

# BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## October 2017 BEACON

### Five Hundred Years!

The United States of America can look to the 1607 settlement of Jamestown to start our nation's clock. But many more people would look to the 1621 settlement of Plymouth Rock as the date. If 1607 is the date the American culture as we understand it today began, then we are 410 years old as a nation. If it is 1621, then we are 396 years old. But if we count from 1776, the year we declared our independence and began a new free country, then we are a mere 241 years old. So, 500 years is a long time when viewed through the lens of the United States.

But 500 years is how long it has been since that fateful day in 1517 when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Cathedral and set in motion the Protestant Reformation. In fact, that Reformation helped to spur the eventual settlement of the United States. The settlers in Jamestown were Anglican, an outgrowth of the Lutheran Reformation. The settlers at Plymouth Rock were Pilgrims (not Puritans) who were dissenters from the Anglicans and wanted to worship freely.

The Spanish did not come to settle but to conquer and gain by force the riches of the New World. The early Northern Europeans largely came seeking freedom of religion, the very thing that was ignited by Martin Luther's bold stance 500 years ago at the end of this month. His brave act of defying the prevailing ruling order that had abandoned biblical truth and went so far as to imagine it could sell forgiveness of sins for a contribution to the church shook not just one small town or province or country. It shook the world and reawakened the Church to its biblical foundation.

Luther later set out five principals that guide us in our relationship to God and how we know Him. These are called the 5 Solas. During the month of October, we are going to be looking at a different one of these 5 Solas each Sunday. Then on Sunday October 29<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary program featuring our Sunday school and confirmation students. Please come and join us for a month of celebration of both our Lutheran heritage and the teaching of Scripture that enlightened a dark world and indeed set the whole world on fire.

-

David Craig

davidccraig.net

Abundant Grace Daily Devotion

### Mark Your Calendar!

**Sunday October 29<sup>th</sup> is Reformation Sunday.** We will be having part 5 of our series on the five essential truths of Scripture related to us and our salvation. That morning we will be looking at what is actually first on the list, Scripture Only. Only from the Scripture can we find the truth about God and His means of salvation for us.

Then after the service and Sunday school, we will be having a potluck dinner. This is one of the most often mentioned means of growing our church that came out of the Kick Off Sunday dinner. Please bring your food to the church kitchen before the morning service as the meal will begin shortly after Sunday school ends at 11:15. Sunday school meets just outside the kitchen, so getting your food there on time will prevent any conflict with our Sunday school program.

Then that afternoon, when we are all filled with the delicious offerings of our fellow members and friends, we will be having a Reformation Sunday Program. It will be about a half hour long and will feature the children and young people from the Sunday school and confirmation classes. The program will be in the sanctuary. In advance, we give great thanks to Sandi Shepherd for helping prepare the children for this big event and for making the costumes as well.

## Community Activities for our Youth

Many diverse groups in our communities offer our youth excellent programs to preach the word of God on Wednesday evenings. We encourage the youth of our church to attend programs such as LifePlus (for children in pre-school through 5<sup>th</sup> grade in Parkersburg), HERD (for Middle School students in Aplington) and GLOW (for High School students). Our goal moving forward is to encourage our youth to be active in learning the word of God and making connections with other youth in the communities. Our goal is to work towards bringing back a more inclusive version of BLAST to Bethel so our youth can then talk about our great program and encourage their friends to attend at a time that doesn't compete with other fantastic programs in our communities.

### Financial Update as of September 13, 2017

Bank Account Balance		\$25,080.10
Commitments yet to be paid:		
- Benevolence	\$5,295.99	
- Sanctuary/Interior Bell Tower Repairs/Painting-estimate (congregational vote May 28, 2017)	4,500.00	
- Exterior Gutter finish work-estimate	<u>500.00</u>	
Subtotal - Commitments above		<u>10,295.99</u>
Balance		\$14,784.11

### BLCW NEWS

On **Tuesday, October 10th, at 9:30 a.m.** there will be **kitchen cleaning** for anyone interested in helping. In addition, **October is our annual Bakeless Bake Sale** to replenish the account so we can continue to keep the kitchen stocked with coffee and paper products. We also pay the quarterly fees for the "Portals of Prayer" and "Christ in Our Home" devotional booklets available for your daily devotions at home. Please place your donation in the envelope inserted in your Beacon and place it in the offering plate, or leave it in the church office during the month of October. There will also be some envelopes next to the guest book in the Narthex. Additional events coming up include **Thankoffering Sunday on November 19<sup>th</sup>**, and **Cookie and Candy by the Pound Sale on December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. All ladies of Bethel are asked to bring candy or cookies to sell following worship service on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Hope to see everyone. Thank you so much for your help and have a blessed fall season.

