



Acts of Faith

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



June 2021

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Time for Growth: This is a beautiful time of the year when everything outside is lush and green. We're into the growing season, and so everywhere you look, you see the signs of green, green growth. The crops, grass, bushes, trees, and unfortunately the weeds too, are showing signs of new growth. On the inside of our church things have turned green too. The paraments and pastor's stole will remain green all summer and into fall. During the next few months our worship will focus on our life in Christ and growing that life in Christ. It is a time for long, steady growth in Christian faith, and growth in the life of discipleship, as individuals and as the church. That's why this season is sometimes called the long "green meadow."

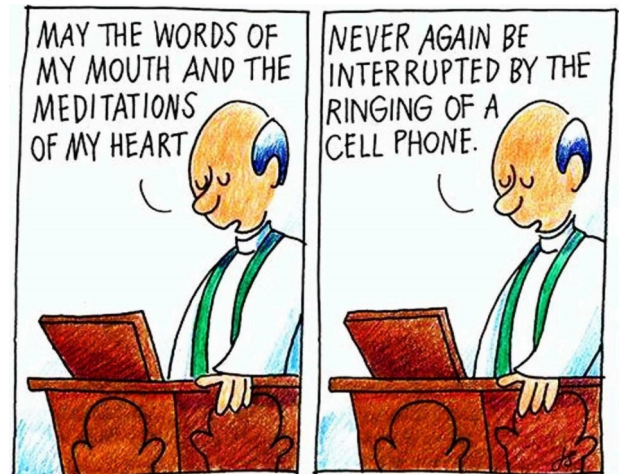
Our gardens and lawns are not the only thing that need cared for this time of year. The Church is God's garden, and it grows by itself, without our efforts adding to its power. But at the same time we do want this growing and greening up to happen in our back yard. As Christians, we also need to be nurtured and cared for. We need the Gospel, God's word of forgiveness in Christ and of new life in the Spirit, in order to grow the garden that is our Christian life. We need the Holy Spirit to be fertilizing and mulching us so that our spiritual faith roots grow deeper building a stronger root system. Christ will nourish us with the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation in His Word and sacraments. We need to allow this nurturing to take place as we regularly worship and receive His mercy shown to us in our Lord's death and resurrection. As we gather together in Christ's church, we come together to meet Jesus and receive the gifts that He earned for us on the cross -forgiveness, life, and salvation. We also receive the comfort of knowing that, just as He rose from the dead, we too shall rise from the dead and inherit eternal life. I know it has been a long dreary winter, but we need time with the Son much more than we need time in the sun.

God's garden grows only in one way, and that is through the Word rightly preached and taught with the sacrament. That is God's method of church growth, whether in quantity or in quality. As the COVID restrictions are slowly being lifted this summer, we will once again look forward to gathering with family and friends both near and afar. Such times give us opportunities to bless those we encounter and pass God's grace and blessings on. Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground." Here Jesus wants us to compare the seed to the Word of God. The man who scatters the seed is anyone who shares the Word of God with others. When you confess your faith to other people, you are that person. We are not responsible for producing faith in the heart of another. That is the mysterious work of the Holy Spirit.

As a famous talking frog once sang, "it's not easy being green." There are growing pains along the way, but it is June, and everything is green. God is growing his garden among us. Come and grow with Faith.

So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.

1 Corinthians 3:7 ESV



June's Calendar

- Jun 01 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 PM
- Jun 06 Second Sunday after Pentecost with Holy communion**
- Jun 07 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 PM
- Jun 10 WOF mtg. 10:00 AM
- Jun 13 Third Sunday after Pentecost with Holy communion**
- Jun 14 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 PM
Flag Day
- Jun 17 Elders and Council Mtgs. 6:30 & 7:00 PM
- Jun 20 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost with Holy communion**
Father's Day Observance
- Jun 21 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 PM
- Jun 27 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost with Holy communion**
- Jun 28 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 PM

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

Altar Guild Schedule

Jun 06	Sharon Larson	Green
Jun 13	Mary Hahn	Green
Jun 20	Leah Weber	Green
Jun 27	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

July-Sept Portals of Prayer are now available in the Narthex. Please take one for yourself and one for a friend.

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, 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.

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: 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.



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

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

CID Vicars: Holy Cross, Moline was assigned Carl Petzold from Vassar, Michigan. Vicar Petzold will be arriving with his wife Amber and their children Joshua and Lydia later this summer. St. John, East Moline was assigned Jonathan Lackey, and will begin his duties this summer, working with Rev. Kent Umbarger.

2021 Altar Flower Chart is up and available for you to sign up for altar flowers. Please consider placing flowers on our Lord's altar to remember a significant loved one or event in your life.



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

Definition of a father... "A father is a man who carries pictures in his wallet where his money used to be."

