

Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✠ Paola, Kansas



50TH Anniversary OF THE REFORMATION

A Little Lutheran Latin

At the time of the Reformation, the worship and other affairs of the Christian Church in the western world were conducted almost exclusively in Latin, the “dead” language of the ancient Romans, which hadn’t been anyone’s native language for over 1,000 years. Because most people couldn’t understand Latin, Martin Luther pioneered worshipping in the common language of the people, and translated the entire Bible into German.

However, this doesn’t mean that Luther was opposed to the use of Latin. Luther himself was an accomplished Latin scholar, and long after the Reformation the Lutherans still used Latin as the basis for education, from elementary school—actually called “Latin school”—thru university. In fact, in addition to his “German Mass” Luther also published a “Latin Mass,” purified of the false teachings that had crept into the traditional order over the centuries. For hundreds of years after the Reformation, Lutherans continued to use this “Latin Mass” for worship in appropriate settings where those participating could understand it, such as schools and universities.

This continued use of Latin explains why the various “rallying cries” of the Lutheran Reformation are actually not in German but in Latin. The most famous Latin phrases summing up the teachings of Martin Luther are the three “solas” of the Reformation, *Sola Gratia*, *Sola Fide*, and *Sola Scriptura*.



This famous statue of Martin Luther was created in 1867 for the Reformation Monument in Worms, Germany, to commemorate the 350th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. Numerous copies of this statue have been installed around the world, including this one located at our own Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Note how Luther is portrayed firmly grasping and pointing to the Bible, symbolizing his bold declaration at the Diet of Worms: “Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Holy Scriptures . . . my conscience is bound to the Word of God. I cannot, I shall not, I will not recant. Here I stand! I can do no other, so help me God.”

Sola Gratia means “Grace Alone” and expresses the Biblical teaching that salvation is the free gift of God’s grace—undeserved mercy—alone, on account of the life, death, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. Therefore, our good works do not in any way earn our salvation, but they are rather our response to God’s gift of salvation. As the Apostle Paul says in Ephesians 2:8-10: *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

Sola Fide means “Faith Alone” and sums up the Biblical truth that God’s grace is received by sinful humans not by means of our good works, but through faith alone in our Savior Jesus Christ. As the Augsburg Confession of the Lutheran Church declares: *“We cannot obtain forgiveness of sin and righteousness before God by our own merits, works, or satisfactions, but we receive forgiveness of sin and become righteous before God by grace, for Christ’s sake, through faith, when we believe that Christ suffered for us and that for His sake our sin is forgiven”* (Article IV). And even such saving faith itself is not a good work that we do, but rather which God the Holy Spirit works in us, because saving faith is, *“not from yourselves, it is the gift of God . . . so that no one can boast”* (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Sola Scriptura means “Scripture Alone” and affirms that the Bible is the inspired and inerrant Word of God, that will never mislead or deceive us. The false teachings Martin Luther protested against had arisen because human reason and Christian tradition were put on a par with Scripture. *Sola Scriptura* called the Church back to its founding document—the Bible. Although Christian tradition and human reason are taken

into consideration in determining doctrine, they must always be placed *under and subservient* to Scripture, never alongside or superior to it.

This reliance upon God's Word is also expressed in the Latin motto of the Reformation, *Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum*, which means "The Word of the Lord Endures Forever." Based on Isaiah 40:6-8 and 1 Peter 1:24-25, this confident expression of the enduring power and authority of God's Word first appeared as a Lutheran motto in 1522 at the court of Frederick the Wise, the duke who was Luther's patron and protector. Duke Frederick had this motto sewn onto the right sleeve of the court's official clothing, which was worn by prince and servant alike. It was also used by Frederick's successors, his brother John the Steadfast, and his nephew John Frederick the Magnanimous.

