



Acts of Faith

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



May 2023

Volume 2023 Issue 5

Pastor Paul Weber home: 309-764-3144 cell: 309-716-4759 email: chapemcc@gmail.com

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’” Now this He said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. John 7:37-39

Jesus spoke these words at the Temple during the Jewish festival of the Tabernacle, the O.T. celebration of God preserving His people by providing water for them while traveling in the Wilderness. Fifty days after His resurrection and ten days after His Ascension, that’s exactly what did happen! As instructed by Jesus, the apostles had gathered themselves in Jerusalem to wait and pray. They were an assortment of unimpressive, unemployed out-of-towners. Suddenly, a sound like the rushing of a great wind, filled the whole house where they were staying. Tongues of fire appeared on them. The Holy Spirit came upon them in power and strength, filling each of them, and they all began to speak in other languages. The miraculous ability to speak in different tongues equipped the apostles for communicating with the visitors staying in Jerusalem for the Festival of Weeks. That day, and the days that followed, saw thousands converted to the Christian faith and to responsible church membership. (Acts 2:1-4)



The miracle of Pentecost is not merely a past historical event. The Spirit’s wondrous activity goes on in the Church today. Keeping our faith and hope becomes ever more difficult these days as Christianity and conservative Christians become, the object of ridicule, mockery, and even suspicion. Many Christian congregations have, or can become apathetic and complacent. When we struggle with fear and doubt, the Holy Spirit invites us to pray for comfort and hope. Our Helper does not give us over to discouragement, but strengthens us in our faith. He reminds us that Christ, our Savior from sin and death, holds us firmly in His undying grip, and helps us hold firmly to Him. The Spirit does not give us over to uncertainty, but consoles us, confirming in us the belief that God’s Word is true and His promises sure. The Spirit gives us joy in the midst of grief and peace in the face of fear.

The Holy Spirit, active in the apostles on that first Pentecost, is the same Spirit who works in believers today. The dynamic Word proclaimed on Pentecost, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, crucified and risen from the dead, is the same Word proclaimed among us today. The Spirit unites believers through the bond of peace. Just like an artesian well that flows constantly with cold, pure, wonderful water, God fills us to overflowing with His Holy Spirit. Like the apostles on Pentecost, our courage and confidence in witnessing and telling others about Christ lie in the power of the Spirit and the Word. Christians need not only be aware of our sinful condition and need of a Savior, but we require hearing His Word recurrently to learn how to be His disciples and practicing followers of Christ Himself. May His “living water” refresh you daily as we gather to hear the Word and Sacrament, and pray for our congregation and the Church at large.

Spring Storm: On March 31, a tornado tore across the north side of Kewanee damaging buildings and felling trees. Our building and shed received damage including roof shingles blown off, siding broken and torn off, and metal fascia ripped away off our shed. (See picture on page 4) Power was off for almost a day prompting the cancellation of the Palm Sunday brunch plans, but normal Sunday worship was held. An insurance adjuster was called and a check has been received to cover repairs less \$1000 deductible. Temporary coverings were installed on the roof until the shingles can be replaced. There was significant damages to trees and homes adjacent to the church property.

We thank our Lord for protecting His house in this event, and pray for His blessings as we move forward in restoration of our buildings.

Worship Schedule
 9:00 am, Sunday Worship Service
 and 10:15 am Bible Study

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

May's Calendar

- May 1-3 CID Pastor's Conf. St. John's, Effingham
- May 04 National Day of Prayer
- May 07 **Fifth Sunday of Easter with Holy communion**
- May 08 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 pm
- May 14 **Sixth Sunday of Easter with Holy communion**
Mother's Day observance
- May 15 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 pm
- May 18 **Ascension of Our Lord Service 6:30 pm**
WOF meeting 10:00 am
Elders and Council Mtgs. 7:30 pm
- May 21 **Seventh Sunday of Easter with Holy communion**
- May 22 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 pm
- May 28 **Day of Pentecost with Holy communion**
- May 29 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 PM
Memorial Day Observance



May 07	Leah Weber	White
May 14	Mary Hahn	White
May 18	Mary Hahn	White
May 21	Sharon Larson	White
May 28	Kari Tavares	Red

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, Bonnie Nuding, Vanda Hallock, Kevin Hull, and Wayne Becker

Friends: Lacey Hammons, Jim Tudder, the citizens of oppressed Ukraine, 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.



Small Church Summit: On Saturday, June 3 from 10am to 2:30pm, Concordia Lutheran Church in Springfield will host the third Small Church Summit. You can attend for free. The featured presenter will be Pastor Todd Kollbaum, Director of LCMS Rural and Small Town Mission. He will talk about resources and cooperation: Helps for small churches & ways for various congregations to work together.

Talk with Pastor if interested in going along. Reservations must be made by May 26.



Graduations: If you or your son, daughter, or grandchild is a member, or is known to us at Faith and has/is graduating from high school, college, or trade school this spring, please notify us of their name, graduation date, and future plans by Sunday, May 21st, to be recognized in our June newsletter. E-mail hahn.gary@comcast.net or leave a note with Pastor.



