

November 2017

Newsletter

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

2701 College, Quincy, IL 62301-3558

Internet: www.OurRedeemerQuincy.org

E-mail: Secretary@OurRedeemerQuincy.org

Pastor's E-mail: Pastor@OurRedeemerQuincy.org

Fax: (217) 223-2392

Telephone: (217) 223-1769

Eden Household: (217) 224-3929

To the people of God at Our Redeemer,

All year we have been focusing our attention on the 500th Anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation of the Church. We had a special service at St. James. PBS aired a new movie focusing on the life and work of Martin Luther. As we continue in this year of celebration, it is important for us to remember that the Reformation begun 500 years ago is not all about Luther. It is all about Jesus and what He has done for God's sinful, dying children on Earth.

All year, and especially in the days surrounding All Saints' and the Eve of All Saints' Day, we celebrated the beginning of something which change Christ's Church, and for this we do celebrate the life and work of Martin Luther. But I would like to draw your attention to something which happened 100 years ago, which also brought significant change to Christ's Church.

In 1914, before WWI began, there were 1,828 churches with 3,600,000 members in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia – including those living in Russian controlled portions of Finland and the Baltic States of Estonia, Lithuania, and Latvia. When the Communist Revolution took place in 1917, all Christians in Russia were persecuted, but especially those who were not Russian. One out of every two Finnish Lutherans in Russian territory died under Joseph Stalin. Untold numbers of German Lutherans were killed or imprisoned. About 800,000 were allowed to die during the famine of the early 1920's. Farms were seized and those who were not fortunate enough to escape to the West were sent to Siberia. Well more than a million were sent to Siberia under Lenin and Stalin.

The Soviet system did everything in its power to crush the church. Bibles and religious books were banned. It was illegal to teach children about Jesus Christ. Russian was the official language of all communication. Yet, when the Soviet Union fell and missionaries could once again enter the land, pockets of German-speaking Lutheran churches were found (mostly in Siberia). They had been worshiping with catechisms, hymns, the liturgy, and portions of the Bible that had been written down from memory. The 2010 census showed that there were 2,900,000 living in Russia who understood German.

Before the Communist Revolution, for centuries, German Lutherans lived in Russia and worshiped in freedom. The Russian royal family had direct ties to Germany. Tsarina Catherine II was born German. Many within the Russian aristocracy were German Lutherans. Their lives changed in one day.

It is often asked (especially by the confirmation class), why do we have to do all this memory work? The answer is that there will come a day when it is important that the knowledge of God is firmly planted in you. I pray we never face the persecution, hardship, and government opposition like the German Lutherans in Russia. However, our task is to always be prepared for our lives to change in one day. There are many life-changing events that we face throughout our days. The heritage of the Lutheran Church is that we have taught the same, unchanging truth of Scripture for 500 years. We have encouraged both children and adults to "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the truth of the Word of God and the orderly explanation of the truth found in Jesus Christ through Luther's Catechism and the other Confessional writings.

Whether in life or in death there will come a day when you will have nothing to sustain you except for the truth of God's Word. It is appropriate that the Eve of All Saints' Day marks the beginning of the Reformation of Christ's Church.

In Christ,

Pastor Eden

Who's Who at Our Redeemer

President	Stan Yelton (1 st term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2018
Vice-President	Chet Vahle (1 st term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2018
Secretary	Marty Otto (1 st term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2018
Treasurer	Donna Haire (3 rd term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2018
Financial Secretary	Evelyn McDowell (3 rd term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2018
Education Board	Melissa Knapp, S.S. Supt., ex officio	Appointed
	Gretchen Wolfmeyer (3 rd term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019
	Randy Wolfmeyer (2 nd term)	Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2018
	Ryan Vaughn (2 nd term)	Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2018
Board of Elders		
434-8708	Larry Foster (2 nd term) Communion Assistant	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019
617-7312	Darrell Drescher (2 nd term) Special Services	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019
223-7949	Bill Haire (1 st term) Saturday Ushers	Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2018
223-1119	Howard Snowden (1 st term) Altar Care	Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2018
242-5651	Terry Lannerd (1 st term) Sunday Ushers	Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2018
228-3127	Jerry Lunt (1 st term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019
Evangelism Board	Michele Clevenger (2 nd term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019
	Ruth Ann Snowden (2 nd term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019
Property Board	Jeff Smith (3 rd term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019
	Steve Kaiser (2 nd term)	Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2018
Stewardship Board	Larry Ehmen (3 rd term)	Oct. 2017 – Sept. 2019
	David Pellman (2 nd term)	Oct. 2016 – Sept. 2018
Youth Ministry Board	Jamie Louderback	

The Widow's Mite---

And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Mark 12:42-44 ESV

UPCOMING...

