

Trinity



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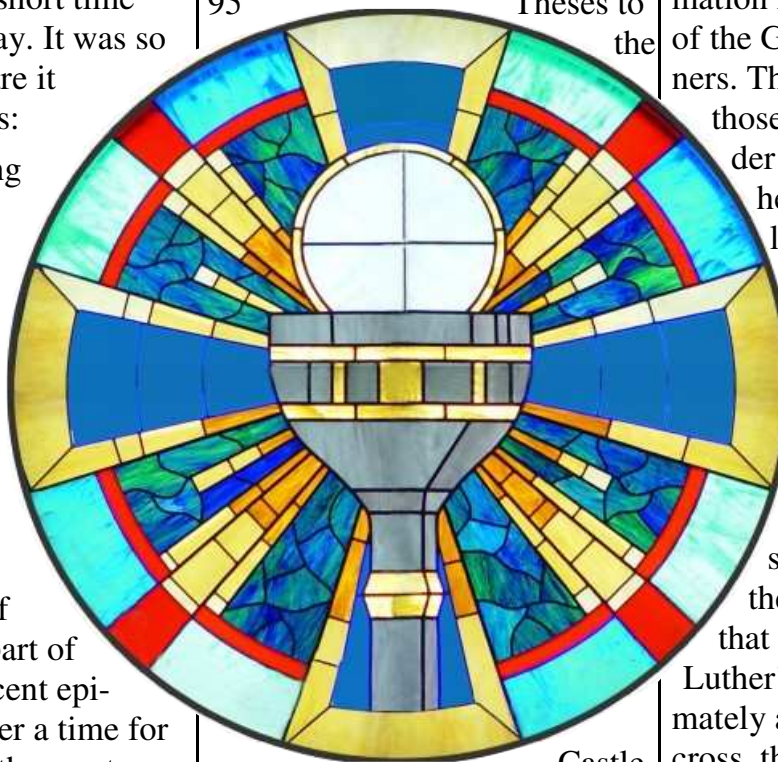
November, 2017

Reformation Redux

This article came to me from Rev. Lee Hagen, our Missouri District President, a short time after Reformation Day. It was so good I wanted to share it with you, so here it is:

Lutherans are walking with just a little bit more swagger this month. After years of laughing along with Garrison Keillor's stories, Lutherans have hit the big time. One of television's hottest shows, NCIS included the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation as part of the story line of a recent episode. If there was ever a time for normally humble Lutherans to be a bit puffed up, it's right now. Facebook is covered with photos from the Wartburg Castle and the Castle Church in Wittenberg. We take much satisfaction in knowing that the best selling Playmobil figure of all time is not a farmer or a pirate, but Martin Luther! And now the anniversary is finally here. It's hard not to sing A Mighty Fortress with a little bit of extra pride after all this hoopla and bravado.

But the Reformation is not just about the nail that attached the 95 Theses to the



Castle Church door, but about the Law of God which pierces your heart. You are the one who has despised God's Word. You have fallen short of God's glory because you have sought your own glory and your own kingdom. You have not defended your brother's reputation and explained everything in the kindest way. This is the Law proclaimed to you.

But even more, the Reformation

is about the nail that pierced Jesus' hands and feet. The Reformation is about the Good News of the Gospel proclaimed to sinners. This is the message for those whose knees buckle under the weight of sin and hear that their burden is lifted and that their sins are forgiven. The Reformation is about God's grace as a free gift for broken sinners. The sins that haunt your conscience and keep you up at night with guilt and shame have been nailed to the cross. The Reformation that came about following Luther's 95 Theses was ultimately about Christ and the cross, the sufficiency of Christ's death and resurrection for us.

Paul's letter to the Romans was key in shaping Martin Luther's theology. Paul offers a clear explanation of how Christians are made right with God and that it is solely His work. For Luther, the rediscovery of the emphasis on the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ brought great comfort and peace to his troubled conscience. His emphasis that we are justified by grace

through faith means that Christ's death and resurrection made full atonement for our sin and there is nothing left for which we must atone.

