny Voepel

Altar Care: Barb Ellerbrock, Mary Morse, Sherry Yelton

Counters: Rosie Meyer and Joann Reichert

Drivers: Steve Hyer, Jerry Manton, Wanda Spohr, Ryan Vaughn

If you wish to help in one of these areas, please contact the church office at 217-223-1769 or by email Secretary@OurRedeemerQuincy.org

Camp CILCA is seeking a part time assistant housekeeper to aid in the upkeep of the retreat facilities year round. Anyone interested in the position can call Pastor Joshua Theilen at 2174877497.

The CID LC-MS District and the CID LLL are co-sponsoring Mission U-202/301. Join us for this outreach training workshop from MISSION U, a program of Lutheran Hour Ministries. Become equipped through this one-day event to fulfill your mission with boldness to the diverse mission field around you. This course held on Sept. 10 at Camp CILCA runs from 9-3:30. By Sept. 1 contact Delores Blessman, 24204 ECR 1850N, Topeka, IL 61567. 309-361-14614 email delorisblessman@yahoo.com. Cost \$20 which includes lunch. More info on the Narthex table.

LERT (Lutheran Emergency Response Team) Volunteer Training Event 8:00 am - 4:30 pm. Registration begins at 8:00 am. Sessions begin at 8:30 am Saturday, September 10, 2016 Trinity Lutheran Church 701 East Florida Avenue, Urbana, Illinois 61801 <http://facebook.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=7d5dc80cadd194545b1b95164&id=29b69aeda4&e=85ffee8de3> The registration fee is \$35 which includes your disaster response training manual, LCMS volunteer vest, other helpful materials, and lunch. Plus, you will receive your certificate of participation and volunteer certification badge from LCMS Disaster Response and the Office of National Mission.



By August, the telltale signs have emerged. Back-to-school specials appear in stores, online and on television. Colorful displays of backpacks and school supplies pop up everywhere. Both parents and children get excited and anxious about going back to school and leaving the lazy days of summer.

Transition times can be exciting and stressful for children (and parents) and several steps can be taken before school starts and into the first weeks of school that can help smooth the transition.

- **Visit the school** with your children to help them explore the surroundings, classroom and teacher. Even if your children know the school well, it still feels good to get reacquainted. If your children have a locker for the first time, help them find their lockers and practice opening them.
- **Sit down and review family rules** regarding curfew, bedtime and homework during school. Getting back into the routine a few weeks before school helps ease the transition when the time comes.
- **Set goals.** The beginning of each school year offers students an opportunity for a fresh start. Sit down with your children and set goals. Discuss the pros and cons of the previous year and how some things can change for the better.
- **Be reassuring.** Encourage your children. Help them reconnect with friends to reduce fears of isolation in the new classroom. Listen to their worries and don't minimize or dismiss them. These fears are real to your children.



After school has started, continue encouraging your children. Talk on a regular basis with their teachers. Create a special "family folder" for the children to take to and from school each day with important information or homework to help teach organization.

You and your family do not have to struggle alone. LCFS counselors help families generate hope and cope with life's challenges. Most insurance plans accepted; sliding-scale fees are available on a case-by-case basis. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact us at lcfs_info@lcfs.org or 800-363-LCFS (5237).

Discover LCFS and the services we offer at www.lcfs.org and www.facebook.com/LCFSIL.

LCFS offers counseling at the following locations:

Northern Illinois

Crown Point at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Belvidere
Grace Lutheran School, River Forest

Southern Illinois

LCFS office, Belleville
LCFS office, Mt. Vernon

Central Illinois

Trinity Lutheran School, Bloomington
LCFS office, Decatur
LCFS office, Springfield

**To schedule a first-time appointment,
call 800-363-LCFS (5237) or
visit www.lcfs.org for additional information.**

PUZZLE PAGE

FAITH

by

Bill Schlegl

What is the result of having faith in God? Write the letter that comes between the two letters given.

AC DF

SU GI NP TV

EG ZB HJ SU GI EG TV KM

TV MO SU NP

CE DF ZB SU GI

ZB MO CE

HJ

VX HJ KM KM

FH HJ UW DF

SU GI DF DF

ZB

BD QS NP VX MO

NP EG

KM HJ EG DF

(Answer Found on Page 9)

Summer Bible Studies

Tuesday Women's Bible Study Will take a break until August.

Thursdays at 6:45 AM at Coach House.

Women's Bible Study the last Thursday of the Month at Donna Troxel's at 2823 Payson Heights, in Quincy.