

FAITH MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
753 N. CALUMET AVE.  
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## The Reformation: He Nailed it!

**2 Corinthians 5:17-21** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

On this 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reformation there are plenty of things people picture and celebrate. Luther's hand confidently raised to swing the hammer blow whose effects would be heard round the world; Luther's pen poised to write out scripture in the language of the people in open defiance of those powers who had banned him from doing so; Luther's bold statement, "Here I stand, I can do no other," as he was put on trial for his faithful actions; it would be easy to look at Luther or some of the other reformers and think wow *they* nailed it! We might also be tempted to take our Lutheran or German heritage, traditions, or other aspects of reformation history from 500 years ago until now and make these our primary focus.

However, on this 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reformation, it is important to ask ourselves what is at the heart of these events? What are we really celebrating? Where does true reformation come from? For that we first look not to the hammer in Luther's hand, but to another hammer poised over the bloody hand of Christ, and the grace that was given through our Lord's sacrifice. We look not just to the particular translation that Luther wrote out, but to the entire Word of God that spoke the world into being, that proclaimed His truth through the prophets and through those He gave the scriptures, and which brought new life and healing into the world through the Living Word as He dwelt, died, and rose again among us. Put on trial for the sins of the world, Jesus stood in the gap where no one else could stand, showing us once again that God is faithful and that faith in Christ alone is a foundation worth building on.

Grace, Faith, God's Word, and throughout all these Christ alone, these are at the heart of what we celebrate when we celebrate Luther and the reformation. They are also at the heart of THE REFORMATION...not just the one that took place in 16th century Germany, but God's ongoing reforming and renewal of all creation and all who believe. God's work through Luther and others was not something new. God's plan and process of reformation has been ongoing ever since the fall. Each time people fall away, distort the truth and love of God, and begin to miss the true center and focus of what is most important, God has brought us back. Grace, Faith, God's Word, and especially Christ and our relationship with God, these are what give the actions of Luther their meaning. These are what give the world and its history its meaning. These are what give our actions today their meaning. And when it comes to the ultimate Reformation of our hearts, minds, and the world to come, we can take heart, for Jesus has already nailed it down.

So as we celebrate this 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the reformation to God be the Glory. Amen.  
In Christ,

*Pastor Eric Schoech*  
Pastor Eric Schoech

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

To highlight the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the five Sundays in October will trace 2000 years of worship in the Christian Church.

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|-------------------|--|
| <b>October 1</b>  | <b>Worship of the Early Church</b><br><i>Theme: The birth of Martin Luther</i>         |
| <b>October 8</b>  | <b>Worship of the Mid-20th Century</b><br><i>Theme: The death of Martin Luther</i>     |
| <b>October 15</b> | <b>Worship of Lutheran Liturgical Renewal</b><br><i>Theme: The Augsburg Confession</i> |
| <b>October 22</b> | <b>Worship for the Twenty-first Century</b><br><i>Theme: The Formula of Concord</i>    |
| <b>October 29</b> | <b>Worship of the Reformation</b><br><i>Theme: It's Still All About Jesus</i>          |

Plan to worship every Sunday in October to experience the similarities and differences in the worship styles of the church.

**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY**—(October 1-29):

**The Solas** (Foundational understandings of the Reformation)

## REMEMBRANCE OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

The Remembrance Book will be available in the Narthex beginning **Sunday, October 1**. On All Saints Sunday, (this year **November 5**), according to our tradition at Faith Memorial we will once again remember in prayer with thanksgiving the faithful members of this congregation and our families who have died.

**PLEASE NOTE**—anyone who was a member of Faith is automatically included. However, if you want to include and remember anyone else, you must sign the book.

## MEN'S OVERNIGHT SHELTER

Fall has arrived and the Men's Overnight Shelter will once again be starting soon. We begin our 10th season helping with this ministry on the evening of October 21. Faith will be hosting the men on the third Saturday evening of the month from mid-October through mid-April.

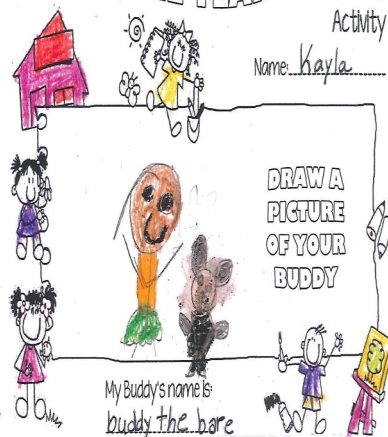
**PLEASE JOIN US** on Saturday, October 21 from 6:15-8:30pm at the Valparaiso Men's Overnight Shelter. We bring an evening meal and serve it to the Shelter clients at the Valparaiso Immanuel Lutheran School Cafeteria. There will be a sheet in our narthex, so you can indicate what part of the dinner you are able to provide or if you can help serve or help with clean up. We also do a short devotion and lead a prayer before dinner.

Future dates for the Shelter are November 18, December 16, January 20, February 17 and March 17. For questions please see Fran Marton.



*As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.*

## END OF THE YEAR Reading Buddy Activity



I am thankful for my Reading Buddy because He always makes me feel happy and not alone when he reads with me he helps me with hard words. Thank you so much.

**SUMMER READING IS FUN!**



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF READING BUDDIES

The note to the left was inserted into a thank you card sent to Faith Memorial from the United Way of Porter County. The kids who received a Reading Buddy stuffed animal really appreciate your gift! According to United Way's note, over 3000 first and second graders were given these "buddies". Thank you for your commitment to supporting literacy in our community.

## THOUGHTS FROM THE DEACONESS

“What do we know about God?”

PBS ran a TV series this spring titled “Victorian Slum House”. Families, couples, and individuals from Great Britain lived as their ancestors had in the late 1800’s. All of the ancestors, at some time in their lives, had to survive in a slum house in London’s east end. The recreation of those decades was phenomenal and eye-opening. Kudos to the 21<sup>st</sup> century people who desired to connect with their ancestors in this way.

The series, along with the fact that the church is celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation on October 31, left me wondering about life in the Catholic Church during the time of Martin Luther (1483-1546). Since the average person could not read, there were no hymnals or Bibles. The liturgies and hymns of the church were in Latin which was not the common language of the people. Indulgences were sold to get people out of purgatory and into heaven. But as a professor shared, “The money was really raised to build basilicas and cathedrals. Those buildings were built on the backs and the blood of the people. The church lied.” Worship was led only by the priests. We would have not been allowed to read the scriptures or partake of the wine at communion or assist at the altar. Confessing one’s sins to the priest led to arbitrary acts of penance. But could one really be sure the sin was forgiven after doing the rosary three times? Access to God was only through a saint. For women, that saint was the Virgin Mary. There was no confidence in forgiven sins or life eternal in heaven. All one knew was sin and an imperfect relationship with God. But thanks to the Spirit’s work through Martin Luther, these false teachings of the church were addressed.

And so, what do we know about God? *“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved.” Ephesians 2:4-5*

Ryan Gengnagel	October 3
Caryl Kugler	October 4
Tyrell Nicholson	October 4
Francisco Coronado	October 4
Myra Zasada	October 7
Andrea Frank	October 9
Tim Allwardt	October 10
Lucy Fryman	October 12
Gerald Roesler	October 12
Arpad Marton	October 15
James Dixon	October 16
Jan Dixon	October 20
Ben Fryman	October 21
Darlene Eichstaedt	October 22
Gene Koroncz	October 22
Paulette Blouir	October 23
Fred Schultz	October 26
Steve Pilz	October 29



### OCTOBER CHOIR SCHEDULE

#### Rehearsals:

Sunday, October 8	11:35-12:05
Sunday, October 15	11:35-12:05
Sunday, October 22	11:35-12:05

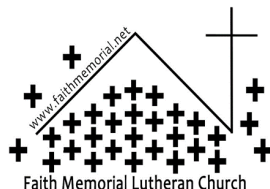
Choir will sing on Reformation Sunday,  
October 29.



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**COMING UP!!**

**WHAT'S HAPPEN-  
ING!!** Sunday, Octo-  
ber 22, 10:10am in  
the Gathering Space.

**REFORMATION POT-  
LUCK**— Sunday, Oc-  
tober 29, 12:00noon  
in Fellowship Hall.

**HOLIDAY MARKET @  
FAITH MEMORIAL -**  
Saturday, Nov. 18,  
10-2  
Sunday, Nov. 19, 10-  
2

**VOTERS ASSEMBLY**  
Sunday, November  
12, 12:00noon.

**FAITH MEMORIAL WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, October 1, 9:00am Holy Communion  
The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, October 8, 9:00am Holy Communion  
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, October 15, 9:00am, Holy Communion  
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, October 22, 9:00am Holy Communion  
Reformation Sunday, October 29, 9:00am Holy Communion  
All Saints Sunday (w/Remembrance of the Faithful Departed), November 5,  
9:00am Holy Communion  
The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, November 12, 9:00am Morning Prayer  
The 24th Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, November 19, 9:00am Holy Communion  
Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 23, 7:00pm, Holy Communion  
Christ the King Sunday, November 26, 9:00am Holy Communion