Nov. 2nd – Monthly mtg., 6:30pm

Dec. 3rd – ‘Preparing our Hearts for Advent’ evening, details TBA

Dec. 8th – Christmas party, details TBA



November 2017

Oct. meeting highlights –

Our Advent event and Christmas party were discussed...watch for details! The meeting finished up with cutting out quilt blocks to help with the Quilting group's ongoing mission of sending quilts to Lutheran World Relief!

Oct. event highlights –

Thanks to all who participated in the greeting and singing on LWML Sunday! Michele, Laurie and Jamie were refreshed and energized after attending the LWML Central Illinois District (CID) Fall Retreat at Camp Cilca themed 'The Rock and Your Role' on the weekend of Oct. 13th and 14th!

Think you might like to be a part of the mission of LWML???

Please...attend one of our upcoming meetings or events! We welcome you to join us in "Serving the Lord with Gladness"!



"Featured"

LWML CID Mission Grant

Fort Wayne & St. Louis Seminary Food Banks...\$10,000

Having the ability to draw on food bank resources supports the church's mission of training church workers & pastors. This grant will assist the food banks in buying food, toiletries and other items that are needed to ensure the continuation of the food banks.

Please contact any LWML member or Colleen Westberg at 217-223-5702 to learn more or go to www.lwml.org to read about the mission and great history of the LWML!

Like our Facebook pages...Lutheran Women in Mission - LWML and Lutheran Women's Missionary League – Central Illinois District!

National Mission Grant Bulletin Bytes

LWML has donated over \$100 million since 1942!!!

Mercy House for Women and Children, Flint, MI...\$100,000

The LCMS churches within and surrounding the east side of Flint, Michigan, have answered the call to serve as missionaries within this poverty stricken urban community. Now the mission has boldly stepped forward and purchased a residence across the street with the intent of having it serve as a safe home for unwed mothers who otherwise would consider abortion as the only answer.

For more information, please go to www.lwml.org/mission-grants and look at grant #2.

Remembering In Our Prayers



REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE IN OUR NATION'S MILITARY SERVICES:

Mark and Kari Adams, Mark Borg, Paul Boriack, Steve Clark, Aaron DeWerff, Michael Goodwin, Robert Goodwin, John Haines, Zach Howerton, Ryan Keller, Jason Klauser, Levi Meyer, Jeremy Schwartz, Aaron Schmitt, Ryan Thruston, Andy Tipton, Marc Troxel, Brandon VanBastian, and Charles Wheeler.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE WITH ONGOING HEALTH NEEDS:

Nick Austin, Carolyn Bruemmer, Sean Burner, Steve Dunker, Richard Grathwohl, Lynda Hinkamper, Elaine Hyer, Becki Jones, Kim Long, Meghan Meyer, Michael Morgan, Sutton Perry-Brockemeier, Michelle Reinberg-Page, David Rickey, Cole Schullian, Kory Tournear, Bee Wagner, Jacob Weimer, Vicki Wemhoener, Jackson Weppler.



REMEMBER OUR SHUT-IN MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Carolyn Bruemmer, Ralph Genenbacher, Don Green, Mary Hurley, Elaine Hyer, Marilyn Newman, Dolly Powers, Joyce Southward, Bee Wagner, Lucille Wiskirchen.

Keep Our Missionaries in Your Prayers

Apple of His Eye Mission Society

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latvia

The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Harlow, Essex, U.K.

The Independent Evangelical Lutheran Church in Germany

Mrs. Alvina Federwitz in Liberia, West Africa

Jonathan and Carrie Federwitz and their children in Papua New Guinea

Danny and Becca DeLoach and their children, 6915A Cinder Run, Waxhaw, North Carolina 28173

Mrs. Julie Lutz, home on furlough

Rev. Peter Kolb and family in Thailand

Our Seminary Students



Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN:

Tyler Arends, 926 East 1000 North Road, Melvin, IL 60952

Concordia Theological Seminary, Saint Louis, MO:

Jeremiah Jording



Our Mission

To the glory of God we are SHARING Our Redeemer by ...

