A 500-Year Battle?

It is October of the year 2017. All of Christendom is aware of what took place in October of 1517, – 500 years ago. The banners marking this year have been posted for several years already in Germany, anticipating the thongs of people who will venture to the birthplace, streets, schools, churches and castles where Martin Luther walked, lived and preached.

In some respects, it is odd that we could point to a specific moment as to the start of what has become known as the Reformation Era, as Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses (really seeking debate amongst scholars) to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517. Truth be told, many things were taking place economically, socially and politically that made the situation very ripe for reform. More than that, many other things “fell into place” in the weeks, months and years that followed that also force us to look back at that day as though it were a pivotal start.

We will join that throng with our own Service of Celebration with the congregations of the Pacific and West Hills Circuits of the Northwest District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. We are the host congregation for this worship service and fellowship event which we have scheduled for October 29, 2017, at 4:00pm. You are needed that day, for you are the face (smiling face) of this congregation to our brothers and sisters in Christ. There is a level of awareness that reaches deep – even into the community. The people of the Tualatin Valley Symphony will contribute to the celebration in our midst that day playing “Ein Feste Burg” (A Mighty Fortress Is Our God). Choral members from all our congregations will join forces under the leadership of our own Dorothy Hochhalter, giving thanks to God and singing, “Jesus Is the Living Stone.” Rev. Michael Warmbier will be our guest preacher as clergy and laypeople from the surrounding congregations gather together. And, remembering Katharina von Bora – whom Martin Luther took to be his wife and she her husband (though initially, both of them had taken vows of celibacy), we will acknowledge the support she gave to her husband with the hundreds of people who gathered in their home. She tended the five-acre garden. She butchered the chickens, pigs and beef that was consumed at the table. She brewed the beer. She organized the household and kept them financially afloat. You can take home a drink coaster from the event in honor of her many contributions.

Still, let me return to my title. I am not so sure Luther would approve of all our celebration except that we remember that this is not just a 500-year battle. Listen to him closely. You can hear it in prayers, the writings and explanations that he gives us. The real battle is not against flesh and blood but against the one who would sow seeds of doubt in our mind. Luther would remind us that we have been purchased and won from sin, death and the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with the precious blood of Jesus and His innocent suffering and death so that we might be the children of the living God and live under Him in His kingdom. He would remind us daily that only with Jesus do we stand a chance that the evil foe would have no power over us.

This is no 500-year battle. This is the battle for life in place of the death that has been hanging around our neck since that fateful day in the Garden. It is this battle that drew Jesus to the hay of the manger, the agony of the cross and the darkness of the tomb. Our real celebration is that through the words of Peter, John, and all the Apostles and yes, through Martin Luther and every other faithful witness of the Good News that points the world to the saving work of God through His Son Jesus Christ – that the battle has been won. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Brandt

The Mission of Living Savior Lutheran Church: Alive in Christ, we share the love of Jesus—we serve, care for, support and nourish each other, our community, and the world!
Our Living Savior Youth Board Mission Statement states:

JR Youth and SR Youth Ministries exist to provide opportunities for students to grow in their faith, express their faith, and live out their faith, with the support of other Christians, through a balanced program of worship, study, social and service activities.

We would earnestly request your prayers for our youth and this reformation effort. If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions or ideas we welcome you to contact the church office at 503.692.3490.

The subject matter for the year is the life of Martin Luther, the growth of the early Church, the Reformation and some Church history.

Confirmation News
Classes have resumed for the 2017-2018 year for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades leading toward the Rite of Confirmation for the 8th grade students in May of next year.

One can hardly attend or even visit Living Savior these days and not know that a big celebration is taking place as we recognize the 500th year of Martin Luther’s nailing the 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. Because we have been studying about Luther and his contemporaries and some of the history of the times, we have a greater awareness of his life and the circumstances surrounding the event which led to what we now call “The Reformation.”

YOUTH REFORMATION
For those who may not yet be aware, our Youth Ministry is currently in a reformation mode to refresh and rejuvenate its Youth programs and activities. This will be ongoing the entire 2017-2018 school year.