Martin Luther wrote in what he considered his last will and testament, the Smalcald Articles: "The first and chief article is this: Jesus Christ, our God and Lord, died for our sins and was raised again for our justification (Romans 4:24-25). He alone is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29), and God has laid upon Him the iniquities of us all (Isaiah 53:6). All have sinned and are justified freely, without their own works or merits, by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, in His blood (Romans 3:23-25). This is necessary to believe. This cannot be otherwise acquired or grasped by any work, law, or merit. Therefore it is clear and certain that this faith alone justifies us. As St. Paul says: For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. (Romans 3:28) That He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. (Romans 3:26) Nothing of this article can be yielded or surrendered, even though heaven and earth and everything else falls (Mark 13:31). For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. (Acts 4:12) And with His stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5) Upon this article

everything that we teach and practice depends."

The Reformation cannot be about the past. It must be about proclaiming what Christ has done for us in every age and to all people. Dr. Luther once wrote, "'We live on earth only so that we should be a help to other people...[God] lets us live that we may bring other people also to faith as he has done for us... being God's messenger and having his command to proclaim his Word.'" The enduring legacy of the Reformation is the message of salvation by grace alone through faith alone on account of Christ alone. God's mission is carried out as we proclaim that message from pulpits and in classrooms and at the kitchen table and at the work place and wherever the Lord leads us. May God preserve His Word among us and may the pure Gospel be proclaimed to the ends of the earth. The Reformation is not about the past. It's not about Luther or Lutherans, it's about Christ! It's about Christ for you!

Birthdays

Joni Martinez 11/1
Bruce Cantwell 11/1
Daniel Goodroad 11/2
Nelson Hayes 11/10
Regan Schmidt 11/10
Anthony Propst 11/15
Tiffany Propst 11/15
Julie O'Neal 11/16
Jamie Luppess 11/19
Aaron Propst 11/21
Alpha Wiese 11/22
Andy Starkebaum 11/22

Pat Owens 11/24
Matthew Cuba 11/26
Kris Wornson 11/28
Sullivan Korondi 11/28
Ardyth Stone 11/29
Katelyn Brammeier 11/29
Ken Meier 12/1
Mallory Swain 12/1
Sylvia Herrell 12/4
Mary Ellett 12/5
Gretchen Mayes 12/8

Baptisms

Allyson Abend 11/2
Tara Altis 11/12
Daniel Goodroad 11/13
Tim Brammeier 11/17
Jeff Lehning 11/23
Nelson Hayes 11/24
Andrew Swain 11/24
Cindy Williams 11/25
Harry Akiyama 11/26
Scott Mayes 11/30
Tom Clemens 12/1
Keith Wornson 12/5
Diane Schmidt 12/6
Bill Moore 12/9
Anthony Propst 12/10

Anniversaries

Mike & Pat Owens
11/1/1974
Jason Dawn & Riley
11/1/2008
Allen Bonnie & Harris
11/6/2004
Alan Debra & Rhea
11/21/1980
Jim Karen & Hargrave
11/21/1991
Ian Larson & Blythe
12/11/2004

Elders

Larry Goodroad
Dallas Hoffman

Bill Moore
Vic Edwards
Ken Meier

Acolytes

November 5
Conner Jackson
November 12
Simon Korondi
November 19
Ben Starkebaum
November 22
Andrew Swain
November 26
Joe Goodroad
December 3
Colton Harris
December 6
Conner Jackson
December 10
Simon Korondi
December 13
Ben Starkebaum
December 17
Andrew Swain
December 20
Joe Goodroad
December 24
Colton Harris
December 25
Conner Jackson
December 31
Simon Korondi

Ushers

November 5
Tim Wiese, Andy Starkebaum
November 12
Tim Wiese, Craig Schley
November 19 & 22
Keith Wornson, Darrin Abend
November 26
Tony Alshouse, Craig Schley
December 3
Wes Carmack, Cliff Keller
December 7

