



Reformation 501

by Pastor Michael Woldt

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501 doesn't have the same ring as 500. Yet each year on October 31st, Lutherans pause to observe an event that usually receives little attention from anyone else – the Lutheran Reformation. On October 31st, a German monk named Martin Luther posted ninety-five statements for debate on the door of the castle church in Wittenberg. These statements challenged the buying and selling of indulgences promoted by the church of Luther's day. Indulgences were said to give people relief from some of the punishment they would have to suffer for their sins. However, Luther had discovered from his own reading of Scripture that forgiveness of sins was not a commodity to be sold or marketed. Forgiveness of sins was a free gift from God, purchased by the blood of Jesus.

How could the church of Luther's day have fallen so far from the truth? How could people be so gullible as to believe that God's forgiveness could be purchased with a sum of money? What about all the other troubles Luther began to see in the church five hundred and one years ago: the veneration of relics and saints; viewing Holy Communion as a good work or sacrifice that we do for God, rather than God's gift to us; the monastic system designed on the premise that a person could achieve a greater holiness by following human rules? The list could go on.

How had the church fallen so far from the truth? Here's the answer. The church, pastors and people alike, were not paying attention to the Word of God. One of the greatest blessings God gave to the church through Martin Luther was a Bible in the language of the people. Luther translated the pages of the Old and New Testaments into German. Now people wouldn't have to depend on anyone else to tell them what the Bible said. They could read God's Word for themselves. Like the Bereans in the apostle Paul's day, people could go back and check if everything they were being taught by their church was true.

The devil sees an opening for attack whenever and wherever God's Word is neglected. Do you remember the Old Testament accounts of a king named Josiah?

Josiah was one of Judah's kings. He began ruling at the age of eight. When he was a young man, a copy of the Book of the Law (the writings of Moses we know as the first five books of the Bible) was discovered in the temple. When the Word of God was read to Josiah, he tore his robe and wept because he realized that he and the people were not living and worshipping according to the will of God. Josiah instituted reforms to change spiritual life in Israel. Unfortunately, those reforms did not last very long. (See 2 Kings 22, 23).

Do you remember the name Ezra from the Old Testament? Ezra was a priest who lived about 450 years before the birth of Jesus. At that time Nehemiah led an effort to rebuild Jerusalem's walls, which had been destroyed by the Babylonians. Ezra read the Word of God to the people. Levites helped translate and explain God's Word to people who didn't understand Hebrew. It happened again. The reading caused tears to flow. The people wept because they saw how far they had drifted from what God required of them. However, the people were encouraged not to grieve. They were told to celebrate with joy ... because the Lord had revealed himself as a gracious God who called these very people to be his own. What the people heard that day was a message of law and gospel, a message of sin and grace! They heard the same message we hear Sunday after Sunday in public worship. (See Nehemiah 8).

Pray God that our congregation and synod will never need the type of reformation that took place in the days of Josiah or Ezra or Luther. Pray that we never neglect God's Word that completely. However, it remains true that each and every one of us needs a personal reformation each and every day. We need to go back to God's Word, see our sins and then rejoice in the salvation we have in Jesus! It's been 501 years since Luther, going on 502. Let's never lose the lessons of the Reformation!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
SENIORS**

Leola Herther (10/1)
Gene Graff (10/8)
William Loeffler (10/10)
Alfred Nunez (10/14)
Neil Thompson (10/15)
Audrey Prange (10/21)
Joyce Thiesfeldt (10/30)
Omi Mahnke (10/31)

October 2018 GREETERS

October 7	7:45am	n/a
	10:15am	Brian & Pam Lee
October 14	7:45am	NO SERVICE
	10:15am	Brian & Pam Lee
October 21	7:45am	n/a
	10:15am	n/a
October 28	7:45am	n/a
	10:15am	Joel & Carrie Hinz

175th SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

October 14, 2018

Special Celebration Service at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School on Sunday October 14th, at 10:15am with lunch to follow on David's Star campus. WELS President Mark Schroeder will preach for this service. ***There will be no other services on that weekend.***

WALKING GROUP - All are welcome to walk with us on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00am-9:00am. Feel free to come when you can and leave when you need to. Walking will continue in the gym and outdoors when the weather permits. Please Park in the South lot.

