

Christ Lutheran Lamplighter



Christ Lutheran Church and
Early Learning Center
400 Barclay Avenue
Forest Hills, Pennsylvania 15221

October 2017

The Origin of Religious Freedom

“The truth will set you free.” John 8:32

I cringe every time I hear, or like now, quote this passage from John’s Gospel. It’s because that passage has been stolen by so many non-religious causes. Diet programs, conspiracy theorists, popular psychology and so many others boast that once you have the so-called truth they possess, your life will be that much better. Maybe.

Let’s turn the pages of history back 500 years. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted his famous 95 Theses, or points of discussion. He wanted to start a discussion on how people were actually saved from hell. The teaching of the church at the time was that people were saved by trying to make up for their sins (penance) and by receiving forgiveness (indulgences) which was either purchased or earned through pilgrimages and other special acts. Luther believed the Bible taught salvation is through a changed heart (repentance) and complete trust in the work of Jesus (faith). Obviously, those contradictory viewpoints can’t exist in one place at the same time, so the Reformation of the church began.

The reformation was no picnic. The established church had no intentions of letting it’s entrenched religious system be overturned by the musings of Luther, who to them was just an insignificant monk in Wittenberg, Germany. On the other hand, those who had now tasted the sweetness of the gospel Luther had rediscovered were not going back into the religious chains of Rome. You can imagine the conflict that developed between the two sides. In 1618 the conflict came to a head in a war between Roman Catholic and Lutheran forces. The Thirty Years’ War was the largest religious war ever fought in Europe, devastating 1000’s of farms, villages, and cities. The war also claimed 8 million lives

The war ended with the Peace of Westphalia of 1648. In this treaty, an idea was conceived which was totally foreign to European thinking at the time. Before, people had no choice in churches. All churches were one kind or the other, determined by whoever held political power in the area. Now, people could either worship at the established church or at another of their choosing. Freedom of religion was born. The truth that all are saved from hell by God’s grace alone - rediscovered, posted, and promoted by Luther, had set the world free.

Today, we are heirs of all that happened in the past to bring about religious freedom, starting with Martin Luther posting his 95 talking points on the front door of the Wittenberg church. As with all freedom, we have not been unchained to simply live spiritually slothful, self-indulgent, self-centered lives. Rather, we have been released by Jesus Christ to fervently seek what is good and Godly for ourselves, our families, God’s people, and society through weekly worship, daily prayer, and constant love.

In the freedom of Christ,

Pastor Ron Breight

Contact Information

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Administrative Staff

Assistant to Pastor
Barb Mitchell
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Sally Powell
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Officers and Committees

Treasurer Steve Stern

Secretary Barb Mitchell

Financial Secretary Dee Law

Elders Cal Eggers, Glenn Filler,
Al Dick

Trustees Frank Elaschat, John
Crawford, Howard Lehman, John
Sourbeer

Education Gloria Stern, Linda
Breight

Finance Cal Eggers, Jim Law

Outreach Judy Chick, Jonathan
Breight, Melissa Elaschat

Planning Kathy Sourbeer

Planning Committee News

The Planning Committee has By-Law changes being brought to the Voter's Meeting at the October 15 meeting. These By-Law changes are necessary as Christ Lutheran School and Christ Lutheran Early Learning Center are no longer in existence. Articles being revised are Article II- Congregation Offices and Article V-The Church Council. In these articles the elimination of wording concerning the School Board and Chairman of the School Board are necessary. In Article VIII- Education Program, the entire sections E. Christ Lutheran School, and F. Christ Lutheran Early Learning Center need eliminated. In addition Article IX- Duties of Officers and Committees section Q. School Board needs to be eliminated.

Copies of these proposed changes will be hung in the fellowship hall near the water fountain.

News from the Flock

DEATH

Our Christian sympathy to Sally Powell our office assistant. Her husband Greg died on September 7, 2017. He is also survived by his three sons.

NEW MEMBER

We welcome Linda Kern into our Christ Lutheran Church family by the Profession of Faith on September 24.

NEWS

Joyce Purucker's sister, Arlene Popko is having art exhibits at the following places:

Autumn Art Exhibit-The Galleria of Mt Lebanon October 5-15, 2017

Peter's Township Library-October 25, 2017-January 10, 2018 "Favorite Pastime"

Lauretta Critchlow was recently at the wedding of her granddaughter, Stephanie Morrison in eastern Pennsylvania.

Lauretta's grandson Kristopher Proctor was honored to have Sidney Crosby personally deliver his season tickets to his house. Sidney visited with the family, signed autographs, played hockey with Kris's children, and even gave Carolyn (Lauretta's daughter) a hug! All the major television networks covered the story as well as newspapers. What an exciting time for the Proctor family!