Tony Alshouse, Ken Meier
December 10 & 13
John Barth, Alan Bozarth
December 17 & 20
T. Brammeier, D. Chapman
December 24 & 31
John Diaz, Vic Edwards
December 25
Mark & Andy Fairhurst

Greeters

November 5
Curt & Gwen Mayes
November 12
Don Mayes, Evangeline Barth
November 19
Don & Sharon McCubbin
November 22
Scott & Lacey Mayes
November 26
Ken & Brenda Meier
December 3
Kim Murphy, Linda Newman
December 6
Bill Moore, Doris Mann
December 10
Yvonne O'Grady, Julie O'Neal
December 13
Pat Owens, Carolyn Patterson
December 17
Jack & Nancy Oldag
December 20
Tony & Ellen Propst
December 24
June Ramer, Dawn Riley
December 25
Derek & Rebekah Chapman
December 31
Alan & Debra Rhea

Altar Guild

November 5
Pat Owens, Phyllis Clemens
November 12 & December 10
D. Korondi & K. Goodroad
November 19 & December 17

Dee Hoffman, Leslie Young
November 22
Pat Owens
November 26 & December 24
S. McCubbin, P. Clemens
December 3
Pat Owens, Mary Ellett
December 25
Pat Owens
December 31
June Ramer, Dawn Riley

Top of the Hill

The group will meet on Tuesday, November 15, at 11:30. Please join us for a lunch of lasagna, dessert and lots of fun and fellowship.

Trinity Care Group

Do you need assistance because of illness, birth of a baby, death, hospitalization, etc.? Trinity Care Group can help. We would be happy to arrange for providing meals, doing errands, visiting with the family, etc. Please contact Dee Hoffman at 320-2490

Faith Doesn't Talk Like That

A statement that's often heard in conversations amongst Christians, and between Christians and non-Christians, is this: "You don't have to go to Church to be a Christian!"

Is that statement true or not? Well, technically it is true, sort of. What is "necessary" to being a Christian is faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. It's trusting in Jesus alone to save you and putting no hope at all in anything that you do.

The question, I think, is “What does that look like?”

If we start with the Ten Commandments (which is probably a pretty good place to start), we find these words spoken to us by God: “You shall have no other Gods” . . . or more precisely: “You shall bring no other ‘gods’ before My face.” And then, of course, we have the Third Commandment: “You shall honor the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy.”

Just think for a moment. What are you really saying when you try to assert that you don’t have to go to Church to be a Christian? Are you not putting other ‘gods’ before the one, true God? Are you not saying that what you want to do on Sunday morning during the Divine Service and Bible Class is more important than what God says you should be doing at that time?

Sure, there are times when you may not be able to come to Church because of family commitments, illness, work obligations or myriad other reasons. But be honest, if the reason you’re saying that you “don’t have to go to Church,” is because you have other priorities in your life that are more important at the moment (and yes, I understand if you have a chance to go fishing, camping, vacation or some other occasional happening it’s OK to skip Church now and again), or because you simply “don’t feel” like coming to Church?

Let me simply tell you this. Faith doesn’t talk like that. There, I’ve

said it. As painful as it might be to hear, that’s really the truth. It’s true for you, and it’s true for me. As Christians we should want to be where God has promised to be handing out His gifts, and if we find ourselves making excuses too often, then maybe we might want to try and figure out what’s really going on. I’m just sayin . . .

LWML

October 9, 2017

Call to Order: Janet Miller, President

Opening Hymn: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Opening Prayer: The business meeting was opened with prayer led by Janet Miller and the LWML pledge was recited.

Attendance: Janis Bozarth, Janet Miller, Kay Sowell, Marlo Howard, June Lueckert, Doris Mann and Diane Schmidt.

Minutes: September meeting minutes were read and approved.

Correspondence: Correspondence was shared from LMS Joint Seminary Fund request for donation to seminaries. A motion was made by Kay Sowell and seconded by Marlo Howard that we table this request for now.