NORTHSIDE LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

(NSLM) is a mission outreach to the inner city of Milwaukee and is affiliated with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. We are running a **WINTER clothing drive** for NSLM from **Oct 13th to Oct 20th**. PLEASE ONLY WINTER items. They do not have storage space. Warm clothing for all sizes, baby through adult. They especially need hats and gloves for adults and men's clothing. There will be containers in the gathering space. Any questions, contact Elaine Rusch at 262-573-0866. Thank you to all who choose to help!!

WOMEN'S THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

- All Women of the Congregation are invited to attend Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study. We meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 9:30 in the multipurpose room.

Our theme is, "Trust in God's Timing." Please bring your Bible and hymnal. It's a blessing to be in the Word together!

**175TH ANNIVERSARY FACTS
DID YOU KNOW?**

It was decided in 1888 to improve the system of salary payment to both the pastor and teacher by creating a treasury fund. The pastor was to receive \$500 per year and be paid quarterly. Each communicant member was to pay \$1 annually plus \$.02 per acre. The teacher received \$350 annually and parents paid \$3 per child plus \$.01 per acre of land into the fund. Prior to that members individually paid the called workers, often in wheat, butter, or eggs.

***NEW* THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY -**

This pastor led study meets weekly, on Thursdays, in the multipurpose room at 7:00pm. We are studying Genesis chapters 1-11. Bring your favorite bible or you can use one that is provided.

TAKING OUR WORSHIP TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

- Are you computer savvy enough to watch our streamed worship service on a computer or other device? Are you savvy enough to connect that device to a digital TV with a cable? Do you have compassion for the sick and homebound with time to visit them? We have at least one member who would love to see our worship services streamed if only there would be someone who could do it for her. If you are that person, talk to Pastor Loescher for details.

REPLACEMENT HYMNALS ON WISH LIST

The Christian Worship hymnals we use regularly for worship are showing a good deal of wear. The Council has approved seeking donations for replacements. We will purchase replacement hymnals as gifts are received. The cost for each hymnal is approximately \$25. If you wish to donate money to purchase one or more hymnals, please place your donation in the envelope provided located on the kiosk in the gathering space or on the table in the old narthex.

THANK YOU!

for your regular support of ministry here at David's Star through your weekly/monthly offerings to the operating budget, debt retirement, 175th Thankoffering, and the money given for ministries outside of our congregation.

There are so many ways the members of this congregation show their appreciation for the love of Jesus! To God be the glory!

WELS CHRISTIAN AID and RELIEF Looking for a way to assist people and churches affected by recent local flooding and tornadoes? Consider a gift through WELS Christian Aid and Relief. Donations can be made through the WELS website (www.wels.net) or can be forwarded through our congregation if you create your own envelope indicating a gift to **WELS Christian Aid and Relief Fund # 312**.

WANTED! Volunteers to join David's Star communion committee for 2019. A minimal time commitment only requires setting up communion bread and wine before, and/or cleaning up after, an average of three services a year. Couples and families with older children are encouraged to sign up! This can be a great thing to do together with one or two family members. Generally, you can request your preferred months of the year and preferred service times. Contact Leah Wank at leahpwank@gmail.com or 414-614-0453 if interested.

COUNCIL CAPSULE - HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

Incoming: None
Outgoing: None

Pastors' Report

Confirmation classes have begun. Working to establish new bible study opportunities for congregation members. This month brings a symposium on pastoral leadership at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, and next month, our fall Pastor's conference with presentations on apologetics (defending the faith when the gospel's credibility is questioned on the basis of flawed human thinking and arguments). Pastor Woldt will be attending three additional meetings (Governing Board at Martin Luther College, WELS Board for Ministerial Education in Saginaw, Michigan, and SEW Circuit Pastors and District Council in Muskego, WI), but neither pastor plans to be gone for an extended period before Christmas. Pastor Loescher will be attending a family wedding one weekend in

September, and, Lord-willing, Pastor Woldt may gone one Sunday to attend the baptism of a grandchild whose birth is expected to occur early October.

Presidents Report (Paul Steinbrenner)

Last week of pictorial directory is going on this week. First week was not well attended, but this week is nearly full.

Anniversary Committee

One major event left, on October 14th. Hoping for a good turnout. Matched the \$20,000 offer for July and August 175th Anniversary gifts.

