



Acts of Faith

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



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Is your life in balance?

“And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you.” (Luke 12:29-31)

Do you ever feel a little wobbly? The two things we must keep in balance are the physical and the spiritual. Maintaining balance isn't about staying perfectly still; it's about recognizing when you're getting out of balance, and righting yourself. Keeping your balance isn't a one-time thing, but a consistent effort. If we find ourselves living too much in this world's culture, we are in danger of losing our spiritual balance and falling over a cliff into the world's lies: the Bible is not important, prayer is useless, and worshiping God is not necessary. In the passage above Jesus warns His disciples against livelihood in the world, but they should be seeking to be living as citizens of heaven. This is good advice yet today for all Christians too. Everyone is busy. We are working for a living, caring for one another, taking care of family affairs, going back and forth to the doctor's office, maintaining our home, and much more. We tend to strive to meet the worldly expectations of those around us. Unfortunately, we can find ourselves on a rocky and unsteady path at the edge of a deep chasm of destruction.

Beware of the idolatrous trinity of me, myself, and I. The world values dedicated work, wealth of possessions, self-importance, and of course accepting its worldly ways. We need to know the value of service, but be careful not over value it. Nothing is valuable in and of itself if it is not sanctified by God's Word and prayer. The Apostle Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 4:18, that: *“...we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.”*

Have you ever found yourself lightheaded? If so, you know how hard it is to do the basic tasks; try to walk without stumbling, losing your balance and falling. How is your spiritual balance and those that surround you? Perhaps, attending church on Sunday morning and Bible study is not a priority in your life. Guard yourselves so that you do not tumble into despair; dizzied by the world's hatred with charges of racism, political unrest, inflation crisis, abortion debates, food shortages, and terrorists roaming the nation picking their targets seemingly at random. Are you dazed by how quickly you seem to be losing control of your life?

The Lord rebalances you in His house. He forgives you your sins. He restores you by reminding you that you are indeed His baptized child. He nourishes your soul with the rich food of His Word, and feeds you with the immortal food of His body and blood! The Lord in His Word gives us directions for a properly “balanced” life. A life based on the Word of God and prayer. This balanced life will show itself in a life of humble service to our Lord and others. Join us at every opportunity for worship and nourishment to keep your life in balance.

The 60th Convention of the Central Illinois District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and the 9th Convention of the CID Church Extension Fund, Inc. was held on July 17-19, 2022. LCMS President Matthew Harrison gave the opening message. Elected as 17th CID President was Rev. Michael Mohr- Holy Cross, Vandalia, IL.

Pastor Weber and Ted Sturtevant were our congregation's voting delegates at the convention. Rev. Kent A. Umbarger, St. John's East Moline, was confirmed as Circuit Visitor for the R. I. Circuit.



Rev. Michael Mohr

Worship Schedule
 9:00 AM, Sunday Worship Service
 Adult Bible Class, 10:15 A.M.



Aug. 07	Sharon Larson (Green)
Aug. 14	Mary Hahn (Green)
Aug. 21	Kari Tavares (Green)
Aug. 28	Marilyn Sturtevant (Green)

August's Calendar

Aug. 07	9th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) Worship with Holy Communion
Aug. 11	WOF Mtg. 10:00AM
Aug. 14	10th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) Worship with Holy Communion
Aug 18	Elders Mtg. 6:30 PM Church Council 7:00 PM
Aug. 21	11th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) Worship with Holy Communion
Aug. 28	12th Sunday after Pentecost (Green) Worship with Holy Communion

Elders List:

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

USHER'S LIST

1st Sunday:	Ted Sturtevant
2nd Sunday:	Nick Phillips
3rd Sunday:	Wayne Becker
4th Sunday:	Kevin Hull
5th Sunday:	Jim Cook

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, JoAnne Behnke, Peggy Faber, Vanda Hallock, Wendell Hier, and John J. Hernandez.

Friends: Jeff Bowman, Sue Copeland, Ron Pettit, Lacey Hammons, Kent West, Jim Tudder, Hudson McCook, Chris Becker, Eugene Fronk, and all military personnel and first responders.

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

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.

Our World: Citizens of and those in Ukraine that peace may come to this land.

