



# Acts of Faith

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



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**Fear:** What are you afraid of? Is what you fear a present danger? Or is it just an abstract possibility? Some fears make sense. Some don't. If what you fear is something you really have to face, then get ready for it. Learn about its real dangers. Learn what others have done to overcome it. Deal with it calmly, deliberately, decisively. You do not have to live in fear. You can live with fear. With God's help you can even conquer your fears. The Bible tells us: "perfect love casts out fear" (1 John 4:18). "And we ourselves have known and have believed the love which God has among us. God is love, and he who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him" (4:16). So trust the God who loves you, and "Do not be afraid" (Gen. 15:1 + 128 more times).

But you still have fears. What do you fear most? I am pretty sure that that is the wrong fear. How can I say that? Because I know what should be everyone's greatest fear. Jesus taught: "stop being afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; but rather fear Him who can ruin both soul and body in hell" (Matt. 10:28). We naturally fear what might kill us, whether it is someone pointing a deadly weapon at us, or an angry mob, or a virus. But nothing on earth which can kill us can send us to hell. Who can do that? Only God. But God also is the only One who can "raise those who are dead and make them alive" (John 5:21). So "we should fear, love, and trust in God above all things" (Luther's *Small Catechism*, first commandment).

The Bible teaches how we benefit from having a healthy fear of God. "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who do these things have good comprehension" (Psalm 111:10). "You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD: He is their help and their shield" (Ps. 115:11). "Happy is everyone who fears the LORD, who goes in His ways. ... you will be happy, and it will be good for you" (Ps. 128:1-2). "In this way a man who fears the LORD will be blessed" (Ps. 128:4). "O LORD ... with You there is pardon, in order that You may be feared" (Ps. 130:3-4). "The fear of the LORD is to hate evil" (Prov. 8:13). "The fear of the LORD adds days, but the years of wicked people will be short" (Pr. 10:27). "The fear of the LORD is for life, and he will spend the night satisfied, he will not be visited by evil" (Pr. 19:23).

"Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world be intimidated by Him" (Ps. 33:8). The world has lots of problems, because people do not fear the LORD enough. They commit crimes, thinking no one can see them. But God sees everything, and He will right all wrongs. "For we all must appear in front of the judicial bench of Christ, in order that each would get the things for which he strove through the body, whether good or bad" (2 Cor. 5:10). If people feared the LORD's judgment, we would do less evil and more good. May God give us biblical fear: "My flesh bristled due to the dread of You, and I was afraid of Your judgments" (Ps. 119:120). Yet believe God's promises: "Fear the LORD, you His saints, because there is no lack for those who fear Him" (Ps. 34:9).

When we fear the LORD, we have nothing else to fear. God promised through the prophet Isaiah: "this is what the LORD said, He who created you ... and He who formed you ...: 'Do not be afraid, because I redeemed you; I called you by name; you are Mine'" (Is. 43:1). God sent His Son to rescue you from all fears. At Jesus' birth an angel announced: "Stop being afraid, for ... I am telling you a good message of great joy which will be for all the people, because a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, was born for you" (Luke 2:10-11). On Easter an "angel said, 'stop being afraid, for I know that you are seeking Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He was raised'" (Matt. 28:6). "So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word. And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice!" ... Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go, tell My brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me." (Matt. 28:8-10) Jesus lived, died, and rose in order to give you life with God even after death.

(continued on page 2)

**Worship Schedule**  
**9:00 AM, Sunday Worship Service**

**October's Calendar**

- Oct. 04** 17th Sunday after Pentecost  
Worship with Holy Communion  
LWML Sunday
- Oct. 07 LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 PM
- Oct. 11** 18th Sunday after Pentecost  
Worship with Holy Communion  
Clergy Appreciation Day
- Oct. 12 LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 PM  
Columbus Day
- Oct. 15 WOF Meeting 10:00AM
- Oct. 18** 19th Sunday after Pentecost  
Worship with Holy Communion
- Oct. 19 LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 PM
- Oct. 20 Elders Mtg. 6:30 PM  
Church Council 7:00 PM
- Oct. 25** Reformation Sunday  
Worship with Holy Communion
- Oct. 26 LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 PM
- Oct. 31 Reformation Day/Halloween Celebration

**Altar Guild Schedule**

- Oct. 04 Sharon Larsson Green
- Oct. 11 Marilyn Sturtevant Green
- Oct. 18 Mary Hahn Green
- Oct. 25 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

**Prayer Requests:** Please help to keep this list current by calling the church office or talking with Pastor when a name can be added or removed.

**REMEMBER:** Please contact the office and inform us of any changes of name, address, marital status, e-mail, phone, and cell phone. E-mail addresses are most important in these changing times to communicate with each other.

**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:** Allison Leezer, Cari Bridgewater, Nancy Tudder, Cheryl Snyder, and Heidi Heinrich.

**Friends:** Sue Copeland, Ron Pettit, Lacey Hammons, Barbra Kraklow, Kent West, Gordon Vickrey, 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.

**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.

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the Louise Tharp family, mother of LaJean Breedlove, who died on August 20.



*(Fear continued from page 1)*

So, "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Luke 12:32). No matter what might cause us to fear, every Christian can say with Martin Luther: "Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us, We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not overpower us ... Our victory has been won; The kingdom ours remaineth" (LSB 656:3-4). God's Son Jesus Christ won our victory over every form of evil. Trust Jesus to relieve your fears!