CARING for one another in Christian love and compassion

ENCOURAGING growth and outreach through worship and Bible study

Sunday School Staff

Superintendent – Melissa Knapp

Pre-School – Gina Eickelschulte

Kindergarten – Suzanne Troxel

Grades 1 & 2 – Monica Foster

Grades 3 & 4 – Amy Killday

Grades 5 & 6 – Donna Haire

Grades 7 & 8 – Donna Haire

Teens – Gretchen Wolfmeyer

ENROLLMENT STILL OPEN! We are still accepting enrollment applications for the current school year. Pass the word! Satisfied customers are our best advertisement for our school. If you are pleased with St. James School, please tell others. If not, please tell Principal Landskroener.

ST JAMES STUDENTS will sing next at Our Redeemer next **Sunday, November 5th at 9:00 am.**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – As a school, St. James will once again participate in Operation Christmas Child where shoeboxes are filled and sent throughout the world with the good news of great joy about Jesus. Collection dates are **November 13th – November 17th**. Please call the school office if you would like more information on how you can be a part of this ministry or view their website: samaritanspurse.org/occ.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS – The PreK-Kindergarten Christmas program will be **Tuesday, December 12th**. The 1st – 8th grade Christmas program will be **Thursday, December 14 at 6:30** also in the gym. Both programs will begin at **6:30 pm** and will take place in the gym. Please come and join us as we share the Christian message of Christmas.

TRUNK OR TREAT – Thank you to everyone who donated candy and participated in Trunk or Treat this year. Your time and generosity is greatly appreciated.

ORLC St. James School Tuition Endowment Fund

Don't miss the opportunity to double your contribution to the Endowment Fund due to the **\$5000.00 matching gift challenge**. Please consider your donation to this fund as we continue to prepare for the future of Christian education for our children who attend St. James School. It will be **matched until the end of October**. *Please make checks payable to ORLC St. James School Tuition Endowment Fund.*

So far we have raised \$3,240 in funds – 64.8% of our goal! Thank you for your donations!

LWML wants to thank everyone for another successful Rummage Sale in 2017. Thank you for your generous donations which made the sale possible and to all of you who came out to purchase. Another BIG Thank You for everyone who helped set up, mark, and clean up. We are especially grateful to those who don't belong to LWML who so generously gave hours of their time to help. We will again be able to fund many mission projects with over \$2,400. Many people passed thru our church with lots of positive comments and several showing interest and unaware of our location.

Please keep us in mind and save anything you no longer need for the 2018 sale. Items we did not sell were given to other worthy causes – most clothes went to St. John's Clothing Closet along with some men's clothing to the Veterans Home. Books went to Quincy Public Library and The Crossing picked up the remaining miscellaneous items. Thanks again and God's Blessings!

Listen to Worldwide KFUE.org, your radio station for practical Lutheran talk, daily Bible and Confession studies, daily worship opportunities, and current issues from a Lutheran worldview. Programs are archived at KFUE.org for 24/7 on-demand listening. You can also find our programming wherever you get your podcasts! Have a question or comment? Find us at @KFUEradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

This week on KFUE.org, we wish everyone a blessed and festive celebration of the Reformation! This week we also continue studies of the book of Acts on Thy Strong Word (weekdays @ 11am CT), keep moving through the book of Matthew on Sharper Iron (weekdays @ 8am CT), and hear adoption stories during National Adoption Month with Lutheran Family & Children's Services on Faith & Family (**11/3 @ 10am CT**).

Next week on KFUE.org, we wish everyone a blessed All Saints' Day. Learn about Reformation Bible Studies with Rev. Dr. Joel Lehenbauer (Faith & Family **11/6 @ 10am CT**), continue studying the Gospel of Matthew on Sharper Iron with Rev. Jonathan Fisk (weekdays @ 8am CT) and the Acts of the Apostles on Thy Strong Word (weekdays @ 11am CT), and further explore the Apology of the Augsburg Confession on Concord Matters (**11/7 @ 2pm CT**). November 9th is KFUE Rally Day! This is your chance to become a Day Sponsor and uphold the mission of listener-supported KFUE Radio to bring Christ to you, anytime, anywhere.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, November 7th Senior Singles Luncheon at Coach House 11:30 AM

Sunday, December 3rd Preparing Our Hearts for Advent 4 PM

Friday, December 8th LWML Christmas Party 6 PM

November News

Please help the ushers by making sure that the **offering plate is passed all the way through each row.**

There have been complaints from congregation members that they are not getting the plate passed to them, so please do your part to help!

