



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
4107 21st Avenue, Moline, IL 61265
(309) 764-9720

holycrosslutheran@mchsi.com

THE ILLUMINATOR

The Holy Cross Lutheran Church Newsletter

Pastor's Newsletter Article for June 2025

What Does the Holy Spirit Do for Us?

A renowned doctor once conducted a series of autopsies and made a startling discovery. After examining the body of a convicted **murderer**, he noticed something unusual—an internal problem. When he compared it to the body of a convicted **thief**, he found the exact same issue. Curious, he revisited notes from other cases. Time and again, he uncovered the same diagnosis. Regardless of background, **every person** had the same internal condition.

That doctor? His name is **Jesus**.

In Mark 7, Jesus tells us plainly that all kinds of evil—anger, envy, deceit, pride—come from within, from the heart. That's the common thread: **a heart problem**. When someone cuts you off on the road and your first reaction is NOT to smile and wave, it comes **from within the heart**. When someone hurts your feelings and you want to hurt them back, it comes **from within the heart**. When you say something in anger that you immediately want to take back, the problem doesn't begin with our circumstances. It begins within us—**in the heart**.



So what's the solution to a heart problem like this?

King David said it best: **"Create in me a clean heart, O God"** (*Psalms 51:10*). We don't just need behavior modification. We need new hearts—and only God can create them.

Enter the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit doesn't use a scalpel, but something far sharper: the Word of God. With it, He performs divine heart surgery—cutting, yes, but only to heal. Through the Word, the Spirit convicts us of sin and then comforts us with the Gospel: **"The blood of Jesus purifies us from all sin"** (1 John 1:7). The Spirit changes our hearts so they beat with faith, hope, and love. From hearts renewed by the Gospel flow peace, patience, kindness, and goodness. If you believe in Christ today, thank the Holy Spirit. **He gave you a new heart!**

On Sunday, June 8, we will celebrate the Festival of Pentecost—the day the Holy Spirit descended with wind, fire, and the miracle of many languages. But if you keep reading in Acts, you'll notice that the spectacle of Pentecost quickly gave way to the daily life of the Church, marked not by constant miracles, but by fellowship, worship, repentance, and perseverance.

This is how the Spirit usually works: not with fireworks, but through the ordinary, the broken, and the humble. The Word may look like just ink on a page or simple speech.

Continued...

The Sacraments may appear to be plain water, bread, and wine. Yet through these means, the Holy Spirit is powerfully at work—comforting the sinner, strengthening the weary, building the Church.

Holy Cross is not a perfect place, but it is a place where the perfect grace of Christ is offered regularly. It is a community of ordinary people—a refuge and a source of strength for the imperfect and the struggling... but people who are being shaped and sustained by the Spirit through Word and Sacrament, nevertheless. This is especially important during a time of transition. The Holy Spirit's power doesn't depend on whether a pastor is permanent or interim (or as I often put it, "*a clerical Kelly girl*")—it depends on the faithfulness of God's promises, which never change.

This congregation's gathering each week around Word and Sacrament is itself an act of faith and a testimony to God's ongoing work. As St. Paul reminds us, "**God's strength is made perfect in weakness**" (2 Corinthians 12:9). That applies to churches in times of transition too. That's why it's so crucial for everyone to be in the divine service each Sunday—We need each other!

While we await clarity on a future pastor, let us rest in what is already certain: God's love for His people, the unchanging truth of His Word, the grace poured out in Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the quiet, steady presence of the Holy Spirit. These are not small things. These are everything.

I encourage you to see God's hand not only in grand events but in the regular rhythm of worship, the fellowship of believers, and the faithful proclamation of Christ crucified and risen. The Spirit is at work here. Right now. Among us.

Come each Sunday to be renewed again by His powerful grace... And pray for the man who may (if the Holy Spirit so leads) serve you next—knowing that even now, the Spirit is already at work in his heart, too!

I LOVE BEING YOUR VACANCY PASTOR!



Pastor Wright



Next month: *Knowing Jesus or Knowing about Jesus – what's the difference?*

You are always welcome to any of our Bible classes!

