

# ILLINOIS DCE RETREAT

Connected to Christ in Community • November 1–3, 2026 • Camp CILCA, Cantrall, IL

Greetings to all who faithfully serve in Christ-like second-chair leadership in your church, school, or organization! The Central, Northern & Southern Illinois Districts invite you to a time of retreat this fall with your colleagues in ministry — a chance to connect together, be in God's Word and mutual fellowship, enjoy rest and respite, and receive teaching on what it means, in our day and age, to stay connected to Christ in community.

## RETREAT DETAILS

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>When</b>         | Sunday, November 1 – Tuesday, November 3, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Where</b>        | Camp CILCA, Cantrall, IL (about 15 minutes north of Springfield)                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Cost</b>         | \$125 per participant                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Reading</b>      | Each participant is asked to purchase and read <i>Connected to Christ: Overcoming Isolation through Community</i> before the retreat. Participants will also receive a copy of Rev. Brian's book, <i>Captivating Conversations</i> . |
| <b>Registration</b> | Opens online September 9, 2026 • Deadline: October 19, 2026                                                                                                                                                                          |

## OUR TEACHING LEADER

Rev. Brian Davies, author of *Connected to Christ: Overcoming Isolation through Community*, will serve as our primary teaching leader throughout the retreat. Pastor Brian serves at Lord of Glory Lutheran Church in Grayslake, IL, and as chaplain for two area fire departments. He and his wife, Elizabeth — who serves as Mayor of Grayslake — have three children: Kate, Megan, and Luke.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- Teaching sessions on staying connected to Christ in community, plus a session on practicing listening with questions
- Daily worship, morning devotions (Word & Song), and small-group time
- Restful fellowship — meals, conversation, and games with colleagues in ministry
- Camp activities: archery, hatchet/knife throwing, volleyball, basketball, hiking, the challenge course, fishing, boating, the prayer trail, the polar plunge, fort-building in the pine forest, hammocking, gaga ball, and frisbee golf

## RETREAT SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

|         |                                                                       |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1:00 pm | Arrive early, bring your own lunch, relax a bit                       |
| 3:00    | Gather, Welcome, Orient to the Retreat                                |
| 4:00    | Teaching Time — Rev. Brian Davies: Connected to Christ (small groups) |
| 5:30    | Rest, Dinner Prep, Personal & Small Group Time                        |
| 6:00    | Dinner, Conversation, Games, Walk                                     |
| Evening | Worship                                                               |

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

|          |                                                                                       |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 am  | Word & Song (Morning Devotional Time)                                                 |
| 8:30     | Breakfast, Conversation                                                               |
| 9:30     | Teaching Time — Rev. Brian Davies: Connected to Christ (small groups)                 |
| 11:00    | Rest, Lunch Prep, Personal & Small Group Time                                         |
| 12:00 pm | Lunch, Conversation, Play, Games, Rest — camp activities available                    |
| 4:00     | Teaching Time — Rev. Brian Davies: Practicing Listening with Questions (small groups) |
| 6:00     | Dinner Off Campus                                                                     |
| Evening  | Worship                                                                               |

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

|          |                                                                                       |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 am  | Word & Song, or the prayer trail (weather-dependent)                                  |
| 8:30     | Breakfast, Conversation                                                               |
| 9:30     | Teaching Time — Rev. Brian Davies: Practicing Listening with Questions (small groups) |
| 11:00    | Rest, Departure Prep                                                                  |
| 12:00 pm | Lunch, Closing Blessing & Facility Cleanup                                            |
| 1:00     | Retreat closes — those who wish are welcome to stay until 3:00 pm                     |

Mark the date on your calendar now, begin your communication process with your leadership, and intentionally plan for a time of extended sabbath — so that you might be refreshed to continue serving the Lord into the future.

Online registration opens September 9, 2026 • Deadline October 19, 2026  
Additional details will be coming regularly.

*God's Blessings! — Retreat Planning Team*