Treasurer’s Report: As of 10/9/17 the balance was \$510.62 (including \$36.52 in mites) was reported.

Mission Grant Story: June Lueckert read Mission Grant Story: Mercy House for Women and Children, Franklin Ave.

Mission, Flint, Michigan.

Quilting Report: No report.

Unfinished Business: Marlo Howard reported that Teri Ackerson, St. Luke’s Hospital, will speak at our Fall Rally. LWML Sunday contributions: Double sheetcake, Janis; Mints & Punch, Dee; Banner, Janis; Punch Bowl, Marlo; Servers, Kay, Diane, Janis; Offering during church service, Janis, Diane, Kay, Mary; Greeters, LWML members; All members should try to wear purple; Include song in service “Lutheran Women One and All” (to tune of “Come Ye Thankful People Come”); Hand out mite boxes; Announcement in bulletin of Fall Rally at Trinity on 11/4.

New Business: Friday, 11/3, at 10:00, will be Fall Rally set up day. Diane will bring fall tablecloths, various members will bring fall decorations. The registration fee will be \$3. A motion was made by Marlo and seconded by Kay that the In Gathering will be donations for Kearney Food Pantry. These donations will be brought to church. June will be in charge of offering.

Our next business meeting will be Monday, November 13, with Joyce Lehning as hostess. Happy Birthday to Alpha Wiese on 11/22.

Third Sunday Treats: 11/19 June, Joyce, Doris; 12/17, Marlo, Dee

The business meeting was adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer

and prayer requests led by Janet Miller.

Refreshments were served by Diane Schmidt.

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Bozarth, Secretary

Holiday Worship

The Thanksgiving/Advent/Christmas season is fast approaching.

I pray you will make some time this year to join us for worship and other events as you prepare yourself and your family to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Thanksgiving this year seems to be coming a bit earlier than in previous years (whether that's true or not, who knows, it certainly seems that way). So, this year's Thanksgiving Eve service will be November 22nd at 7:00 so that you will be free to do all your Thanksgiving preparations the next day.

Advent Midweek Services will December 6, 13 & 20 at 7:15. If you haven't attended Midweek Services before, now is a good time to start. We try to hold the service time to around 30 minutes so you can get home at a reasonable hour, especially if you have kids that need to be in bed early for school the next day.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be, well, on Christmas Eve, which this year falls on a Sunday. What means is that you get to attend Church Sunday morning, Sunday night and Monday morning, too. FYI, Christmas Day Service is at

10:00 so you can have some time with your family festivities early and then come to Church together to celebrate our Savior's birth.

Board of Directors

Members present: Connie Brammeier, Tim Brammeier, Mark Fairhurst, Michelle Fairhurst, Dan Goodroad, Larry Goodroad, Nelson Hayes, Norm Sowell, Bob Marchert, and Pastor.

Tim called the meeting to order. Pastor opened with prayer.

Dan moved we accept the minutes from last month, Mark seconded, passed by vote.

Pastor: There are 6 people in pre-confirmation class.

VP: Nothing new to report

Treasurer: Mark moved we receive the report, Dan seconded.

Elders: Nothing new to report.

Properties: Working on fixing various things around the church.

Evangelism: The committee met in September and are working on new promotion material for the greeter program. They also plan to have a float in the Jesse James parade in 2018. The next meeting is October 22nd.

Education: The School-ogy program was set up for the confirmation class and Michelle and Pastor are working on getting the younger stu-

dent material up next.

Stewardship: Nothing new to report.

Youth: We currently do not have a youth leader. If you are interested, please see Connie. The kids expressed interest in doing a pumpkin carving.

Public Relations: Nothing new to report.

Planning: N/A

Services: N/A

Unfinished Business:

Positions up for re-election are: President, Secretary, Public Relations, Evangelism, Planning and Properties.

New Business:

The Voter's Meeting will be November 19th directly after church during fellowship time.

Dan moved we adjourn, Mark seconded. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Goodroad

