



TRINITY TRANSMITTER

By President Matthew Harrison

Five hundred years ago this month, 32-year-old Martin Luther lived as a monk in Wittenberg. He earned his doctorate and soon began lecturing on the Psalms and Romans and would eventually preach well over 2,000 sermons in the City Church before he died in 1546. What began with Luther studying and lecturing on Scripture eventually led to an explosion that rocked the Christian world and continues to do so. That explosion can be summarized by the three “solas” — that salvation is free by grace alone, apprehended by faith alone and believed from “Scripture alone.”

As we approach the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, you will increasingly see reports of what Luther and his message meant and means today. So what is the Reformation? Hermann Sasse described it as an episode in the history of the *Church*. It is foremost about the *Church* of Jesus Christ. “All [other] attempts to explain the Reformation are abortive . . . because they do not approach the Reformation from that point of view from which alone it can be understood—from the point of view of the reality of the church” [Sasse, *Here We Stand*(Harper, 1938), p. 50].

What’s going on with the Church today? Liberal Protestantism is collapsing worldwide. Rome is busy nuancing its image with a very active pope, yet also churning out new indulgences as though there had never been a Reformation. The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and liberal American and European Lutherans are busy reinterpreting the Reformation as though it were the impetus for the full and final acceptance of homosexuality, bi-sexuality, trans-genderism, etc., in the church. The LWF has a full-scale “hermeneutics” project to convince Lutherans in the Southern Hemisphere that the Bible doesn’t really mean what it means or that it may mean something different in the South than in the North, and we all should just let it mean what it means to each of us and be happy about it.

Fortunately, many in the South are not buying it. As an episode in church history, this anniversary of the Reformation may be part of the greatest revival of the Church and certainly the Lutheran Church since the Reformation itself. We in the LCMS have so many requests for dialogue, partnership and church fellowship that we can’t keep up. These are from huge churches like the Mekane Yesus of Ethiopia and smaller but substantial churches in Ukraine and Norway and elsewhere. What do these churches want? How do *they* interpret the Reformation? *Sola gratia. Sola fide. Sola scriptura!* They want the Gospel. They want clear Lutheran teaching, based squarely on the clear Scriptures.

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TLC Mission Statement:

KNOW CHRIST



SHARE CHRIST



SERVE CHRIST



The real story of the Reformation is about the march of the Church of Jesus Christ in the face of impossible odds — thirsting for Christ and His means of grace, trusting in the Bible as God's inerrant Word, struggling in the North but growing tremendously in the South. The Lord's Church is *one* church, facing Islam and secularism — strong in the weakness of Christ, confident of eternal life.

The Reformation was a movement of repentance. The first thesis of the 95 Theses reads: "When our Lord and master Jesus Christ said 'repent,' he willed that the entire life of the Christian be one of repentance." There is much to repent of in our lives: greed, impure thoughts, gossip, faithlessness. There is much to repent of as a church: shoddy Communion practice; lack of responsible visitation; gossip; second-rate preaching; inadequate teaching of the faith (e.g., one-day instruction classes to join the church); poor relationships among church staff; lack of care for pastors and church workers; lack of Bible class attendance; poor Bible class preparation; disdain for our magnificent Lutheran Confessions; lack of outreach and visitation of members and prospective members; lack of zeal for outreach and sharing the marvelous Gospel of Christ with our unchurched and dechurched neighbors. "Repent!" (See Matt. 3:1ff.; 4:17ff.)

Does this make you angry? Have you nothing to repent of? When I write these things, I think of my own horrid guilt, not yours. Perhaps a dose of Reformation theology would do us both good. Here's what Luther wrote to his friend Spenlein in April 1516: "Beware of aspiring to such purity that you will not wish to be looked upon as a sinner, or to be one. For Christ dwells only in sinners" (Tappert, *Letters of Spiritual Counsel* [Philadelphia, Westminster], p. 110). If "Christ dwells only in sinners," you'd better be one. The future of the Church does not depend upon us sinners. The Reformation has a future. Even more, the Church has a future because, as Sasse noted, Jesus Christ has a future.

TLC Family Care Connections

We pray for...

✠ **Shut-Ins:** Bill Bridges, Evelyn Kowalke, Irene Gestenslager, Eugene & Vada Hurd, Esther McMichael, George Powell, Hellen Strickland, Opal Sroufe, Lillian VonLintel

✠ **Health Concerns:** Jim Baker, Pat Bridges, Kelly Chopp, Johanna Hall, Jay Holste, Gary Kraft, Aspen Phillips, Gloria Magallan, Aaron Schiffelbein, Loretta Schultz, Lupita Tapia, Shannon McCormick, Jana Horsfall, Heather Gashler-Gilbert, Valerie Stewart

If you have a prayer concern, please call the office

****** always obtain permission before sharing another's concerns

Next Meeting for Stephen Ministry

July 11 at 6:30
in the East Wing.



Summer PieceMakers

Wednesdays through August 2
10:00-12:30

Bring a sack lunch and a
servant heart!

Mission Project:
International Rescue
Committee of Garden City

Christian Education

Sunday Morning Bible Studies
10:15 a.m.

Ephesians

The Church: God's Servant

Paul's letter to the Ephesians is about the church and about the fellowship of believers. It is about us. We are part of God's family—a family united in Christ and sustained by the Holy Spirit.

Led by Cynthia in the Meeting Room

The Challenge of Islam

Led by Jim Hewes in the East Wing

Weekday Fellowship Opportunities

Get-together-Girls

meet on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.

Join the ladies for fellowship, devotions, and card ministry. Drop-ins are welcome!

