

# Illinois Lutheran Conference, e-Journal, Fall 2018

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## News and Notes

### Illinois Lutheran Conference

The 2019 ILC delegate convention will be held on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Morris, IL. Eternal Savior Ev. Lutheran Church of Arbor Vitae Wisconsin will host the convention.

### Trinity Lutheran Church of Ballwin, MO

**Meeting place and time change:** Please phone (314) 640-2477 or (696) 795-9511 for further information.

### Eternal Savior Ev. Lutheran Church, Arbor Vitae, WI

**Meeting place:** Worship services are held in the Pastor’s home.

### Our Savior Lutheran Church, Morris, IL

**Building** improvements are currently underway.

## 2018 ILC Delegate Convention Meeting Minutes: June 21, 2018

After a brief fellowship, a church service was conducted by Pastor Schilling. Hymn #39 was sung and the liturgy from page 5 of the Lutheran Hymnal was used. The Epistle lesson was 1 Timothy 1:8-17. The Gospel lesson was Luke 17:1-10. Hymn #262 was sung, and Pastor Schilling preached on Acts 7:54 – 8:4. The sermon was titled “The World Can Not Silence The Word”. Hymns #658 and #283 were sung and the service concluded at 10:45 a.m.

There was a break from 10:45-11:10 a.m. The convention opened at 11:10 a.m.

### Conference reports

The President, Pastor Latsch, opened the conference with an exhortation and prayer and then presented the President’s report. The secretary, Nato Popp, read last year’s meeting minutes. The treasurer, Charles Clubb, reported that the ILC started with a balance of \$7716.79 and has a current balance of \$4208.48.

The Missionary at Large is currently vacant. The Visitor is currently vacant. The Lutheran Reformation Hour

reported it has ceased broadcasting in the past several months. There are currently no students in the Lutheran Theological Studies Center.

Jim Henry reported that the ILC website has experienced over 150 unique visitors per week during the last year. One goal is to download more sermons on the site as anyone can access the site. He will work with Matthew Luers to download more sermons on the site.

The Fellowship Committee currently does not exist. Regarding mission reports, they are tied to the website.

### Congregational Reports

Mark Luers reported that Eternal Savior holds bible class and services at Pastor Latsch's home. They had two visitors over the winter. The budget remains the same. They currently have four members.

Pastor Schilling reported that Our Savior had one new member that was confirmed and accepted into membership. They had two visitors, one of which started adult instruction classes. All three have decided to no longer attend church. The congregation has twenty-five members and an average church attendance of around fifteen. The roof has been repaired. The video recording of service is up and running. The whole service is recorded and edited. They are currently on a YouTube site under Our Savior. All of Pastor Schilling's sermons are also digitally recorded and can be attached to an email and sent to people.

Nato Popp reported that Trinity continues to hold bible class and church services at St. Charles First Capitol Lions Club. There is one person participating in confirmation classes with the potential of having five participate. The congregations consists of twenty-nine communicant members with an average of six in bible class and ten in church.

Motion made by Matthew Luers to accept the reports. Seconded by Jim Henry. Motion carried.

Break for lunch at 12:05 p.m. Prayer led by Pastor Schilling.

The conference reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

### Open Floor Discussion of Items

Budget: Charles Clubb presented the proposed budget. Agreed to not continue the donation to the LRH until decisions are made on future plans. Seconded by Matthew Luers. Motion carried.

Doctrine: Discussion on "in and out of faith". We should focus on remaining in the faith. Peter did fall. Luke 22:31-32.

Education: Pastor Schilling expressed appreciation for the topical bulletin. Everyone was in agreement that the bulletins should continue.

Missions: The website is our main mission work. It was emphasized that we should witness in our everyday lives. The Lutheran Reformation is no longer broadcasting sermons. Discussion on the LRH to continue mission work by setting up a website and adding a link to the ILC website. The ILC is willing to monetarily support the LRH website and suggests possibly purchasing radio advertising to direct people to the website.

Charles Clubb made a motion to set goals for the next twelve months and that we annually review them. Dave Erickson seconded the motion. Motion carried. The goals are as follows.

1. Set up the ILC website with links to the YouTube channel so people can see a video version of a service. Pastor Schilling will send the link to Jim Henry.
2. Upload liturgical calendar to the ILC website and upload a sermon for each Sunday in the church calendar. Jim Henry will set up the pages on the website to upload items. Items can be uploaded by anyone who has access. The liturgical calendar will be edited by the Pastors.
3. Discuss with LRH the possibility of continuing mission work through a website. Nato Popp and Jim Henry will discuss this topic with the LRH representatives.
4. Nato Popp will search for clear sermons from Pastor Popp.
5. Charles Clubb will organize and distribute information on the Mission Festival scheduled for October 14, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m.
6. There was discussion to add a "current events" button on the ILC website.

