

SAINT LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

Dear Co-Workers in the Gospel,

This fall we are celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. As you can see elsewhere in this newsletter we, at Saint Luke's, are doing many things to commemorate this event. For the purpose of this short article I want to highlight my personal reflections on this important anniversary.

When I think of the legacy of the Reformation I think specifically about the "three solas." What are the three solas? They are: Sola scriptura ("by Scripture alone"), Sola fide ("by faith alone"), and Sola gratia ("by grace alone"). Many, including me, say that the Reformation can be summed up by these three principles. These principles, historically, were set against medieval Roman Catholic heresy. However, unfortunately, they are just as relevant for orthodox Lutherans today as they were 500 years ago. Why? Because many Lutherans in America have forgotten who they are theologically. While the heresies of yesterday are different than today, they are still a cancer to our faith. So, what shall we do? We must do what Dr. Martin would do—go back to the basics. And what are the basics—they are the three solas! All theology that we as disciples do, theoretical and practical, must be tested against these tenets of our faith.

Now—you may have noticed that I have not expanded on what these "solas" actually mean. This is intentional. I would love to have you come to worship on Reformation Sunday to hear a powerful message on this exact topic. So yes, you will have to wait...but it will be worth it! See you then!

In Christ

Pastor Josh

HONORING OUR NAME SAKE - SAINT LUKE

Keeping our ministry true to our namesake, Saint Luke, we are offering two healing opportunities:

Sunday, October 1st, we will have **Blood Pressure Screening** available for anyone interested **between services**. Results will be confidential between you and the nurse performing the screening.

Wednesday, October 18th is **Saint Luke's Day**. We honor Saint Luke as we offer a **Service of Healing at 7:00 pm**. This service will include prayers, homily and hymns focused on healing. There will be prayers for general healing as well as opportunity for prayers for individual healing. Even if you are not struggling now, please consider coming to support those in our community who are. Except for Adult Study, all Wednesday activities will continue, as we will have Celebration Choir at 5:00 pm, Christ Kidz and Confirmation at 5:30 pm and supper at 6:00 pm.

Nursery will be available during the service.

EDUCATION MINISTRY PROGRAM

EDUCATION MINISTRY PROGRAMS

Children's Church: Children's Church is for all children, 2nd grade and younger, and happens during the worship service. Children leave at the beginning of the first lesson and return during the hymn of the day (following the sermon). The curriculum, "Whirl", is a lectionary based program that has scripture-based lessons with engaging animations that help kids relate the Bible to their lives. Every "Whirl" lesson follows a four-part sequence: Welcome, Hear, Respond, and Launch (WHRL!). Each week, kids and leaders start their time together by identifying where they are in the church year and watching an animated video to set up the lesson. Next, they dive into the Whirl Story Bible together, respond to the scripture lesson with creative leaflet activities, and circle up to review the lesson and pray before being sent out. Parents, please look for the pamphlet that comes home with your child(ren) after Children's Church, as there are additional activities you can do together as a family during the week to help reinforce the lesson.

Christ Kidz: Christ Kidz is for all children, 3-year olds through 5th grade, and happens at 5:30 pm on Wednesday evenings. This year the group is split into two groups, 3-year olds through kindergarten and 1st through 5th grade. The curriculum, "Holy Moly," includes ten units that can be covered in two years, spanning the Old Testament and New Testament. Every Holy Moly lesson follows a four-part sequence: Discover, Relate, Connect, and Create. Each week, kids watch an animated Bible story video, talk about the story, read their Bible Storybook or Bible, and do a creative leaflet activity. The children will also be fed supper.

MOPS KIDS: MOPS KIDS is for all children who come with their moms to MOPS/MomsNEXT. This year the children will have a chance to explore the curriculum, "What's In the Bible," which is from the creators of Veggie Tales. The curriculum comes with a series of videos and activities to help children learn what's in the Bible. Kids will watch a short video, engage in an activity geared to reinforce the story and together create a visual reminder of the stories and characters of the Bible they have learned so far. The children will also be fed supper.

Confirmation: Confirmation is for all youth, 6th through 9th grade (or older if not yet confirmed). They meet with Pastor Josh at 5:30 pm on Wednesday evenings. This year they are studying The Small Catechism (Apostle's Creed, Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer, Sacrament of Baptism and Sacrament of the Altar). If you have any questions about confirmation please contact Pastor Josh or Deaconess Kathy.