**Rev. Mark Eddy**, Zion, Taylor Ridge, IL

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

October 2	Jane Davis
October 7	J Wayne Becker
October 8	Ted Sturtevant
October 11	Michael Leezer
October 19	Judy Bridgewater
October 20	Myrene Carper
October 20	Sharon Larson
October 22	Paul Estes
October 27	Sandra Heinrich
October 28	Gary Hahn
October 30	Tinsley Newman

## Baptism Dates

LaJean Breedlove	10/01
Sara Nimrick	10/01
Erin Tarvares	10/04

## Wedding Anniversaries

October 02	William and Claudia Croegaert
October 18	Ronald and Sharon Larson

**Women of Faith:** The ladies will be meeting on Thursday, **October 15th**, at 10:00AM, to work on greeting cards. Nancy is the hostess. Bring a can of soup to make Hobo Stew for lunch.



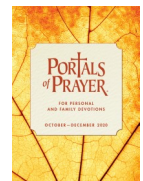
This month's mites go toward LWML Grant #15, Pre- and Post-Seminary Training for Local Church Workers in Africa. The Lutheran church continues to grow in Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. The churches are led by lay leaders and ordained pastors desiring more training. There are approximately 250 people taking part in various areas of study through LCMS Continuing Education courses. The grant will help to provide funds to cover transportation, lodging, and food costs. Please join us in making a joyful noise to the Lord! The LWML has collected over 127 million dollars since 1942. These coins continue to make a difference. Thank you for contributing to the Mite Box and providing the opportunity for us to spread the Gospel to the world.

The ladies are sponsoring a **Dandy Dipper Drive** in October in conjunction with Thrivent Financial Action Team. Disposal dippers (any size) will be collected in the Narthex during the month and then donated to the Henry/Stark County Health Departments for distribution to needy families in the area.



**Lifelight Bible Study:** This fall's study will be on **1,2,3 John**. Each 9 week session is on Monday from 1:00–2:00 PM with fellowship at the end. Guests are always invited to sit in.

**Portals of Prayer:** Issues for Oct.-Dec. are available in the Narthex with different print sizes. Please help yourself or ask a friend to pick one up for you.



**Halleluiah:** We rejoice with the congregation of St. Matthew, Milan, because Rev. Kurt Larson has accepted their call.. Installation will be on Oct 11 at 3pm, service done in the church parking lot.

## LCMS Stewardship Ministry– October 2020

We celebrate the Reformation at the end of each October. The Reformation began on All Saints' Eve in 1517, which was when Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. So, let's hear from Luther himself on the topic of giving and stewardship.

In the Small Catechism under the Table of Duties, Martin Luther gives specific Bible passages to help Christians know their duty in their various vocations as members of their family, society at large, and in God's family, the Church. Under the heading "What Hearers Owe Their Pastors," Luther lists five passages from the Bible, three of which have to do with giving to your local congregation. They are these:

"The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel." (1 Cor. 9:14)

"Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows." (Gal. 6:6–7)

"The elders [presbyters, i.e., pastors] who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, 'Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,' and 'The worker deserves his wages.'" (1 Tim. 5:17–18)

Luther comments on these passages in his 1535 Lectures on Galatians. He wrote:

"When Paul says 'all good things,' this is not to be taken to mean that everyone should share all his possessions with his preacher. No, it means that he should provide for him liberally, giving him as much as is needed to support his life in comfort. ... The apostle is so serious in advocating this topic of support for preachers that he adds a threat to his denunciation and exhortation, saying: 'God is not mocked.' ... All this pertains to the topic of support for ministers. I do not like to interpret such passages; for they seem to commend us, as in fact they do. In addition, it gives the appearance of greed if one emphasizes these things diligently to one's hearers. Nevertheless, people should be taught also about this matter, in order that they may know that they owe both respect and support to their preachers. Christ teaches the same thing in Luke 10:7: 'Eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages'; and Paul says elsewhere (1 Cor. 9:13–14): 'Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the Gospel should get their living by the Gospel.' It is important for us who are in the ministry to know this, so that we do not have a bad conscience about accepting for our work wages."

**Keep Christ on Campus:** The Central Illinois District has important campus ministries at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Illinois State University, Eastern Illinois University, and Western Illinois University. It has become more and more financially difficult to maintain these ministries. This will be still harder in the future, as the District will likely receive fewer dollars to apply to mission efforts.

Enter Lutheran Legacy Foundation of Paris, Illinois! Four endowment funds created by Lutheran Legacy, one for each current campus, will provide the District with earnings with which it can continue to support ministry to students, faculty, and staff members. Lutheran Legacy has contributed an initial \$10,000 apiece to these funds. What's more, Lutheran Legacy will also match, dollar for dollar, the first \$10,000 contributed to each of the funds between now and July 1, 2021.

Won't you contribute to one or more of these endowment funds? Now is a great time for a gift to continue the Central Illinois District's historic strong support of campus ministry. Under the Lord's blessing, your gift will help to insure keeping Christ on campus for years to come.

To find more information or donate please visit: <https://www.lutheranlegacyfoundation.org/.../central.../>

### Treasurer's Report:

Income thru July 2020	\$47,244.72	General Fund Balance-09/20/2020	\$39,049.09
Expenses thru July 2020	\$40,570.44	Memorial/Designated Fund 09/20/2020	\$17,070.07
Net Income as of 07/2020	\$6,674.28	Total Funds Balance	\$56,119.16
CID CEF Balance 09/01/2020	\$199,827.70		