



A TOUR
of the
LCMS
INTERNATIONAL
CENTER



1333 S. Kirkwood Road
St. Louis, MO 63122-7295

Welcome

to the LCMS International Center

The information in this booklet is designed to explain the public spaces you will visit and the artwork you will see during your tour of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod International Center (IC). The IC has four floors; however, given the landscape of the property, the main entrance is on the third floor. Your tour begins on the IC's main floor, moves upstairs to the fourth floor, and then takes you downstairs to the second floor.

You may access the floors of the IC via the central stairway or the elevators. Both are located through the glass doors to your left as you face the reception desk in the lobby.

Many works of art are displayed throughout the IC, but not all are described in this brochure. If this brochure doesn't provide all the answers to your questions, please ask the receptionist in the lobby for assistance.

Currently, some 500 people work in the IC. In addition to housing the administrative offices of the Synod, the IC serves as the headquarters for five additional LCMS business entities: Concordia Plan Services, Concordia University System, LCMS Foundation, Lutheran Housing Support and Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF). The LCEF offices are housed in the 10733 Sunset office building just south across I-44.

About Us

The Synod was established in 1847 by Saxon and other German immigrants seeking the freedom to practice and follow confessional Lutheranism. Charter congregations were located in Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin. The word “synod” comes from two Greek words meaning “walking together.” LCMS congregations voluntarily choose to belong to the Synod. Although they can be diverse in worship styles, these congregations hold to a shared confession of Jesus Christ as taught in Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.

The ministry and service units headquartered at the IC assist the church workers and congregations of the Synod and related entities with their domestic and international missions and ministry. Visit www.lcms.org to learn more about the program and service units headquartered at the IC.

The Synod’s Administrative Offices

In the early years, the Synod’s business offices were housed at various locations, usually in the city the Synod president called home. However, St. Louis has served as home to the Synod’s business offices, first at the Concordia Publishing House offices and then from 1951 to 1973 at 210 N. Broadway. From 1973 to 1982, the offices were located up the street at 500 N. Broadway.

Early in the 1970s, the Synod received a large financial gift designated for the design and construction of a permanent home for the church’s business





offices. Planning began in 1978, and in 1979, the Synod acquired a 9.5-acre site in Kirkwood where the IC is located today. The property was purchased from the Roman Catholic Church's Society of Mary only after assurances were given that a right-of-way would be retained for St. John Vianney High School, a private school for young men located next door to the west of the IC, and that no congregation would be formed on the site.

Groundbreaking on the site took place in April 1981, and construction continued for the next two years. Though employees first moved into the building in December 1982, construction work continued until the formal dedication in May 1983. The original structure included the east and south wings. A north wing was added in August 1988, and today, the building comprises 145,235 square feet. In September 1997, LCEF purchased the Sunset building across the highway, and employees moved in shortly afterward.

Exterior and Grounds

The building's exterior is polished carnelian granite from Cold Spring, Minn., with gray reflective glass. A 50-foot aluminum cross at the main entrance proclaims that we preach and teach Christ crucified and risen.

The 1.1-acre lake on the east and south sides of the IC is about nine-feet deep and stocked with fish. Also, we care for a pair of swans that live on the lake.

The Synod's name and cross logo are borne on the flag that flies in front of the IC's main entrance, and a large sign is mounted along the top of the south side of the building. The sign, which is lighted to provide visibility at night, was dedicated to the glory of God April 26, 1996.

The name of the drive to the front entrance is Martin Luther Drive.



Third Floor

THINGS TO SEE

The third floor of the IC serves as the main floor of this building. A number of public spaces are located on the third floor, including:

- Front entrance, lobby and reception desk:
 - “Great Commission”
 - “Christus Rex”
 - LCMS Logo Cross
 - “He Is All in All”
 - “River of Light”
- Eight meeting rooms including the Wyneken (Room 323):
 - “Four Evangelists”
 - Metal and glass cross
- The Commons (cafeteria)
 - “Parable of the Sower”
- KFUE Radio broadcast studios

Items of note in the main lobby

“Great Commission”

The “Great Commission” mosaic hangs on the wall over the seating area in the lobby. When the IC was constructed, the architects — Peckham Guyton Albers and Viets, Inc. — instituted a design contest offering a \$15,000 prize for a mural. The architects received 136 entries, and selected this design submitted by David von Behren of El Cajon, Calif.



Von Behren’s mural, made from almost 1,600 pieces of 16 varieties of wood found throughout the world, is based on Matt. 28:19-20 (ESV): “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Each piece of wood retains its natural color. Additional information about the mosaic is provided in the binder found on the nearby stand.