Youth Group: Youth Group is for all youth, 6th through 12th grade, and happens at 6:30 pm on Wednesday evenings. This year they are using the curriculum, "re:form Ancestors." This curriculum introduces unlikely people who are called by God to do amazing things. It then encourages youth to see the similarities between themselves and their faith ancestors. Every "re:form Ancestors" session follows a three-part sequence: Encounter, Engage, and Respond. In each session, youth gather to watch a hilarious animated video, tap their creativity for activities that involve doodling, connecting, and journaling, and then share thoughts and ideas about the session's ancestor.

EDUCATION MINISTRY PROGRAM Cont'd

EDUCATION MINISTRY PROGRAMS CONTINUED

Adult Studies: In addition to these opportunities for our children and youth to grow in their faith and discipleship, we have opportunities for our adults as well. Sunday mornings at 9:30 am, Pastor Josh leads a discussion on the lessons for the day. Tuesday morning at 10:45 am there is an Adult Bible Study, which is currently studying the Parables of Jesus. Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm there is an adult study. Beginning in October we will be studying the book of Galatians.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday morning worship services are held at **8:00 and 10:30 am**. These identical services are traditional services with music, sermon and Eucharist. Nursery and Children's Church are available.

Tuesday at noon there is a shorter service with a homily and Eucharist.

Wednesday at 7:15 am there is a spoken service with a reading and Eucharist.

Please join us in regular worship.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Pastor Josh leads a discussion on the lessons of the day each **Sunday morning at 9:30 am**. All who are interested may join him in the Melancthon Room.

M.E.S.H. Monday: Experience, Strength, & Hope/NFG

This fellowship group is for those affected by someone else's addiction. They meet **Monday evenings at 7:30 pm**. Contact Melody at 660-6545 if you have questions.

TUESDAY ACTIVITIES

Prayer Group meets at **10:00 am**, **Bible Study** at **10:45 am** and **Holy Communion** is at **12 noon**.

October 10th 12:30 pm we will have lunch **here at the church**.

October 17th at 12:30 pm we will have lunch at Uwe's German Restaurant, 31 Iowa Avenue. Please sign up in the atrium.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES Cont'd

"WE GATHER" WEDNESDAY

- **5:00 – 5:30 pm** Celebration Choir for Kindergarten through 8th grade (will meet the 2nd & 3rd Wednesday in the month of October)
- **5:30 – 6:30 pm** Christ Kidz for Kindergarten and younger
- **5:30 – 6:30 pm** Christ Kidz for 1st through 5th grade
- **5:30 – 6:30 pm** Confirmation for 6th through 9th grade
- **6:00 pm** Community Supper
- **6:30 – 8:00 pm** Nursery
- **6:30 – 8:00 pm** Youth Group for 6th through 12th grade
- **6:30 – 8:00 pm** Adult Study (nursery available)

MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES

Consider enhancing our worship time through your musical talents:

Hand Bells: We're always looking for new ringers. You do not need to know how to ring – we'll teach you. Rehearsal times are **Mondays at 6:00 pm**. If you have questions, please contact Steve Lambert at 331-8700.

Adult Choir: All those high school age or older are invited to sing in the choir. We rehearse on **Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm** in the sanctuary. If you have questions, please call Keith Lundquist, our Director of Music, at 328-0627.

Celebration Choir: All children and youth, kindergarten through 8th grade, are invited to come and sing! This is an excellent opportunity for our children and youth to participate in our worship services. This month we will practice the **2nd and 3rd Wednesdays, October 11th and 18th, at 5:00 pm**. If you have questions please contact Allie Kipps at 532-0089.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

MOPS/MomsNEXT

MOPS/MomsNEXT is an organization for mothers of children, school-aged and younger. If you are a mom of children in these age groups, please consider joining us. We meet the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays, October 10th and 24th from 5:30 pm to 7:45 pm** in Luther Hall.

Our upcoming meetings include a wine cork pumpkin craft and discussion of how to teach our kids resilience. Any donations of wine corks would be appreciated! Child care is provided.

Children, 2 and older, will have an opportunity to hear a Bible story and participate in activities related to that story.

If you have any questions please contact Karen Hansen or Shannon Marchese.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES Cont'd

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Please note the following October activities, which are in addition to our regular Wednesday evening program.

ESCAPE ROOM in Denver on October 13th. Watch for details in the weekly.

MOVIE NIGHT on October 22nd, 5:30-8:00 pm for Youth 6th grade and older. We meet in the Youth Room (lower lever-Luther Hall) for pizza as we watch a movie.

