



Bethany's Reformation
Hymn Fest
Sunday, October 29
4 p.m.

HERALD

October 8, 2017
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

On behalf of the family of Bethany Lutheran Church & School, we welcome our members and our guests in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Savior. If you are a visitor, we ask you to fill out the guest registration card in the pew. We also invite you to stop by our welcome center in the Narthex for a gift and more information about our church.

The Reformation: The Freedom of Forgiveness by Pastor Clemmer

In the month of October, as we begin thinking about pumpkins, costumes, and caramel apples, the Church celebrates the festival of Reformation Day. Much of our "Lutheran identity" flows from the Reformation, so it may be helpful to ask: *What is the Reformation?* What had gone so wrong with the Church that it needed a reformation?

On October 31, 1517, Luther nailed a list of concerns to the door of the main church in Wittenberg. Most popularly, Luther questioned the practice of indulgences, by which the church of his day was essentially selling years off purgatory (the place the Roman Catholic church of his day confessed to exist in order for sinners to pay for the guilt of their sins and be purified before entering heaven). But the problem ran even deeper than that.

The Gospel itself, the preaching of Christ-crucified for the forgiveness of sins, had been so intermingled with the law that it almost disappeared. The preaching of the church at that time was no longer centered on Jesus' death for our forgiveness, but it had become centered on man's self-improvement. The preach-

ing and teaching was focused on "how to be a better person," "how to train yourself to sin less," and "how to keep the law better so that you can be *sure* you're going to heaven." The action and focus was taken off of Jesus and put on *us*.

In addition to the loss of the Gospel proclamation, the *system* of the church's laws had replaced the *gifts* that Jesus actually gave to the Church. For example, Baptism wasn't being preached as the on-going gift of repentance and forgiveness—the assurance that the Lord put His Name on us and promised to remain with us. Instead, it had become a mere entrance into a system of penance by which people could perform prescribed works to prove the sincerity of their contrition (sorrow over sin) and faith.

Also, the Lord's Supper wasn't being given freely and often to all those who came in repentance, desiring the Lord's true Body and Blood under the bread and wine, for forgiveness and salvation. Instead, the Supper was received mostly by the priests instead of the people, and the forgiveness given by Jesus in the Supper was made contingent upon a person's repentance and good works.

(Continued on Page 4)

Sarah Schumacher Wedding October 20 at 4:30 p.m.

Pastor and Amy Schumacher invite the entire congregation to the wedding of Tim Lieb and Sarah Schumacher on October 20 at 4:30 p.m. While it is not possible to invite everyone to the reception that evening, Pastor and Amy would be honored for you to witness Sarah and Tim's wedding on that date. To celebrate the marriage of Tim and Sarah, Pastor and Amy do invite all the congregation to a light reception following the 11 a.m. service on November 5.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, October 8

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 am—Worship w/communion

10:00 am—Bible Class/Sunday School

11:00 am—Worship w/communion

Monday, October 9

7:15 pm—Men's Basketball

Tuesday, October 10

7:00 pm—Board of Finance

Wednesday, October 11

8:50 am—BLS Chapel

9:00 am—Woman's LifeLight

3:30 pm—Schola Cantorum

5:30 pm—Praises Ring

7:00 pm—Proclaim

Thursday, October 12

Friday, October 13

Saturday, October 14

7:30 am—Saturday AM Men's Basketball

10:00 am—Sunday School Teachers Meeting

5:00 pm—Worship w/communion

Sunday, October 15

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 am—Worship w/communion

10:00 am—Bible Class/Sunday School

11:00 am—Worship w/communion

4:00 pm—Days for Girls Sewing

4:30 pm—Confirmation Mentor Night

Chancel Flowers

Chancel flowers for this weekend were placed by **Blake and Landon Barnickel** for their parents, Al and Jennifer's 17th wedding anniversary.

Prayers

In Our Prayers.....

All of Our Members, especially: **Claudia Scarpine**, chemo treatments. *(please renew after four weeks).*

All of our Family Members & Friends, especially:

Laura Brault, (granddaughter of Joel/Mary Burke) testing/health issues; **Ben Blanchard**, (uncle of Beth Hahn) cancer; **Charlotte Gjerde**, (aunt of Pastor Schumacher) hospitalized; **Valerie Kincaid**, (friend of Sally Wilson) continued improvement/stability after bone marrow transplant; **Jim McKnight**, (friend of Sally Wilson) cancer treatments; **Greg, Debbie and Beth Nelson**, (cousins of Amy Schumacher) peace/comfort after experiencing Las Vegas tragedy; **Carol Rutti**, (mother of Jennifer Staffeldt) recovery from hip replacement surgery; **Marianna Saucedo**, (former student of Shelly Quinn) continued stability following treatment for brain tumor; **Mike Stache**, (former BLC member) cancer; **Merle Steva**, (brother of Denise Bruno) health issues; **Deb Strand**, (friend of Maria Simpson/Linda Gravelle) cancer diagnosis/for successful treatments. *(please renew after two weeks).*

Prayers that the Lord be with **Peter Johnson** as he continues to serve in the Air Force. Prayers for **Shalyn Martinek** as she continues to serve in the Marines and **Matthew Hinze** and **Michael Hinze** as they continue to serve in the US Army.

Prayers of thanksgiving for **Al and Jennifer Barnickel** on their 17th wedding anniversary.

For **Donna Linnemeyer and family** at the death of her father, Harry Kater on Monday.

Online and Mobile Giving at Bethany

We now live in a digital world and Bethany wants to accommodate those who conduct most of their finances electronically. With e-giving you can make a one-time gift or set up a recurring donation using your debit/credit card or bank account. Many Bethany members find that giving through electronic fund transfer helps them practice faithful stewardship throughout the year.

At Bethany there are now three ways to give electronically:

Simply Giving: You may register for Simply Giving by filling out the form in the kiosk and returning to Pam Kolzow in the church office. Amounts can be debited from your checking/savings account on a weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or yearly basis.

***NEW* On-line Giving:** You may now set up your giving directly on the Bethany website at www.bethanylcs.org. Simply visit the church website, and click on the Give button in the upper right hand corner. Or download the Bethany app and make donations directly from your phone or tablet. Text BLCS to 206-859-9405 for Give-by-Text instructions.

Please contact Pam Kolzow in the church office if you need assistance: 630-355-2198 or pkolzow@bethanylcs.org.

Love to Count Money?

We are looking for additional counters to help count offerings once a month. There are openings on both the Sunday and Monday teams. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Sheri Walsh at ssmdw@wideopenwest.com.

News

We Welcome Rev. James May This Weekend

Since 2010 Bethany members have been supporting Lutherans in Africa and their efforts to “form African Lutherans to be teachers of the faith.” There is a great need to train pastors to minister to the new Lutherans all over the continent. It is now especially exciting to hear of the progress they are making on The Lutheran School of Theology in Kenya. In addition to preaching this weekend, Rev. May will also lead our Bible Study. We will take a door offering and all donations up to \$15,000 will be matched. To learn more and see photos of the progress in Africa, go to lutheransin africa.com/home. More information is available on the table in the back of church or from an usher.

College Parent Care Group

All college parents are invited to join us for our first packing party on October 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the board room at Bethany. If you would like your student to receive boxes, please complete a registration form and return it along with your check to the college box in the narthex by October 15. If you would like to donate items for the boxes, check the board in the narthex and return the items to the box outside the church office by October 22. Questions? Contact Michelle Grimes at 630-983-7822 or [Micgrimes@aol.com](mailto:micgrimes@aol.com).

Theology on Tap Set for October 17

Theology on Tap will meet on Tuesday, October 17 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. (this month only) at Hopvine Brewing Co. We'll be covering pages 27-44 of Luther's Large Catechism. We hope you will join us. See Bethany's website to register.

Pictorial Directory Sign Up

We are updating our Member Pictorial Directory and there's still time to schedule an appointment. Photographers will be at Bethany on Wed. Oct. 18, Thurs. Oct. 19 and Sat. Oct. 21. Wed. and Thurs. times are 2 to 9 p.m. and Saturday is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please make your appointment through Bethany's website. **We still need volunteers to assist with check-in for each photo session.**

Youth News

October 8—Sr. High Reformation Party/Pumpkin decorating/ Reformation review, 5 to 6:30 p.m.
 October 15—Jr. High Mentor Night/Reformation Theme at 4:30 p.m.
 October 18—Non-day school Midweek Confirmation, 6:30 p.m.
 October 22—No Youth.
 October 29—No Youth.
 November 4—Sr. High Leaf Raking Service Project 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bethany's Owls Celebrate the Reformation!

Bethany's Owls will meet on Thursday, October 12 at 11:30 a.m. in the youth room. Please bring a sack lunch (dessert/coffee will be served). To help us celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, Cantor Giuliani will be our guest. He will lead us in singing a number of hymns written by Martin Luther and give a little background on each of these hymns (this will give us practice for the Reformation Hymn Sing on October 29!). Please call Alice and Mel Holtan at 630-299-3740 by Tuesday, October 10 to let us know if you will be joining us for lunch, conversation and song!

What is Crafter's Paradise and What's New This Year!

What is Crafter's Paradise? It's a one day craft fair (Nov. 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) at Bethany where crafters can exhibit and sell their “hand-crafted” items. This is the 28th year that Bethany Ladies Guild has sponsored this event. **What's New?** We will have a table where children (K-5th grade) can make an ornament while adults “shop the fair”. If anyone grades 5th-12th would like to help at this table for service house, please contact us. For more information cparadiseblg@gmail.com or call 630-961-0628 by November 3 to make arrangements.

CareNet's Diaper Derby Continues

We are collecting wipes and diapers only (smaller sizes—newborn to 3) this year. Items can be dropped off in the pack 'n play in the narthex which runs through October 22. CareNet supports 3 area baby banks including the Bridges parenting program which provide material goods as well as helpful support. Thank you as always for helping CareNet Pregnancy Services.

Annual CareNet Banquet

Join us on October 26 at 5:45 p.m. at Drury Lane Oak Brook to hear keynote speaker Dr. Jim Garlow, pastor, author and voice of the national radio feature “The Garlow Perspective”. Bethany is sponsoring a table of 12 and we would love to fill it this year. The banquet includes dinner and is complimentary; adults only please. Contact Kierste Schafer at kiersteschafer@gmail.com for more information or contact CareNet directly at <http://carenetdupage.com/>.

Need Help Raking Your Leaves?

If you're over 65 years old and need assistance raking your leaves, our Sr. High Youth will be offering this service Saturday, November 4. If you would like to sign up or have any questions, please contact Michelle Holtan at 630-788-9193. Scheduling will be on a first come first serve basis and we will get to as many houses as possible.

The Reformation: The Freedom of Forgiveness

Continued from Page 1

The free Gospel of Jesus *alone* for our salvation had been so covered by the law that the comfort was gone.

Galatians 3:11-13 *"Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith."² But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them."³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us--for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree."*

Martin Luther didn't start anything new. Rather, just as Paul did in Galatians, Luther simply pointed the Church away from the system of laws that had corrupted it, and redirected it to Jesus alone, apart from the law as our only comfort and source of forgiveness. This is our "Lutheran identity"—or perhaps better put—our Christian life: Jesus saved us from the curse of the law by dying for us. That preaching *alone* is our comfort, our hope, and our assurance in our life, in our death, and for all eternity.

Board of Elders

Tim Benecke, Chair

Dwight Bowman	Tye Fox	Marty Franken
Matt Krock	Mike Kroneman	Don Lohrentz
Dominic Salvino		Jay Schafer

Readings for October 15

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 25:6-9, Psalm 23, Philippians 4:4-13, Matthew 22:1-14

The deadline for the October 15 Herald is Tuesday, October 10.

Bible Studies at Bethany

Our Feature Bible Study in the Gym

Our feature Bible Class for fall is called "*Luther's Essentials...Insights into the Christian Faith* by Dr. Martin Luther" and meets on Sundays at 10 a.m. in the gym. This Bible study is taught by Pastor Schumacher and will return on October 15. This week Rev. James May will speak about Lutherans in Africa.

Adult Instruction Class

If you're interested in joining Bethany or learning more about the Lutheran faith contact Pastor Schumacher at sschumacher@bethanylcs.org or Pastor Clemmer at sclemmer@bethanylcs.org or call 630-355-2198. New Member Classes are taught in conjunction with the *Luther's Essentials* class in the gym.

Sunday School

All classes meet each week at 10 a.m. in our school wing and grade levels are marked on the doorways.

Ladies Wednesday Morning LifeLight

The Ladies LifeLight Bible Study is studying the LifeLight Foundations study of Prophecy. Prophecy examines Old Testament promises and the fulfillment of those promises in the New Testament, the School of Prophets, the end of the world, and much more. All women are welcome to join us for this in-depth Bible study on Wednesday mornings, 9 to 11 a.m. in the boardroom. LifeLight books are available in the church office. Contact Karen Perry (630-904-1043 or ksperry62@gmail.com) with any questions.

Evening Lifelight

The Thursday Evening Lifelight Bible Study meets with Pastor one week and in a home the next. We are studying the book of Genesis. For more information, please call the church office.

Saturday AM Men's Bible Breakfast

All men of Bethany are invited to the Men's Bible Breakfast which meets on the first and third Saturday of each month from 7:30 to 9 a.m. We are studying Luther's Large Catechism. Please note—we will next meet November 4.

Bethany Lutheran Church & School

1550 Modaff Road Naperville, IL 60565

Church: (630) 355-2198 School: (630) 355-6607

www.bethanylcs.org

Service Times

Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
(Communion at all services)

Sunday worship is followed by Coffee Fellowship time. Sunday School, Adult and Youth Bible Study begin at 10 a.m.

Nursery The nursery is staffed during worship and Bible Study hour on Sundays. You are welcome to use it as a cry room at the 5 p.m. service.