



Acts of Faith

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



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In observance of Labor Day 2012, LCMS Worship Director William Weedon offered this devotional:

“The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it” (Gen. 2:15 ESV).

In our fallen state of mind we are always tempted to think of work as a consequence of that fall. But Scripture reveals to our shock that God created us to work—even in Paradise there was work for Adam to do! It was a holy and blessed thing; a joyful task to accomplish in the presence of God, for His glory, and for the good of his family and himself. So then, not work per se, but the frustration of work at times not bearing fruit is a result of the fall:



“Thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return” (Gen. 3:18-19 ESV).

Because of the fall into sin, work can be drudgery, unproductive, backbreaking and heartbreaking. Work can become yet another arena in life where folks take advantage of each other and make what God gave as a joy end up as struggle and misery.

And yet have you ever noticed how it doesn't take too much vacation before we grow restive? We begin to itch to get back to work again. We seem to have this built-in need to be productive, to work and see results, and so we keep at it, even when at times it exasperates us. The truth is, not working is itself rather unnatural, as the many unemployed and underemployed in our land at present will heartily attest. It's not right. We were made to work—we feel it in our bones.

We usually call it the Third Commandment and focus on its first part: Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. But let us not forget how the rest of it goes: Six days you shall labor and do all your work. The pattern established there on Sinai is six days devoted to labor and then one day devoted to rest.

On this Labor Day, when we remember the blessing of being able to work, let us remember Him who proclaimed: “My Father is working till now and I am working” (John 5:17) and whose Apostle could urge: “Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need” (Eph. 4:28 ESV).

We Pray:

Working Lord, whose rough hands knew the lathe and the saw, receive our thanks and praise today for the gift of work. Forgive us for all the times we have grumbled against your good gift. Forgive us for all the times we have misused the calling to work, giving into laziness, taking advantage of others. Remember in mercy the many, many people of this land who would gladly work but can find no gainful employment. Preserve them from despair, open up new paths for them, and lift them again to the dignity of work for which they long. Help all of us to treasure the high calling you have given to be co-workers with you in bringing blessing to others through the labor of our hands, minds, and lives. We ask this in Your name, You who finished Your labors on Calvary's tree to build for us an eternal home. Amen!

“Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him” (1 Cor. 7:17).

Worship Schedule
9:00 AM, Sunday Worship Service

September's Calendar

- Sept 06** 13th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship with Holy Communion
- Sept. 07 Labor Day Observance
- Sept. 12 LLL retreat at Camp CILCA
- Sept 13** 14th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship with Holy Communion
Grandparents Day Observance
- Sept 20** 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship with Holy Communion
Voters' Assembly Mtg. 10:00 AM
- Sept. 22 Fall Begins
LWML Fall Rally 9:00 AM Geneseo
- Sept 24 WOF Meeting 10:00AM
- Sept 27** 16th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship with Holy Communion
- Sept 28 LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 PM session 1

Altar Guild Schedule

- Sept.06 Sharon Larsson Green
- Sept. 13 Mary Hahn Green
- Sept. 20 Leah Weber Green
- Sept. 27 Kari Tavares Green

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.

Those for Whom We Pray: Please include the following in your thoughts and daily prayers.

Our Faith family: Allison Leezer, Cari Bridgewater, Betty Godke, Tootie Godke, Bonnie Nuding, Nancy Tudder, Cheryl Snyder, Marvin Newman, and Heidi Heinrich.

Friends: Jeff Bowman, Karen Wright, Rev. Burnell Eckhardt, Sue Copeland, Ron Pettit, Lacey Hammons, Alan and Barb Kraklow, Chuck Weber, 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 Richard Werderman family, brother of Claudia Croegaert, who died on August 17 at his home, and the Carroll Powel family, aunt of Paula Leezer, who died on August 11, 2020.



Lutheran Hour Ministry Radio Program

Station	City, State	Freq.	Day & Time
WKEI	Kewanee, IL	1450 AM	Sun 5:30 AM

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

For those who are unable to attend our Sunday worship service, or still feel uncomfortable attending with a large group on Sunday morning, you can view Concordia–Geneseo services (Live Sunday mornings at 8:30am) and daily devotionals on their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/geneseolutheranchurch (you don't need a Facebook account to view them).

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Joshua Carpenter	9/01
Ronald Larson	9/06
Bradley Cook	9/14
LaJean Breedlove	9/17
Donna Becker	9/18
Olive Cervantez	9/20
Christian Clapper	9/21
Mary Duncan	9/22
Justin Carper	9/24
Addyson Hicks	9/26
Theo Tavares	9/26

Baptism Dates

Bradley Cook	9/14
William Croegaert	9/14
Heidi Heinrich	9/12
Laura Heinrich	9/07
Layne Stapel	9/20
Kaitlyn Tudder	9/01
Mark Tudder	9/08

Wedding Anniversaries

Judy & Donald Bridgewater	9/13
Bonnie & Jim Nuding	9/18
Marilyn & Ted Sturtevant	9/18 60 yrs.

Women of Faith: The ladies will be meeting on Thursday, **September 24th**, at 10:00AM to work on greeting cards. Program to be announced later.