Wednesday's at 9 a.m. or Sunday's at 9:30 a.m. Held in the fellowship hall. You do not need to start at the beginning of a unit or topic. Please come whenever you can. For those who have been attending church for decades, it may seem that the historic liturgy is boring or vain repetition. In this Bible study, however, we will note how much of the liturgy is actually God's Word as it first appeared in the lives God's people. In a practical and vibrant way, these sessions will help enrich and deepen our worship life and appreciation for Word and Sacrament in a way that has proven tried-and-true over the centuries.

Please help us maintain accurate contact information (addresses, phone numbers & emails) for our members requiring in-home ministry. This is especially critical if there have been changes in the past 8 months.



From the Deaconess

Save the Date!

VBS is July 12th (a Saturday) from 9a – 1pm. Yes, that is right, only one day this year. We are trying something new and hope you can all join! This year's theme will be a Mighty Fortress. More information to come, but please mark the Calendar to join. All ages are welcome to come participate but especially if you are pre-k through 6th grade, please come!

It has been a pleasure playing during services. I love hearing the congregation singing the hymns below. With that in mind, by the time this is sent and read, I will be on my way to the Organist Workshop in Fort Wayne Indiana, taking the opportunity to learn and grow as an organist in supporting the worship services.
More to come on that in the next newsletter!

In Christ,
Amanda Hahn



The Elders approved a Special Voter's Assembly

Meeting that will be held on **Sunday, June 29th at 2:00p.m.** Two items will be on the agenda:

1. Holy Cross will vote yes/no on the question of support for the 2025 CID Capital Campaign Resolution.
2. Extending a Pastoral Call



Dear Friends and Saints of Holy Cross Lutheran Church,

As some of you may have heard I have successfully graduated and earned my master's, but much more importantly I have been called to serve as pastor of Emmaus Lutheran Church in Livingston Montana (a very nice place to visit!). It is a mission plant in the beautiful heights of the Rocky Mountains on the Yellowstone River just north of the park, a dream come true for our family and a perfect opportunity for me to put into full practice all the excellent teaching I have received over the last four years at the seminary and on vicarage with you all in Moline. We will certainly miss the friends we have made here in the Midwest, but I came here with the purpose of going out again, and have been greatly blessed by my time here.

Rowan was only seven when we came to Fort Wayne, and there were just six of us in the family, but now he is soon to be eleven and we have nine souls to ferry back west! A lot has changed for us as a family, and God has been with us to carry us from one stage to the next. We are certainly glad that this will be the last interstate move! We have family in Livingston and will be only a day's drive from our hometown of Spokane, and we are very excited to visit home one last time before my ordination. The details are still being worked out, but my ordination and installation should take place on June 29th. That will give us several months of warmer weather to settle into the house, and give me plenty of time to go around and meet the community before winter sets in.

Again at the end of the seminary process, I would like to thank you for your prayers and support which held us up and made this adventure possible. Supporting the Fort Wayne seminary and supporting our students, especially as you all have through the vicarage program for so many years, is always a good investment. I continue to pray that God will send you a pastor soon, and not long after will also have more vicars. I am very impressed with the direction that both of our seminaries are heading, driving us ever deeper into the Word and our confessions under the headship of the new presidents who are cooperating to strengthen the unity of our dear synod. For our part, I am inspired by my classmates and am proud of the men they have become. I have full confidence in each one of them as they begin their life's work as parish pastors. The support we all have received has not only provided us with this education and blessed vocation, but also the fraternity and mutual support in seminary and for life. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your help and for playing a part in God's ongoing work in this world through His church. May God continue to bless us all richly, guard us in body and soul, and preserve us for the Kingdom which has no end.

In His Peace, *to sign*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Riley Corrigan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

J. Riley Corrigan



Altar Guild

Please give some prayerful consideration in serving as a member of the Altar Guild. Duties include setting up and cleaning up of communion; keeping the altar paraments current for the Sunday according to the church calendar; and keeping the candles filled and ready for services as needed. Many hands make for light work.

