



# Acts of Faith

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



October 2023

Volume 23 Issue 10

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

**Witnessing to Others:** Last month Pastor led a group of members through a LCMS evangelism program, Every One His Witness. The purpose was to familiarize believers with the basics of witnessing. It addressed why we witness and how to be a witness for Jesus. Witness is a legal term indicating a person of knowledge about a subject, or the truth that is told in testimony. God calls on His people to be witnesses both among fellow believers and to people in the world. God commanded His people Israel, after the exodus from Egypt to teach future generations concerning His mighty deeds and write them down for remembrance. In the New Testament we learn of John the Baptist being called as a witness to the coming Christ. *“There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.”* John 1:6-8

Jesus was “the faithful witness” that came from Heaven to earth to bring truth and to witness to God’s love, mercy and grace. It continues today through the Holy Spirit in us. Martin Luther put it this way: “We live on earth only so that we should be a help to other people...Everything should be directed in such a way that you recognize what God has done for you and you make it your highest priority to proclaim this publicly and call everyone to the light to which you are called.” But saving people is God’s work, not ours. Then why does He include us sinners in this task? By having a role in God’s mission of seeking and saving all people He shows us His great love and wisdom. *“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”* Eph. 2:10 We are called to be witnesses where and with whom God has placed us. There is no part of our lives that isn’t included in God’s purpose and working for and in us, this means inside and outside the church. It includes our family, our occupation, our neighbors, and our church.

The way we go about sharing the Good News of Jesus needs to take many factors into account. These include one’s culture and personality, our relationship and experiences we have had with them, and the setting. *“In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.”* 1 Peter 3:15-16 LASSIE is one approach to witnessing to those in our lives. It stands for Listen, Ask, Seek, Share, Invite, and Encourage. These are intentional actions to better understand people we seek to share the Gospel. This a way to engage people with the Gospel. Before engaging someone, first understand the way this person connects and communicates. It will be predominantly one of three types: head, heart, or hands.

If you missed the classes, Pastor has the videos and workbooks to catch you up. Look around, who needs Christ in their life?

**Josh Bieri Bulletin:** Joshua with wife, Chrystal, and sons, Jake and Isaac send greetings from Concordia, Fort Wayne Seminary. Joshua Bieri is a seminary student from Taylor Ridge, IL. Josh is now officially a seminarian. As of September 5th, the 178th academic year at Concordia Theological Seminary has officially begun. The first couple weeks have been quite an adjustment, even from Greek. It is certainly a different kind of busy! Josh and family are starting to get the right balance figured out between family time, reading, homework, and papers. His first scholastic paper that he has written in twenty years or so is due on Monday. It truly is an exciting time and Josh is eager to take on the coming challenges on his way to becoming a shepherd in Christ’s flock. Josh also tried out for the Kantorei choir this year and made it! The Kantorei is the seminary’s choir that goes on tour and does recordings and all sorts of fun things like that. They will be going on tour in the Midwest somewhere during the break between winter and spring quarters. He will be sure to keep you posted when and where exact tour stops will be when he finds out!

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



Oct. 1 Mary Hahn (Green)  
 Oct. 8 Sharon Larson (Green)  
 Oct. 15 Marilyn Sturtevant (Green)  
 Oct. 22 Kari Tavares (Green)  
 Oct. 29 Leah Weber (Red)

**October's Calendar**

**Oct. 01 18th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**  
**Worship with Holy Communion**  
**LWML Sunday**

Oct. 02 LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 PM  
 CID Pastor's Conf. Normal, IL

Oct. 05 WOF Mtg. 9:00AM

**Oct. 08 19th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**  
**Worship with Holy Communion**  
**Pastor Appreciation Sunday**

Oct. 09 LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 PM

Oct. 11 Food Preparations 9:00– Noon

Oct. 12 **Oktoberfest** Preparations 9:00-Noon  
 Dinner 4:30-6:30 PM

**Oct. 15 20th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**  
**Worship with Holy Communion**

Oct. 16 LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 PM

Oct. 19 Elders Mtg. 6:30 PM  
 Church Council 7:00 PM

**Oct. 22 20th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)**  
**Worship with Holy Communion**

Oct. 23 LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 PM

**Oct. 29 Reformation Sunday Observance**  
**Worship with Holy Communion (Red)**

Oct. 30 LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 PM

Oct. 31 Reformation Day  
 Halloween Observance

**ELDER'S LIST:**

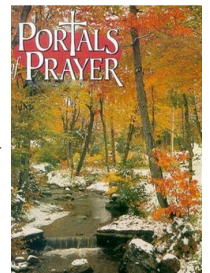
Wayne Becker: 309-853-8783  
 Kevin Hull: 309-852-0801  
 Ron Larson: 309-853-5111  
 Ted Sturtevant: 309-853-8203

**USHER'S LIST**

1st Sunday: Ted Sturtevant  
 2nd Sunday: Nick Phillips  
 3rd Sunday: Gary Hahn  
 4th Sunday: Kevin Hull  
 5th Sunday: Jim Cook

**WELCOME:** We welcome Mrs. Jeri Bye who has transferred to Faith from Lighthouse Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Pentwater, MI. Her husband was a minister in the LCMS. She has moved to Kewanee and has horses and dogs to tend to here.

