



Acts of Faith

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



May 2010

Volume 10, Issue 5

Remnants of Lost Love

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart.” (Joel 2:12)

A traveling art exhibit going around the world features very different items, such as: a box made with wooden matches, a small glass horse, a cell phone, a teddy bear holding an “I Love You” heart, and a bread kneading bowl. What all these very different things have in common is that they are all the discarded mementos of broken love affairs.

These once-treasured tokens were given and received by those deeply in love with each other. Since then, these tokens been discarded as unwanted reminders of love gone bad. The traveling exhibit is called The Museum of Broken Relationships.

(www.brokenships.com).

What’s the story behind the small glass horse? A woman wrote describing a vacation that she and her then-husband had taken to Venice, Italy:

“Just before we reached the hotel my husband kissed me on the cheek and gave me a small package. He said: ‘Darling, I love you. I’ll never stop loving you. You are my life.’ I answered: ‘Me too, dear.’ When we entered the room, I opened my gift and saw the little glass horse. Twenty years later, I am divorced. His love disappeared like the wind. I put the glass horse into the box beside my wedding ring and shut it. I say to myself: ‘Don’t cry! Tomorrow is a new day.’”

However, there are also other strange mementos of love gone bad, and of broken relationships. These include baptism certificates, confirmation

certificates, and church membership certificates. These all speak about a love affair between the person receiving them, and the Lord Jesus Christ who suffered, died, and rose again for the individuals named on those certificates. At one time, the love affair was mutual and deep. There was an understanding that this loving relationship would last through all of this earthly life and continue on through eternity.

But, the love affair ended—like many do—gradually, with one person slowly losing interest in meeting the Other, until that one person stopped meeting the Other completely; or perhaps half-heartedly, once or twice a year. The once treasured mementos of that once loving relationship (such as the certificates of baptism, confirmation, and church membership) have been forgotten, stashed away in a drawer, or even discarded.

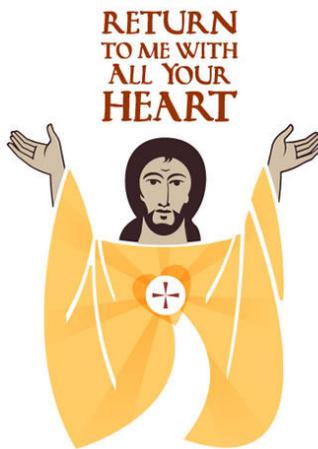
So, there are certain things that these mementos have in common with the mementos left from broken relationships between man and women.

However, the big difference is that with the leftover mementos from the relationship with the Lord Jesus, it’s never He that broke that relationship. He’s not the One who gradually became less and less interested in preserving that relationship. He is always faithful, always offering His perfect love.

When Jesus says, “I’ll never stop loving you” He means it. Return to Him and to His perfect love. Tomorrow is a new day. Don’t let your sins of the past keep you away from your Perfect and True Love.

Blessings,

Pastor Fischer





Summer Sunday School!

Summer Sunday School will begin May 30th; and throughout the summer will feature the complete, classic “Davy and Goliath” animated TV series. The

Lutheran young man, Davy; and his talking dog, Goliath, will apply the message of the Gospel to the everyday lives of children, pre-teens, and teens.

Adults who appreciated the Davy and Goliath series years ago are invited to come and enjoy this great series again.



Summer Camp

Camp CILCA is a year-round camp run by the LCMS Central Illinois

District. It’s located north of Springfield, and has a variety of camping opportunities for kids, youth, and families.

You may register now for the many summer camp activities which are available. Please check the Camp CILCA website, www.cilca.org.

May’s Calendar

- May 01 Spring Cleaning at church, 8:00 AM
- May 02 **5th Sunday of Easter**
- May 04 Make Greeting Cards, 9:00 AM
Adult Information Class, 7:00 PM
- May 05 Midweek Worship Service, 7:00 PM
- May 06 National Day of Prayer, Noon-8:00 PM
- May 07 Evangelism Meeting, 6:30 PM
- May 08 Kewanee Food Pantry Food Drive
- May 09 6th Sunday of Easter**
Happy Mother’s Day!
- May 10 Circuit Pastors’ Meeting, 9:00 AM
Faith Serves the Monday Community Meal
- May 12 Midweek Worship Service, 7:00 PM
- May 13 The Ascension of Our Lord
- May 16 7th Sunday of Easter**
- May 17 Olan-Mills Meeting, 2:00 PM
- May 18 Women of Faith, 1:00 PM.
- May 19 Midweek Worship Service, 7:00 PM
- May 20 Elders’ Meeting, 6:30 PM
Church Council Meeting, 7:30 PM
- May 23 The Day of Pentecost**
- May 23 (afternoon) through May 28, Pastor is on vacation.
- May 26 **No Midweek Worship Service**
- May 30 Trinity Sunday**
- May 31 Memorial Day

