

Living Faith Messenger

Fall Edition 2021



From the Pastor Emeritus' Desk

By Pastor
John Billow

"Fare Thee Well"

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Pastor John Billow

It is with great sadness that I leave LFCC. At the same time, I love adventure and this new move to Indiana is a great adventure. I have known Pam Garber and her late husband Terry since 2014. We met at Jefferson Community Church where Carol and I served as the Pastor in the Interim for almost a year.

This adventure not only means living on an active crop farm, but also and most importantly, to marry a new love in my life, Pam. She is a wonderful Christian woman who loves the Lord and whose life exemplifies Jesus Christ in all she says and does.

I will miss you! We will visit from time to time. Please feel free to come for a weekend. We can accommodate several over night and Pam is a terrific cook. We just need some notice in order to adequately prepare

for your arrival.

The pastor at Jefferson, a personal friend of mine, asked me to teach an adult class through a new series entitled *Red Letter Challenge*. It is a study of the sayings of Jesus in the Gospels.

Fare Thee Well my friends. I love each of you. If not here on earth, I will meet you in the sky when Jesus comes.

Love and Blessings!
Pastor John

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Living Faith Youth Group September 2021

By: Megan Bustamante

This summer was filled with wonderful moments for the youth group and children's ministries. A couple highlights from the summer include hosting a 5-day club and the baptism of 4 youth from the church.

As always the team from Child Evangelicalism Fellowship did an amazing job this summer with our 5-day club. The team came prepared and our students came ready to learn. Throughout the week we had at least a dozen kids come to hear about who Jesus is and how to be saved from our sins. The kids enjoyed games (including a water day!), Bible stories, songs, memory verse challenges, missionary stories and of course snacks! Each day the CEF team presented the gospel story and the children were excited to hear it. The support from the church cannot be overlooked. Each day there were many members of the congregation there to help in any way needed. Even though 5- day club is just a week and it can be hard to tell what kids take away from it, I have been encouraged as I have heard kids singing songs and reciting verses from that week still now.

Baptism Sunday, August 15th



A second high point that is to be celebrated is that fact that this summer we had 4 youth make a public commitment to Jesus through baptism. During our Sunday baptism celebration in August we had three youth that were baptized, along with three adults and then we held one more baptism that Thursday evening. To see these students make this commitment and the church celebrating with them is a beautiful display of how God works. Please continue to pray for and support these

students as they deepen their faith and share Jesus with others.



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Elsie's Pantry

We would like to ask for prayers for a faithful volunteer, Erin McAvoy, who was last working in the pantry September 7th and ended in Intensive Care later that day with a stroke. The last we heard she had regained feeling on both sides of her body and nothing more since then. We ask you to please keep her in prayer. Thank you!

God continues pouring out His gracious blessings on the pantry.

- 20 filled backpacks were purchased and brought to the pantry from Elsie's daughter Jacquelyn Pyle, as well as multiple supplies donated from a drive in Hickory Hills.
- Monetary donations as well as a grant from the Greater Chicago Food Depository were used to purchase a brand new 2-door freezer. We now have 2 industrial freezer as well as one large freezer.
- We are still averaging 70-75 families each week.
- 100 turkeys and 100 hams, turkeys and turkey breasts are being donated for Thanksgiving and Christmas this year from the GCFD.

It has been another amazing year, we are "21" in 2021!



God's Warriors: Awakened in Christ Harvest Festival, 2021

After a very productive year we finished with an unbelievable Harvest Festival. So much planning and work from so many behind the scenes: Allyce Beechy, Tom & Katy Heinrich, Rob & Edith Thompson, the Worship Team and many others put together an unbelievable festival. We relied on God's grace in prayer before the event and the Lord gave us a very smooth and peaceful, beautiful day. At the event we had so many activities for those who came: games, crafts, food, live music, "pie in the face" (which brought \$1 donations to Help Bags of Hope and Living Alternatives who also had tables set up), a Gospel Illusionist who had a 45-minute presentation performing unbelievable tricks that baffled adults and kids alike while representing the gospel in all of his presentations. We also had the Barajas family present their 16-foot panoramic bulletin which laid out the unity of the scriptures from Genesis to Revelation, complete with descriptions of all the events. At the front end there was a table with goodie bags introducing people to our church and also gospel tracts helping to reach people with God's Word. It was such a great experience being there and enjoying the fellowship and love of the family of God with guests. This is what the Kingdom is about; loving one another like Christ and proclaiming the good news for people's souls. That is God's Warrior's exact purpose, and we hope to continue this for a long time at the church. There is one more planned event for Gods Warriors this year: Movie Night featuring "Monumental" about the Pilgrims and their great faith which sowed the seeds that put this nation on the map and that God used for the world (in the last days) to hear the gospel. Come and be

challenged on winning the world through the gospel, bringing revival back to this world, and learning to stand firm and persevere in your faith even when things get bad. It's so awesome to be a part of a church that wants to reflect the Christ we know from the scriptures because we know God uses churches like Living Faith Community Church to build His Kingdom Amen!

~ John Beechy





Birthdays

October

*Bill Curtis	Oct. 5
Debbie Sandy	Oct. 10
Pat Pepe	Oct. 15
Scott Gehle	Oct. 25
DJ Houdek	Oct. 26
Matt Birk	Oct. 28

November

Analina Williams	Nov. 22
Eliana Williams	Nov. 22
Marilyn Crettol	Nov. 24

December

David Skowronski	Dec. 8
Robert Thompson	Dec. 14
Virginia Beehn	Dec. 18
Sarah Houdek	Dec. 19
Luci Houdek	Dec. 24
Joyce Skowronski	Dec. 25
*Out of town	

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In Loving Memory Of
Those We Lost in 2021

Mary Felisha Heemstra
December 27, 1954 – June 16, 2021

Martin C. Heemstra
November 11, 1944 – June 19, 2021



Mission Highlight

Every newsletter will highlight one Mission ministry Living Faith Community Church supports.



Bags of Hope was founded in January 2016, and has been providing backpacks full of non-perishable food to students in the Bolingbrook, Joliet, Lockport, Minooka, Plainfield, and Romeoville communities ever since. Located in Plainfield, Illinois, BoH hosts scores of volunteers as well as area civic organizations. In addition, BoH partners with schools in multiple districts throughout the area.

Non-perishable donations accepted during normal business hours at multiple locations throughout Will County (locations identified on the map below). ONLINE donations are always accepted.

We could not do what we do without the help of all our volunteers and community partners! Special thanks to Plainfield School District, the Village of Plainfield, and the Plainfield Park District for their recent food drive donations to Bags of Hope!

<https://boh2016.org/>

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The Monthly Newsletter Of
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