



OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER



October Sunday Worship

A Series of 5 Worship Services Celebrating the Reformation – 500 Years of Faith
Weekly Interviews with Martin Luther

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. On that day Luther wrote: "Out of love and zeal for truth and the desire to bring it to light, the following theses will be publicly discussed at Wittenberg under the chairmanship of the reverend father, Martin Luther, Master of Arts and Sacred Theology and regularly appointed Lecturer on these subjects at that place. He requests that those who cannot be present to debate orally with us will do so by letter. In the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen." Little did Luther know then that his 95 Theses would produce a Reformation that would change the Church and create a Church known as the Protestant Church. As the debates began in 1517, they continued for several years with key themes of faith that can never be denied or changed. During our Sunday worship in October we will look at some of these key Reformation themes. We will also have a weekly interview with Martin Luther and some key figures in his life. Please join us as we turn back the clock 500 years and relive these important events.

October 1 – “**The Word**” (John 1:1-5, 14)

In this first service we will praise God for the gift of His Word. Martin Luther said concerning the events of the Reformation that he did nothing. The Word did everything!

Interview I: Martin Luther (1483-1516) – Luther's childhood, ranging from his entry into the monastery through his discovery of a gracious God

October 8 – “**Baptized**” (John 3:1-6)

On this Sunday we will give thanks for our adoption into God's family through Holy Baptism. With our brothers and sisters in Christ, we will join the saints and angels in giving praise to our God and Savior.

Interview II: Martin Luther (1517) – Indulgences and Luther's posting of the Ninety-Five Theses in 1517

October 15 – “**The Two Kingdoms**” (Matthew 22:15-22)

On this Sunday we will consider the two kingdoms in which we live, the kingdom of grace (God's right hand) and the kingdom of power (God's left hand). We will see that God truly does have “the whole world in His hands.”

Interview III: Martin Luther (1517-1521) – Confrontations between Luther and the church, leading to his exile at the Wartburg Castle.

October 22 – “**Callings**” (Matthew 5:13-16)

On this Sunday we will praise God for our vocations, our various callings in life. In each place and relationship we serve our neighbor, sharing with them the love that God in Christ has shown us.

Interview IV: Martin Luther (1522-1546) – Luther’s return to Wittenberg, Peasants’ War, marriage, *Augsburg Confession*

October 29 – “**Justified!**” (John 8:31-36) **Reformation Sunday**

This Sunday is the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Luther, through his study of God’s Word, rediscovered the hidden treasure of the Gospel, the good news that we are justified as a free gift of God’s grace through faith in Christ! Let us rejoice in the grace and gifts of God!

Interview V: Martin Luther (1483-1546) – A summary of Luther’s affirmations of his personal discovery of a gracious God and the primacy of grace, faith, and scripture (Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Word Alone).

W.O.W. and W.N.A. On Wednesdays

New Schedule Beginning in October

Beginning October 4, our W.N.A. (Wednesday Night Alive) and W.O.W. (Worship on Wednesdays) schedule is being changed. W.N.A. will begin at 6:15 p.m. with a free-will offering meal. W.O.W. will begin at 7:00 p.m., followed by fellowship and dessert in the fellowship hall. It was decided that since our mid-week services during Advent and Lent begin at 7:00 p.m., it would make sense to have our W.O.W. worship at 7:00 p.m. during the school year. Also, our mealtime needs more than 30 minutes to eat and have ample time for fellowship. During the summer months we will return to W.O.W. at 6:30 p.m. with no meal beforehand.

Are You Meeting With Others for “Growing Up?”

Hopefully you are gathering with at least 2-3 other people (or 3 or more couples) to have 8 caring conversations around three important questions: (1) Who is God? (2) Who am I? and (3) What am I to do with my life? Growing Up is an introduction to faith formation and discipleship. Co-author Randy Reese states that “transformation of the person is more likely to come about with good questions in good company over time.”

Growing Up booklets are available on the back table. If we run out, sign your name and more will be ordered. Please sign the sheet that indicates how you are meeting and the size of your group. Growing Up is an 8-week introduction to The Journey, Rooted, Experiencing God and other discipleship models to follow.

In addition to groups forming on their own, there will be three organized meetings which anyone can join. A group will meet on (1) Monday morning at 9:30 a.m., (2) Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m., and (3) Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

PASTOR STEVE'S LETTER: "Five Pillars of the Reformation: #3 "God's Word Alone"

Historians and theologians have long recognized that at the heart of the 16th Century Protestant Reformation were five declarations ("solas" = "alone") that distinguished the movement from other expressions of the Christian faith. Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation this fall (Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517), we live in a different time with fresh challenges to our faith. Yet these rallying cries of the Reformation continue to speak to us, addressing a wide range of contemporary issues. During the next five newsletters I will be writing on each "solas" (alone): **Grace Alone** (salvation as a gift of God) - August newsletter; **Faith Alone** (the doctrine of justification) - September newsletter; **God's Word Alone** (the authority of scripture) - October newsletter; **Christ Alone** (the uniqueness of Jesus as Savior) - November newsletter; and **God's Glory Alone** (the majestic heart of the Christian faith and life) - December newsletter. Zonderan Publishing has published a 5-volume book series on each sola in celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. This month we look at God's Word Alone: The Authority of Scripture with some of the main points of this volume of work by Matthew Barrett.

During the Reformation most historians note that two driving principles served as the engine of its theology. The material principle was *sola fide*—the doctrine of justification by faith alone. This central emphasis in Luther's theology was not only the truth of the gospel that liberated him from perpetual guilt, but it also became the rally cry for the Reformation. The truth that a sinful person could be justified by faith alone, apart from works of the law and apart of the sacramental system of Rome, ignited the firestorm of the Reformation. Yet behind this "material principle" was a deeper and more fundamental commitment—*sola scripture*, or the affirmation that the Bible alone is the ultimate authority for life and doctrine. This commitment to God's Word alone gave the reformers, like Luther, the courage to speak with boldness to Rome about the errors of their teachings (i.e. indulgences—the granting of forgiveness for self and dead relatives by buying the surplus of "good works" of saints. It is upon this *sola* (Word Alone) that Martin Luther was able to stand before the church at the Diet of Worms ("diet" meaning a formal meeting) to defend his writings based on his reading of scripture. When asked to recant his writings, Luther responded with these now famous words:

"Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Holy Scriptures or by evident reason, for I can believe neither pope nor councils alone, as it is clear that they have erred repeatedly and contradicted themselves, I consider myself convicted by the testimony of Holy Scripture, which is my basis; my conscience is captive to the Word of God. Thus, I cannot and will not recant, because acting against one's conscience is neither safe nor sound. Here I stand. So help me God."

How was Luther able to take a stand against the church—a church then that often executed such people as heretics or at minimum excommunicated? Simply put—God's Word, not man's, is the source of all authority in matters of faith and life.

Whether we were living in the time of Luther or any generation since, the Word of God is constantly under attack (Satan's primary strategy since Adam and Eve). In Luther's time, very few people owned a Bible, and if they did it was written in Latin. When Luther was being protected from the church at Wartburg Castle he was able to translate the Bible into his

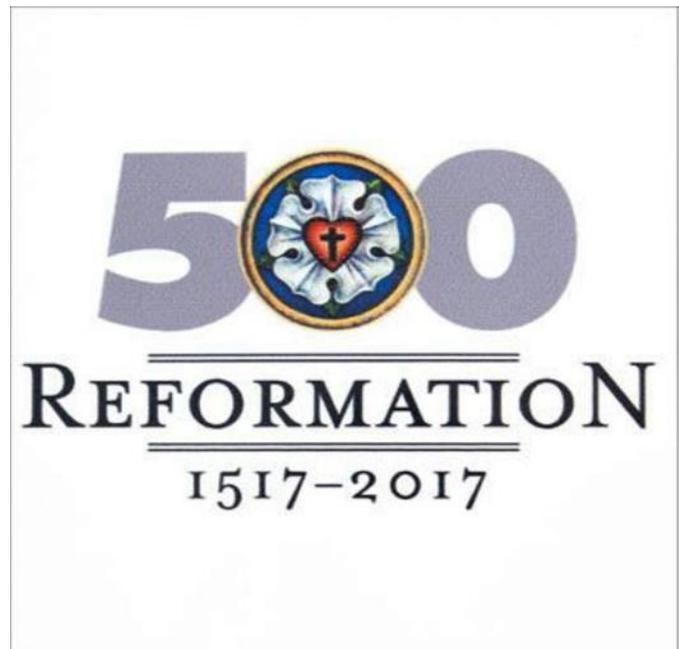
native tongue, German. With the invention of the Gutenberg printing press, the laity was able to read the Word of God for themselves. So when we say God's Word Alone, what are we saying? First, *sola scripture* means that Scripture alone is our final authority. While church tradition and doctrine are helpful in our Christian living, all church authorities must align with Scripture, submit to Scripture, and are to be seen as subservient to Scripture, which alone is our supreme authority. Second, *sola scripture* means that Scripture alone is our sufficient authority. Not only is the Bible our supreme authority, it is the authority that provides believers with all the truth we need for salvation and for following after Christ. The Bible, therefore, is sufficient for faith and practice. And third, *sola scripture* means that Scripture is the inspired Word. Since Scripture is God-breathed, it is the church's final authority because it is the Word of God.

God's Word Alone is a key theme for the church in every generation, since each generation has tried and continues to change its meaning to fit the current culture. As the last chapter of Revelation warns us, we are never to "add" or "subtract" any portion of God's Word. If God's Word is His revelation and truth to us, we can most assuredly expect it to be under attack now and always. So know your Bible, read your Bible, and most importantly, let the Holy Spirit speak and instruct you in the way to go. And may we have the courage to stand before others when we come under attack and say as Luther said: "Unless I am convinced by God's Word, my conscience is captive to the Word of God and I will not recant so help me God!"

Re-engaging in the Word of God,

Pastor Steve

Join us for worship on Sunday, Oct. 29, at 10:00 a.m. as we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation with a special festive service!



BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION
Monday, September 18, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Richard, Jan, Warren, Wanda, Doris, Pastor Steve
Absent: Steve Freese, Greg Moen

Richard called the meeting to order at 6:33 and Pastor Steve offered the opening prayer. Time was allowed to review the agenda and minutes of the last meeting. Jan offered a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Warren; motion carried. Wanda wanted the record to reflect that the daycare cannot use the fire exit.

OLD BUSINESS

Greg has volunteered to pay bills as Rhonda Piske is moving, but he needs a backup when he is gone. Pastor Steve agreed that Kathy could be Greg's backup. Both need training from Rhonda. Wanda offered a motion to approve as stated, seconded by Doris; motion carried. CableOne was chosen to provide our telephone service.

NEW BUSINESS

Construction has begun on the deck at the parsonage. Information was received from Church Mutual. Wanda and Richard will look into this. Our current policy is up for renewal mid-October. New office hours beginning in October will be 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Fridays.

BILLS TO BE PAID

\$58.24 cost for construction permit; Jan offered a motion to approve all bills, seconded by Warren; motion carried.

REPORTS

Financial report (attached): Note that when there are 3 pay periods in a month, the Administration expenses are higher. Balance in accounts: \$20,095.26 checking; savings \$11,128.32; \$7,140.89 endowment = \$38,364.47

Church Finance: The deck parsonage fund was opened with \$1,300. An additional \$1,500 has been received. Estimated cost of this project is \$14,255.

Membership/Stewardship: Doris reported that pledge cards were placed in mailboxes and those not picked up will be mailed out. She is compiling a list of who has not been visited by the pastors. They will be sending cards to inactive members.

Property: Work will begin here on the soffit and fascia on October 9.

OTHER

Pastor Steve reported that we have given nothing to LCMC, and asked if we can send them something. We will revisit this next month, and it can be included in next year's budget.

There being no further business, Jan offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Warren. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Next meeting will be October 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church		
2017 Income & Expenses		
	August	YTD
Income		
Member Offerings	17,698.34	144,088.93
Non Member Offering	300.00	4,360.94
Coffee Hour Donations	57.65	336.90
Designated Church Property	-	25.00
Designated Reimburse, Church use, misc	153.00	2,017.89
Designated Day Camp	-	468.85
Designated Missions	125.00	3,500.00
Designated A Cyboron	50.00	225.00
Designated B Cyboron	575.00	4,125.00
Designated Weich	-	140.00
Designated Day Care/income	4,640.50	40,246.87
Designated Good Samaritan	50.00	400.00
Designated Tanzania	-	913.00
Interest Income	1.96	25.49
Total	23,651.45	200,873.87
Expenses		
Administration	19,450.33	125,778.26
Church Building	2,302.62	22,345.88
Parsonage	366.62	3,247.81
Discipleship	579.84	3,939.35
Fellowship/Evangelism	232.20	3,939.93
Church Mission Giving	70.00	2,870.00
Local Benevolence	81.78	2,902.38
Worship		1,179.35
Day Care	7,389.36	43,881.58
Total	30,472.75	210,084.54
Income Statement		
	August	YTD
General Income	18,260.95	151,255.15
Less General Expenses	23,083.39	166,202.96
Church General Income	(4,822.44)	(14,947.81)
Day Care Income	4,640.50	40,246.87
Less Day Care Expenses	7,389.36	43,881.58
Net Day care Income	(2,748.86)	(3,634.71)
Net Church Total Income	(7,571.30)	(18,582.52)
Day Care Income & Expenses		
	August	YTD
Income		
Donations & Grants		250.00
Other (private fees)	1,055.92	9,662.66
State Reimbursement(fees & food)	3,584.58	30,334.21
Total Income	4,640.50	40,246.87
Expenses		
Payroll Wages	6,299.25	35,876.21
FICA Expense	481.89	2,744.53
Food & Supplies	608.22	3,802.65
Training		95.00
Other		1,363.19
Total Expenses	7,389.36	43,881.58
Day Care Net Income	(2,748.86)	(3,634.71)

Women of Christ The Servant
Board Meeting
August 22, 2017

“Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually.” Psalm 105:4

- Minutes from August 20 Special Meeting were approved
- WCTS continues with Co-Vice Presidents Linda Sheppard and Shirley Theil
- WCTS account balance \$1,560.97
- Living Proof Simulcast with Beth Moore on September 30 will be this year's Fall Gathering
- Thank Offering jars were handed out on Rally Day (Sept. 10)
- December Gathering we will be decorating the church

22nd Annual Holiday Boutique

Plans are underway for our 22nd Annual Holiday Boutique at Christ the Servant. This fun-filled day of fellowship, crafters, food and hospitality is set for **Saturday, Oct. 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Mark your calendars now and plan to come to eat and share in the day. Invite your neighbors, friends, and co-workers! Again, the key to our success is you in getting the word out and volunteering to donate food items and to help during the boutique. Watch for sign-up sheets in the coming weeks. Once again, Mary Lund is in charge of planning the day. She can be reached at 379-2365 for any questions, or you can call and tell her that you will volunteer. Thanks!

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

Danita Broders	10-1
Steve & Julie Freese	10-2
Steve Morton	10-2
Dorothy Schiermeier	10-4
Jeff & Connie Petersen	10-5
Wendell Muhs	10-11
Kay Jaeger	10-12
Steve Morton & Jo Roberts	10-12
Roger Peters	10-13
Delilah Broders	10-16
Mary Ann Knee	10-16
Cherlyn Hillrichs	10-17
Nevin & Tara Peters	10-17
Dylan Hall	10-18
Pastor Steve	10-20
Pat Witte	10-20
Ethan Olson	10-22
Lawson Gerdes	10-24
Layton Gerdes	10-24
Dean & Doris Hoffart	10-24
Orlin & Carol Olson	10-25
Ron & Korrie Hall	10-26
Jeremy & Sharel Olson	10-26
Hailey Roberts	10-29
Justin Jones	10-31
Jerry Shaffer	10-31

CTS KITCHEN FUNDRAISER NEWS:

The Village PieMaker at Eustis, Nebraska, is again partnering with us in our kitchen fundraising efforts. In conjunction with the Holiday Boutique, anyone who would like to purchase pie(s) to bake for the boutique may order NOW through Sunday, Oct. 8, and pick up their pie(s) after church Sunday, Oct. 15. The order sheet marked FOR BOUTIQUE is on the cart in the back of the sanctuary. Please put your money in the bag located with the order form. The cost of each pie is \$12.50, thanks to a great working relationship we currently have with a supplier.

If you wish to order Village PieMaker pie(s) for your home use, that order form is also on the cart in the back of the sanctuary. We will run this portion of the fundraiser through Sunday, Oct. 29, with pickup after church on Sunday, Nov. 12. This will allow you to purchase pie(s) for your holiday needs. Please spread the word and SELL SOME PIES to others for this fundraiser. At last check, the pies are selling for around \$13.99 each in many grocery stores, so we think we are selling a great product for a reasonable price. Please support our Kitchen Fund cause. We have a long way to go raising money for this, and YOU CAN HELP us get there quicker!

Joan Falke, Louise Skoglund

God’s blessings to everyone celebrating this month!

PASTORAL ACTS

Baptized 9-17-2017
Kimberly Ann Estrada
Brian Emilio Estrada
Alexander Estrada
(children of Brian Estrada
and Rojina Izquierdo)

Installation of Officers
Women of Christ the Servant
Sept. 17, 2017
Fern Zechmann
Jo Roberts
Linda Shaffer
Shirley Theil
Linda Sheppard

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- ◆ Ushers
- ◆ Communion assistants
- ◆ Offering counters
(sign up in the church office)

ATTENTION PARENTS

Please make sure the church office has your college student’s current mailing address and e-mail.

New Address:

Pastor Matt & Becky Bahnfleth
504 Church Drive
Rantoul, IL 61866

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Beginning October 1st

Monday-Thursday 8:30-4:30
(lunch 12:30-1:30)
Friday 8:30-12:30

Photo Directories Available

Contact Tara Peters (750-9814 or ntpeters1017@gmail.com). Cost is \$8.00 each; make checks payable to CTS Fellowship & Hospitality.

**COMING
IN 2018**

**New
Medicare
cards
with new
numbers.
Are you
ready?**

LEARN MORE

1-800-234-7119

www.doi.nebraska.gov/shiip

Why are the new Medicare cards important?

- Medicare is removing Social Security Numbers from Medicare cards to **prevent fraud, fight identity theft, and keep taxpayer dollars safe.**

When can I expect my new Medicare card?

- Cards will be mailed between April, 2018-April, 2019.
- **Once you receive your new card, shred your old card.**

What do I need to do to get my new Medicare card?

- **Nothing!** Your new Medicare Card will be mailed to you automatically.

What if I get a call about the new cards?

- **Hang Up!** If you receive calls, mailings or emails asking for information or payment to receive your new card, **this is a scam! DO NOT RESPOND.**



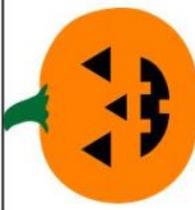
**Report any fraudulent calls or mailings to
Nebraska SHIP
1-800-234-7119.**

OUT17310

OCTOBER 2017

Happy Birthday, Pastor Steve!
October 20th

October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1 <i>Pentecost 17</i> 8:45 Sunday school 9:00 Adult S.S. 10:00 worship 11:15 fellowship Mission/Ministry mtg.	2 9:30A Growing Up small group @ CTS	3 6:30 Childcare mtg 6:30 Women of CTS 7:00P Growing Up small group @ CTS	4 1:30P Growing Up small group @ CTS 5:30 Confirmation class 7:30 Youth group WNA + W.O.W.	5 9AM PieceMakers 6:30 MOPS steering committee	6 <i>Pastor's day off</i> 5:30 PM Girl Scouts	7	
8 <i>Pentecost 18</i> 8:45 Sunday school 9:00 Adult S.S. 10:00 worship 11:15 potluck	9 9:30A Growing Up 6 PM Via de Cristo Ultreya @ CTS 6:30 Welcome & Hospitality meeting	10 7:00P Growing Up	11 1:30P Growing Up 5:30 Confirmation class 7:30 Youth group WNA + W.O.W.	12 9AM Agape Circle 6:30 Board of Spiritual Oversight	13 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	14	
15 <i>Pentecost 19</i> 8:45 Sunday school 9:00 Adult S.S. 10:00 worship 11:15 fellowship	16 9:30A Growing Up 6:30 Board of Administration	17 7:00P Growing Up	18 1:30P Growing Up 5:30 Confirmation class 7:30 Youth group WNA + W.O.W.	19 <i>Kathy out of office</i> 2PM Card Club 6:45 MOPS/MOMS	20 <i>Pastor's day off</i> Set up for boutique 5:30 PM Girl Scouts newsletter deadline	21 HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE 10AM--2PM ~~~~~ HARVEST FESTIVAL 4 PM (picnic shelter)	
22 <i>Pentecost 20</i> 8:45 Sunday school 9:00 Adult S.S. 10:00 worship 11:15 fellowship	23 9:30A Growing Up 7 PM Via de Cristo Ultreya @ CTS	24 7:00P Growing Up 7 PM Worship meeting	25 1:30P Growing Up 5:30 Confirmation class 7:30 Youth group WNA + W.O.W.	26	27 <i>Pastor's day off</i>	28	
29 <i>Reformation Day</i> 8:45 Sunday school 9:00 Adult S.S. 10:00 worship 11:15 fellowship	30 9:30A Growing Up	31 7:00P Growing Up	WNA + W.O.W. Meal @ 6:15 Worship @ 7:00 Fellowship @ 7:30				New Office Hours beginning October 1st Monday--Thursday 8:30 to 4:30 (closed for lunch 12:30 to 1:30) Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.