



Acts of Faith

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



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Pastor Paul Weber

cell: 309-716-4759

email: chapemcc@gmail.com

Remember Mothers: It has been often remarked that, in Christian churches across America, Mother's Day is the second best attended worship service next to Easter. Many Christians who pay scant attention to the Church Year will observe Mother's Day with religious devotion. Mothers play a vital role in church and society, a reality the world seems to despise these days. Very often, mothers are at the forefront of handing the faith down to the next generation. As Paul wrote to Timothy: *"I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well"* (2 Timothy 1:5). In the Church, a mother's influence can extend far beyond her biological family. Paul says in Romans 16:13: *"Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord; also his mother, who has been a mother to me as well."* In some way, God used this unnamed woman to nurture, to mother, the great apostle Paul. Let us be grateful for all the mother-figures in our lives — whether they're related to us by blood, or faith, or both.

There is a spiritual reason to remember Mother's Day as well. In these dark latter days, there is much confusion about the meaning of sexuality and family. While the Devil attacks marriage and children, the Church can stand firm on God's Word and resist the siren's song that leads to destruction. In particular, our ancient enemy hates pregnant women, remembering always God's primordial promise that the seed of the woman would strike the serpent's head and that a pregnant mother gave birth to the Savior who spelled his doom. It is thus fitting and right to give thanks to God, on Mother's Day and at all times, for the blessed motherhood of Mary, for our spiritual mother the Church and for all mothers who honor God with their lives by bearing and nurturing children.



Mother's Day represents a powerful opportunity to bless something good and beneficial in this polluted world. Our mothers are imperfect, like all people, but God has honored motherhood in the incarnation of His one eternal Son and continues to use faithful women to build His Kingdom.

On Mother's Day, don't forget to tell Mom and/or the Mother of your children that you love her. Give her a card, a gift, and sit next to her in church. Mobilize your congregation to assist a local crisis pregnancy center. Offer to babysit for the single moms in your community. Help organize meals for families with newborns. Especially if your own mother is far away or no longer with us, spend time getting to know the older women in your congregation and your neighborhood.

And in all these things, remember with awe that the Creator once chose a humble virgin to become a mother and be the means for bringing His saving presence into the world. (Lutheran Witness May, 2019)

Concordia University Wisconsin's Kammerchor (German for chamber choir) will be performing at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 5 at Trinity Lutheran Church, in Peoria as part of its 2024 spring concert tour. The choir will be singing a program primarily of unaccompanied choral pieces in a variety of musical styles from the 1500s to the present. Entitled "Sing Unto the Lord," the concert will feature the works of Henry Purcell, Sydney Guillaume, Felix Mendelssohn and Gwyneth Walther.

Admission is free, but a freewill offering will be collected.



Worship Schedule
9:00 AM, Sunday Worship Service
Adult Bible Class, 10:15 A.M.



May 05	Leah Weber	White
May 12	Mary Hahn	White
May 19	Sharon Larson	Red
May 26	Marilyn Sturtevant	White

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

May's Calendar

May 02	National Day of Prayer
May 05	6th Sunday after Easter with Holy Communion Mite box collection Kammerchor concert 7:00 pm Peoria
May 06	LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 pm
May 09	WOF mtg. 10:00 AM Ascension Day
May 11	Letter Carriers Food Drive
May 12	7th Sunday after Easter with Holy Communion Mother's Day Observance
May 13	LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 pm
May 16	Elders & Council Mtg. (6:30/7:00PM)
May 19	Trinity Sunday with Holy Communion
May 20	LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 pm
May 26	Pentecost Sunday with Holy Communion
May 27	LifeLight Bible Study 1:00 pm Registrations for SCS due. Memorial Day Observance

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, Nancy Gillespie, Bonnie Nuding, and Vanda Hallock

Friends: Lacey Hammons, Jim Tudder, Rev. Burnell Eckardt, Steve Faber, Hannah Guthrie, and all military personnel and first responders.

CID: Our campus, prison, deaf, and Hispanic missions in the District need your prayers and support.

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.

Our World: Citizens of and those in Ukraine and Israel that peace may come to their land.

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy



R.I. Circuit News: Pastor Karsten, Holy Cross-Moline, has been asked by the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada to serve on the accreditation visitation team for Dallas Theological Seminary as that institution undergoes review to renew its ATS accreditation. Pastor Karsten has announced his retirement in mid 2024.

CID News: Six CID congregations will receive synodical seminary candidates this spring. Unfortunately, 51 LCMS congregations who requested a pastor did not receive one including 3 churches from CID.



Birthdays

Mary Hahn	5/01
Jenny Cole	5/01
Nancy Gillespie	5/21
Louis "Chip" Wager	5/31

Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!
1 Chronicles 16:11

Baptism Dates

Melisa Carper	05/27
Eric Cervantez	05/28
Sophie Cervantez	05/29
Ethan Cole	05/26
Cindy Ganschow	05/09
Mary Hahn	05/22
Cheryl Snyder	05/30
Heather Weber	05/10
Rev. Paul Weber	05/16



Wedding Anniversaries

LaJean and William Breedlove	5/02
Dawn and Kevin Hull	5/23
Katy and Eric Cervantez	5/23
Mary and Gary Hahn	5/24

Women of Faith: The Women of Faith will meet on May 9th at 10:00 AM. Carol Cook is the hostess for the month. Please bring a brown bag lunch. They will making fleece blankets for the Paul's Friends organization, a cancer patient hope project. All the ladies in the congregation are welcome to join with the WOF.