When religious war later broke out, *Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum* became the official motto of the Lutherans and was used on flags, banners, swords, and uniforms, as a symbol of the unity of the Lutheran laity who struggled to defend their beliefs, communities, families, and very lives against those who were intent on destroying them. Summarized by the letters VDMA, examples are found

inscribed inside churches, over doorways, on foundation stones, even on horse's helmets! The VDMA logo and full statement *Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum* has been used by Lutheran bodies worldwide and remains an enduring motto of the Reformation to this day.



A ceremonial horse's helmet from 1553 inscribed with the Lutheran motto *Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum*.

The last Latin phrase popular among Lutherans is *Ecclesia Semper Reformanda*, which means "The Church Must Always Be Reforming." This saying acknowledges that the Reformation didn't actually start with Martin Luther, nor did it end with him. Rather, from its earliest days the Christian Church has always faced a host of heretics and heresies that threatened to destroy the teaching we have received from our Lord. Over the centuries of the Christian era, the Church has continually responded to these challenges to the true faith.

With Luther, this response reached its high point in the history of the Church. Because, the greatest challenge of all to the Church's faithfulness was the deformation of the doctrine and life of the Church brought about by the "Dark Ages," when even many clergy were unable to read, and for centuries the light of God's Word went dark. It was this grotesque *deformation* that required the mighty *Reformation*, launched by Luther when he posted his 95 Theses on the Castle Church door at Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517.

And since Luther, the Church has continued to face even more challenges, to which we must continually respond. As we observe the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, perhaps the

greatest challenge for Christians at this juncture is to remain faithful to Scripture in the areas of sexuality and God's institution of marriage. Sadly, many clergy, church leaders and lay members, and entire denominations, have today entered a new "Dark Age" on these topics. The difference is, they are educated about and aware of what the Bible teaches. The problem isn't ignorance but arrogance. They brazenly reject what God clearly teaches in His Word—yet still insist they should be considered Christian.

"Reformation" really means "re-forming" the doctrine and life of the Church to conform to God's truth—something desperately needed in many church bodies today! Therefore, we begin the 501st year of the Lutheran Reformation with the old, faithful cries:

Sola Gratia! Sola Fide! Sola Scriptura!
Grace Alone! Faith Alone! Scripture Alone!

Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum!
The Word of the Lord Endures Forever!

Ecclesia Semper Reformanda!
The Church Must Always Be Reforming!

Pastor Kevin Vogts



Trinity Tribune

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October, 2017*



Voters Assembly October 22

The quarterly meeting of the Voters Assembly will be held Sunday, October 22 at 7:00pm. Included on the agenda will be election of church officers for 2018 and an update on our building project. In order to prepare for this meeting the Church Council will meet Tuesday, October 17 at 7:00pm.

REFORMATION 500 Hymn Festival

Seventy members and friends of Trinity reserved tickets for the *Reformation 500 Hymn Festival* on Sunday, October 15. The Johnson & Miami County LCMS congregations are hosting this event for the entire Kansas City area at Helzberg Hall at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, and our Trinity Lutheran Foundation is the major sponsor in honor of our congregation's own 150th Anniversary next year.

Most of those from Trinity are attending the 4:00pm matinee performance and our Generations group is providing a bus. We will meet at the Wal-Mart parking lot in Paola at 2:00pm and load the bus at 2:15pm. Because we are taking a bus we are not formally planning a meal together afterward, but some may want to eat together in Paola after we return.



Emily Kettler & Ryan Springer
October 7, 2017

*Wynnette Sommerfeld
& Jobie Debrick*
October 8, 2017

"The LORD God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion suitable for him'"
(Genesis 2:18).



Trinity's Annual

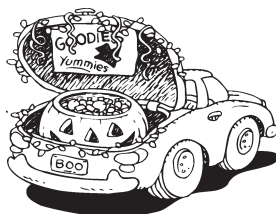
Chicken Noodle & Chili Dinner and Bazaar

Sunday, October 22, 11:00am

Following the Dinner Pastor and Terry Vogts
Will Give a Presentation on Their Recent Trip to Germany

All Invited—Everyone Welcome!

Come Enjoy the Fun, Food, and Fellowship!



