



Acts of Faith

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



June 2018

Volume 18 Issue 6

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God's Choice: A while back, while doing devotions, I read again the story of Jacob and his two wives, Leah and Rachel, found in Genesis 29. In this story, Jacob works for seven years for his uncle Laban in order to marry Rachel, is tricked into marrying Leah, and then works another seven years in order to also marry Rachel. He goes on to have many children by both wives and both wives' maidservants. Not the most normal, or Christian, family by our definition, but Jacob was of the line through which came Jesus Christ.

Many may, understandably, be upset that God would make such a polygamous, and we would say adulterous, man part of the promised line that gave us Jesus. What kind of example is that? That's a very good question. What was God thinking? In looking further in Scripture, we see God making many questionable choices concerning who is of the promised line. In Genesis 38, we read of Judah, who is of the promised line, sleeping with his daughter-in-law, thinking she was a prostitute, and getting her pregnant. In Joshua 2, we find out that God made a prostitute name Rahab part of the line. And in Ruth, God makes this Moabite woman, a pagan at birth, part of the line. These are just a few. Jacob, Judah, Rahab, Ruth: what was God thinking? These people were all gross sinners. What did they do to be included in the promised line?

The answer is: nothing. These people were sinners just like we are, yet God chose them to be ancestors of His Son, Jesus. God chose them by His own grace, not because of anything they had done. He chose them to show that He can make the bad work out for good. He chose them to show He is mightier than the forces of evil. He chose them to show that nobody earns God's favor. He bestows it on undeserving people. He chose them to show that He is a God of grace, not of works. He chose them, worked faith in them, and made them His children, though they were great sinners.

It's the same with us. He's chosen us, not because of anything we've done, but because He is a God of grace. He sent His Son to pay for our sins so He could bring us closer to Himself. We don't earn His favor by our works. We can heap up good works to high heaven, but it would do no good, because there would be an equally high pile of sinful acts right next to the good one. And a sinful pile of only one sin is enough to earn condemnation. Like Jacob, Judah, Rahab, and Rachel, we have been chosen in spite our sinful heap. We've been chosen, made people of faith, and made His children by grace. What was God thinking? He was thinking of how much He loves us when He sent His Son. What kind of example is that? One that I'm very grateful and thankful for. We, undeserving sinners, have been chosen by grace. Amen.

In Christ, Pastor Bushre



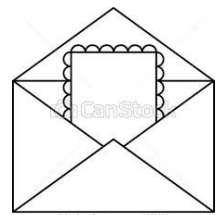
Military Biblesticks:

Faith congregation donated \$250 to provide military personnel with the Word of God by supporting the distribution of pre-loaded audio New Testament and selected Psalms on small personal listening devices. Thank you to all those who supported this effort.



Greeting Cards \$.50

WOF have for sale greeting cards available in the Narthex.



A new selection has been added to the rack. Please place your donation in the box and help yourself.

Worship Schedule
 5:00 PM, Saturday Worship Service
 with Adult Bible Class, 4:00 PM

June's Calendar

- June 02 **2nd Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship with Holy Communion
 Sunday School
 Bible Class at 4:00 PM
- June 04 LifeLight Study 1:00 PM
- June 09 **3rd Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship with Holy Communion
 Bible Class at 4:00 PM
- June 11 LifeLight Study 1:00 PM
- June 14 WOF Meeting 10 AM
 Flag Day
- June 16 **4th Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship with Holy Communion
 Elders Mtg. 2:30 PM
 Church Council 3:00 PM
 Bible Class 4:00 PM
- June 17 Father's Day Observance
- June 18 LifeLight Study 1:00 PM
- June 21 Summer begins
- June 23 **5th Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship with Holy Communion
 Bible Class 4:00 PM
- June 30 **6th Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship No Communion

Altar Guild Schedule

June 02	Sharon Larson	Green
June 09	Mary Hahn	Green
June 17	Marilyn Sturtevant	Green
June 24	Kari Tavares	Green
June 30	Sharon Larson	Green

Weekly Ushers:

- 1st Sunday: Ray Heinrich & Kevin Hull
- 2nd Sunday: Eric Cervantez & Nick Leezer
- 3rd Sunday: Nick Philips & Randy Stockner
- 4th Sunday: Mike Leezer & Wendell Hier
- 5th Sunday: Kevin Hull & Ted Sturtevant

Elders List:

- Wayne Becker: 309-853-8783
- Kevin Hull: 309-852-0801
- Ron Larson: 309-853-5111
- Mike Leezer: 309-286-3014
- Ted Sturtevant: 309-853-8203
- Wendell Hier 309-853-8388

If you have an article, a thank you, an idea, a suggestion, or a request for the next newsletter, give the information to the church office or send an e-mail to hahn.gary@comcast.net before June 23, 2018

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

Our Faith family: Pastor Weber and family, Cari Bridgewater, Betty Godke, Tootie Godke, Lois Novotny, Joyce Long, Mona Kubiak, and Bonnie Nuding.

Friends: Jeff Bowman, Karen Wright, Judi Umbarger, Steve Peart, Rev. Ken Wegener, and our troops abroad.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family of Edward Klebe, who went to his Heavenly home on May 16, 2018, at the age of 83. Ed was a Laborer for Christ who helped in the building our church facility, and was a generous supporter of our congregation ever since. Ed and his wife of 62 years, Sallie, lived in Beardstown Il.

Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6



Prayer Requests: Have someone or something that you would like Pastor Bushre to include in either his personal prayers or in our public Prayer of the Church on Saturday evening, please fill out a prayer request, place in an envelope, and leave it in the office or hand it to Pastor.

