



Acts of Faith

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



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What if we told them? Excerpts from *Lutheran Witness* by Rev. Steve Schave 02/16/2017

We know two things: (1) The United States of America has become one of the greatest mission fields in the world as the statistic for the “unchurched” grows at a staggering rate. (2) Jesus commanded His disciples to proclaim a message of repentance and forgiveness of sins to the ends of the earth, starting from the heart of the local city. But what about little old me in my daily life? Does the thought of “being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you” send chills down your spine? Take heart. You have been equipped to tell others the Good News of Jesus Christ, who is the reason for your hope. You know how to confess your faith, and you practice it every week. On a regular basis, the whole Christian Church on earth confesses the ancient creeds that have been handed down to us. Yep, those very creeds and the confession of faith that you vowed to confess, even if it meant death, are at the very core of bearing witness to Christ.

There is no shortage of opportunities to reach out to the broken and the lost. Acts of mercy abound that allow you to meet and help truly hurting people. And with the theology of the cross and understanding the sanctity of human life, we can give a message of hope, explaining how the least are first and those written off by the world are the apple of God’s eye.

Our witness and actions are acts of love and mercy for the very people that have placed into our lives. Let’s start work now.

Letter Carriers and Food Pantry Food Drive: Kewanee Letter Carriers and the Kewanee Food Pantry are holding a community food drive to be held on **Saturday, May 13th**. The Kewanee Food Pantry continues the mission of providing food to individuals and families. Many 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.

Rebuilding Together Henry County is an organization in Henry County that helps lower income people with health and safety related home repairs and upgrades. A local Kewanee group has been organized to review and approve projects for rehabilitation in Kewanee. Funds for materials and volunteer manpower are needed to help complete these projects. All Kewanee congregations have been asked to contribute to their effort. The Church Council has approved the collection of a door offering to be held after the first two Sunday services in May for this purpose for anyone wanting to assist RTHC. Visit www.rebuildingtogether-gc.org

Anniversary Plans God has a special place for each of us to serve and Pastor Weber chose to serve as His voice by answering the call to the ministry twenty years ago this June. To honor this milestone, a committee is being formed to plan a celebration for pastor on Sunday, June 11. We would like your input and ideas. Gary Hahn has volunteered to lead the committee and anyone wishing to join it should contact Gary. Let’s meet to formulate plans on Tuesday, May 2, 6:30 PM at the church. Anyone wishing to contribute to a gift for Pastor, should give it to an elder.



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

May's Calendar

- May 01 LifeLight study 1:00 PM
- May 04 National Day of Prayer
- May 07 **Fourth Sunday After Easter**
Worship, Bible Study, & S.S.
 Mite box collection
- May 08 **No** LifeLight study
- May 10 Women of Faith Meeting 9:30 AM
- May 13 Kewanee Food Drive
- May 14 **Fifth Sunday After Easter**
Worship, Bible Study
 Happy Mother's Day
- May 15 LifeLight Study 1:00 PM
- May 16 Elders Mtg. 6:30 PM
 Church Council 7:00 PM
- May 21 **Sixth Sunday After Easter**
Worship, Bible Study
- May 22 LifeLight Study 1:00 PM
- May 25 Ascension of Our Lord
- May 28 **Seventh Sunday after Easter**
Worship, Bible Study
- May 29 Memorial Day Observance

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

If you have an article, a thank you, an idea, a suggestion, or a request for the next newsletter, give the information to the church office or send an e-mail to hahn.gary@comcast.net before May 23, 2017.