Ladies Summer Bible Study

The Book of James

meet on Wednesdays; 6:30-8:00 at 1001 Fleming
hosted by Kathy Jackson

Study ^{the} Bible
with us



**GOD WILL ALWAYS
LOVE YOU.**

Great Moments at VBS



Thank you for your generosity and help at our annual Vacation Bible School

128 children attended

69 Volunteers

24 Unchurched families visited

3

This is all possible thanks to God's grace and the generosity of you all! A Big thanks to our endowment and the gifts we received because of a great year with our TLC funds!

July 2017 Servants

Worship Assistants
Altar Committee

Roy Cessna & Mark Nelsen
Fern Becker

Acolytes

July	2	Colby Cessna
Saturday	8	Chloe Powell
	9	Jenna Nelson
	16	Calista Davis
Saturday	22	Holley Douglas
	23	Bryce Foreman
	30	Kaleb Reagle

PowerPoint

July	2	Chloe Powell
Saturday	8	Bailey Pauley
	9	Colby Cessna
	16	Bryce Foreman
Saturday	22	Grace Reagle
	23	Alex Foreman
	30	Bailey Pauley

Lectors

July	2	Judy Schweer
Saturday	8	Gerry Schultz
	9	Jerry Bitter
	16	Marty Nusser
Saturday	22	Darett Burr
	23	Ron Hall
	30	Jay Meyer

Nursery

July	2	Grace Reagle
	9	Bailey Pauley
	16	Tonya Chmielewski
	23	Bailey Pauley
	30	Brianna Pauley

Notice to ALL servants:

This is a very important service to the church. Please take this seriously. If this time does not work for you, it is your responsibility to find a replacement or trade with someone else. You may call Katy at the church office, 276-3110 for suggestions or phone numbers.

Wednesday Summer Youth Activities

Youth Ministry at 6:30 through the month of June.
Seeking leadership for July and August.

Future Calendar:

Summer Camp
Senior High at LVR
July 16-21



Registered: Holley Douglas,
Alex Foreman, Clara Jackson,
Bailey Pauley, Grace Reagle,
Jacynnda & Jaycob Vargas.
Additional up the charter bus;
three from Liberal, 4 from Dodge
City and picking up two in Scott City on the way.

The Annual Canoe Trip is August 2-5

Cost is \$140 but for members of Trinity the cost is
only \$80.00 which covers meals,
transportation, camping and rental.
July 16, registrations are due.



Dare to Share September 23
Podcast at Cornerstone
Presented by Garden City Youth
Pastors

Junior High Rally
September 29-30

District Youth Gathering
November 17-19

SEPT. 23, 2017

Young Adult Ministry! (YAMs)

Post High School through 30's will meet twice a
month on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month
right after Saturday evening
worship services.



Christ Has Made us Free

July is a month when Americans are especially grateful for the privilege of living in this country. We recognize that our freedom has been won at great cost. Much blood was shed and many lives lost, and, at this time of year, we take time to honor those who fought to liberate us. Our spiritual freedom, too, was won at great cost. We were slaves to the Law which we could never fulfill, but Christ satisfied its requirements for us. He shed His blood and gave His life to pay the penalty for the sin we incurred. Let us honor Him as we express our gratitude by sharing with others the message of our freedom in Christ.

Prayer: Lord, I thank You for the freedom that I have in America and in Christ. I thank You for Your atoning work on the Christ that has truly set me free. Help me to live a life worthy of all that You are and do for me. Through Christ my intercessor. Amen.

Blessing on your stewardship journey!



Darett Burr	7/1		Hannah Meyer	7/17
Alice Banning		7/2	Brett Powell	7/17
Jacque Griffin		7/2	Larry Wilken	7/17
Colton Obregon		7/2	Klent McMillan	7/18
Connor Schultz	7/3		Sharon Parks	7/18
Manuel Gevara		7/4	Daniel McMillan	7/20
Coleman Wasson		7/4	Gretchen Hogan	7/21
Joanna Boles	7/5		Loretta Schultz	7/21
Payton Blevins		7/6	Ginger Douglas	7/22
Debra Schiffelbein		7/6	Cody Drees	7/22
Evan Creacy	7/7		Dorothy Mueller	7/23
Kyler Line	7/7		Monte Algrim	7/24
Sean White		7/9	Doug Petersen	7/26
Aiden Barber	7/10		Eugene Hurd	7/27
Jacob Eckert	7/10		Gloria Martinez	7/27
Christine Neeb	7/10		Rick Foreman	7/28
Jim Hemmert		7/11	Mary Lee Molz	7/28
Bernice Robinson		7/11	Tammy Lampe	7/30
Ashley Simmons		7/11	Kyler Millershaski	7/30
Faith Bascue	7/12		Otis Molz	7/30
Kashly Schweer	7/12		Fern Becker	7/31
Jay Meyer		7/13	Evan Nelson	7/31
Artemio Rodriguez		7/13		
Devin Fisher	7/15			

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



Manuel & Kathy Gevara	7/6	
Gerry & Loretta Schultz		7/12
Noel & Norma Simpson	7/14	
Gary & Jana Millershaski		7/16
Tim & Diann Stone	7/24	
Jesse & Jaclyn Vargas		7/27
Ed & Alice Banning	7/28	
Jim & Joyce Baker		7/29

500 Reformation Five Hundred Years 1517-2017



Return Service Requested

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Trinity Lutheran Church : Vision Statement

To create a 21st century mission post in southwest Kansas where people of all ages are touched by the love of Jesus in dynamic worship, Bible study and fellowship;

A mission post where persistent efforts will be made to equip disciples, using every resource the Spirit makes available, to share Christ with everyone.

Mission Minded

Inspired to use spiritual gifts

Serving in love

Seeking the lost

Integrating all members

Ongoing education for all

Nurturing family environment

Praying priesthood

Opportunities for giving/receiving God's grace

Scripturally focused

Touched by Christ's love