Thanks to Linda Bright and her crew for coordinating the rally day picnic. As always good food, fun games, and great fellowship.

Seems Barbara Mitchell and Pastor Knoche have something in common- recent knee replacement. Best wishes to both for a speedy recovery.

John and Karen Hoblak proudly announced that their 14th great-grandchild was baptized on September 10.

THANK YOU

On behalf of the Greg Powell Family, I would like to thank the members of Christ Lutheran for their prayers, cards, and generosity.

Sally

Women's Service Guild

ALTAR GUILD - Ruth Hirko and her helpers change the altar paraments and setup for Holy Communion. If you would like part of her team, contact Ruth.

SONSHINE KITCHEN & HELPING HANDS-The Women Service Guild prepared and served the meal at the Sonshine Kitchen on Monday, October 2nd. A special thanks to all who donated food items, monetary donations, who prepared and served the food. Coming soon will be our yearly food drive for the Sonshine Kitchen. There will be notices in the Sunday bulletins and November 2017 newsletter.

QUILTING-We will resume October 10th and 24th. Some of our quilts have been sent to Texas and Florida. The quilting is easy to do. Like sewing on a button-in and out and make two knots.

PORTALS OF PRAYER-The Rev. Debra Reitz appreciates the Portals of Prayer that we send to her for the residents of Muncy State Correctional Institute. They are able to read and hear about God's Word, apply the readings to their personal lives, develop their reading skills, and hopefully turn their lives around.. There is a bin in the library.

STAMPS FOR MISSIONS- Many people prefer texting, e-mail, Facebook, twittering, etc. to keep in contact with other people. But many people still like to get "snail mail." In order to send "snail mail", stamps are needed. These stamps serve a 2 fold purpose. We are able to get our mail and also the used stamps are used by the Canadian Bible Society to raise funds so they can continue to supply Bibles to missionaries, prisoners, etc. There is a bin in the library for canceled stamps. Contact Karen Hoblak for more information.

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE- Have you moved or know if one of our congregational members have moved, changed a phone number or no longer have a "land line number"? Contact Barb Mitchell or Rosalie Filler so the church directory can be brought up to date. Also, if you have an e-mail address the church would appreciate getting that information also.

SHUT-IN CARD MINISTRY- Many of our shut-in members enjoy getting cards, letters, notes, etc. We are always looking for members to join the Shut-In Card ministry. You are given the names, addresses, birth dates, a suggested mailing schedule, and monthly prayer petitions to be enclosed with a card. If you would like to be part of the Shut-In Card team, contact Joyce Purucker.

PRAYER SHAWLS-Women of our congregation have lovingly and prayerfully knitted or crochet prayer shawls or lap robes. If you know of someone who may be in need of a shawl or lap robe, contact Linda Breight, Karen Hoblak, or Jayne Simpson.

MIGHTY MUFFINS SUNDAY- Mark Sunday, October 8th on your calendar. The Women's Service Guild will again be sponsoring Mighty Muffin Sunday. Free will contributions for these Muffins go towards Women's Service Guild Mite offerings for the Lutheran Women Missionary League MITES. These Mite offerings are used to fulfill mission grants that were passed at the Lutheran Women's Missionary League convention this past June. The Women Service Guild would greatly appreciate people to make muffins.

RECYCLING-From an old TV program, someone always said "keep those letter and cards coming." The Women Service Guild says the same thing about used printer ink cartridges, cell phones, i-pads, cameras, etc. These items are like "liquid gold" for the Lutheran Women Missionary League. These items are recycled and monies received from them are used for LWML mission projects. There is a bin in the library or put them on the table in the quilting/Bible study room. Contact Linda Breight for more information.

REFORMATION SUNDAY-On Sunday, October 29th, as we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the Women Service Guild will be hosting a pot-luck luncheon after church services. Please bring a covered dish, dessert, etc. Enjoy great fellowship and maybe share how you celebrated previous Reformation Services.

ALTAR FLOWERS-You can honor a loved one's birthday, anniversary, a special occasion, in memory of a loved one, etc. by ordering altar flowers. The cost is \$30.00. An additional flower vase is \$15.00. Payment is due when flowers are placed on the altar. Contact Kathy Sourbeor or Barb Mitchell for more information.

LUTHERAN WOMEN MISSIONARY LEAGUE - The fall 2017 issue of the Lutheran Woman's Quarterly is on the table in the library. It tells about the 75th convention that was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico and provides inspirational Bible studies. Also, the LWML Link-Eastern District is posted on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board. It reports on the various activities in the District.

ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE-The Women's Service Guild will sponsor the Election Day Bake Sale on Tuesday, November 7th. Monies donated will go towards funds needed for our operating funds. The Women's Service Guild would greatly appreciate people making bake goods for the bake sale and help work at the bake sale itself.



REFORMATION 2017 It's *Still* All About **Jesus**

Reformation 2017 Celebration Sermon Series

This October is the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. We will feature a sermon series on some of the Reformation's history, faith, and meaning for today.

Serving Christ in October

Altar Guild: Gloria Stern

		Worship Assistant	Acolyte	Lector
October 1	10:00am	Glen Filler	Allison Stephens	Steve Stern
October 8	10:00am	John Hoblak	Timothy Bright	Gloria Stern
October 15	10:00am	Cal Eggers	Timothy Bright	Kyle Hubbard
October 22	10:00am	Steve Stern	Meghan Elaschat	Joyce Purucker
October 29 Reformation Sunday	10:00am	Paul Simpson	Jordan Stephens Crucifer Richard Lander	Georgi Shirley

Addresses for our shut-ins



Louise Garofolo
Independence Court
279 Center Road
Room 204
Monroeville, PA 15146

Wayne & Fran Giesey
310 Pennoak Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Lorraine Giebel
400 Barclay Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Shut-ins wishing to be added to the pastoral visitation schedule should call the church office at 412-271-7173.

Paul & Keretta Bruner **Marty & Cindy Hornak**
615 Horizon View Drive 1100 Penn Center
Penn Hills, PA 15235 Apt. 210
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Carole Buzard **Ruth Hudson**
101 Brandywine Drive 214 Orin Street
Irwin, PA 15642 Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Charles Koenig
Concordia Monroeville
4363 Northern Pike
Room 126
Monroeville, PA 15146

Allan Lindblom
825 East End Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Clorinda Mastrocola
200 Union Avenue
North Versailles, PA 15137

James & Ann Tubbs
41 Central Avenue
N. Versailles, PA 15135-1101

Pam Viher
406 Howard Street
East Pittsburgh, PA 15112

Tom Walton
LGAR
800 Elsie Street Room 202-B
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

October Prayer Petition

As true as God's own Word is true. Not earth or hell with all their crew against us shall prevail. A jest and by-word are they grown. God is with us, we are His own. Our victory cannot fail. *The Lutheran Hymnal, hymn 263, v. 3*

Henry Watkins
817 Alpine Blvd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Bob Yazvac
979 Wilkins Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Olga Zinn
Buckingham South
5450 Abercorn Street, Ste.405
Savannah, GA 31405

Celebrating in October

Anniversaries



- 5 Wayne & Frances Giesey
- 14 Gregory & Natalie Pollitt
- 27 Zachary & Amanda Chick
- 29 James & Ann Tubbs
- 30 John & Georgianna Hanley



Birthdays



- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Sandra Uram | 15 Natalie Pollitt |
| 2 Kyle Hubbard | 18 Kelly Giovanetti |
| Susan Shuster | David Uram |
| 3 Tammy Donaldson | 20 Adam Orbell |
| Edward Woodyear-Rochez | 26 John Sourbeer |
| 4 Mike George | 29 Linda Hite |
| 10 Helena Woodyear | 30 Stephanie Lydon |
| 13 Joseph O'Connor | 31 Carla McClelland |
| 14 Lee Bognar | |

Important Dates

Sonshine Kitchen Day-October 2nd

Mighty Muffins Sunday-October 8th

LWML Fall Rally-October 14th

Quilting-October 10th & October 24th (9:00am)

Reformation Sunday & Potluck Luncheon-October 29th

Election Day Bake Sale-November 7th



Pittsburgh Zone LWML Fall Rally

Saturday, October 14, 2017
St. Luke Lutheran Church
330 Hannahstown Road Cabot, PA 16023

Registration: 10-10:30 AM
Registration fee \$8.00

To Register contact Mary Lehocky at 724-728-1301 or
marylehocky@hotmail.com
by Monday, October 9

Speaker: Rev, Kristian Bjornstad,
Eastern District Disaster Response

Lunch served at 12 Noon; Business meeting to follow

Ingathering:
Non-perishable items for St. Luke Food Pantry
and Lighthouse Ministries

Church Service Time

Sunday

10:00am Divine Service



Bible Studies

Saturday

7:45am Men's Bible Study

Sunday

8:45am Sunday School ages 3-14
8:45am Adult Bible Study Groups