



Acts of Faith

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Kewanee, Illinois



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"Fear not for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10

As we struggle through this phase of the COVID 19 virus pandemic, so many of us are looking for answers to questions we never had thought of before 2020. Is it safe to travel for that long planned summer vacation? What should I do about my children's education when school starts, or will it start this year? Are face coverings really necessary when I am outside? Will there be a vaccine this year? How safe is it to attend church services or other public gatherings? Is my employment/ business going to remain, or will it ever start up again? There is a lot on everybody's plate right now, and add in all the crime, political turmoil, and social unrest in our country and abroad. How are we to endure it? As we experience fear and trouble, we can remember that God is "very present" and a "well proved" place of protection. In any upheaval that threatens body or soul (pandemics, cancer, death, assaults) know God is with us.

As Christians, we are in a completely reliant relationship with God in all things, and we must completely trust in Him, even above our best laid plans. God has given us reason and insights as a means for providing for us. We do need to plan. We need to use the research and information God provides to us through the CDC, health resources, safety procedures and the like. God provides guidance through science and observations of this world. We need to utilize those tools. Yet, all things made by us (sinful, broken human beings) are imperfect, just as we are, and the one who overcomes the mortal is God alone. We should be constantly reminded we are trusting in God to guide us through this. Not only as we enter the church building, but also as we journey through our everyday lives, as we pray for the health of our loved ones, as we watch the nurses and doctors on the frontlines of this virus, as we question ourselves about feeling confident in our choices. In each of these situations we are trusting that God will guide us to do what is right. For some, that means not returning to the church building right away; understandable, follow God's guidance.

There is no single path, other than following Jesus, which Christians must follow. He created us as individuals with varying degrees of comfort and different types of health, each of which requires a different path in journeying through this pandemic, and yet each path can be equally trusting and reliant upon God's guidance. So as we prepare to go forward in 2020, remember ultimately, despite sin and its consequences, despite trials and tribulations, God has everything under control, and pray "We are trusting Thee to guide us; Thou alone shalt lead; Every day and hour supplying all our needs." Verse 4 of LSB 729, "I AM TRUSTING THEE, LORD JESUS"

Baptismal Facts: Our LifeLight Bible study group is searching the scriptures in order to better understand one of God's greatest gifts to us. Baptism is God's way of connecting us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, so that the forgiveness of sins which Christ won for the world is given to each of us personally. God demands spiritually cleanliness and uses water and His Word to makes us righteous.

On our own we can do or add nothing. It is God who does all the work in Baptism. In Baptism we are added to God's family in the name of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As mortal creatures we are born sinful with wicked hearts, and are enemies of God. In Holy Baptism we are born from above with water and the Spirit and thus eligible to enter the Kingdom of God. It is a means of God's grace for all sinful people. With God's gift of faith in Baptism we receive forgiveness and eternal salvation. *Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 3:21*



Worship Schedule
9:00 AM, Sunday Worship Service

August's Calendar

- Aug. 02 **8th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug. 03 LifeLight 1:00 PM
- Aug. 09 **9th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug. 16 **10th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug. 18 Elders Mtg. 6:30 PM
Church Council 7:00 PM
- Aug. 20 WOF Mtg. 10:00AM
- Aug. 23 **11th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug. 30 **12th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion

Altar Guild Schedule

- Aug. 02 Sharon Larsson Green
- Aug. 09 Marilyn Sturtevant Green
- Aug. 16 Mary Hahn Green
- Aug. 23 Leah Weber Green
- Aug. 30 Kari Tavares Green

Elders List:

- Wayne Becker: 309-853-8783
- Kevin Hull: 309-852-0801
- Ron Larson: 309-853-5111
- Ted Sturtevant: 309-853-8203

Prayer Requests: Have someone or something that you would like Pastor Weber to include in either his personal prayers or in our public Prayer of the Church, please notify Pastor Weber via e-mail or phone.

Summer Camp: Pastor Weber will be at Summer Camp with his Iowa Army Reserves Unit from July 25th to August 7th. During his absence Rev. Hagen will conduct service on July 26th, and Rev. Warnsholz will lead us on August 2nd. We thank these gentlemen for their service.

REMEMBER: Please contact the office and inform us of any changes of name, address, marital status, e-mail, phone, and cell phone. E-mail addresses are most important in these changing times to communicate with each other.

Those for Whom We Pray: Please include the following in your thoughts and daily prayers.

Our Faith family: Allison Leezer, Cari Bridgewater, Debra Fronk, Betty Godke, Tootie Godke, Bonnie Nuding, Nancy Tudder, Cheryl Snyder, Marvin Newman, and Heidi Heinrich.

Friends: Jeff Bowman, Karen Wright, Rev. Burnell Eckhardt, Sue Copeland, Ron Pettit, Lacey Hammons, Alan Kraklow, and all military personnel and first responders.

Inactive Members: Pray the Holy Spirit bring them to the understanding of their need to be in regular worship in church on Sunday, and that we as their brothers and sisters in Christ would reach out to them.

