



Acts of Faith

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



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God glories in showing love and mercy. God glories in giving life. Not just any kind of life, but true, abundant, eternal life. God wants and longs for His beloved creatures to live with Him forever in the realms of heaven.

That kind of love required Jesus to willingly give up that which He loves, life, to give it to us so that we may live. This is the ultimate sacrifice, Jesus, the innocent one, who gives up His life for the sake of the guilty. Jesus did all of this willingly and gladly because He wants you and I to have eternal life. You and I having eternal life, that gives glory to God the Father.

Our lives the last two months have seemed like anything but glorious. But we have been taught to not take all things for granted. We are called to appreciate the goodness and mercy of our loving God. Lord willing, we will have two services (shortened and smaller) next Sunday. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper and God's gift of eternal life. It will be Pentecost. We will celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the one who enables us to have this life that Jesus wants to give.

I understand that not everyone is in a place in their life to come back to a church service. If you need, I will be able to bring Holy Communion to you. Please let me know. Pastor Weber

During these times of uncertainty and tragedy it is important to remember the significant role of Lutheran worship to strengthen the pastor and his congregation. During our worship we see Christ and His cross more clearly. Worship is where every human being needs to be especially now. At the service, the Word of God is spoken in our Liturgy, read in the Gospel, sung in the hymns, and His Word is the only thing that can soothe and comfort a broken spirit. When we are dismissed with the absolution, we realize that Jesus' blessing hands, pierced for our sins, remain raised so that we may depart in peace. *The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*" (Numbers 6 24-26). This well-known blessing is especially comforting to people who are troubled. Indeed God's people should know that the eternal Son of God will never drop His holy hands of blessing. We receive that blessing from our Heavenly Father and have the wonderful opportunity to pass it on.

The council at Faith Lutheran is seeking a way of resuming our worship service and intending to comply with Governor J.B. Pritzker's mandated plan. We will offer two services each Sunday morning, 8:30 and 9:15 AM, and possibly a third at 10:00 if needed, with the Holy Sacrament offered. There are numerous restrictions required by the CDC to insure the safety of our members and to prevent the spread of any illness. These were outlined in a letter to all our members. It is our sincere prayer that these restrictions apply only for a short duration, and our governing leaders will harmonize with common sense and consider our constitutional religious freedom, so we may enjoy the fellowship of one service again.

"As our church endeavors to 'pick up where we left off' prior to coronavirus-induced sheltering in place, it could be that some of our usual customs may no longer seem so important or valuable. For example, routine handshakes might become a thing of the past. Yet, Christ still directs His church, 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.' Word and sacrament form the key to making disciples for life. Our Lord also made a promise. It remains, too: *'And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age'* (Matthew 28:19-20). Some changes may occur in the precise ways by which God's Word is taught and learned in the future. Still, this teaching of the Word will remain vital.

The church cannot inertly accept whatever society hands us as the 'new normal.' Our new normal needs to feature the Word that brings Christ, keeping it — and Him — at the heart of everything." *Gatepost 5/2020*

Temporary Worship Schedule
Limited to 10 persons
8:30 & 9:15 AM, Sunday Worship Service
Overflow 10:00 A.M.



June's Calendar

- Jun. 07** **Holy Trinity Sunday (White)**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Jun. 14** **2nd Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion
 Flag Day Observance
- Jun. 21** **3rd Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**
Worship with Holy Communion
 Father's Day Observance
- Jun. 23** Elders Mtg. 6:30 PM
 Church Council 7:00 PM
- Jun. 28** **4th 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

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.

Lutheran Hour Ministry Radio Program

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

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

Our Faith family: Allison Leezer, Cari Bridgewater, 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, Kent West, Evelyn Weber, 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.



Streaming a Service: If you cannot gather together in our sanctuary, you can still view church services and hear God's Word. You can view the Concordia Lutheran-Geneseo service on Facebook page www.facebook.com/geneseolutheranchuch (you don't need a Facebook account to view them), or through their church website www.geneseolutheranchuch.com, under the "teaching" then "video" tabs. Sunday worship begins at 8:30 am, and Rev. Mueller has daily devotions on Facebook as well.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 2	Kaitlyn Tudder
June 2	Ryan Tudder
June 8	Kamdyn Hicks
June 13	Jeffrey Heinrich
June 17	Kevin Hull
June 28	Glen Godke
June 29	Karen Stapel

Baptism Dates

Cari Bridgewater	6/11
Joshua Carpenter	6/19
Gary Carper	6/19
Michelle Bartman	6/29
Peggy Faber	6/12
Logan Hernandez	6/20
Katherine Talbot	6/06
Jacob Townsend	6/15
Lorie Townsend	6/13

Wedding Anniversaries

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

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1).

1 Peter 4:10 – *“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.”* God's grace is His undeserved mercy toward us. And what do we have that is not a gift flowing from God's grace? He means for us to use all these gifts in service toward our neighbor. And chief among the ways we serve one another is to support the Church's work of bringing God's grace to more of God's people.

