



The Beacon Online

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The Beacon Online is the communication source for the SELC District.

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Rev. Troy Countryman Installed at Faith Viera in Rockledge, Florida

Rev. Troy Countryman was installed as the Pastor at Faith Viera in Rockledge, Florida. Many Pastors from the Districts attended the installation. We give thanks to God for Pastor Countryman and his family being in the SELC and at Faith Viera!



Pastors from the SELC and Florida Georgia Districts attended the installation of Rev. Troy Countryman, located 4th from the right in the front row.



From left to right: The Countryman family - Ollie, Piper, Drew, Andrea, Troy with District President Vinovskis.



Pastor Ben Hoyer with Pastor Countryman. Pastor Hoyer preached at the installation service.



LWML Call for Nominations

The SELC LWML has several openings for Officers and they are seeking nominees. **Please submit all nominees by February 3, 2023.** The nomination form can be found below or you can contact President Milly Kwiatkowski at 216-398-7321 or by email at gasngomilly@att.net.

We are seeking the following nominations for the following positions:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Servant Resources Chairman
Grants Chairman
Nominating Committee
Human Care
By-laws Committee Chairman
Archivist-Historian
Pastoral Counselor

Nominations have been received for the following:

Public Relations Chairman - Betty Olah from Christ the King in Lodi, Ohio has been nominated

Christian Growth Chairman - Pam Reece from the Christ the King in Lodi, Ohio has been nominated

Mission Grants - Karen Ann Kowalczyk from St. John's Hazleton, PA has been nominated

Pastoral Counselor - Rev. Curtis Stephens

**Please submit all nominations to
Martha Moyer
8223 Avalon Road
Malvern, OH 44644**

Please list your nominees on this form.

Pastoral Counselor : _____

President : _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary : _____

Christian Growth : _____

Public Relations: _____

Grants: _____

Nominating Committee: _____

By-Laws Committee: _____

Human Care: _____

Archivist /Historian: _____

Servant Resources: _____

Please submit this by February 3, 2023. If you need any information on any of these positions, please contact me,

216 398 7321 or gasngomilly@att.net

Milly Kwiatkowski



SELC LWML Save the Date

Please mark your calendars for a SELC LWML meeting to be held on March 4, 2023 at Concordia Lutheran Church in Macungie, PA. More details will follow in future issues.

Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus Stained Glass Windows Concordia Seminary St. Louis

The windows of the Chapel divide the worship space into two main areas: the nave and the chancel and transepts. In the nave, the windows celebrate the *Te Deum's* opening emphasis on the praise of God by all creation in heaven and on earth. The transept and chancel windows lead worshipers into the *Te Deum's* closing emphasis on the ministry and work of Christ, tracing His life, death, resurrection, and enthronement until His return to judge the living and the dead.

The North Transept Windows show how the story of Jesus on the throne where He is surrounded by angels and faithful worshipers as He welcomes the faithful into the New Jerusalem. This is seen in the first and second panes from the top and signifies the fulfillment of Ezekiel's prophecy.

The worshipers depicted in this window come from all nations. Some are shown with clear features while others do not. This represents the past, present, and future believers in our Lord, Jesus Christ. These worshipers are found in the bottom two panes of the window. The River of Life begins at the top and flows down around the throne of Jesus Christ and joins the waters that flow from window to window.

In the upper right corner humans appear to be in distress as they face Christ's judgement. They are blocked from the New Jerusalem by shards of darkness.





District Financial Support

It's not too late to add your support!

To date, twenty-six (26) of the 53 SELC district congregations have indicated their planned financial support for the District.

- These pledges total 82% of the offerings budgeted from congregations for last year.
- The sum of these pledges from these congregations is \$16,000 more than last year, 4 percent increase.

A sincere thank you to these congregations!

We look forward to responses from our remaining congregations. As your congregation completes its budgeting process, don't forget to indicate your financial support for the work of the SELC District for this year. You can simply indicate the annual amount that is planned and email it to Rev. Dr. Mark Larson, https://markclarson0341@gmail.com.

We value the support that we receive from our congregations and sincerely thank you for generosity as we partner together to strengthen the proclamation of the Gospel in our country and throughout the world.