“Is not a young mother one of the sweetest sights which life shows us? If she has been beautiful before, does not her present pure joy give a character of refinement and sacredness almost to her beauty, touch her sweet cheeks with fairer blushes, and impart I know not what serene brightness to her eyes?” ~

W. M. Thackery

Women of Faith

The May meeting of Women of Faith is the 18th, 1:00 PM, in the church Fellowship Hall.

The program will be done by Carol Schwefel, and the topic is “Illinois Historical Sites.”

All congregation members and friends are invited to attend.



In Rehab

Mary Ozborn is now at Liberty Village of Princeton undergoing rehab following her hip surgery. Her address there is:

140 N 6th St, Room 208
Princeton IL 61356-1878

Her phone number there is 309-768-6969.

She would appreciate your visits, cards, or calls.

Thrivent Night at the Ballpark

This year's Thrivent Night at the Ballpark will be Tuesday, June 8th. The Quad City River Bandits will play the South Bend Silver Hawks. Proceeds from the game will go to Special Olympics of Illinois and Iowa. Drawing tickets will be given for donations to the River Bend Food Bank. A parade of athletes will be at 6:30 pm. The Quad City Sky Dive Team will present the U.S. flag. Game time is 7:00 pm. Fireworks will follow the game. General admission tickets are \$3.00, and are available from our Thrivent Congregational Coordinator, Otto Schwefel.



Spring Cleaning

Our church Spring Cleaning will be done on Saturday, May 1st, beginning about 8:00 AM. You may arrive any time that morning. We plan to be finished by noon. Please bring cleaning supplies and step-stools.



National Day of Prayer



The National Day of Prayer will be Thursday, May 6th. Our sanctuary will be open from noon to 8 PM for anyone wishing to come in for prayer during this time. Suggested prayers will be available to use, as well as to take home.



Scholarship Sunday

Sunday, May 2nd, has been designated as "CID Scholarship Endowment Fund Sunday." On that Sunday, you are asked to bring back the special envelope from the April 25th bulletin, with your gift to the Central Illinois District Endowment Fund.

These gifts will go into the CID Scholarship Fund to assist CID students at our Synodical schools and seminaries. Please make your check payable to the "CID Scholarship Endowment Fund." Any size gift will be greatly appreciated.

Retirement

Pastor Fischer will be retiring from the full-time ministry this summer. His last day at Faith Lutheran Church will be July 31st. Following his time at Faith, he will be doing substitute preaching and vacancy preaching in southern New Jersey.

Vary will move to New Jersey the last week of May. She will be employed at Shore Memorial Hospital, Somers Point, New Jersey. Pastor will join her in New Jersey as soon as his duties in Illinois are completed.

Our District President, Rev. David Bueltmann; and our Circuit Counselor, Rev. Gary Wright, will be assisting Faith Lutheran Church in finding a vacancy pastor, and in preparing a Call List for the congregation.





The Day of Pentecost, May 23

Come, Holy Ghost, God and Lord! Be all Thy graces now out poured On each believer's mind and heart; Thy fervent love to them impart. Lord, by the brightness of Thy light, Thou in the faith dost men unite Of every land and every tongue; This to Thy praise, O Lord, our God, be sung. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Thou holy Light, Guide Divine, Oh, cause the Word of Life to shine! Teach us to know our God aright And call Him Father with delight. From every error keep us free; Let none but Christ our Master be That we in living faith abide, In Him, our Lord, with all our might confide. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Thou holy Fire, Comfort true, Grant us the will Thy work to do And in Thy service to abide; Let trials turn us not aside. Lord, by Thy power prepare each heart And to our weakness strength impart That bravely here we may contend, Through life and death to Thee, our Lord, ascend. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Author: Martin Luther, LSB #497

Mother's Day—May 9th

God our Creator, we pray:

- for new mothers, coming to terms with new responsibility;
- for expectant mothers, wondering and waiting;
- for those who are tired, stressed or depressed;
- for those who struggle to balance the tasks of work and family;
- for those who are unable to feed their children due to poverty;
- for those whose children have physical, mental or emotional disabilities;
- for those who have children they do not want;
- for those who raise children on their own;
- for those who have lost a child;
- for those who care for the children of others;
- for those whose children have left home;
- and for those whose desire to be a mother has not been fulfilled.



