

# Christ Lutheran Church

1500 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12203-3525

## Chronicles October 2016

### *Message from the Pastor*

Dear Fellow Saints in Christ,

October 31, 2017 marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary the start of the Reformation. To celebrate this milestone, the Atlantic District is encouraging everyone to get into the Word of God by reading the entire Bible in two years (October 31, 2016 to October 31, 2018). Below is a description of this wonderful initiative. Printed reading guides will be made available for anyone who is not able to access the materials on-line. The schedule of readings for the first year is included with this newsletter.

**+Pastor Russ Craig**

### **READ THE BIBLE THROUGH IN 2 YEARS**

*In Connection with the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation*

On October 31, 1517 Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Castle Church, thus beginning what we now know as the Reformation. October 31, 2017, marks the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the start of the Reformation. One of the major thrusts of the Reformation concerned the Bible. Martin Luther emphasized that it is thru the Bible ALONE (in Latin, *Sola Scriptura*) we receive truths about God and faith.

Most Christians have never read through the entire Bible. In part, maybe because parts are difficult to read and understand. Yet with guidance and direction, the Scriptures can be explained and understood and appreciated for the eternal truths they reveal to us about God, ourselves, & our faith - the greatest Truth being the great plan of salvation fulfilled by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Our Atlantic District in encouraging church members and friends to read the Bible through over a two-year period in thanksgiving for the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, and for personal growth of our faith. **So beginning Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>** we encourage you to start reading through the Bible, in *chronological order*. Although the most common method of reading the Bible cover to cover is most certainly a blessing, a chronological reading allows you to see how different sections of Scripture fit together in their historical context.

The actual daily reading will take place individually, on our own. A Daily Reading Schedule and Guide is available to everyone online or in print. Readers can access the guides and readings in one of three ways:

1. On-line version at [Lutherantools.org](http://Lutherantools.org)
2. Print version found at [Lutherantools.org](http://Lutherantools.org)
3. Calendar subscription delivered daily to a smartphone. Convenient, quick, and now! It works with your computer or smartphone's calendar application, and places daily readings, guides and even a link to the scripture text and audio at your fingertips! Subscribe at [Lutherantools.org](http://Lutherantools.org)

A simple daily two-question Guide has also been prepared by 24 Atlantic District pastors. We hope you will consider reading the Bible through during this two-year Reformation remembrance. We believe that the Holy Spirit, working through God's Word, can help in the personal reformation that each one of us needs, particularly shining the Good News of Jesus Christ upon us each day.

### **Worship**

*Sunday 10:30 A.M.  
Holy Communion*

*Wednesday 11:00 A.M.  
Holy Communion*

### **Pastor**

*Rev. Russell Craig  
(518) 369-7631*

### **Secretary**

*Madison Murray  
(518) 456-1530*

### **Music Director**

*Sharon Calka*

### **Deacon**

*Thomas Craig*

### **Church Office (518) 456-1530**

*Closed Monday & Friday  
Open 9:00 A.M to 12:00 P.M  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday*

*church@clcalbany.org  
www.clcalbany.org*

## CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

### FIRST SATURDAY CELEBRATION

Deacon Tom Craig is organizing a new ministry with a focus on those of differing abilities – Through the Roof Ministry. The name is inspired by Mark 2 in which 4 men lower their paralyzed friend through the roof of a house down to Jesus. Initially, we will host a monthly worship service designed for individuals and families with special needs. **The first service has been scheduled for Saturday, October 1st at 3:30 P.M.** *Volunteers are needed* to help people get out & in vans, welcome worshipers, and assist with snacks after the service. Help share the love of Jesus Christ with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The next First Saturday Celebration will be held on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 P.M. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Deacon Tom (tomcraig1980@gmail.com or 937-6006).

### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We will again participate in Operation Christmas Child. Shoeboxes are available in the fellowship hall during October. Take as many boxes as you know you will fill plus a “How to Pack” brochure for each box. Boxes with a label/envelop must be returned to the church no later than 10:30 A.M. on Sunday, **November 13.**

### FINANCIAL REPORT: JANUARY – AUGUST 2016

Income \$ 88,493.83

Expenses \$ 79,797.38

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Difference \$ 8,696.45

### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

#### *Family & Friends*

Joe Fahd

William Faulkner

Carol Fike

Pastor Arthur Gerhardt

Arlene Giroux

Hilda Griessel

Herta Haupt

Joe Henstenberg

Fritz Herzog

Reggie Jakubec

Hazel Lanza

Joan Long Family

Tom Okure

Sandy Smith

Dorothy Van Deusen



Ed Beutel

(brother of Bea White)

Christopher Bombardier (relative of Dell & Joe Henstenberg)