ORLC is in need of additional Ushers and Communion Assistants – If interested, please see Larry Foster or call 217-434-8708.

ORLC Old Metal Chairs - The old metal chairs that the church is disposing of are located in the nursery. Cost is a free will donation. First come first serve. Chairs remaining after **November 15** will be recycled. Do not take that chairs that are in the Sunday School opening room.

Thank you to all who had a part in hosting Pastor Kolb and his family at Our Redeemer. It was wonderful to hear about the Lord's work being done in Southeast Asia. Please contact the church office if you would still like to be added to Pastor Kolb's newsletter or if you would like to donate to his mission work. Our Together in Missions special offering envelopes are also available at any time, so please let the church secretary know how many envelopes you need!

Join the Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens for their 10th annual Trivia-Bingo-Silent Auction night on **November 11**. Doors open at 5:15 PM, Games Start @ 6:30 PM. Bring your own snacks & non-alcoholic drinks. Supper and Free Babysitting is provided. Artist, Vesa Delevska and a Eastern Dance demonstration will be there. \$15 per adult Children (6-10) \$10, 5 & under free. Register at WWW.CFNA-STL.ORG. This is in conjunction with Thrivent at 8749 Watson Rd., St. Louis, Mo 63119.

Center for Women's Ministries Informational meeting about setting up a free confidential counseling center for women. Wednesday, **November 1, 7PM** at the Qcy Senior Center. Contact Maggie Ambrose for questions (217-257-8337)

A Big THANK YOU to all who took part in the donation event for the Concordia Seminary Food Bank. Together we have sent **\$650 to the Seminary Food Bank** for the refrigerated food items they need. Thank you again, The Committee – Mary M., Marilyn L., Evelyn M. and Sandy C.

Irene Drescher is wondering if whomever brought the **Black Forest Cake** to the Bake Sale could **please share the recipe?**

ORLC is in need of additional Ushers and Communion Assistants – If interested, please see Larry Foster or call 217-434-8708.

Women's Bible Study will continue on **Tuesdays** at **9:30 AM** and will run **through November 21st**. We will go through Beth Moore's DVD bible study called "Jesus the One and Only". Join us!

Camp CILCA Up and Coming Events:

Women's Scrapbooking Retreat -- **November 3-5**

Annual Banquet -- **January 28, 2018**

Dr Anthony Esolen Speaking at Our Savior's Lutheran, Springfield, IL

Men's Woodcutters' Retreat -- **February 16-18, 2018**

Pastor Jeff Hemmer, author of Man Up! presenting

Miscellaneous Constant Information

Newsletter & Calendar Deadline –

All newsletter & Calendar submissions must be sent in **no later than the 20th of each month**. News-letters must be mailed out on or before the 25th of each month to ensure they are received in time for everyone to use. Please let the church office know about any changes or errors right away.

PLEASE SAVE LABELS - Please continue to save HyVee UPCs, General Mills Box Tops, and Tyson A+ labels. Place them in the white drawer by the Church Office at ORLC. Thank you!



Rada Cutlery is an on-going fundraiser. Rada as a variety of, products: cutlery, stone-ware soy wax candles, and quick mixes. We have started taking orders for our next RADA order. Once we have \$60 in orders, we will place the order. So, if you don't see some-thing in our many "in stock" items, go ahead and fill out an order form with payment. Please **visit the Rada display in the old chapel. You may leave a completed Rada order form with pay-ment at the scrip table.** Thank you for your support of PLuS!

Concordia Food Bank If anyone is interested in mailing coupons to the Seminary Food Bank, the address is: Concordia Food Bank, 801 Seminary Place, St. Louis, MO 63105.

Drawer Cart by the Office Steps

Top Drawer: For cancelled stamps for missions. They must be complete stamps.

2nd Drawer: General Mills box tops for education, HyVee UPCs, & Tyson A+ labels. They benefit the St. James school library. Thanks!

3rd Drawer: For any type used greeting card fronts. Good Samaritan home uses them to make things.

Church Office Hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM with time out for lunch between 12 and 1. Staff may be in the office before or after these hours, but please call before stopping in so that we can have items ready for you (keys, sermon copies, envelopes, etc.) and can do our best to help you when you arrive.

Attention Parents of College Students:

If your child is away at college, please let the church know their new address and/or email as soon as you get it. We would like to nurture those relationships, pray for them, and help to keep them informed.

Want to Go Paperless?

We would be happy to email you any church correspondence and newsletters if that is the option you prefer. Contact the church office, write your email on the bottom of your attendance card, or email secretary@ourredeemerquincy.org.



Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois



Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois' professional licensed counselors can help with any problem. They provide individual, couple, marital and family counseling to help address all types of situations. Insurance is accepted. Call 800-363-LCFS (5237) to schedule a FREE confidential initial consultation.

GREETING CARDS (sponsored by the PLuS group) Be sure to check out the variety of assorted greeting cards. Cards are \$.50.

Considering adoption? Lifelink International Adoption (a ministry of Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois, LCFS) is seeking families interested in adopting from Korea. We're receiving child referrals again after a temporary break and have a limited number of families on our waiting list. Our South Korean program is one of our most enduring (twenty-nine years) and reliable. Learn more about Lifelink's adoption programs at www.lifelinkadoption.org or contact us at 630-521-8281 or intadopt@lifelinkadoption.org. Lifelink International Adoption is a program of Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois.

November Puzzle Page Answer

(Puzzle on page 12)

Therefore since we are receiving a kingdom which
cannot be shaken, let us give thanks.
Heb 12:28

November Birthdays

1 Tory Hufendick	13 Danielle Deeter	23 Lori Post
3 Buddy Weisenburger Jr	13 Mayce Bent	23 Dexter Goetz
5 Steve Voepel	15 Dennis Fleming	24 Marjorie Baker
5 Brianna Frink	15 Cody Martin	24 Paul Weisheit
6 Karen Lohmeyer	16 Lori Klauser	24 Derek Ott
7 Bethany Foster	16 John Church	25 Carolyn Cramlett
8 Ruth Graham	16 Andrew Allen	25 Rob Tipton
8 Verna Harker	16 Evan Baker	27 Jeremy Holtman
8 Bruce Burner	18 Shelia McElfresh	29 Bee Wagner
9 Colleen Westberg	19 John Baker	29 Adrian Zehnle
9 Gail Church	20 Jesse Schweitzer	30 Rod Hibbert
10 Frank Hanawalt Jr	22 Heather Feinstein	30 Stephanie Bush
12 Donna Johnson	22 Matt Weppler	30 Kristen Vahle
13 Renee Durst	23 Herb Hillebrenner	30 Brandon McGartland

November Baptisms

2 Piper Clevenger	9 Becky Lucas	24 Ethan Clevenger
3 Martin Eden	10 Bryan Baird	24 Quinton Hibbert
4 Jerry Lunt	10 Danny Baker	26 Ethan Sass
6 Ray Johnson	10 Kensey McGartland	27 John Baker
6 Caleb Buss	13 Eben Fischer	27 Robert Gooding
7 Jeanette Wyatt	13 Alex Fitch	28 Jan Colvin
8 Hayley Harvey	13 Beth Lucas	28 Erik Mix
8 William Schlegl	14 Tanner Clevenger	29 Karen Lohmeyer
8 Nancy Bluhm	17 Lori Klauser	30 Erica Dedert
8 Audrea Fitch	19 Amy Killday	30 Pat Florey
8 Curt Spohr	19 Brianna Frink	30 Kari Foulk
9 Joann Reichert	22 Angie Nixon	30 Keaton Jones
9 Kriss Frink	23 Dexter Goetz	
9 Autumn Lucas	23 Ace Weisenburger III	

November Anniversaries

5 Carl & Carol Muehring
20 Ryan & Tina Vaughn
22 Larry & Reva Ehmen
26 Harry & Barb Hall
26 Jim & Shelly Holtman
27 Dave & Jessica Showman
28 Gene & Nancy Bluhm

Pastoral Report

(September 1 – 30, 2017)

Official Acts

Baptisms

First Communion

Arianna Mackenzie Fischer -- September 24, 2017
Jackson Lee Goetz -- September 24, 2017
Quinton Robert Hibbert -- September 24, 2017
Cameron J.J. McDowell -- September 24, 2017
Evan James Sass -- September 24, 2017
Hugh Joseph Sharrow -- September 24, 2017

Adult Confirmation

Youth Confirmation

Marriages

Funerals

Cleda D. (Derrickson) Mason – September 1, 2017

Membership Changes

Gains [+0B, +0C]

Baptisms [+0B, +0C]

Adult Confirmations [+0B, +0C]

Youth Confirmations [+0B, +0C]

Transfers In [+0B, +0C]

Affirmation of Faith (from other Lutheran) [+0B, +0C]

Losses [-1B, -1C]

Death [-0B, -0C]

