



Acts of Faith

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

May 2007

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In Praise of Mothers and Fathers

“Do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”
Ephesians 6:4

In the 18th Century, the emperor Napoleon was alarmed by the immorality and sad economic conditions of his day. When he was asked what France needed the most, his answer was quick and to the point: “Mothers!”

Today, as in Napoleon’s day, we need mothers: mothers who faithfully take their children to church, mothers who will teach their children about Jesus Christ, mothers who teach their children right from wrong, and mothers who nourish their children. The world needs mothers who sacrifice for their children. It’s no secret—but motherhood is in a crisis today.

A mother in her thirties said, “I don’t know what I want to do with my life. Everyone tells me that I need to do something, to have a purpose, a career. I just don’t know what to do.” She had married young and had several children immediately after the couple was married. She was asked, “What do you do now?” She lowered her eyes to the ground and with tears streaming down her cheeks she said, “Oh, nothing, I’m just a Mom!”

That thought is expressed in many ways in the world in which we live. Parenthood, being a father or a mother, isn’t considered all that important. Yet consider how important and honorable a task it is to raise a child. In your vocation or calling as parent, you’re given the responsibility for a child’s life and health. You’re to nurture the body and soul of the youngster without crossing the extremes of overprotecting and thus stifling the child or being so indulgent that the child believes the world revolves around the spot where they’re currently standing.

The world has a term called “vocational training.” This term is normally applied to educational tasks

that aren’t found in a normal college curriculum. It’s thought in the world that even the lowliest task needs some form of direction and instruction. One cartoon was of an obviously young father, holding an infant in one hand, and a manual titled “How to Change a Diaper” in the other. The puzzled look on the young man’s face spoke volumes.

As important as parenting is to young children, most parents begin with only a short period of training—learned while on the receiving end of the parent-child relationship. So, how can we be good parents? How can we be the mother or father that our vocation as parent has placed upon us? How can we take on this vocation where the demands are so high? We can only do it with the undeserved love, strength, and forgiveness given to us by Jesus Christ through his Word and Sacraments.

With such high stakes involved, one might conclude that it’s impossible to avoid making mistakes that might damage those entrusted to our care. Indeed this is true. Thanks be to God who gives us His mercy and love that covers the sins of parents and children alike. Praise to Christ who through His work of forgiveness has truly placed the solidarity in families. All praise to the Holy Spirit who intercedes before the throne of God on behalf of both parents and children, that all may live in the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ.

Blessings,
Pastor Fischer

Church Dedication!

The worship service dedicating our new church building will be Sunday, May 20th, at 3:00 PM.

Central Illinois District President, Rev. David Bueltmann, will be the guest preacher. Rev. Robert Yount will be the Lector, and Pastor Fischer will be the Liturgist.

Most of the Rock Island Circuit pastors will be in attendance—as well as members from many Rock Island Circuit congregations.

Many of our Laborers for Christ will be back for the dedication, as will representatives from the Church Extension Fund.

Following the dedication, a catered meal will be served in the lower level Fellowship Hall. Please use the form below to help us know how many people will be staying for the meal.

Please plan on attending this special occasion as we officially dedicate our beautiful new building to the Lord.

Faith Lutheran Church Dedication Dinner

I am looking forward to joining the celebration. There will be a total of _____ adults and children over 12 years of age in our group.

Name: _____

Comments: _____

May's Calendar

- May 02 Confirmation Class, 5:30 PM
Midweek Worship Service, 7:00 PM
- May 03 Evangelism Committee, 6:30 PM
- May 06 5th Sunday of Easter**
- May 09 Confirmation Class, 5:30 PM
Midweek Worship Service, 7:00 PM
- May 10 Building Committee Meeting, 7 PM
- May 13 6th Sunday of Easter**
Happy Mother's Day!
Nursing Home Services, 2 & 3 PM
- May 14 Circuit Pastors' Meeting, 9:00 AM
- May 15 Women of Faith, 1:00 PM
- May 16 Confirmation Class, 5:30 PM
Midweek Worship Service, 7:00 PM
- May 17 **The Ascension of Our Lord**
Church Council Meeting, 7 PM
- May 20 **7th Sunday of Easter**
Church Dedication, 3:00 PM
- May 23 Confirmation Class, 5:30 PM
Midweek Worship Service, 7:00 PM
- May 24 Building Committee Meeting, 7:00 PM
- May 27 The Day of Pentecost**
Faith Youth Group, 6 PM
- May 28 Memorial Day (Observed)
- May 30 Midweek Worship Service, 7:00 PM