### Family Devotions for October – I Need to Hear Him!

Bible Verse: "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

Have you ever needed to hear God speak to you, just to you, one-on-one . . . to help make a decision, to get through tough times, to know right from wrong, to know you're forgiven? Thankfully, you can! All you have to do to hear His voice is pick up the Bible and read. You don't even need a phone – although this, too, would work if you have a Bible app on your cell phone!

At the end of this month, we will celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation and how Martin Luther - **through the Word of God** - made a huge impact on the Church. What a great time to not only talk with our families about the importance of Scripture, but to show them, too! Let this become a part of everyday life in our homes. What an impact this can have on us, our families, and even our communities!

Here are a few ideas to get started:

- 1) Start the day off right! Read a verse or two together before leaving for school and work.
- 2) Have a verse of the day/week posted on a chalk board or the refrigerator.
- 3) Let our kids and grandkids see us reading the Bible, just like we would a novel or favorite magazine.
- 4) Worship every Sunday this month, as Pastor Craig preaches the Word, leading up to October 29 - Reformation Sunday!

Pray: Dear Heavenly Father, remind us every day that the Bible is where we can go to hear You speak to

## October Bible Reading Schedule

Oct 1, Sun: Genesis 39

Oct 2, Mon: John 13:1-20, Judges 8:22-35, Isaiah 1  
Tuesday: John 13:21-38, Judges 9:1-21, Isaiah 2  
Wednesday: John 14:1-14, Judges 9:22-41, Isaiah 3  
Thursday: John 14:15-31, Judges 9:42-57, Isaiah 4  
Friday: John 15:1-17, Judges 10, Isaiah 5  
Saturday: John 15:18-27, Judges 11:1-11, Isaiah 6  
Sunday: Genesis 40

Oct. 9, Mon: John 16:1-15, Judges 11:12-28, Isaiah 7  
Tuesday: John 16:16-33, Judges 11:29-40, Isaiah 8  
Wednesday: John 17, Judges 12, Isaiah 9  
Thursday: John 18:1-11, Judges 13, Isaiah 10  
Friday: John 18:12-27, Judges 14, Isaiah 11  
Saturday: John 18:28-40, Judges 15, Isaiah 12  
Sunday: Genesis 41

Oct. 16, Mon: John 19:1-24, Judges 16:1-14, Isaiah 13  
Tuesday: John 19:25-42, Judges 16:15-31, Is. 14:1-21  
Wednesday: John 20:1-18, Judges 17, Isaiah 14:22-32  
Thursday: John 20:19-31, Judges 18, Isaiah 15  
Friday: John 21:1-14, Judges 19:1-15, Isaiah 16  
Saturday: John 21:15-25, Judges 19:16-30, Isaiah 17  
Sunday: Genesis 42

Oct. 23, Mon: I Samuel 1:1-18, Judges 20:1-17, Isaiah 18  
Tuesday: I Sam. 1:19-28, Judges 20:18-35, Isaiah 19  
Wednesday: I Samuel 2:1-17, Judges 20:36-48, Isaiah 20  
Thursday: I Samuel 2:18-36, Judges 21:1-15, Isaiah 21  
Friday: I Samuel 3:1-14, Judges 21:16-25, Isaiah 22  
Saturday: I Samuel 3:15 – I Samuel 4:11, Isaiah 23  
Sunday: Genesis 43

Oct. 30, Mon: I Samuel 4:12-22, I Peter 1, Isaiah 24:1-13  
Tuesday: I Samuel 5, I Peter 2, Isaiah 24:14-23

## Organized Prayer for Bethel Families

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 1** - Sam & Ami (Carolus) Cordes & Claire, Shirley Cassady, Jon & Tricia Jacobson, Anna, Wesley & Laura, Jeff & Pam Jacobson, Jim & JoAnne Schwarz, Jean Scully

