



Acts of Faith

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



June 2026

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Growing in Holy Living: *“As He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” 1 Peter 1: 15-16 ESV*

Too many Christians want to put on a good front when they know someone is watching, but the rest of the time they let down their principles. There’s not much difference between them and those in the world. If we belong to God, He has set us apart unto Himself, and someday we will be once again like Him.

Growing in holy living means progressively reflecting God’s holiness in your thoughts, words, and actions, as a result of the work of the Holy Spirit. Holiness is not just the absence of sin, but positive conformity to God’s nature: being set apart for His purposes. Jesus instructed the crowds in His Sermon on the Mount that only the pure in heart can see God. Through faith God credits to us the righteousness of Jesus. Only by believing the Gospel and placing our complete trust in Jesus can our sinful hearts be cleansed and made holy before God. Christian hope is completely based on the grace being brought to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ. We learn to serve and live as holy people when we look to Jesus in all matters. He is our perfect servant.

As a result of such cleansing, all impure desires and hatred in our souls has been replaced with pure desires and love. The love we show others is the external evidence that we trust in Jesus, that we obey the truth. It is an outward sign that we have been born again by the work of the Holy Spirit through the gospel. This love is not a pretense, but genuine. Growth in holy living comes as we believers reach out to love from the heart, with a new attitude of the Gospel.

In God’s Word we find strength and new life. The Holy Spirit awakens us to service as the Word dwells within us. He regenerates us, imparts eternal life, overcomes the corruptible in us, guides and produces the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23), and empowers us to live in fear and love.

When we study and think about what God tells us in His Word, our spirit is refreshed and the Holy Spirit encourages us to live to serve our Lord by serving others. Our attention is riveted on Jesus. There is a strong desire to encourage and build up our neighbor with kindness and humility.

God has called us and set us among His chosen people. Let us praise Him now for His great grace and mercy. Let us continually pray that the Holy Spirit produce in us holier, godlier lives. In our daily living, let us be consistent with what God has already made us in Christ.

CID Summer Small Church Summit on Saturday, June 13 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1201 W Jackson St, Auburn, IL. Sign-in will be at 9:00 a.m., the opening devotion will commence at 9:30, and the closing prayer will be at 2:50 p.m., followed by an ice cream social. Register for the Summer Small Church Summit by June 6, 2026, at <https://forms.gle/xLBUJu6XPfbPfyodA>.



Faith is still collecting used aluminum cans and miscellaneous metal to recycle. If you have a bag of cans leave them in the lower level near the back doors. Every little bit helps us to sustain the Word of God in our community.

June's Calendar

- June 02 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 pm
- June 07 First Sunday after Trinity with Holy communion ***
- June 8 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 PM
- June 11 WOF Meeting TBA
- June 13 CID Small Church Summit, Auburn IL
- June 14 Second Sunday after Trinity with Holy communion***
Observance of Flag Day
- June 15 Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 PM
- June 18 Elders/Council mtg. 6:30/7:00 PM
- June 21 Third Sunday after Trinity with Holy communion**
(Service at St. Paul's Church 9:00 AM)
Father's Day Observance
- June 22 Lifelight Bible Study 12:00 Noon
- June 28 Fourth Sunday after Trinity with Holy communion**

Worship Schedule
9:00 AM, Sunday Worship Service



- | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|-------|
| June 07* | Kari Tavares | Green |
| June 14* | Marilyn Sturtevant | Green |
| June 21 | Service at St. Paul's | |
| June 28 | Mary Hahn | Green |

* St. Paul's members visiting Faith

Elders List:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Gary Hahn | 309-854-2203 |
| 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: Bill Croegaert
5th Sunday: Jim Cook

Note: Beginning in June, Faith will be using the 2025-26 Church Year Calendar — One-Year Series.

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

Our Faith family: Allison Leezer, Cari Bridgewater, Nancy Tudder, Nancy Gillespie, JoAnne Behnke, Peggy Faber, Bonnie Nuding, Melissa Newman, Randy Stockner, and Betty Godke.

Friends: Lacey Hammons, Jim Tudder, Steve Faber, 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 prayerful sympathies go out to the family of Sharon and Ron Larson, whose daughter, Lesa Kay Hayden-Griffin, passed away on May 15th at the age of 61 years in Bloomington, IL.

"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." – Revelation 21:4



Church Secretary



S.A.L.T. (Secretaries and Administrators in Lutheran Fellowship) The Rock Island Circuit has 12 churches, 10 of which have secretaries/administrators. The secretaries have begun a new partnership in our Circuit ministry: one that supports each other in their positions by sharing ideas, problem solving together, and praying for one another. They are also working together to provide opportunities for our Circuit churches to connect through fellowship, service events, and worship. Watch your bulletin and newsletters for upcoming events and a special fundraiser that everyone can enjoy in 2027,

Kari would like any pictures, prefer digital, of Faith and our activities to submit for the 2027 calendar project.



Birthdays

June 2	Kaitlyn Tudder
June 2	Ryan Tudder
June 8	Kamdyn Hicks
June 13	Jeffrey Heinrich
June 17	Kevin Hull
June 29	Karen Stapel

Baptism Dates

Cari Bridgewater	6/11
Joshua Carpenter	6/19
Gary Carper	6/19
Peggy Faber	6/12
Logan Hernandez	6/20
Katherine Talbot	6/06
Jacob Townsend	6/15
Lorie Townsend	6/13



Wedding Anniversaries

Mark and Kim Tudder	June 03
Pastor and Heather Weber	June 12
Joy and Troy Butler	June 20

Women of Faith: The Women of Faith will meet on June 11th. Cheryl Snyder will be the hostess. They will meet for lunch then attend a book signing at the Kewanee Public Library by Becca Kinzer, author and Kewanee native. Her new book is titled "Not What We Pictured." She has received several awards for her writing. Lunch details will be announced later.