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



**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, Wayne Becker, Glen Godke, and Vanda Hallock,

**Friends:** Lacey Hammonds, Jim Tudder, Steve Faber, and all military personnel and first responders.

**CID:** Our campus, prison, deaf, and Hispanic missions in the District need your prayers and support.

**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.

**Our World:** Citizens of and those in Ukraine that peace may come to this land.

*Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy*





## Birthdays

October 1 Leah Weber  
 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  
 October 31 James Cook

## Baptism Dates

LaJean Breedlove	10/01
Sara Nimrick	10/01
Erin Tavares	10/04
Cade Knox	10/11



## Wedding Anniversaries

October 02 William and Claudia Croegaert (52)  
 October 18 Ronald and Sharon Larson (37)



**Women of Faith:** The ladies will be meeting on Thursday, **October 5th**, at 9:00AM to bake pies for the Oktoberfest dinner. Bring a brown bag lunch; a business meeting will follow lunch. Donna is the hostess.

This month we are focusing on the LWML Mission Grant, "Showering Love on the Least of These" for the Mercy Holistic Ministry, a Sacramento CA based non-profit organization, providing resources to the poor households, orphans, street children, senior citizens and their families living in rural and urban centers with the intention to achieve both physical and spiritual well-being of the people. The Mercy Holistic Ministry is not only about the services it provides. It is also about the warm caring relationship we build with the people we serve. The ultimate goal of Mercy Holistic Ministry is to create a sustainable and diversified livelihood system among the target beneficiary communities through the provision of technical, material, and spiritual support. Thank you for your support of this Mission Grant.

The WOF ladies are collecting used postage stamps, empty prescription bottles, old Portals of Prayers books and Bibles. Collection boxes for these items are in the Narthex.

## Seoul Travelogue Presentation

On September 11, Heather and Leah Weber presented a program at Faith about their trips to Seoul, South Korea. The program began with a serving of *bibimbap*, a popular meat based dish of the region. It consists of warm rice topped with beef, a variety of vegetables, egg, and seasoned sauce. Pickled radishes was the side. Chop sticks and spoons were available for use.

Heather presented pictures of Pastor and her journey when they visited their daughter in July. These included the International Lutheran Church and its parsonage in which they stayed in

Seoul, as well as scenes from around the city and their local cuisine. Heather looks forward to returning to Seoul to see the sites they missed on this trip. Thank you Heather and Leah for this wonderful presentation.



Bibimbap buffet



**Church Council Report:** The treasurer reported the General Fund balance is \$40,251.55, the Memorial/Dedicated Fund is \$13,683.97 for a total of \$53,935.52. The Church Extension Fund Balance is \$142,017.06. The elevator repair bill was received and paid \$2934. The roof repair cost was \$3712. and a down payment for the siding was paid to Alzid, to begin replacement of the siding on the south side of the building. It is hoped the insurance company will reimburse additional dollars once the final bills are paid.

Council approved the transfer-in of Mrs. Jeri Bye from Lighthouse Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Pentwater, MI.

Siding replacement is underway on the Southside of the church. Ted has installed a new parking sign as you enter our property.

**OKTOBERFEST 2023:** This year's Oktoberfest dinner will once again be a drive thru meal on October 12th. Meals will be served under the front portico of the church. The price of the dinner is \$12.00, which includes a bratwurst sandwich, German potato salad, sauerkraut, and dessert. Advance ticket sales are encouraged to help determine the amount of food to prepare. Tickets are available from Ted Sturtevant, and money should be returned to him, preferably no later than October 8th. Meals may be purchased at the drive thru line. Serving will be from 4:30 to 6:30pm that evening. A volunteer helper sign up sheet is available in the narthex. Also, fruit pies donations are requested for dessert servings.



Proceeds from this event will be used to offset the cost of damage repairs from last spring's storm. 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.

**Happy 90th Donna:** The WOF had cupcakes for Donna Becker to help celebrate her 90th birthday on September 11th. Leah Weber made and donated the cupcakes for WOF. Thanks Leah!



**Q:** What are Vespers found in the Lutheran Service Book (LSB)?

**A:** Vespers is a Latin word meaning "evening." Vespers is an order of service and part of what is called the Daily Office. It was retained at the time of the Reformation as one of two daily services, the other being Matins. The historic church used this to keep people connected to God and in community with His Word throughout their working lives. While most churches do not observe these Daily Offices today, we still retain their settings, and they are certainly beneficial to incorporate into the life of the church, devotions with family, or other settings. Vespers included the following: psalms, a lesson, responsory, hymn and versicle, a canticle from the Gospel (Magnificat), the Litany, Lord's Prayer, and collect. Vespers are found on page 229 of the LSB and can be used for evening service, and Lenten and Advent services.

**Recycling:** Remember the church is still collecting aluminum cans for recycling. Please leave your bag of cans at the rear overhang for storage in the garage until we have enough to justify a trip to the Cities.



### Here's Your Sign:

A parking sign has been installed at the entrance to our property to discourage the use of the parking lot by others not there for church purposes. Did you notice it?



"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32