Bless all mothers, that their love may be deep and tender,
and that they may lead their children to know and do what is good,
living not for themselves alone, but for God and for others.

Loving God,
we thank you for the love of the mothers you have given us,
whose love is so precious that it can never be measured,
whose patience seems to have no end.
May we see your loving hand behind them and guiding them.

We pray for those mothers who fear they will run out of love or time, or patience.
We ask you to bless them with your own special love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, our brother.

“Mr. St. Clare’s” Tribute to his Mother
From: “Uncle Tom’s Cabin, or Life Among the Lowly”
By Harriet Beecher Stowe

“My mother,” said St. Clare, getting up and walking to a picture at the end of the room, and gazing upward with a face fervent with veneration, “*she was divine!* Don’t look at me so!—you know what I mean! She probably was of mortal birth; but, as far as ever I could observe, there was no trace of any human weakness or error about her; and everybody that lives to remember her, whether bond or free, servant, acquaintance, relation, all say the same. Why, cousin, that mother has been all that has stood between me and utter unbelief for years. She was a direct embodiment and personification of the New Testament,—a living fact, to be accounted for, and to be accounted for in no other way than by its truth. O, mother! mother!” said St. Clare, clasping his hands, in a sort of transport; and then suddenly checking himself, he came back, and seating himself on an ottoman, he went on:

“I remember just how she used to look, with her pale cheeks, her deep, soft, serious eyes, her white dress,—she always wore white; and I used to think of her whenever I read in Revelation about the saints that were arrayed in fine linen, clean and white. She had a great deal of genius of one sort and another, particularly in music; and she used to sit at her organ, playing fine old majestic music of the church, and singing with a voice more like an angel than a mortal woman; and I would lay my head down on her lap, and cry, and dream, and feel,—oh, immeasurably!—things that I had no language to say!”



Aluminum Cans

We are still collecting aluminum cans. Please bring in any aluminum cans that you’ve been saving. If you’ve stopped, please start saving them again.

Graduates?

May is the month for many graduation ceremonies. If you know someone from Faith graduating from college, high school, grade school, junior high or wherever; please submit the name and school to the church office. We will publish the names in the June newsletter.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF LETTER CARRIERS

**Stamp
Out
Hunger**
FOOD DRIVE

Letter Carriers and Food Pantry Announce Food Drive

Kewanee Letter Carriers and the Kewanee Food Pantry are announcing a community food drive to be held on Saturday, May 8th. The food drive is part of a national effort by Postal Service Letter Carriers to secure food for local food pantries.

The Letter Carriers will deliver announcement cards to each Kewanee home the week of the food drive. Volunteers from the Food Pantry will accompany the Kewanee Letter Carriers on their delivery routes on Saturday, May 8th to collect food items left on porches and near mail boxes. You may also bring your food donations to the church. The food will be delivered to the Kewanee Food Pantry to be sorted and shelved for food boxes to be given to Food Pantry clients.

The Kewanee Food Pantry continues the mission of providing food to individuals and families. Many are unable to provide for basic food requirements because of lack of employment or income, inability to secure enough assistance from other agencies, or because of emergency situations.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mary Hahn	5/01
Jenny Leezer	5/01
Jacob Townsend	5/06
Michelle Croegaert	5/11
Wendell Hier	5/15
Margaret Gamble	5/19
Nancy Gillespie	5/21
Norma Fornoff	5/22
Jeri Erickson	5/26
Louis "Chip" Wager	5/31

Anniversaries

LaJean and William Breedlove	5/02
Dawn and Kevin Hull	5/23
Mary and Gary Hahn	5/24
Cassi and Tim Streitmatter	5/27

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship Service, 9:00 AM
Sunday School, Adult Bible Class, 10:30 A.M.

Wednesday Worship Service, 7:00 PM

Rev. Robert Fischer, Pastor

309-852-2787 (Church Phone)

309-714-1181 (Cell Phone)

309-853-5394 (Home Phone)

E-mail: pastor@faithkewanee.org

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Address Correction Requested

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