



Northern Illinois District

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

November 2025

What flows from the grateful heart of a child of Jesus?

A young gentleman lends his rich baritone voice to a group from his church that is singing at a local retirement home. They're there as part of their congregation's "Shine!" project, joining with thousands of fellow Lutherans to be the hands and feet of Jesus in their communities. This gentleman loves to sing, especially when it's a witness of Jesus' love to others.

A father and mother take time to lead their three children in a devotion. They have their oldest read the Scripture. Dad reads the devotion and Mom leads the prayers after asking each child for petitions. The children grow up hearing their parents talk about their own faith in Jesus. They hear their parents pray for them... something they'll do long after the children are adults.

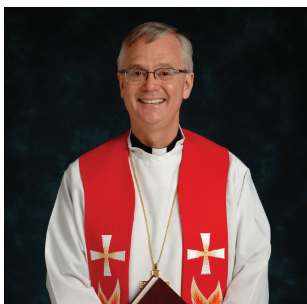
A retired woman volunteers at her church's day school as a guest reader. She knows she's getting to fill a small need for a "grandma connection" for a few of the students. She loves selecting reading material which teaches about Jesus.

The Psalmist writes, "All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your saints shall bless you!" (Psalm 118:10) Our good works are often done in grateful response for our Lord's grace and love. From daily bread to daily renewal in His Baptismal grace, Jesus blesses us, and we bless Him in return, always to the blessing of our neighbor.

On the enclosed infographic, you'll find many ways that we serve together, all in grateful response for our Lord, who first and best loves us. Thank you for your grateful response to Him, which blesses us all! May our Lord grant you a joyful, bountiful Thanksgiving!

With You, My eyes are on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2,3)

Rev. Dr. Allan R. Buss, President



Celebrating God's Work Among Us



2025 Lay Leadership Summit

350+ attendees

representing

74 congregations



2025 Back to School Event

350+ attendees



2025 NID Convention

300+ attendees

representing

136 congregations



SHINE! 2025

5,000 participants

representing

65 congregations

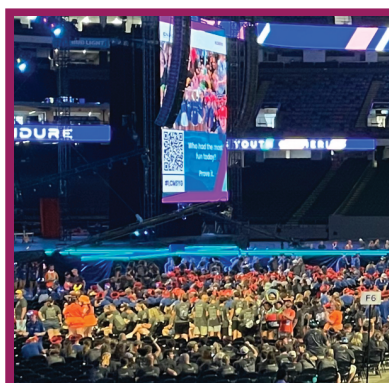


Grants Awarded in 2025

17 grants

totalling

\$108,664



2025 National Youth Gathering

650 District youth

representing

46 congregations