Buildings and Grounds (Glenn Miller)

Our September meeting included a work night. The B&G team knocked out a number of tasks around the school. Pastor Woldt's bathroom repair has been completed. We are waiting for quotes on the school flooring and the parking lots/driveways. Driveways are in better shape than originally thought. Next B&G meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 9th at 6:30pm.

Evangelism Committee (Andrew Loescher)

Living nativity being planned in December, most likely at Cedarburg Creek Farms. Outreach Sunday October 21st. Discussion how we want to use social media.

Stewardship Committee (David Zarling)

Try to highlight missions outside our congregation, as we are behind on giving this year. Next year's budget spreadsheets will be coming out in October.

Spiritual Growth Committee (Jon Kruse)

Adult Bible study started. New video-based Bible study starting. New Thursday Bible study. Oasis kick off meeting. Dave Martin will lead study on Colossians in November/December.

Treasurer Report (Joshua Boeldt)

August Operating Budget

Glory be to the Lord! The total offerings for August were \$52,509, which is about 8.3% lower than the budgeted offerings. The total income for the month was 9.1% lower than budgeted and is about 0.5% lower than the budget for the year to date. The actual expenses for August were about 4.9% lower than the budgeted amount and are nearly the same as the budget for the year to date. The actual change for the month was \$2,440 worse than the anticipated budgeted change for the month.

The overall fund balance at the end of August shows a deficit of \$58,622.

August Ministries Beyond our Congregation

The remittances in August for the WELS mission were 11% lower than budgeted for, while the KMLHS operating mission remittances were 27% lower than budget. The KML Joyful Noise remittances were 30% lower than the amount budgeted for. The Multi Language Publication remittances were nearly double the budgeted amount. The total amount remitted for all missions was about 4.7% lower than the amount budgeted for August, and is 9.4% lower year to date.

2018 August Building Fund

The mortgage loan balance at the end of August is \$1,017,248. The council's objective is to maintain a \$100,000 cushion in the building fund debt account—our balance at 8/31/18 was \$100,002. An extra principal payment of \$13,400 was made in August.

New Business

Identify replacement hymnals as a priority for wish list.

Information regarding KMLHS Capital Campaign: Pastor's willing to work with Dave Zarling to put out information to the congregation on Sunday, Sept. 28, 2018

Items for 2019 Annual Voters' Meeting (Date TBD)
DS WELS Ministerial Student Assistance Funding update

Next Council Meeting: (7pm; October 16, 2018)

Parish Nurse News



DAVID'S STAR LUTHERAN CHURCH GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

This is the time of year that we especially remember the saints who have gone on to Heaven before us. We remember with thanksgiving and joy the times we had together, and also with sadness because we miss those whom we've loved. We also take comfort in the hope of a reunion in Heaven someday.

In keeping with this, Pastor Kurt Loescher and I wish to offer a peer support group for families who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Come to a safe, non-judgmental environment for

understanding the challenges and feelings of grieving. Find your way with the Word of God and share stories as you are comfortable.

When: 8 sessions beginning **October 1st** on Mondays from 7:00pm-8:00pm

Where: David's Star Multipurpose Room

A gentle reminder! The flu season is fast approaching and your parish nurses wish to encourage young and old to go for a flu shot! Influenza is a respiratory infection that produces fever, chills, sore throat, muscle aches, and cough that lasts a week or more. The flu can be deadly for the elderly and those with compromised immune systems or who are suffering from diabetes, kidney dysfunction and heart disease. The best way to prevent flu is by getting a flu vaccine each year. Dan and I will both be going for ours! Most likely at Walgreens. What about you?

Your sister in Christ,
Sue Bolha RN, 677-3485
parishnurse@davidstar.org

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 28th
Sunday, November 25th

Screenings take place in the nurses office located off of the gathering space, east of the elevator, between services.



Evangelism Help Needed

Are you task oriented, and really don't like committee meetings with more talk than action? You are exactly who the Evangelism committee is looking for! Maybe you love to create, or design work and put it into motion. We have three volunteer positions right now that would greatly aid our congregation in getting the message of forgiveness to our neighbors.

1. Creating banners and post cards.
2. Designing and implementing prospect management.
3. Designing and implementing new member welcome.

