



# Faith Family News

## September 2023

1611 41<sup>st</sup> Street  
Moline, Illinois 61265

### Back to School



If only summer could last 12 months out of the year—summer should be celebrated all the time! Vacations, summer activities, camping, walks in the park, picnics and the list goes on (can you tell what time of year is my favorite?). But, summer comes and then it goes and we see school buses, the leaves start to turn, bonfires, hot chocolate and the dreaded cold weather is just around the corner (can you tell what is not my favorite season?).

What comes now is getting back into a routine. Summer we are more relaxed and we are less structured. We stop reading because we are getting busier and busier with many activities that require a routine. The fact of the matter is, we all need a routine in our spiritual lives. We might have slipped away because of all the activities of summer.

We need to set an early resolution of getting back to school learning all we can on what God wants from us. Find at least some time to speak to God. I had a very influential person in my life tell me, when he talks to God, it is like talking to his best friend.

We should talk to God as a best friend, someone that we rely on for; answers, praise, thank yous and encouragement. Put everything on hold for 2-3

minutes. You are giving only a short amount of time—less than a best friend—to talk and walk with him.

God is constantly there for us in his word. Pick up your Bible and read a couple of verses. With my devotions I will pick apart one verse. What does it tell me? What are the definitions of words? What does the commentary say? What did it truly say to me?

Find one thing that you can be thankful for. Even if you are having a very bad day, there has to be something you can say was a blessing. You could start back to school with a blessing jar. You think of that blessing and put it in your jar. When you start back to school or September hits next year, take the time to read those blessings. Sometimes we forget the wonderful things that happen to us over the course of that year because we are too focused on the negative.

Another thing you can do is to find one person each day to encourage. You never know what that would mean to them. A simple text could make all the difference and something they could put in their blessings jar.

Make church a priority. Get to church and worship. Let your cup be filled with the joy of your church family and the words God wants you to hear. Open your minds this school year to what God has in store for you.

Get back to the routine of your heavenly Father, a routine with God!

Allow God to broaden your mind,

*Pastor Quisha A. Rounds-Smith*

Pastor Trisha



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## Choir & Band Starting Soon!



Summer is quickly flying by, but that brings the good news that the Voices of Faith Choir will be starting up again soon! Music rehearsals will be on Wednesdays this fall starting on Wednesday, September 6 with choir at 6:45 pm and band at 8:00 pm. Our first choir performance will be on Sunday, September 10 at Revival Sunday at the 10 a.m. combined service. Choir will normally be singing at the 8:30 a.m. traditional services every other week on Communion Sundays.

We invite anyone who would like to sing to join us! Even if you can't commit to singing every time we sing, please come and join this fun and spunky group! As the Lord has said "Come and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!" Contact director, Dawn Johnson, with any questions at [dawnster1014@gmail.com](mailto:dawnster1014@gmail.com).

## NURSE'S CORNER

### Falls Prevention Awareness Month

- Talk to your doctor – are you taking medications that can cause you to be dizzy or lightheaded?
- Exercise regularly to build strength and balance
- Wear sensible, sturdy, well-fitted shoes
- Assess home hazards: throw rugs, slippery floors, cords on the floor, etc.
- Keep rooms well lit – including night lights. Keep a flashlight nearby as well
- Use assistive devices as suggested by the doctor: walkers, canes, shower chairs, grab bars in the bathroom, raised toilet seat.

For more information, see [www.MayoClinic.com](http://www.MayoClinic.com)



### What is S.T.A.R.S.?

STARS "Specially Talented and Reliable Servants" is a fellowship gathering of retired individuals in our congregation. We gather on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month at 11:30 am and enjoy a meal and a program. **Our Fall KICK-OFF Event will be a WEENIE ROAST on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>** at Peterson Park Pavilion. [Please Sign up on the Parish Nurse bulletin Board!](#) Hope to see you there!!





*Philippians 2:3-4 NKJV—Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. V4 let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.*

With that scripture in mind let us all serve with that Christ like attitude. There is a new ministry in the works. The goal is helping others feel loved and cared about. This ministry will take note of needs or challenges that face people within our church body. They will also concentrate on encouraging others. They will work alongside the Mission Team when need be.

A Task Force Team is being formed with the purpose of setting future goals for our Church. I look forward to reporting the work of the Lord to you all.

Dear Heavenly Father, we wait patiently and joyfully for You to work through us, as we serve You each day. Amen.

Prayerfully  
Elizabeth George  
Council President

## The Power of Prayer



What is the power of prayer? Do we have the power to change what God has planned, by asking Him in prayer? The answer is simply "No." God is God and God is Good. He has

the perfect plan. God is God and we are not God. We must learn to let go and let God. It is not our will, but His will be done. So then, why do we pray? This answer is also simple. We pray, because many times in His teachings and commands, Jesus told us to pray.

There is truly, huge power in prayer. However, that power is not ours. Prayer doesn't change God. However, God does change things. The power comes from God. It is not the same power that He has over the universe, but rather the power that is administered through the very action of prayer in itself.

