



It has been said that "Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result." We hear a lot of empty language in a day, but we do well to stop and think about this quote very carefully for a moment. We have ended one year and come to the beginning

of a new one, and it is important that we take stock in our lives as there is never a moment to waste. What things have we done (or not done) this year that we are happy to admit? What things have we done or not done this year that have made us ashamed, or disappointed, or full of regret? What things do we seem to do over and over and over again that are of no benefit to us at all, or much worse, cause harm to ourselves and others? "Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result." The truthfulness of this statement is abundantly clear: if things are to be different, you have to do something differently. What will be different this year? What will you do differently that will bring about wanted change?

I have a suggestion: take the Faith Lutheran Small Catechism Challenge. The goal of this challenge (which we began in October) is to learn the six chief parts of Luther's Small Catechism by heart so that we might confess it in unison on Reformation Sunday, 2016. This, of course, will take frequent memorization and devotion to the simple teachings of the faith over the next ten months, and that will likely be a different thing for you and your family this year. Can you imagine, however, the benefits and blessings you will receive from a brief, daily review of God's teaching? Would you think, just for a moment, about what it would mean to you to be prepared to meet the challenges of living in this world with a stronger faith and better understanding of God's Word? How different could your life be this year?

Why don't you find out? Why not finally quit making excuses, and learn more about your faith? Men, be the head of your households, and lead your family in daily devotions. Women, hold your men accountable, and support them as they carve out a short time for daily devotions. Children, be obedient to your parents, and learn the wisdom that the Small Catechism has to offer. Elderly friends, what better time than now to reacquaint yourselves with the truths you learned so long ago? Regardless, of age, vocation, or station in life, you do have enough time each day. And if you don't, put down the remote control, the computer mouse, the video game controllers, the sporting equipment, the

clarinet and the homework and make some time. All things here on earth shall pass, except for the Word of God. Break the bonds of slavery to these temporal, earthly things, and heed your God's call to cling to the truth that will set you free.

What will you find if you take the Faith Lutheran Small Catechism Challenge? The merciful God you have always wanted, and the belonging you have always longed for. Don't learn the Small Catechism to try to please God. He already loves you beyond what you can comprehend. Learn the six chief parts because knowing them will show you the love of God that brings life and peace. In 2016, take the challenge. You won't be sorry you did.

Pastor Killian

***Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Christ Alone, Scripture Alone,
and to God Alone be the Glory!"***

Pastor's new phone # 269-0336

Worship Schedule: *Sundays @ 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.*
Holy Communion is served every Sunday.



Epiphany service:
Wednesday, January 6, at 7:00 pm

Bible Study Schedule

You are encouraged to join us for Bible study on:
Sundays 9:15 a.m.: During the Sunday's in January, we will be focusing our attention on "The Case for Christmas." This study will focus on the Christmas story, and the facts and myths that surround why, when and how we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Join us for something new in the adult Bible class this winter!

Wednesdays 10:30 a.m.: Isaiah

Office hours:

Monday- Friday

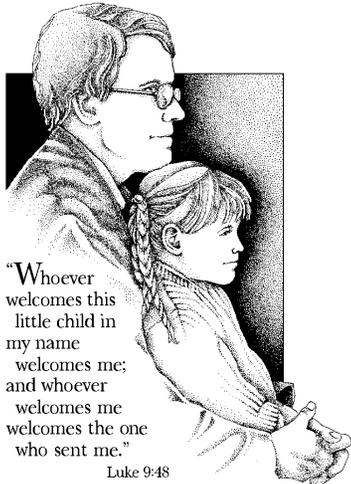
9:00 a.m. to noon

Pastor's hours Tuesday - Friday

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Web site: www.faithupontherock.com Check it out. If you have ideas of things you would like to see on it, send them to Kie.

CANCELLATIONS DUE TO BAD WEATHER will be on KWWL TV. If the weather is bad and you wonder if we are having church, watch for it on KWWL or www.KWWL.com click on weather then cancellations. If church is cancelled, both services will be cancelled. Wednesday night classes are cancelled if schools close.



"Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."
Luke 9:48

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

We know children can be a handful in a worship service. We believe God wants your children to be part of the worship time and so do we.