Selection of host for Next Delegate Convention.

The ILC Conference [delegate convention] will be held next year on 6/20/19 at Our Savior, Morris, Illinois and will also be hosted by Eternal Savior, Arbor Vitae, WI.

Charles Clubb made a motion to continue the officers as follows. Pastor Schilling seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| President:               | Pastor Latsch   |
| Vice President:          | Pastor Schilling                                      |
| Secretary:               | Mr. Nato Popp   |
| Treasurer:               | Mr. Charles Clubb                                     |
| Historian:               | Mr. Jordi Felix                                       |
| ILC Journal Editors:     | Pastor Latsch and Pastor Schilling                    |
| ILC website supervisors: | Pastor Schilling, Mr. Jim Henry and Mr. Matthew Luers |

Moved by Charles Clubb to accept nominations as presented. Seconded by Jim Henry. Motion carried.

The conference closed with a prayer by Pastor Latsch, a reading of Psalm 121, and singing of Hymn 451. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Nato Popp

## *ILC 2018 President's report*

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

This year marks our 40<sup>th</sup> annual ILC delegate convention. Another twelve months has past, and by the grace of God we continue to cling to Him, His True Word, and the sound doctrines and practices drawn therefrom.

During the past several months the Lutheran Reformation Hour ceased broadcasting. As you are aware, the Lutheran Reformation Hour was our Conference's main mission outreach for many years, and we are grateful for the souls that were touched with God's Word through the radio ministry.

The ILC website has now become our main mission outreach tool. I had one contact this past year from a woman residing in the eastern United States. I learned through conversational emails that she holds membership in a Baptist church that is apparently no longer exclusively using the King James Version of the Bible, but has chosen to use the modern English Standard Version and others in addition to the KJV. The woman was disturbed by the changes taking place in her church, and consequently she was studying the article "The Superiority of the Received Texts" as found on our ILC website. I corresponded with her a number of times via email and answered her questions regarding grammatical information on certain Biblical Greek words and phrases, and the trustworthy accuracy of the King James Version of the Bible; I also referred her to our website's sermon page where she can hear God's Word expounded from the faithful and reliable KJV Holy Bible. She expressed her gratefulness to the ILC for the information that is available on the website.

Fellow Christians, there are a number of people who are visiting the ILC website and are reading materials available thereon and listening to sermons. On average around 120 sermons are listened to each month on the website; the ILC Journal page with its Topical bulletins is being visited and viewed on average around 90 times per month; and, each of our congregations information is checked out from 50 to 70 times each month.

Thus, while many have forsaken God's truth in the present age of apostasy, the Lord still continues to fulfill His promise found in Isaiah 55:10-11, "as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it."

We do not have big membership numbers among our congregations, nor do we have huge numbers flocking to our ILC website. Nevertheless, every blood-bought soul is precious in Jesus' sight, and therefore it behooves us to remember and act upon the following words of Holy Scripture: "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." (1 Timothy 2:1-6) Let us with the help of God continue to faithfully cling to Christ Jesus as our personal Savior and Lord; and, let us pray for widespread repentance in our sin-sick world as we draw nearer to Judgment Day, for "He that believeth

and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” (Mark 16:16)

Respectfully submitted, Pastor Mark E. Latsch, ILC President

## Sermon

**Text—**

**“But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh. Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.” (Jude 1:20-25)**

Fellow redeemed sinners, redeemed by the blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

Our text is taken from the general epistle of Jude, which is a rather short book consisting of only one chapter. Nevertheless, Jude’s contents are important since the epistle warns against harmful spiritual conditions— conditions which unfortunately are common today, such as widespread unbelief, apostasy, and indifference concerning clinging to the real Jesus Christ, the true God, and all the doctrines and practices put forth in Holy Scripture.