It has been my privilege to have been on this committee for over 5 years. My last day will be July 6, 2025. Respectfully, Jan Serre

Holy Cross has competent and faithful representation to the Central Illinois District Convention, July 2025. The Voter's elected **Mr. William Serre** as Lay Delegate and **Mr. Rich Kraft** as the alternate Lay Delegate.
Thanks be to God

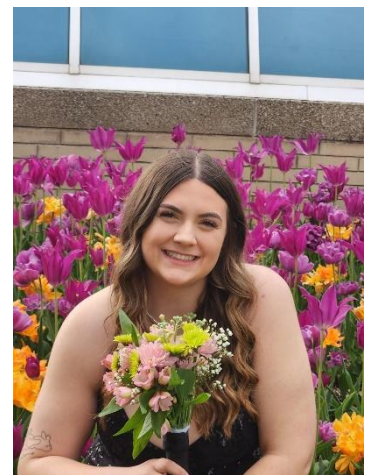




Hayden Michael Steagall
Bachelor of Science in Mechatronics | Orion Technical
College | Class of 2025

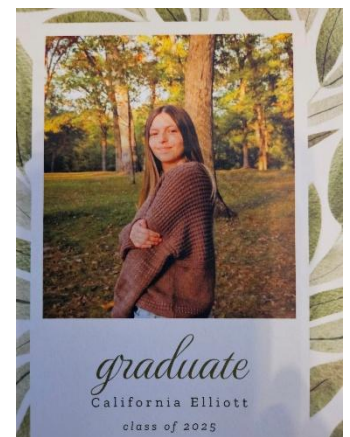
Hayden graduated from Orion Technical College on April 24th, 2025, earning a Bachelor of Science in Mechatronics. He is planning to further his career as an **electrical engineer** while also serving as a **part-time teaching assistant** at the college. Hayden looks forward to using his skills to innovate in the engineering field and to help guide the next generation of students!

Isabella Diamond Dawson
United Township High School | After graduation I plan on entering the medical field and am in the process of deciding which school I'll be attending.



Max Serre
Sherrard High School | Max graduated Suma Cum Laude from Sherrard High School. Max will be studying Agronomy at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa this fall!

California Elliott
United Township High School | California graduated with honors in Spanish! She will be continuing her education at Black Hawk College.





June Birthdays



Paige Finch ~ Anika Kretschmar ~ Alexandria Noblet ~ Randy Barr ~ Julie Erickson ~ Jeff Welvaert ~
Jeffrey Stewart ~ Donna Stuenkel ~ Richard Ristau ~ James Reese ~ Mary Ann Galliart ~
Laura Ruggles ~ Mike McLaughlin ~ Hayden Steagall ~ Julia Finch

On behalf of the members of Holy Cross and to honor our fathers past and present, the **Mutual Encouragement Committee** will donate **\$150.00** to **Pregnancy Resources**.
We thank God for our fathers!

Mark your Calendars!!!

LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) will meet
on **Thursday, June 12th, 2025, at 12:30p.m.**



Peace Quilters is scheduled to meet at **10:45 a.m.** on **Thursday, June 19th, 2025.**

The Foot Clinic is scheduled for **Thursday, June 19th, 2025** from
1:00p.m. – 3:30p.m. The cost is \$35. **Please remember to bring a towel!*



Exercise Class and Fellowship Hour
Exercise Class begins at 10:15 A.M. Immediately following the
9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M. Bible Class led by Pastor Gary Wright. Come and join
us for Fellowship Hour following the Exercise Class!

Newsletter & Calendar Announcements for the month of July *MUST* be submitted to the office by Monday, June 23rd, 2025!!!



Volunteering to Serve:

Volunteers are needed to watch the security monitor during our services!

If you can help in this way, please sign the sheet in the church entryway. If you have any questions, please talk to a member of the Board of Elders.

The April – June Editions of Portals are here!

Please help yourself to this devotional resource and share with others

The Mutual Encouragement Committee

Serves a meal the second Monday of every month following a worship service at Christian Care in Rock Island. In this way we serve both body and soul of those in our community who find themselves in need.

Our next date of service is Monday, June 9th, 2025. Monetary donations are always welcome and are used to purchase spaghetti ingredients, salads and garlic bread. A

sign-up sheet is in the entryway for those interested in providing desserts or fresh fruit. These items, clearly marked for Christian Care, can be left in the Holy Cross

kitchen on Monday or Sunday immediately preceding. Space is limited in the Christian Care kitchen, so those signing up to serve must be limited to four. The

Mutual Encouragement Committee thanks you in advance for your kind and generous cooperation.