CID: Our campus, prison, deaf, and Hispanic missions in the District need your prayers and support.

Our World: That Lord of all will bring healing to those who are sick, comfort to those who mourn, care for those who tend and care for the ill, and bring an end to the spread of this virus.



Lutheran Hour Ministry Radio Program

Station	City, State	Freq.	Day & Time
WKEI	Kewanee, IL	1450 AM	Sun 5:30 AM

Portals of Prayer: Issues for July-September are available in the Narthex with different print sizes. Please help yourself or ask a friend to pick one up for you.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 3	Randy Stockner
August 5	Heidi Heinrich
August 6	Mark Tudder
August 10	Layne Stapel
August 12	Jemma Cade
August 16	Laura Heinrich
August 21	Jack Breedlove
August 25	Erin Tavares

Baptism Dates

Jack Breedlove	8/31
Jonathon Estes	8/24

Wedding Anniversaries

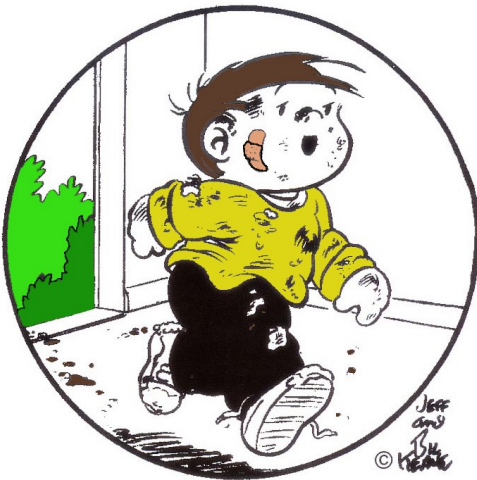
August 2	Joe & Sue Cervantez
August 9	Jeffrey & Laura Heinrich
August 10	Kari & Joe Tavares

Women of Faith: The ladies will be meeting on Thursday, **August 20**, at 10:00AM to work on greeting cards. Cheryl Snyder will be hostess and lead a devotion. Program will be a book review by Marilyn Sturtevant. Bring your brown bag lunch.

This month Women of Faith are collecting mites for LWML Mission Grant #12 for the 2019-2021 biennium, Women's Witness and Mercy Asia — Mission Central. This grant will provide funds to support 10 women in the work they are doing in Asia through flights to and from their mission location, local transportation, insurance, supplies, materials, computers, payment for the education of their children, and other physical support. Women of Faith thank you for your support of the Mission Grants.



Tomorrow's Forecast: God reigns and the Son shines.



"My Guardian Angel had a busy day today, but we had FUN!"

Psalm 91:11 *For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;*

Church Council Notes: Council met on July 22, and at the suggestion of the Elders and Pastor, agreed to begin to expand our Sunday morning service. A second hymn will be added after Pastor returns from summer camp in August. The spoken Order of Service will continue to be used but with an opening printed hymn. All health care precautions will continue to be in place. With the exception of nursing home visits, Pastor will call on home bound families, if they so desire.

The treasurer reported a balance in the general fund of \$40,518.05, and in the designated/memorial fund a balance of \$16,635.95. Thrivent Choice Dollars totaling \$982 was received and we thank those members designating Faith for these monies. Expenditures of \$451 for the elevator inspection, \$300 for Dooley's Plumbing inspecting our backflow prevention water valve, and \$175 payment to Johnson's for a service call on one of the geo-thermal units were reported.

Ted reported repairing drains on the geo-thermal HVAC devices and seeding the ditch line where new outside drain tubing was installed. Ted, Gary, and Kevin continue with the landscaping ministry at Faith.

For those who are unable to attend our Sunday worship service, or still feel uncomfortable attending with a large group on Sunday morning, you can view Concordia-Geneseo services (Live Sunday mornings at 8:30am) and daily devotionals on their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/geneseolutheranchurch (you don't need a Facebook account to view them).

CID is now on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/cidlems to like and follow their page! Currently, they are sharing weekly videos to help cope with the feelings of grief during this pandemic, as well as sharing a variety of exciting things from our District churches!

Making a Life: Winston Churchill reportedly said, “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill then, our lives are defined less by what we have gotten and more by what we give away.

Our Lord’s life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God’s Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserve because of sin. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death, and hell. So it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got us for Himself, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it is also for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. Giving softens our hearts and frees us from the worries of this world and making a living. For when we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get.

That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives – our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor, and servant to others?” to “What have they done for me lately?” We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But, when we give, we do not have less, and we do not become less. We have more and become more. Because when we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the divine nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). *LCMS Stewardship August 2020*

FAITHBOOK

What if we began to treat our Bible the way we treat our cell phone? What if we:
...carried it with us everywhere?
...turned back to get it if we forgot it?
...checked it for messages throughout the day?
...used it in case of emergency?
...spent an hour or more using it each day?

God Be with You



Preus named interim president: On June 2, the Board of Regents of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (CSL), named the Rev. Dr. Daniel Preus interim CSL president. He began his new role on July 1 and will continue serving until a new president takes office.

Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.