“Christus Rex”

The large “Christus Rex” (Christ the King) olive wood carving near the double glass doors depicts the triumphant — or resurrected — Christ. This design represents one of the three styles of crosses Lutherans typically use. (The others are the crucifix and the empty cross.) The “Christus Rex”

originally occupied a niche behind the Synod president's desk at the 210 N. Broadway office location. After the move to 500 N. Broadway, the carving was placed in that office's chapel.

LCMS Logo Cross

Crafted from amaranth wood, the LCMS logo cross above and to the right of the receptionist's desk was created by Reinhold Marxhausen. The LCMS cross logo, which has been in use since the 1980s, features three crosses in one declaring that "we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in unity" (Athanasian Creed).



150th Anniversary Display: "He Is All in All"

The multi-part painting "He Is All in All" on the wall above and to the left of the receptionist's desk was commissioned by the LCMS 150th anniversary committee in 1995. The collage was completed and dedicated to the glory of God in 1997, the year of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the LCMS.

The piece is divided into seven framed panels that feature significant events in the life of Jesus Christ. The scenes in the leftmost panel depict Jesus' birth, His teaching in the temple at age 12 and His baptism. These are surrounded by scenes from Martin Luther's life in the 1500s and images of the German-Lutheran immigrant leaders and the church they founded more than 150 years ago.

The scenes in the center panel depict the wedding at Cana, Jesus teaching and Jesus healing the sick. These are surrounded by vignettes of prominent Lutherans from the 19th and 20th centuries. The third panel features the crucifixion of Jesus and

the appearance at Emmaus, surrounded by images of the people and places representative of the LCMS in the 20th century. The diamond-shaped panel and three smaller panels at the top of the collage illustrate Christ's glorious ascension into heaven.

Arthur W. Kirchhoff, a St. Louisan and a graduate of Washington University's School of Fine Arts, designed this piece. Kirchhoff also painted "The Parable of the Sower," which hangs on the east wall of the Commons.





“River of Light”

Located above the main entrance doors, “River of Light” is a stained glass interpretation of the logo for the 1995 National LCMS Youth Gathering held in San Antonio. Created by Dianne Kelm when she and her husband, the Rev. Virgil Kelm, served Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tuscola, Ill., the piece was originally mounted on a rolling stand that allowed it to be used as the processional cross for Gathering mass events.

KFUO Radio Broadcast Studios

To the right of the reception desk are the studios of KFUO-AM 850, the world’s longest continuously broadcasting religious station. In addition to local broadcasts over the airwaves, the station’s Gospel witness and solidly Lutheran programming is streamed worldwide via the Internet. *Classic99.com* also broadcasts from the IC, continuing the LCMS’ longtime involvement in the fine arts by offering listeners around the world the very best classical music from over the centuries.

Items of note down the hallway

“Four Evangelists”

The “Four Evangelists” artwork, composed of four glass panels depicting Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, stands in the hallway immediately across from the entrance to the Wyneken Room. Originally, these panels were installed in the windows at the Synod president’s office downtown at 210 N. Broadway. When the church headquarters moved to 500 N. Broadway, the panels were moved to the chapel and stood on either side of the altar. At that time, they were illuminated.

Siegfried Reinhardt, a St. Louis-based Lutheran artist who died in 1984, designed this piece. Reinhardt also designed a large mural called “Aviation . . . American Triumph” that was on display at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport for more than 25 years, and he produced a number of art-glass paintings for many churches.



Wyneken Room (Room 323)

The Wyneken Room is one of the main meeting rooms at the IC. It is named for the Rev. Friedrich Wyneken, one of the Synod’s early pastors who served frontier families and founded churches in the Upper Midwest. The Rev. Wyneken served as the Synod’s second president, from 1850 to 1864, and was instrumental in founding the Synod’s seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind.

“Parable of the Sower”

The collage on the east wall of the Commons was created and designed by Arthur W. Kirchhoff, the artist who also created the 150th anniversary collage on display in the IC lobby. Kirchhoff created this painting based on Matt. 13:3-9. The piece illustrates how individuals overcome obstacles to spreading the Word of God and how God’s people are to keep the cross as the central focus of Christian hope, life and mission. The medium is acrylic paint on four Masonite panels.



Fourth Floor

THINGS TO SEE

On this floor, you will see one of the largest meeting rooms at the IC and observe some of the significant artwork that graces this building. From the balcony at the top of the stairs you can see the “Sin and Grace” artwork, which you’ll learn more about when you tour the second floor.