You can begin training them as soon as they can sit by themselves. To help you, here are some suggestions. First - Worship with them, teaching them the pattern of worship. Folding hands during prayers is a good place to begin and standing when the congregation does. As they get older teach them

to follow the service in the hymnal or with a large print bulletin. Teach them the hymns so they can sing with you. During the sermon, let them color or play quietly.

And finally – they are children and will not be perfect. We expect an occasional "melt down" so hang in there. There is a cry room where you can sit and listen to the service till your child calms down. You can take your bulletin with you and follow along and you can even see the service through the large window looking in to the sanctuary.

Voters' Meeting

The January meeting is the Annual meeting of the Voters' Assembly. Reports from the Committees will inform the Voters' of the important work being done at Faith. If you want to be directly involved with the work at Faith, the Voters' meeting is the place to start. We will be discussing and finalizing our annual budget and discussing plans for future capital campaigns and charitable

giving. We will also have a report on Valley Lutheran School and a discussion of our commitment to support Valley.

The meeting is January 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. If you have an agenda item, please talk to Jeff Elbert

HOSPITAL STAY- Pastor Killian does make it a priority to visit the hospitals. However, the hospital will not call us to let us know when one of our members is admitted. If you know ahead of time that you are going to be hospitalized, please indicate that on your record of fellowship or speak with Pastor Killian. If you are admitted suddenly, call or have a friend or relative call the church office for you.

OFFICIAL ACTS in December

Death: Floyd Burroughs, December 4

Baptisms: Matthew James and Charlee Renee Crawford, 12-13

Adult Confirmation: Katie Whitmer, 12-13

Wedding: Jaclyn Riggins & Charlie Stoakes, 12-26

Remember Our Shut-Ins:

Steve Boyken and Kathy Boyken,

Sunset Nursing, 235 N Mill St., P.O. Box 383, Denver, IA 50622, Kathy: 984-5092

Rande Galle, 425 Allen St. #215, Waterloo 50701

Leona Jeanne Perkins, 203 Lake St., Cedar Falls 50613

Gleneva Wardius, 707 5th St, PO Box 26, Dike IA 50624

NEW Address: please add to your pink directory

Katie Whitmer, 2469 Newell St., Waterloo 50703

Phone: 319-215-5711

CHURCH LIBRARY and Cry Room

All the magazines that used to be on the table in the hallway are now on the shelves in the library. There are also many pamphlets written by the late Dr. A.L. Barry. These pamphlets cover many topics that you may have questions about. Please stop in and browse. You can take the pamphlets for yourself and also to share with friends that may have questions.



CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER

for the BLIND

Did not meet on in December, but instead invited our vision impaired friends to the Children's Christmas service on the 13th. Our dinner in January will be on the 16th and we will have the turkey dinner we had planned for November. Please contact Kie Maas, 231-5711, Jill Killian, 610-4148, or Noreen Purcell, 230-8786, if you would like to be a part of this outreach ministry.



WOMEN OF FAITH

met December 8th for our Christmas party. We had fun playing Phase 10. We will not meet in January.



ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN SOUP LUNCHEON

Sunday, January 31, 12:00 -3:00

Orphan Grain Train
Central Iowa Branch

302 Bevin St., Clemons, Iowa 50051

Free will offerings will be used for general expenses. Following the meal we will be assembling Mercy Kits. We encourage you to bring items for the kits and join us as we assemble them.

Mercy Kit items:

- Bath Towel (dark color recommended)
- Wash cloth
- Bath-size bar of soap, any brand in original wrapping
- Adult tooth brush in original packaging
- Stick deodorant
- Sturdy comb
- 6 band-aids (3/4" preferred) secured together
- Small tissue packets

All items should be good and in new condition. You don't need to assemble them as we will do that there.



YOUTH GROUP

All youth are welcome to join the fun in playing games, eating treats, laughing in fellowship, helping others, and reading/discussing the Word of God on issues that matter most to young adults. Youth Group will meet Wednesdays the 13th and the 27th.

CONFIRMATION AND WEDNESDAY CLASSES

As a new year begins classes will resume for CONFIRMATION STUDENTS. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6 is the beginning date from 5:30 – 6:45 p.m. This will be for the two older classes.