YouthHope

Our Pantry Sunday recipient for the month of June is YouthHope!

Concordia Lutheran Academy in Geneseo is hosting their 3rd Annual “Swing for the Kids” Golf Outing Fundraiser on the morning of June 21st.

This year it's at Valley View in Cambridge, IL and the cost is \$160 for 2 players, cart, lunch, a swag bag, and a great time! Call the Concordia's Church Office at (309) 944-3993, or scan the QR Code to register. FORE!



69TH REGULAR CONVENTION

CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED

Call for Nominations:

National Synod Officer,
Board, and Commission
Positions

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

2026 LCMS CONVENTION
CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES



Continued...

Call for Nominations: National Synod Officer, Board, and Commission Positions

The **Committee for Convention Nominations** requests nominations of qualified members of Synod member congregations for the following positions to be filled by the Synod convention meeting July 18–23, 2026. Officers, agencies, ordained and commissioned ministers, and member congregations of the Synod and their lay members are all invited to submit nominations, to be received preferably before August 18, 2025, and **no later than October 18, 2025**. Nominees are sought for:

- Secretary of the Synod
- LCMS Board of Directors (at-large and regional)
- LCMS Boards for National and International Mission (regional)
 - Commission on Theology and Church Relations
 - Concordia Historical Institute Board of Governors
 - Concordia Publishing House Board of Directors
- Lutheran Church Extension Fund Board of Directors
 - LCMS Foundation Board of Trustees
 - Concordia University System Board of Directors
- Synod University and Seminary Boards of Regents

Important information, including an explanatory memorandum, a detailed description of the offices to be filled (with present terms and incumbents), and instructions for use of the **new online nomination system**, is available at ***lcms.org/nominate***. Any member of a member congregation with a valid email address will be able to establish an account and submit a nomination.

Please distribute this call widely and urge participation.

John W. Sias, LCMS Secretary

For general information on the upcoming convention, see ***lcms.org/convention/timeline***. Congregation administrators, please make sure your leader emails are up to date at ***lc.lcms.org*** so that important convention-related announcements will be received. Congregations will receive nomination ballots for the President and regional vice-presidents of the Synod in the fall of 2025.

In Preparation for the LCMS Regular Convention

In Preparation for the LCMS Regular Convention

For general information on the upcoming convention, see ***lcms.org/convention/timeline***. Congregation administrators, please make sure your leader emails are up to date at ***lc.lcms.org*** so that important convention-related announcements will be received. Congregations will receive nomination ballots for the President and regional vice-presidents of the Synod in the fall of 2025.

A Dollar for Missions News First Project of 2025 - Update

Portions of brick are crumbling away, water is leaking in between the masonry frames and the windows, and mortar joints are opening in brick walls. The current Dollar for Missions project is \$25,000 for masonry work and repointing at University Lutheran Church in Champaign. These funds will help to correct masonry wear-and-tear on the 70-plus-year-old church and student center. University Lutheran Church has served many thousands of students with the Gospel of Christ over 70+ years. Please help to provide a space for another 70 years of distributing Christ's gifts! Feel free to check out the video at <https://youtu.be/n3BqVeNC0tg> or find more information on our website <https://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-a-dollar-for-missions.html>.

PRAYER

PRAYER O Lord, open the hearts of your people to support the proclamation of the Good News about Jesus in ways large and small. Bless the Dollars for Mission that support mission work in unusual ways. In Jesus' name. Amen.

You can always find out more about DFM, including the present project at any time, at <https://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-a-dollar-for-missions.html>



**CHURCH EXTENSION
FUND, INC.**
Central Illinois District–LCMS

The Mission of the LCMS Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund is to aid The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations, schools, and agencies of the LCMS Central Illinois District (CID) in building and expanding their facilities and ministries for the growth of God's Kingdom.





Sunday, June 8 is the day we celebrate Pentecost. Many will be wishing the Christian Church a Happy Birthday on this day. However, the Church are those called on by God to be his people. The Church is made up of those who have been given faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world. All those who came before Christ and believed he would come are included in the Church. They include Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, Moses, David, Elijah, Isaiah, and many more as indicated in Hebrews 11.