For more information or to discuss, please call, text, or email Andrew Loescher at (989) 996-5076 or andrewloescher@yahoo.com

A LETTER RECEIVED - Our heartfelt congratulations to the members of David's Star congregation for celebrating the blessings of 175 years of Christian service. May our Lord continue to use each one of you in future years to come to represent His love in thankful response to the gift of our salvation. It is with great thankfulness that the Weigel family looks back to our time at David's Star. During the 16 years we shared with you, we experienced God's love and grace as we grew together in faith and fellowship. We often refer to this time in Kirchhayn as "our best years" because of the wonderful relationships that were fostered as we worked together sharing God's hope for salvation and love for those in our community. In all that we do in the future may it always be for the glory of God. Pastor & Mrs. Christoph Weigel & family.

LWMS (Lutheran Women's Mission Society) FALL RALLY - All ladies are invited to attend the Fall Rally on Saturday, **October 20th** at Faith Lutheran Church, W244 N6383 Weaver Dr., Sussex. The Speaker will be Adam Lambrecht. Learn how a vicar prepares through experiences in the mission field, and about mission work in our city, Milwaukee. *Remember* we will also be having a special collection for the two Wisconsin Lutheran College women who are traveling to volunteer in our Zambia, Africa Mission. If you would like to carpool, please be at David's Star by the gym entrance at 8am.

CAMM (Central Africa Medical Mission)

September Update – Shared by Linda Liesener

"Lord, Why did you pick me? What can I do to help people all the way over in Zambia and Malawi? How can I help give tens of thousands of people healthcare?" All of these are thoughts that have passed through my mind in the last 5 years but especially as I was chosen to be the chairman of the CAMM in late 2017. I am confident that thoughts just like these also passed through the minds of my fellow committee members – Cindy Fietzer (Nurse Coordinator) and Cheryl Valus (Contact Woman Coordinator) and advisory member, Mike Valus – as we were all about to board the airplane to Malawi. Every few years, the Central Africa Medical Mission sends a few committee members to the field in order to make sure that our ex-pat volunteers in Malawi and our national workers in Zambia have the support that they need. In July 2018, that is exactly what we were asked to do!

Malawi – The Warm Heart of Africa – is exactly that. The people are kind, smiling, have a great sense of humor and live every day in poverty. Poverty is hard.

As we drove out to our clinic in Suzi, the first thing we all noticed was the litter. There is litter everywhere because of the lack of basic infrastructure like sanitation services.

BUT there are also mountains and green farmer fields and children who see the ambulance pass that are waving and smiling and running after us. When we pulled up to the clinic grounds, we see that the Malawians are resourceful – there is a market at the clinic site because the villagers know that there will be people attending our clinic. We see expecting mothers, parents with their children and sick people waiting for the clinic services to start. We see our clinic staff member, Mrs. Howa, educating the patients on diabetes signs and treatment. We hear them singing along to the song that she uses to end the education. And we see smiles – smiles at the visitors who stand out, who don't know exactly where to go or what to do. For Malawi to be called The Warm Heart of Africa is a perfect description.

After our week in Malawi, we went to Zambia. Zambia and Malawi are very different and so are our clinic services in each country. In Malawi, we have 4 clinic sites that our staff travels out to each week. In Zambia, we have one stand-alone clinic in Mwembezi. This clinic is run by Nationals with Mr. Jackson Kalekwa at the helm. Here we offer care 24/7 – including delivering babies. We encourage expecting mothers to come to the clinic to deliver instead of staying in their homes, so we can help if something goes wrong. We also encourage them to bring their newborn babies to the clinic within their first days so that we can assess them for their overall health. In Zambia, the culture says that the baby should not leave the home for 40 days, so we do have trouble getting the moms to bring their babies in. Watch for a request from Cheryl in the upcoming months on how you can help us with a project that we will be doing to help provide incentives for the moms to bring their babies in to be checked.

Finally, one letter is NOT enough for us to share the news from the clinics and what we saw when we went to Malawi and Zambia. In November, we are going to be doing a campaign where each of us will be sharing a more personal experience with you both in this letter and on Facebook. We know that each of us can give a different perspective on how the little that we do impacts tens of thousands of people every year.

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:40

Shelly Sievert

CAMMc Chairman

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