THE YOUNGER STUDENTS WILL NOT BEGIN UNTIL JANUARY 27.

Let us dedicate ourselves as students, staff, family, and congregation to staying firm in God's Word and prayer for His will to be done in our lives and our world in 2016. Even though we may be unsure of what a new year brings, we can be certain that God remains firm. His love and forgiveness, the assurance that He always keeps His promises are rock solid for us. Trust in Him and seek His guidance.

"We wait in hope for the Lord; He is our help and our shield. In Him our hearts rejoice for we trust in His holy name." Psalm 33:20-21

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The winter quarter of Sunday School studies will focus on the Old Testament and how God protected His people in Egypt and the Exodus. Lessons will cover Joseph (Genesis) and Moses (Exodus, Numbers) as they fulfilled God's will for His people. Join our students as they learn how the people of God struggled in those days as we do now; how they sinned and received God's love and mercy over and over again just as we do now. God's love endures forever and will not change over time. Earthly things may perish but we can be assured God will always be faithful. As in old, we see how He kept His promises. Trust and believe!

Lessons for January:

January 3: Joseph & His Brothers Genesis 37

January 10: Joseph's Troubles Genesis 39

January 17: Joseph Feeds Egypt Genesis 40-41

January 24: Joseph Forgives Genesis 42-45, 50:15-21

January 31: The Birth of Moses Exodus 1:1-2:10

Join us for openings or class each Sunday at 9:15 as we praise God in music and learn from His Word the faith we confess and believe. Classes are offered for the youngest to adult.

"Those who know Your name will trust in You, for You Lord, have never forsaken those who seek You." Psalm 9: 10



We continue to uplift **three missionary families** spreading God's love and forgiveness to the world. Please pray and consider financially supporting the Rev. David Preus and family in the Dominican Republic, Rev. Micah Wildauer and family in Togo, and David Federwitz and family in Ghana.

Also check out their Websites: lcms.org/Wildauer, lcms.org/Preus, and LBT.org (Federwitz)

There are newsletters from all three families on the bulletin board.

"Whoever serves Me must follow Me, and where I am, My servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves Me"
John 12:26

Dear friends in Christ Jesus,
Merry Christmas! May the God who took on flesh and became a little child to be born in a humble stable also make His home among you this Christmas. We have been hearing all Advent about Christ coming to us as a baby, coming to us in His Word, in our Baptism, and in His Supper, and coming to us to bring us to everlasting life with Him on the Last Day. But though there are different advents or comings of Jesus, there is only one Jesus. The same Babe in the manger dwells with and in His children by His Word, and it is this very same Jesus, who was born lived, was

crucified, died, and buried, rose from the dead victorious and ascended into heaven, it is this same Jesus whom we will see face to face on the final day. The knowledge and hope that Jesus has come and therefore comes and will come again is our constant delight and expectation, but especially now in this Christmas time.

My family cannot thank you enough for your gifts, for your thoughts and prayers, and for your good words to us. It is my great honor and privilege to be studying to preach and teach God's Word to His people. I pray that through your gifts and prayers God would accomplish this, that I may be faithful to His Word and bring His Word to a world that desperately needs it.

We decided this year to remain home for Christmas. The long trek to Minnesota to see Lisa's family and to Montana to see my family is going to have to wait till May or June, when the weather is nice and flu/cold season is over! We are excited to stay here in Fort Wayne and relax, and also to enjoy the many chances to go to Christmas services here.

We've attached a picture of the family. (It is on the bulletin board) All is well with the children The kids are busily making homemade Christmas presents for each other and for their parents. It's a joy to see that they get just as much joy giving as getting presents. At least, I like to think so! We'll see on Christmas Eve how happy they are with what we get them. In any case, it is a joy to see our little children rejoicing in the Christmas message of peace on earth through Jesus our Savior.

Again, Merry Christmas. And again, thank you for all your generosity. The God who gives all things in Christ Jesus our Savior be with you always.

Yours in Christ,

Christian Preus and Family

Do you have information that you would like to share with the congregation? Please bring it or e-mail it to the office, Faihluth@aol.com, by **January 22** to be included in the February Newsletter.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP FOR NOVEMBER

Giving back as we've been blessed!

Total undesignated income	\$18,222.50
Required to meet budget	\$17,344.60
Status (offerings compared to budget)	+\$ 877.90
Year To Date	+\$13,227.71

Choir Resumes!



I would like to start choir practices again to prepare for Lent/Easter. We will practice on Thursdays at 6:30 starting Thursday, January 21. Anyone interested in singing with the choir is welcome to join us!

- Pam Woolery



So many people do so much

around our church that may go unnoticed. Here are some things that have been noticed:

- Thanks to Becky Wagner for calling the shut-in members and organizing the Christmas Caroling.
- Becky Wagner; Pam, Jonah, Markus Woolery; Shane, Rebecca, Cole,

Emily and Kaylee Stitchman; John & Deb Dalluge; Mike & Vickey Smith; Kenny & Kie Maas; Luke & Leah Tanney and Michael Saunders brought joy to many people as they shared the Carols of Christmas with them.

- Deb Smith, the Sunday school teachers, and the children did a great job with the Children's Christmas service.
- The Galloway family set up the Nativity and the lighted star.
- Mike Smith, John Dalluge, Kenny Maas for installing new flooring in the Sunday School classroom.
- THANK YOU to everyone at Faith that helped in so many ways on Wednesdays with the children's Christmas service rehearsals and preparation. Once again we worked together and trusted God to lead us as we brought the message of Jesus' birth to our families, friends, and community. Your generous offerings at this service will allow us to send a Christmas donation to our three missionary families, David Preus', Micah Wildauer's and David Federwitz's. BLESS YOU!

If you have noticed something or someone that should be recognized, please notify Kie in the office, faithluth@aol.com

Dear Faith Lutheran Church Carolers, Thank you for coming to carol at Mallard Point. You were wonderful and we all enjoyed it very much. Blessing to you! Sandy McDonald, resident of Mallard Point

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU to the congregation for your generosity at Christmas. I sincerely appreciate your gifts and your support. It is a joy to work for you here at Faith. Kie Maas

January Anniversaries

3	Kenny & Kie Maas (46)
19	Chuck & Pam Klima (41)
28	Peter & Janelle Beck (27)

January Birthdays

3	Kaylee Stitchman
5	Matthew Dalluge
6	Jenna Chidester, Zion Simmer
8	Kenny Maas, Erin Simmer
9	Jeffrey Elbert
10	Judy Rath-Bly
17	Owen Dalluge, Emily Dalluge
19	Brooklyn Chidester
21	Betty Boyken, David Hacker, Cynthia Wolf
22	Jeff Bowers, Madison Chidester
25	Jordyn Gomez
27	Sue Burnell
28	Mallory (Mager) Scribner
29	Karen Helm
30	Jill Killian
31	Bobby Hinz



The Lutheran Hour-

The Lutheran Hour can be heard each Sunday morning on the following stations:

6:30 a.m.	on WMT 600 AM
7:30 a.m.	on KCHA 1580 AM
8:00 a.m.	on KWAY 1470 AM
9:30 a.m.	on KXEL 1540 AM

The Lutheran Hour also podcast their broadcast. For more information go to <http://www.lhm.org/podcasts>

January 3, "Life in Context"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
Life is not up for grabs or out of control. Find real life in the context of Christ's cross and resurrection. (Ephesians 1:3-14)

January 10, "What's Running Your Life?"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
When Christ runs your life, beauty and blessing flow to you and through you to others. (Romans 6:1-11)

January 17, "Not What You'd Expect"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Jesus turns water into wine and challenges our notions of what God should or shouldn't do. (John 2:1-11)

January 24, "Real Freedom"

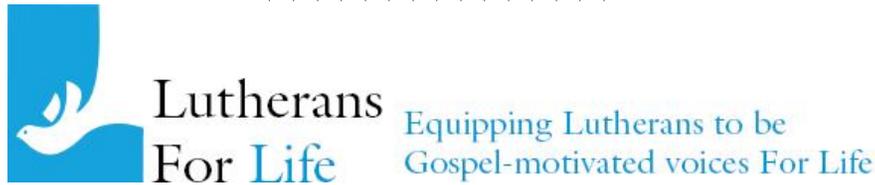
Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

Jesus brings the jarring message that real freedom can only be received from Him and real freedom is following Him in all things. (Luke 4:16-21)

January 31, "If Jesus Had Stayed"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

God wants us to love Him in response to His love for us. (Luke 4:42b-43)

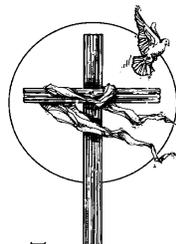


ESSAY CONTEST on SANCTITY of LIFE: For Students in Grades 6-12 (Any Lutheran Student or student in a Lutheran School) See contest Guidelines on the bulletin board. Cash prizes will be awarded!

Black Hawk LFL is providing bulletin inserts to the Waterloo and Westgate circuits for Life Sunday. We appreciate our LCMS pastors for their support for LIFE.

The FAITH LIFE TEAM needs to meet for to plan Trivia Night. If you can help in any way, talk to Kie. We are always happy to have more help. Thanks.

Hurting from Abortion?
WORD of HOPE can help.
www.word-of-hope.org
 CONFIDENTIAL
 CARING



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
-Numbers 6:26



Pennies for Life!

It is not enough for us Lutherans to work to make and pass laws in our land concerning life issues. Lutherans For Life is not a political organization. The battle for life is not in the courts or the halls of Congress, but in the hearts and minds of men and women.

The "life issues" provide opportunity to share the Word of Life and its forgiveness, hope and comfort. The "life issues" provide opportunity for Christian action by lifting up the vulnerable, caring for the hurting, embracing the sinner, and changing public policy.

Faith Lutheran is being given an opportunity to help in the battle for the hearts and minds of men and women by participating in Pennies for Life. In thanksgiving to God and to your mother for the life He has given you through her, we ask you to give pennies, quarters and even dollars to support Lutherans For Life of Iowa. During January there will be a "Pennies for Life" jar on the counter to collect our offerings. There are some baby bottles also for you to take home and begin to fill if you desire, then return them at the end of the month.

May the joy of the newborn Savior continue to be in our hearts throughout the coming year. Black Hawk Lutherans For Life



PLANNED PARENTHOOD (PP) is, as it should be (and that's an under-statement), **under scrutiny** as never before because of publicity surrounding its sale of body parts from aborted babies. Indeed, government funding for PP at the local, state, and federal level is facing cutbacks or even elimination. May His will be done!

To no one's surprise, government support is the single largest source of revenue for PP at the local level. In PP's 2013-14 Fiscal Year (according to their latest annual report available online in early October), local affiliates received approximately \$528 million or about 46% of their funding from the government.

But where do their remaining monies come from?

Besides "Non-Government Health Services Revenue" (presumably including fees charged for abortions!), private contributions and bequests were some \$257 million at the affiliate level or 22% of their overall revenue. This does not include gifts to the PP national office, which were \$169 million towards overall revenue of \$209 million (or 80% of total!)

Now, put this in contrast with LFL's donor base, which is about 7,000. Of course, comparing LFL's donor base with PP's is simply not fair. First, to have a level playing field, you would also need to include a cross section of the For Life community: national advocacy groups and their chapters, crisis pregnancy centers, and other faith-based educational organizations. If this is done, it is likely that both the dollars contributed and number of donors would be somewhat closer.

Secondly, not only is it much smaller, but LFL's purpose is very focused. Its mission is "Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life." Its vision is "Every Lutheran, both individually and in community, upholding the God-given value of human life and influencing society to do the same." Still, I can't help but notice how many of our "own" Lutheran people are either not aware of LFL and its mission or don't embrace it if they are.

LFL is VITAL to our Lutheran churches and members. Why? Because we can't take it for granted that Lutherans know that all human life should be affirmed and that decisions should be made from a Gospel-centered basis. Additionally, if LFL did not exist, there simply would be no comprehensive, ongoing Gospel-centered For Life resources and support available nationwide from a Lutheran perspective.

