

RIVER OF LIFE STREAMS

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The Story Behind “It Is Well with My Soul”

Last Sunday it was mentioned that losing our soul, losing our faith, would be the greatest tragedy. Reference was made to the touching story behind the hymn, “It is Well with My Soul”. This is the complete story.

Life can be so unpredictable—joys and sorrows, beautiful blessings and distressing difficulties can come unexpectedly. Our life’s dreams and plans can change in an instant. We all know this to be true. So how can we find peace amid such turbulence?

Horatio Spafford knew something about life’s unexpected challenges. He was a successful attorney and real estate investor who lost a fortune in the great Chicago fire of 1871. Around the same time, his beloved four-year-old son died of scarlet fever.

Thinking a vacation would do his family some good, he sent his wife and four daughters on a ship to England, planning to join them after he finished some pressing business at home. However, while crossing the Atlantic Ocean, the ship was involved in a terrible collision and sunk. More than 200 people lost their lives, including all four of Horatio Spafford’s precious daughters. His wife, Anna, survived the tragedy. Upon arriving in England, she sent a telegram to her husband that began: “Saved alone. What shall I do?”

Horatio immediately set sail for England. At one point during his voyage, the captain of the ship, aware of the tragedy that had struck the Spafford family, summoned Horatio to tell him that they were now passing over the spot where the shipwreck had occurred.

As Horatio thought about his daughters, words of comfort and hope filled his heart and mind. He wrote them down, and they have since become a well-loved hymn:

*When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll—
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to know
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

Perhaps we cannot always say that everything is well in all aspects of our lives. There will always be storms to face, and sometimes there will be tragedies. But with faith in a loving God and with trust in His divine help, we can confidently say, “It is well, it is well with my soul.”

The Gospel last week was from Mark 4:35-41

*39 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea,
“Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.*



July 4 – 9:30am Communion . . Pentecost 6

Independence Day

Rev. James King

River of Life's First Pastor

July 11 – 11:45am Communion Pentecost 7

“Spiritual Blessings for
the Chosen and Adopted”

Ephesians 1:3-14

July 18 – Communion Pentecost 8

Guest Pastor ??

July 25 – 11:45am Communion Pentecost 9

“Lessons Learned in a Storm”

Mark 6:45-56



Judy Bremmer (815) 457-2745

1215 Burns, Minooka, IL 60447

Sandra Krause, Lakeview Rehab Center
14716 S. Eastern Ave., Plainfield, IL 60544

Bill Richardson,
Our Lady of Angels Nursing Home
1201 Wyoming Ave., Joliet, IL 60435



Sunday School...

Sunday School is out for the Summer



Confirmation

Confirmation is out for the Summer



Youth Group



Thank you to all who are helping in the Joliet Slammer fundraiser. We have sold 38 tickets thus far! There is still time to purchase a ticket for \$10.

Remember that River of Life gets \$5 of every ticket sold!

Please join us for a



Baseball Fundraiser

Please help support the River of Life Lutheran Church, Channahon, IL by purchasing a Joliet Slammer baseball ticket for \$10.

GATES OPEN @ 6:05 PM
GAME STARTS @ 7:05 PM

FRIDAY
July 30

CAN'T MAKE THAT DATE? NO BIGGIE!!
GET A VOUCHER TO COME TO ANOTHER GAME!

Email
riveroflifelutheran@gmail.com

Adult Bible Study

Bible Class is out for the Summer

Swaddling Clothes

Our outreach ministry for families!

Open only the 2nd Saturday of each month.

July 10th

8:30 am – 12 pm

We are looking for volunteers in the Swaddling Room on Wednesdays from 6 – 7 pm. If you are interested to help, please contact Pam Sterle or Amanda Graves. The more the merrier!

Swaddling is considering having a “Back to School” day for parents. We are looking for volunteers. If anyone would be interested in helping, please contact Pam Sterle or Amanda Graves. More info to come.

Jenny Sopkin

Please consider donating your time to this worthwhile ministry.
Help is always needed and appreciated.



Holy *COMMUNION*

The Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood is received reverently among us. With COVID-19, our reception of the Sacrament is still affected.

Social distancing is practiced coming forward. Communicants come to receive the Sacrament as singles or a family. As the first family/single leaves the Communion Table, the next single or family comes forward.

In our distribution of the wine and the bread in the Sacrament, there is now no contact between the pastor/elder and the people.

The bread and wine are in individual cups touched only by the communicant(s). As the pastor says "*Take eat*" . . ., each communicant takes his own cup with bread, "*Take drink*" . . ., each communicant then takes his own cup with wine. The pastor then speaks the dismissal.

We followed suggestions and introduced these new precautions long ago. If you have comments or suggestions, please feel free to share them with an elder or pastor.

We appreciate the service of our Altar Guild for their beautiful service and add an extra thank you for their special work currently.

Dave Hall, Head Elder.