- Walther Room
 - 360 Cross
 - Relief Castings
- “Christ the King” Half-Circle Glass Panels



Walther Room (Room 423)

Proceed through the glass doors about halfway down the long central corridor, which opens over the third-floor lobby atrium, to the Walther Room on the left. This room is named for the Rev. Dr. C.F.W. Walther, a central figure in the founding of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, who served as the Synod's first president, from 1847 to 1850 and again from 1864 to 1878.

Walther traveled with the other Saxon immigrants who arrived in the United States in 1839 and settled in Perry County, Mo. Within a short time, and before reaching even the age of 30, Walther rose to prominence among the settlers in Perry County and eventually became one of the foremost theologians of American Lutheranism. He served as pastor of the first Lutheran church in St. Louis — today known as Historic Trinity Church — served as editor-in-chief of the first LCMS hymnal, and published numerous papers and treatises, among which his 39 published lectures on *The Proper Distinction between Law and Gospel* continue to serve LCMS members today. Today, this remarkable man is fondly called the “Father of the Missouri Synod.”

The solid oak round table that dominates the Walther Room was assembled from six sections. The half-circle table and chairs on a raised platform behind the round table provide additional seating for meeting participants. Among the groups that meet here are the LCMS Board of Directors and the Council of Presidents (the presidents of the Synod's 35 districts, plus the Synod president and five vice-presidents).

Items of note in the Walther Room

360 Cross

The three-dimensional brass cross in the center of the round table was designed by Otto Dingledein, a noted sculptor and liturgical silversmith from Cape Girardeau, Mo. It has been crafted so that the face of the cross is visible from any location in the room.



Relief Castings

The six relief castings on the wall in the Walther Room depict important events in the life of the Church. They illustrate the:

- Posting of the 95 Theses by Martin Luther in 1517;
- Diet at Worms, where Luther made his famous “Here I stand” speech in 1521;
- Presentation of the Augsburg Confession in 1530;
- Great Commission (Matt. 28:16-20);
- Saxon immigrants’ arrival in St. Louis in 1839; and
- Gathering of all nations on the Last Day (Rev. 7:9; Matt. 25:32).

These plaques originally were incorporated into the exterior wall of the Synod offices at 210 N. Broadway. The name of the artist has been lost to history.



“Christ the King” Half-Circle Glass Panels

The beautiful concave glass piece that stands in the hallway across from the Walther Room was originally displayed over the main entrance to the Synod’s offices at the 210 N. Broadway location. The piece was created by Siegfried Reinhardt and is based on the Advent hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” It incorporates and symbolizes some of the names ascribed to Jesus in the great “O” Antiphons of Advent: O Key of David, O Root of Jesse, O Wisdom, O Adonai/“Lord,” O Dayspring/ Morningstar and O King of the Nations.



Second Floor

THINGS TO SEE

The IC chapel and Concordia Historical Institute Museum are located on the second floor. Also, this floor provides the best vantage point for observing the “Sin and Grace” artwork that dominates the building’s four-story atrium.

- “Sin and Grace”
- IC Chapel
- Concordia Historical Institute Museum
 - The Walther Bible



“Sin and Grace”

Designed by Reinhold Marxhausen, this work is composed of two sections. The first section is visible below, resting on the first floor. The dark, charred wood represents sin, hell and damnation. The large silvery mobile, the piece’s second section, hangs from the fourth-floor ceiling and represents God’s love and grace raining down upon the world.

IC Chapel

The IC chapel was designed to be the focal point of the building, and all the design elements draw the eye toward the altar. Daily devotions are held weekdays and are open to the public.

Construction of the IC chapel was made possible by a gift from the Clara and Spencer Werner Foundation of Paris, Ill. The furnishings and the 32-rank, 1,700-pipe organ were donated by Aid Association for Lutherans. A unique feature of the three-story organ, constructed by W. Zimmer & Sons, is that the console faces the altar.

The altar, baptismal font and ambo were designed by Mark Anschutz and Bill Wolfram, on staff at the Center for Liturgical Art at Concordia University Nebraska, Seward. The altar design features five crosses — one on the top and one on each of its four sides. The five crosses signify the five wounds of Christ, and that the Gospel is preached to the entire world, in every direction. Granite for the altar was donated by Perumal Selvaraj, owner of Regal Granite and Stone Works in Ambur, India, in celebration of more than 100 years of mission work in that country, the first foreign mission field of the LCMS. The designers, donor and IC General Services staff members worked together to construct these pieces in time for the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the IC, which was observed May 28, 2008.

