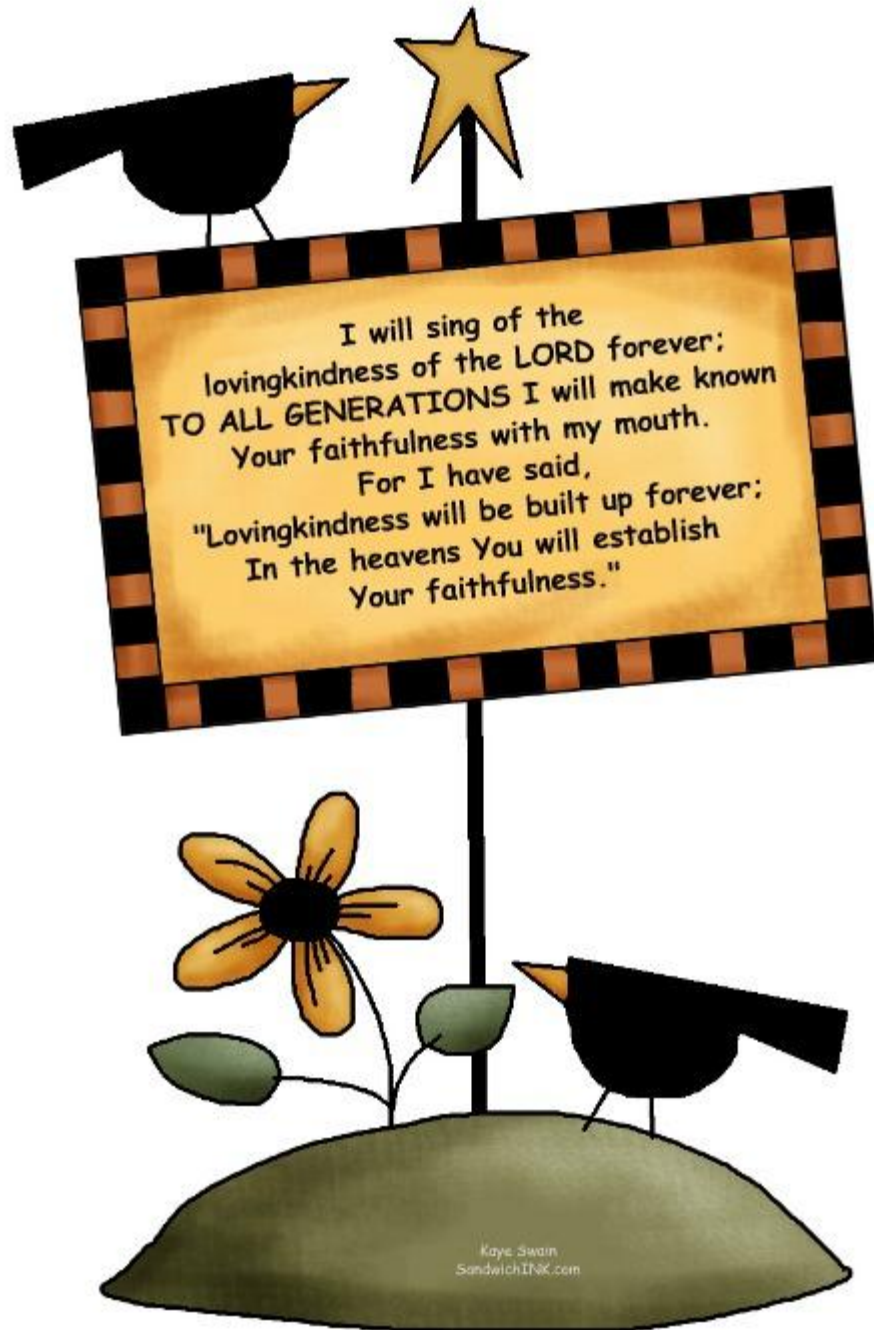


RESURRECTION NEWS



OCTOBER 2012



Pastor's Letter

October, 2012

“You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you! Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified.” Galatians 3:1

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At the risk of being irrelevant, I want to go back to the 16th century Lutheran Reformation and even further back to the 1st century cross of Christ. You can never get more relevant than the cross of Jesus Christ. In fact, the whole of the Christian's life from beginning to end, day by day, is simply a learning and relearning of what it means to live under the cross of Christ.