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 8** - Gary & Dawn (Wiese) Cornelius, Larry & Carol Chapman, Darlene Johnson, Jeff & Diane Johnson, Bill & Irene Senne, Matt & Nora Stahlhut, Mystica & Zachary Harreld

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 15** - Jeff & Angie Church & Zach, Pam Dohrn, Stauffer Johnson, Renae & Kenny Knock & Kelsie, Clint & Marcie Sharp, Sam & Sydney, Bruce & Cindy Simon

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 22** - Terry & Darla Drewelow, Dennis & Julia Dudley, Leah Ingalls, Abigail & Morgan Knock, Sharon Knudson, Kyle Simon, Aaron & Lori Simon, Jack & Max

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 29** - Ryan Dudley & family, Wayne & Norma Dudley, Matt & April (Gerloff) Kressley, Jaxon, Derek, Bryer & Cayden, Klint Knock, Abigail & Morgan, Dale & Jan Stearns, Michelle Stearns

## Operation Christmas Child – from Social Concerns Committee

We will be doing the Operation Christmas Child (the Shoeboxes) a little differently this year. Instead of having people fill their own boxes, we will have people donate specific items each week and we will fill the boxes with these items after we have received all of the donations.

**October 1st** - School Supplies (pencils, pens, crayons, notebooks, coloring books,...)

**October 8th** - Non-Liquid Hygiene Items (toothbrushes, bar soap, washcloths, comb,...)

**October 15th** - Personal Item (socks, underwear, t-shirts,...)

**October 22nd** - A "Wow" Item (a doll, soccer ball with pump, stuffed animal,...)

Items can be for any age group, from ages 2-14 and for either a boy or a girl. Do Not Include: used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; seeds; chocolate or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items; aerosol cans.

There will be a tub to place your donations at the church in front of the office. Postage will be paid by the Social Concerns Committee. Thank you for your support of this project.

## September 13, 2017 Church Council Minutes

Present: Diane Buss, Carol Chapman, Darla Drewelow, Dan Frey, Jenny Hansmann, Stacy Palmer, Bruce Simon

Approval of the Agenda: Motion made by Jenny Hansmann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carol Chapman

Approval of the Minutes: Motion made by Diane Buss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darla Drewelow

Approval of the Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Bruce Simon, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darla Drewelow

### Ministry Team Reports:

- Children & Youth Ministry Team – No meeting
- Outreach Ministry Team – Met with Fellowship Ministry Team to organize Sunday Kickoff Brunch; great turnout
- Property Ministry Team – 1) Light in the library/nursery still needs repaired, as well as gutters, but work continues; 2) a bid was received for fire extinguishers and inspection, another bid will be sought out; 3) additional repair may need to be done to sound system to resolve feedback issues; 4) two doors will need to be replaced, including screen door in kitchen
- Worship & Music Ministry Team – No meeting
- Social Concerns Ministry Team – No meeting, but it was noted that moving forward, Noisy Nickel Sunday funds which are raised will be designated towards year-end projects
- Missions/Benevolence Ministry Team – No meeting

Correspondence: WFX Conference & Expo information in Texas

### Old Business:

1. Update on when McGee Construction will start repairs – Most of repairs are complete, but the light in the library/nursery still needs repaired, as well as gutters. Work continues to take place.
2. Youth Leaders – We still have not received volunteers for youth leadership in the church. Many individuals in the church would be great leaders. Shared responsibilities for multiple leaders? Council will continue to encourage members to pray about this and volunteer time with our youth.

### New Business:

1. Beacon – New Format & Distribution – New format looks great and is easier to read in digital format. Distribution options to follow for members may include mail, email, or entryway mailbox at the beginning of the year depending on preference of the congregation.
2. Discuss ideas & suggestions from Sept. 10 brunch – Many great comments were received by those in attendance. Council discussed each comment and how to proceed with moving forward after hearing from so many members of the church. A copy of the comments will be provided to members and further discussion is encouraged.
3. Services available on recording – Dan will ensure that the services are, indeed, being recorded. Services are not downloaded to CD/DVD unless requested by congregation.
4. Confirmation – Update was presented on where students were in regard to meeting their goals and expectations for confirmation and beginning the new year.
5. Call Committee Meeting – An October meeting will be held by the committee to discuss future pastoral needs, as well as congregational needs based on feedback from the Fall Kickoff Brunch.