Indeed, near the beginning of Jude’s epistle we read: “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not. And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.” (Jude 1:3-7)

My friends, observe that although God is kind and gracious, He is also holy and just and will therefore severely punish those who wickedly turn against Him and spurn His love and His Holy Word. Accordingly, our Scripture selection, which is addressed to all Christians, in effect urges:

**“PERSIST IN THE TRUE CHRISTIAN FAITH!”**

With that as our theme may we, in view of our text and with the help of the Holy Ghost, see—

- 1) What we are to do to persist in the true Christian faith, and why it is necessary
- 2) What we are to do to assist others in persisting in the true Christian faith, and why it is necessary
- 3) What is vital if we would persist in the true Christian faith

If we would persist in the true Christian faith we cannot simply kick-back, take it easy, go along with the crowd in whatever the wicked world practices and promotes, and follow the urges of our sinful flesh by yielding to the temptations of the devil, for the Holy Bible plainly states: “Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” (1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Romans 6:1-4)

Additionally, just prior to our Scripture selection we read: “beloved, remember ye the words which were spoken before of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ; How that they told you there should be mockers in the last time, who should walk after their own ungodly lusts. These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.” (Jude 1:17-19) Accordingly, we are to be aware of the times in which we live, and we are consequently to avoid close relationships with the worldly who joke about Jesus; we are to be on guard against becoming such mockers ourselves; and, we are to endeavor to serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by being fruitful in the faith, increasing in sanctification of life.

Now, in order to be fruitful in the faith of Jesus Christ we obviously need to remain in that faith and grow in the same; therefore, our text opens with the following words: *But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.* Oh, the opening words of our text are rich and we need to consider them carefully.

We are to BUILD UP OURSELVES ON OUR MOST HOLY FAITH. Note the need for each and every one of us to be genuinely concerned about increasing in the holy faith; we are to “grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” (2 Peter 3:18) Hence, we are NOT to have an attitude of indifference toward the Lord and His Holy Word by thinking we know enough of it already because we’ve reached a certain age. For example, many folks stop regularly attending church as soon as they are confirmed; others cease attending Bible classes as soon as their hair turns grey or white. Nevertheless, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ plainly states: “If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:31-32) Thus, we all need to regularly feed on the pure Word of God if we would build up ourselves on our most holy faith. Failure to regularly feed our faith with God’s Word will result in spiritual starvation, and subsequently our faith in Christ will wither and die.

My friends, there is a big lie that is commonly spread these days, that lie being: it doesn’t matter what one believes regarding God, as long as one is sincere, for there are many paths which lead to God and a better place when one closes one’s eyes in death. Well, the truth is that there are NOT many ways to God and

heaven; there is but ONE WAY to God and heaven, “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” (Romans 3:23-24; John 3:16-18) Yes, there is NO SALVATION without Jesus Christ, for it is written: “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12) It is as Jesus Himself states: “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (John 14:6) Thus, it is necessary to BUILD UP OURSELVES ON OUR MOST HOLY FAITH— not a man-made faith that cannot save.

Fellow Christians, think again about the fact that we are to build up ourselves ON OUR MOST HOLY FAITH. Our faith in Christ is the MOST HOLY FAITH, the very pure and sincere faith that God the Holy Ghost works, sustains, and increases in our hearts by means of His Holy Word and Sacraments. Therefore, it is necessary that we have and continue in the full truth of God’s Holy Word— sound Scriptural doctrine and practice, which is why Holy Writ bids: “Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.” (Romans 16:17-18) ALL the teachings of Holy Scripture are important, for God would not have given those doctrines if they were unimportant.

Beloved, if we would persist in the true Christian faith we need God’s help, we cannot go-it-alone, we must be found PRAYING IN THE HOLY GHOST. It is foolish to neglect the privilege of praying to Jesus for help, strength, and guidance to remain in the faith and grow in the same, since Jesus says: “I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.” (John 15:5) Furthermore, our prayers to the Lord must be made in the Holy Ghost, with His divine assistance, for we “have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but [we] have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what *is* the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to *the will of God.*” (Romans 8:15, 26-27) Hence, sincere heart-deep prayers for spiritual improvement will be of benefit to us to persist in the true Christian faith.

If we would persist in the true Christian faith we must KEEP OURSELVES IN THE LOVE OF GOD, LOOKING FOR THE MERCY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST UNTO ETERNAL LIFE. My friends, God’s love is His love shown to us in Jesus Christ, for Holy Writ plainly states: “In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. We love him, because he first loved us.” (1 John 4:9-10, 19) Thus, it behooves us to keep focused on the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life because there is NO ETERNAL LIFE WITHOUT God’s only begotten Son, JESUS CHRIST, for it is written: “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not

the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.” (John 3:36)

Take it to heart that LOOKING FOR THE MERCY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST UNTO ETERNAL LIFE means keeping our chief doctrinal focus on “...the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.” (Romans 1:16-17)

Let us therefore daily and sincerely repent of our sins, for “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.” (1 John 1:8-10) Let us endeavor to do as our text says: *But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*

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As we ponder verses 22 & 23 of our text in the second part of this sermon, let us see what we are to do to assist others in persisting in the true Christian faith, and why it is necessary.

