



St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church
508 North Chicago Road
Thornton, IL 60476

Address Service Requested



The Glad Spirit St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

October – November 2016



IT IS REALLY

BIG!

Dear Friends in Christ:

At the end of October, we are getting ready for something big, really BIG! It is the 500th

anniversary of the Reformation which takes place a year from now, on October 31, 2017.

You might think, can this really be that big? Well, yes it is? We celebrate anniversaries of things all the time, weddings, birthdays, personal accomplishments, and we even remember personal losses, such as a death in the family. On a larger scale our nation celebrates historical events, such as Independence Day and Pearl Harbor Day. This however is larger yet. People on every continent will be celebrating the Reformation. We have been promised that there will even be television specials in about a year focusing on the events of the Reformation.

Some may think, why bother celebrating. Isn't the Reformation nothing more than Martin Luther nailing something to a church door? It may seem that way. Luther was an obscure German monk who had a number of thoughts floating through his mind (95 to be exact). He formulated them into theses and posted them on the castle church door in Wittenberg, Germany

for everyone to see. It seems such a simple thing, but it set off a firestorm.

Luther's act was the beginning of a sea change in the course of history of the world. The Reformation brought about the beginning of the Lutheran Church and opened the door for all sorts of other Protestant churches. It brought about enormous changes in the way schools and colleges educate students. It brought about the whole printing and publishing business utilizing a piece of new technology called the printing press. Through the Reformation, common, ordinary people could read, learn and understand the Bible. The Reformation has touched every man, woman, and child who has lived in the last 500 years.

At the turn of the millennium Life magazine ranked the Reformation right behind the discovery of America as the second most influential event of the last 1000 years. It also ranked Luther as the third most important historical figure behind Edison and Columbus.

While all these things are big, really BIG, we cannot forget the greatest aspect of the Reformation. That is that you and I and everyone in the world has access to the Gospel message of salvation in and through our Lord Jesus Christ. Having the Gospel message is BIG, In fact it is bigger than BIG!

Beginning on October 30 when we observe Reformation Sunday, we will begin a year-long celebration of what is that God has accomplished for us through the hard work and devotion of Martin Luther and many others who assisted him in bringing about these changes in the world and especially in bringing us the Gospel. Get ready for something BIG!

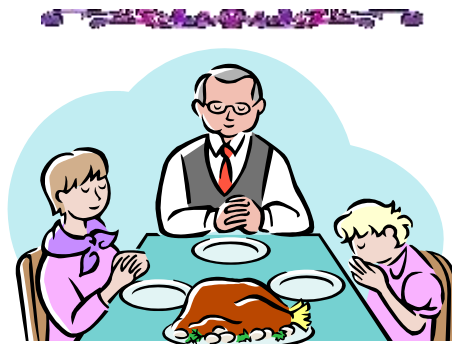
In Christ,
Pastor Wahl



Sunday School Corner

Sunday School is officially off and running! We enjoy seeing and talking with the kids each Sunday. This is the time of year when calendars start to get busy, the holidays are beginning!

There are many great events coming up soon involving Sunday School and the church. Please be looking in the bulletin for information on Reformation as it gets closer. Also be ready, because before we know it, the Christmas program will be upon us! :-). If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions about Sunday School please do not hesitate to talk to Kathy Dejnowski or Dana Krieger. Enjoy the fall and continue the Lord's praises!



For all we are, for what we have, for all our Blessings Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Our Thanksgiving Worship Service will be Sunday November 20th at 4 PM followed by a Traditional Turkey dinner.

Roasted Turkey and gravy will be provided and we ask everyone to sign up and bring the fixins. So as to have a good variety, signup sheets for desserts, veggies, salads and stuffing are posted on the bulletin board in the parish hall. See where your favorite dish will fit in and sign-up.

A free will offering will be taken for the general fund.





REFORMATION SERVICE

On Sunday, October 30, we will observe the 499th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation in our worship service.

