



# The Beacon Online

April 4, 2025/ Vol. 6 / No. 13

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

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## St. Luke's Concert Series Tonight - April 4, 2025 Available on Zoom

Come celebrate "Musical Nationalism--sharing our musical identities"! We will feature the music of Franz Strauss, Jean Sibelius, Gioachino Rossini, Morton Gould, and others.

All concerts are FREE and OPEN to the public.

Join us and bring family and friends!

WATCH ONLINE: [youtube.com/  
@stlukesconcertseries](https://youtube.com/@stlukesconcertseries)



## SELC District Servant Event Youth Gathering Register Now!

Below is the Google Form link to register your group for the SELC District Servant Event for the Youth Gathering this July! We are still working with the Youth Office to finalize what we will be doing for our service. The cost for this event will be \$35.00 and

will include the event, transportation to and from the event, lunch, and a SELC District T-shirt. If others who are at the Gathering (YAVs, Team Flex, etc.) from your church would like a T-shirt can also be added to the Google Form as additional shirts and not in the event total. Even if you are not planning to attend the District Event (I hope to see all of you at the event!), you may still order District shirts for your church. All payments go to the District Office. Please have this form filled out by April 15th so I can order the t-shirts and have them shipped to your churches before the Gathering! (This is only for churches attending and registered for the Youth Gathering in New Orleans).

Link for the Gathering Event and T-shirts:  
**<https://forms.gle/giQtGXesmJULnA4e7>**

SELC District Office  
2623 Brookside Road  
Macungie, PA 18062

If you have any questions, please let me know!

Blessings,

Rachel Larson, SELC Youth Chair  
**[rachel.larson@stlucascms.org](mailto:rachel.larson@stlucascms.org)**



## **Student Aid Available**

The SELC Student Aid Committee is dedicated to provide financial assistance to students from our district congregations who are preparing for full-time church work at our Synod's colleges, universities, and seminaries. The members of the Student Aid Committee are appointed by the President and Board of Directors and are currently served by Chairman John Glanzer (St. Luke's, Oviedo, FL) and Secretary Rev. Kevin McLeod (Resurrection, Malvern, OH).

Students planning to attend or are currently attending our synod's colleges, university, and seminaries (and are enrolled in full-time church work programs) should complete the accompanying application in order to apply for the SELC scholarship assistance. Students receive the grants once per year, typically for the academic year that begins in September and ends in May or June of the following year. The SELC District Application for Financial Aid must be filled out and returned each year that the student is enrolled in the institution. This form is separate from the District Financial Aid Form which the university or seminary uses; although, this form is also sent to the Student Aid Committee.

It is the student's responsibility to apply for aid. In addition to any scholarship aid granted by the district, we also hope you have inquired if your congregation provides financial assistance as well. Many of our congregations have scholarship funds for students preparing for full-time church work.

We are grateful to the Lord that the SELC Board of Directors and our congregations have demonstrated their concern for future church workers by allocating generous funds for financial assistance in the district's budget. If you have any questions or

concerns about any aspect of our district's financial aid program, please do not hesitate to contact me or Rev. Kevin McLeod.

Sincerely,  
John Glanzer, Chairman  
SELC District Student Aid Committee  
[jglanzer@slcs.org](mailto:jglanzer@slcs.org)

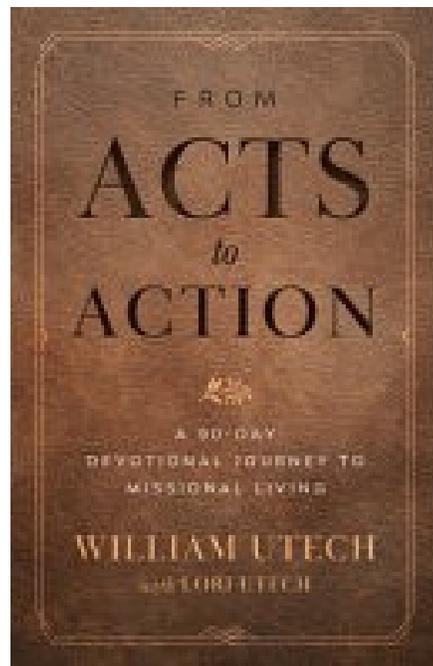
[Click here](#) to access the application on the SELC District website.