Birthdays

Mary Hahn	5/01
Jenny Cole	5/01
Nancy Gillespie	5/21
Louis "Chip" Wager	5/31

Baptism Dates

Melisa Carper	05/27
Eric Cervantez	05/28
Sophie Cervantez	05/29
Ethan Cole	05/26
Cindy Ganschow	05/09
Mary Hahn	05/22
Cheryl Snyder	05/30
Heather Weber	05/10
Rev. Paul Weber	05/16



Wedding Anniversaries

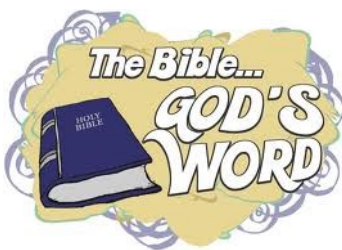
LaJean and William Breedlove	5/02
Dawn and Kevin Hull	5/23
Katy and Eric Cervantez	5/23
Mary and Gary Hahn	5/24

Women of Faith: The Women of Faith will meet on May 18th at 10:00 AM. All the ladies in the congregation are welcome to join the WOF for bible study, fellowship, and promoting mission work at home and abroad. Marilyn will be the hostess. Bring a brown bag lunch.

This month we invite you to bring your mites for the Mission Grant, Expanding God's Love in Uganda. The Lutheran Church of Uganda has asked LCMS for assistance to train deaconesses locally so that they may assist the small number of Lutheran pastors throughout Uganda. Thank you for your mites and for your prayers for this Mission Grant.

LWML's 40th Biennial Convention will be held in Milwaukee, WI on June 22-25, 2023. The Rock Island Zone will sponsor the Central Illinois District Convention in 2024.

Check out the greeting cards in the display rack! For only \$.75 you can get a pretty card for your occasion and the money goes to LWML missions.



Pastor will be resuming the Bible study on Christians in a Woke World: A Call to Courage, Confession and Love. Words like woke, social justice, systemic racism, privilege, and critical race theory have become part of our mainstream society. While many pundits and politicians have now begun to voice their concerns about this new ideology of "wokeness" and its impact on society, we must also be deeply concerned about the impact this ideology has on a person's relationship with Christ, and how to deal with it.

THANK YOU FOR THE EASTER LILIES THAT ADORNED OUR SANCTUARY

Sue Cervantez
 Nick and Sandy Phillips
 Ron and Sharon Larson
 Mike and Paula Leezer
 Nimrick Family
 Gary and Mary Hahn
 Jim and Carol Cook
 Sandy Heinrich
 Ted and Marilyn Sturtevant

In Memory of Parents
 In Honor of their 34th Wedding Anniversary
 In Honor of Larson and Price Families
 In Honor of Loved Ones
 In Honor of Loved Ones
 In Honor of Loved Ones
 In Honor of Loved Ones
 In Honor of Loved Ones
 In Honor of Loved Ones



Council Notes: The treasurer reported the General Fund balance is \$50,198.85 (includes \$6756.34 storm damage insurance reimbursement), and the Memorial/Dedicated Fund is \$14,115.47 for a total of \$64,314.32. CEF balance is \$150,267.29.

Maclin Talbot, baptized on 1/29/23, was recommended for membership.

The elevator repairs are completed, and now waiting on state inspector to return. A new outside faucet was installed by Ted. We are waiting on estimates to repair the siding and roof from the storm on 3/31.

Pastor attended a RI Circuit pastors meeting, and will be attending the CID Pastor conference May 1-3 in Effingham, IL. He continues to make shut-in and hospital calls as needed.

Faith is looking for a used cell phone to replace the office phone in order to reduce current phone charges. Anyone willing to donate one should contact Pastor or a Council member. Phone just needs to send/receive and store phone messages.

Regarding Mothers: *She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.* Proverbs 31:26-27



The Central Illinois District encourages its members to contribute one dollar per member per week for missions, in addition to their ordinary offerings. This kind of over-and-above giving is called "A Dollar for Missions"

What's your IQ on the Gospel writer Luke? True or False

1. Luke was a Jew.
2. Luke was a physician by trade.
3. Luke traveled with Paul on missionary trips.
4. Luke was one of the twelve disciples of Jesus.
5. Luke is considered to also be the author the Book of Acts.

To gain more incite to Luke and his Gospel, join the LifeLight Bible Study group beginning on Monday, May 8th, at 1:00 pm. This nine week session will devote itself to the first chapters of Luke. (See answers below.)

May 18th is Ascension Day, an important festival day in the Church year, occurring 40 days after Easter, and marks the day when our Lord rose into the clouds and was taken up into Heaven. This Ascension Day, recall what Jesus accomplished for you, and join us at 6:30 pm for this special worship opportunity.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Amen



Minor damage was done to the roof and south side of Faith's building and shed from EF-2 tornado that hit the north side of Kewanee on March 31, 2023.



"He's not in there! Oh, wait - he's changed his status to 'risen' "

Answers: 1. False, he was a gentile, probably a Greek 2.True, Paul refers to him as a physician. 3.True, Luke was a travel companion on some of Paul's journeys. 4.False, There is no Biblical indication that Luke ever met Jesus himself. 5.True, Luke is credited as the author of "Acts", and only gentile author in the Bible.