The Reformation encompasses a whole series of events which led to the formation the Lutheran Church and Protestantism in general. It began with the nailing of the 95 theses on the castle church door on October 31, 1517 by Martin Luther. In fact, we will not just observe it that one Sunday, we are beginning a year-long celebration of the Reformation that will continue until October 29, 2017 when we will observe the 500th anniversary. This will be a year in which we focus on all the events which make up this unique period of history

Following the 9:45 a.m. worship service there will be a Reformation pot-luck dinner served in the church fellowship hall. Come to celebrate something special. After all, how often do we have a 500th anniversary?



Searching **SCRIPTURE**

Four 'Alones'

Sola is the Latin word for "alone." For the Reformers, four solas rang through Sacred Scripture: grace alone, faith alone, Scripture alone, Christ alone. With the help of the Hymn of the Day for Reformation, "Salvation unto Us Has Come" (LSB 555), let's examine what Scripture says about each sola.

If a Lutheran Service Book is available, sing or recite stanza 1 of "Salvation unto Us Has Come." (LSB will enhance this study, but you can proceed without it.)

*Salvation unto us has come
By God's free grace and favor;
Good works cannot avert our doom,
They help and save us never
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,
Who did for all the world atone;
He is our one Redeemer.*

Grace Alone!

Read Eph. 2:4-10. How did God show His great love for us? What was OUR condition when this love was given us? Cf. Rom. 5:8. ____

What did God do for us in Christ? (For another way of describing this, see 2 Cor. 5:19.) ____

Discuss: Why did God do this? What does "by grace" mean? Do good works come before, or follow after, grace?

Now sing or recite stanza 6 of LSB 555.

Faith Alone!

Read Rom. 3:19-28. What does the Law do to all people? Is it possible for anyone to be justified by "works of the Law"? Why? Cf. Matt. 5:48. ____

How did God "manifest" His righteousness apart from Law? Why is there no distinction? ____

Discuss: What did God set our Lord Jesus before us as? How is He to be received? How is God "just" and the "justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus"?

What does St. Paul conclude about justification? What does "apart from works of the Law" end up excluding?

Sing or recite stanza 9.

Scripture Alone!

Read John 8:31-36. What did our Lord say to the Jews who had believed in Him? ____

How do we do that? Cf. Col. 3:16. ____

What does His Word teach us? Cf. Jesus' prayer in John 17:17. ____

What does the Word teach us about our bondage to sin? Cf. Ps. 51:5; Eph. 2:1-3. ____

Discuss: What does the Word teach us about the freedom we have in Christ? How does the Son set us free? Cf. Eph. 1:13, 14; Col. 2:13, 14.

Sing or recite stanza 7.

Christ Alone!

Read Acts 4:1-12. Why were the apostles in jail, and what did the officials want to know from them? How did St. Peter answer their question?_____

Discuss: What does St. Peter proclaim about Jesus? Why is there salvation in no other name? Cf. John 14:6. What is the unique gift that comes only through Jesus' name? Cf. Acts 12:43.

Sing or recite stanza 8.

Sola, then: grace, faith, Scripture, and all because there's only one Lord Jesus in whom we can be saved! On Reformation Day, we thank God for bringing such joyful truths to light again through the work of Martin Luther and the other reformers. A blessed Reformation festival to all!

Rev. William Weedon (weedon.blogspotcom) is pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Kamel, Ill.

Reprinted from *The Lutheran Witness* Vol.128 No. 10



Special Thanks - to a large number of people who worked hard to enable our congregation to celebrate with much enthusiasm a special memorial service in commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the 9-11 terrorist attacks on our nation. To prepare for this special service we had people who cleaned the church building from top to bottom, tended the lawn, made food, sent invitations, put up banners and flags, and a number of other tasks that had to be done. We had good attendance that day, including folks from the local community. Thanks to everyone, you made something special happen.