Alternatives Pregnancy Center

1006 Decathlon Dr. Waterloo, 50701

**Offering Christian Compassion, Counsel and Care
for those facing an unexpected pregnancy.**

Call or text 319-525-2720

WHERE CHRISTIANITY MEETS CULTURE



Valley Lutheran School

4520 Rownd St., Cedar Falls

www.vlscrusaders.org

Phone: 319.266.4565 Fax 319.266.4054

"The Nerve to Serve" Philippians 2:5-8

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!

Second Semester Enrollment

Valley Lutheran School is accepting enrollment applications for second semester for grades K-12 for the rest of 2015-2016. It is also not too early to consider enrollment for the 2016-17 school year. Are you interested in learning more about the difference a Christian education can make in the life of a child, not only academically, but spiritually? To learn more or to schedule a personal tour or student shadow, please contact Jamie Panning at Valley at [319-266-4565](tel:319-266-4565). Classes will fill up quickly and registration for next year will begin early in 2016.

Help Needed!!!

Valley Lutheran School is looking for volunteers to help keep our school clean. This is a great opportunity for a small group of individuals to serve! If you would be able to organize a group of individuals to help one day per month, or more often, please contact Sharron in the school office at [319-266-4565](tel:319-266-4565). The cleaning activities consist of vacuuming hallways, sweeping/mopping entries and cleaning entry glass, and cleaning bathrooms. To complete all of the tasks, the time involved is approximately two hours for a group of six. Any help that can be provided is greatly appreciated!

Workshop on Mental Illness in the Church

By [Tracy Quaethem](#) on December 14, 2015 in [Human Care](#), [Leader Blog](#)

But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. 1 Corinthians 12:24-26

Right now, LCMS Life Ministry is getting ready for our busiest season. The Roe v. Wade decision, which legalized abortion in the United States, was passed on January 22, 1973, and January has long been designated “Sanctity of Human Life” month. We are gearing up for the March for Life and for Life Sunday, both very relevant and worthwhile causes. You can find resources for both events at our website, www.lcms.org/life.

However, being pro-life is about more than abortion. LCMS Life Ministry carries that banner that all life is sacred—from conception until natural death. This certainly includes abortion and reproductive issues, and end of life issues such as euthanasia, but it is much bigger than that. Life Ministry is also about everything in between—the life issues that affect us every day—at work, at church, in our families, and with our friends.

Under the broad umbrella of Life Ministry, we address things such as marriage and family, human sexuality, stem cell research, and adoption. We also provide resources for ministry to people with disabilities, helping congregations welcome all people to worship, regardless of physical, mental, or developmental ability.

As part of our continued programming, LCMS Life Ministry is hosting a one-day symposium on mental health in the church, focusing on providing resources for congregations and pastors who are helping families navigate mental illness. This event will be held **on Saturday, April 9, at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis**. There is no cost to attend, and lunch is provided.

The tentative schedule for the day is:

8:00 a.m. Registration

8:30 a.m. Opening chapel—(Rev. Dr. Daniel Preus, LCMS 3rd Vice President)

9:00 a.m. General Overview of Mental Illness—(Dr. Beverly Yahnke, executive director DOXOLOGY and department chair, Concordia University, Wisconsin)

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. A Theological Perspective on Mental Illness—(Rev. Todd Pepperkorn, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Rocklin, CA)

Noon Lunch

1:00 a.m. Pastoral Care for Those Experiencing Mental Illness—(Rev. Jeffrey Pflug, Faith Lutheran Church, Madison, IN, and LCMS Disability Task Force member)

2:30 p.m. A Practical Approach to Mental Illness—(Deaconess Dorothy Krans, LCMS Director of Recognized Service Organizations and LCMS Disability Task Force member)

4:00 p.m. Discussion panel

5:00 p.m. Closing chapel

We hope that this will provide a good starting point for families and congregations, and look forward to discussion and conversation beyond this one day. For more information, or to register, contact tracy.quaethem@lcms.org.

Our Heavenly Father cares about each of us, every day. He cares for us when we are tiny babies in our mother’s womb, and he cares for us as we prepare to leave this life and enter His heavenly kingdom. He also tenderly guides us each and every day, through all stages of life. What a blessing and honor this is! I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming March for Life, and at our April 9 workshop on mental illness in the church.