



The Beacon Online

March 3, 2023 / Vol. 4 / No. 8

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

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SELC Professional Church Worker's Conference Postponed to the Fall

The District Office conducted a survey about attendance at the Spring PCWC and the survey results indicate that the majority of workers were unable to attend the Spring PCWC. The goal is to have the majority of our District workers attend this conference, so the decision has been made to reschedule the conference to the Fall.

As soon as the new date and location are confirmed, we will announce it in a future issue of the Beacon.



Synod Voting Update
Deadline is March 19, 2023

President Voter Registration Closes MARCH 19, 2023

The LCMS deadline to vote for the Synod President is approaching. If you did not receive your specific information to log in, please contact the LCMS Office of the

Secretary at (314)996-1417 or lcmspresidentvote@lcms.org.

Please do not wait until the last minute to log in with your User Name and Password in case you run into problems and end up missing your opportunity to vote. Please make sure you register now so when you are ready to vote before March 19th you are all set!

Congregations that do not have their October president voter registration letter, mailed in late October, should, if your congregation/parish did not receive the October letter, contact the LCMS Office of the Secretary at (314)996-1417 or lcmspresidentvote@lcms.org.



SELC District Meets with LCMS and LCC in Toronto, Canada

SELC District Pastors and District President Vinovskis, joined together with members of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and Lutheran Church Canada this week to have joint discussions between all the groups. This group consisted of LCMS and LCC Leadership, the SELC and English District Presidents, and Pastors from the churches they serve in Canada including Pastor Charles St-Onge and Pastor Ladislav Kozak.





From left to right: Pastor Ladislav Kozak, LCMS President Harrison, Pastor Charles St-Onge, and President Wally Vinovskis

From left to right: Pastor Kozak, President Vinovskis, and Mrs. Kozak



Evangelism Grant Deadline Friday, March 10th 5pm Central

What is your congregation doing to invite your community to your Easter and Holy Week services?

It's time to have Easter outreach plans ready to go. The message that Christ is risen and all believers will live forever through Him powerfully impacts our communities and world.

Need some \$\$ help? The district has a limited number of Evangelism Grants available up to \$500. Complete a [simple application](#) by March 10 and email to Rev. Dr. Mark Larson at markclarson0341@gmail.com.

Check out some Easter Outreach ideas from the last couple editions of the Beacon.

Free or Nearly Free [Click here](#)

Some Cost [Click here](#)



LWML Monthly Bible Study Sessions March 16, 2023

LWML would like to invite all ladies of our congregations to our Bible Study March 16th month at 10:30 am EST, 9:30 am CST. If you are a member of a SELC LCMS Church, you are a member of the LWML and we would love to have you join us. Christ the King Lodi will host the Bible Study in person at **8080 Lafayette Road, Lodi, OH** and via Zoom for those too far away to drive. We will have a "Social Time" to get to know one another followed by the Lutheran Women's Quarterly Bible Study. We will use the Winter magazine, "Covered by God's Grace" for this one followed by the Spring Magazine Bible studies. If you need, you can make extra copies for your ladies. A link will be sent out to our contacts at each location; if you would like to be included in this meeting, please send us your information at **ctklutheranlodi@gmail.com**.

We had women from 6 churches including Christ the King join us in our first Bible Study, including 2 bible study groups and we have decided to meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month, we hope you can join us in the future!

If you work during the day and would like an option of an evening or weekend Bible Study, please email us at **ctklutheranlodi@gmail.com**



Your LERT Update



Do you have LERT trained individuals at your church? Please send an email to our DDRC, Steve Lehenbauer at **LERT@slcs.org**. We are working to create a comprehensive list of all our SELC members that we can contact in the event of a disaster.

If you would like to hold a LERT training at your church, please also contact Steve for assistance. St. Luke's Lutheran in Oviedo held a training on Saturday, February 11 (see photo below) and added 16 more individuals to our District disaster relief volunteers. For more information about LERT, visit the LCMS website at **LCMS-LERT.org** or **slcs.org/LERT**



SELC LWML Meeting **Cancelled** March 11, 2023

The LWML meeting scheduled for March 11, 2023 has been postponed. Please watch for a new date in a future issue.



Eastern Circuit Happenings

What do you do when the people you are catechizing move away in the middle of their catechesis? And when they move to Panama! You finish teaching them online and then go to Panama and confirm them there! That's the promise Pastor James Douthwaite made to the Clark Family, and in January followed through and traveled to Panama to confirm them and commune them for the first time in the Lutheran Church. The service took place at the Misión Los Andes in Panama City. The Lutheran Church in Panama is a small and struggling church body, but hopefully the Clark family can be a blessing to them as they live and serve there for the next few years.

Below is Pastor Douthwaite after the confirmation of the Clark family.





Wanted: Winter Hospitality Pastor or Deaconess

Concordia LCMS, Sarasota Florida prayerfully seeks a winter pastor or deaconess. Following Jesus, lead us as you: welcome worship guests, follow up on guests and those drifting from worship, and disciple us in these tasks. Little or no preaching required. Serve November 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024, 20 to 30 hours per week. For details about this ministry, compensation and housing options contact Concordia at 941-365-0844 or concordia5@juno.com. Probably on a separate track, Concordia also seeks pulpit supply from August 19 through October 1, 2023. Visit ConcordiaSarasota.org.

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).



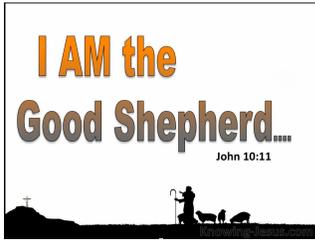
Lutheran Church Extension Fund

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DANIEL LEPLEY

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

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Who Is the World's Greatest Giver?

by Pastor Ken Ballas, EM

Many pious Christians habitually strive to “give up” something during Lent (such usually well-intended individuals also often make New Year's resolutions without necessarily considering what *God* successfully resolved to do in sending to earth His only Son). Without wishing to suggest that our Creator-Redeemer God doesn't want His children to enjoy the countless undeserved gifts He graciously continues to bestow on “the just and unjust” (Matt. 5:45b), we still at times fail to reflect a consistently clear picture of truly God-pleasing behavior or seem to care about what really matters most!

While it is conceivable that whatever we may seriously consider giving up during these 46 days should also perhaps be avoided for the remainder of our earthly pilgrimage as unbecoming baptized believers who claim to rely on the sacrificial self-giving love of God's sinless Son and promised never-ending resurrection victory of eternal life and Spirit's gift of Easter Joy (see John 3:16f.; Rom. 5:8; 8:32; 2 Cor. 9:15; Gal. 1:4; 2:20; 5:22; 1 Tim. 2:6; 1 John 3:16; 4:10).

Living Lord Jesus, as we desperately continue to need You alone as the world's only Savior from the consequences of sin and eternal death, we also thankfully remain most firmly held in Your Father's loving hands (John 10:11-18; 29b)!



SELC District of LCMS

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