

LIFELINES

of

LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: (972) 867-5588

Fax: (972) 985-5588

Internet Home Page: <http://planolutheran.com>

Vol. 31, No. 1

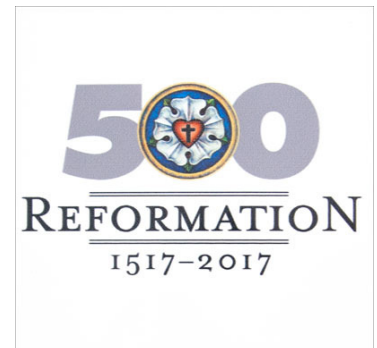
Plano, Texas

January 2017

500th Anniversary

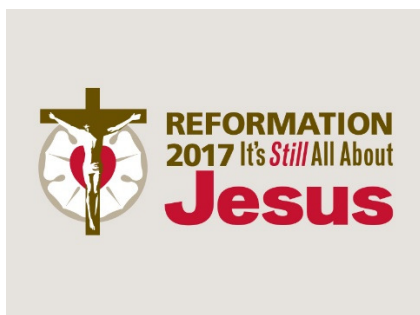
2017 is upon us and it is a milestone year. It is the 500th anniversary of the year that Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses to the door of the castle church in Wittenberg –the event that many mark as the start of the Reformation. 500th anniversaries don't come along all that often, or at least we don't notice too many of them. Let's face it, we don't stop to remember or celebrate everything from the past the way we will this event. I mean, how many of you celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Reinheitsgebot earlier this year? Most things just do not rise to the level of importance or have the kind of lasting impact of the Reformation. So, this year people are literally "gearing up" to celebrate.

Concordia Publishing House has produced the logo pictured here and is marketing all kinds of products you can buy to celebrate the anniversary: sweatshirts, coffee mugs, stickers, etc. –you can even get Christmas ornaments with this logo or, something Luther himself would appreciate, a beer stein!



I won't try and make the case here that the Reformation is still worth celebrating; I think we acknowledge this annually by observing Reformation Day in Church. But I do want to point out that the milestone we will mark this year is

not just about Martin Luther and fondly remembering his life and work. No, the Reformation was about something much more than that, and thankfully, I think the Synod's emphasis on the anniversary captures what is more important, here is their new logo.



Indeed, the Reformation is not worth remembering or celebrating if it does not help us to remember or celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ and what God has done for us by graciously sending His Son to die for our sins, calling us to believe and receive these

gifts through the working of the Holy Spirit, and blessing us with His Holy Word which reveals this saving truth. (Grace alone, Faith Alone, Scripture Alone.) Thus, we remember and celebrate the Reformation well, when we remember that the Good News that was reclaimed and championed 500 years ago by Martin Luther in Wittenberg, was really all about what God was doing centuries earlier for us through His Son in Jerusalem!

(Continued on the next page)

For lots of interesting information about the Reformation and ideas for celebrating the 500th Anniversary, see the Synod's webpage created for this event:

<http://lutheranreformation.org/>

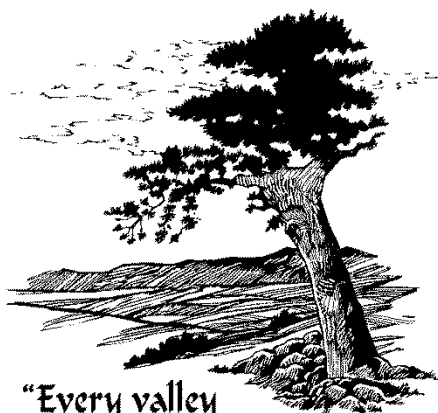
If you have any ideas of your own about what Lord of Life could do this year to mark this milestone event, please let me know.

Blessings in Christ,

PrS

Music Rehearsals Resume

After a post-Christmas break, ensembles will resume rehearsal after the new year. Adult choir resumes on Wednesday, January 11, at 7 pm, welcoming all adult singers — whether you can read music, sing, or not! All that is required is a commitment to weekly rehearsal from 7-8:30 pm each Wednesday. Youth choir, for grades 7-12, resumes rehearsal on Sunday, January 8, at 12 pm in the choir room. Children's choir, for grades up to sixth, resumes also on Sunday, 8 January, in the Sunday School room. Handbell ensemble will resume on Wednesday, January 4 at 6 pm in the sanctuary. Contact Benjamin Kolodziej for more details or if you would like to participate (bkolodziej@planolutheran.com).