We are grateful for the gift of a reformed life we have through our faith in Christ alone.

Reformation
One can hardly attend or even visit Living Savior these days and not know that a big celebration is taking place as we recognize the 500th year of Martin Luther’s nailing the 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. Because we have been studying about Luther and his contemporaries and some of the history of the times, we have a greater awareness of his life and the circumstances surrounding the event which led to what we now call “The Reformation.”

We may take for granted the words we hear in conjunction with this event. Out of the Reformation, the Protestant church developed. From what I’ve read, I don’t think that Luther intended to start an entirely new church. He was merely “protesting” some of the practices of the Roman Catholic Church, but the outcome of his desire to “reform” the church, a movement arose that could not be stopped.

Luther was basing these ideas from reading and studying his Bible. As he read the scriptures (especially Romans) he learned about grace—God’s undeserved love and forgiveness and that no amount of good works or self-righteousness would enable him to be accepted into God’s heaven.

His writings always emphasize grace alone. It is grace alone which saves us. This is good news for us because there is a human tendency to want to take charge of our lives, be our own boss and make ourselves responsible for our works. Once it is clear that there is nothing we can do to earn salvation, we then rely on being made right with God on the work of Christ on our behalf. He took the punishment we deserve and causes God to see us as righteous.

However, just because Martin Luther became the focal point for reformation and we follow in his footsteps as “Lutherans,” it doesn’t mean that we don’t have anything in our lives that need reforming. We don’t “reform” for our salvation, but we do want to reform some of what goes on in our lives to follow Jesus. This is actually called “sanctification.”

As we honestly look at ourselves and see where we have need of personal reformations in our life, we can confess our sin and receive God’s assurance that through Christ’s sacrifice for our sin, we are forgiven. Our baptism leads to a new, “reformed” life.

Romans 6:3-4—
Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

We are grateful for the gift of a reformed life we have through our faith in Christ alone.

Reformation

October Devotion
- Judy C.
We have heard of Scrip, but do you know what it is? Simple definition: Gift Cards!!!

You purchase them at face value and the church makes a profit. The choices are endless and the profit ranges from 1.5% - 41%.

All money raised goes to help pay down the mortgage.

The goal is $9,000 for the year and we need to raise another $4,000 by December 31st.

Please take a moment to look at the order forms that can be found on the Scrip table or at the Scrip mailbox (the white one on the stand in the entryway).

Choose what you want, and include a check or cash as payment. Your order can be put in the box at any time and will be available the following Sunday. It is that easy.

About Scrip

Living Logos

Have you ever asked yourself, “Why is our newsletter called the Living Logos? — What is a Logos? Actually, it is not a what, it is a who.

John 1:1-2

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. (This is the prolog to the Gospel of John.)

In Greek, the word Word is Logos. So the passage says in the beginning was the “Logos” and it refers to Christ. God created the word by His spoken word. (Genesis 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26 - And God said...) Christ was with Him as part of the creative process, and now Christ is coming into this world as the true light which enlightens everyone. (John 1:9)

This is the Good News of Christianity.

Therefore, Logos is the Word, Christ. But logos is also the word which is a for of communication.

The name of our newsletter was chosen with the double meaning of Logos. Because we are a Christian church, we are sharing the Good News about Jesus, the Logos. Because we are a newsletter, we are sharing the news about our congregation. Because we are Living Savior Lutheran Church, we have good news to share about our Living Savior. Thus, Living Logos.

Aren’t you glad you asked?

About Scrip

We have new sign to help church members on parking during school hours. The yellow lines (in front of the preschool door) in the parking lot are there to indicate no parking zone Monday through Fridays from 8:30am-3:30pm when preschool is in session. We have a drop-off and pick-up carline system at Living Savior Preschool. A car parked in the YELLOW ZONE during preschool blocks our view of preschool families and slows this process down and your car will be stuck there when preschool family cars are lined up. Any other day of the week, these yellow spaces are ok to park in. Thank you.