Erin Carhart (niece of Della & Joe Henstenberg)

Andy Chainyk (brother of Davia LaChapelle)

Shirley Curry (widow of Pastor Kenneth Curry)

Jean Davis (sister of Anne MacIntosh)

David Dilloway (uncle of Matthew Woehlke)

Bennett Faso (grandson of Joan Long)

Linda Fitzgerald (sister of Barbara Kunkel)

Sofia Lehmann (friend of Tom Craig)

JoAnn Kniskern (sister-in-law of Judy Bliven)

Bob Kushner (friend of Lorraine Urbano)

Jack Lecakes (uncle of Bishop Derek Lecakes)

Heather Mires (granddaughter of Loretta Flanders)

Harold Mathis (brother of Carol Fike)

Bertie Nash (daughter of Loretta Flanders)

Peter Noonan (nephew of Joe & Della Henstenberg)

Nicole & Alex Rodrigous (relatives of Della & Joe Henstenberg)

Diane Schwegler (cousin of Sandy Smith)

Lee Schwegler (cousin of Sandy Smith)

Robert Way (WWII brother of James Way)

Kyle Zindell (friend of the Bentsen Family)

Diane Zinnanti (friend of Jim & Madison Murray)

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Lois Ruppert

9 Diane Flood

Sarah Huehn

Earl MacIntosh Jr.

11 Lorraine Urbano

24 Mary LaPorte

*We mourn the passing of our dear friend and sister in Christ, Joan Long. Joan entered her eternal rest on Sunday, September 18, after sustaining a head injury the day before. As a congregation and as individuals, God truly blessed us by letting her be a part of our lives. We pray for the Lord to comfort and strengthen her family.*

## LECTIONARY SUMMARIES: OCTOBER 2016

### **TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** (October 2, 2016)

Habakkuk 1:1–4; 2:1–4 + 2 Timothy 1:1–14 + Luke 17:1–10

*We Walk by Faith, and Not by Sight, in the Peace of Christ's Forgiveness*

We are surrounded by “*destruction and violence*” (Hab. 1:3) because the Law “*is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth*” (Hab. 1:4). In fact, the Law cannot rescue us from our enemies; it is our fiercest enemy of all. Therefore, not by sight, experience or feeling, nor by works, but “*the righteous shall live by his faith*” (Hab. 2:4). “*Temptations to sin are sure to come*” (Luke 17:1), but as often as we sin, the Lord rebukes us, turns us to repentance and forgives us. We pray that He would thus “*increase our faith*” (Luke 17:5). And indeed, He does! Though we are His “*unworthy servants*” (Luke 17:10), He prepares His Supper for us, dresses us properly, and gives us His body and blood to eat and drink. He appoints pastors for us, “*by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus*” (2 Tim. 1:1). For the Gospel brings “*life and immortality to light*” (2 Tim. 1:10). This we believe. Therefore, “*follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard,*” by which He guards you “*in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus*” (2 Tim. 1:13).

### **TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** (October 9, 2016)

Ruth 1:1–19a + 2 Timothy 2:1–13 + Luke 17:11–19

*Faith Returns Thanks to God and Worships Him in the Person of Christ Jesus*

Jesus comes in mercy and, by His Word, heals you in body and soul. “*Go and show yourselves to the priests,*” for you are cleansed (Luke 17:14), and you are granted access to the Lord’s Temple. It is “*at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks*” (Luke 17:16) that you worship God, for Christ Jesus is your great High Priest; His body is the true Temple. In Him, you “*find rest, each of you in the house of her husband*” (Ruth 1:9), for the Lord has “*visited his people and given them food*” (Ruth 1:6). The person of Jesus Christ lodges Himself in holy food — bread and wine for believers to eat and drink. You lodge where Jesus lodges; His Father is your God, His people are your people. Death cannot part you from Him because His death and resurrection are eternally yours through Holy Baptism. “*Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead*” (2 Tim. 2:8). As surely as death could not hold Him, so surely “*the word of God is not bound*” (2 Tim. 2:9). His Gospel is entrusted “*to faithful men who will be able to teach others also*” (2 Tim. 2:2), so that you “*may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus*” (2 Tim. 2:10). Such is the confession of faith for all the saints, who believe, teach and confess the one Lord and Savior — Jesus Christ.