The 16th century Lutheran Reformation was really a call to return to this most relevant of truths. The word on the street was that the cross of Christ was not as important as were good works. Luther summoned the Church to return to preaching the gospel, the message of the cross as the complete and total answer to forgiveness, life and salvation – apart from works! The issue of the Reformation was NOT about whether God's grace in Christ crucified was *necessary*. The issue was about whether God's grace in Christ crucified was *enough*.

That issue is as relevant today as it was in the Middle Ages as it was 2,000 years ago. In the cross of Christ, we see that what God has done for our salvation.

To forget the importance of the cross of Christ is foolish! That is what the Galatian Christians had done. And it is a temptation that we Christians continue to fall into to this day. **“You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified.”** The Galatians were setting aside all that God had done for them in His Son on the cross and they were falling back upon their own good works and merits. Paul had only recently planted these churches in southern Galatia and had preached and taught the doctrine of justification by grace alone through faith alone. Listen to Paul preach, **“We know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.”** (Gal.2:16f). To the Ephesians, Paul writes, **“It is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this not of yourselves, it is a gift from God – not by works lest anyone should boast.”** (Eph.2:8)

Those words declare freedom and liberty to all who are held captive to sin and cannot pay the ransom due. And that includes everyone. Paul says, “our salvation does not depend in the least on the good works that we do which are filled with flaws and error. It is not by our merit. No! How foolish. Our salvation is totally dependent on the good work of another man on our behalf – Jesus Christ.” No wonder Paul is so shocked that the Galatians would turn away from this freedom and turn to such impossible futility as their own goodness and works.

Ultimately you see, God did not give us the law so that we could reform ourselves. God gave the law to crush all of our self-righteousness and to drive us out of ourselves to Christ and plead for His mercy. The purpose of the law is to crush our hopes of ever become 'like God' on our terms and to drive us to Christ so that we may be accepted by God on His terms. The law says: you must do and it is never done. The Gospel of grace says: It is finished. It is already done!

God's grace is not based on your moral condition, it is based on His moral condition. It is not based on your keeping the law it is based on His keeping the law perfectly. It is not based on your pleasing God it is based on the fact that Jesus is the Son of God, “with whom He is well pleased.” You may say, “I failed to live to the glory of God this week,” but Christ did not fail. And you are hidden in Christ – by grace, through faith for Christ's sake.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Nielsen

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY - October 28th - Reformation Sunday!

Our annual celebration of the Lutheran Reformation is on Sunday, October 28th. This is a perfect opportunity to invite a friend or acquaintance to come to church with you! (*It's a 5th Sunday*). After worship, we'll have our regular "German" Pot-Luck Dinner. Pastor Nielsen will give a brief presentation on his LHF Mission trip to Indonesia.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study In October: Judges

10/7 - "Gideon"

10/14 - "Abimelech"

10/21 - Rev. James Keurulainen leading

10/28 - "Jephthah"

Fall Inquirers Class - Beginning Wednesday, October 25th – 6:30pm.

The Inquirers Class is for all those who would like to know more about the Christian faith and Lutheran doctrine. This 8 week class is perfect forum for those who would like to know more before deciding to join this congregation as well as those who would like a refresher on the fundamentals of the Christian faith. Themes include: How do we know? Who is God? Who is man? Who is Jesus? What is Baptism? What is the Lord's Supper? What is Lutheran Worship? Etc. Classes meet **Thursday evenings at the church from 6:30pm. to 8:00pm.** Please sign up on the bulletin board now.

"Trunk or Treat"! Wednesday, October 31st. A special way to celebrate Halloween.

We'll begin at 5:00pm. at the church parking lot. The children (*and some adults*) come in costume and move from trunk to trunk collecting goodies and treats. The event will conclude by 6:00pm. For more information, see Glenn Carlson Jr. Sponsored by the Board for Youth.

