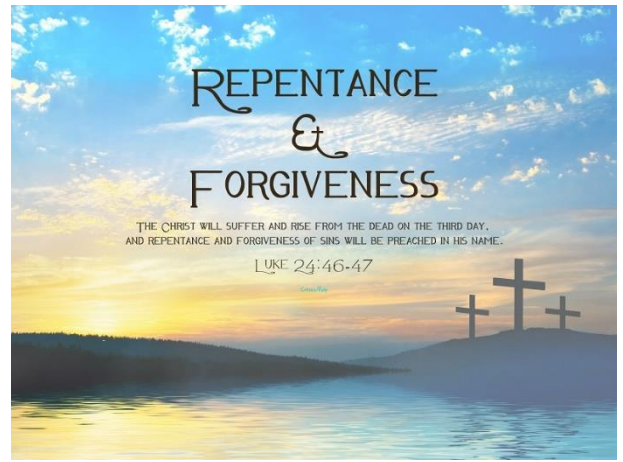


MEMORIAL MESSENGER October 2017



(Jesus) told them, “This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and **repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations.**” Luke 24:46-47

As we wrapped up our study of Luke 24 on September 24, we read the words above. The risen Savior spoke them to the disciples who were present in a room in Jerusalem the first Easter evening. It struck some of us that what Jesus said then was used by Martin Luther as he wrote and posted what we call the *Ninety-five Theses*.

The document is too long to reprint here. This month’s 500th anniversary of the Reformation makes it easy to search successfully on the internet for the entire document. I suggest you do so, and read it! But we will reprint here the very first of those ninety-five sentences. “*When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, ‘Repent’ (Matt. 4:17), He willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.*”

What distressed Luther about the church’s teachings in his day was the idea that a person could live a life of sin, then buy an indulgence, and be told that all was right between the person and the Lord. That isn’t what God teaches in His Word. Repentance isn’t a quick, “I’m sorry God! I sinned!”, then think we’re safe to go back to sinning until the next time we confess. That isn’t real repentance.

aDMIT IT
be SORRY
cONFESS & FIX
dONT DO IT AGAIN

God-pleasing repentance starts with a heart and conscience that are terrified about offending the will of the holy God and that we deserve God’s wrath resulting in our suffering in hell forever. God-pleasing repentance continues with a heart that humbly trusts what Jesus alone has done to pay the penalty of hell for every sin.

Real repentance, then, is not saying, “You caught me, God!” Real repentance is a changed heart and life. Real repentance is a completely changed attitude about the Lord: “You have forgiven me my every sin!” Real repentance is a completely changed attitude about our sin: “I will, with Your help, try to put all sin behind me!”

As the month of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation begins, we stress the fact that Luther isn’t our Savior. He was a sinner who desperately needed the Savior’s forgiveness. But we thank God for the work He did through Luther (and others like him) to explain so clearly that we sinners are saved by grace alone through faith alone in what Christ alone has done—all revealed in Scripture alone!

May our observance of this historic anniversary of the Reformation *not* be just remembering what happened 500 years ago. May it drive us to the Word of God to produce the fruit of faith that our “*entire life be one of repentance*” in sorrow over our sins and in joy over Christ’s forgiveness!

Pastor Voss





WE HAVE RETURNED TO OUR REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE. Worship services are held at *8:00* and *10:30* Sunday mornings. Join us!

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS sessions begin *at 9:15 AM.*

Parents, bring your children to Sunday School regularly. Classes are for children 3 years old through 8th grade students. Our teachers are eager to share God's Bible lessons with the children using the WELS ChristLight program. Students will also learn religious songs to encourage and uplift them.

Parents, set a God-pleasing example and continue growing in your knowledge of God's will by heading upstairs to study God's Word when your children go downstairs to do the same in their Sunday School classrooms.

Dear Lord,
Help my daddy &
mommy take me to
church tomorrow.
Amen.



Printing the Bible changed everything.

BIBLE CLASS In this year of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we will study what it means to be a Lutheran Christian. Luther's protest against some of his church's teachings went public on October 31, 1517. That protest had the one goal: bring the church back to the foundation of the Bible. To be a Lutheran Christian means to base our teaching and practice on the Bible alone.

Our new Bible Class study, *Reformation: Grace, Faith, Scripture*, will present 12 important biblical principles that are still important to us and all Bible-believing Christians today. Join us *Sunday mornings for Bible Class* as we explore these important and enduring truths!

BOOKS OF SPECIAL INTEREST about Martin Luther, The Reformation and Martin Luther's wife are displayed on a shelf above a coat rack in the entry of church. We encourage you to look at these books and check them out to read at home. Our church library is a source of many wonderful books; both fiction and nonfiction. Please keep that in mind when you need a source of study or just relaxing reading.



WE WILL HAVE REFRESHMENTS on the first Sunday of each month, beginning *Sunday, October 1*. On those Sundays, our Sunday School and Bible Class sessions will dismiss at 10:00 so that we can have refreshments *in the fellowship hall 10:00–10:20*. Join us!

These monthly gatherings are designed to provide time for our members to greet and visit with each other, much like we do on non-Communion Sundays in the summer months.



OUR CHRISTIAN CONGRATULATIONS to *Missy Grinnell & Paul Ciucci* who were joined in marriage during a service on Saturday, September 9. May the love of our Savior fill the hearts and the home of the new Mr. & Mrs. Ciucci!

THE LADIES FELLOWSHIP GROUP will meet *Monday, October 2*. We will talk about our activities and projects for October – December. Please bring a scissors to the meeting for a special project. We will also be able to see the two new banners that we purchased with some of our mission offerings money. If you would like to, please also bring a snack to share.



CHOIR rehearsals begin **Thursday, October 12**. The choir will meet Thursday evenings at **7:30**. We welcome and encourage all our communicant members to consider joining our choir!

We will not meet every Thursday, but will meet several weeks before we sing for a worship service. The first scheduled service for choir music is the *late service on November 5, the second of our two Sunday morning services marking the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.*

SPECIAL CONCERT We have invited WELS musician Stephen Bautista to perform his Christ-centered music at a special concert **Sunday evening, October 15 at 7 PM in our school gym.**

Many of you attended his concert at our school in June of last year. Please tell other members, relatives, friends, and neighbors how much you enjoyed the music and invite them to come to the special event at our school on October 15.

A POTLUCK SUPPER will precede the concert. The potluck meal is at **5:30 on Sunday, October 15**, also in the school gym.

You will have a chance to speak with Mr. Bautista and his family at the meal, as well as after the concert.

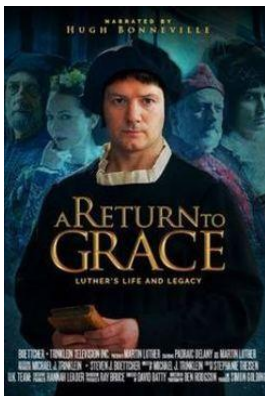
Please sign up for the meal, using the sheet posted on the church bulletin board. Please bring your own tableware, in addition to the food you prepare.

CHIME CHOIR rehearsals begin **Thursday, October 19 at 6:30**. We encourage all members from 5th graders to senior citizens to attend chime choir rehearsals as music is practiced to edify our worship services. If you desire more information or have questions about playing in our chime choir, please speak to Linda Janecke.

THE NEXT QUARTERLY VOTERS MEETING is **Tuesday, October 24 at 7:00**. Each year at the October meeting we elect officers and board members (those terms begin January 1), as well as adopt a budget for the next calendar year. After the Church Council meeting in October, we will have a proposed 2018 budget ready for consideration by the voters.

An open forum will be held at 11:35 on **Sunday, October 22** as reports and the proposed 2018 budget are presented for discussion. If Pastor Voss has your email address, he will send those reports to you by email on Friday, October 20.

Men at least 18 years old who are not yet voting members of the congregation and who would like to become voting members should speak to President Dane Nickols or to Pastor Voss about how to do so.



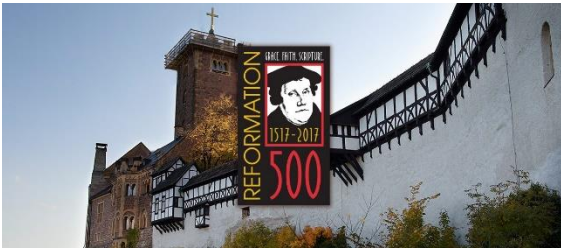
SPECIAL MOVIE WELS has produced a movie to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Luther's posting of the 95 theses. Our congregation will host a showing of *A Return to Grace* on **Wednesday, October 25 at 6:30 PM in one of the theaters at Lansing's Celebration Cinema.**

At least 75 tickets need to be purchased by October 15 to secure the event. Tickets are **\$9.00**, plus a \$1.00 booking fee. Tickets **must be ordered online** (no tickets available at the theater), and **must be purchased before 2:00 the day of the movie**. If you don't have access to a computer to order tickets online, ask a fellow member to do so for you.

Pastor Voss has sent an email message which contains the link that you need to use for purchasing tickets. You can also check our congregation's Facebook page or website for more information. Invite friends, neighbors and relatives to join us!

To answer a frequently asked question.... This movie is **not** the same as the movie about Luther which aired on PBS in September, and is being re-run on the History Channel: *Luther: His Life and Legacy*. The PBS movie was written and produced by the WELS members who wrote and produced the movie that our congregation will host at Celebration Cinema. They are similar, but not the same.

There is rich theological content in the movie we will see in the theater that was not in the movie you might have seen on television. The made-for-television movie was made to be more historical than theological. *A Return to Grace* centers more on what Luther believed from God's Word, and how those beliefs line up with God's Word.



REFORMATION 500 FESTIVAL SERVICE A special service for WELS congregations will take place *Sunday, November 5 at 4 PM at the Heritage Theater in the Dow Events Center in Saginaw.*

The service will include songs by an adult mass choir and a children's mass choir. If you are interested in the music for either choir, please speak to Pastor Voss; he will also give you the time for rehearsal of the music.

There is a Facebook page for this event. Type *500th anniversary of the Reformation Michigan District WELS* in the search bar and "like" the event to see the latest news about the service in your Facebook news feed.

THE ALTAR GUILD will meet *Sunday, November 5* at 9:00 for Altar Guild volunteers who attend the early service, and at 11:35 for those who attend the late service.

We will explain the Altar Guild duties to prospective members, and discuss any new items which have come up in the last year. *New Altar Guild members are welcome and needed now! We especially encourage our young women to join us!*

Altar Guild duties don't take up a large block of time when one's turn comes up. The more volunteers we have, the less often each member has to serve (right now it is about once every ten weeks). Please consider joining us!

WE WILL BE POSTING INFORMATIONAL SHEETS for the Live Nativity on the bulletin board in the upper part of the narthex. We ask that you sign up wherever you can help. Our committee chairs need to see who signs up so we know if we have enough members helping. We don't assume that the same members will help each year that is why **we need to you sign up each year.**

We have had several people outside our church comment about this live nativity saying how impressed they were that our congregation works so hard and are so dedicated to the event. If we are going to continue to hold this event, we need more members to join in the work and the event.

COLLEGE STUDENTS, please submit your campus address, phone number, and e-mail address to Pastor Voss. If he has your e-mail address, he would be happy to send a copy of week's sermon to you electronically.

Even if you have previously submitted a college e-mail address to Pastor Voss, please do so once again so that we can be sure to have up-to-date information. Pastor Voss' e-mail address is revdavoss@gmail.com.

We wish you God's richest blessings on your studies!

IF YOU HAVE ACCESS to the internet and get this *Memorial Messenger* that way, please let us know and we will no longer print a copy for you.

AMAZON has a program in which 0.5% of qualified Amazon purchases can be given to a charity of the buyer's choice. Our treasurer has set up our congregation to participate, and the pastor has sent an email with our church's unique charity link. If you didn't get the email, here is the link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-2130250>. To get additional information, please speak to Kim Fedewa or Pastor Voss.

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORTS

PASTOR'S REPORT – I have resumed Adult Instruction Class sessions with the mother of two students in our school/preschool. I will be meeting soon with a prospective member, and will urge the person to start an AIC with me as soon as possible.

Should other prospective members be interested in studying God's Word, I'm eager to start classes with them, too. Please let me know if you are aware of anyone to contact about these classes.

WELS news: A few WELS congregations in the areas affected by hurricanes sustained some damage to their properties, and a number of WELS families have sustained total loss of their homes and belongings. WELS Christian Aid

and Relief has been mobilized to the areas with people to help repair damaged structures and with money to buy needed supplies.

WELS Congregation Mission Offerings continue to run slightly ahead of CMO last year at this time and slightly ahead of CMLO amounts subscribed for 2017.

Our teachers will attend the Michigan District Teachers' Conference October 4-6 in Bay City.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Enrollment is 22 at our Lutheran elementary school this year with preschool at 5, kindergarten at 5 and grades 1-5 at 12.

We used targeted Facebook marketing August 2-8 and reached 21,000 people for \$105, with nearly 36,000 impressions. PTO paid for this advertising.

Additional chimes were requested for classroom music. We will have PTO pay for them.

We discussed establishing a walking program for exercise with bowling as a reward.

School library helpers are in place.

A document with instructions for use of a debit card will be prepared and distributed.

We have two new volunteers that will organize monthly hot lunches this school year.

Family Night on September 11 included a meal hosted by our board.

Call were extended for Sunday School and accepted.

BOARD OF ELDERS – The Elders discussed upcoming special worship services. We will have 3 midweek Advent services, December 6, 13, and 20. Pastor Voss will seek to switch pulpits with other area pastors.

We will have one Sunday morning worship service at 10:00 AM on December 24 and December 31, with no Sunday School or Bible Class due to having an evening service those days.

Our annual New Year's Eve worship service will be at 7:00 PM.

The organist schedule through December has been set. The Board of Elders thanks all the organists for using their God-given talents to help edify our worship services.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND STEWARDSHIP – We recommend that every first Sunday of the month we have refreshments/fellowship time from 10:00-10:20 in the church fellowship hall.

We discussed hosting the Luther movie at Celebration Cinema on October 25.

We will post a slate of nominations for election by Sunday, October 15.

We discussed looking into a "Trunk or Treat" for 2018.

We thank all the hosts for the summer refreshment hours. We also discussed having multiple *potluck* refreshment hours during the summer.

The audit is done of the church's financial records and we have accepted the written report.

We discussed the October 15 concert by Stephen Bautista and the potluck that will be held beforehand.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – We will review the cleaning schedule. When the board is next to present to the congregation we will ask for new volunteers.

We received and reviewed an invoice for water testing at DEQ in the amount of \$198.00. We will need to address this line item for the upcoming budget in October.

The parking lot light timer was replaced.

Several light ballasts have been replaced, along with light bulbs. Our board will start replacing burnt out lights with LED lights and rewire the fixtures when we run out of our current light bulb supply.

We are looking to reinsulate the outside HVAC unit that the wind has damaged.



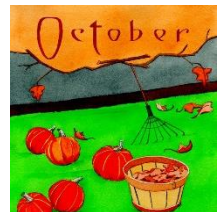
BADGER NEWS from SCHOOL

FROM MRS. LEITZ AND THE PRESCHOOL ROOM: The first weeks have been great! Everyone seemed to fall right into the schedule. We have 3 returning students and two new ones in our classroom.

Every morning we start the day with God's Word and then learn many other new things too. We also visit our school library Monday mornings.

We have two teacher's aides and are thankful for them.

Just recently we went on a terrific field trip to The Country Mill in Charlotte. It was a fun time for all the school and the parents that went along. We had cider and donuts and each got to bring back an apple and pumpkin. God blessed us with great weather that day. We thank the PTO for covering the charges for the trip.



FROM MRS. LEITZ AND THE KINDERGARTEN ROOM: We have five Kinders in our room this year!

Our Bible lessons have been from the Old Testament. We started with creation and are now learning about Abraham.

We study science in our room with Mrs. Leitz and grades one and two. We started a new unit on our five senses.

We thank the parents that came on our recent field trip to The Country Mill in Charlotte. It was a fun time for all the school. We had cider and donuts and each got to bring back an apple and pumpkin. God blessed us with great weather that day. We thank the PTO for covering the charges for the trip.

FROM MRS. DOMKE AND GRADE ONE-FIVE: We have twelve students in our classroom. There are 3 that are new to our school and we welcome them.

Our Bible lessons are from the Old Testament this year. We learn so much from them and how they apply to our lives as God’s children.

We have several volunteers helping our classroom and to them we say thank you!

We also went on the field trip to The Country Mill and enjoyed it so much. It was raining here as the students got to school but the Lord blessed us with sunshine and fun times when we got to Charlotte.

SCHOOL-WIDE NEWS: We don’t have school October 4-6 because our teachers will be at conference in Bay City those days.

The Williamston Firefighters are coming to visit on October 9 for Fire Prevention Week. It’s fun to see those fire trucks up close.

School pictures will be taken October 11. Smile pretty!

Grades K-5 are going on another field trip to the Turner-Dodge House on October 12. We thank a member from church for providing for this.

On October 13, we will have a joint devotion with Pastor. We collect our mission offerings at these devotions. This year our offerings will go to WELS Christian Aid and Relief.

Grades K-5 will sing on October 15 and then on October 29 all our students will join the Sunday School students to sing for our 10:30 service.

We have hot lunch once a month and thank our many volunteers for doing that. The next special lunch is October 20.

On Friday, October 27 we have a technician from the Ingham County Health Department coming to do a hearing screening of all our students.

WOW! What a busy month.

SERVING OUR LORD FOR OUR OCTOBER SERVICES:

<i>Ushers</i>		<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Greeter(s)</i>	<i>Cleaners</i>
10/01 - # 7 D. Kasischke	#1 T. Marion	C. Burris	G. Withey	S&S Arntson
10/08 - #2 V. Domke	#3 J. Janecke	L. Voss	J&S Janecke	B&J Briggs
10/15 - #5 S. Houser	#4 B. Grinnell	M. Bennett	H&S Clark	G&C Burris
10/22 - #6 E. Ruhlig	#8 D. Rector	T. Wood	D&C Kasischke	H&S Clark
10/29 - #7 D. Kasischke	#9 D. Fisher	D. Steiner	L. Tobia	J. Coulter



Luther statue at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, WI