### **TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** (October 16, 2016)

Genesis 32:22–30 + 2 Timothy 3:14–4:5 + Luke 18:1–8

“*Left alone,*” Jacob wrestled through the night with the Lord, “*until the breaking of the day*” (Gen. 32:24). Though “*Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him*” (Gen. 32:25), he would not let go until the Lord blessed him. At times we, too, strive with God; He strives with us and blesses us by grace. So Jesus teaches us “*always to pray and not lose heart*” (Luke 18:1). Jesus speaks of “*a judge who neither feared God nor respected man*” and of a widow “*who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Give me justice against my adversary’*” (Luke 18:2–3). Because of her persistence, the judge agreed to “*give her justice*” (Luke 18:5). Our Lord dispenses justice generously and swiftly, giving “*justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night*” (Luke 18:7). He does so according to the Gospel. Therefore, His ministers are to persevere faithfully in their vocation, in what they “*have learned and have firmly believed*” (2 Tim. 3:14). On the basis of “*the sacred writings*” (2 Tim. 3:15), they are to “*preach the word*” at all times and not lose heart (2 Tim. 4:2).

### **TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** (October 23, 2016)

Genesis 4:1–15 + 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18 + Luke 18:9–17

Jesus tells a parable “*to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous*” (Luke 18:9). In this parable, the Pharisee unjustly boasted before God on the basis of his own merits, whereas the tax collector intently prayed, “*God, be merciful to me, a sinner!*” (Luke 18:13). That poor, miserable sinner trusted Christ, and he went “*down to his house justified, rather than the other*” (Luke 18:14). So do little children, “*even infants,*” come to Jesus with their need, and they “*receive the kingdom of God*” through faith (Luke 18:15–17). For “*the one who humbles himself will be exalted,*” but “*everyone who exalts himself will be humbled*” (Luke 18:14). That is why “*the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard*” (Gen. 4:4–5). St. Paul’s life, “*poured out as a drink offering,*” was another sacrifice like Abel’s (2 Tim. 4:6). The Lord stood by Paul and strengthened him, that “*the message might be fully proclaimed*” (2 Tim. 4:17). It is by that Gospel message of Christ that we “*have loved his appearing*” and as repentant sinners pray to “*the Lord, the righteous judge*” by faith (2 Tim. 6:8).

### **REFORMATION DAY (OBSERVED)** (30 October 2016)

Revelation 14:6–7 + Romans 3:19–28 + John 8:31–36

“*Wisdom is justified by her deeds,*” and the true Wisdom of God, Christ Jesus, the incarnate Son, justifies us by His deeds. He prepares His way by the preaching of repentance, but He has suffered the violence of the Law and voluntarily handed Himself over to violent men, that we might eat and drink with Him in His kingdom and “*remain in the house forever*” (John 8:35). For He is “*a friend of tax collectors and sinners,*” and He has rescued us by His grace from the slavery of sin and death. By the proclamation of His eternal Gospel “*to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people*” (Rev. 14:6), “*the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law*” (Rom. 3:21), “*that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus*” (Rom. 3:26). And by hearing the Gospel of Christ Jesus, “*whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith*” (Rom. 3:25), “*you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free*” (John 8:32).

## OCTOBER 2016

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<b>25</b> 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	<b>26</b> <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL	<b>27</b> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	<b>28</b> 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	<b>29</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>30</b> <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	<b>1</b> 3:30pm <i>First Saturday Celebration</i>
<b>2</b> 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	<b>3</b> <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day <b>7:00 pm Council</b>	<b>4</b> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	<b>5</b> 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	<b>6</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>7</b> <i>Office closed</i> 11:30pm TSL Half Day 7:30pm AA	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	<b>10</b> <i>Office closed</i> 7:00am TSL All Day	<b>11</b> 12:00pm <b>CLC Women</b> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	<b>12</b> 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 7:00am TSL All Day	<b>13</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>14</b> <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	<b>17</b> <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL	<b>18</b> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	<b>19</b> 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	<b>20</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 2:30pm TSL	<b>21</b> <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL 7:30pm AA	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	<b>24</b> <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL	<b>25</b> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	<b>26</b> 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 11:30pm TSL Half Day	<b>27</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>28</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 10:30am <i>Communion</i> 4:00pm Apostolic Church	<b>31</b> <i>Reformation Day</i> <i>Office closed</i> 2:30pm TSL	<b>1</b> 12:00pm Al Anon 2:30pm TSL	<b>2</b> 11:00am <i>Communion</i> 2:30pm TSL	<b>3</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>4</b> 2:30pm TSL	<b>5</b> 3:30pm <i>First Saturday Celebration</i>

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Communion Assistant</b>	<b>Lector</b>
<b>2</b>	Linda Halbrend	Linda Halbrend
<b>9</b>	Joe Fahd	Joe Fahd
<b>16</b>	Judy Zamurs	Judy Zamurs
<b>23</b>	Joe Fahd	Joe Fahd
<b>30</b>	Bill Spolyar	Jeff LaPorte