



Acts of Faith

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



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Season after Pentecost: The Sundays following Pentecost, observed as “the time of the church,” share a somewhat similar theme as that of Epiphany. Affectionately called the season of the “green meadow,” no doubt due to the fact of green being the established color, these Sundays also emphasize the subject of growth. In the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, this period can be called "Season after Pentecost" or "Season of the Holy Trinity."

Green is a neutral color, but there is nothing colorless about our need to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ. That's why the “green meadow” time of the church year is so lengthy. This year that is 27 weeks, over half a calendar year, right up to Advent. The second half of the Church Year is that “season after” the joyous feasts and festivals that preceded. The long expanse of time between Pentecost and Advent came to be numbered as Sundays after Pentecost. During the season of Pentecost, the Gospel readings focus on Jesus' teachings. The season after Pentecost reflects the Church's life as faithful members in Christ. The Church settles into a faithful rhythm of hearing God's Word, receiving forgiveness from Christ, and partaking of His Sacraments.

We focus on how God grows His Church through His Word. This is a time when our music selections can reflect biblical themes—such as peace, baptism, hope and comfort, or missions. In Mark 4:26-29, Jesus explains that the seed sprouts and grows even though the sower does not know how. God brings forth fruit and growth the same way He always has through the sowing of the seed, which is the Word of God. So during this season, may you be blessed as you hear, sing, and study God's Word and as He brings forth growth! Everyone in the congregation should read, mark, learn and take to heart the Word of God. Hold the Word of God sacred and gladly hear and learn it. By this seed, God gives growth. It might not always be numerical growth, but growth in the Spirit, in faith, and in love is growth that is needed and for which we can give thanks to God.

Every week, the Church hears of how prophets pointed to the Messiah in the Old Testament, how the Church faithfully continued Christ's teachings in the Epistles, and how Jesus Himself taught and lived in the Gospels. Pentecost season is a time we encourage all worshipers to maintain their faith through the constant use of God's means of grace. During this season of Pentecost, we are called to live out all that Jesus is, has been and will be in this world. We are called to be the church...the gathered people of God! We also see in Christ a perfect example of Christian living and service. As we live out our lives as the Bride of Christ, we learn what it means to be faithful to our calling and live in love to one another.

Upon this, your confession... The pastor speak these words after we have prayed the confession in the Divine Service. It is easy for us to say the confession by habit, with little thought. If we find ourselves doing this, we should check ourselves and prayerfully consider these words. David wrote by the Holy Spirit in Psalm 32:5, “I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord, and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.” He also wrote in Psalm 51:17, “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.” These words imply that we prayerfully consider the words we are speaking as well as the gravity of sin and its consequences. St. Paul reminds us in Romans 6:23, “The wages of sin is death.” When we consider how death touches each of us, we have reason to say, “I, a poor, miserable sinner.” When we honestly and sincerely confess our sins and trust that God graciously forgives us through our Savior Jesus, then we hear and receive the absolution. “Upon this, your confession...” basically means, “Having truly confessed your sins, the words that follow are for you!” The opposite is also true. “If you have not truly confessed your sins, the words that follow are not for you!” If we feel we have not truly confessed our sins, we can take heart! We can confess our sins many times during the worship service: The Lord's Prayer, during the sermon, in the Offertory, as we receive Holy Communion, and other times. God hears and accepts our confession at any time, even when we are not in church. The absolution is a blessed pronouncement of God's grace. And to that we say with confidence: “AMEN” this is most certainly true! Rev Jeff Harter

June's Calendar

June 02	Second Sunday after Pentecost with Holy communion
June 08	Small Church Summit Carlinville 9:30-2:30
June 09	Third Sunday after Pentecost with Holy communion
June 10	Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 pm
June 13	W.O.F. 10:00 am
June 14	Flag Day
June 16	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost with Holy communion Father's Day Observance
June 17	Lifelight Bible Study 1:00 pm
June 20	Elders and Council Mtgs. 6:30&7:00 pm
June 23	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost with Holy communion
June 21	Summer Begins
June 30	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost no communion

Worship Schedule
9:00 am, Sunday Worship Service
and 10:15 am Bible Study



June 02	Kari Tavares	Green
June 09	Leah Weber	Green
June 16	Mary Hahn	Green
June 23	Sharon Larson	Green
June 30	Marilyn Sturtevant	Green

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:	Kevin Hull
5th Sunday:	Jim Cook

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, Bonnie Nuding, and Vanda Hallock.

Friends: Lacey Hammons, Jim Tudder, Steve Faber, Art Rosencarter, 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: Citizens of and those in Ukraine and Israel that peace may come to their land.



Small Church Summit is on Saturday, June 8 at Zion Lutheran Church, 501 S. Broad Street, Carlinville, IL. Opening is at 9:30 a.m. and will finish at 2:30 p.m. An ice cream social will follow. The special guest presenter will be Rev. Dan Galchutt, Executive Director of the Synod's Office of National Mission. Gary Hahn and Pastor Weber are planning to attend.

