



Faith Family

News

June 2024

*In response to God's grace flowing
through Christ, we grow in faith
and show Christ's love.*

Lessons from the Cicadas

By Pastor Adam

Back on Mother's Day, I woke up to a low hum outside the windows. It sounded like a distant chorus of frogs and figured it was coming from a neighbor's pond. That afternoon, the chorus grew into a deafening cacophony of high-pitched crackling buzz... the cicadas had arrived! (nerdy trivia... did you know that the sound of one cicada can reach over 100 decibels, and a swarm can be louder than a jackhammer?) We'd been hearing about them for weeks. This year's emergence is history making as two separate broods (brood XIX and XII) are emerging simultaneously. One has a life cycle of 13 years while the other has a life cycle of 17 years. Because of this offset, they emerge together every 200 years or so with the last time being 1803! They have been impossible to ignore at our home, with the jackhammer chorus gearing up late morning and finally stopping in the early evening, not to mention the swarms that love to latch onto our clothes, hair, or anything else in their way; we've been confined to the indoors for much of the last two weeks. This cicada imposed "shelter in place" has given me time to think, what can we learn from cicadas?

First, God has ordained rhythm into everything. My mind is blown that these insects can count the days until their time to emerge, but that is how they are

wired. We are wired with necessary rhythms as well. My sabbatical time made it so clear to me that God has created us with a rhythm for work and rest/worship, and to ignore it is dangerous. How do you maintain this rhythm in your life?

Second, oh how good it is to sing together! Cicada scientists refer to chorusing males singing a "congregational song." Perhaps we are hard wired for this as well, to gather, lift up our voices, and join the chorus. Sounds like worship! Every Sunday, we come together in worship and sing hymns and songs. This month, we are blessed with the opportunity to learn about the melodies and lyrics of some traditional hymns in worship. It is good to sing both aware of the words we are singing as they draw us into a deeper awareness of the One we worship... so much better than the jackhammer chorus outside!

Third, if you have always been curious about John the Baptist or Elijah's diet of locusts... sources tell me that cicadas are edible and taste like canned asparagus.

So, as you dodge the deluge of diabolical cicadas with disdain, seek out your rhythm, join the song, and savor the flavor of a different summer... thank God they won't return for another 200 years!

Pastor Adam



Faith Family Updates

What's new around Faith? Maybe you haven't been here in awhile or you just haven't noticed, but our ministry is constantly changing.

Baptism of Olivia Sage Street - May 19th

Together we celebrate the love of God through Holy Baptism for Olivia Sage Street, daughter of Cory and Mariah Street.

Upcoming Baptisms

We will also be celebrating the baptism of Luka Waddle, son of Jacob and Hillary Waddle, on June 16th and William Ring, son of Tyler and Nichole Ring, on June 23rd



We celebrate our graduates!

Did you have a family member who graduated this year? We want to congratulate them and celebrate their accomplishment! Please tell us their name, the grade level they achieved, and their plans for the future **by Sunday, June 23**. Whether one is moving on from preschool or a PhD, we give thanks to God!



Landscape Updates

Our landscape ministry team sprang into action this month with new mulch around our church gardens. Thank you Patty Nelson, Judy Dillard, and Vicki Robson! If you are interested in helping with projects in the future, please contact Patty Nelson

Cicada Invasion!

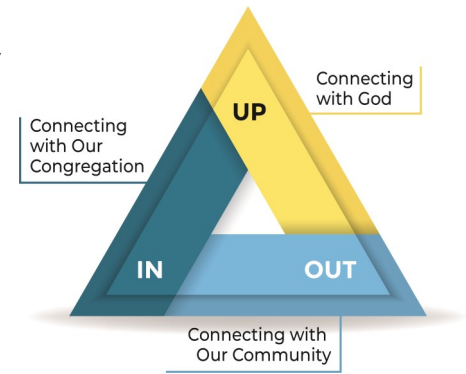


That's not mulch! The cicadas are swarming at Faith and really testing our commitment to all being welcome.



Reaching Up... Connecting with God through Worship

Total ministry is a balanced ministry as we reach up, in, and out... connecting with God, our congregation, and our community



Outdoor Worship and Potluck July 7

The cicada invasion has cut our outdoor worship schedule short, and our first outdoor service will be Sunday, July 7. We will worship outdoors on the east lawn and then move indoors for a potluck meal in the Great Room. Indoor, air-conditioned seating will be provided in the Justice and Peace rooms for the service.

Sermon Series - "What is a Lutheran?"

On May 26, we began a new series that looks at what we as ELCA Lutherans believe. We started by talking about grace and faith. Upcoming topics will be scripture, Jesus, the priesthood of all believers, and being a Lutheran in the 21st century. For a deeper discussion, join Pastor Adam in the Justice Room for questions and sharing.