LifeLight study "Book of Hebrews" continues on Mondays at 1:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Like pilgrims who need a word of encouragement; Hebrews encourages us to listen to the Word of God revealed in the Son of God, Jesus.

REMEMBER: Please contact the office and inform us of any changes of name, address, marital status, e-mail, phone, and cell phone.

June Birthdays

June 2 Kaitlyn Tudder
June 2 Ryan Tudder
June 3 Karen Adkison
June 7 Kathy Peed
June 8 Kamdyn Hicks
June 8 Austin Peed
June 13 Jeffrey Heinrich
June 17 Kevin Hull
June 28 Glen Godke
June 29 Karen Stapel
June 30 Halea Damm

June Baptism Dates

Cari Bridgewater	6/11
Donald Bridgewater	6/11
Joshua Carpenter	6/19
Gary Caper	6/19
Michelle Croegaert	6/29
Peggy Faber	6/12
Logan Hernandez	6/20
Katherine Talbot	6/06
Jacob Townsend	6/15
Lorie Townsend	6/13
Deborah Woods	6/15
James Woods	6/21

Wedding Anniversaries

Mark and Kim Tudder	June 3
James and Donna Becker	June 11
Joy and Troy Butler	June 20
Robert and Linda Jacobs	June 29

Lutheran Hour Ministry Radio Program

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

Women of Faith will be meeting on Thursday, June 14, at 10:00 AM at the church. Nancy Tudder will be the hostess, and will lead a devotion. All ladies of the congregation are invited and asked to bring their sack lunch.

At 1:00 PM the program will review highlights and pictures from the recent trip to the Creation Museum and replica of Noah's Ark located in Kentucky.

Did you know Lutheran World Relief ships between \$12 and \$13 million worth of quilts, blankets, baby care kits, personal care kits, school and fabric kits and soap to 20 countries on average each year? For as long as the LWML has existed, Lutheran women have been making quilts to send to those in need. And since 1945 Lutheran World Relief (LWR) has been supplying these quilts (& kits) to those who need them most. All of those school kits and quilts cost money to ship and the current LWML grant will help fund these expenses.

Women of Faith invite you to put your mites in the large Mite Box at the back of church and ask for your support and prayers for this LWML Mission Grant.



Casper, a comfort dog, was a special guest at the WOF meeting in May, and works at the Haskell-Hott funeral home in Princeville.

Circuit News: Rev. Pablo Dominguez was installed as pastor of Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, East Moline on Sunday May 6. The status of Cristo Rey has now officially changed from a mission station to a voting congregation of the Central Illinois District. Rev. Dominguez, therefore, will no longer serve as a CID mission developer, but now was called by Cristo Rey as its pastor. Cristo Rey has been in existence for 15 ½ years. God has been at work this entire time blessing His Word and Sacraments as people were brought to saving faith and the church grew slowly but surely. Now, He has gladdened the hearts of many by making Cristo Rey a chartered congregation of the LCMS, and gave her a faithful, dedicated man of God as their pastor.

Congratulations to the following 2018 graduates:

Rebekah Weber received a Bachelors of Science degree from Western Illinois University (QC campus) and is seeking full time employment in Human Relations.

Leah Weber has received an Associates Degree from Blackhawk Community College.

Suzannah Weber received her diploma from Oikos Academy (home high school) and plans to attend Concoridia, WI.

Are there any other graduates we need to recognize for their achievement? Let the office know about them.

Military Mama Network News: Here is an e-mail thank you from one of the National Guard members who received the care packages from the MMN.

"Dear Mrs. Roseland, military mamma network, yes I have received packages from you, all 3. I have been in Iraq and they have been holding my mail for me. I just received them yesterday. I just got back into Kuwait a few days ago. I greatly appreciate what you guys have sent. It is very helpful. Got one from a family in Marshalltown, IA where I live as well. I apologize haven't gotten back to them yet. I am busy and focused on our mission between Kuwait and Iraq. I appreciate everything thank you guys."

This was posted on May 4th. As you can see, they don't all get the boxes as fast as Chaplin Weber has. I know the soldiers living in Iraq have to wait 4-8 weeks before packages arrive. I just wanted to let you know how much they do appreciate everything we do for them.

The 59th Convention of the Central Illinois District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and the 8th Convention of the Church Extension Fund will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Illinois, on **July 8-10, 2018**. Ted Sturtevant has been appointed by the Council to be Faith's voting delegate.

Evangelism Outreach: The Board of Elders and Church Council want to organize an outreach program at Faith. More information is forth coming but the congregation is asked to be thinking of names of family members and/or associates that do not have a church home in the Kewanee area, and those names can be submitted to the Elders and Council. If you would be interested in helping with this effort please contact an Elder or officer of the congregation.

Memorial

Faith congregation has received \$2520 from the Carol Schwefel Memorial. Thank you to the Schwefel family and all those who contributed to this memorial in Carol's honor.



Eagle Scout: Congratulations to Nathanael Weber on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout at the Court of Honor Ceremony held at St. John's, East Moline.

Pastor Weber watched the proceedings from Kuwait, via Skype on a laptop computer, and recorded a personal congratulations which was played over a cell phone.

Nathanael has earned 32 scouting merit badges and received silver and bronze palms to go along with Eagle Scout medal.

Pastor Weber also viewed the graduation party for his daughters and the scouting reception afterwards at the church fellowship hall.



Just as a father has compassion on his children, So the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.
Psalm 103: 13

Happy Father's Day