These verses make it clear that we are not only to be concerned about ourselves continuing in the most holy faith and thereby obtaining eternal life, we are also to be concerned about other folks having the most holy faith and thereby obtaining eternal life, for God’s Word tells us: *of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.*

Observe that various individuals demand different actions on our part. We need to show compassion to some people, as is the case for instance with those who have never been shown their sin, their need for a Savior from sin, and that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only real Savior from sin. Such people require a gentle approach by introducing them to sound Law and Gospel preaching and teaching from the true Holy Bible by inviting them to church or sharing a recorded sermon with them or some basic Law and Gospel tract. Other folks require a stern approach with a heavy dose of God’s Law which is not to be followed with the Gospel of Christ until it is clear they truly desire to change their life, as is the case for example with the habitual deliberate fornicator or drunkard or drug-abuser, for real repentance means turning from sin in word and deed, and turning to the only Savior from sin— the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus, we can assist others in coming to the true Christian faith and persisting in the same by properly applying Law and Gospel.

When we see a brother or sister in the faith slip into sin or deliberately sin we are to, *of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.* Unfortunately it happens that some Christians who have had the full truth of God’s Word fall away from it due to weakness of their flesh or the allurements of the world or the devil’s lies. Each case is different. Some require compassion and a kind approach, and when they see their error they will repent and return to the truth. Others become so wicked they openly trash and bash the truth, and consequently they must be dealt with sternly and given only a strong dose of God’s Law until it becomes evident they are willing to truly repent and amend.

In other words, we Christians are to practice proper church-discipline in our congregations in accord with

God's Word; and, such discipline is not done to be mean-spirited, but is rather done for the good of the souls involved since we Christians are to be found *hating even the garment spotted by the flesh*; that is, hating it when shame is brought upon Christ's name when one who wears the name "Christian" and thereby claims to be wearing the robe of Christ's righteousness has stained and defiled that robe by habitual sinful behavior, for every sincere Christian is to "Abstain from all appearance of evil." (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

Let us never forget that it is necessary to assist others in persisting in the true Christian faith because, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16) Let us therefore assist others in persisting in the true Christian faith lest they end up in hell, "Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." (Mark 9:44)

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As we ponder the last two verses of our text in the third part of this sermon, let us see what is vital if we would persist in the true Christian faith.

Fellow Christians, if we attempt to rely solely on our own efforts and abilities to keep in the faith of Jesus Christ and grow in the same, we will surely fall because we all dwell in sinful flesh and are weak, which is one reason why Holy Writ warns each and every one of us: "let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." (1 Corinthians 10:12) Oh beloved, realize "*It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.*" (Lamentations 3:22) God our Savior's help is vital if we would persist in the true Christian faith. Accordingly, our text closes with the following words: *Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.*

The Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior, is fully able to keep us from falling from the faith, and to present us faultless – clothed in His perfect righteousness – before the presence of His glory at the throne of God. However, we must remember that Jesus does not promise to preserve us in the true faith unto life everlasting if we ignore the means of grace – His Holy Word and Sacraments – that He has chosen to use to grant us faith, sustain us in faith, and grow us in faith, for Jesus Himself warns: "whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and *in his Father's*, and of the holy angels." (Luke 9:26)

Let us therefore highly value God's Word and Sacraments, and let us continue to make regular use of them, for "All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works. [And] baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. [And] the Lord Jesus the *same* night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also *he took* the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink *it*, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Peter 3:21; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26) Therefore, let us highly prize our Lord and Savior, and His Holy Word when read, preached, or attached to visible elements in the sacraments.

Let us daily and sincerely repent of our sins; let us place and keep our full trust and confidence in Christ Jesus as our personal Savior and Lord; and, let us, with the gracious help of God, persist in the true Christian faith. *To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.*

m.e.l.

### **Reminders & Notes**

The 2019 ILC delegate convention will be held on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at Our Savior, in Morris, IL. Eternal Savior Ev. Lutheran Church of Arbor Vitae Wisconsin will host the convention. Please plan to attend.

“Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* for brethren to dwell together in unity! *It is* like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, *even* Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, *and as the dew* that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, *even* life for evermore.” (Psalm 133:1-3)

***Please note that select sermons can be heard on the ILC website “sermons” web-page. See ILC “Journal” web-page for back issues and Topical Bulletins.***

**Jesus says:**

“If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:31-32)

“...blessed *are* they that hear the word of God, and keep it.” (Luke 11:28)