Think back on a time in your life when one of your parents, grandparents, aunts, or uncles had you help them do a chore, project, or task with them. In most cases, they could have just as easily done that chore, project, or task by themselves and probably quicker too. Only they didn't, they had you help, and do it with them. In some cases, they may have even taught you how to do that chore, project, or task. You see, it was in that very time spent together, that they built a bond and relationship with you. That time became special and not just time doing work. In the same man-

ner, God has us pray to Him. God can just as easily heal someone or give something to someone, without us asking Him to do so in prayer.

The true power of prayer is not in receiving what we ask for, but in that prayer brings us to God. Prayer requires us communicate and speak to God. Prayer is a way that God changes us and brings us closer to Him. God can do everything on His own, but He brings us closer to Him by inviting us into prayer. It creates a bond and a friendship with Him. Our prayers are united to God's goodness. Prayer changes us. It causes us to become closer to God and have a relationship with Him.

*"This is the assurance we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, he hears us. And if we know that He hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of Him." —1 John 5:14-15*

*"...How gracious He will be when you cry for help! As soon as He hears, He will answer you." —Isaiah 30:19*

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything pray, praise, and give thanks to God and let your requests be known Him." —Philippians 4:6*

"We pray by following Jesus' instructions and commands. It is by this that we have a personal relationship with God. That is The Power of Prayer!!!"

Chris Gibson  
Christian Education Director



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Wed, September 6

- Choir Practice Resumes, 6:45 pm
- Band Practice Resumes, 8:00 pm

#### Sat, September 9

- Church Parking Lot Sale, 8:00 am—3:00 pm

#### Sun, September 10

- Revival Sunday, ONE COMBINED SERVICE, 10:00 am
- Revival Sunday Fun Activities, 11:00 am—1:00 pm
- Communion Sunday

#### Sun, September 17

- Jr. High and HS Sunday School Resumes, 9:40 am

#### Sun, September 24

- Communion Sunday



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Our Annual Blood drive is coming October 16! To be eligible to donate here, [please do not donate elsewhere after AUGUST 21!](#) More info is coming about our drive! Watch the FFN for details.



# September

## Birthdays

Sept 1	Lori Turner	Sept 19	Chloe Rittenhouse
Sept 2	Jeff Burchfield	Sept 20	Dylan Andersen
Sept 4	Teri Hinz		Jim Hansen
	Barbara Marlin	Sept 21	Katherine Nizzi
	Sandy Perry	Sept 22	Mark Johnson
Sept 5	Elizabeth George	Sept 25	Mark Carius
Sept 6	Summer Lee		Ronald Schneider
Sept 10	Jacob McDermott	Sept 26	Dana Calhoun
Sept 11	Kieffer Znaniecki		Zac Freymann
Sept 13	Dana Christensen		Marilyn Seibert
Sept 14	Debbie Barlow	Sept 28	Tyler Barlow
Sept 15	Michelle Foley	Sept 30	Brady Barlow
Sept 18	Dennis Christensen		Richard Perry
	Adam Hinz		
	Clark Miner		

## Anniversaries

Sept 1	Glenn & Nancy Winter	Sept 17	Wayne & Candy Smith
Sept 2	Edward & Deborah Dixon	Sept 21	David & Rose Udehn
Sept 4	Bruce & Chris Bogen	Sept 25	Ronald & Dorothy Schneider
Sept 5	Ted & Barbara Marlin	Sept 25	Jeff & Brandy Thompson
Sept 12	Rod & Karen Jensen		
Sept 13	Phillip & Carrie Spurgetis		

## Meet the Staff—Abby Benevides

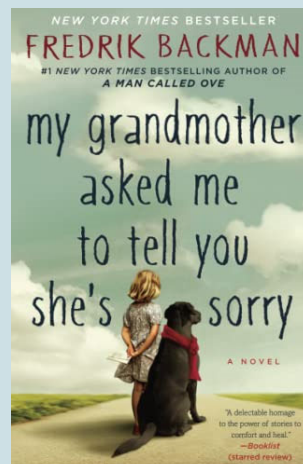


Abby Benevides is a homeschooled her own kids for many years. Her love for children, and helping them learn, was a perfect 'recipe' for her joining TLC! (that means she's from Indiana!—ha!) She has been married for 40 years! She has three sons and eight grandchildren. She feels very blessed to have all of them living in the area—most of the time! :D

(TLC), which provides one on one tutoring to at risk students from Washington Elementary School. The program has been in existence for almost 40 years. Abby is going into her 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> year; she can't remember after this long!

She has not only taught school on and off before heading up TLC, but also

TLC continues to help kids only by the sacrifice of willing volunteers. If you love kids and love helping them learn, or have any questions, please contact her at 309-236-5751. For just 90 minutes a week, you can help make a difference through this program too!