The LWML focus this month is on the Mission Grant No. 10 Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin | \$100,000. Protecting and nourishing the mental health and well-being of children is the mission of Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin (LCFS). They protect a child's integrity, self-worth, spiritual well-being, and mental health through professional compassionate Christian counseling. As LCFS expands to expand accordingly to meet the demand and needs of the countless children in the greater Milwaukee community. This grant will be used to increase the number of therapists working in the clinic from five to seven, purchase therapeutic toys, and develop promotional materials to present to LCMS churches and groups. Thank you for your prayers and support.

2026 Graduations We congratulate the following graduates:

Jaxson Hicks, son of Tara Hewitt, grandson of Kari Tavares, and great grandson of Ted and Marilyn Sturtevant, graduated from Augustana College with a Bachelor of Biology. He plans to work in research at Iowa Hospital for a year prior to enrolling in U of I Rockford Medical school specializing in rural medicine.



Addyson Hicks, daughter of Tara Hewitt, granddaughter of Kari Tavares, and great granddaughter of Ted and Marilyn Sturtevant, graduated from Black Hawk East, Associate of Arts. She plans to enroll in a nursing program.

Branton Mathew Craig Robinson, grandson of Ray and Carol Robertson, graduated with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Bradley University. He will begin work at Raytheon Technologies in Tucson, Arizona.

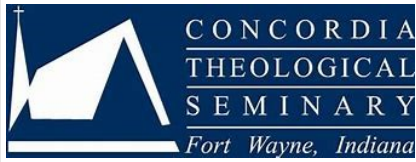
Madison Carpenter, daughter of Gary and Julie Carpenter, graduated from Kewanee H.S and will attend Black Hawk East.

Eleanor Hahn, granddaughter of Mary and Gary Hahn, graduated from Eureka H.S., Eureka MO, and will attend the University of Missouri, Columbia next fall in education.

Aidan McDonald, grandson of Mary and Gary Hahn, graduated from Waubonsie Valley H.S. Aurora IL, and will attend Carnegie-Melon University, Pittsburgh, PA in drama.

Theo Tavares, son of Corey and Jackie Tavares, grandson of Kari Tavares, and great grandson of Ted and Marilyn Sturtevant, was promoted from 8th grade. He will be a freshman at Kewanee High School

God's blessings on your future undertakings.



Joshua Bieri: CTSFW Seminarian, Joshua Bieri will be ordained on June 14th at Faith Lutheran Church in Lacrosse, Wisconsin. He and his family live in Viroqua, WI, and will be serving a call to Hill County Lutheran Church. Josh is from Zion –Taylor Ridge, IL. God's blessings on him and his new congregation. A door gift will be taken on June 4th to send them.



Council Notes: The treasurer's report shows that the general fund has \$37971.48, the Memorial/Dedicated Fund has \$11,602.88 for a total of \$49574.36. The church extension fund balance is \$86,972.98

Pastor advised the council that there will be a R.I. Circuit forum on August 8th for Pastors and lay members to discuss the condition of each congregation. Attendees shall bring the latest congregational statistics and budget information from the last three years.

Kari reported Faith passed a 5 year testing of our fire suppression system. We need to have our back-flow water system yearly check performed by a licensed plumber.

Ted reported he will spray the rear driveway to kill the grass and weeds growing there. Pastor found, and Faith purchased two identical used Cruets for storing blessed communion wine. The pair cost \$15.00. These will be useful with additional guests using the common cup vessel. Thank you Pastor's family for finding these on the internet.



IESA State Champion: Olive Ann Nimrick, daughter of Sara Nimrick, and granddaughter of Sue Cervantez, won the IESA girls 7th grade long jump event for 2026 at East Peoria on May 16th. The winning jump was 4.40 Meters. Congratulations! Olive attends Annawan Middle School.

VBS Programs:

Bring your young to church for learning and fun..

June 1-June 5
Concordia –Geneseo
PK-8th Gr.
309-944-3993

Here are two area VBS dates available this summer.
See bulletin board in Narthex for listing of all R.I. Circuit churches holding VBS programs in 2026.

June 17-June 19
St. Paul's –Kewanee
4-12 Yrs.
309-852-2461

**Happy Belated
Birthday
Faith Lutheran
25 years**

Our congregation's 25th anniversary of the signing of our LCMS Charter occurred by on March 25th of 2026. We praise God for all His blessings this past quarter century, and look forward to the future knowing that He will provide for all our needs.

Q. In the Apostles' Creed (and also the Athanasian Creed), we confess that after Jesus died He descended into hell. Where in the Bible is this taught? Why did Jesus go there?

A. Peter writes: *"For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which He went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison"* 1 Peter 3:18–19 (ESV). Lutherans have understood the Bible to teach that Christ went to hell to declare His triumph as God's Messiah over death and the power of the devil. The Lutheran confessional writing, the Formula of Concord, states in summary: "We simply believe that the entire person [Jesus Christ], God and man, descended into hell after the burial, conquered the devil, destroyed hell's power, and took from the devil all his might" (Solid Declaration, Art. IX). Although Christ's descent into hell lies beyond our understanding, we can derive great comfort from this important teaching of Scripture, especially in times when our faith is being tested. We who believe in the exalted Christ can be confident and certain that "neither hell nor the devil can take captive or injure us" Lutheran Witness, Feb., 2010