Trunk or Treat October 29

Everyone is invited to participate in Trinity's very popular, 9th annual Trunk or Treat! This free event will be Sunday, October 29, from 4:00pm-6:00pm in Trinity's parking lot.

Wear your costume and Trunk or Treat with all your friends at Trinity in one stop! Adults are encouraged to wear costumes also.

Games and activities include a bouncy house, cake walk, face painting, pop bottle toss, and more. Hot dogs, chips, apple cider, and other goodies provided for all. (No scary or gory costumes please.) For questions call Lori Schlegel (913-731-3267).



Thank you from the Trinity Youth to all donated so generously for our dinner at Blocktoberfest and all who gave so much help preparing and serving everything. We were blessed with net proceeds to help fund youth activities of over \$5,000!

COMMUNION SUNDAYS

As has been customary for some years, beginning in October and continuing thru March we will again have extra services of Holy Communion, on both the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. This provides an extra opportunity to receive the Sacrament for those who may not be able to attend worship on the first Sunday of the month due to inclement weather during the more stormy months.



Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner October 22

Everyone is invited to enjoy our annual Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner and Craft Bazaar on Sunday, October 22. This delicious event is held in the church basement fellowship hall immediately after worship. Volunteers will be graciously accepted for food and craft items, as well as other kitchen and table help.

Following the dinner, Pastor and Terry Vogts will share a presentation with pictures from their recent trip to Germany for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

Missionaries of the Month



Each month we remember in prayer in our worship services—and you are encouraged to remember in your personal prayers—specific missionaries around the world who are supported by our congregation through our mission offerings to our Synod.

October 1

Rev. Carl & Chenhsi Hanson
Hong Kong

October 8

Rev. Charles & Cheryl Ferry
Indonesia

October 15

Rev. Chuck & Jean Hoffman
South Korea

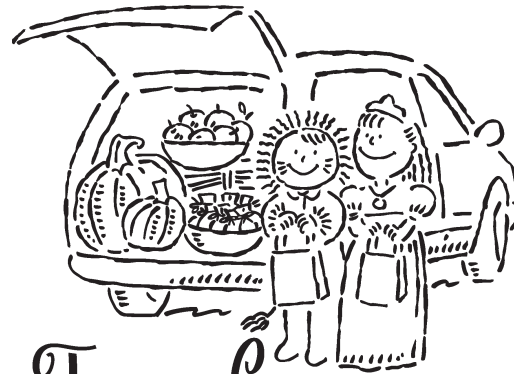
October 22

Gail Grieser
Macau

October 29

Rev. Dr. Daniel & Dr. Joan Jastram
Japan

Trinity's 9th Annual



Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 29, 4:00pm-6:00pm on Church Grounds

Food 🎃 Games 🎃 Pumpkin Decorating 🎃 Bouncy House

*Everyone Is Invited to Offer Trunk or Treat
from Your Car, Truck, or Other Vehicle!*

(Please Have Your Setup Completed by 3:30pm)

All Invited—Everyone Welcome!



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Our records of birthdays and anniversaries may not complete. If your information is missing or inaccurate, please accept our apologies and notify the Church Office at 913-849-3344 or email Church Secretary Stacey Elkinton at trinitylutheranblock@gmail.com.

October 1	.....	Mike Schmidt
October 1	.....	Kimala Morton
October 1	.....	Michele Minden
October 2	.....	Ashley Peckman
October 2	.....	Sharon Prothe
October 4	.....	Kyle Minden
October 5	.....	Mark Deering
October 8	.....	Megan Stutzman
October 8	.....	Brian Oberheide
October 9	.....	Kyle Garrison
October 10	.....	LeRoy Thoden
October 11	.....	Shelby Barrett
October 11	.....	Kegan Warring
October 12	.....	Ray England