“Every valley
shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill
shall be made low.”
—Luke 3:5



prepare for worship in January

Sunday, 1 January: Second Sunday of Christmas

Texts: Isaiah 61:10–62:3; Galatians 4:4–7; Luke 2:22–40

Hymn for the Word: “Let All Together Praise Our God,” 389

Sunday, 8 January: Epiphany Sunday (observed)

Texts: Isaiah 60:1–6; Ephesians 3:1–12; Matthew 2:1–12

Hymn for the Word: “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright,” 395

Sunday, 15 January: Second Sunday of Epiphany

Texts: Isaiah 49:1–7; 1 Corinthians 1:1–9; John 1:29–42a

Hymn for the Word: “The Only Son from Heaven,” 402

Sunday, 22 January: Third Sunday of Epiphany

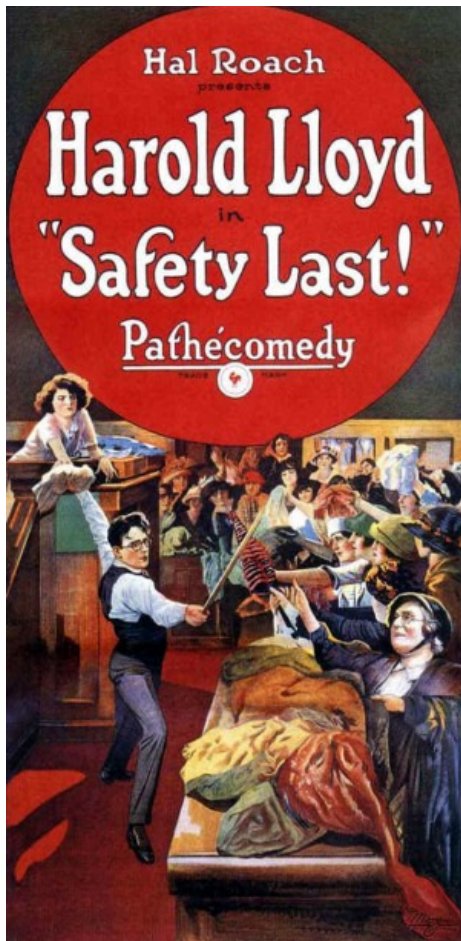
Texts: Isaiah 9:1–4; 1 Corinthians 1:10–18; Matthew 4:12–25

Hymn for the Word: “O Christ, Our True and Only Light,” 839

Sunday, 29 January: Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

Texts: Micah 6:1–8; 1 Corinthians 1:18–31; Matthew 5:1–12

Hymn for the Word: “Jesus Sat with His Disciples,” 932



Lord of Life Lutheran Church Fine Arts/Concert Series presents a screening of Harold Lloyd's silent movie, *Safety Last* (1923) on **Sunday, January 8 at 6pm**. Organist **Benjamin Kolodziej** will perform a live soundtrack composed for this moving picture and in a style as would have been heard in the 1920's. Harold Lloyd, one of the great silent movie actors along with Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin, specialized in roles that featured an underdog character who is out of their element. In this spoof on the common phrase "safety first," Harold Lloyd undertakes a dangerous but comedic stunt to bring in customers to his new place of employment. The film features one of the most iconic images of the silent film era as Harold dangles precipitously from a clock tower high above Los Angeles! Organist Benjamin Kolodziej will perform a unique musical score to highlight the on-screen action, just as would have been the practice when the film was released in 1927. This event is free and all are invited. Popcorn will be served.

In Memory of Ruth Landry:

Sadly, Ruth Landry passed away on December 4th, she was 89 years old.

If you did not know Ruth, you missed out. I only knew her for just a few of her many years, but when I went to the hospital to pray with her shortly before she died, I was greatly saddened that I would not be able to spend more time with her. That is because Ruth was a light and true inspiration to those around her. She was a faithful Christian her entire life. She served as a Stephen's Minister and a church organist and musician and genuinely wanted everyone around her to know and rejoice in her Savior, Jesus. She was a wonderful Christian woman and the matriarch of a great family. Her two granddaughters, Kris Crabtree and Hannah Greer, are both members at Lord of Life and were with her when she died.

On the eve of her death, the doctors said she required surgery to survive, but Ruth said, "I'm 89 years old. I don't want surgery, I want to go to heaven." Ruth was ready to die and had been for years. She left detailed notes about her funeral service that went back decades. She wanted all kinds of special music, specific Scripture readings, even a certain flower arrangement. Thankfully, I think we honored all of her requests and on December 7th, just a few days after she died, we had a beautiful funeral service in her honor.

