



Acts of Faith

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



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What's your Calling?

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, entreat you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing forbearance to one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Eph. 4: 1-3

Last month we were reminded that we are part of the Body of Christ, God's church. As such, our Lord and Savior gives us opportunities to help one another. As Christians, each of us at our baptism has been called by the Gospel, and then granted faith by the power of the Holy Spirit at work through the Word of God, and through the Sacraments. God is the One who called us out of darkness and into His marvelous light. Christians are called by God to live out what they believe or, to put it as Paul does, to live in a manner worthy of the calling with which they have been called in Christ Jesus. We have been called to faith by God to live in the light of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of salvation. Please note that we are not called to live in such a manner as would make us worthy of our calling. We are called, rather, to always live in a way that is appropriate to one who has such a calling. We should live out what we believe. Humans actually do act on what they really believe because what they believe makes them who they are. It forms the foundation for how we view things and think about life and other people and yourself.

Our worldly culture guides us to live for the pleasures of life. It may be in food and drink, in travel and recreation, in erotic and sensual activity, in euphoria from drugs, or even the thrill of living on the edge of life itself. Some people go so far as to believe that without this pleasure there is no reason to live.

How do we live in a manner worthy of our calling? St. Paul says first be humble. We are all sinners and deserve nothing but God's wrath. By God's grace we are saved through Christ Jesus. How humbling that we add nothing. We were chosen by God alone. Next, be gentle to those we come in contact with. Like Jesus, our example, we must reject all anger and bitterness, but be patient and kind with others. Christians are a people founded upon forgiveness, and what is more fitting than patience? But this is not easy to do. By nature, we are not humble, gentle, or patient. We're self-centered, works-righteous, impatient and vengeful, always trying to build ourselves up, even when it means tearing others down. This is why we need Jesus. Jesus has all these virtues, and through the working of the Holy Spirit, this is also a baptismal description of all those in Christ. When we fail, we must acknowledge and repent of our sins knowing God's mercy is always available in Jesus.

In John 13:35, Jesus said, *"By this will all men know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."* We are to love each other. That is what Paul refers to when he writes that we are to "preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Here again, because we have diverse backgrounds and viewpoints, this is not always easy to accomplish even in a LCMS congregation. This love is about peace and harmony, about patience and humility and such things when dealing with one another. The love of which Jesus speaks is another part of the worthy manner of living in, and living out, the calling of Jesus Christ to eternal life and salvation.

May Jesus Christ and His humility, gentleness, patience, grace, and love for you give you peace both in your walk now and into all eternity.

*And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2*

Worship Schedule
9:00 AM, Sunday Worship Service

August's Calendar

- Aug. 01** **10th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug. 08** **11th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug. 12 WOF Mtg. 10:00AM
- Aug. 15** **12th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug 19 Elders Mtg. 6:30 PM
Church Council 7:00 PM
- Aug. 22** **13th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Aug. 29** **14th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion

Altar Guild Schedule

- Aug. 01 Kari Tavares Green
- Aug. 08 Marilyn Sturtevant Green
- Aug. 15 Sharon Larson Green
- Aug. 22 Leah Weber Green
- Aug. 29 Mary Hahn 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.

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, Nancy Tudder, Cheryl Snyder, and John J. Hernandez.

Friends: Jeff Bowman, Sue Copeland, Ron Pettit, Lacey Hammons, Kent West, Cindy Stapel, Katie Yarger, 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.



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.

Lutheran Hour Ministry Radio Program			
Station	City, State	Freq.	Day & Time
WKEI	Kewanee, IL	1450 AM	Sun 5:30 AM

Summer Camp: Pastor Weber will be at Summer Camp with his Iowa Army Reserves Unit from August 1 to August 13th. During his absence **Rev. Robert Hagen** will conduct our services. We thank Rev. Hagen for his service.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 3	Randy Stockner
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 12**, at 10:00AM to work on greeting cards. Bring your brown bag lunch. After lunch the meeting will move to Mary Hahn's home to watch the highlights of last month's LWML Biannual National Convention held in Knoxville, Tennessee.