Our prayerful sympathies go out to the families of:

Tom Leezer, brother of Mike Leezer, who passed away on April 21, 2024 in Toulon, IL..

Tim Brettin, Laborer for Christ at Faith, died on May 4, 2024 in Knox, IN.

Hannah Guthrie, niece of Milt Stapel, who passed away on April 17, 2024 in Joplin, MO.





Birthdays

June 2	Kaitlyn Tudder
June 2	Ryan Tudder
June 8	Kamdyn Hicks
June 13	Jeffrey Heinrich
June 17	Kevin Hull
June 28	Glen Godke (91)
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 (35)
Pastor and Heather Weber	June 12 (31)
Joy and Troy Butler	June 20

Women of Faith: The Women of Faith will meet on June 13th at 10:00 AM. Donna Becker will be the hostess. Ladies will work on greeting cards in the morning. Bring a brown bag lunch.

This month we focus on the Mission Grant for Lutheran High School of Greater New Orleans, the only high school in the LCMS Southern District. It has been serving youth for over 50 years. It provides students with the opportunity to academically succeed in a safe environment, while educating them about their Lord and Savior through the teachings of the LCMS. Many of the students being served by the school are disadvantaged, culturally diverse, and unchurched. Because the school was devastated by Hurricane Ida, funds which would have been used for computers, school supplies, Christian materials, and scholarship aid are now being used for construction costs to rebuild one of the buildings. This grant will be matched by five generous donors and will be used to pay the tuition costs of ten students.



The ladies last month made three fleece blankets for the Phil's Friends, an organization to provide Christ-centered support and hope to those affected by cancer. They will be delivered to the Wheaton Illinois Hope Center later.

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 maintain the Word of God in our community.



Council Notes: The treasurer's report was distributed and shows that the general fund has \$49,195.72 the Memorial/Dedicated Fund has \$16,802.74 for a total of \$65,998.46. The church extension fund balance is \$128,298.96.

Ted reported that Pastor Weber confirmed two young ladies, Olive Ann Nimrick and Tinsley Jean Robinson on Sunday, May 12, 2024.

The sound system representative, James Casey from Thompson Electric was here and did testing and gave suggestions of what will help to include instillation of sound absorbing panels, an updated system, and 2 new speakers that would be located in the front. This would also include sound for the basement and the cry room. He will write up an official evaluation and proposal. Gary has not received any further information at this time.

Pastor informed that he attended the LCMS Special Ministry Seminar for Chaplain's at St. Louis in May. He is contemplating a Sunday Bible class on the Partnership Planning Process for Congregations later on.

Kari reported that she contacted Frontier about the increasing phone bill which is \$257.00 a month. After speaking with them, they can reduce the land line to a basic use of \$29.00 instead of \$89.00 (Nationwide). This would then remove a couple other fees and he estimated that the bill will decrease by approximately \$106.00. Gary made a motion to go this option for now. This was seconded by Ron, and the motion was approved.

Graduations We congratulate the following 2024 graduates:

Suzannah Weber, daughter of Pastor and Heather Weber, graduated from Lakeland University-Wisconsin with a Master's degree in counseling.

Lucas Becker, grandson of Wayne and Donna Becker, graduated from Univ. of N.C. School of Arts.

Meredith Becker, granddaughter of Wayne and Donna Becker, graduated from Univ. of N.C.-Wilmington.

Jaxson Hicks, son of Tara Hewitt, grandson of Kari Tavares, and great-grandson of Ted and Marilyn Sturtevant, graduated from Black Hawk East. He is planning to continue his education next fall.

Johnathan Becker, grandson of Wayne and Donna Becker, graduated from Stark County H.S. and will be attending Black Hawk East this fall.

Madelyn Hahn, granddaughter of Mary and Gary Hahn, graduated from Eureka H.S.-MO and plans on attending the University of Missouri next fall.



Rite of Confirmation signifies instruction in the chief articles of the Christian faith through Luther's Small Catechism and the Scriptures, and the passage into Communicate member status to receive our Lord's Holy Sacrament of Communion.

Faith's Confirmation 2024 class:

Tinsley Jean Newman, daughter of Joshua and Melissa Newman. (Right)

Olive Ann Nimrick, daughter of Jacob and Sara Nimrick. (Left)

These young ladies professed their faith and knowledge of church doctrine at the May 12th worship service after two years of study under Pastor Weber. They vowed before the church that they intend to follow Christ as long as they live and remain faithful to His Church.

We pray these young ladies continue to grow in faith and live as Christian citizens in God's family. Congratulations!



Rev. Burnell Eckardt will retire after his final service at St. Paul's-Kewanee at 10:00 am on June 9th with a luncheon and reception to follow in the gymnasium. He has served at St. Paul's for 29 years. St Paul's is in the process of calling another pastor.