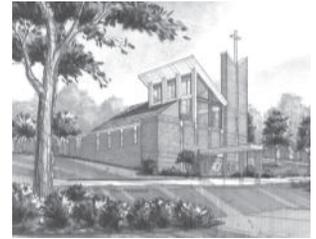




Acts of Faith

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



July 2009

Volume 9, Issue 7

Spiritual “Debriding”

My first job after college was working in the Hydraulics Research and Development Laboratory of an automotive supplier. Research and development involves doing things that haven’t been done before, and therefore involves some risks.

I experienced that “first-hand” when a problem developed with a research experiment, and caused third-degree burns all over my right hand. The process of healing was slow and painful: The bandages had to be taken off my hand daily, and the dead skin “debrided” or removed.

Today, you can’t see any of the effects from the burns due to the grace of God, and the good medical care (especially the personal nursing care!) which I received.

We *all* need debriding in life—not necessarily removing dead skin due to burns—but removing dead ways of life or bad habits that have been “burned into us.” And, that debriding; that removal of the bad so that good may grow, is painful. We don’t like to change our old, established, comfortable ways of doing things; even if they *are* dead, and hindering our spiritual growth.

For some people, the change may be attending worship services more often. For others, it may be attending *any* worship services. For still others, it may involve bringing our children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren to Sunday School. For some people, the change may be attending Adult Bible Class following church, and going out for “lunch” rather than “brunch” on Sunday mornings.

Change may include more (or any) daily time set aside for Scripture reading and prayer. Change may be taking more (or any) opportunities to help

around the church with the various meals, committees, or outreach efforts. Change may involve using *less* of your income for your personal needs, and using *more* of it to support the work of the church.

Doing *any* of the above may seem uncomfortable (or even painful) at first, because they involve peeling off (debriding) old habits, removing ways of life stuck to you that are *dead* and are hindering your spiritual *health* and *growth*.

St. Paul wrote, “*So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus*” (Rom. 6:11). Jesus himself went through the painful process of death so that we might have new life. We’re to *treasure* that new life in Christ, and to keep it *alive* and *healthy*.

We’re reminded in the Book of Proverbs, “*Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones*” (Prov. 3:5-8).

Trusting in the LORD with all our heart; and not leaning on our own understanding, or desires, or wants, or habits, isn’t easy. It isn’t easy, but it brings “*healing to your flesh.*” Everyone wants to be healthy, but most people don’t make the uncomfortable or even painful changes they need to make to be healthy. Even *more* people won’t make the changes necessary for true *spiritual* health and happiness. Don’t be one of them. Make the changes, debride your old dead habits; and see the new spiritual growth, health, and happiness appear.

Blessings,

Pastor Fischer

German Food



Once again, Faith Lutheran Church will be serving at the Fourth of July celebration at Francis Park. We will again be serving, brats, German potato salad, sauerkraut, and pie. Help is needed to prepare food on July 1st at 8:00 AM, cooking potatoes; and on July 2nd at 8:00 AM, making the potato salad and sauerkraut. Also, help will be needed at the park and at the church on July 4th. Setup at the park will begin at 7:30 AM and serving will begin at 10:00 AM. This year we will also be serving dinners from 11:00 AM till 2:00 PM at the

church. Sign-up sheets are located at the in the Narthex. Please sign-up! "Many hands make light work." For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Donna Becker.



July's Calendar

- July 1 Food Preparation, 8 AM
Midweek Worship, 7 PM
- July 2 Food Preparation, 8 AM
Evangelism Committee Mtg., 6:30 PM
- July 4 *Independence Day*
German Food Booth at Francis Park and at the church Fellowship Hall.
- July 5 5th Sunday after Pentecost**
July 5-7 District Convention, Springfield
July 6 Education Committee, 7 PM
July 7 VBS "Mothers/Fathers" Meeting, 7 PM
July 8 Midweek Worship, 7 PM
- July 12 6th Sunday after Pentecost**
Voters' Assembly, following worship
Nursing Home Services, 2 & 3 PM
- July 14 P.O.M. Meeting, 6:30 PM
July 15 Midweek Worship, 7 PM
July 16 Elders' Meeting, 6:30 PM
Church Council Meeting, 7:30 PM
- July 19 7th Sunday after Pentecost**
July 20-24 VBS, 6:00—7:45 PM
July 26 8th Sunday after Pentecost
July 29 Midweek Worship, 7 PM



Central Illinois District
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

District Convention

The Triennial Convention of the Central Illinois District of the LCMS will be July 5-7, in Springfield. Our congregation's Lay Delegate is Ted Sturtevant. Our alternate Lay Delegate is Gary Hahn. The pastoral delegate is Pastor Fischer.

