

Special points of interest:

- Voters' Meeting Oct. 11th, 11:15am
- Church Workday, Oct. 17th
- Men's Breakfast, Oct. 24th, 8:30am
- Youth Corn Maze, Oct. 31st, 10am

Inside this issue:

SOP Jobsite	2
Trunk or Treat	3
SOP Youth	3
Parish Committee	4
Fun with Purpose	5
Noteworthy News	5
October Calendar	6

Our Righteousness is in Christ Alone!

When Johann Friedrich, Elector of Saxony (1503-1554), was thrown into prison, when all his books were taken from him and his pastor was forbidden to come to him, he said, smiling, "Go ahead and take them! I know one thing for certain: even if they take everything from me, they will not be able to take my Lord Jesus and the eternal life He purchased with His blood out of my heart". The Elector had heard the Gospel and by it had total confidence that God was gracious to him. Because of the preaching and teaching of Luther and others, the Elector did not trust in indulgences or his own works, but instead trusted in Christ alone, even when he lost everything in this world. It is as we sing in Luther's famous hymn, "**And take they our life, goods, fame, child, and wife; though these all be gone, our victory has been won; the Kingdom our remaineth!**"

Where does our righteousness come from? The Reformation's message continues to ring forth from God's Holy Word, from our pulpits, our schoolrooms, and the mission-fields—that it is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone, revealed to us in Scripture alone; that therein lies our righteousness!

Martin Luther asked that same question, "Where does our/my righteousness come from?", on many occasions during his studies in law at Erfurt and while he was a monk in the Augustinian Order of the Roman Catholic Church. Luther was plagued by the fact that a Holy God could not love him, a sinner, and enemy of the Gospel. He tried to please God by doing penance, good works, and even punishing his own body! He saw himself as a condemned criminal with no hope! God had other plans for Luther as He led him into His Word where Luther found the truth of the Gospel and the answer to his question, "Where does my righteousness come from?" It was in the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans where Luther realized that man lives only by faith in Jesus Christ, nothing else and no one else can save him but Christ, Christ alone! St. Paul writes, "**For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, the just shall live by**"



Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, the just shall live by

(Cont'd on page 2)



“Faith is a living and unshakable confidence, a belief in the grace of God so assured that a man would die a thousand deaths for its sake”
 ~Martin Luther

...Righteousness (cont'd)

faith.” (Romans 1:16-17) St. Paul also writes, **“But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”** (Romans 3:21-24)

When Luther discovered this truth of the Gospel, it was like the gates of heaven were open to him! Our righteousness is Christ's righteousness which God gives to us by grace through faith in Him! We are justified, declared righteous in the sight of God through faith in Jesus Christ alone!

Grace Alone! Faith Alone! Scripture Alone! Christ Alone! I will share these timeless truths in my Reformation Sermon Series beginning on October 11th and culminating on All Saints' Day, November 1! Invite a neighbor, a classmate, a co-worker to worship with us. I look forward to seeing you this Sunday and I pray that you might be strengthened in faith as you seek God's will for you and for Shepherd of Peace! - Rev. Timothy J. Henning, Vacancy Pastor

SOP Becomes First Jobsite for MMS Class

Maumelle Middle School is very happy to be partnered with Shepherd of Peace in order to allow the students in our Community Based Instruction (CBI) class to have the very first "jobsite" in the school's eleven year history. Our students do not participate in regular academic classes because of their disabilities; they require more functional instruction. Our students are learning to cook, wash clothes, count money, and various basic job skills. We spend lots of time out in the community. We go shopping on Thursdays, and we go bowling on Friday. We are preparing them to go to the high school where they will go out into the community to work two times a week. Some of the high school students have been able to secure jobs after graduation at some of the jobsites they have partnered with.

We are grateful to be partnered with your church, and Dani has been very welcoming. The children have been practicing how to greet employers and they are excited to greet her every Tuesday. We have been three times to "work" and the kids really enjoy it. Our speech teacher is also coming, and she is working on expressive language skills with the children while she is there. We will participate in Special Olympics events this spring. Thank you so much for supporting this special population!

~Ashley Washam, MMS Teacher CBI



FUN Times Ahead at Trunk or Treat 2015

Time for our SOP 6th Annual TRUNK or TREAT event! Mark your calendar to participate and/or help on HALLOWEEN, Sat. Oct. 31 from 2-4pm. There are fewer Trunk or Treats events happening this year in Maumelle so we anticipate a bigger crowd...so we need YOU!

There are several ways you can help:

- **PURCHASE** some of the items needed for the event. These items are posted on the 'tree' in the narthex. Candy, Baked Goods, Water, etc.

- **PARTICIPATE** on event day by 'manning' a game or event that will happen that day. (bounce house, cake walk, etc.)

- **JOIN** the Trunk fun by popping the trunk, decorating it & dressing up to go with it. (We have 'pre-made' starters & will help you.) Then hang out with your SOP friends while making new friends (princesses, ninjas, superheroes) and handing out the gifts and candy that have been purchased/donated for the Trunk or Treat!

Everyone at SOP is needed to make this event a success. We are thankful for all participants and for Thriven Financial, our sponsor, who is helping us reach out to the community with another event. IF you have questions, please contact Ashley Davenport (philash29@sbcglobal.net) who is chairing this event.

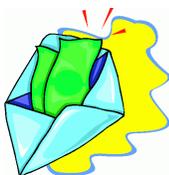


*“It is pleasing to
God whenever
thou rejoices or
laughest from
the bottom of
thy heart” ~
Martin Luther*

SOP Youth Envelope Fundraiser

Shepherd of Peace will have five youth and one adult representing us at The National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA next July. In preparation for the trip, the youth have been and will be doing fundraisers throughout the next several months to offset the cost of the trip. SOP Youth have raised much of the money so far, but still have a goal of \$4,000.00 to raise before summer. During the month of October, SOP Youth will have a table in the narthex filled with envelopes. Written on each envelope will be various dollar amounts. If you would like to donate one of these values toward the 2016 National Youth Gathering, place that value into the envelope during October and give it to Dani or place it in the offering plate. This donation is tax deductible and will appear on your end of year offering statement.

The youth are very thankful for the continued support of the congregation and friends of the congregation as they work toward the goal of financing this trip. In the coming months they will have additional fundraisers including Rent-A-Youth and other fun events. For any additional information on the envelope fundraiser or the Rent-A-Youth program, contact Dani at the church office.



Update from The Trinity-SOP Joint Parish Committee

The Trinity NLR-Shepherd of Peace Joint Parish Committee met on September 2 at Hope Lutheran in Jacksonville and developed a draft 2-point Parish Agreement. This agreement would govern and document the working relationship between the two congregations as we pursue calling a pastor that would serve both our congregations. The agreement formalizes the creation of a Joint Parish Committee, consisting of five members of each congregation, who will serve as the call committee for the candidate pastors as well as have continuing oversight of the joint activities. For Shepherd of Peace, the representatives are Mark Filter, Esther Mahnken, Jason Smith, Steve McDonald, and Mark Bird. Mari Flemmons, Parish Hurley, and Paul Reprogle are alternate delegates. Trinity NLR met and ratified the draft agreement at a voters meeting held there on September 6. Shepherd of Peace met and ratified the agreement at a voters meeting held on September 20. On Monday night, September 21, the Joint Parish Committee met at Trinity NLR and each congregation formally signed the agreement. The 2-point Parish Agreement also requires that a Chair and Secretary be elected among the members of the Joint Parish Committee. Monday night, September 21, Paul Koehler of Trinity NLR was elected Chair and Esther Mahnken of Shepherd of Peace was elected Secretary.

***“Grant that I
may not pray
alone with the
mouth; help me
that I may pray
from the depths
of my heart”
~Martin Luther***

So what's next? Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola, our District President, needs a consolidated Congregational Assessment that represents the joint Trinity – SOP situation. Shepherd of Peace has completed a Congregational Assessment in the recent past. Trinity has not completed a Congregational Assessment in some time. Trinity will be working to complete that activity soon. Once both Congregational Assessments are in-hand, the Joint Parish Committee will meet to resolve any conflicting needs and create a consolidated Assessment that reflects the needs of the 2-point Parish. That Assessment will then be used by Rev. Dr. Paavola to assemble a list of viable candidates to be evaluated by the Joint Parish Committee. Also, both Trinity and Shepherd of Peace Congregation members are being asked to provide names of pastors they are familiar with or would like to be evaluated by the Joint Parish Committee as a candidate. Those candidate names should be provided to any of the Joint Parish Committee members named above or to any of the Board Directors or Lay Ministers. The Joint Parish Committee meets again on Monday, October 5, at 6:30pm to begin work on consolidating the Congregational Assessment. The meeting location will be at Shepherd of Peace. As always, Joint Parish Committee meetings are open to any member of either congregation to attend. The Joint Parish Committee expects that it will take the remainder of this calendar year to obtain and evaluate the list of pastoral candidates and issue a call. Any potential call will have to be presented to and ratified by each congregation. Due to the Christmas season, we expect that it will be sometime after the first of the new year before we would be able to have a new pastor in place.

Please remember the Joint Parish Committee in your prayers as we work with Trinity NLR and please remember to submit your personal nominations of Pastoral candidates for evaluation. ~Jason Smith, Committee Member



Fun with Purpose: September Moments



Sept. was filled with Stewardship both in sermons and in actions! SOP made blankets, stuffed packs, served dinner and enjoyed a fun picnic potluck. God is good!

News Worth Noting

- **Thursday Morning Bible Study** will begin studying Paul's letter to the Galatians starting October 15th at 10:30am. Everyone is encouraged to come be a part of this great discussion.
- **Circuit Reformation Service** will be held at 3pm on October 25th at First Lutheran Little Rock. Members from area churches (including SOP) and area pastors will be involved in the service. A German meal will follow.
- MMS, MHS, and Maumelle Chamber of Commerce have teamed up to hold the first ever **Run Like You've Been Stung 5K** on November 14th. They are looking for runners, walkers, or those who want to be "Virtual Runners." Those interested can get a registration form from the church office or visit www.maumellechamber.com.
- SOP's next **Servant Event** will take place on Tuesday, November 17th at Immerse Arkansas. We will be making and serving dinner to the young adults of Immerse (you might remember them from our cookbook/ book event last year). SOP Youth needs your help in making this dinner for 30+ a success! Please contact Dani or Cookie Higgins and let them know you want to help!



October Events

- * Sundays, 9am, Worship
- * Sundays, 10:15am, Family Bible Hour
- * Mondays, 10am-4pm, Peace Quilters
- * Wednesdays, Oct. 7 & 21, 7pm, Choir Practice
- * Thursdays, 10:30am, Bible Study
- * Thursdays, 6:30pm, Midweek Teens
- * Saturday, Oct 17, Church Workday
- * Saturday, Oct. 24, 8:30am Men's Breakfast
- * Saturday, Oct 31, 10am, Youth @ Corn Maze
- * Saturday, Oct. 31, 2pm-3pm, Trunk or Treat



October 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6:30pm	2	3
4 LWML Sunday Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a	5 Quilters, 10a	6 Study, 6:15p	7 Choir, 7p	8 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6:30pm	9	10
11 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a Voters' Meet, 11:15a	12 Quilters, 10a Wor. Comm. 3p BoD Meet, 6:30p	13 Study, 6:15p	14	15 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6:30pm	16	17 Work Day
18 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a LM/BoD/Henning	19 Quilters, 10a	20 Study, 6:15p	21 Choir, 7p	22 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6:30pm	23	24 Men's Brkfst, 8:30a
25 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a	26 Quilters, 10a	27 Study, 6:15p	28	29 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6:30pm	30	31 Reformation Day Corn Maze, 10a ToT, 2p-4p

7 Ways Satan Tries to Destroy the Church

1. Church Conflict

Satan loves business meetings that get out of hand or when two church members have disagreements outside of church. He loves when church members argue about trivial things, such as colors of the carpet or big things, such as whether to add another service. Doesn't matter to him. Show him a good argument potential and he's willing to stir the fire.

2. Burnout

Satan loves to burn out a church volunteer, staff member, or pastor. If he can make them feel they are no longer needed, their work is not appreciated, or that they no longer have anything to offer...he feels he's winning part of the battle.

3. Rumors

Satan is the stirrer of dissension. He likes to plant little seeds of a juicy story, about someone in the church or community...sometimes even the pastor or staff...and watch them quickly spread through a church congregation or community. The version, of course, usually grows to a larger portion than reality. Satan likes that too.

4. Busyness

Satan loves to distract church goers with a plethora of activity that produces little results in Kingdom-building.

5. Lies

Satan attempts to interject what he calls a "half-truth"; just a hint of false doctrine and then watch it disrupt or divide a body. Of course, we all know that half-truth is really just a cleaned up version of a bold face lie, but Satan is clever enough to disguise a lie in a way where false teachers gain entry and do damage before being discovered.

6. Scandal

Satan loves a good, juicy, gossipy news headline in the local paper. If it will split, divide or destroy a church body...even better. If it will destroy someone's Kingdom calling or work...he'll take that too.

7. Marriage and family disruptions

Satan loves to destroy any relationship, but he also goes after key leader's marriages; even the pastor's marriage. He likes to encourage prodigal children. He wants to cause families to fight within the church and fight with the church. Satan knows if he can destroy a home, he has a better chance of destroying a church.

When conflict does arise, we (the church) are reminded who we are in Christ alone, and through Him, we are given strength to heal, build, and grow, "... speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." (Eph. 4:15-16)



"For where God built a church, there the Devil would also build a chapel." ~ Martin Luther



There's a Place for You at SOP!



**SHEPHERD OF
PEACE LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

PO Box 13143
449 Millwood Circle
Maumelle, Arkansas 72113

Phone: 501-851-4546
Email: shepeace@sbcglobal.net

THE PURPOSE OF OUR EXISTENCE

Shepherd of Peace exists to praise and glorify God. This happens when we are faithful in reaching out to others with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in promoting growth in discipleship, and in performing acts of self-sacrificing love to all people in Christ's name.

Sunday Schedule:

9:00 AM - Traditional Worship

10:15 AM - Family Bible Hour



facebook

www.shepeace.com

"Here I stand, I can do no other, so help me God."

~Martin Luther

Special Days in October

10-9 Peter Christiansen (B)

10-10 Felix Cates (B)

10-12 Columbus Day

10-20 Sydney Wray (B,16)

10-23 St. James of Jerusalem

10-26 Ken & Laura Quimby (A,35)

10-31 Reformation Day

