

Dear Friends in Christ:

It is October newsletter time and on the church year that means Reformation for us Lutheran Christians. Here are "FIVE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE LUTHERAN REFORMATION".

- 1. Most people in medieval times had low expectations.** People did not know much about advanced medicine, modern psychology, or what it was like to live in a democracy. They did not expect to live long. They didn't think they had much power over their lives and being an "individual" was not very important.
- 2. The "Lutheran" reformers were Catholic.** The reformers wanted to make changes within the one Christian church and remain Catholic. None of them ever expected their actions would lead to the Protestant church of many denominations.
- 3. People in medieval times were not allowed to choose their own religion.** You could believe what you wanted but had to practice the faith of your prince or King you chose. After the Reformation only princes who signed the Augsburg Confession could practice any

faith other than Catholicism in their region.

- 4. Martin Luther wasn't the only reformer.** Luther wanted the church to rediscover the good news of Jesus that created and restores faith. Other reformers fought for changes like: separation of church and state, a mystical relationship with God, better educated priests, and more moral leaders in the church.
- 5. Luther and his colleagues cared about what you hear in church today.** They taught how to tell the difference between law and gospel so the Word of God would hit home and create faith. This is still taught to pastors today.



LUTHER'S SEAL

Martin Luther sent the following letter from Coburg Castle to Lazarus Spengler on July 8, 1530:

Since you wish to know whether my seal is well done, I shall gladly comply with your request by communicating to you the thoughts I

originally desired my seal to embrace as indicative of my theology.

First there is a cross, black on a heart in red, as its natural color. This is to remind me that faith in the Crucified saves us: for if one believes with the heart, one is justified. Now although it is a black cross, although it mortifies and is designed to inflict pain, it nonetheless allows the heart to keep its color, it does not destroy its nature, that is, it does not kill but keeps alive. (For the just lives by faith, but faith in the Crucified.)

Such a heart is to be centered on a white rose in order to indicate that faith yields joy, comfort, and peace and straightway leads one on a white, pleasing rose. Nor does faith yield the peace and joy of the world. Therefore the rose would be white and not red, because white is the color of the spirits and of all the angels.

This rose is on a field tinted with the hues of heaven to indicate that this joy in the spirit and faith is a beginning of the future heavenly joy, a joy which, to be sure, is even now present in faith and embraced by hope but is not yet revealed.

And around this field runs a ring of gold to show that the blessedness of heaven endures forever and ever and is more precious than all pleasures and possessions of earth, as gold is the most precious and the noblest metal.

In the one Lord,

Pastor Hal

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Hal: 715-828-1112
Email: harkihear@gmail.com

If you are hospitalized, know someone who is, need pastoral assistance, a prayer request, home visit, private communion, or other pastoral service contact Pastor Hal at any of the above.

BAPTISM-Barum

Sterling Eugene Starck

WEDDING-BEC

Brittany Berger / Jason Holte



17th Sunday Pentecost October 02, 2022

Habakkuk 1: 1-4; 2: 1-4
"Question of Theodicy"

18th Sunday Pentecost October 09, 2022

2 Kings 5: 1-3, 7-15c
"More than Bodily Healing"

19th Sunday Pentecost October 16, 2022

Genesis 32: 22-31
"Wrestling is Biblical"

20th Sunday Pentecost October 23, 2022

Jeremiah 14: 7-10, 19-22
"Remember When it Rained"

Reformation

October 30, 2022

Jeremiah 31: 31-34
"Renewable Not Breakable"



HEADS UP TO A CHANGE IN DATE

Due to Pastor Hal being gone the first part of November we have changed First Communion instruction to December 03, 2022 at Barum Lutheran Church beginning at 9:00 am. It will run till about 2:00 pm. It is open to 5th graders and old youth who may not have completed the instruction previously. A parent or adult is required to attend with the student. Bring a dish to pass for the potluck lunch. Question? Contact Pastor Hal 715-828-1112 or harkihear@gmail.com.



Because this is actually part of my page I hesitate to share the article below so as not to sound like I am blowing my own trumpet. That said October is clergy appreciation month and the wisdom in this article seems fitting for pastors past, present and future thus read it with openness.

Appreciating your pastor

Many people have complex relationships with their pastors because faith, church and God involve a mix of emotions. We have particular ideas about church practices, congregational priorities, the minister's use of time, money, authority and more.

But most pastors are deeply devoted to Christ and believe that God has called them to serve in a certain place. They have the best of intentions and work hard to share the good news of the gospel. So in honor of Pastor Appreciation Month in October, consider the following:

God doesn't call the qualified; he qualifies the called.

Your pastor may need time to learn and develop certain skills. (Everyone does!) Bless pastors with your patience.

We don't change the message; the message changes us.

You probably won't like all your pastor's sermons or newsletter columns. But instead of complaining, ponder that something may rub you the wrong way because God is trying to change you. Keep an open mind and heart.

If a church wants a "better" pastor, it just needs to pray for the one it has. Pray often and caringly for your pastors, church leaders and their families. The role is challenging, so support them spiritually and ask God to reveal his love and grace to these special servants.