



Acts of Faith

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



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Deserts of Life: I am forming this newsletter from my daughter's home near Scottsdale, Arizona. Each day as I look out over a natural desert landscape from her backyard and with the nearing Lenten season, I am reminded that Christ spent 40 days fasting in the desert wilderness of Judea. (Matthew 4:1-11)

After His baptism by John, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the Judean desert where He was tempted by the devil. During Lent we contemplate Jesus' 40 days in the desert because this event provides a formidable basis for Christians' 40-day Lenten observance. Jesus' desert event relates to the center of our Lenten observance—the saving mission of Jesus and our personal Christian growth as we journey through life's deserts. Like the Israelites upon exiting Egyptian captivity, Christ was confronted with issues of trust and obedience. His temptations by the devil were in preparation for His saving work. We need to remember Jesus is true man as well as true God, and He carried out His ministry on earth as a human being. He used His divine powers only when He miraculously served others. By putting aside the full and continual use of His divine powers, as a human He could be, and was, tempted to misunderstand the Father's plan and to mistrust and disobey the Father's will. *"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin."* (Heb. 4:15) Unlike the temptation of Adam and Eve, Jesus, the new Adam, was determined to serve God, and resisted the devil to bring about God's plan for saving mankind.

The Judean wilderness account reminds us of the deserts we journey through as Christians. We are called to lives of dependence on God. We are called to fearlessly obey and to embark on our own journey of love and service to others. The desert days are often difficult, frightening, confusing, and painful times. We wonder if we can make it through, and hope that we might survive. The devil surrounds us with hard temptations. He tempts us to abandon our Christian calling, to doubt God's promises, to despair and think of only ourselves and our comfort, to take unacceptable shortcuts, and to abandon our Christian principles. Jesus shows us how to use God's Word to confront and overcome the devil's temptations. By His victory over the devil, He empowers us to triumph over evil.

The penitential season of Lent seeks us to die to temptation and sin, to die with Jesus, that we may also rise and live with Him. This is what our baptism into Jesus did and continues to do for us. Life in the desert comes through our baptism into Jesus. In this same Jesus, life sprouts up, blooms, and bears the abundant fruit of new life even in the deserts and wildernesses, the valleys of sorrow and death, in this chaotic world as we look forward to and pray for the fullness of life in the world to come. *"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you."* (John 15:16)

During Lent, we have the opportunity to tackle our personal wilderness issues and allow God to strengthen our Christian faith and life through His Word and Sacraments. Lent is the time we are most mindful of the seriousness of our sin and how much it separates us from the pure holiness of God. But we also can remember during the Lenten season that Jesus endured pain and suffering, all the way to His death by crucifixion, and he did it specifically for us. His suffering is not the end of His story. When He went into the tomb, His body did not return to dust. His victory over death becomes our victory too, so that our bodies will rise again from the dust left behind and be remolded, reformed, into a new glorious body that will never grow weary, break down, or sin in any way ever again! That is the good Easter news we press on towards during this season. Join us at Faith on Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings as we remember these truths this Lenten season.

God's blessings and stay safe.

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.

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

Lutheran Hour Ministry Radio Program
 Station City, State Freq. Day & Time
 WKEI Kewanee, IL 1450 AM Sun 5:30 AM

March's Calendar

- | **Mar. 03** Ash Wednesday Service
with Holy Communion 6:30 PM
- | **Mar. 06** 1st Sunday in Lent
with Holy Communion
Mite box collection
- | **Mar. 10** Lenten Service 6:30PM
WOF Mtg. 10:00 AM
- | **Mar. 13** 2nd Sunday in Lent
with Holy Communion
Daylight Savings Time begins
- | **Mar. 17** Lenten Service 6:30PM
Council Mtg. (7:00PM)
- | **Mar. 20** 3rd Sunday in Lent
with Holy Communion
- | **Mar. 24** Lenten Service 6:30PM
- | **Mar. 27** 4th Sunday in Lent
with Holy Communion
- | **Mar. 31** Lenten Service 6:30PM

Altar Guild Schedule

Mar. 03	Marilyn Sturtevant	Black
Mar. 06	Sharon Larson	Purple
Mar. 13	Kari Tavares	Purple
Mar. 20	Marilyn Sturtevant	Purple
Mar. 27	Leah Weber	Purple

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

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, Patty Koch, Hudson McCook, 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.



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

Noah and the Flood is a Bible study from Foundations in Genesis taking a deeper look at Noah's Ark and the flood of Genesis 6-9. Learn how and why God used climate change to reshape and cleanse the earth. Join Pastor on Sunday mornings for these video and informative sessions.



Ash Wednesday

**Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.**



Faith's service will be held on
 Thursday, March 3rd at 6:30PM.