Synod Assembly

This year's Central/Southern Illinois Synod Assembly will be held June 6-8 at the Decatur Conference Center and Hotel in Decatur, IL. Our voting members are Carol VanderKloot, Ralph Welch, Pastor Adam, and Youth Rep Marilyn Dichsen (Jean Welch is on Synod Council). It is a time to tend to the matters of living together in Christ for the sake of the world, learning, and understanding how God calls us to be the church in the world. We worship together, receive greetings from ministry partners and ecumenical brothers and sisters, steward our financial resources to support and strengthen ministry, and are inspired and encouraged by one another.

If you would like to participate in the festival worship service on Thursday evening at 8:00pm from Central Christian Church, Decatur, you can view the live stream on our Facebook page or the Synod YouTube Channel.

(YouTube.com/@csiselca)

Music is a great way to connect!

We are always looking for people to sing or play special music for a prelude or a stewardship offering.

jrwelch53@msn.com or 217-652-7009 (phone/text)

Summer Youth Camps

Performing Arts Camp (PAC) at Green Pastures Christian Retreat Center is for youth entering grades 5-12 and will take place on June 14-15, 21-22, and 28-29. Cost is \$50/camper.

Fire in Our Hearts (FIOH) at Green Pastures is for youth entering grades 5-12 and will take place on July 8-12 and 22-26. Cost is \$135/camper.

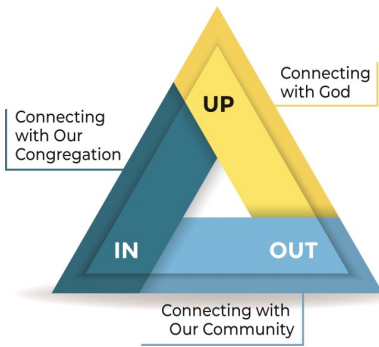
If needed, scholarships are available.

Registration link:

<http://www.greenpasturesretreatcenter.org/registration>.

For more information call: 217-584-1374

Email: contact@greenpasturesretreatcenter.org



Reaching In... Connecting with our Congregation through Discipleship and Fellowship

Total ministry is a balanced ministry as we reach up, in, and out... connecting with God, our congregation, and our community

“What is a Lutheran” Discussion

Following worship in June, all are invited to join Pastor Adam in the Justice Room to continue the conversation from our sermon series. We will be looking at Lutheran perspectives on scripture (6/2), Jesus (6/9), the priesthood of all believers (6/16), and being a Lutheran in the 21st century (6/23). Join us as we learn and struggle together with living out our faith as a church and as individuals today.

Men’s Breakfast

Come and connect with other men as we share our faith and enjoy some good food on **Saturday, June 1**. At 8:00, we hang out in the kitchen, helping to cook, drink coffee, and visit. At 9:00, we sit down for some conversation and discussion on a specific topic.

Men’s Prayer Group

Help us grow our group! You can meet in person at Faith on **Wednesday mornings at 7:00**, or on zoom. Contact one of the guys to let them know you are coming: Gilbert Joehl, Kevin Krohe, or Larry Kuster.

Congregational Care Coordinator

Sharon Zuiderveld

I’ll be leading the **Discipleship Group** on June 19. Welcome to all women.

Everyone is welcome to join our **Faith Breakfast Group at Kim’s Place** at 211 E. Court St. (formerly Norma’s) **every Thursday morning at 8:30am**. Follow us to the back room for good food, bottomless mugs of coffee, and fellowship.

The **Prayer Chain** is a list of your emails that Sharon and Pastor Adam keep active when there are prayers needed for any in our congregation or community. Let us know if you’d like your email added.

Prayer shawls are available in Sharon’s office. Please take one if you know of anyone needing comfort due to surgery, loss of a loved one, or a new mother!

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

This month Patty Nelson is hosting a game night at her house (1509 S. Clay) on **Wednesday, June 5th** at 6:00pm. She’ll provide iced tea and water. Bring a snack to share and any other beverages you’d like. If you have a favorite game, feel free to bring it as well. Hope you can join us for this fun night!

Discipleship Group

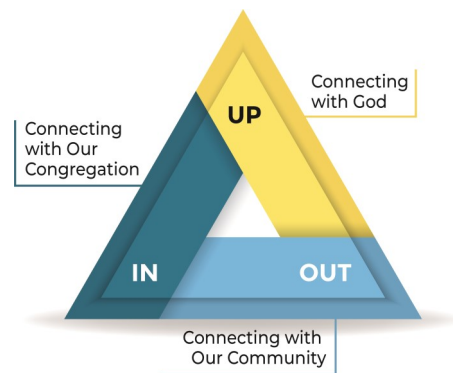
Join us at 10:00am. on **Wednesday, June 19**, as we gather to pray, break bread together, share the Bible, and enjoy fellowship with each other. Contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or khartz@sompo-intl.com with any questions.

Sunday School Thank You!