This month Women of Faith will be collecting your mites in support of the LWML Mission Grant, Hope and Healing Hub of Downtown Lincoln, Nebraska. The ministry of the University Lutheran Chapel there addresses the very real problem of young adults being susceptible to depression leading to suicide, making it the second most common cause of death among college students. The chapel renovation has been designed to include a dedicated space for Christian counseling services to provide guidance and hope. Women of Faith thank you for your support of the Mission Grants.



The Rock Island Zone Fall Rally is still scheduled for September 22 at Concordia-Geneseo.

Church Council Notes: Council met on August 18, 2020. The treasurer reported a balance in the general fund of \$40,211.41, and in the designated/memorial fund a balance of \$16,820.95. Sue read a letter from CID -CEF stating their mortgage interest rate has dropped from 5% to 4.5% thus lowering our minimum mortgage payment by \$150. The Council voted to remain paying a \$2100 monthly payment at this time.

Ted reported the purchase of a new weed sprayer tank and he mounted it on the existing wheeled frame. The last wind storm tore off a few more roof shingles which he will replace when weather cools off.

The semi-annual voters' assembly was scheduled for September 20th following the worship service.

Discussion was held concerning the sponsorship of an Oktoberfest dinner this year with carryout meals only. This subject was tabled until next month to get member thoughts and ideas on how to do this with the COVID -19 restrictions in place. The local public health department will probably have to be involved to do it safely. Member thoughts and suggestions should be given to a Councilmember.

Bill Croegaert is now collecting bags of aluminum cans for recycling. When he gets a pickup load, he will take them to sell for us over in the Quad Cities. Thank you Bill.

Central Illinois District has entered an agreement with Church Mutual Insurance, and CID member congregations can get a reduction of insurance premium with them. Ted is checking into any potential savings by going this route.

Lifelight Bible Study will start again on September 28th at 1:00 PM This study will be on **1,2,3 John**. Each 9 week 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 as study guides need to be ordered prior to the class. Guests are always invited to sit in.

CID is now on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com/cidlems to like and follow their page! Currently, they are sharing weekly videos to help cope with the feelings of grief during this pandemic, as well as sharing a variety of exciting things from our District churches!

LCMS Stewardship Ministry– September 2020

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10).

God bids us to be faithful in the tasks He calls us to do. He calls us to be members of a family (husbands and wives; fathers and mothers; sons and daughters). He calls us to be members of society (those who govern and those who are governed). And He calls us to be members of His family, the Church (those who preach and teach and those who hear and learn). Each of these callings from God places a duty on us.

As members of a family, husbands are given the duty to die for their wives as Christ gave His life for His bride, the Church; while wives are given the duty to respect their husbands and submit themselves to them as the Church does to Christ. Fathers and mothers are to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, teaching them the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Scriptures concerning Baptism, Confession, the Office of the Keys, and the Lord’s Supper. Children are to honor their parents throughout their lives, and even when their parents are no longer alive, serving and obeying them, loving and cherishing them, and speaking well of them.

As members of society, God calls those who govern to bear the sword, that is, to punish those who do evil (those who live contrary to God’s will) and to reward those who do good (those whose lives are lived in conformity with God’s will). Those who are governed are to obey their leaders as to the Lord Himself, for their leaders bear the sword of God’s temporal justice for a purpose.

As members of God’s own family, the Church, He calls those who preach and teach to do so in faithfulness to His holy Word. To preach and teach the Law of God to convict the hearts of hearers of their sin and to encourage, admonish, and exhort them to do good works in accordance with God’s will. They are to preach and teach the Gospel, the full forgiveness of their sins accomplished by Christ and received through faith, not by works. They are to administer the means of grace in accordance with the Gospel and the Word of God. They do all this for the young and old alike, for those who are near and far off. Those who hear and learn are to submit themselves to their preachers and teachers. They are support them by their prayers and their gifts.

Each of these callings from God place a duty on us. They make a claim on our presence; on our prayers; and our time, talents, and treasures. So, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10). Pray for your family, your government, and your church. Give of yourself by means of your time, your talents, and your treasures to your family, your government, and your Church. That is what it means to be faithful in the tasks that God has given us. That is what it means to do it with all your might.

CID Scholarship Sunday is September 13th. Fourteen undergraduates and nine seminarians, all from our Central Illinois District, are in great financial need to help them continue their studies. Please make a generous gift on September 13th by mailing your gift to:

Scholarship Sunday Gift
Central Illinois District LC-MS
1850 N. Grand Avenue West
Springfield, IL 62702-1626

You may write a check payable to the “CID Endowment Fund”, which will be invested and the annual proceeds used to assist students for years to come, or to the “CID Scholarship Fund”, where your gift will be used to aid students in the 2020-2021 school year. Thank you for your support of our future pastors,

CID Lutheran Laymen’s League hosts a lively workshop that presents timely, practical tools that can equip you to become an effective witness for Jesus. You can either attend the retreat in person at Camp CILCA or you can join us via Zoom on your computer. We encourage congregations to sponsor a virtual session at their church for those who have no zoom capability.

Register today by calling Deloris Blessman at 309-361-1461 or email her at delorisblessman@yahoo.com. A registration fee of \$15 in person or \$5 via zoom to cover lunch and materials.

Zoom connection instructions and lesson materials will be provided via email to all who register. In case group attendance is cancelled by the authorities, the meeting will proceed by zoom only.