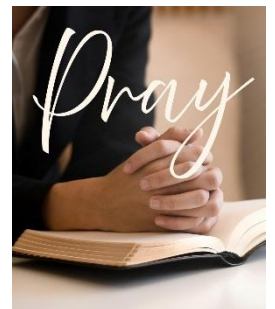
Continued...

Truly, the Christian Church, those who believe in Christ, has existed from the beginning. Thus, Christianity is the oldest world religion and we give thanks to God for Pentecost, the day when the Spirit of God was given to the apostles, empowering them to boldly proclaim Christ and him crucified, fulfilling the promise of Christ to send the Comforter (John 16:7).
A blessed Pentecost to all.

– Pastor Jeff Caithamer, St. John, Champaign

PRAYERS

Pray For Our Central Illinois District Missions supported by your church's Mission Dollars to the District. "Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the Word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored." Please remember in your prayers our District's Lutheran Early Response Training (LERT) volunteers, who provide help in Jesus' name to churches and individuals affected by natural disasters. Pray for the hundreds of LERT workers in CID and throughout our Synod.



ITEMS OF INTEREST

"Reaching In" Prison Mentoring Program Coming to CID

You can help with prison ministry from outside a prison! "Reaching In," a letter-writing mentoring ministry developed in southern Illinois, is now available in CID. Correspond with inmates via letters sent back and forth to a P.O. box, thus guarding your identity and location information. For more, e-mail your name and phone number to prisonministry@cidlcms.org An exhibit on prison/jail ministry will be at the CID convention, July 13-15.

Central Illinois District LCMS

61st Regular Convention

Theme: "Witnessing Christ to the People" Acts 13:30-31

July 13-15, 2025

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield, IL

The *Convention Workbook* has been posted to the CID website. It contains all District reports and convention information, including the resolutions that will be presented at the convention.

Here is the direct link to the 2025 CID *Convention Workbook*.

<https://www.cidlcms.org/Convention2025/2025.Workbook.pdf>

CTSFW Protrepics: An Approach to Holy Conversation Outside the Church.

Dr. Chad Kendall

June 16-18, 2025

Christ Lutheran Church, Normal, IL 61761

This course will explore the work of Clement of Alexandria and his approach to protrepics as he conversed and sought to persuade a variegated and syncretistic Alexandrian culture. This course will define this ancient approach called protrepics and will provide historical background to protrepics and allegory. It will examine second- and third-century Alexandria, providing an opportunity to understand Clement's teaching method. Our world today is looking more like Clement's Alexandria. This course will, then, suggest a protreptic approach to engage people today in the post-Christian world.

Class begins every day at 9:00 a.m. and ends the last day at 12:00 p.m.

Register by credit card: Contact LeeAnna Rondot at (260) 452-2204.

Register online: Go to ctsfw.edu/CE/Normal-Illinois

ITEMS OF INTEREST

“Reaching In” Prison Mentoring Program Coming to CID

You can help with prison ministry from outside a prison! “Reaching In,” a letter-writing mentoring ministry developed in southern Illinois, is now available in CID. Correspond with inmates via letters sent back and forth to a P.O. box, thus guarding your identity and location information. For more, e-mail your name and phone number to prisonministry@cidlcms.org An exhibit on prison/jail ministry will be at the CID convention, July 13-15.

Central Illinois District LCMS

61st Regular Convention

Theme: “Witnessing Christ to the People” Acts 13:30-31

July 13-15, 2025

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield, IL

The *Convention Workbook* has been posted to the CID website. It contains all District reports and convention information, including the resolutions that will be presented at the convention.

Here is the direct link to the 2025 CID *Convention Workbook*.
<https://www.cidlcms.org/Convention2025/2025.Workbook.pdf>

CTSFW Protrepics: An Approach to Holy Conversation Outside the Church.

Dr. Chad Kendall

June 16-18, 2025

Christ Lutheran Church, Normal, IL 61761

This course will explore the work of Clement of Alexandria and his approach to protreptics as he conversed and sought to persuade a variegated and syncretistic Alexandrian culture. This course will define this ancient approach called protreptics and will provide historical background to protreptics and allegory. It will examine second- and third-century Alexandria, providing an opportunity to understand Clement's teaching method. Our world today is looking more like Clement's Alexandria. This course will, then, suggest a protreptic approach to engage people today in the post-Christian world.