Parking Lot

We ask those who are physically able park in the "Back 40" of our parking lot to make room for those who have difficulty walking, and for our visitors.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Bring In Your Old Inkjet Cartridges

Your old inkjet printer cartridges are worth money to the Lutheran Women Missionary League (LWML). Please bring your old cartridges to church where a box is available for them.

Thrivent Night at the Ballpark

On Tuesday, June 12th, 7:00 PM, you have an opportunity to support the local Special Olympics and enjoy the THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS 14th Annual Night at the Ball Park. The *Swing* of the Quad Cities will be playing the Wisconsin *Timber Rattlers*.

The tickets are \$2.00 and may be upgraded to a Box Seat for \$3.00. Tickets may be purchased from Bob Godke.

Rummage and Bake Sale

Women of Faith will be having a Rummage & Bake Sale on Saturday, May 5th, from 8:00 AM—1:00 PM. It will be held in our church lower level. Any clean items which are ready for resale can be brought to the church no later than Wednesday, May 2nd. We request no large furniture or appliance items. Also, food items for the bake sale can be brought on Friday afternoon or *early* Saturday morning. Please attend and/or donate to help with the cost of the new cabinets on order for our church kitchen. Contact Marilyn Sturtevant or Nancy Tudder if you have any questions.

Scholarship Sunday

Sunday, May 6th, has been designated as CID Scholarship Endowment Fund Sunday. On that Sunday, you are asked to bring back the special envelope from the April 29th bulletin, with your gift to the Central Illinois District Endowment Fund.

These gifts will go into the CID Scholarship Fund to assist CID students at our Synodical schools and seminaries. Please make your check payable to the "CID Scholarship Endowment Fund." Any size gift will be greatly appreciated.

Women of Faith

Women of Faith invite ladies of the congregation to the May 15th, meeting. It will be at 1:00 PM at the new Bed and Breakfast, Chink & Dale's, in Galva. We will hold our meeting and tour the house. It is located at 912 W. Division St., Galva. Carpooling will be available from Kewanee. Details will be announced in the church bulletin.

The "B & B" is located in an old house that used to sit on a farm on the outskirts of Galva, but was moved in June 1983, and a new foundation was built for it.

Ruth Anderson (husband, Dale) renovated the old Southern mansion house and filled it with antiques that belonged to her father-in-law, Arthur "Chink" Anderson.

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of Lou Wager, who entered into eternal life on March 31, 2007; and to the family of Bud Winter, who entered into eternal life on April 7, 2007.

"Blessed are those who die in the Lord, for they rest from their labor."

Parenting Approach Affects Depth of Children's Faith

A new Barna study surveyed young adults about their spiritual foundations and the role their parents played during their childhood in determining their Christian faith.

The study found that those who received more guidance from parents actively-engaged in applying God's words on life and family formed deeper standards of faith in their lives.

Results of the study also showed that differing parenting techniques were used to classify the dominant parenting approaches currently used in the United States.

Although "default" and "trial-and-error parents" are both accepted approaches that enable parents to raise their children without the effort of defining their life, according to the study, "revolutionary parenting" - the approach based on one's faith in God by making parenting a life priority - produced the most desired outcomes for Christian children exemplifying Christian morals and attitudes.

"Those who engage in revolutionary parenting define success as intentionally facilitating faith-based transformation in the lives of their children, rather than simply accepting the aging and survival of the child as a satisfactory result," stated Revolutionary Parenting author George Barna in a statement on Monday. Barna is also the chairman of The Barna Group.

