



Acts of Faith

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



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What is marriage? Mark 10:6–8 “*But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh.*”

In recent years, our country – along with most all the (formerly) Christian nations of Europe – has lost its way when it comes to marriage. Check out the media. Surf the web. Gay marriage is the hot topic of our rapidly-changing culture. Many young people view marriage equality as the civil rights issue of our time. Others think it’s all about love. And truth be told, many Christians feel embarrassed. Almost all of us have friends and relatives who struggle with homosexuality, and we love them dearly. Living together is common among us, and even Christian divorce rates are high. Who are we to talk? And who wants to be labeled a hater or called a bigot?

We have ignored the fact that it is God who created us. We always go off the tracks when we forget that He made us and that everything good in this world comes from His hand. In big things and in small things, in the life of a nation or the life of an individual, things go dreadfully wrong when we ignore the Creator’s instructions for life. Marriage binds a man to his wife and binds parents to their children. By our selfishness, we have often made a mess of things, but God’s design is still good.

More than a mere moral issue, marriage gets to the heart of our faith. St. Paul compares it to Christ’s sacrificial love for His bride, the Church (Eph. 5:25–26). When we confess marriage, we confess the Lord who created us male and female. When we confess marriage, we proclaim our heavenly hope, looking forward to the day when the Church, “prepared as a bride adorned for her husband,” meets our Lord face-to-face (Rev. 21:1–2).

The religious freedom, guaranteed in our nation’s Constitution, today is eroding amid continuous assaults. Redefining marriage, as the Supreme court has done, is a direct and demonstrated threat to religious freedom that marginalizes those who affirm marriage as the union of a man and a woman. Where the government, the culture and faith conflict, all Christians can and must speak up and out in support of religious liberty. The Supreme Court, like any human institution, is prone to errors. As Christians, we recognize that there is a higher heavenly court and that God’s Word does not change. We also recognize that unjust decisions must be challenged for the good of our citizens.

When we stand up for marriage, we take pride in the One who has always stood up for us. The world may say awful things about us, persecution may follow, but the love of Christ compels us to speak. In Him alone is healing for our fallen world. And in Him alone we stand securely as we await the wedding feast (Matt. 22:1–14).

The devil, through the world society, is continually attacking our faith and pressuring us to conform to their misguided view. As the generations of today and tomorrow fall more in line with this thinking they are progressively rejecting God and His word all together. We are called to hear and reflect upon God’s Word and once more come to Him for forgiveness. Then, in love, share this good news of God’s great mercy with others.

“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” Matthew 16:18

¹Excerpts from *Confessing Marriage, Confessing Christ Marriage*, Rev. Dr. Peter Scare, LW, Oct. 2013

October's Calendar

- Oct. 03 **19th Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Oct. 04 LifeLight Bible Study 1 PM
- Oct. 10 **20th Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship with Holy Communion
Clergy Appreciation Day Observance
- Oct. 11 LifeLight Bible study 1:00 PM
Columbus Day Observance
- Oct. 14 **OKTOBERFEST** dinner 4:30-6:30 PM
- Oct. 17 **21st Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Oct. 18 LifeLight Bible Study 1 PM
- Oct. 19 W.O.F. Meeting 10:00 AM
- Oct. 21 Elders & Council Meeting 6:30 & 7:00 PM
- Oct. 24 **22nd Sunday after Pentecost**
Worship with Holy Communion
- Oct. 31 **Reformation Day**

Worship Schedule
9:00 AM Sunday Worship Service
10:00 AM Bible Study

Altar Guild Schedule

Oct. 03	Mary Hahn	Green
Oct. 10	Sharon Larson	Green
Oct. 17	Kari Tavares	Green
Oct. 24	Marilyn Sturtevant	Green
Oct. 31	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: 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, please notify Pastor Weber via e-mail or phone.

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 John J. Hernandez.

Friends: Jeff Bowman, Sue Copeland, Ron Pettit, Lacey Hammons, Kent West, Katie Yarger, Jim Tudder, 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.

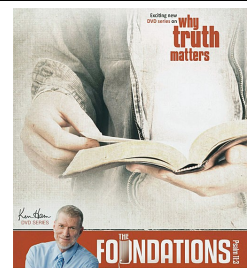
Our World: That Lord of all will bring healing to those who are sick, comfort to those who mourn, care for those who tend and care for the ill, and bring an end to the spread of this virus.



Sunday Bible Study: Pastor Weber is leading a DVD Bible study entitled "The Foundations." The Foundations reveals the alarming state of Christianity today. The Foundations DVD series reflects Ken Ham's lifework in affirming the authority of God's Word. The 12 sessions inform Christians of the foundational nature of today's attacks on the Word of God, beginning in Genesis.

Our government has taken the position that America is no longer a "Christian" nation, but it is what ever you want it to be. Meanwhile, atheists are on the attack of religion, especially Christianity here and abroad. Churches are closing at an increasing rate. Just take a look a few blocks to our West, and also within our LCMS District.