The 2019-2021 LWML Mission Grants have been paid and we have the awesome privilege to continue giving our mite offerings to support the 2021-2023 Mission Grants. The opportunities we are given to assist in the spread of God's Word and His love are boundless. Please continue to be generous in your mite giving and prayerful support of all the national and district LWML grant recipients. Let us remember that the voice of Jesus is crying, asking us, "Who will go and work today?" Let our answer be, "Here am I, send me, send me!" Your mite offerings are putting you in the midst of the harvest fields that are white with the harvest waiting — waiting for the love of Jesus to be shared with all. With your prayers and with your bounties, you can do what God commands. (Adapted from Lutheran Service Book, page 826.)



July Voters' Assembly: Highlights from the July 11th meeting are shown below.

The Treasurer's report is as follows:

General Fund	Income: \$44,583.29*	Expenses: \$39,940.03	Net: \$4643.26	Bal. \$45,754.65
Designated Funds	Income: \$1,862.00	Expenses: \$1,964.28	Net: (\$102.78)	Bal. \$17,685.29

*Includes \$2275.68 CEF rebate and \$600 building fund donation.

Elder's reported one death in the first six months, and no additional membership changes. COVID restrictions were revised as allowed. A LifeLight 9 week Bible Study on Isaiah was completed, and Sunday morning Bible Class is expected to resume after Labor Day. Due to pandemic concerns, no calls to inactive members were held.

Pastor Weber announced he will be attending summer camp the first two weeks of August, and Rev. Robert Hagen will be filling in to conduct the services. Pastor attended a LCMS chaplain's meeting last April, and it was recognized an Ascension Day service was held at Faith this spring.

Trustee reported that during the first six months repairs were made to a geo-thermal furnace, and to a women's toilet and the men's urinal in the basement. The landscape area at entrance to the property was refurbished, the church's mower was maintained for summer use, and an electric energy contract with Homefield Energy was renewed for 3 years.

The Vice-Chairman reported under new business that \$213 was made at the July 4th concession stand in the parking lot. A motion was made and approved to give this sum to the Women of Faith to be used for mission purposes. Also, plans will begin to hold an Oktoberfest dinner at Faith either the first or second Thursday of October. Gary noted the council has approved the expenditure for a new printer/copier for the church office using funds from the designated office expense account for approximately \$900.

Thank you for all who contributed to our July 4th concession stand in the parking lot. A profit of \$213 was realized.

Ice, popcorn and oil -Ted Sturtevant
Soda- Bill Croegaert

Bottled water-Kari Tavares & Gary Hahn
Monetary-Yvonne Wegener & Milt Stapel
Baked Goods,-Mary Hahn, Donna Becker, Kari Tavares, Nancy Tudder, Cheryl Snyder, and Marilyn Sturtevant.

Also thank you to those who supported, and helped run the stand that evening, including the three Hahn grandchildren. Thank you Zion Lutheran and Peoples Bank for lending us their popcorn machines.



Senior Retreat Scheduled for 2021: The Southern Illinois District and the Missouri District will hold the 19th Lutheran Older Adult Retreat on October 20 and October 21 at the Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center in Grafton, Il. The theme is “20/20 Perfect Cross-Eyed Vision”. Our theme is based on John 12:21b ...”we want to see Jesus.”

Dr. Rich Bimler, expert on aging & humor, will be our Keynote Speaker on Wednesday. Retired Seminary Professor, Rev. Dr. Jeff Gibbs, will be our Bible Study Leader on Thursday. His study is also based on John 12:21b. His title is “It Doesn’t Look Like Glory to Me: Seeing Jesus as He wants to be Seen.”

Each day features an Opening Devotion, followed by 8 one-hour workshops, which seniors may choose 2 each day. Wednesday dinner will be followed by Musical Entertainment from “The 60’s Chicks”, performing popular songs from the 1960’s. During the Retreat you will also have time to relax, enjoys the sight, and fellowship.

The Retreat cost is \$100/per person for both days, \$75 for Wednesday only, & \$50 for Thursday only. Meals included are Lunch & Dinner on Wednesday, Breakfast & Lunch on Thursday. The cost for Lodging, however, is **NOT** included. Make your room reservations by calling the Lodge at 618-786-2331. Tell them your reservation is for “Lutheran Older Adult Retreat” at a rate of \$99 for a single or double, plus 11% tax. **This rate if good until 10/06/21.**

The Retreat Brochure/Registration Form can be found at www.sidlems.org. Click on Forms/Registration. You will need to download and print the Registration Form and mail it. Each district congregation has been mailed a copy too. If you have questions call Margo Wolf at 618-979-3376.

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



“Its from our church... we’ve been called up for active duty.”