Mark Your Calendars!

Family Harvest Party
Saturday October 28th
1:30pm - 3:30pm

The Preschool will be hosting the HARVEST PARTY for our families in the fellowship hall.

All congregational families with children are welcome to attend!

The junior & senior youth will be helping us by manning the stations.

A flyer will be sent out during Sunday school or RSVP: Denice Hornberger at dhornberger@livingsavior-preschool.org

Help support Living Savior Preschool!

Buy a Pie! Eat a Pie! Oh, So Yummy!

We are fundraising again with the Willamette Valley Pie Company. Their frozen pies are handmade with all natural ingredients and no preservatives. Each pie crust is hand-rolled, hand-filled, and crimped to look as though you made it at home. Simply take from freezer and bake following their "easy as pie" directions. Come sample pie on Sunday October 8th (during bible study hour) to taste and see how yummy they are!

The staff will take your order on these Sunday mornings: October 8th, 15th, & 22nd & 29th.

Delivered to church on November 17th just in time for the holidays!

God's Blessings to all, from Denice Hornberger & Preschool Staff
HELPFUL BOOKS

The Stephen Ministers read over the summer and discussed two excellent books in one of their continuing education meetings to better minister to care receivers. The first book is *Don’t Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart* by Kenneth Haugk. “Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on soda, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.” Proverbs 25:20. This proverb describes an all-too-human problem each of us faces from time to time. We want to reach out and help those who are hurting—but the words or actions we use may unintentionally add to their burdens instead of easing. *Don’t Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart* is a wonderful book to raise awareness of what not to do and how you can truly comfort people in their times of need.

The second book read is *How to Say Goodbye: Working Through Personal Grief* by Joanne Smith Petrie & Dr. Ronald G. Petrie. Petrie’s book is a practical, compassionate manual based on the Grief Release seminars and classes that have helped thousands recover from the pain of loss. Joanne Petrie conducts her classes at a local church here in the Portland area and many in our congregation have benefited.

If you or someone you know might benefit from reading either of these books, a copy of each is in the church library and in the Stephen Ministry professional library.

A new training class for Stephen Ministers began on September 14. Those taking the training are: Cheryl Alexander, Phil Alexander, Pat Bladen, Gea Clausier, Brian Moons, Roberta Rinderknecht, Chris Wilson and Michelle Wolfe. We ask for your prayers as they diligently prepare for the Stephen Ministry.

For more information about Stephen Ministry contact the church office.

SHUT IN MINISTRY

“You are those who have stood by me in my trials.” - Luke 22:28

Living Savior has an active team of people who have a heart for those who are unable to attend church because of illness or disabilities. As a visitor to shut ins, they have an opportunity to make a positive difference in someone’s life by visiting and bringing to them fellowship and love from the congregation.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO VISIT SHUT INS?**

Volunteers are trained for this ministry. If you would like to be a part of this ministry or have questions, please contact us.

**October 12** - we meet for our team meeting and will be sorting donated greeting cards to replenish our cards placed at Marquis and Riverwood. We hope to create another greeting card file for The Springs in Sherwood.

**DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WE CAN VISIT?**

Contact us and let us know!

GREETING CARD COLLECTION

We are once again collecting cards to replenish the Marquis and Riverwood assisted living facilities in Tualatin. If we receive enough cards we hope to also offer cards to The Springs in Sherwood. The Shut In ministry team will be sorting all of the collected cards in October. If you have Christmas cards that you don’t have use for, please add these so that we can get them to the facilities for use during the holidays. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

OKTOBERFEST 2017

October 21
Happy hour starts at 4:00 pm
Dinner at 5:00pm

This is a fundraiser for the building loan. Tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for kids under 21. Kids under 5 free.

The event includes two adult beverages, dinner and dessert. Child care will be provided.

Entertainment is Dr. Norm Metzler on his accordion. Pastor is also organizing some special competitive events with prizes. Please plan to attend a fun evening at the church.

Bring a friend and invite your neighbors. The event closes at 7:00 pm.

COME CHECK US OUT!

Time to curl up with a good book?

DVD’s and books are plentiful in our church library. Please take a minute to browse through our inventory. The library is located on the second floor, next to the Upper Room (arched entries). There is self-check out.

PUZZLES!

The church library will be offering puzzles for check out by the end of September. If you have quality puzzles, no pieces missing, that you would like to share with others, place them in the Rubbermaid tub under the clock in the library.
**BOOK CLUB**

Book Club will be meeting on Saturday, October 14th at 10:00am in the upstairs in the Jericho room. With the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation this month, we will be discussing the novel by Jody Hedlund, “Luther and Katharina: A Novel of Love and Rebellion”. Jody Hedlund is the daughter of a Lutheran pastor and has written several other inspiring Christian books. Please join us whether you have read the book or not as we share our thoughts, good fellowship and refreshments. If you have any questions contact Diane Hilton at 503-620-4543.

Coming up . . .

Nov. 11  The Return of the Prodigal Son  Henri Nouwen
Dec. (no meeting)
Jan. 13  Anne of Green Gables  L.M. Montgomery
Feb. 10  Astoria  Peter Stark
Mar. 10  The Secrets of Mary Bowser  Lois Leveen
Apr. 14  The Girl Who Wrote Silk  Kelli Estes
May 12  Rise of the Rocket Girls  Nathalia Holt

**SUPPORT GROUP AT LIVING SAVIOR**

We invite you to connect with others at Living Savior who are giving care or have given care to a loved one. Those who are in the midst of care giving could greatly benefit from those who have gone before them. We meet the third Saturday of the month, 9:00am to share resources, encourage one another and fill our spiritual cup. Please join us! Friends of Living Savior Lutheran are welcome to join us as well. You may know someone in the work place or community who would benefit from our group. Questions? Call the church office.

Saturday, October 21, 9:00am
Library
Living Savior Lutheran

**TUALATIN SCHOOL PANTRY**

Tualatin School House Pantry expanded our hours to accommodate the working families who are unable to afford life’s expenses due to the quickly rising cost of living, aka rent!! We need more personal shoppers to go around with clients on Monday evenings and Friday Mornings. We also need a couple more drivers to help pick up donations as well as deliver food to shut ins. You can find out more info by emailing pantry@schoolhousepantry.org!

Top needs right now for donations are: canned fruit and canned ready to eat meals (hearty soups, chili, canned pasta etc.) We also could really use your empty paper grocery bags!! Donations hours and top needs are listed frequently on our facebook page: Tualatin School House Pantry.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support and care for those in need in your local community!!

Tracy S.
Program Coordinator
Tualatin School house Pantry

**VISION PLANNING**

There was a lot of enthusiasm at the June Voter’s Assembly meeting to have our congregation engage in a formal vision planning program.

If you are aware of a good Christian based vision or strategic planning program, please let us know! If you are willing to look for programs the Church Council can consider, please do so and let us know what you find. (We already have information about the Lutheran Church Extension Funds current program.)

Please send any information or direct your questions to the church office.

**STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**

Year to Date Contributions, as of 09/17/2017 are as follows:

General Fund:
Received: $ 400,852
Budget: $ 365,660
Variance: $ 35,192
Building fund contributions: $ 45,023

Thank you for giving faithfully.

Debt Update:
The current balance on the Building Loan is $1,493,580
All gifts to the Building Fund are applied directly to the loan balance.

If you have questions, please contact the church office at 503.692.3490
Thank you.
Lynette W.

**COMMUNITY WAREHOUSE**

Many thanks to those who have been contributing items in the purple bag in the corner of the entrance into the Fellowship Hall.

For those who are new to the Community Warehouse, it is like a food bank – only they focus on household goods and furnishings. They are located in Tualatin: 8380 SW Nyberg Street 503-612-0020 M-F, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Sat-Sun, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

We will continue to collect smaller items that will fit in or next to the purple bag. If you are looking for a worthwhile organization to donate furniture that truly serves needy people in our community, this is a great place. You can either drop it off yourself or they will pick up large items at your house for $30.

For information about Community Warehouse go to: www.communitywarehouse.org

Most needed items, no missing parts:
Pots & Pans Clean; no excessive wear
Baking Pans & Dishes Clean; no chips, cracks or broken parts
Toasters/Toaster Ovens Working condition
Can Openers
Dressers Good condition; 6 foot or smaller
Mattresses 15 yr. or newer, stain free
Kitchen Tables/Chairs Good condition, 5ft. or smaller
Sleeping Pillows Free from stains & tears
Blankets No-electric, no stains & tears
Alarm Clocks Working condition
Regular meeting: Thursday, October 5, 2017, at 1:00pm. Everyone is invited to join the fellowship and study led by Pastor Brandt.

Friday, Oct. 20, 2017, 11:00am–12:30pm help peel potatoes and apples in preparation for the Saturday, October 21, 2017. October Fest Event sponsored by the Men’s Group. Bring your own favorite peeler. Going out for lunch at a local restaurant afterwards is an option.

2nd Annual Phil Fribley Memorial Golf Tournament

The Phil Fribley Memorial Golf Tournament was held Sunday, September 10th at the Charbonneau Golf Course in Wilsonville. Ten teams participated in the 9-hole competition. Special thanks to Kristen Kraus and Chad Fribley who provided prizes.

Winning Team
- Mary F.
- Chad F.
- Cory F.
- John L.

Second Place
- Pastor Nathan Brandt
- Jesse B.
- Dick B.
- Adam W.

Longest Drive - Red Course
- Emmy M.
- Jesse B.

Longest Drive – Green Course
- No woman hit the fairway on this hole
- Chris D.

Closest to the Pin – Red Course
- John W.

Closest to the Pin – Green Course
- Bob B.

News from Bethesda Lutheran Auxiliary

Bethesda Sunday and Auxiliary Bazaar, October 15

Pastor Philemon Ngare will be guest preacher for both worship services and during Bible class. The Auxiliary will provide a variety of baked good to enjoy with your coffee or tea.

There will also be craft items, baked goods, and a variety of items from the traveling gift table for sale tables set up for the bazaar. Beautiful hand-made necklaces and earrings made by ladies in Guatemala will be something new this fall. Jam, jelly, butter and syrup from Columbia Empire Farms will be available to taste and order. The sign up for Christmas wreaths will also be on hand so you can place your order.

Plan to come and learn more about this ministry of our congregation and give generously to support Bethesda Lutheran Communities.

—Sylvia S.

It is nearing, the Most Wonderful Time of the Year! I want to thank our Family here at Living Savior for the wonderful response our project has received over the years. Angel Tree is now planning the behind the scenes jobs, that make it possible for us to show the Love of our Lord and Savior to the children we have adopted, that will be missing their parent(s) who are in Prison. We are looking for the following volunteers to make this year a very special adventure for all our volunteers. Please pray for this outreach as it impacts over 50 families and brings hope and joy to the children we will be serving this Christmas Season. We will be partnering again this year with Beaverton Rotary.

Many Volunteers are needed to call families and confirm details we have been given, help put up our Angel Tree for 2017 on Nov 11th, write Angel Tree tags to hang on our Tree Nov 17th, Man the Tree Sunday Nov 12th & 19th to help with Q’s & record each tag taken from the tree. Many will volunteer to take a tag, buy a gift & return with the tag & gifts (unwrapped in a bag by Sun. Dec 3rd & Wed. Dec 6th) Sorting gifts by family & city, Thurs. Dec 7th, Wrapping days Fri & Sat Dec 8th & 9th. Deliveries can start as early as Sat Dec 9th & provided the gifts, family sheet contact information, so you set a time that works for both you and your Angel Tree Family.

I will have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex soon. Thank you for considering to join us this year. Meet new friends, and enjoy this Christmas as you give the gift that will leave a lasting effect in the hearts and life of our very special kids. Make a difference that counts, Please call or sign up to join us this year, WE NEED YOU! Call the church office at 503.692.3490.