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

Women of Faith: The ladies will meet on Thursday, June 10, at 10:00 AM. Mary Hahn is the hostess and ladies should bring a brown bag lunch. Heather Weber will present a program on being a book author. All the ladies of Faith are invited to join them.

In celebration of the CID LWML 75th anniversary, in May the Faith ladies donated 75 cans of soda pop to a local nursing home to be used as bingo game prizes. The CID's LWML convention this year was virtual only, and it was recommended each society do their own ingathering project.

In June WOF invite you to offer your mites for the Central Illinois District LWML Mission Grant, Student Aid for Church Workers. Your support of this Mission Grant is greatly appreciated as we work to assist young men and women willing to become church workers to spread the Gospel throughout the world.



Graduations: We congratulate **Suzannah Weber**, daughter of Pastor and Heather Weber, who received a B.S. in Psychology, Summa Cum Laude, from Concordia University-Wisconsin located in Mequon, Wisconsin. She is planning on going to graduate school next fall.

Lena Becker, granddaughter of Donna and Wayne Becker, has graduated from Stark County High School, and will take her track talents to University of Wisconsin-Whitewater this fall.

The GatePost, CID's flagship publication, is available only electronically. CID will send new issues via e-mail to subscribers. Roughly 1200 people are currently on the list. This number can grow, and it certainly should! You can sign up for the GatePost and other CID news at <http://www.cidlcms.org/news-gatepost-newsletter.html>

Father's Day was observed for the first time on June 19, 1910 in Spokane, Washington. The Spokane Ministerial Association persuaded the city fathers to set aside a Sunday "honor thy father". The idea came from a local homemaker, 28 years old, a Mrs. John Bruce Todd, who had been inspired by her father, William Smart, a Civil War Veteran who had raised her and her five brothers after the early death of his wife.



That helps us recognize what Father's Day is really all about: honoring committed fathers.

That's important because there's a lot of evidence that our society is hurting because of the shortage of men who truly father their children. We have too many absent fathers, too many uninvolved fathers, too many irresponsible fathers. As we say, "Anyone can have a child, but it takes someone special to be a father."

"As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him."
Ps. 103:13

Council Action: Beginning in June face masks will be optional for those who are completely vaccinated against COVID 19 in compliance with CDC recommendations. The spoken liturgy will be used in June while Cheryl Snyder recovers from surgery. Phyllis Wiedle is scheduled as guest organist during Cheryl's absence.



The treasurer reported balances in the General Fund of \$43,473, and Designated Fund of \$16,874. The CID-CEF building mortgage is approximately \$188,000.

The electric energy contract with Homefield Energy was extended for an additional three years at an average cost/KWH of \$.050.

Beginning in June the elder and council meetings will move to the third Thursday of the month to accommodate some members.

The 2020 Faith congregational membership report indicated a baptized total of 143, and a confirmed membership of 104. The 2020 average weekly attendance, during the months services were offered, was 22.

Christian Confession in an Age of Sexual Confusion

A DOXOLOGY Seminar

Saturday August 28, 2021 8:15 am-3:15 pm

**Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Davenport, IA
1122 W. Central Park Ave., Davenport, IA 52804**

Presenters: Dr. Ryan Anderson & Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford

The new federal administration has reimposed government policies at odds with historic Judeo-Christian positions regarding abortion, marriage, sex and gender. More pressing than political matters is the wide spread confusion in American culture regarding sex, marriage, and gender which greatly complicates Christian life and witness. This Seminar prepares Christians to advocate confidently, purposefully and positively for the biblical vision of human sexuality within their families and in the public square not merely on religious freedom grounds but as a matter of common sense, compassion and human flourishing.

Cost: \$15 Adults// \$8 Students and includes registration, conference materials, lunch and refreshments. Lunch is guaranteed for those who register before August 16th.

COVID-19 and LCMS: A 2021 LCMS survey with 1600 congregations responding (22%) indicated the following:

- 90% of the reporting congregations stopped meeting in person during the pandemic.
- 92% of those congregations provided worship on line.
- 90% of congregations modified logistics for communion when gathering.
- Closures lasted 7-14 weeks from April through June 2020. By March 2021 95% had resumed in person.
- 60% of congregations that instituted online worship plan to maintain it.
- Finances were not a major problem for many congregations. Smaller congregation were effected worse.
- LCMS pastors were frustrated by being disconnected from the congregation and unable to carry out their duties as usual.
- More than 85% of reporting congregations have had at least one member contract COVID-19 and one third had someone who had died from the virus.
- 40% of the reporting congregations experienced a time when their pastor was quarantined either by catching or exposure to COVID-19.

Information taken from LCMS Reporter, " COVID-19 and the church one year later", May 24, 2021