



Acts of Faith

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



March 2021

Volume 21 Issue 3

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Why Worship? Is getting up early on Sunday mornings tough? Is it hard to balance worship at church with your schedule or weekend competitions? Are you bored of the same routine and singing some of the same songs? Do you have health and safety concerns? If you have these or similar questions, you are probably asking the question, why is worship important for me?

As God’s creation, we were designed to have a relationship with Him, for conversation, for spending time together in community, for receiving the gifts that our heavenly Father desires for us to have, for giving thanks and sharing our gifts with others. In short we were designed to worship. But sin changed that, and Jesus Christ had to come into the world to bridge the gap that sin created. We are not whole until we are in God’s presence, surrounded and immersed in God’s love and saving grace.

Through worship we come to know and experience God in a real and practical way. Worship is active for both God and us. Learning from Jesus, who Luke tells us went weekly to the Synagogue, we are shaped and formed so someday we are able to stand guiltless in God’s glorious presence and to live eternally. We confess our wrongs and feel the purification of absolution pronounced by pastor. In the hymns we return praise and thanksgiving for God’s grace, and hear the truth about what God has done for us.

We find support when we pray that God’s mercy be extended to us and loved ones when tragedy comes into our life, knowing He will listen and respond. In these troubling pandemic times we need and get another shot in the arm hearing words like those of Romans 8:28, “*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.*”

In worship God provides tangible means to see Him through the cleansing water of Baptism, and the sacrificial blood and body of Jesus Christ in and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. From these sacraments we feel that God is present and active for us. These benefits are not available through on-line screening.

Hearing the Word in worship grows faith in our hearts and produces results in our lives. Worship strengthens us so that we have what we need to serve in the world. It gives us the opportunity to give thanks and praise to the Creator who makes and provides for us, to our Savior Jesus who died for our sins, and to the Holy Spirit, who gives us faith to go where we need to go. Community worship is a part of our spiritual growth. When we gather with other Lutherans, we are encouraged, we encourage others, and grow together in our common faith in Jesus Christ. “*not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*” (Hebrews 10:25).

Worship is more than routine or habit. It is a opportunity to experience firsthand our merciful God and His means for our salvation. This is why cancelling our worship activity is such a difficult decision. This Lenten season provides us with more opportunities to personally experience worship at Faith, so please join us.

Significant Days: Christians are aware of what took place on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. But what took place on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week? These three days contain some of Jesus’ most significant action, most significant teaching, and most significant confrontation with the religious leaders of His day. Our midweek services will explore the “Significant Days” between Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday.

Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.



March's Calendar

- Mar. 04 Lenten Service 6:30 PM
- Mar. 07 Third Sunday in Lent with Holy communion
- Mar. 10 WOF mtg. 10:00 AM
- Mar. 11 Lenten Service 6:30 PM
- Mar. 14 Fourth Sunday in Lent with Holy communion
Daylight Saving Time begins
- Mar. 16 Elders and Council Mtgs. 6:30 & 7:00 PM
- Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day
- Mar. 18 Lenten Service 6:30 PM
- Mar. 21 Fifth Sunday in Lent with Holy communion
- Mar. 25 Lenten Service 6:30 PM
- Mar. 28 Palm Sunday with Holy communion

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

Altar Guild Schedule

March 7	Kari Tavares	Purple
March 14	Marilyn Sturtevant	Purple
March 21	Sharon Larson	Purple
March 28	Leah Weber	Red

Elders List:

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

April – June *Portals of Prayer* are now available in the Narthex. Please take one for yourself and one for a friend.

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 Lorie Elgin.

Friends: Jeff Bowman, Sue Copeland, Ron Pettit, Lacey Hammons, Kent West, Bob Miller, Cindy Stapel, Jerry Stapel, CPL Billy Steele 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.



Don't forget to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® - Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program can help support Faith Lutheran. Don't let Choice Dollars expire. Beginning January 1, 2021 eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available are asked to direct them to Faith Lutheran – Kewanee.

Call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt. This must be done by the end of March!

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.



*Birthdays
of the Month*

Charles Heinrich	3/01
Katherine Talbot	3/02
Addison Talbot	3/06
Bonnie Nuding	3/08
Betty Godke	3/11
Stella Nimrick	3/12
Jaxson Hicks	3/14
Eric Cervantez	3/16
Donald Bridgewater	3/20

Baptism Dates

Becky Ault	3/17
Cal Breedlove	3/06
Claudia Croegaert	3/24
Ernie Heinrich	3/04
Mark Helmkamp	3/27
Tara Hicks	3/23
Aimery Jackson	3/16
Melissa Newman	3/13
Sandra Philips	3/01
Marilyn Sturtevant	3/19

Lutheran Hour Ministry Radio Program

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

Wedding Anniversaries

Julie & Roy Carpenter	3/04
Cindy & Rick Ganschow	3/10
Mary Kay & Marvin Newman	3/18

Women of Faith: The ladies will meet on Wednesday, March 10th at 10:00 a.m. to work on Easter cards and have a brown bag lunch. Yvonne Wegener is the hostess for the day.