Released from membership:

Daniel Adams: Moved from the area

Lee Rutledge: Moved from the area

Jason, Heidi, Maya, Lucy Long: Moved from the area



Monthly Worship

October 7, 2012

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 128

First Reading: Genesis 2:18-25

Epistle: Hebrews 2:1-13 (14-18)

Holy Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

October 14, 2012

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 90:12-17

First Reading: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Epistle: Hebrews 3:12-19

Holy Gospel: Mark 10:17-22

October 21, 2012

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 119:9-16

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 5:10-20

Epistle: Hebrews 4:1-13 (14-16)

Holy Gospel: Mark 10:23-31

October 28, 2012

Reformation Sunday

Psalm: 46

First Reading: Revelation 14:6-7

Epistle: Romans 3:19-28

Holy Gospel: John 8:31-36 or Matthew 11:12-19

The
HEAVENS
declare the
glory of God;
the
Skies
proclaim the work
of his
HANDS
Psalms 19:1

Luther Quiz

1. Luther said that the world is destined to be filled with these before the Last [Judgment] Day:

A) Love and joy B) Darkness and falsehoods C) Praise and worship

Jo

2. True or False: According to Luther the Lord's Supper is God's work, not the communicant's work.

3. Luther stated that the principal doctrine of the New Testament is this:

A) Praise and worship B) Grace and peace C) Love and joy

4. In his commentary on Galatians, Luther defined this as God's mighty hammer:

A) The law B) Death C) Hell

5. In "The Freedom of a Christian," Luther stated that the entire scripture of God is divided into two parts: commandments and this:

A) Gospel B) Prophecy C) Promises

6. On reflecting on changes since he married, Luther wrote a friend saying "one wakes up in the morning and finds:"

A) Katie [his wife] up and working B) Pigtales on the pillow C) The aroma of coffee brewing

Answers on "Birthday" page

Stewardship

October, 2012

	<u>October 7</u>	<u>October 14</u>	<u>October 21</u>	<u>October 28</u>
<u>Acolyte</u>	Emily Larsen	Sarah Kohl	Jacob Huesers	Cullen Stout
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	Chris Batson	Brad Fitzpatrick	Mark Larsen	Brian Watson
<u>Ushers</u>	Glenn Carlson & John Gould	Jared Goldsmith & Mike Hein	Bill Jahnke & Don Pryor	Chris Batson & Brad Fitzpatrick
<u>Greeters</u>	Avis Grant & Karen Mueller	Mike & Michelle Hein	Deb Nielsen & Pat Kablitz	Brad & Sasha Fitzpatrick
<u>Altar Care</u>	Sharon Conover	Amanda Goldsmith	Kitty Carlson	Andrea Watson
<u>Flowers</u>	LWML	LWML	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp
<u>Fellowship</u>	LWML	Sharon Klipp	OPEN	Reformation Pot Luck Luncheon



- 10/1 Mari Gouvea
- 10/3 Julie Kohl
- 10/14 Marlene Pryor
- 10/21 Corina Batson
- 10/23 Pastor Paul Nielsen
Amy Ouellette
- 10/25 George Mueller
- 10/26 Joshua Morren
- 10/31 Dottie Evertsen



- 10/10 Glenn & Kitty Carlson
- 10/112 Seth & Angie Carlson
Eric & Lin Stout
- 10/21 Sharon & Dennis Klipp



- 10/5 Mari Gouvea
- 10/17 George Mueller
- 10/20 Siena Fitzpatrick
- 10/28 Mark Larsen



- 10/28 Michael Cote

oops!

Bulletin Bloopers

---The preacher will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing, "Break Forth With Joy."

---The audience is asked to remain seated until the end of the recession.

---During the absence of our pastor, we enjoyed the rare privilege of hearing a good sermon when J.F. Stubbs supplied our pulpit.

---The church is glad to have with us today as our guest minister the Rev. Shirley Green, who has Mrs. Green with him. After the service we request that all remain in the sanctuary for the Hanging of the Greens.

---The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

---The 'Over 60's Choir' will be disbanded for the summer with the thanks of the entire church.

---Applications are now being accepted for 2 year-old nursery workers.

---The pastor will light his candle from the altar candles. The ushers will light their candles from the pastor's candle. The ushers will turn and light each worshiper in the first pew.

Luther Quiz Answers: 1) **B** 2) **True** 3) **B** 4) **A** 5) **C**
6) **B**

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