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy



Pastor Weber is conducting a new Bible Study Sunday on "*The Great Deceiver.*" Hosted by Pastor Michael Newman, this four-session Bible video study examines the most perverse character in Scripture: Satan. "Beast," "accuser" and "evil one," this "roaring lion" as the apostle Peter calls him, is adept at changing his appearance and cunning in his deceit. Popular culture may portray the devil as a cartoon character in a red jumpsuit needing our sympathy, or has having gone down to Georgia, but those characterizations only muddy the waters. *The Great Deceiver* explores a being so diabolical he will stop at nothing to separate us from God. By the very cross that took Jesus' life, God conquered Satan and sealed our redemption over sin, death and the devil by raising His Son from the dead, promising newness of life to all who believe in the saving Name of Jesus. Though defeated with his end certain, Satan is still on the prowl.





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 11**, at 10:00AM to work on greeting cards. Bring your brown bag lunch. Plans for hosting the September Fall Rally will be finalized. The Fall Rally theme is "Light Up the World with Christ" on September 20th..

This month we are collecting mites for the Mission Grant, Caring For and Sharing Christ with Hurting People. What is a deaconess? She is a professional church worker trained to share the gospel of Christ. The LWML Mission Grant "Caring for and Sharing Christ with Hurting People" provides scholarships to women studying on site at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis or those studying remotely with Center for Hispanic Studies, Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology, or the newly offered online Deaconess Studies Program. Thank you for your gifts and prayers for the LWML Mission Grants.



The LWML ladies are collecting used **postage stamps, empty prescription bottles, old Portals of Prayers books and Bibles**. Collection boxes for these items are in the Narthex.

July Voters' Assembly: Highlights from the July 10th meeting are shown below: The Treasurer's January – June financial report was distributed for review. The income was \$42,036.57, and expenses were \$42,211.79. This is an income of (\$ -175.00) for this 6 month time period. The mortgage balance is \$164,669.35. The General Fund balance is \$50,149.82 with the Memorial/Designated Fund balance of \$13,148.29 for a total of \$63,298.11.

Sophie Cervantez was accepted into the congregation by Baptism.

Ted Sturtevant reported that there was an additional expense of approximately \$300 for the repair of the furnace in February. All the basement florescent light fixtures and ballasts have been repaired this March. In April, the mower had its preseason maintenance and is ready for the cutting season. Currently the lawn and weed control is being done by Gary Hahn and Ted. A load of dirt was received and worked by Gary and Ted to fill holes around the church grounds. The hayfield is being cut and baled by Todd Boar.

The 4th of July concession proceeds were \$167.75. A motion made by Wayne Becker was approved to have a drive-thru Octoberfest this fall. The date to be determined later.

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.

Thank you for all who contributed to our July 4th concession stand in the parking lot. A profit of \$167.75 was realized.

Popcorn and oil –Hahn’s Soda– Hahn’s Bottled water-Kari Tavares, Weber’s, and Cheryl Snyder Monetary– Sue Cervantez Baked Goods,-Mary Hahn, Kari Tavares, Nancy Tudder, Cheryl Snyder, Marilyn Sturtevant, Carol Robinson, and Kristin McDonald.

Also thank you to those who supported, and helped run the stand that evening, Sturtevant's, Weber’s, Hahn's, and McDonald family. Thank you Zion Lutheran and Peoples Bank for lending us their popcorn machines.



Gary and Pastor sample the corn



Ted, Aidan, and Marilyn pop the corn



Andrew sells the goods

“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” Matthew 16:33

Stewardship Matters: One unfortunate development in Christian churches is that the word “stewardship” has too often been portrayed as just a fancy word for giving money to the church. Stewardship does include offerings, of course, but it is much broader and richer than that. A more accurate synonym is “management” and it refers to how we manage our whole lives: time, ability, vocation and money. It also extends beyond life in the church. In addition to our offerings, how do we manage all the rest of our money? In addition to serving in and through the church, how do we manage all the hours in each day and week? In addition to honoring God in worship, how do we honor Him in our families, our work and our citizenship? The word “stewardship” is a comprehensive term that reminds us that we are not people who include some Christian activities in our lives, but everything we do we do as Christians. Our faith informs and shapes all that we are, do and have.

Q: I see some people in church and pastors sometimes make the sign of the cross. Isn't that a Roman Catholic practice? Why are Lutherans doing it?

A: Making the sign of the cross is a central practice of Roman Catholic piety and, in practice, it has been associated almost entirely with Catholics. It was never intended, however, to be off limits to Lutherans and other Christians. At the time of the Reformation, some good practices were discarded simply because they were “too Catholic.” Among them was making the sign of the cross.

Luke 12:51 – “Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division.” Jesus has come to divide us out of the world – to carve out a people for Himself, redeemed by His Blood and trusting His Word. The world hates this Word, but for us it is life and salvation. We seek to follow Jesus' Word in all things because we know Him who gave us the Word: we know He always seeks to bless us.