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



Wedding Anniversaries

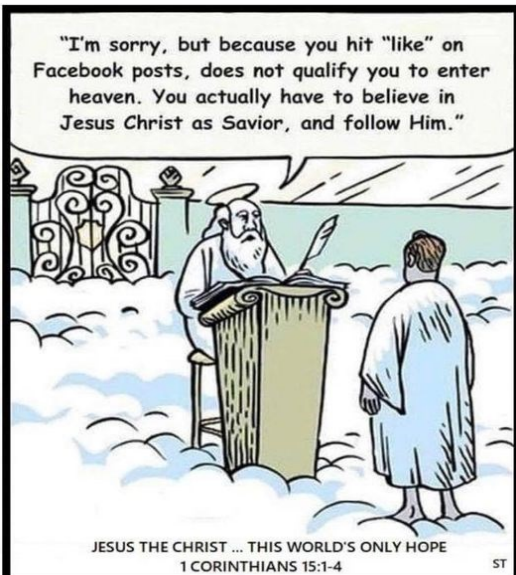
Julie & Roy Carpenter	3/04
Cindy & Rick Ganschow	3/10
Mary Kay & Marvin Newman	3/18

Women of Faith: The Women of Faith will meet on March 10th at 10:00 AM. Marilyn is the hostess for the month. Please bring a brown bag lunch. The ladies will be doing a spring cleaning of the kitchen. All the ladies in the congregation are welcome to join the WOF for bible study, fellowship, and promoting mission work at home and abroad.

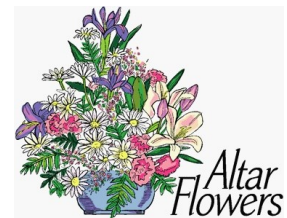


**Lutheran
Women
in Mission**

Women of Faith are collecting your mites to support the LWML Mission Grant #7 for the 2021–2023 biennium, Training Pastors to Serve the Church in Russia. This grant will enable the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society to continue its “Save the Seminary Campaign” to raise funds to endow the seminary’s operations long-term, to spread the Word of God to the Russian people. Thank you for your contributions and prayers for the LWML Mission Grants.



**DST begins on Sunday,
March 13th.**

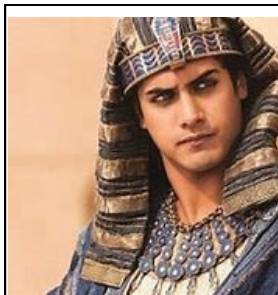


2022 Altar Flower Chart is up and available for you to sign up for altar flowers. Please consider placing flowers on our Lord’s altar to remember a significant loved one or event in your life.



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, 2022 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!

Set Apart to Serve: Do you know any young man who would make a great pastor? How about someone who would be a great Lutheran school teacher, deaconess or DCE? Jesus gives His church people who work full time in service to the Gospel. He told us to pray for such workers. The LCMS continues to pray, and has begun Set Apart to Serve (SAS), an intentional effort to encourage young people to consider church work as their career. Your opinion can help improve SAS. Please fill out a brief survey at [lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve-survey](https://www.lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve-survey) by March 15, and let us know how you think SAS can be beneficial to your congregation. All responses are completely anonymous and confidential. If you have any questions, please reach out to the LCMS Church Information Center at [888-THE LCMS](tel:888-375-5267) (843-5267) or infocenter@lcms.org.



Lenten Series: Did you know that Joseph was a prophet? Not Joseph who was the husband to Mary, Jesus' mother, but the Joseph who was the son of Jacob and Rachel. He was a prophet not only by the words he spoke, but also by the life he lived. This Lenten season, we will take a look at the ways Joseph's life foretold the life of Jesus. God works in mysterious ways. We start on March 3rd at 6:30PM and the following five Thursday evenings. To refresh the account of Joseph, you can review Genesis chapters 37-50.



How much do you know about **Lent**? Think you can answer the following?

1. "Lent" originates from which of these words? A. Lex Legis B. Lino C. Linteum D. Lencten
2. When does Lent end?
3. Lent is said to be of 40 days even though from Ash Wednesday to the last Saturday of the season it is 46 days. Why?
4. How is ash for Ash Wednesday made?
5. Which feast day always comes during Lent? a) Annunciation, b) Assumption, c) St. Joseph's Feast, or d) Presentation
6. What is the basis for observance of Lent?

Answers are below.

The phrase "Do not be afraid" appears 365 times in the Bible. What a wonderful way for God to remind us everyday to be fearless in Him.

Praise God: Thanks and praise to God for allowing us to return worshiping in the Sanctuary once again after several weeks in the lower level due to furnace malfunctions. Thanks also to Ted for pursuing to get repairs done. Due to COVID precautions the common cup will not be used at this time.

St. Patrick in the LCMS? The text of [*Lutheran Service Book* 604], "I Bind unto Myself Today," is attributed to St. Patrick. This beautiful prayer, traditionally called "St. Patrick's Breast-Plate," is supposed to have been composed by Patrick in anticipation of his victory over paganism. The translation of the prayer in [*Lutheran Service Book*] from the old Irish text is a paraphrase by Cecil F. Alexander [1818-95].

The "Apostle of Ireland," as Patrick is sometimes called, is also associated with the shamrock, a plant sacred to the Druids, to explain the Trinity. Preaching in the open air, Patrick is said to have plucked a shamrock from the grass growing at his feet and showed it to his listeners as an illustration of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. "I Bind unto Myself Today" also deals with the topic of the Holy Trinity.

The Lutheran Witness, "In Search of St. Patrick", March 2, 2011



Answers: 1. D. Lencten or spring, 2. Saturday before Easter, 3. St. Joseph's Feast, 4. By burning palms used during the previous Palm Sunday, 5. St. Joseph's Feast, 6. Jesus 40 days in the wilderness.