Come You Thankful People Come

St. Paul will have its annual Thanksgiving Service and Turkey Dinner on Sunday, November 20, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. While Thanksgiving is not a day on the liturgical calendar, it nonetheless a time for us all to give pause to remember that we are blessed beyond imagination. We have a multitude of temporal blessings in this world in terms of food, health, home, and work. However our spiritual blessings are certainly not outnumbered. We have every reason to be thankful for God's mercy, grace, forgiveness, eternal security,, and His abundant peace. So come to this special service. Bring friends and family. Come and Be Thankful!

All Saints Sunday

Following the tradition of Christians through the years, we will observe "All Saints" Sunday on November 6 in our 9:45 a.m. worship service. This is the time we remember all the faithful people who have lived and gone on before us to The Lord's throne in eternity. We especially remember those who have left us within the past 12 months, since November 1 a year ago. If you have a loved one you wish to remember on this day, we encourage you to let us know so that their name may be included in our remembrance. Below is an information blank you may return to the church office.

Your Name _____

Name _____

Date of death _____

Relationship _____



Mr. and Mrs. John M. Jeka

John M. Jeka and Connie A. Bambulas were united into the bonds of Holy Matrimony on September 17, 2016 in a service of Christian Marriage conducted at St. Paul's altar by Pastor Wahl. We congratulate and pray the richest of The Lord's Blessings on this couple as they begin their life together. "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:7 ESV)



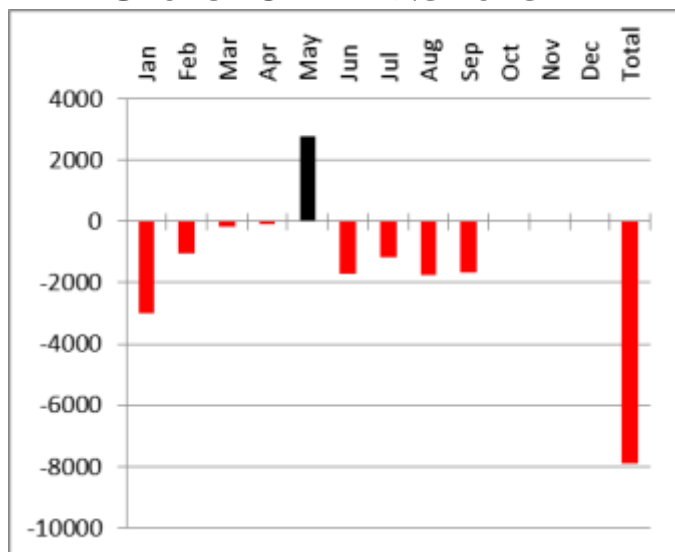
+ Verne C. Graves +

Verne C. Graves of our congregation entered eternity on August 6, 2016 at the age of 94years. Verne had been a long-time active member. A service of Christian burial was conducted from St. Paul's altar on August 11 by Pastor John Holyer in Pastor Wahl's absence. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Dorothy of 67 years and to his 6 children, 12 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren along with other family and friends. "I am the resurrection and the life.[d] Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." (John 11:26 ESV)

+ Dolores J. Pfeifer +

Delores J. Pfeifer, age 84 entered eternity on September 30, 2016. Dolores was a former member of St. Paul congregation for many years prior to re-locating in Lawton, Michigan, While at St. Paul, Dolores was active in many ways. She sang in the choir and served as church office secretary. Pastor Wahl officiated at a Christian memorial service on October 3 from St. Paul's altar. We extend our deepest sympathies to her sons Scott and Timothy Pfeifer, her 4 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!" (Revelation 14:13 ESV)

CHURCH OPERATING BUDGET



Bottom numbers, (negative), are shortfall
 Top numbers, are surplus
 Deficits are withdrawn from savings

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church



SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

September - May

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Harold Wahl, Pastor
508 N. Chicago Road
Thornton, IL 60476
Voice & Fax (708) 877-6564

www.splcms.org
www.facebook.com/splcms
office@splcms.org
pastor@splcms.org

Church Office Hours
9 to Noon Monday thru Friday.