### Sept Book of the Month

When Elsa's grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters apologizing to people she has wronged, Elsa's greatest adventure begins. Her grandmother's instructions lead her to an apartment building full of drunks, monsters, attack dogs, and old crones but also to the truth about fairy tales and kingdoms and a grandmother like no other. This book is a story about life and death and one of the most important human rights: the right to be different. **The book club will meet Saturday, September 30 at 10:00 am.**

## PRAYER LIST

### MEMBER SHUT-INS

Nancy Carius  
Thelma Egeberg  
Judie Emmert  
Dorance Johnson  
Jackie Petty  
Candy Smith

### HOSPITALIZED/ ONGOING ILLNESS

Pastor Mark Gehrke

### MILITARY

Brady Barlow  
Drew Bogen  
Jeff Burchfield  
Cat Henry  
Doug Hoff  
Ray Rogers



## SEPTEMBER READING PLAN

### WEEK 1 Aug 28 - Sept 2

MONDAY	PSALM 23:1-6
TUESDAY	GENESIS 2:1-3
WEDNESDAY	MARK 6:30-32
THURSDAY	ISAIAH 26:3-4
FRIDAY	MATTHEW 11:28-30
SATURDAY	1 PETER 5:6-7

### WEEK 2 Sept 4 - 9

MONDAY	1 TIMOTHY 1
TUESDAY	1 TIMOTHY 2:1-8
WEDNESDAY	1 TIMOTHY 3:1-10
THURSDAY	1 TIMOTHY 4:1-2, 11-16
FRIDAY	1 TIMOTHY 5:1-2, 17-22, 24-25
SATURDAY	1 TIMOTHY 6:3-10, 17-216

### WEEK 3 Sept 11 - 16

MONDAY	TITUS 1-3
TUESDAY	TITUS 1:6-11
WEDNESDAY	TITUS 1:15-16
THURSDAY	TITUS 2:6-8
FRIDAY	TITUS 2:11-15
SATURDAY	TITUS 3:3-11

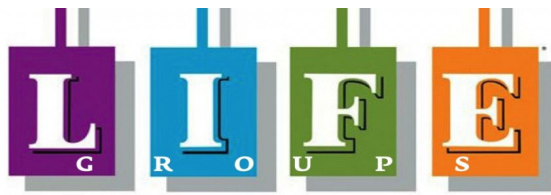
### WEEK 4 Sept 18 - 23

MONDAY	2 TIMOTHY 1-4
TUESDAY	2 TIMOTHY 1:8-18
WEDNESDAY	2 TIMOTHY 2:3-14
THURSDAY	2 TIMOTHY 2:15-26
FRIDAY	2 TIMOTHY 3:1-17
SATURDAY	2 TIMOTHY 4:1-8



Church Camping Cookout—July 29





Please check with instructor on when/if class is meeting.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP • SATURDAY 8:45 AM**

Men's Fellowship meets Saturdays in the Smart Room at Faith & at The Windmill Restaurant for breakfast on the 2nd Saturday of each month. This is a group you will look forward to every week. All are invited. For more info, contact Chris Gibson at (918) 231-1042.

**WOMEN'S GROUP • SATURDAY 8:45 AM**

Join Linda Cothron as they enjoy coffee and Bible study each Saturday morning at Faith. One Saturday they meet out for breakfast. Contact Linda at (309) 738-9425. All are welcome to attend.

**BOOK CLUB • LAST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH**

This group reads the book of the month and meets to discuss the book. Books can be purchased on the church bookstore. Questions? Contact Cindy Gibson at (815) 378-6698.

**THE LAZARUS CONNECTION • MONDAY 5:30 PM**

This VDC Men's Reunion Group meets every Monday evening from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the church. This casual group is for men who want to stay connected and accountable on their weekly walk with Christ. For more information contact Jim Case at (309) 798-4176 or [jcase1277@gmail.com](mailto:jcase1277@gmail.com).

**SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER • MONDAY 5:00 PM**

Come pray with our prayer warriors as they confidentially pray for members, our community, and our leaders each week. All are welcome. Have a request for prayer? You can contact Beth George at (563)209-2083 or by leaving a prayer request in the heart shaped pray box.

**FAITHFUL QUILTERS • TUESDAY 9:00 AM**

This group meets each Tuesday morning at 9:00 am for several hours to work on quilting and crafting. Contact Sandy at (309) 762-6563.

**MEN'S GROUP • WEDNESDAY 6:30 PM**

Cool Dude's coffee group is meeting on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm. Contact Todd Rittenhouse at (309) 721-2006 to join in. All are welcome to attend.

**WOMEN'S CONNECTION • DAILY ON FACEBOOK**

The greatest of these is love! Join us for a daily devotion! Visit our Facebook page at Faith Lutheran Church and press the "join" button or feel free to call Barb at (309) 738-4228.

**JIM'S LIFE GROUP • SUNDAY 9:40-10:40**

Join Jim's Life Group in the smart room for a video-led Bible study. Join the group anytime. Books are available for purchase in the church bookstore. Contact the church office for more info.

**Faith Lutheran Church**

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**Sunday Services**

8:30 am

10:45 am

9:40 am Sunday School

*(5<sup>th</sup> Sunday is one  
service at 10:00 am)*

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE