



# The Beacon Online

March 29, 2024 / Vol. 5 / No. 13

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

If you are a first time visitor to the Beacon Online, we invite you to subscribe by emailing the District Office at [selc.lcms@gmail.com](mailto:selc.lcms@gmail.com). Please feel free to share the Beacon Online and encourage others to subscribe. Please send your articles, announcements, news, and pictures to [selc.lcms@gmail.com](mailto:selc.lcms@gmail.com). Please submit your articles in Word format and by Thursdays for inclusion in the next Beacon Online. We look forward to sharing your submissions! A [printable version](#) of the newsletter is available on our website at [selc.lcms.org/beacon](http://selc.lcms.org/beacon) Please use the printed version from our website to post and/or share the newsletter with others.



## Annual Congregational Statistics Deadline Extended to April 30, 2024

It is time to submit your congregation's end-of-year statistics and update your current list of lay leaders. Up-to-date statistical information is essential for the Synod as it plans current and future ministry efforts. Such information is also critical for determining proper voting representation at conventions.

The lay leader list is used to send copies of the *REPORTER* and other LCMS ministry related mailings to congregation leaders. The *REPORTER* is sent, free of charge, to all Congregational Chairmen and Board of Elders Chairmen each month and will be sent to the other congregation leaders as funding permits. **Emails for lay leaders will be increasingly important as channels for critical convention communications.**

Please contact RSRS at [Rosters.Statistics@lcms.org](mailto:Rosters.Statistics@lcms.org) As the volumes are still quite high presently, it may take them up to two business days to get back to each congregation.

The **deadline for congregation statistics and lay leaders** is **April 30, 2024**, you may also review your congregation's profile and lay leader information anytime throughout the year to make sure your contact information, service times, and other important data are current.



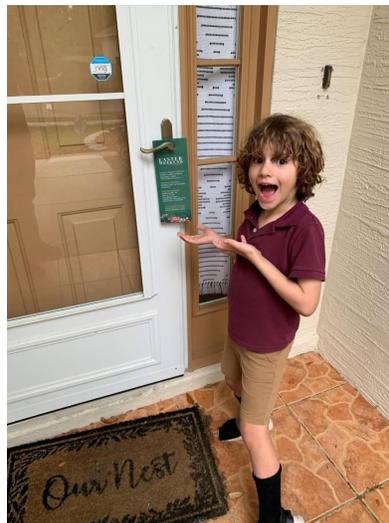
## Easter Evangelism in Action

theCross, Mt. Dora, FL, uses SELC district grant for Outreach



theCross, Mt. Dora applied and received a grant from the district to print 1000 door hangers to publicize their Holy Week worship to the community. The distribution of all the door hangers is just about complete with the assistance of Micah Baumann, age 7, son of theCross' Pastor Jacob Baumann (pictured on the left and below). May God bless the witness of the project.

Have an outreach idea? Evangelism grants are available at any time during the year. [Click here](#) for details.



## Serving Challenge

### Christ the King Lutheran Church

Members of Christ the King Lutheran Church (Lodi, Ohio) focused on the "Serving Challenge" during Lent. Part of the "Red Letter Challenge" series by former SELC Pastor Zach Zehnder and his wife Allison, the "Serving Challenge" encouraged the members of Christ the King to think about their own possible acts of service in response to Jesus' loving service to us. "Serving Challenge" Bible studies, sermons and worship services,

and personal workbook exercises prompted members to volunteer at the church as ushers, acolytes, musicians, cleaners, cooks, offering counters, and many other acts of service; and to volunteer in the wider community in all kinds of ways.

Pictured below is Pastor Chris Cahill capping off his "Serving Challenge" with his own personal service - donating blood via the American Red Cross. (His blood type is O negative, which was collected in several smaller bags so that the blood can be used for infants). Here he is rocking a T-shirt featuring other blood donors (Godzilla and King Kong); all three are wearing the red cross-bandage on their arms after their donations.



## Family Bible Journey Daily Podcasts

Follow God's people through the Exodus at [familybiblejourney.com](http://familybiblejourney.com). Pastor Dan Lepley teaches many lessons about God's character, His people, and the sometimes difficult relationships and dynamics that accompany trying times as we follow Israel from slavery to freedom. You can listen to the Family Bible Journey podcast at the website or on many podcast platforms. Thanks for listening!

If you'd like to listen to the podcasts, check out [familybiblejourney.com](http://familybiblejourney.com) or scan the QR code on the right.



Join the journey  
of journaling through the Bible.

*Thanks for listening!*



# LWML SELC Convention

The LWML SELC biennial convention is being held May 3 - 5, 2024 at Concordia Lutheran Church in Macungie, PA. The theme of the convention is **"Let Our Light Shine!"**. Please go to <https://lwmlselc.mystrikingly.com/> and click on Convention Central for more information and registration information.

The registration information is below. Please send in your registration form and fee y April 22nd to avoid late fees. The hotel for the Convention is the

Homewood Suites Allentown West, 7696 Industrial Blvd, Allentown, PA  
Call hotel directly at 610-336-4860 our group name is Lutheran Missionary or Group  
Code: 90S (NINE ZERO SIERRA)

Cutoff date is **April 8<sup>th</sup>** to receive the group rate of \$139 which includes breakfast.



### LWML SELC DISTRICT 18<sup>th</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Concordia Lutheran Church 2623 Brookside Road, Macungie, Pennsylvania 18062  
"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE" MATTHEW 5:16  
May 3-5, 2024

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY  
(Each registrant must complete a separate registration form)

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX:

Badge Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name      First Name  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
NOTE: Your email address will not be shared. It is needed only for registration confirmation. Please print legibly.  
Group \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_  
Church City \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone \_\_\_\_\_

Group Delegate  
 General Registration (LWML Member)  
 Guest Spouse – (Non LWML Member)  
 LWML SELC District President  
 LWML SELC District Board of Directors  
 Pastoral Counselor/Clergy  
 Young Woman Representative (Zone or District)  
 Teen (ages 12-17) State age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Guest (Please identify) \_\_\_\_\_  
Are you a first time LWML SELC District Convention attendee?     Yes     No

Registration Choices (Includes a tote bag and manual)	NO EMAILED REGISTRATIONS AFTER APRIL 22, 2024	
1. Registration.....	\$75.00	\$.....
2. Late Registration.....	\$80.00	\$.....
3. Teen Registration.....	\$70.00	\$.....
4. Late Teen Registration.....	\$75.00	\$.....
5. Guest Spouse (Meals Only).....	\$40.00	\$.....
NO MEAL ORDERS AFTER APRIL 22, 2024		
Total Payment.....		\$.....

List any special needs \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **LWML SELC District**. Currently we are not able to accept credit card payments.  
Mail this form(s) to:  
LWML SELC District Treasurer  
Stephanie Bailey  
737 Redwood Drive  
Canal Fulton, Ohio 44614-8882  
[jsb173@sssnet.com](mailto:jsb173@sssnet.com)

Note: Please keep a photocopy of your completed registration form(s) for your records.  
Confirmation will be emailed to all who register prior to April 24, 2024.    NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 30, 2024



## Prayer Requests

**Rev. Brian Roberts**, St. Luke's in Oviedo, FL is returns from Minnesota this week after receiving a feeding tube to help supplement his diet and assist with weight gain. Please pray for him as he returns to Florida to begin this next step in his recovery.

**Rev. John Telloni**, St. John in Massillon, OH as he is working and continuing to regain his strength as he has returned to work.

**Rev. and Mrs. Panzigrau**, John Huss in Arnold, PA

**Rev. Tom Soltis**, Parma, OH

**Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth Ballas**, Parma, OH. Please keep them in your prayers.

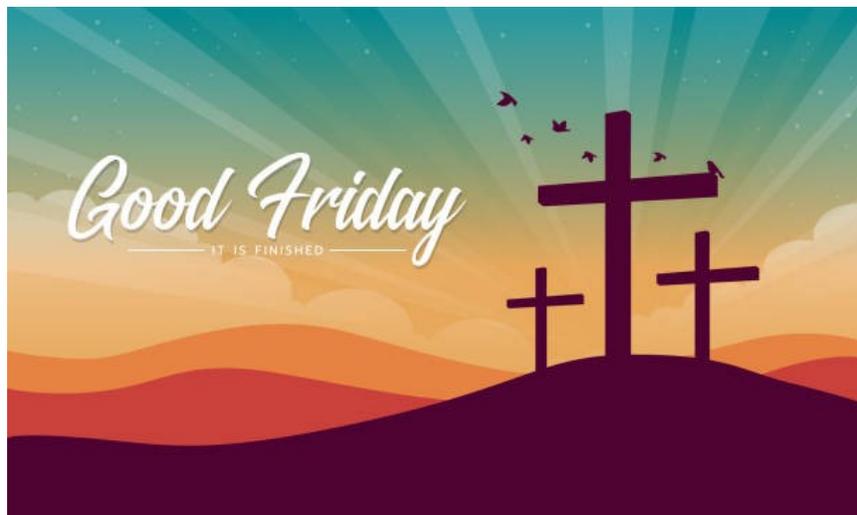
**Rev. Alan Mercer** in Galloway, NJ for his ongoing health struggles.

**Megan Skelton** in Oviedo, FL Please continue to pray for her and her doctors to find pain relief solutions for her jaw pain and severe headaches following her surgery.

**Amanda Baumann** in Mount Dora, FL, is Pastor Jacob Baumann's wife. She is pregnant with their fourth child. Please pray for a continued healthy and safe pregnancy.

**Laura Bergmann**, in Munster, IN, please pray for relief of her pain in her hands, feet, back, and legs.

*If you have people you would like to be included in the prayer list, please send the information to [selc.lcms@gmail.com](mailto:selc.lcms@gmail.com) or call the District Office at 610-965-3265 and press 6.*



# SHARED INTEREST PROGRAM

Donate your Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) investment interest to a ministry close to your heart.

Your investment in LCEF is already helping ministries through low-cost loans and ministry solution programs for LCMS organizations and Rostered Church Workers (RCWs).

Now take your investments one step further by donating your interest to the ministry of your choice.

## Ready to donate?

Call our friendly Customer Relations Team at **800-843-5233** or scan the QR code.

Want to learn about more ways to give? Visit [lcef.org/shared](https://lcef.org/shared).



**Lutheran Church Extension Fund**

> where investments build ministry

800-843-5233 | fax: 314-996-1131 | [lcef.org](https://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.

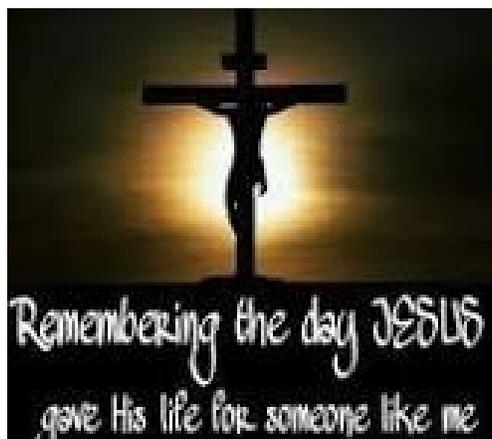


## Mark Your Calendars

**April 23, 2024** - Call day at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis

**April 24, 2024** - Call day at Concordia Seminary in Fort Wayne

**May 3 - 5, 2024** - LWML Convention - Concordia Lutheran Church in Macungie, PA





## Closing Thoughts

### Who Is the World's Greatest Problem Solver?

Rev. Ken Ballas, EM

Admiration for gifted problem-solvers blessed with special talent, mechanical or otherwise, to *fix* almost anything seemingly irreparably *broken* is understandable and rightly so. Reminiscent of the apostle Paul's Gospel comfort to the typically flawed family of believers at ancient Corinth that the "**last great enemy of death**" has been decisively overcome by our victorious crucified and risen Lord, thankfully, by the grace of God many of us will find a way to take advantage of opportunities for reflecting on this blessed reality this weekend and coming Easter season to hear anew that the world's greatest "**Problem-Solver**" is none other than our exalted sinless ascended Brother-Savior, Jesus Christ. He alone remains capable of permanently alleviating our worst fears and putting back together again our seemingly endlessly shattered hearts!

According to the Jewish-Christian calendar, the earliest worship service following Good Friday of Holy Week and penitential Lenten season is *not* an Easter Sunday *sunrise* service. Rather, with the rekindling of the Paschal Candle announcing that "**CHRIST IS RISEN!**" and resumption of sung or spoken "**Alleluias,**" *any time after sundown on Holy Saturday* is already the beginning of the Savior's predicted "*third day of resurrection*" and suitable for God's people to assemble for an **Easter Eve Vigil**.

For many Christians this highly important ancient worship service traditionally contains extended readings from both testaments of Holy Scripture reflecting our faithful covenant God's dealings with His often rebellious fallen creation and universal need for a Spiritual "*new birth*" necessitating the sinless Son of God's substitutionary death and bodily resurrection and ascension into heaven.

As our victorious King of Kings, the exalted risen Christ's loving command is not only for us to be *baptized* but also in order to *teach* other baptized blood-bought, forgiven sinners *everything else* that our Brother-Savior had commanded pertaining to our most holy faith much of which is also simply but scripturally elucidated in Dr. Luther's Small Catechism including the Sacrament of His body and blood in His Holy Supper (see Matthew 28:19).

Though more could be said with reference to a meaningful, time-tested observances of Easter Vigils especially as related to one of the reformer's favorite New Testament letters (1 Peter), such will perhaps best be shared at another time or place as it is far more preferable to conclude this Easter weekend's piece with St. Paul's timeless words of resurrection triumph:

"If Christ had not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins ... but in fact **Christ has been raised from the dead** ... and death is swallowed up in victory....  
"O death, where is your victory? Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our living **LORD JESUS CHRIST!**"

(1 Corinthians 15:17, 20, 54, 55, 57)



**SELC District - A District Without Borders**  
***Showing Everyone Life in Christ, by Showing  
Everyone Love in Christ***

Share This Email

**SELC District of LCMS**

2623 Brookside Road  
Macungie, PA 18062  
610-965-3265

Contact Us  
[selc.lcms@gmail.com](mailto:selc.lcms@gmail.com)

Share This Email

Share This Email

SELC District of LCMS | 2623 Brookside Road, Macungie, PA 18062

[Unsubscribe dennis@hclm.org](mailto:dennis@hclm.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [selcoffice@selcdistrictoflcms.ccsend.com](mailto:selcoffice@selcdistrictoflcms.ccsend.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!