AFTERNOON COFFEE on October 29th from 3-4:30 pm. Youth will meet at Third Space Coffee House for fellowship.

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

Friday, October 27th at 5:30 – 7:00 pm. Bring your friends and family for food, games, treats and more in Luther Hall! Children's Center families will be participating with us, as well. We need people to help decorate, run games, provide treats, and help clean up. Please let Deaconess Kathy know if you would like to help.

WOMEN'S COFFEE

The women of Saint Luke's meet on the second Saturday of the month, **October 14th at 8:00 am**, at Panera on North Academy. Everyone is welcome.

CHILDREN'S CENTER REPORT

CHILDREN'S CENTER UPDATE

We begin an especially busy month with our assessments of each child to evaluate how they are progressing and what areas we need to focus on to continue to help them grow and develop.

- **October 5th at 6 pm** is our annual International Potluck; prepare your favorite heritage food and come join in to meet the interesting families that the Children's Center are presently serving.
- **October 17th & 18th** are family conferences.
- **October 25th** is the kick-off of our Butter Braids campaign, which continues through **November 8th**. [Pick up day for the braids will be **November 15th**.]
- **October 27th** is our famous Spooktacular starting at 5:30p.m. Get out your favorite costume and join us for a great evening of spooky events.

*Sincerely,
Diane Van Horn
Director, Saint Luke's Children's Center*

REFORMATION REFLECTIONS

REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST 500 YEARS AND OUR OWN FAITH LIFE

As we reflect and celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation please watch for a variety of materials and events that are designed to teach and enhance this celebration. Each week you will see another window in the timeline of Lutheranism completed in the atrium. Thanks to Roger Hyttinen for doing the painting. Each week there will be a new bulletin insert with information about the reformation. We will also be putting out booklets for both adults and children sometime in October.

Our stewardship emphasis for this year will follow along with our celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. As we reflect on the past 500 years of the Lutheran church we will also reflect on our own personal faith life. For some of us that faith life may be fairly short, having started just a few years ago. For others of us it may encompass our whole life, having started at birth. However long it is, please take this time to reflect on that journey. There will be a sermon series the first three Sundays in October to help you reflect on your faith life, as well as our faith life here at Saint Luke's.

Please mark your calendars for the following events that are part of our Reformation Celebration:

- **Sunday, October 1st** – 1st in a sermon series, focusing on “Baptism”
- **Sunday, October 8th** – 2nd in a sermon series, focusing on “Steadfast”; Stewardship Packets handed out
- **Friday, October 13th at 6:00 pm** – Adult Fellowship Oktoberfest
- **Sunday, October 15th** – 3rd in a sermon series, focusing on “Hope”; Stewardship Packets handed out
- **Thursday, October 19th** – Martin Luther Movie – “Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World”
- **Sunday, October 22nd at 9:45 am** – Luther visits Saint Luke's, pastries and fruit will be provided
- **Sunday, October 29th at 9:30 am** – Congregational Breakfast/Return Pledges

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEXT MESSAGING

We have added a new way to communicate with members of our congregation. It is a service called Rained Out.com. The communication will come via your phone as a text message. We have one general list that includes everyone who signs up. This group will receive texts that pertain to all our members. An example might be a snow day for a Wednesday service or even a Sunday morning. We will also have several other lists that will relate to specific groups, for example; Church Council, MOPS, choir, Christ Kidz, etc. If a text needs to go out to a certain group it would go only to those people who signed up for that group. It is not our intention to make this overwhelming. Our general rule would be to not send out more than one message per group a week unless there was something urgent – again a snow day is a good example.

If you are interested in opting in you may enter this

https://www.rainedout.net/team_page.php?a=c849b3f054ef1f2353e2 into any browser and following the instructions that are given.

LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER

SAVE THE DATES FOR CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

BUDGET INFO MEETING – **Sunday, November 12th at 9:20 am.** This is an opportunity to review and ask questions before the congregational meeting – please consider attending.

BUDGET CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – **Wednesday, November 15th at 6:45 pm.** This is to vote on the 2018 budget. Please come as we will need a quorum. We will be serving supper at 6:00 pm for all who are interested. *Please NOTE that this meeting is NOT on a SUNDAY.*

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Wednesday, November 22nd at 7:00 pm will be our annual Thanksgiving service. What a wonderful time of the year to pause to give extra thanks to God for our many blessings, especially before the business of the Christmas season.

Consider planning to stay afterwards for conversation and fellowship. If you'd like to bring goodies to share, that would be greatly appreciated.

Nursery will be provided.