The study further identified desirable attributes that parents would want to see in their children. Consequently, the young adults who formed the basis of the study all possessed qualities that revealed common practices that the parents of the children had implemented. Knowing, loving, and serving God was identified as their top priority in life. They also described their faith in God as being of the highest importance.

Additionally, each of the young adults whose parents indicated spiritual foundations in their parenting approach possessed a "biblical worldview," based on their responses to a series of questions about their view of life. They contend that absolute moral truth exists as defined in the Bible and that God is the all-knowing and all-powerful creator and ruler of the universe.

The young adults also affirmed faith in Jesus Christ as the only means to salvation, affirmed Satan as a real being, and confirmed that all of the principles taught in the Bible are true and accurate.

And while many of the young adults surveyed indicated the importance of being currently active in a vibrant community of faith - as demonstrated by their consistent commitment in worship, prayer, Bible study and spiritual accountability- less than one out of every ten young adults in the United States, however, reflect the measure for living a faith-based lifestyle, according to the Barna report.

Data is based on telephone interviews with 10,000 national young adults between the ages of 21 and 29 over the past several years who satisfied standards related to behavior and belief in the areas of corporate and personal faith.

From: www.Christianpost.com

Mother's Day—May 13th

God our Creator, we pray:
for new mothers, coming to terms with new responsibility ;
for expectant mothers, wondering and waiting;
for those who are tired, stressed or depressed;
for those who struggle to balance the tasks of work and family;
for those who are unable to feed their children due to poverty;
for those whose children have physical, mental or emotional disabilities;
for those who have children they do not want;
for those who raise children on their own;
for those who have lost a child;
for those who care for the children of others;
for those whose children have left home;
and for those whose desire to be a mother has not been fulfilled.
Bless all mothers, that their love may be deep and tender,
and that they may lead their children to know and do what is good,
living not for themselves alone, but for God and for others.
Loving God,
we thank you for the love of the mothers you have given us,
whose love is so precious that it can never be measured,
whose patience seems to have no end.
May we see your loving hand behind them and guiding them.
We pray for those mothers who fear they will run out of love or time, or patience.
We ask you to bless them with your own special love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, our brother.
Amen.

Letter Carriers and Food Pantry Announce Food Drive

Kewanee Letter Carriers and the Kewanee Food Pantry are announcing a community food drive to be held on Saturday, May 12th. The food drive is part of a national effort by Postal Service Letter Carriers to secure food for local food pantries.

The Letter Carriers will deliver announcement cards to each Kewanee home the week of the food drive, and volunteers from the Food Pantry will accompany the Kewanee Letter Carriers on their delivery routes on Saturday, May 12th to collect food items left on porches and near mail boxes. Drop boxes and barrels will be placed in the Post Office lobby, and at a number of locations in Kewanee to receive donations from rural residents, and those who use Post Office boxes. The food will be delivered to the Kewanee Food Pantry to be sorted and shelved for food boxes to be given to Food Pantry clients.

The Kewanee Food Pantry continues the mission of providing food to individuals and families who are unable to provide for basic food requirements because of lack of employment or income, inability to secure enough assistance from other agencies, or because of emergency situations.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mary Hahn	5/01
Jenny Leezer	5/01
Jacob Townsend	5/06
Michelle Croegaert	5/11
Margaret Gamble	5/19
Norma Fornoff	5/22
Robert Felten	5/25
Chris Cervantez	5/26
Louis "Chip" Wager	5/31

Anniversaries

LaJean and William Breedlove	5/02
Dawn and Kevin Hull	5/23
Mary and Gary Hahn	5/24
Cassi and Tim Streitmatter	5/27

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 AM, Sunday
Adult Bible Class &
Sunday School, 10:15 A.M.

7:00 PM, Wednesday

Rev. Robert Fischer, Pastor

309-852-2787 (Church Phone)
309-714-1181 (Cell Phone)
309-853-5394 (Home Phone)

E-mail: pastor@faithkewanee.org
Web Site: www.faithkewanee.org



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Address Correction Requested

Happy Mother's Day!

*"A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies. Her
children arise and call her blessed.
Charm is deceptive, and beauty is
fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD
is to be praised."*

(Proverbs 31:10, 28a, 29-30)