

# Trinity Times

Trinity Lutheran Church

October 2017

## From the Pastor's Desk

Members of Trinity,

A great change in the world began in October 500 years ago. You and I, as Lutheran Christians or Christian Lutherans, are a part of that change. We should be proud of that fact for we believe in only One God Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We also believe in The Three "Onlys" of the Reformation.

Before looking at those three onlys I have a question. Did Martin Luther foresee the course of which the Church eventually took? The breaking into splinters which struggled over theology, teachings, and standards of behavior?

Looking back, we see that the man Luther unleashed spiritual, political, and social changes beyond his control and imagination. His lasting and greatest contribution to every part of Christendom came from His struggles to find peace for his soul. What was at stake was the recovery of the central message of Scripture that the Almighty God is, above all, a gracious and loving God. Luther discovered that his study of theology was a life-long process. Out of his struggles came a theology based on Scripture alone. This shook the medieval world and church.

The three phrases sum up the three principles at work in Luther's theology:

BY SCRIPTURE ALONE! BY FAITH ALONE! BY GRACE ALONE.

**Only by Scripture** means that only God's Word is our guide for faith and life, not any human teachings or traditions.

**Only by grace** means that only through God's undeserved love are we made righteous, not through any human efforts or achievements.

**Only by faith** means that only through God's promises, not our efforts, we receive God's justification, His declaration that we are sin-free in Christ.

To summarize in one quick sentence is the insight that freed and inspired the reformers. "What makes us righteous is not our own virtue but the righteousness of God, given freely as a gift of His love, because of the redeeming work of Christ Jesus, our Lord."

God's blessings to us Lutheran Christians/Christian Lutherans, thanks be to God. On October 29 may we celebrate together the joy and freedom we have in our Savior.

Peace, Pastor Thur

(excerpts from from Creative Communications for the parish, 1996)

## Elders

The Elders are:

Duane Neal 623-688-6833

Roland Walter 882-7450

Ralph Wegner 565-3936

Dennis Gard 928-379-2191

Josh Chittick 560-4785

Mark Johnson 570-7639

Please feel free to contact any of them at any time with comments or concerns.

## Call Committee

The call committee continues its search for a new Pastor. There is one candidate to be interviewed from the last list.

More names from district are being requested. There will be a meeting Monday Oct 16<sup>th</sup>.

## Missions

**Operation Christmas Child** packing will be October 22 after church. Plan to stay and help send off boxes for children who need the message of Christmas ad Jesus. Some of the items we need are hygiene (bar soap, wash cloths, toothbrushes, etc.), pencils and sharpeners. Tooth paste is no longer accepted. Keep your eye out for those special deals. We

will also need donations to cover the shipping on the boxes we complete and send. If you would like to pay for and track your box, you can do so online.

## Social Concerns

The Good Samaritan Center is in need of volunteers. If you have any questions, call Diana at 565-3580.

Renew always appreciates the hygiene items that you donate. The one thing they do not accept is mouth wash because of the alcohol content. They continue to

have a high amount of clients. Don't forget something for the kids as they come with their mother.

### **Fellowship**

Well, it's October, and it's the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, and it's the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. What shall we do? Let's have a German Oktoberfest Potluck! October 29 is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Fellowship, so in order to celebrate our Trinity Family, our LCMS heritage, and our love of food, we'll ask you all to bring your best German dishes. Drinks will be provided and we'll start after the Worship Service.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

John Kelly would like a ride to church from anyone living in the Dolores area. If you can provide him a ride, call Carol at 565-3212. There are others who need rides so they can worship with us as well. Carol can make that connection.

### **The Bridge**

The yard sale for The Bridge homeless shelter was held the first weekend in October. The sale went well but a total has not been reported yet. The Shelter does need volunteers to help with a variety of jobs. If you would like to volunteer call 565-9808.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Oct 16, 2017 – Call Committee meeting
- Oct 17, 2017 – Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- Oct 22, 2017 – Operation Christmas Child Packing Party @ 10:30 a.m.
- Oct 25, 2017 – Sew 'n' Sews @ 9 a.m.
- Oct 29, 2017 – German Oktoberfest Potluck @ 10:30 a.m.

### **LCMS**

If you would like to donate to any of the disaster recovery efforts the LCMS has going on, visit the <https://www.lcms.org/disaster-response>.

There are many opportunities to participate in the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation.

President Matthew Harrison has a blog on How Luther became Lutheran:

<https://blogs.lcms.org/2017/luther-become-lutheran>

One of the many sites celebrating the Reformation anniversary is:

<https://lutheranreformation.org/>, and there you can find videos, podcasts, articles, and other information on this special event.

You can also google the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation and find books, movies, t-shirts, articles and anything else people have contributed to. Several sites even have a countdown on their pages.

### **Lutheran Hour Ministries**

On August 1st, Lutheran Hour Ministries launched their online courses and webinars to help people reach out with the love and Good News of Jesus Christ in everyday lives. To check out these free outreach resources, visit [lhm.org/learn](http://lhm.org/learn).

These online courses and webinars will cover five faith-strengthening categories and use an array of multimedia elements to help you gain a hearing for the Gospel message. Some of the offerings are *Intergenerational Mentoring*, *Christ And His Kingdom*, and *Sharing Your Faith Stories*.

### **Oktoberfest**

The origins of Oktoberfest started in München/Munich Germany at the wedding of King Ludwig I. The same grounds are used today, Theresienwiese. At the conclusion of the wedding celebration, a horse race was held and was repeated for many years. Gradually an agricultural competition, a carousel, beer tents (instead of stands) and other entertainment were added. The event is now held from mid-September to the first week in October. This year was the 184<sup>th</sup> celebration and is the largest festival in the world.

### **Poem of the Month**

October

James Marcus Schuyler

Books litter the bed,  
leaves the lawn. It  
lightly rains. Fall has  
come: unpatterned, in  
the shedding leaves.

The maples ripen. Apples  
come home crisp in bags.  
This pear tastes good.  
It rains lightly on the  
random leaf patterns.

The nimbus is spread  
above our island. Rain  
lightly patters on un-  
shed leaves. The books  
of fall litter the bed.

### **Newsletter Info**

If you would like to submit information to this newsletter or to the website, please put it in Shar Short's box, call her at 970-564-1596, or e-mail her at [shortstuff1950@gmail.com](mailto:shortstuff1950@gmail.com).

