

Bethany Lutheran Church

25430 Bison Road

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Cushing, MN 56443

October 2024

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Contact Information:

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Remembering the Reformation

On the last day of October in 1517, the sound of a pounding hammer was heard on a church door in Wittenberg, Germany and shortly after that, throughout the world. And the reason for that world changing sound originated in the heart and soul of a Roman Catholic priest who had had enough of the corruption and false teachings that had been streaming out of Rome for centuries. The name of the hammer wielding priest was Martin Luther and on a Wednesday afternoon in late October 1517, he took a bold and dangerous step as he nailed a paper to the church door of the All Saints Church in Wittenberg. On that paper were 95 Theses or complaints against the only Christian community of his day. But the words on that paper began the reformation of the Church. And the protests that stemmed from his words moved the people in his German community toward the most dramatic reform of that era.

It did not take many days after Luther nailed the complaints to that church door, for discontent to grow into a religious conflict. Soon, some in Eastern Germany wanted change – and were willing to fight for it, while others worked to overthrow the movement. Fearing that Martin Luther's life might be threatened because of the growing discontent, a sympathetic friend whisked him to protection at Wartburg Castle.

It was while he was in hiding out in behind the castle walls that Martin Luther reaffirmed the strength and comfort of a mighty God. For it was during this time that the words of Psalm 46:1 came alive and vibrant for him: ***"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in times of trouble."*** And it was also during the days of solitude, prayer and Bible study in the castle, that Luther began a translation of the Bible into German. He firmly believed that **"all people must be able to read God's word for themselves,"** even though it was the accepted norm of the Church that the Bible be written and read only in Latin by a priest. Likewise, he believed that church music was for everyone to sing. ***"The devil who is the originator of sorrowful anxieties and restless trouble, flees before the sound of God's music almost as much as before the Word of God,"*** Luther would share in affirmation of the power and yet loving nature of God:

As his reform movement grew, Martin Luther's determination to change the Catholic Church continued to grow. After a struggle of several years with officials in Rome, and after he was excommunicated from the church in 1520, he began his numerous teachings and preaching that were always done with great enthusiasm. Luther's proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ was first done in private to small gatherings. But soon those new fellowships of Christian believers took the reform message throughout Europe, and princes and peasants alike were caught up in a renewed fervor of faith. Still, many scoffed at Luther and his followers and as a means of insult called them, "Lutherans," - to which the first denomination of believers were named.

Luther was known at times for being crass and harsh, and he held within him prejudices against numerous groups of people. But, he lived a life as a "saint and sinner" just like all of us and his legacy is that which we remember during the month of October.

- For we remember that Luther was the founder of the Reformation.
- And we remember that Luther believed in the importance of knowing God through the scriptures.
- And we remember that it was Luther who believed in filling church sanctuaries with the sounds of musical praise.

During this October, take time to remember Martin Luther and his reformation that changed the world, and also take time to celebrate the importance of his vision of faith and faithfulness.

In Christ,
Pastor Carl

October 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | | 1 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Quilting and Prayer Shawls | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 9:00 AM Worship Svc w/Holy Communion 10:00 AM Fellowship/ Sunday School/Solar Tilt Pastor Chris | 7 | 8 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Quilting and Prayer Shawls | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 9:00 AM Worship Svc w/Holy Communion 10:00 AM Fellowship/ Confirmation Class Pastor Carl | 14 | 15 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Quilting and Prayer Shawls 6:00 PM Church Council Meeting | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Annual Meeting/Potluck Lunch/Sunday School Pastor Chris | 21 | 22 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Quilting and Prayer Shawls | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Fellowship/ Confirmation Class Food Shelf Sunday Ruth Bloom | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

October 2024

Team Petersen: Maggie & David Petersen, Mike LuConic, Chuck & Char Stockman, Randy & Janet Beinhorn, Steve Ahlrich & Barb Anderson. Dorothy Radke, Synde Dehmer, Wendy Richmond



Oct 6th Charlie & Anna Hansen
Oct 12th Andy & Kourtney Frank
Oct 23rd Randy & Janet Beinhorn
Oct 28th Mark & Mary Schlangen

Oct 6th Gary Bellamy
Oct 7th Levi Sandbakken
Oct 12th Alexander Oberton
Oct 12th Don Flicek
Oct 15th Mary Schlangen
Oct 22nd Dennis Bramstedt
Oct 28th LaRaine Blomker
Oct 29th Lynn Bushinger

Contact any Council Member if you have specific needs:

Darren Bushinger
Norb Bueckers
Brad Hansen
Tania Hendrickson
Gary Oberton
Elizabeth Oberton
Maggie Petersen

2024 Quilt Raffle: The quilt is on display in the fellowship hall. Tickets are being sold for \$1.00. See one of the Women of Bethany if you would like to sell tickets to friends and family. Also included in the raffle will be two handmade rugs, donated to Bethany at the Garage Sale. They are also on display in the fellowship room.

Scam Calls/Text Messages: Some people from church have received fake text messages from people claiming to be our pastor and telling them they need to purchase apple gift cards for them. The pastors will never ask congregation members for gift cards or money, so never agree to this.

Annual Meeting: This year's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 20th, immediately following the service. There will be a potluck lunch after the meeting.

Upcoming Events at Faith Lutheran Church, Staples:

Game Night every second Wednesday of the month from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Faith Lutheran will hold a game night where board games, card games, and other family activities are offered. Pizza and pop are served – along with dessert. Bring a friend and come and join the fun. It's a good time for all ages.

Faith Lutheran Church Lutefisk and Meatball Supper, November 5, 2024 5:00-6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$25 Adult, \$15 Children under 10. Advance ticket sales are required! Ticket holders seated by time. The supper is hosted by the Faith Men's Club. Tickets will go on sale Sunday, October 6.

There will be a silent action during the Lutefisk Supper from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Proceeds will go the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to help people in need. Please bring your donated items and services to the church office by Monday, November 4th. Questions: call Cheryl at 218-575-2577.