## Rev. Dr. William Utech Authors "From Acts to Action"

Rev. Dr. William Utech has authored a book entitled "From Acts to Action". Dr. Utech was the speaker at our District convention this year.

Are my faith and my local church still relevant? The answer is a resounding, "YES!" But only the Word of God, and especially that Word as it come to us in the Acts of the Apostles, can make it so. This 90-Day devotional journey leads readers on a guided tour of the entire Book of Acts to see and learn anew how God is always working through His people, His leaders, and His local congregations to grow His kingdom. The first century church changed the world for the better. The Lord of the church wants to use you and your 21st century congregation to do the same.



The book is available on Amazon - [Click Here](#) to order the book.



## Family Bible Journey Podcast The Story of Esther

The epic story of Esther begins this week on the Family Bible Journey podcast! Listen along as a young Jewish girl gets swept into the royal court and finds herself in a dangerous position. Risk her life by speaking up for her people, or quietly watch them get attacked by vile enemies.

[www.familybiblejourney.com](http://www.familybiblejourney.com).



Join the journey  
of journaling through the Bible.



## LWML-SELC Monthly Bible Study Date Change for April

Since the 3rd Thursday in April is Maundy Thursday, we will be changing April's Bible Study to **April 24th**.

The Bible Study will be in the Spring edition of LWQ on page 14, "Confessing What We Believe".

Here is the link to join the Zoom meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84746607019?  
pwd=V2t5a1BPQjFnUzJGRzRiS1ZVVVJsQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84746607019?pwd=V2t5a1BPQjFnUzJGRzRiS1ZVVVJsQT09)



## "Life and Death: A Confessional Framework for Pastoral Bioethics" Via Zoom

Calling all pastors and church leaders! Join Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (CSL) and Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, Wis. (CUW), for a six-week virtual continuing education bioethics course — "Life and Death: A Confessional Framework for Pastoral Bioethics."

**Tuesdays, April 29 – June 3, 2025 4–5:15 p.m. (CT) via Zoom**

Meet the presenters:

- Dr. Kevin Voss, professor emeritus of Philosophy and former director of the Concordia Center for Bioethics at Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, Wis. With decades of experience in bioethics and pastoral care ministry, Voss blends his unique expertise in reproductive counseling and end-of-life care with a passion for addressing bioethical issues from a Lutheran theological perspective.
- **Dr. Robert Weise**, professor emeritus of Practical Theology and the former Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis Chair in Pastoral Ministry and the Life Sciences from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Weise served on the faculty for over two decades and made significant contributions to the fields of bioethics, human sexuality and genetics, both through his academic work and as a frequent speaker and author.

**Read more** about the course sessions and **register** by April 25, 2025. For more information, contact the Continuing Education department at Concordia Seminary at [ce@csl.edu](mailto:ce@csl.edu) or 314-505-7286.

**Register now**

# Grow Your Future Grounded in Faith

Opening an **Individual Retirement Account (IRA)** might not be on your radar, but it's crucial for your financial future.



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## Prayer Requests

**Rev. Brian Roberts**, Orlando, FL. Please pray for him as he is regaining the weight he has lost and works to regain his strength and stamina.

**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. Tom Soltis**, Parma, OH for God's loving care.

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

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

**Rev. Kevin Duff**, Hilton Head, SC, who is recovering from brain surgery. Please pray for his wife, his young family, and his caregivers as they determine his plan of care.

**Anna Bocklage**, Bel Air, MD, wife of Rev. Steve Bocklage, who is recovering from knee replacement surgery. Please pray for her healing and recovery.

**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.

**Laura Bergmann**, Munster, IN, please pray for her as she injured her knee and is receiving inpatient treatment to help with her recovery.

**Nita Huffines**, St. Louis, MO, wife of Rev. Warren Huffines who is five-year survivor of

colon cancer, has begun a new round of treatments. Please pray for her as she receives her treatment.

**Daniel McLean**, Oviedo, FL, who has stage 4 cancer and is receiving treatment. Please keep him his wife Emily, Deaconess at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Oviedo, and their children in your prayers.

*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.*



## **SELC District - A District Without Borders**

***Showing Everyone Life in Christ, by Showing Everyone Love in Christ***

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### **SELC District of LCMS**

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

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