Closing Prayer/The Lord's Prayer: Motion to adjourn the meeting by Carol Chapman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bruce Simon

October Communion Assistants: Diane Buss, Jay Herter

November Communion Assistants: Jenny Hansmann, Stacy Palmer

## Worship Assistant Schedule for October--Worship Service 9:00 a.m.

	October 1	October 8	October 15	October 22	October 29
USHERS	Greg Carolus/Bruce Simon				
ORGANISTS/PIANISTS	Janet Mennen/Sharleen Hubbard/Jacque Craig				
ALTAR GUILD	Pam Jacobson/Beth Van Lengen				
GREETERS	Perry & Adrian Bernard & family	Steve & Sherry Brouwer	Tom & Sara Mann & family	Roger & Doralene Renken	Jeff & Diane Johnson
LECTORS	Diane Buss	Pam Jacobson	Jim Schwarz	Dave Hubbard	Candy Krohn
LITURGISTS	Terry Mennen	Michelle Krohn	JoAnne Schwarz	Sharleen Hubbard	Dale Krohn
ACOLYTES	Devin Bernard Gavin Bernard	Ava Mann	Corryn Mann Evan Palmer	Ava Mann	Devin Bernard Gavin Bernard
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Diane Buss/ Jay Herter		Diane Buss/ Jay Herter		
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	Church Council				
SOUND SYSTEM	Church Council				

## September Summary of Attendance and Financial Contributions

	Attendance	Bene./Mission	Current	Building Maintenance
<b>Sunday, September 3</b>	52	\$186.20	\$1,865.82	\$0.00
<b>Sunday, September 10</b>	94	\$270.00	\$3,206.00	\$0.00
<b>Sunday, September 17</b>	58	\$91.50	\$1,418.50	\$0.00
<b>Sunday, September 24</b>	91	\$113.40	\$2,080.10	\$0.00
<b>Total Receipts January 1-September 24, 2017</b>		\$5,595.72	\$77,643.22	\$100.00

### October Birthdays

5 – Sherry Brouwer  
 6 – Vern Ingalls  
 9 – Shirley Cassady, Chad Redman, Kassi Rice, Jann Wiegmann  
 12 – Candy Krohn  
 15 – Adrian Bernard  
 23 – Jeremy Paulson  
 26 – Gavin Bernard, Darwin Miller  
 28 – Dale Hansmann, Morgan Knock, Kaitlin Marlette,  
 Ryan Schrage, Jim Schwarz

### October Anniversaries

6 – Dennis & Karol Ellermann  
 14 – Ken & Karla Beckman  
 17 – Dennis & Bonnie Gerloff

## October 2017 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 9:00 Worship/Holy Communion/ World Hunger Sunday 10:00 Coffee 10:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL-Adult &amp; Children/Confirmation</p>	2	3	4 6:30 pm Senior Choir	5 9:00 am-Noon Quilting 1:00 pm Ladies Bible Study at Darla Drewelow's Home	6	7
<p>8 9:00 Sunday Worship 10:00 Coffee 10:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL-Adult &amp; Children/Confirmation</p>	9 6:30 pm Call Committee	10 9:30 am BLCW Kitchen Cleaning	11 6:30 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm Church Council	12 9:00 am-Noon Quilting	13	14
<p>15 9:00 Worship/Holy Communion/ Noisy Nickels 10:00 Coffee</p>	16	17	18 6:30 pm Senior Choir	19 9:00 am-Noon Quilting	20	21
<p>22 9:00 Sunday Worship 10:00 Coffee 10:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL-Adult &amp; Children/Confirmation</p>	23	24 7:00 pm Budget Committee	25 6:30 pm Senior Choir	26 9:00 am-Noon Quilting	27	28
<p>29 9:00 Reformation Sunday Worship/ Hymn Sing 10:00 Coffee 10:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL-Adult &amp; Children/Confirmation 11:15 Potluck Following Potluck – Reformation Sunday Program</p>	30	31				