

Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

Chronicles October 2013

A Message from the Pastor

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I imagine that many families – especially those with children – will soon be busy preparing for the big holiday that falls on October 31st. Yes, I am talking about Reformation Day! It is an exciting time. Buying your Reformation Day candy. Children dressing up as Martin and Katie Luther.

Maybe I am exaggerating a little bit, but I want us to remember that October 31st is an important date for all Christians, and especially we who call ourselves Lutherans.

On October 31, 1517, in the town of Wittenberg, in the German Principality of Saxony, a young friar posted on the town's bulletin board, the doors of the Church of All Saints. When Father Martin Luther issued his 95 theses challenging Rome and the Pope's teaching on indulgences to shave off time in purgatory, he was really challenging more than the Catholic hierarchy. He was challenging all Christians to come back to the source of faith and hope: the Word of God, the Bible.

Faithfulness to God's Word is what the Reformation and Reformation Day are all about. It is about God's grace that helped us recover the true Word of God. In the Holy Bible, you find all of God's mercy, and the whole Christ, crucified and risen for you, speaking to you His full message of repentance and salvation.

Our Lord and Savior tells us, "*If you abide in my Word, you are truly my disciples.*" Jesus Himself issues this invitation: Abide in His Word.

By abiding (living in) His Word, "*You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free*". And that truth says that you cannot free yourself from what you are; rather Christ Jesus, God's truth, is the truth that frees us.

"*I am the way, and the truth, and the life*", Jesus said. For us, truth is not a theory nor a philosophy nor an ideology. The truth embraced by Christians and the Church centers in Jesus Christ as God's final, saving promise to each of us.

The promise is nothing less than true life – constant and joyous in God's presence. What do you have to do to realize that promise? Jesus explains:

"*If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed*". And by Jesus' death on the cross for all your sins, you have been set free!

So this Reformation Day, we remember Martin Luther, but we celebrate Jesus Christ our Redeemer, and thank Him for taking us from bondage to selfish sin and bringing us into the wonderful spiritual freedom of being the children of God.

+Pastor Russ Craig

Worship

Sunday 10:30 A.M.
Holy Communion

Wednesday 11:00 A.M.
Holy Communion

Church Office Hours

Tuesday to Thursday
9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
Friday
8:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

Pastor

Rev. Russell Craig

Secretary

Madison Burrell

Music Director

Sharon Calka

Custodian

Fritz Herzog

Office: (518) 456-1530

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CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

+ New Bible Study Begins on October 13 and 15: Gospel of John

A study of the *Gospel of John* will be offered at three different times:

Sundays at 9:15 A.M.

Tuesdays at 9:45 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.

The first classes will be held on Sunday, Oct. 13, and Tuesday, Oct. 15.

+ Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

We are participating again this year in Operation Christmas Child. Shoeboxes and "How To Pack" guides will be available in the fellowship hall every Sunday beginning Oct. 6th. *Filled boxes must be returned to church by Sunday, November 17.*

+ Pastor Craig on Vacation: November 1-10

Pastor Russ and Carole will be away on cruise from Friday, November 1, through Sunday, November 10. Pastor will be back at church on Nov. 11. The two Sunday services will be led by Deacon Tom Craig. Bible studies and Wednesday worship will be cancelled during this period.

+ Edith Gerhardt: 1922-2013

Edith was called to her heavenly home on September 7, 2013 and her funeral was held at Christ Lutheran on September 13, followed by internment in Holyoke, MA. Edith and Pastor Art were married for 69 years and raised 6 children. She was an inspiration to so many people and will be missed. But we rejoice in having been blessed to know her and that she is now singing to her Lord in glory.

FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY – AUGUST 2013

Income	\$ 56,948.52
Expenses	\$ 59,753.40

Difference	\$ -2,804.88

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Virginia Bradt
 Madison Burrell
 Sharon Calka
 Carol Fike
 Hilda Griessel
 Herta Haupt
 Alan Kenyon
 George & Janet Pomakoy
 Richard Smith



Family & Friends
 Melissa Bernard (sister of Madison Burrell)
 Ed Beutel (brother of Bea White)
 Jim Beutel (brother of Bea White)
 Ethan Bradt (grandson of Virginia Bradt)
 Erin Carhart (niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)
 Shirley Curry (widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)
 Jean Davis (sister of Anne MacIntosh)
 Dustin Donovan (grandson of Virginia Bradt)
 Erma Fike (mother of Alan Fike)
 JoAnn Kniskern (sister-in-law of Judy Bliven)
 Laura Langabeer (niece of Judy Zamurs)
 Mary Jean Laraway (aunt of Nicole & Gabriel Gardner)
 George Lipani (friend of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
 Harold Mathis (brother of Carol Fike)
 Peter Noonan (nephew of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
 Vicky Quay (daughter of Joan Long)
 Dan Urbano (grandson of Lorraine & Tom Urbano)
 Ruth Varney (friend of Joe & Della Henstenberg)
 Sharon Walsh (daughter of Phyllis Mattice)
 Sharon Willet (friend of Larry Bohn)
 Our Armed Forces, especially those in Afghanistan

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

4 Brianna Morales
 5 Lois Ruppert
 9 Diane Flood
 Sarah Huehn
 Earl MacIntosh Jr.
 11 Lorraine Urbano
 24 Mary LaPorte

OCTOBER 2013

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
		1 12:00pm AI Anon 8:00pm AA	2 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	3	4 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	5
6 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	7 7:00pm Church Council	8 12:00pm Christ Women 12:00pm AI Anon 8:00pm AA	9 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	10	11 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	12 8:45am Deacon training
13 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	14	15 9:45am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon 8:00pm AA 6:30pm Bible Study	16 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	17	18 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	19
20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	22 6:30pm Deacon meeting	22 9:45am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon 8:00pm AA 6:30pm Bible Study	23 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	24	25 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:00pm AA	26 8:45am Deacon training
27 <i>Reformation Sunday</i> 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Communion 2:00pm Slavic Church 6:00pm Micronesians 8:00pm GA	28	29 9:45am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon 8:00pm AA 6:30pm Bible Study	30 11:00am Communion 7:00pm Slavic Church 7:30pm GA	31 <i>Reformation Day</i>		

All newsletter articles and announcements must be submitted to Madison by the 20th of each month.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS			ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS	
Date	Lector	Communion		
6	Alan Fike	Patricia Spolyar	Lois Ruppert & Diane Flood	In Praise and Thanksgiving to God.
13	Linda Halbrend	Sandy Smith	Phyllis Mattice & Loretta Flanders	In memory of our loved ones.
20	Lorraine Urbano	Bea White	Pastor Russ & Carole Craig	In celebration of Tom's birthday.
27	Lois Ruppert	Joe Fahd	Judi Terraciano	In memory of Blanche & Walter Hewitt & Richard Hewitt Sr.

*Flowers are provided, and part of the cost has been donated, by Emil J. Nagengast Florist.
If you would like to donate the altar flowers in memory of a loved one, to honor an event, or to praise God,
please sign-up on the flower chart posted in the narthex*