Many thanks to all who helped with our Sunday School program this year, especially Patty Nelson and Gilbert Wellenreiter for their dedication as teachers. We are already starting to make plans for next year’s Sunday School program. If you have any interest in helping, please contact the church office.

Reaching Out... Connecting with our Community through Outreach

Total ministry is a balanced ministry as we reach up, in, and out... connecting with God, our congregation, and our community



Apple Trees at the Altar

We have new altar plants during our current sermon series... apple trees! Why apple trees? Martin Luther once said, "If I knew the world would go to pieces tomorrow, I would plant an apple tree today." Planting an apple tree is an expression of hope in the future, even in the midst of the chaos and struggles of today. It also emphasizes the commitment to and importance of our personal actions. Yes, we are saved by grace through faith, apart from works, but we are compelled to do good works in response to the goodness of God and God's grace. How can you plant an apple tree? Every time you give a donation to Faith Lutheran Church, you are planting seeds that will grow and bear fruit as it strengthens our ministry and our outreach near and far. Let Luther's words challenge you, both in stewardship of your time through service and stewardship of your finances through giving, as you plant apple trees for the future.

A Desire to Serve

One of the outcomes of the Lenten midweek gatherings this year was an awareness of an overwhelming desire for hands-on service. We have lots of ideas, but need volunteers to help plan and execute them. If this lines up with your desires, interests, and abilities, please let us know! Contact the church office, and we will put you in touch with your Outreach Core Team.

Jacksonville Food Center

The demand for additional help with food is increased as schools close for the summer. While at school, children are able to have breakfast and lunch. Families in need now have to rely on more help from local food pantries. With the added expense of extra meals where families are already struggling, we know people need extra food. Please consider increasing donations of food and money at this time. Suggested foods that are easy to prepare by children at home are hearty canned soups, canned spaghetti and meats, canned ravioli, peanut butter, jam, crackers, and healthy cereals. Pop-top cans are suggested when donating canned foods. Donations will be delivered to the Jacksonville Food Center promptly and gratefully.

In April, Faith Lutheran donated \$215 in cash and \$78 in foods. At this time of extra needs, please open your hearts and donate extra foods or money to purchase what is so needed.

Lillian Korous and Pat Glyshaw

Worship Assistants

Chancel Committee

June 2 Pat Glyshaw
 June 9 Kim Heise
 June 16 Mary Jane Esslinger
 June 23 Kris Roth
 June 30 **volunteer needed**

Communion Assts.

June 2 Hallie Mayner
 June 9 Kay Schnitker
 June 16 Pam Devlin
 June 23 Liddy Stark
 June 30 Hallie Mayner

Readers

June 2 Carol Kilver
 June 9 Kelly Hartz
 June 16 Carol VanderKloot
 June 23 John Williams
 June 30 Terri Kimler

Coffee Hosts

June 2 Kay Schnitker
 June 9 Kay Schnitker
 June 16 Karen Sibert
 June 23 Hallie M. & Liddy S.
 June 30 Terri Kimler

Greeters

June 2 Hallie Mayner
 June 9 Lillian Korous
 June 16 **volunteer needed**
 June 23 Lillian Korous
 June 30 **volunteer needed**

Ushers

June 2 Larry Kuster
 June 9 Pat Glyshaw
 June 16 **volunteer needed**
 June 23 **volunteer needed**
 June 30 Liddy Stark

If you would like to help with assisting for the 9:30am worship services, please contact the church office (faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up in the gathering area** at the podium by the east doors.

Altar Plants

(\$15 donation appreciated)

Plants are placed in the chancel that remain for an extended period of time.

If you would like to donate, please call or email the church office (245-8919 or faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up in the gathering area at the podium by the east doors;** please make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church (1385 W. Walnut St.).

- June 2 By the Dichsen family in celebration of Marilyn's 17th birthday on June 6
& **Open for donation**
- June 9 By Theresa Savoie in memory of Mary Carolyn Savoie (6-13-1946)
& **Open for donation**
- June 16 By the Dichsen family in celebration of Desmond's 4th birthday on June 17
& **Open for donation**
- June 23 **Open for donation**
& **Open for donation**
- June 30 **Open for donation**
& **Open for donation**

Financial Assistants

- June 2 Patty Nelson & Monica Proefrock
- June 9 Greg Kimler & Kelly Street
- June 16 Ken Devlin & Kelly Street
- June 23 Ken Devlin & Greg Kimler
- June 30 Kelly Hartz & Monica Proefrock

Friends From Faith

A ministry team led by Naomi Hahn: on the last Sunday of each month — everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. **On June 30**, visit the tall white table just outside the sanctuary where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

Plastic Caps & Lids

We stopped collecting caps in December, and the Jacksonville Public Library is no longer taking them. Please let us know if you hear of a place where they can be taken.

GFL Recycling says that you can leave caps on clean, recyclable #1 and #2 plastic bottles when you add them to your recycling bin.

Newsletter Deadline

June 16