Bulletin Deadline
Thursday by 10 a.m.

Contact the church office to submit
personal testimonials about what God
has done for you. Or original art that is
inspirational or humorous to the artist.

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Chairman Bill Sommer
Vice Chairman David Bloom
Recording Sec. Tracy Middleton
Financial Sec. Robert Brandy
Treasurer Chris Carr
Elder Ed Hoeksema
Steven Michels
Henry Sella
Jack Swan
Brian Wiltjer
Jerry Wiltjer
Trustee Dean Bloom
Earl Bloom
Jerry Smith

Stewardship

Evangelism Debi Brandy
Social Ministry Norma Allen
Sandy Budde

S. S. Super. Kathy Dejonowski

Asnt. Super. Dana Krieger

Adult Director

Youth Director

October

2 Barbara Hoeksema	15 David Hudson Jr.
3 Sandi Ovalle	Ashley Orendorff
Ruth Roberts	16 Nicholas Plecas
Connor Sheridan	18 Dolly Tatgenhorst
Judy Wilmington	19 Jayden Wisely
7 Kaylee Krieger	21 Austin Kukulski
8 Chris Altmann	Daniel Zander
10 Phillip Rick	22 Barry Diekelman
12 Judy Bloom	25 Donald Pearson
13 Madelaine Zander	Erik Schassburger
14 Chris Farris	29 Joyce Arsenault
Payton Vandommelen	31 Janice Reichert



Wish These Friends a
"Happy Birthday!"

November

1 Kimberly McCrary	19 Don Esler Jr.
5 Andrew Bahm	21 Nicholas Carr
6 Sarah Pfeifer	24 Debi Brandy
8 David Hager	Judy Diekelman
Laura Schassburger	Loretta Manns
9 John Chiattello	27 Travis Middleton
Irene Gall	Dustin Tatgenhorst
Robbie Jarden	Danielle Zander
10 Kathie Bodza	Sean Zander
Anthony Conway	28 Brenda Jarden
Nicole Reichert	Hope Krieger
11 Jeffrey Michels	Bert Wilmington
14 Alexis McGrath	29 Samantha Kolosh
16 Matthew Farris	30 Ellen Krencjarz
18 Cayden Parker	Jennifer Sella



The advantages of being Adam and Eve

Someone once suggested that Adam and Eve must have had a marriage with little conflict. Adam didn't have to listen to Eve talk about all the other fellows she could have married. And Eve didn't have to hear Adam boast about what a great cook his mother was.

OCTOBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 8:00am Parish Hall
2 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	3	4 7:30pm Elders Meeting	5 6:00pm Confirmation Class	6	7	8 9:00am Trustee Work Day
9 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	10 7:00pm Council Meeting	11	12 6:00pm Confirmation Class	13 7:00pm Book Club	14	15
16 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	17	18	19 6:00pm Confirmation Class	20	21	22
23 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service 11:00am Voters Meeting	24	25	26 6:00pm Confirmation Class	27	28	29
30 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service 11:00am Reformation Pot Luck	31					

NOVEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:30pm Elders Meeting	2 6:00pm Confirmation Class	3	4	5
6 2:00am Turn clocks back for standard time 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	7	8	9 6:00pm Confirmation Class	10 7:00pm Book Club	11 2:00pm Parish Hall	12 9:00am Trustee Work Day
13 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	14 7:00pm Council Meeting	15	16 6:00pm Confirmation Class	17	18	19
20 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service 4:00pm Thanksgiving Worship Service and Pot Luck/Dinner	21	22	23 6:00pm Confirmation Class	24	25	26
27 8:30am Bible Class 8:30am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	28	29	30 9:30am Advent Worship Service 10:30am Advent Breakfast 5:00pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm Advent Pot-luck 7:30pm Advent Worship Service			