**Lutheran
Women
in Mission**

This month WOF are collecting mites for LWML Grant “Music Outreach, Classes, and Resources on the Border.” The current classroom space for this ministry is tucked into Ysleta Lutheran Mission offices wherever space is available. Funding of this mission grant will permit renovations to dedicated classroom space, enabling increased class size, secure storage of instruments and equipment, and a more professional atmosphere for these valuable classes. Thank you for your generous support of spreading God’s Word.

Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Heidi Heinrich. Heidi, 49, died at her home on January 28, 2021. The funeral was held at Rux Funeral Home on February 3 with Rev. Mara Iverson officiating. Heidi is the daughter of Mary Duncan, and mother of Kylee Conlin and Aimery Jackson. She will be missed by many in our church and community.



“The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.” Psalm 23:1

New Address: Jacob Hernandez, son of Peggy Faber, has been deployed with the Air Force to South Africa for the next seven months. I am sure he would appreciate our prayers and correspondence during this time. His address is:

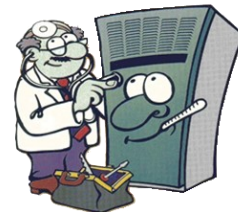
John J. Hernandez/EABS God bless him and his family. Keep them all safe and healthy.
PSC 831 Box 0205
FPO, AE 09363



Faith’s Anniversary: Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church-Kewanee, Illinois received its LCMS charter on March 25, 2001 with a special service at the Free Methodist Church and a luncheon following at the First United Methodist Church. The Rev. David Bueltmann, President of CID, was our guest speaker. The signed charter hangs in the Narthex of our church.

To commemorate this anniversary a committee is being organized to plan a special event once travel and gathering restrictions are eased to allow it. **Happy Birthday Faith!**

Church News: Last December the geo-thermal furnace that serves the north side of the building developed a leak that required attention. Ted Sturtevant got estimates to repair and to replace the furnace. The Council decided to have the furnace repaired and went with Henrichsen Heating, Goodfield Illinois, who had the lowest estimate. They had installed the 6 units originally when we built the church. The furnace was repaired and other units inspected for \$2630 on February 2nd. On Sunday, February 21, at a special voters assembly, the expenditure was approved. Some memorial monies will be used to cover this unbudgeted expense.



LCMS Convention delayed: The congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) have approved, by over 90%, a proposal to extend the current 2019–2022 triennium, pushing the Synod’s previously scheduled 2022 national convention to 2023 and extending the timeline for districts that wish to delay their conventions from 2021 into 2022. The measure comes as the impact of COVID-19 continues to be felt in both the church and the world.

LCMS Life Ministry Conference March 19-20

LCMS Life Ministry will host its first-ever virtual life conference March 19–20, under the theme “Making Disciples: Valuing Life.” Registration is open now at www.lcms-life.org

Join us!

- Be equipped to speak up for the sanctity of life within your community and our society
- Gain ideas on how to care for all human life
- Interact with fellow Lutherans on Life Ministry topics

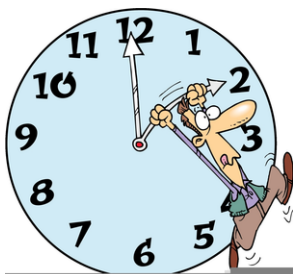
Be a part of the LCMS Life Ministry community

Dozens of experts in Life Ministry will present throughout the conference with multiple video presentations available for immediate on-demand viewing as soon as you login. Engage in live Question and Answer sessions with experts in Life Ministry.

CID News: In 2018 Camp CILCA launched the Life Changing, Life Long, Life Eternal capital campaign with the goal of raising \$1,000,000 to expand the Dining Hall, add a full time program director, eliminate debt, and add a significant amount of money to CILCA’s endowment fund.

The generosity of God’s people abounded and two of these goals were met in full. The \$60,000 mortgage was paid in full and the endowment fund is up to \$100,000. The funds from this endowment go toward providing “camperships” for children who might not otherwise be able to afford a full week at camp.

While 2020 was a tumultuous year, CILCA was able to break ground on the Dining Hall expansion in September. As of January 11, the exterior frame is nearly completed and interior work continues. With the Lord’s blessings the work will be completed by spring. Once the Dining Hall is completed the program director position will become the next priority. “Thank you” to all who have prayed, donated, and volunteered.



Remember to set your clocks forward 1 hour.

Daylight Saving Time begins at 2:00 A.M. on Sunday, March 14th.

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. Flowers are not normally adorning the altar in Lent.

Look for the Easter Lily signup in the Narthex shortly.

CEF REBATE: Faith has received an annual rebate of \$2275.68 from the Central Illinois District CEF for our mortgage. We thank the CID Board members for their consideration again this year. This rebate is provided to congregations who have fulfilled their obligations for the previous year and is based on the financial success of the fund.