Transfers Out [-1B, -1C] Joe & Jane Cleaves with Palin – September 15, 2017
Transferred to Hope Lutheran Church (LCMC), Quincy, IL

Requested Removal [-0B, -0C]

Statistical Adjustment [+/-0B, +/-0C]

Membership	January 1, 2017	Gains	Losses	September 30, 2017
Baptized	581	+4	-14	571
Confirmed	445	+5	-10	440

Assignments for November 2017

Communion Assistants:

Saturday, November 4 at 5 p.m.	Dennis Go	
Sunday, November 5 at 9 a.m.	Chris Knapp	Ryan Vaughn
Saturday, November 11 at 5 p.m.	Dennis Go	
Sunday, November 12 at 9 a.m.	Jerry Lunt	Larry Foster
Saturday, November 18 at 5 p.m.	Dennis Go	
Sunday, November 19 at 9 a.m.	Gary Hyer	Larry Ehmen
Saturday, November 25 at 5 p.m.	Dennis Go	
Sunday, November 26 at 9 a.m.	Brad Ehmen	Brad Essington

Ushers:

Saturdays at 5:00 PM	Rob Edwards
Sundays at 9:00 AM	Steve Hyer, Terry Morse, Stan Yelton, Clint Gooding, Craig Gooding
Wednesday, November 22 at 7 PM	Steve Kaiser, Bill Haire, Darrell Drescher

Registration Slips: Ellie Bowles

Altar Care: Ruth Snowden, Shelly Holtman, Laura Essington

Counters: Larry Ehmen and Emily Becker

Drivers: Steve Hyer, Jerry Manton, Wanda Spohr, Ryan Vaughn



LCFS Clinical Services Family Essentials Kit #5-Your Family's Kit November

In our discussion of the Family Essentials Kit we covered unconditional love, family routine, trust and patience. We hope that you have found the tools we've presented in prior months useful, and you have added some of these components to your daily life. There are also many other elements you can add to help increase family bonds. But, the kit is less about the items and more about how you use them. Which leads us to this month's final installment:

How to Create Your Own Family Essentials Kit

Decide as a family – Sitting down as a family and coming up with ideas together not only helps each member of the family feel important, but it also shows that everyone is invested in the family unit. Let each member select an item so that they all feel as though they had a part. For young children, try and use their ideas or formulate them to fit in. For instance, if a child says “magic” should be in the kit, then write “spontaneity” or “surprises,” where the primary caregivers come up with random ideas for activities for the kids. Have fun and be creative.



Write down your list and/or create a craft to remind you of your essentials – A great way to be reminded of what you decided and continue making efforts in establishing a routine is to write the list down. Another way is to come up with visual cues such as a craft to remind you of what your family is trying to accomplish. Children love crafts and letting them come up with the ideas for displaying components of your kit will help them think outside the box.

Display your work – If you've decided to write down your list, display it on a door or in the family room. Take time to make the list decorative and easy to read. Consider framing it and hanging it on the wall. If you've created a craft, think about moving it to different spots in your home or keeping different pieces of the craft project in different rooms to serve as reminders and then periodically rotate them.

Creativity is not the finding of a thing, but the making something out of it after it is found.

- James Russell Lowell

You and your family do not have to struggle alone. LCFS counselors help families generate hope and cope with life's challenges. Most insurance plans accepted; sliding-scale fees are available on a case-by-case basis. For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact us at lcfs_info@lcfs.org or 800-363-LCFS (5237). Discover LCFS and the services we offer at www.lcfs.org and www.facebook.com/LCFSIL.

LCFS offers counseling at the following locations:

Central Illinois

LCFS office, Decatur
LCFS office, Springfield

Southern Illinois

LCFS office, Belleville
LCFS office, Mt. Vernon

To schedule a first-time appointment, call 800-363-LCFS (5237) or visit www.lcfs.org for additional information.

PUZZLE PAGE

THE REASON

by

Bill Schlegl

What is the reason why we should give thanks to God? Write the letter that comes between the two letters given to learn this reason.

SU GI DF QS DF EG NP QS DF

RT HJ MO BD DF

VX DF

ZB QS DF

QS DF BD DF HJ UW AJ MO FH

ZB

JL HJ MO FH CE NP LN

VX GI HJ BD GI

BD ZB MO MO NP SU

AC DF

RT GI ZB JL DF MO

KM DF SU

TV RT

FH HJ UW DF

SU GI ZB MO JL RT

(Answer Found on Page 7)