Please consider bringing your coffee and joining us in the fellowship Hall on Sunday morning to learn what we as God's church need to do as Christians in our worldly society.





Birthdays of the Month

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 Tuesday, **October 19th**, at 10:00AM. Bring a can of non-creamy soup for a Hobo Soup lunch. Donna is the hostess and the program will be a LWML Bible study. On October 3rd we are celebrating LWML Sunday. This year's LWML Sunday theme is "Our Hearts in HIS Hand," based on 1 Peter 4:8: Above all, keep loving one another earnestly. Verse 11b goes on to say: that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. We glorify God by sharing His love with others. LWML Mission Grant #2 for the 2021–2023 biennium is "Healing the Invisible Wounds of War through Horses." Spirit Warrior horses and a deaconess are ministering to returning soldiers who often experience a conflict between their moral standards and the orders they had to carry out while in uniform. We invite you to bring your mites this Sunday to support this mission grant. Because of your generous donations to mites, we can share the Gospel throughout the world. Join us as we give thanks and praise to God. Thank you for supporting the LWML!



On September 21, Marilyn Sturtevant, Donna Becker and Mary Hahn attended the LWML Fall Rally for the R.I Zone at St. John's, Geneseo. Mary gave an invitation to the zone members to come to Kewanee for next year's 2022 LWML Fall Rally which will be hosted by the ladies of Faith. She gave five outstanding reasons for visiting Kewanee, which included the Hog Days celebration, our American flag banners, Good's Furniture store, the Walldog Murals, and to attend the LWML Fall Rally on September 20, 2022. Please save that date as help will be need.



LifeLight Bible Study continues on Mondays at 1:00 PM. We are studying *Timothy, Titus and Philemon*, St. Paul's pastoral letters. Each week's session will go from 1:00–2:00 PM with fellowship at the end. Please contact Gary Hahn, or leave a note in the office if you are interested in joining. Guests are always invited to sit in.



BIBLE QUIZ : What were the names of Joseph's two sons?

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| A) Esau and Jacob | C) Thomas and Peter |
| B) Manasseh and Ephraim | D) Isaac and Obadiah |

Hint: See Genesis 48:1 (Answer on page 4)

OKTOBERFEST 2021: A group of members met on September 13th to plan an Oktoberfest dinner at Faith.



It was decided to hold the October 14th event as a take out dinner only. This is in response to the elevated cases of COVID in our area. Meals will be served under the front portico of the church. Due to inflation of the cost of food stuffs, the price of the dinner was raised to \$12.00, which includes a bratwurst sandwich, German potato salad, sauerkraut, a dessert, and bottle of water. Advance ticket sales are encouraged to help determine the amount of food to prepare. Tickets are available from Wayne Becker, and money should be returned to him preferably no later than October 10th. Meals may be purchased at the drive thru line. Serving will be from 4:30 to 6:30 that evening. A volunteer helper sign up sheet is available in the narthex. Also, fruit pies or sheet cakes donations are requested for dessert servings.

Proceeds from this event will be distributed between the church's mortgage debt and Lutheran Church Charities ministries. Thrivent Financial has approved our project and has sent a kit with \$250 to help defer the cost of food. We thank them for their generous support to our community.

LCC is providing assistance to St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Beecher City, IL whose building was destroyed by fire as they were conducting their own Oktoberfest dinner on September 19th. The wood structure was 150 years old, but while it is gone the church body still remains strong. LCC is also providing assistance to those suffering from hurricane losses in Louisiana.

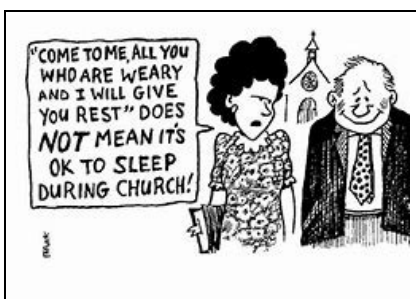
Recycling Cans: Faith continues to gather aluminum cans and items for recycling. Bill Croegaert is loading and transferring them for Faith. Place cans in plastic bags near the lower level doors or place them in the garage. Help our environment and congregation.



CID- District Convention: CID Convention date has been moved to **July 17- 19, 2022** at the Crowne Plaza, Hotel and Convention Center, Springfield, IL (per latest CID news).

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

Council News: The September Council meeting was cancelled because of members' absences.

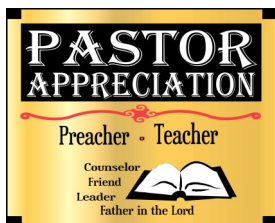


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Wittenberg, 1517 "Nailed it"

Celebrated on the last Sunday in October, Reformation Sunday commemorates the Protestant Reformation as well as Martin Luther, who nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517, the eve of All Saints' Day



October 10, 2021 is Pastor Appreciation Sunday!

Thank you Pastor Weber for being true to the Word, for reflecting Jesus, and being a blessing to us at Faith.

Romans 3:20 – **“For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.”**

Quiz Answer is (B)