Even during these difficult times Faith's ministry continues to have bills and expenses to be paid. The canceling of church services in person has impacted offerings. Thanks be to God some members have continued to send their gifts to the church via mail. God's people are by nature generous. They know the love of Jesus and how “He who was rich for your sake became poor.” They love because Christ first loved them. The church does have a small reserve in our general fund, but we struggle even in good years to meet our needs.

If your family is undergoing financial crisis please notify Pastor or an elder so we may provide whatever assistance we can offer. If you know of someone who needs other assistance or counselling to get through this pandemic, share this information too.

Please consider continuing to give your offerings. If you are able to keep your support going, please mail your gift to Faith Lutheran 620 Hepner Dr. Kewanee, or to Sue Cervantez (Treasurer) 510 McKinley Ave Kewanee, IL 61443.

Our hope and comfort in the sacrifice of our Lord and His promise never to leave or forsake us! Please stay safe, stay strong in faith, pray often, and whenever be prepared to show Christ's love to others.

Spring 2020 graduates include:

Ashley Phillips, daughter of Nick and Sandra Philips, has earned her Masters in Accounting Science from Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. She will start @ Sikich LLP in Naperville, IL as a Tax Staff Accountant in September. The Philips are thankful for many scholarships from an unknown family of Stark County all of her four years at NIU! God is good .



Kaitlyn and Ryan Tudder, children of Mark and Kim Tudder, are in the 2020 graduating class of Wethersfield High School and will be attending Black Hawk East. Their virtual ceremony is on June 28th.

We congratulate all those in the Class of 2020, and wish them God's blessings as they move onto the next path of their careers and lives. This spring has brought many disappointments. *“We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.”*

Romans 8: 28



Best Wishes: Eric Cervantez and Katie Hepner were married at a private service at the home of Sue and Joe Cervantez on May 23rd. Pastor Weber officiated the marriage ceremony. Wedding plans had to be rescheduled and relocated due to the COVID 19. May your marriage always bring glory to God, joy to one another and blessings to your family for many generations to come. May love and laughter fill your hearts and your home for all the days of your lives. May you face every challenge hand-in-hand and side-by-side knowing that with God's

grace, you'll conquer all obstacles together.

“Fatherhood is older than time”: Fathers are not optional. We all need them. God is the Father of us all, especially those who are baptized into the death and resurrection of His Son. *“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”* (Gal. 4:4-6). Out of His great fatherly goodness, He gives good gifts to His people, including fathers.

Children need earthly fathers who are modeled after the image of God Himself. This is what men are called to be: strong, compassionate, loving, joyful — like God. Men are called and sent to be fathers to their own offspring and to those whose own dads have died or abandoned them.

May our Father in heaven so bless His church on earth with men who will pursue this calling with all the zeal the Holy Spirit can muster within them. Rev. Joshua Theilen, *LCMS Reporter June 2018*

What's going on? In Illinois, following the announcement of the five-phase reopening plan by Governor J.B. Pritzker, in which churches face continued limitations even as business and social gathering spots would be permitted to reopen, the three Illinois district presidents — the Rev. Dr. Allan Buss (LCMS Northern Illinois District), the Rev. Mark Miller (LCMS Central Illinois District) and the Rev. Timothy Scharr (LCMS Southern Illinois District) joined their voices in expressing their concern, offering suggestions and a desire to support the civil authorities.

LCMS President Harrison joined his voice with the Illinois district presidents, writing his own letter to U.S. Attorney General William Barr. Harrison's appeal, *“Caesar Claims Too Much,”* notes that portions of Pritzker's plan “appear to us to fail the ‘least restrictive means’ test for government limitations on First Amendment rights in times of emergency.”

Currently, church gatherings are limited to 10 or less. In the fourth phase of the plan, that number is increased to 50 people. Not until a proven vaccine is found or there is an effective treatment for the virus are churches in Illinois allowed to resume with more than 50 participants. This could be a year in the future, and is not consistent with regulations on opening bars, restaurants, personal care, schools or child care facilities. Pray that our governing leaders will choose an appropriate way of reopening faith based assemblies.

Memorial: Faith has received \$500 in memorial monies for Rev. Ken Wegener's memorial. Thank you to all those who contributed to this fund.

CID is now on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/cidlcms 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! CID is using the page for a LIVE bible study on Paul's Missionary Journey, which began on May 9.

R.I. Circuit Vicar Placements: Welcome this summer Nathaniel W. Konkel (wife Hannah) from Fort Wayne seminary to Holy Cross, Moline, and Michael R. Wilke from St. Louis seminary to St. John, East Moline, as new vicars in our Circuit.

LifeLight Study: A study on Baptism is planned for this summer now. Study guides are in the office. Let Gary know if you are interested in attending and when you are ready to start up again. Classes will meet at 1:00 PM on Mondays. Watch for information as to when the class will begin.

Church Cleaning: Our new weekly cleaning person is Paula Hierman. She also does home cleaning for several people in Kewanee.