The purpose of the convention is to make decisions regarding the future of our District, as well as to make proposals which will be brought to the national Synodical Convention, which will be 2010 in Houston, Texas.

Please pray for *our* delegates, and for *all* the delegates, that they may be strengthened and guided by God's Word in all their deliberations and decisions.

"So we built the wall [around Jerusalem]. And all the wall was joined together... for the people had a mind to work." (Nehemiah 4:6)

Free Meal Program



Thank you to all who helped with the June 22nd "Monday Free Meal Program," which is sponsored by the Kewanee Ministerial Association. Each Monday, 5:00 PM, at the Senior Citizens' Center; area congregations take turns serving a free meal to whoever in the community would like one. This was begun due to the economic downturn in the community, and will continue as long as there's a need for it.

Those from our congregation who helped on June 22nd were: Wayne & Donna Becker, Bill Croegaert, Pastor & Vary Fischer, Glen & Betty Godke, Gary & Mary Hahn, Matt Peed, Otto & Carol Schwefel, Cheryl Snyder, and Nancy Tudder.

Our congregation's next turn to serve is Aug. 24th. We need about ten people to help with each meal. If you would like to help with the next one, please contact Pastor Fischer.



“In Jesus’ Day”—Vacation Bible School

Monday through Friday, July 20-24, 6:00-7:45 PM

Register now!

(Please see Nancy Tudder for additional registration forms.)

Vacation Bible School is coming together and almost ready to roll! Our “Mothers/Fathers” (teachers) are working to prepare their tents for their families and have exciting activities and adventures ready for the children. The storytellers have made decisions on what Biblical stories they’ll be telling to the visitors (young and old) to the marketplace. The artisans are working on their crafts and preparing ideas for their booths. We still hope to have a carpenter (who can function without power tools!), a leather-maker (to make little pouches, etc. from patterns that can be precut), and any other craft that you can think of that would have been around in Jesus’ day. We also need men to volunteer to come every afternoon and set up our tents and take them down when VBS is finished for the day.

- Pray for our volunteers and for the program, that it be enriching to the children and the adults who attend.
- Volunteer to help as an artisan or a tentmaker.
- Be there: Stroll through the village several afternoons and interact with the characters in costume to make it a “real” village that the children enjoy and get a sense of what it would have been like “In Jesus’ Day.”
- Loan items to our “set production” crew. Help us make our village look and feel authentic.
- Volunteer to help sew costumes for our workers who do not sew.

This is a wonderful program that takes us away from the classroom and sets us in a “period” village. It’s an interactive way of educating and a really fun way of learning about the life, times, and teachings of Jesus.

Vary Fischer, VBS Coordinator

Registration for 2009 *“In Jesus Time”*
 Vacation Bible School July 20-24
 Faith Lutheran Church 6:00-7:45pm
 620 Hepner Drive
 Kewanee, IL
 309-852-2787

Child’s Name _____
 Grade Completed _____
 Birthday _____
 Parents’ Name _____
 Home Address _____
 Home Phone _____
 Alternate Phone _____

Emergency contact person _____
 Relationship to student _____
 Home Phone _____
 Alternate Phone _____
 Food Allergies Yes No List Allergies _____
 Medical Concerns Yes No
 Explain Medical Concerns _____
 Family Doctor _____
 Doctor’s Phone _____
 Siblings attending VBS (names) _____
 Church Affiliation _____ Church Membership at _____
 People who may pick up the child _____

Transportation needed? Yes No Attendance O1 O2 O3 O4 O5
 I hereby grant the VBS leaders permission to photograph/film the minor(s) designated above in any manner or form for an lawful purpose associated with this VBS program.

Are You 55 or Older?

*Would you like to have:
“A mature faith; leading
to a playful, bold, and happy
approach to life”?*

*If so, then please read the
following:*



LutherHostel 2009

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, invites all those age 55 and older to LutherHostel 2009, to be held October 3-6, on the Seminary's campus. Rev. John Nunes, president and CEO of Lutheran World Relief, will present on the topic of *“Finite and Infinite Games.”*

Life is no game, yet knowing what's ultimate, what not to sweat, and how to hold all things in balance is a mark of mature faith leading to a playful, bold and happy approach to life. In a world suffering from a joy-deficit, we dare to make the most of every opportunity to witness to the infinitely abundant joy Jesus gives us.

In addition to Rev. Nunes, the event includes Bible studies, faculty presentations, tours of selected St. Louis sites, an Oktoberfest dinner, a reception at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Dale Meyer, a candlelight dinner, special organ demonstration, and an opportunity to sit in on a seminary class.