Making a plan for self-care... during the holidays and beyond!

Are you feeling stressed out this holiday season? Making a simple self-care plan can help mitigate the effects of stress. [In this recording](#) from KFYO Radio's "Mental Health Monday" podcast, Dr. Beverly Yahnke, Executive Director for Spiritual Counsel with DOXOLOGY, discusses developing a plan for self-care. Dr. Yahnke talks about:

- What self-care means
- Why you need a plan
- How to begin developing it
- Important considerations
- How to ensure that you use the plan!

This plan would also be an ideal way to begin the New Year!
Visit LookUpIndiana.org for additional self-care resources.



Vicarage Applications and Call documents for Seminary Graduates are due to the SELC District Office by February 1, 2023

Vicarage applications are due to the SELC District Office by **February 1, 2023**. This is to ensure that your applications are submitted to the Synod before the deadline. We are accepting applications. The earlier your applications are submitted is appreciated! You can contact the District Office for directions on how to access the required documents.

Vicarages are assigned in late April or early May and the vicarages normally start in mid-July. Please contact the District Office with any questions.

If you are interested in calling a Seminary Graduate, please contact Patti Smith at the District Office for more information.

4% ONE-YEAR FIXED-RATE TERM NOTE

Lutherans Helping Lutherans

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) has served as the financial extension of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) since 1978, offering funding and resources in support of the church. Our investors make it possible for us to provide customized loans and support services to new and growing ministries as well as loans for Rostered Church Workers who dedicate their lives to sharing the Gospel.

This limited-time offer is available for
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod:

✔ INDIVIDUALS ✔ CONGREGATIONS ✔ ORGANIZATIONS

The choice is up to you. LCEF offers a variety of term notes from 1 to 5 years.

At the end of the term, the funds remain yours to re-invest or redeem. Interest is compounded quarterly (March, June, September and December).

 **Lutheran Church Extension Fund**
› where investments build ministry

DANIEL LEPLEY

LCEF District Vice President | English and SELC
317-402-9401 | Daniel.Lepley@lcef.org

LCEF is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, LCEF investments are not FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This is not an offer to sell investments, nor a solicitation to buy. LCEF will offer and sell its securities only in states where authorized. The offer is made solely by LCEF's Offering Circular. Investors should carefully read the Offering Circular, which more fully describes associated risks. Rates as of December 2022. Balance restrictions apply. Rates subject to change. Visit lcef.org for details.



The Often Unseen Importance of Purposeful Visitation

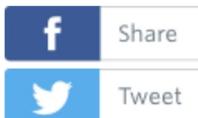
by Pastor Ken Ballas, EM

Regardless of age, as a concerned baptized believer try to imagine someone lying on a bed of pain not being able to sleep. If this has ever happened to you, you know all sorts of thoughts are likely racing through your head some of which are readily recognizable as *not* having been prompted by the Holy Spirit. Even as you recite the words of our Lord's Prayer, you may find that much needed restful slumber does not come easily. . . .

For some of you just now, the preceding sobering scenario may find you or a loved one away from home in an extended care facility, an environment where the hours pass slowly perhaps also giving one time to reflect about an incident in the distant past when one may have said or done something about which you remain deeply ashamed.

What's that knock on our door? A pastor or someone from church stops by for what proves to be a *meaningfully welcome* visit including an absolving prayerful petition about God *not at all necessarily punishing us* for something (about which we may understandably still feel guilty) solely because of the providential reminder of *His having already punished His only Son*, our sinless Brother-Savior Jesus Christ in our place! What a blessing it is to have such a predictably regular timely Christ-centered Gospel visit!

What was it our blessed Lord said in Matthew 25 just before going to the cross in the very next chapters of that evangelist's beautiful Gospel? "I was sick, and you visited **ME!**" **THANK YOU, JESUS,** for visiting our troubled planet and for sending caring individuals person to come to my aid at a time of greatest need when the old evil foe may be making a final, last-ditch attempt at persuading a precious blood-bought soul to renounce his or her baptism to join Satan in his self-appointed desperate destiny of endless torment and misery! "*Devil be gone! I've got to get some rest!*"



SELC District of LCMS

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selc.lcms@gmail.com

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