Altar Guild Schedule

May 7	JoAnn Behnke & Bonnie Newman	White
May 14	Mary Hahn	White
May 21	Kari Tavares	White
May 28	Sharon Larson	White
June 4	Marilyn Sturtevant	Red

Weekly Ushers:

- 1st Sunday: Ray Heinrich & Kevin Hull
- 2nd Sunday: Eric Cervantez & Nick Leezer
- 3rd Sunday: Nick Philips & Randy Stockner
- 4th Sunday: Mike Leezer & Wendell Hier

Elders List:

- Wayne Becker: 309-853-8783
- Kevin Hull: 309-852-0801
- Ron Larson: 309-853-5111
- Mike Leezer: 309-286-3014
- Ted Sturtevant: 309-853-8203
- Wendell Hier 309-853-8388

May Cleaning Schedule

Week starting	Team#	Type
May 7	Team #2	Weekly
May 14	Team #3	Weekly
May 21	Team #4	Weekly
May 28	Team #5	Weekly
June 4	Team #1	Monthly

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: Cari Bridgewater, Betty Godke, Tootie Godke, Doris Hier, Heidi Heinrich, and Lois Novotny

Friends: Karen Wright, Judi Umbarger, and SSG Camie Kelly

CID: Please remember in your prayers the outreach of Pastor Tom Phillips and his congregation, Christ the Lutheran for the Deaf, Jacksonville. Pastor Phillips is our CID missionary who travels the District to tell the Good News to the hearing impaired.



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 on Sunday morning, please fill out a prayer request, place in an envelope, and leave it in the office or hand it to Pastor.

Transfers: Sharon Field from Faith to St. Paul, Kewanee. Thank you Sharon for all your work and efforts at Faith.

May Birthdays

Mary Hahn	5/01
Jenny Leezer	5/01
Jacob Townsend	5/06
Michelle Croegaert	5/11
Wendell Hier	5/15
Nancy Gillespie	5/21
Jeri Erickson	5/26
Louis "Chip" Wager	5/31

Baptism Dates

Melisa Carper	05/27
Eric Cervantez	05/28
Cindy Ganschow	05/09
Mary Hahn	05/22
Ray Heinrich	05/07
Doris Hepner	05/17
Dylan Mallery	05/13
Cheryl Snyder	05/30
Miah Townsend	05/07

Wedding Anniversaries

LaJean and William Breedlove	5/02
Dawn and Kevin Hull	5/23
Mary and Gary Hahn	5/24

Correction: We missed Pastor **Paul Weber's** birthday last month. It was April 14th. Happy belated birthday wishes to Pastor Weber.

Women of Faith will meet on Wednesday, May 11th, at 9:30 AM. Pastor Weber will present a program on prison ministry. Coffee and refreshments will be available, and the entire congregation is invited to attend to learn more about the Chaplin's work in our detention centers.

LWML mites will be collected on May 7th. The final count for the 2015-2017 Mission Goal is \$2,097,904.23, surpassing the mission goal by nearly \$100,000.

Mother's Day cards are available in the Narthex for 50 cents each from the WOF recycled cards project. These funds along with Mite gifts are sent to the LWML for mission projects.

Sunday School News Leah Weber, Pastor's daughter, will be leading our Sunday School at Faith. Starting in May and going through the summer, a Pre-school through Kindergarten class will be held on the first Sunday of the month during regular worship time. Informational letters of invitation will be sent out to this age group families. With God's blessings and congregational support this small step will mean a renewed Sunday School program at Faith next fall. We ask for your prayers and support for Leah and our Faith families for this important educational activity.

Ascension Day is May 25th this year. It comes 40 days after Easter, on a Thursday, and recently is a seldom celebrated festival of the Church. But, the Ascension of Our Lord really is a wonderful festival, deserving of a day all its own. The fact that Christ "ascended into heaven" even rates a line in our Creeds! The accounts of the Ascension that St. Luke gives us, both at the end of his gospel and at the beginning of Acts, show Christ preparing his disciples for the ministry that the church will undertake once he ascends. Our Lord will return on the Last Day and welcome us into his everlasting kingdom. This is our good news!

Help Needed Women of Faith members have served many funeral luncheons for our church family members. This service has been greatly appreciated by families during the grieving period. We would like to expand our list of ladies willing to assist us in serving to ensure enough help is available when requested and to formulate "Serving Teams." If you would consider helping or you have questions contact Donna Becker (309-853-8783) or Nancy Tudder (309-854-5353).

Reminder A Memorial Fund has been established in the name of Rev. Robert Yount at Faith Lutheran. Rev. Yount was very instrumental in the establishing of Faith and served four years as our Shepherd, guiding us to become a Chartered LCMS congregation. Robert went to his glory with Christ last December, and a display in his honor has been set up in the Narthex. If you would like to contribute to this memorial fund please mark an offering envelope. It has been suggested a Processional Cross be purchase from the fund when monies are available.

Lilies decorated our Easter service Thank you to those who donated Lilies for the Easter Celebration.

Mike and Paula Leezer	Loved Ones	Gary and Mary Hahn	
Ray and Sandy Heinrich		Carol Schwefel	Loved Ones
Bill and Claudia Croegaert		Ron and Sharon Larson	Larson/Price Family
JoAnn Behnke	Donald Behnke	Jim and Carol Cook	Loved Ones
Joyce Long	Opal, Jeri, Elaine Kuster	Andy and Katie Talbot	Loved Ones
Sue Cervantez	All God's Blessings	Wayne and Donna Becker	Many Blessings

Central Illinois District's Response to the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

2017 is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and Martin Luther's posting of the 95 theses on the door of the Wittenberg's Castle Church. In the recent past, members of the CID-LCMS have been instrumental in rebuilding Wittenberg's Old Latin School and repurposing it into the International Lutheran Center. Additional support is needed for special 500th Anniversary programming at the Center. Tours, lectures, concerts, and socials will draw people from outside the Church to learn about Jesus, and salvation by grace, through faith in Him.



To meet those programming needs, a special appeal is being made to members of all CID congregations. Faith member's may donate through our congregation with a note on your check or envelope of **CID500**. We will have an opportunity to authorize an additional congregational gift at the July Voter's Assembly.

National Day of Prayer: The 66th annual National Day of Prayer will be held on Thursday, May 4, 2017. Take this opportunity to say a prayer for our nation, our governmental leaders, and those who defend and protect us. We know God listens and answers our prayers according to His will. But you don't need to wait for a special time or day to pray. God is ready and eager to hear your thanksgiving and petitions anytime, anywhere, and anyway.



God has given mothers a high calling in this world to participate in giving life, and to nurture and raise their children in the ways and love of the Lord. Nothing is more important in the world than that responsibility, and so it is good for us to give thanks and honor to our mothers.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive," said St. Paul, quoting our Lord (Acts 20:35). How can this be? Jesus and His disciples withdrew to a mountain by the shore of the Sea of Galilee. The crowds followed them, for the Lord had just showered upon them the gift of His teaching, the gift of His Word. But the day was waning; the sun was setting, and it was getting late. Looking upon the crowds, Jesus had compassion on them and asked, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat" (John 6:5)? Philip said that two hundred denarii (a day's wages for two hundred men) could not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.

But Andrew, Peter's brother, brought a young boy forward, who had five barley loaves and two small fish. "But," Andrew asked, "what are they for so many" (John 6:9). Jesus replied, "Have the people sit down" (John 6:10).

Then Jesus, the Son of God, gave them a second gift, a gift only He could give—a gift from above. He took the bread and the fish, gave thanks, blessed them, and distributed them to the crowd. Then came the miracle. As these five loaves and two fish were given out, they multiplied. He fed the hungry crowd until they were all full. And twelve baskets full were left over.

But Jesus was not the only one who gave that day. There is one person who also gave from what he had. It was the boy with the five loaves and the two fish. All the others, including the boy, received the gift of a miraculous feast. And they would look back on it with wonder. But the boy, when he would look back on it, would look back and remember not just what he received. He would look back with wonder and delight when the Son of God made his gift into something miraculous. For it is more blessed to give than to receive.

??? Are there any member family graduates we should recognize for their achievements this year? Please let Paula know or leave a note in the office.