The cost is \$325 per person, which includes all meals from Saturday evening through Tuesday lunch. On-campus dormitory housing is available at a modest cost. An optional bus tour to Perry County historical Lutheran sites is available on October 7 at an additional charge.

Come enjoy the beautiful campus of Concordia Seminary, refresh your spirit through Bible study and worship, and enjoy the fellowship of new friends. For more information, call Linda at 314-505-7486, or email: ce@csl.edu. For a brochure and registration form, see Pastor Fischer, or go to www.csl.edu and follow the links to the LutherHostel webpage.



Sunday School and Adult Bible Class

Yes, Sunday School and Adult Bible Class are being held during the summer months.

These are held following our Fellowship Time, and begin about 10:30, and end about 11:15.

Some people in the congregation leave for brunch immediately following worship; but instead of doing that, try staying for Adult Bible Class. Enjoy our fun discussions regarding topics of faith and life; and then go out for lunch (perhaps with some of the other members who attend Bible Class?)

ITS ABOUT

FAITH

Evangelism Booth

A Grant to Faith Lutheran Church has been approved for Evangelism work in our community. The Church Extension Fund of the Central Illinois District will be giving our Evangelism Committee \$1000 to help with this proposed project. We will be maintaining a booth uptown during Hog Days which will give out information about our church, and provide an assortment of evangelism tracts. Please keep this project in your prayers as the committee works on the preparation for this project. Church members will be asked to help, and more details will be following.

Voters' Meeting

The Quarterly Voters' meeting for the third quarter will be held Sunday, July 12th, immediately following the worship service.

“Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.” 2 Cor. 13:11

Addresses Changes

Due to a new 911 Emergency Dispatch System in Stark County, the following members of Faith who had Rural Route addresses now have street addresses. Please make a note of these changes.



Mary & Peewee Duncan
8753 Vineyard Rd
Toulon IL 61483

Nick, Sandy, Kaitlin and Ashley
Phillips
12048 Modena Road
Wyoming IL 61491

Dale Siems
214 D N. Peoria St.
Bradford IL 61421

Robert & Cheryl Snyder
10764 St. Rt. 78
Lafayette IL 61449

If you would like a copy of the latest Membership Directory (names, addresses, phone numbers—no pictures), please contact Nancy Tudder or Pastor Fischer.

A new **pictorial** directory will be coming out in 2010, with pictures to be taken later this year. Please notify us of any changes in address or phone number in your family.

Have you “Cut the Cord”?

Many families use only cell phones now and have disconnected their “wired” phones, so the “wired” phone number in the church records isn’t accurate. If you haven’t notified the church yet about your new “cordless” number, please do so. Thanks for your help.



Welcome

Welcome—New
Member!

On June 28th, we rejoiced to receive Jeri Erickson in membership by Affirmation of Faith:

Please add Jeri’s information to your Church Directory, and please make her feel welcome in our “Family of Faith.”

Jeri Erickson
602 Stokes St.
Kewanee IL 61443

309-525-2524

Out “Laboring” Again



On Sunday, June 21st, we “re-commissioned” Ted Sturtevant for service into Labors for Christ (LFC). On Monday, June 22nd, Ted began his service as a Labor for Christ at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Minier, Illinois; near Bloomington.

Ted, and the others “Laborers” will be constructing an addition to the church which will include a Fellowship Hall, classrooms, and kitchen.

The LFC Project Manager for the work at Good Shepherd is Ed Klebbe, who worked as a Laborer during *our* church construction.

We thank Ted & Marilyn for their support of LFC; and wish Ted, Ed, and the other workers on the project God’s richest blessings as they contribute their time, and construction talents to God’s glory. They serve as examples to all of us.

“Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” 1Cor. 15:58



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jonathan Estes	7/01
Madeline Breedlove	7/03
Joan Becker	7/09
Kimberly Tudder	7/12
Roberta Winter	7/14
Joyce Winter	7/19
Tiffany Carpenter	7/21
Janet Estes	7/22
Marvin Novotny	7/22
William Croegaert	7/25
Douglas Hahn	7/26
Julie Carpenter	7/27
Sara Cervantez	7/29

Anniversaries

Elizabeth & Glen Godke	7/05
Pamela & Mark Helmkamp	7/24
Paula & Michael Leezer	7/27

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 AM, Sunday
Sunday School, 10:30 A.M.

7:00 PM, Wednesday

Rev. Robert Fischer, Pastor

309-852-2787 (Church Phone)

309-714-1181 (Cell Phone)

309-853-5394 (Home Phone)

E-mail: pastor@faithkewanee.org

Web Site: www.fithkewanee.org



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
620 Hepner Dr.
Kewanee, Illinois 61443

Address Correction Requested



*Come to
"In Jesus' Day"
VBS!*

July 20-24

July 2009 Newsletter