



November Newsletter

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On The Reformation by Pastor Maxwell Whitehead

October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the doors of the Wittenberg Castle. This was the start of what would come to be known as the Reformation. The Reformation was significant to all in the early church - Roman Catholics and the future Protestants (pretty much everyone other than Roman Catholics) alike.

So each year on the last Sunday of October, we celebrate that momentous occasion! We read from Jeremiah 31, Psalm 46, Romans 3, and John 8. We sing Luther's famous hymn "A Mighty Fortress" and we wear red symbolizing this freedom that we have in Christ. It is a glorious day to celebrate indeed!

HOWEVER! It must be made clear that in our celebration of freedom from the papacy we do not forget what it is that we are actually celebrating. If we forget the real reason we celebrate, why Luther nailed the 95 theses, we end up praising doctrine and church practices which puts us in the same place that we as Christians were 505 years ago.

Therefore, let us remember what it is we actually are celebrating - what was actually understood

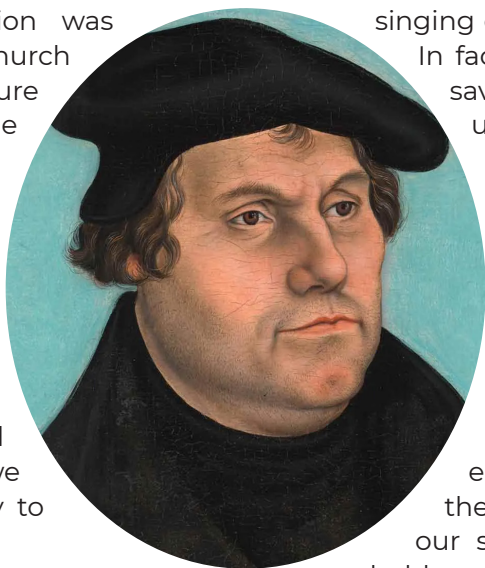
by the actions of the Reformation: our freedom as Christians. We are made freed by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is not our joyful singing of "A Mighty Fortress" that saves us.

In fact it isn't our church practices that saves us. Nothing that we do justifies us (Romans 3:20). Instead, our church practices, our singing, our wearing red, it all is BECAUSE of the faith that God has given us in Christ Jesus. It is all BECAUSE of the grace we have been given by God, redeemed by His Son (Rm 3:24).

This is the freedom we celebrate. Freed from our fears of not doing enough to please God. Freed from the belief that we are responsible for our salvation. Freed from the sin that holds us captive, the sins that we cannot free ourselves from by our own power.

May you believe this all to be true. May you lay your trust in the hands of Christ and know Him to be your only source of righteousness. Know that it is by the faith that God has given you that you are set free in His name.

This is most certainly true.



NOVEMBER

Wednesday, Nov 2

7:30 AM Bible Study
3:45 PM Jr VCIS
5:30 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Nov 6

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service (Communion)
11:30 AM Council Meeting

Wednesday, Nov 9

7:30 AM Bible Study
3:45 PM Jr VCIS
5:30 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Nov 13

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service (Traditional)

Wednesday, Nov 16

7:30 AM Bible Study
3:45 PM Jr VCIS
5:30 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Nov 20

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service (Communion)

Wednesday, Nov 23

7:30 AM Bible Study
3:45 PM Jr VCIS
5:30 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM VCIS

Sunday, Nov 27

9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service (Contemporary)

Thursday, November 24

Thanksgiving Day

Friday, November 25

Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, Nov 30

7:30 AM Bible Study
3:45 PM Jr VCIS
5:30 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM VCIS

Monthly Scripture Readings

Nov 6: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18, Psalm 149, Ephesians 1:11-23, Luke 6:20-31
Nov 13: Isaiah 65:17-25, Psalm 98, 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13, Luke 21:5-19
Nov 20: Jeremiah 23:1-6, Psalm 46, Colossians 1:11-20, Luke 23:33-43
Nov 27: Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:36-44



Ushers & Cleaners

November Ushers

Gordon & Pam Ludens
Michael & Sarah Ludens
Chris & Andrea Baer

Nov 6 - 19 Cleaners

Pam Ludens,
Andrea Baer,
Sarah Ludens,
Lynne Elcock,
Tammy Sorensen,
Kari Novak,
Michelle Sorensen

Nov 20 - Dec 3 Cleaners

Annet Kropuenske,
Karen Larsen,
Beth Mellem,
Melissa Johnson

Worship Helper Schedule

Sunday, Nov 6

Reader Kayla Larsen
 Acolytes Kaleb Huber & Emily Ludens
 Communion Helper Lilly Huber
 Live Stream Janet Munkvold
 Organist/Pianist Annet Kropuenske

Sunday, Nov 13

Reader Brett Mellem
 Acolytes Reagan & Nora Rudd
 Live Stream Janet Munkvold
 Organist/Pianist Annet Kropuenske

Sunday, Nov 20

Reader Janet Munkvold
 Acolytes Carston & Lincoln Mellem
 Communion Helper Ryder Christensen
 Live Stream Janet Munkvold
 Organist/Pianist Annet Kropuenske

Sunday, Nov 27

Reader Karen Larsen
 Acolytes Kaleb Huber & Emily Ludens.
 Live Stream Janet Munkvold
 Music Praise Band



Looking ahead to



Friday, Dec 2 & 3

7:00 PM Handel's Messiah @ First Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD

Sunday, Dec 4

9:15 AM Sunday School
 10:30 AM Worship Service (Communion)
 7:30 PM Council Meeting

Wednesday, Dec 7

7:30 AM Bible Study
 3:45 PM Jr VCIS
 5:30 PM Confirmation
 7:00 PM VCIS

Saturday, Dec 10

7:30PM Christmas with the Symphony @ Washington Pavilion, Sioux Falls, SD

Sunday, Dec 11

9:15 AM Sunday School
 10:30 AM Worship Service (Traditional)
 2:30 PM Christmas with the Symphony @ Washington Pavilion, Sioux Falls, SD

Wednesday, Dec 14

7:30 AM Bible Study
 3:45 PM Jr VCIS
 5:30 PM Confirmation
 7:00 PM VCIS



Spring Valley
LUTHERAN CHURCH
44707 289th St
PO Box 98
Viborg SD 57070



Kids KORRAL



Date: November 19th
Where: Parish Hall
Time: 7:00PM - 11:00PM

Give yourselves a date night and let us watch your kids! Free Will donation is encouraged to help us get to North Carolina next June.

autumn schedule

Wednesday's with God

7:30AM Bible Study @ Parsons Insurance - Contact Pr. Max to participate
3:45PM – 5:00PM Jr VCIS (Grades 1 – 6)
5:30PM Meal | 6:00PM Confirmation Group
7:00PM VCIS