Class begins every day at 9:00 a.m. and ends the last day at 12:00 p.m.

Register by credit card: Contact LeeAnna Rondot at (260) 452-2204.

Register online: Go to ctsfw.edu/CE/Normal-Illinois

CID BOARD OF DIRECTORS REVIEW REPORT 05/20/25

Opening devotion was given by Rev. Mike Burdick on Psalm 127.

Pastor Hull, campus ministry pastor at Western Illinois University, gave a Mission Presentation. He shared the blessings of his first year of service at Western, including four confirmations. Pastor Hull holds a weekly Bible class and hosts 6-8 students for supper. There are plans for monthly disputations on ethical topics in the upcoming academic year at Western, where Pastor Hull will have the opportunity to give a public confession and defense of Christianity.

President Mohr's report included this year's candidate placements from both seminaries. There were 145 requests for candidates with 92 candidates assigned, with 53 requests unfilled. Three Candidates were placed into CID in addition to one deaconess.

A New CID Personnel Handbook was approved.

Revised constitutions were approved for St. John's, Campaign; Christ, Clinton; Calvary, Watseka; and St. Paul's, Woodworth.

A late Overture to Launch a Funding Campaign for Mission Support in the Central Illinois District was approved. Another late Overture to Establish a Date for District Convention was approved.

There will be a Zoom Board meeting to call a part-time District Mission Executive in early June 2025.



National Youth Gathering

July 19-23, 2025 – New Orleans

Event Policy

The event policy has been added to the website, so make sure you take time to read it so your group is ready: <https://www.lcmsgathering.com/eventpolicies>

Looking for information: Ways to Connect

CID Lutheran Youth Facebook Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/249327678480252>

Find the latest district updates and information

LCMS Youth Ministry Facebook Group

www.facebook.com/groups/LCMSYouthMinistry

Gathering related content and collaboration, but all things youth ministry, too!

National Youth Gathering Website

www.lcmsgathering.com

Tons of information, worksheets, budgeting sheets, etc.

End Goals: LCMS Youth Ministry Podcast

<https://www.kfu.org/category/lcms-youth-ministry-end-goals/>

All things youth ministry and some great episodes on the Gathering!

CAMP CILCA SCHEDULE 2025

February 28-March 1	ACT LIKE MEN Woodcutters' Retreat
March 15	Free Pancake Dinner
March 28-29	Women's Retreat
March 30	Annual Banquet <i>Held at Camp CILCA's Dining Hall. Contact the camp office to reserve your tickets.</i>
April 5	Spring Work Day
April 25-26	Spring Women's Scrapbooking Retreat
May 23-26	CID Campout (No Hog Roast)
May 27	J.C. Training (10 a.m.-2 p.m.)
May 28-July 31	SUMMER PROGRAM
August 2	Homecoming 75th Anniversary Celebration— <i>auction, chicken dinner, music, games, more!</i>
Aug. 29-Sep. 1	CID Camp Out (No Chicken Dinner)
September 12	Whippoowill Golf Outing
September 20	ACT LIKE MEN Shooting Retreat <i>Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.</i>
October 4	GRIT Run!
November 1	ACT LIKE MEN Work Day
TBD	Fall Women's Scrapbooking Retreat
December 12-13	Joyful Hearts Christmas



ACT LIKE MEN EVENTS

For men of all ages to make connections across generations, learn and sharpen new skills, and grow strong in the Lord.

"Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong."
- 1 Corinthians 16:13





Christ the King (Cristo Rey) Lutheran Church

1301-19th Street, East Moline, IL 61244

E-mail: cristorey-em@sbcglobal.net Ph. (309) 738-6124

Rev. Pablo G. Domínguez

JUNE 2025



In almost all offices and workplaces, there are secretaries whose work is very important. When I worked in Monterrey, there was a secretary who was excellent at her job. When the boss asked for a special work report, she already had it for him, because she had prepared it in advance so it would be ready when he requested it. She was very efficient, although the person to whom the credit was given was often not her, but her boss. In a sense, the work of the Holy Spirit is like that of an efficient and excellent, much better than a secretary. The Holy Spirit works in anonymity, behind the scenes as such, but He is perfectly efficient and excellent.