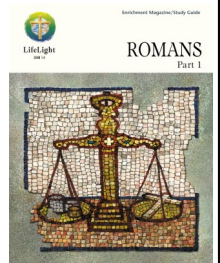
May's LWML Mission Grant is Feeding Haitian Children through Gospel and Meals for Trinity HOPE. Trinity HOPE is a ministry that feeds thousands of hungry children, teachers, and cooks each day in Christian schools spread throughout Haiti. This grant will provide 200,280 meals to 538 pupils at Paul et Isabel Lutheran School in Hinche, Haiti, over a two-year period. With each meal prayer, children are reminded that their food is provided through the love of Jesus Christ. A Lutheran pastor visits the school twice a month, talking with the children and staff and teaching lessons that share the Gospel.



The LWML ladies thank the congregation for the generous support for ingathering gifts taken to the CID LWML convention in April. Mary, Cheryl, and Carol attended the event.

The Monday LifeLight Bible Study continues a review the Book of Romans, the first 7 of 16 chapters. As we progress through this 9-session study, we will see how those who are right with God by faith in His Son have been freed from the penalties of sin we deserve.

The goal of LifeLight is that through a regular program of in-depth personal and group study of Scripture, more and more Christian adults may grow in their personal faith in Jesus Christ. All are welcome to join in, even if you decline to do home study.



THANK YOU FOR THE EASTER LILIES THAT ADORNED OUR SANCTUARY



Sue Cervantez	In Memory of Parents
Jeri Bye	In Honor of Loved Ones
Ron and Sharon Larson	In Memory of Larson & Price families
Mike and Paula Leezer	In Honor of Loved Ones
Jim and Carol Cook	In Memory of Parents
Donna Becker	In Honor of Loved Ones
Mary and Gary Hahn	In Honor of Loved Ones
Sandy Heinrich	In Honor of Loved Ones
Kari Tavares	In Honor of Loved Ones

The **National Day of Prayer** in 2024 is **Thursday, May 2**. It is observed on the first Thursday of May each year. This significant celebration encourages Americans to come together in prayer, whether with family, friends, coworkers, or individually. The theme for the 2024 National Day of Prayer is “Lift Up the Word - Light Up the World,” based on 2 Samuel 22:29-31. Let us join in prayer for our nation and its various areas of influence, as outlined in the **Prayer Guide** provided by the National Day of Prayer Task Force



Greeting Cards Available: All occasion cards are the perfect way to express feelings, celebrate special days and remind loved ones how much they mean to us! The WOF has a display rack of recycled cards available in the Narthex. Discounted price at \$0.75 a card, or 4 cards for \$3.00. Please take a look at what they have to offer for that special someone in your thoughts. Proceeds go to the mission efforts of the LWML.

Council News: The treasurer’s report indicated the general fund has \$47,344.96, and the Memorial/Dedicated Fund has \$16,972.74 for a total of \$64,317.70. The church extension fund balance is \$128,298.96.

Pastor reported on the CID Pastor’s conference. The district is having financial problems. The next Small Church Summit is June 8th in Carlinville, IL. Pastor expects to hold a Confirmation service in May.

Ted reported all geo-thermal furnaces are back in service. Thompson Electronics, Peoria, has been contacted to review the sound system and acoustics for our facility. After visiting our church, the audiovisual specialist has taking sound measurements, and with their sound engineer will work up several recommended scenarios with costs for the council to consider. Additional roof repairs have been completed.

Graduations: If you or your son, daughter, or grandchild is a member, or is known to us at Faith and has/is graduating from high school, college, or trade school this spring, please notify us of their name, graduation date, and future plans by Sunday, May 19th, to be recognized in our June newsletter. E-mail hahn.gary@comcast.net or leave a note with Pastor.

On Saturday, May 11, letter carriers in Kewanee and across the country will head out on their routes to collect donations of non-perishable food items to benefit local food pantries. Since launching in 1993, the National Association of Letter Carriers’ annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive has grown into the nation’s largest one-day food drive, helping to fill the shelves of food banks in cities and towns throughout the United States.

Simply leave your donation of non-perishable food in a bag near your mailbox on the second Saturday in May, and your letter carrier will do the rest.



Q: Is the speaking in tongues that the Holy Spirit empowered the apostles to do on Pentecost the same as the speaking in tongues that still happen in charismatic churches?

A: No, they are not the same, and it does not diminish either gift to recognize that. They are just different. What happened on Pentecost is not the same as the speaking in tongues St. Paul describes in his letters, either. The Holy Spirit’s coming on Pentecost was a unique event that equipped the apostles to speak in actual languages which the Jewish believers who had come to Jerusalem for the festival could understand. God wanted them to hear the good news in their native languages. The demonstration of the Holy Spirit’s power also fulfilled the prophecy from Joel 2 that Peter quoted in his sermon.

What Paul describes in his letters, and still occurs in charismatic churches, is heavenly speech that no one understands, including the speaker. Paul writes, “One who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret.” “Nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue.” (1Corinthians 14:13,19) He emphasized speaking in tongues is not a greater spiritual gift than any other, and when granted, it is to be used for the good of the Church.