



Presenting Evidence
Critiquing Worldviews
Fortifying Believers
Engaging Unbelievers

www.apologeticscenter.org

CAW NEWSLETTER March 2025

Dear friends of the Center for Apologetics and Worldviews,

This Is Crazy! (and Sad)

[Click here](#) to see how really smart people cannot live consistently with their worldview.

Mark This Event on Your Calendar:

[The Seventh Annual Apologetics and Worldview Conference](#)

“UNSURPASSED CHRISTIAN APOLOGISTS”

June 18-19, Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato Minnesota

This will be an amazing conference!

One of Christianity’s most remarkable apologists and theologians, Dr. John Warwick Montgomery, died this last September at the age of 92. His legacy, along with that of C.S. Lewis and several other early Christian apologists, will be recognized. We will hear how they wisely and often simply defended Christianity and how the church of today can do the same. They stand on the shoulders of the supreme apologist, Jesus Christ, and his apostles who accompanied Jesus from the time of his baptism until the day when he was taken up from them—bestowing on them the unique and necessary mark of eyewitnesses of his resurrection (Acts 1:21-22).

The presenters are scholars and great communicators, able to connect with all, from the younger Christian to the learned theologian.

I. The Legacy of John Warwick Montgomery

(Presented by **trial lawyer Craig Parton**, who worked hand in hand with Montgomery for many years and has taken up his mantle of Director of the International Academy of Apologetics, Evangelism and Human Rights in Strasbourg, France)

II. The Legacy of C.S. Lewis

(Presented by Lutheran theologian and interim seminary president **Dr. Joel Heck**, a C.S. Lewis scholar, author of over 40 articles and five books on Lewis)

III. The Legacy of Early Christian Apologists

(Presented by **Dr. Adam Francisco** who earned his Ph.D. from the University of Oxford in the history of Christian apologetics; this topic is one of his specialties)

This conference is **free** (but we ask you to register). It will also be **livestreamed**. If you are wondering why we hold this conference when we do (Wednesday evening through Thursday afternoon), here is why: Our church body, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (the ELS, not the ELCA), holds its annual synodical convention on Monday through Wednesday afternoon of this week. We are trying to make it convenient for convention pastors, delegates, and their families to attend the conference.

For more info and to register go to [CAW Events](#).

Other Upcoming Events

- **Saturday, March 22, 10am to noon**
Challenging Worldviews and the Need for Apologetics
Redeeming Grace Lutheran Church, Rogers MN
(Open to the public)
Rev. David Thompson
- **Wednesday, April 16, 6pm**
What Happened to His Body?
Concordia Lutheran Church, Eau Claire WI
(Open to the public)
Rev. David Thompson
- **Thursday, April 17**
What Happened to His Body?
Zion Lutheran Church, Wausau WI
(For the men's group of Zion Lutheran)
Rev. David Thompson
- **Friday, June 20, time TBD**
Discerning False Worldview Assumptions in Education
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Mankato MN
(An event for ELS and WELS teachers)
Rev. David Thompson
- **July 6-11, Camp Indianhead**
Young Christian Defenders
Held at Lutheran Island Camp, Henning MN
4 days of instruction for youth 14-17
(Registration for this camp: [Camp Indianhead registration](#))
Taught by ELS pastors
- **July 13-18**
Young Christian Defenders
Held at Camp Omega, Waterville MN
4 days of instruction for youth 10-13
(Registration for this camp: [Camp Indianhead registration](#))
Taught by ELS pastors

- July 14-18
Preparing Our Children to Make a Defense for Their Hope in Christ – Why Christian Apologetics Is Essential and Lutheran
Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education Conference
 Concordia University Wisconsin (Mequon WI)
 (Time and day of this session is TBD; conf. registration required: [CCLE Conference](#))
 Rev. David Thompson

Worldview Watch Highlights

- **SEL** – What is this and does it mesh with a Christian worldview? Dr. Jennifer Kom, Bethany Lutheran College psychology professor, presented on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) at a recent Moms for Liberty conference. To watch her and other conference speakers, go here: [SEL conference](#). Another helpful presentation on SEL and related issues was made by Joshua Nelson of Wisconsin Lutheran High School ([Confronting Modern Heresies](#))

Several short videos:

- **Is the New Testament Reliable? Part I (transmission of manuscripts):** [go here](#)
- **Is the New Testament Reliable? Part II (historical accuracy):** [go here](#)
- **2 Essential Questions that need to be answered correctly:** [go here](#)

Funding Requested

Please bear with me as I make my way to the request for financial help. Throughout the centuries the Christian Church has provided a defense and evidence for the truth of Christianity. That's what the world "apologetics" means – a defense. Faith in Jesus Christ is not blind. Evidence for Christianity is amazing, overwhelming, and sets it apart from all other religions and worldviews. Apologetics was a key factor and emphasis in the early Christian Church. And it had to be: Christianity was a small fish swimming upstream against a flood of paganism, polytheism, and deceptive philosophies. The case had to be made for its truth and for its claims about the person and work of Jesus Christ. And at the same time the Church had to show how other religions and ways of thinking and living could never ever satisfy man's true and greatest needs. And so that's what early Christians did.

The Christian Church today is very similar. We live in a post-Christian culture. Some worldviews and ideologies have taken society by storm, despite the fact that they are not only deceptive but so disconnected from reality. And yet we find them promoted and embedded everywhere in culture, pushing true Christianity to the outskirts, and often taking Christians – young Christians – captive in the process. That is why CAW also focuses on worldviews: identifying and explaining in what ways they conflict with the truth of Christianity.

Apologetics and worldviews. That's what we do.

I invite you to support us in our efforts. At this time, we are the only biblical and confessional Lutheran church body to have both an apologetics board and an apologetics Center. You can support us in three ways. First, pray. Second, spread the word to others. And third, support us financially. We are self-supporting, dependent

on donations from people like you. Your first obligations are to your family and your church. But if you can and the extent to which you can, please support the Center for Apologetics and Worldviews. I invite you to donate regularly. If anyone would like to see how we handle our finances, we are more than willing to provide that info for you.

I also invite you to see how we might be of assistance to you as an individual, to your family, to your church, to your Christian school, to your homeschool coop, or to your Christian college. We have a number of resources, a lot of good information, and several Christian apologists who can even come to where you are.

The apostles and many Christians in the early church were prepared to give a defense to anyone who asked them for the hope that was within them (1 Pet. 3:15). They also were to test the spirits so they would not be taken captive by hollow and deceptive worldviews that were not based on Christ (1 John 4:1; Col. 2:8). So, St. Paul reminds us of our unity as we strive together: "...you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel." (Phil. 1:7)

How:

1. To donate online safely and securely, go here: [Donate Online](#). **IMPORTANT:** in the "Note" box, please type in "CAW" or "Apologetics".

2. To donate by check, make the check out to CAW and mail to:

CAW
700 Luther Dr.
Mankato MN 56001

Thank you.

Sincerely in Christ,
David Thompson, director
507-344-7395
apologetics@blc.edu
www.apologeticscenter.org