We speak much of God the Father, since we address many of our prayers to Him. We talk a lot about Jesus', the Son of God, and what He did for us on the cross, but when we little mention the Holy Spirit, it does not mean that He is inactive. Far from it! The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Holy Trinity and is always active, working in our hearts to lead us to Christ. The Holy Spirit is like the beating heart in each one of us. We do not know how this vital organ works, nor do we know how many liters of blood pass through it. All we know is that the heart is there pumping all the blood that runs through the veins

and arteries of our body and does this without us noticing it. It's the same with the Holy Spirit. His work is important and indispensable for our spiritual health and our salvation.

This Sunday, June 8, the church celebrates Pentecost which is one of the most important Christian holidays. We then enter the church season of Pentecost. It is the day that a great change began in the life of the early Christian church. Many say that Pentecost is the birthday of the church. On this day, there was a tremendous change!

The change of the disciples. After the death of Jesus, the disciples were frightened. They felt that God had abandoned them. They hid together in one place, separated from the bustle of people who walked and celebrated in the streets. They were afraid of being persecuted and taken to the dungeon. They also feared that their lives might end on the cross, also. That is why they were all hidden under one roof, full of fear of being seen in the light.

But Pentecost came nonetheless. The disciples heard the wind coming from the sky, and tongues of fire perched on their heads. They felt the strengthening presence of the Holy Spirit which Jesus had promised them as recorded in Acts 1: 8. He told them to wait for the Holy Spirit and that when He came, they would receive power and be the most vigorous witnesses to the Gospel to everyone.

And that's exactly what happened at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit encouraged them to take to the streets and start vigorously proclaiming the message of salvation in Jesus Christ. They have nothing to fear anymore; God is in their hearts; God is in their words; God is in their bodies and minds.

Continued...

God Himself gave them the strength and enabled them to speak without fear. And that was what they did! All left the place where they had been hiding and began to speak in foreign languages they had never learned. They talked about Jesus and what He had done.

The change of the crowd. Peter, standing, addressed the crowd and gave a wonderful and glorious sermon. Indeed, a change had been made! The Lord touched and changed the hearts of the people, and that day 3000 people were added to the church.

Today God wants to make the same kind of change. There are still many who do not believe in Jesus. They do not know that there is a heaven that God offers for those who believe in His Son. There are still many Christians, who like the disciples are afraid, inactive and do not share the Gospel with their friends and family, because they think that there will be no change.

The change is made only by God. The fire of the Holy Spirit is in us whenever we listen, read and meditate on the Word of God, and when we partake of the sacrament and remember our baptism.

May God the Holy Spirit help you to change, fill your heart and encourage you to share Jesus without any fear. Amen.

June Bible Reading Guide

6/01 *Isaiah 12:1-6/Acts 15-16*

6/02 *Psalms 150/Acts 17-18*

6/03 *Psalms 1/Acts 19-20*

6/04 *Psalms 2/Acts 21-22*

6/05 *Psalms 3/Acts 23-24*

6/06 *Psalms 4/Acts 25-26*

6/07 *Psalms 5/Acts 27-28*

6/08 *Psalms 6/Joshua 1-5*

6/09 *Psalms 7/Joshua 6-8*

6/10 *Psalms 8/Joshua 9-11*

6/11 *Psalms 9/Joshua 12-16*

6/12 *Psalms 10/Joshua 17-21*

6/13 *Psalms 11/Joshua 22-24*

6/14 *Psalms 12/Judges 1-3*

6/15 *Psalms 13/Judges 4-6*

6/16 *Psalms 14/Judges 7-9*

6/17 *Psalms 15/Judges 10-12*

6/18 *Psalms 16/Judges 13-15*

6/19 *Psalms 17/Judges 16-18*

6/20 *Psalms 18/Judges 19-21*

6/21 *Psalms 19/Ruth*

6/22 *Psalms 20/1 Samuel 1-3*

6/23 *Psalms 21/1 Samuel 4-6*

6/24 *Psalms 22/1 Samuel 7-9*

6/25 *Psalms 23/1 Samuel 10-12*

6/26 *Psalms 24/1 Samuel 13-15*

6/27 *Psalms 25/1 Samuel 16-8*

6/28 *Psalms 26/1 Samuel 19-21*

6/29 *Psalms 27/1 Samuel 22-24*

6/30 *Isaiah 12:1-6/1 Samuel 25-27*



Members in Facilities:

Heritage Woods of Moline-Susan Wyant; **Park Vista**- Ron & Caroline Luecke; **Woodridge Supportive Living, Galesburg**- Dick Ristau; **Silvis Center for Nursing Rehab & Care** - Sieg Paulsen; **Charter Senior Living of Moline** – Ken Phillips; **Charter Memory Care of Moline** - Jan Phillips; **Hope Creek, East Moline**-Elizabeth Cobb

Serving in the military:

Alexa Ellis (daughter of Tera Elliott, granddaughter of Mike and Cheryl McLaughlin), Logan Noard (son of Kyle and Marilyn Noard), Stephen Waugaman (grandson of Donna Knudtson), Matthew Glider (grandson of Doris Glider), Andrew Tolley (son of Carole Tolley), David Revel (son of Craig & Laurie Revel), Jeffrey Teuscher (nephew of Willie Swain), Austin Cox (grandson-in-law of Sieg Paulsen), Leith Masri (son of Peggy Jones), Jakob Ryckeghem (grandson of Connie McKean), Brett Kramer (grandson of Terry Kramer).

Member of the congregation receiving treatment for cancer:

Rev. Murdock

Friends & family of the congregation receiving treatment for cancer:

Angela Cochran (nephews daughter of Joyce Spidle) Cathy Morgan (friend of Geri Stolze), Steven Bell (nephew of Pastor & Phyllis Murdock), Dan Schmidt (brother of Sarah Paller) Gail Stuenkel, Lisa Crawford, Joanne Lyons, Dave Patterson, Judy Knudsen, Peggy Arkland (friend of Mike & Cheryl McLaughlin), Kim Trask (sister of Robbie Garrison), Corey Dombrowski (neighbor of Dan & Melissa Thorngren).

Serious health concerns:

Ken Phillips (brother-in-law of Jokie Bretl), Rev. Murdock, Tracy Bennet (friend of Sieg Paulsen), Sandy Lohse, Bob Trueblood (brother of Joyce Spidle), Tony Loritz, friend of Jennifer Swanburg, Dennis Rusk, Richard Geisler, Heidi Sias, Maureen DeLassus, Kelly Teuscher, Kenny Lackey, Gwen Shrake, Pam and Bill, (friends of Gwen Shrake).

Recovering/Ongoing health concerns:

Doris Stegemann, Monica (daughter of Brian & Bev Gustafson), Anita Ingold-Kroll (daughter of Martha Kroll), Levi Koopmas (relative of Patricia Erickson), Penny Dawson, Donald Dawson, Scarlet Durbin, Phyllis Murdock, Sherri Lohse, Helen White, Gary Johnson, Fred Poe, Carol Ferrell, Susan Jamieson, Joshua Duburg, Sieg Paulsen, Cindy Davenport.

June HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 7 th Sunday of Easter 9:30 Bible Class ~ SS 10:45 Divine Service	2	3	4 9:00 Bible Class 10:15 Fitness Class 10:40 Fellowship Hour	5 4:30 Call Meeting	6 Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00am – 3:30pm The office is closed on Fridays!	7
8 The Day of Pentecost 9:30 Bible Class ~ SS 10:45 Divine Service	9 6:00 Christian Care	10	11 9:00 Bible Class 10:15 Fitness Class 10:40 Fellowship 5:30 BOE Meeting	12 12:30 LWML	13	14 Flag Day
15 The Holy Trinity Father's Day 9:30 Bible Class ~ SS 10:45 Divine Service	16	17	18 9:00 Bible Class 10:15 Fitness Class 10:40 Fellowship Hour	19 10:45 Peace Quilters 1:00 Foot Clinic	20 1 st Day of Summer	21
22 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Bible Class ~ SS 10:45 Divine Service	23 July Calendar & Newsletter Items Due!!	24	25 9:00 Bible Class 10:15 Fitness Class 10:40 Fellowship Hour	26	27	28
29 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Bible Class ~ SS 10:45 Divine Service 2:00 Voter's Assembly Mtg.	30					