Ruth's Confirmation verse was the theme of her service and it certainly was a fitting one both for her funeral and for a Christian life well-lived: *"Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life."* Rev. 2:10

Lord of Life Small Groups

EMPTY NESTERS' CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Mike and Sandra Paradise at (972) 424-2951 or itsparadise.inplano@verizon.net
- † Will meet on Sat. Dec. 10th at 6:00 PM

EPIC PARENTING

- † For 30ish couples with kids
- † For info contact Ben Scarth BenjaminScarth@yahoo.com
- † Usually meet one Sunday a month in the afternoon or evening

GOOD NEWS CARE GROUP

- † For info contact Chris Oltmann at (972) 727-6330 or Mike Kunschke at (847) 951-6974
- † Usually meet the 2nd Sat. of each month at 6:30 PM for Bible study

MIXED BLESSINGS

- † For info contact Fred and Ruth Bernhardt at (972) 398-0771
- † Usually meet on a Sat. of each month at 6:30 PM

TWENTY SOMETHINGS

- † For couples and singles in their twenties
- † For info contact Pastor Shaltanis at PastorShaltanis@yahoo.com
- † The group is currently in transition, but has usually met on Sundays after late service

NEW SMALL GROUPS FORMING

- † Watch for information about new small groups starting in 2017
- † One will be led by Tim Ozlowski and aimed at people in their late forties and early fifties. Times and dates TBD
- † In the works: a group for professionals without kids, a group for folks in their fifties, and a Gen X group

Jesus was in a small group.



January Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Bob Nance
- 1 Judy Dolginoff
- 1 Margaret Bush
- 2 Stu & Sandy Ehrett (30)
- 5 Dominic Cinquepalmi
- 5 Jennifer Cinquepalmi
- 5 Hannah Greer
- 5 Nolan Helms
- 6 Pat Montalbo
- 7 Justin Mutinta
- 8 Lauren Chumbley
- 8 Lauren Howe
- 8 Linda Tischler
- 8 Jim & Donna Roberts (34)
- 10 Abigail Beaudreau
- 10 Sandra Paradise
- 17 Jonathan & Holly Bowman (17)
- 21 Brian Hahn
- 22 Lora Frinsko
- 22 Kara Prescott
- 23 Noah Reinert (03)
- 24 Kymberly Vess
- 28 Amanda Kunschke
- 30 Karl Olsen



John Hawkins – January 25, 2009
James Schutz – January 27, 2013

Serving in Worship in January

	January 1	January 8		January 15		January 22		January 29	
	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM	5:00 PM	7:00 PM	5:00 PM	7:00 PM
Elder	Peters	Lutek		Womack		Kunschke		Hite	
Common Cup	Ziegelbein	Womack	Ziegelbein	Lutek	Ziegelbein			Read	Kunschke
Altar	Carol Nance and Carrie Sanford								
Alcolyte	M. Shaltanis	Adcox	H. Crabtree	G. Hawkins	Loewecke	Prescott	k. Crabtree	E. Hacker	Gibson
Crucifer		Messinger	Carter	J. Hawkins	Sims				
Greeter	McVicker	Schrank	Dorak	Martin	Manning	Sparks/Vess	Barnes	Schrank	McVicker
Sound	Raj	Wilkerson	Selveraj	Wolf	Pittson	Botello	Hite	Wilkerson	Raj
Usher	Loewecke Ozlowski Scarh	Paradise Read Frinsko	Moudy Dolginoff Cruz	Cinquelpalmi Hawkins	Oltman Berger McVicker	Kun Schrank Hacker	Crabtree Buckmeier Short	Hawkins Cinquelpalmi	McVicker Oltman Berger

FINANCIAL REPORT

January- November, 2016

		ACTUAL	BUDGET	VARIANCE
RECEIPTS:	Regular Offerings	\$673,054	\$613,599	\$59,455
	Other	\$2,650	\$3,470	(\$820)
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$675,704	\$617,069	\$58,635
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$668,096	\$630,836	\$37,260
	RECEIPTS OVER EXPENSES	\$7,608	(\$13,767)	\$21,375

OTHER INFORMATION

1. General Operating Fund Balance	\$87,201
2. Dedicated Funds Balance	\$132,818
3. Building Note Balance	\$480,499