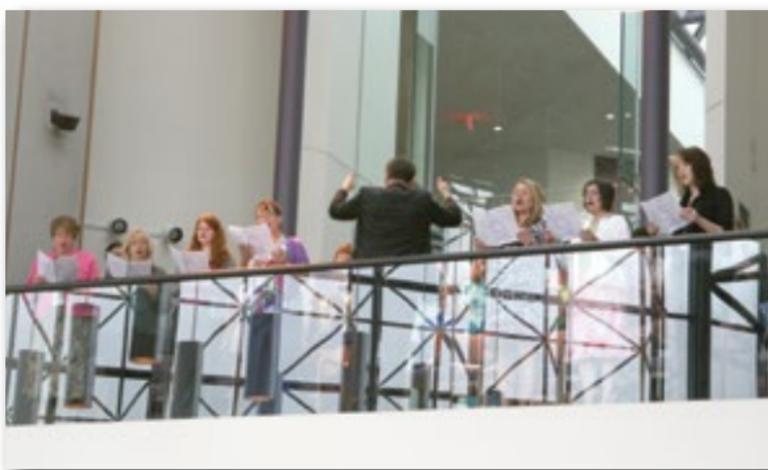
The carved glass hanging above the altar depicts Christ crowned as king gesturing in invitation. Some of the symbols included in the 30-foot engraving are a triangle containing the Hebrew letters for the name God revealed to Moses: “The Lord” (in



Hebrew “YHWH,” see Exodus 3); grapes and wheat from which the elements in the Sacrament of Holy Communion are made; and a fish, which commemorates the miraculous feeding of the multitude and which served as an early symbol to identify Christians. Award-winning stained glass artist Charles Z. Lawrence designed the piece, and it was dedicated to God’s glory Sept. 30, 1999.

In the spring of 2011, an LCMS donor purchased a Boston grand piano for the chapel. The five-foot-10-inch ebony piano from Steinway Piano Gallery in St. Louis, Mo., was dedicated in a special chapel service May 16. Composer Phillip Magness, cantor at Bethany Lutheran Church, Naperville, Ill., served as guest pianist for the service. Since the arrival of the piano, in addition to daily worship, the chapel has served as a venue for concerts featuring employees and other noted musicians who perform for staff and guests.

As you tour the IC chapel, be sure to read the plaques around the room to learn more about the furnishings in this worship space.





Concordia Historical Institute Museum

The Concordia Historical Institute Museum is directly across the center hallway from the IC chapel. The museum, which serves to preserve the history and celebrate the heritage of Lutheranism in America, was dedicated to God's glory July 26, 2009.

Within the museum, state-of-the-art interactive exhibits showcase five major periods in the history of the LCMS:

- The life of Martin Luther and the origins of the Lutheran church;
- The immigrants and missionaries who helped form the LCMS in 1847;
- Growth of the LCMS in the 19th century;
- Expansion of LCMS mission work and human care relief worldwide; and
- LCMS work in the 20th century and the future proclamation of the Gospel through the use of new media, an expanding system of higher education and outreach to the world.

The museum is open during regular IC workdays. Admission is free and tours are self-guided; however, volunteers are on hand to answer questions. Groups planning to tour the museum should make arrangements in advance by calling 314-505-7900.

The museum is operated by Concordia Historical Institute (CHI), the official archives for records

of the Synod and its agencies, congregations and workers. The archives include more than 2.5 million documents and 7,500 artifacts tracing Lutheran history in the United States and the world. CHI's offices and research center are located on the grounds of Concordia Seminary in Clayton, Mo. In addition to operating this museum, CHI also owns and administers a number of other historical and educational sites. For more information, call 314-505-7900 or visit www.lutheranhistory.org.



Item of note in the CHI Museum

The Walther Bible

Just inside the entrance to the CHI Museum, a beautiful Bible is displayed inside a glass case. This German Bible from the Rev. Dr. C.F.W. Walther's library was given, upon his death, to his student, the Rev. Emil R. Schuelke. Printed in 1665, this Luther edition is complete with maps, a concordance, block-print pictures and extensive verse-by-verse commentary. A treasured keepsake that was passed to four generations of the Schuelke family over 111 years, the Bible was given to the Synod at its 1998 convention in St. Louis by the Rev. James A. Schuelke, a descendent serving as a pastor in Lutheran Church—Canada, for permanent display at the IC.

First Floor

THINGS TO SEE

The first floor of the IC houses office space, the IC mail center, and an exercise facility for employees. You are welcome to view the artwork displayed in the open area at the bottom of the atrium if you so desire.

- Take a closer look at the lower section of the “Sin and Grace” installation (see page 20). The wood is repurposed from an old gym floor removed from Concordia University Nebraska, Seward, where Marxhausen taught.



Thank you for your interest in the LCMS International Center. If you have additional questions, please ask the receptionist in the lobby on the main floor, or contact the LCMS Church Information Center at 888-THE LCMS (843-5267) or infocenter@lcms.org.



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