October 13	.....	Vicky Boyer
October 13	.....	Aaron Mueller
October 13	.....	Hazel Prothe
October 15	.....	Pam Peckman
October 15	.....	Jay Warring
October 16	.....	Ariel Alcorn
October 16	.....	Erica Jones
October 17	.....	Dylan Fanning
October 17	.....	Tony Hubbard
October 17	.....	Julie Kellogg
October 18	.....	Carter Zajic
October 19	.....	Betty Prothe
October 17	.....	Joe Stephens
October 20	.....	Khrystin Davis
October 20	.....	David Minden
October 23	.....	Brett Golubski
October 23	.....	Kaelah McMullin
October 23	.....	Hannah Allcorn
October 24	.....	Payton Bruce
October 26	.....	Charlie Peckman
October 26	.....	Dalton Russell
October 26	.....	Garrett Russell
October 27	.....	Kolby Fanning
October 27	.....	Lloyd Peckman
October 27	.....	Kayla Shappell
October 30	.....	Chris Kettler

October 30 Rose Peckman
 October 30 David Prothe
 October 30 Jai Jenkins
 October 31 Nina Gerken
 Oct 1 Larry & Dana Simonson (12)
 Oct 7 Scott & Nancy Golubski (28)
 Oct 17 Joe & Anisha O'Barto (19)
 Oct 17 ... Darrel & Brigitte Rodewald (36)
 Oct 19 Kyle & Pam Minden (26)
 Oct 25 Mark & Diana Deering (14)
 Oct 27 Eric & Lindsey Lester (5)
 Oct 30 Les & Beth Prothe (24)
 Oct 31 Dale & Linda Prothe (40)



Could you—individual, family, or group—serve snacks sometime after worship? One Sunday in September is still open! The sign-up sheet is by the table with the snacks. Thanks to all those providing snacks for Coffee Hour!

October 1
 Lori Schlegel

October 8
 Mindens

October 15
 Phyllis Trickett

October 22
 Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner

October 29
 Michelle Haley



New DVD Study "A Man Named Martin"

Our current study in Adult Bible Class is *A Man Named Martin*, using DVD presentations to look at the life, work, and teachings of Martin Luther, and the impact on the world of the Reformation he began when he posted his 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church at Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517. Join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Overflow for *A Man Named Martin*!

Fall Sermon Series

Life Lessons from the Old Testament



Beginning September 24 we are having a special Fall Sermon Series on *Life Lessons from the Old Testament*, looking at characters from the Old Testament and what lessons we can learn from their lives. *"For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope"* (Romans 15:4).

September 24
*"Adam: Be Content
 With What You Have"*
 Genesis 3:1-4:1

October 1
*"Abraham: It Seemed Like
 a Good Idea at the Time"*
 Genesis 16:1-4

October 8
"Jacob: God Will Provide"
 Genesis 27:1-36

October 15
*"Joseph: Do Not Seek
 Revenge or Bear a Grudge"*
 Genesis 50:15-21

October 22
*"Moses: I Know the Plans
 That I Have For You"*
 Exodus 3:1-15

October 29 (Reformation Sunday)
*"Josiah: God's
 Extreme Renovation"*
 2 Kings 22-23

November 5
"Joshua: Dare to Be Different"
 Joshua 24:15

November 12
*"Ruth: He Will Give You
 Your Heart's Desires"*
 Ruth 4:13

November 19
*"David: Nip Temptation
 in the Bud"*
 2 Samuel 11:26-27

November 26
*"Job: The Comforting
 Hope of Everlasting Life"*
 Job 19:23-27



Germany Presentation October 22

Pastor and Terry Vogts were blessed to take a two week trip to

Germany this summer, visiting sites associated with Martin Luther in commemoration of this year's 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. They took lots of pictures and will give a presentation about their trip following the Chili & Chicken Noodle Dinner on Sunday, October 22.

In addition to Luther sites other places visited include the Berlin Wall and Dachau concentration camp. Everyone is invited to enjoy a virtual visit to *das Vaterland*!



Trinity's Fifth Annual Blocktoberfest

Hundreds More Pictures Online
www.trinitylcms.org/photos

