



Ascension Lutheran Church

ANNOUNCER

Dear Lutherans...

...yes, I wrote it! We are indeed “Lutherans,” Christians in the tradition of Martin Luther, who nailed to the door of Castle Church his Ninety-five Theses in 1517, which ignited the Reformation. But is it not sectarian to call ourselves “Lutheran”? Wouldn’t it be better to just call ourselves “Christian”? For Paul admonishes the saints in Corinth, “What I mean is that each one of you says, ‘I follow Paul,’ or ‘I follow Apollos,’ or ‘I follow Cephas,’ or ‘I follow Christ.’ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ...For when one says, ‘I follow Paul,’ and another, ‘I follow Apollos,’ are you not being merely human?” (1 Cor 1:12-13; 3:4).

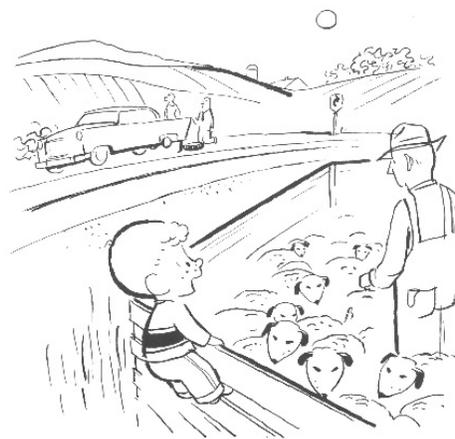
Luther himself wrote in 1522, “I ask that my name be left silent and people not call themselves Lutheran, but rather Christians. Who is Luther? The doctrine is not mine. I have been crucified for no one. ...How should I, a poor stinking bag of worms, become so that the children of Christ are named with my unholy name? It should not be dear friends. Let us extinguish all factious names and be called Christians whose doctrine we have” (AE 45). But, much like the moniker “Lutheran,” the name “Christian” was coined by outsiders and opponents as a slight (Acts 26:28; 1 Pet 4:16). In fact, the Roman historian Tacitus writes, “[Emperor] Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace” (*Annals* XV). The first name for “Christians” was actually those belonging to “the Way” (Acts 9:2; 19:9, 23; 22:4; 24:22), also described by others as a “sect” (Acts 24:5, 14; 28:22). But following persecution, the name “Christian” was embraced by believers and turned from an insult to a badge of honor in the truth of Christ! The name “Christian,” originating as a derogatory taunt, became the name by which others knew of one’s belief. Likewise, when the Roman Catholic theologian Johann Eck disparaged reformers by calling them “Lutherans,” they began wearing that name not to

displace the name “Christian,” but as a badge of honor in the truth of Christ as they proclaimed the gospel reclaimed during the Reformation.

Some might find this reasoning flawed. Some might say that we should power through the insults and keep the name “Christian” or “the Way.” I respond that we have not forsaken the name “Christian,” but uphold it in our confession in the tradition of the Apostles’, Nicene, and Athanasian creeds. In addition, what does one do when a name is sullied by those who unilaterally take that same name for themselves? For a time, the German churches called themselves the “Evangelical” church (see the Solid Declaration of the Formula of Concord, Preface 3, 7), which makes sense because “evangelical” means “gospel.” But radical reformers, who discarded the truth that God’s grace is given through the Word and Sacraments, stole this name for themselves, thereby tarnishing the truth that the German Evangelical churches taught. Something similar persists even today, because I think many people in America understand that “Evangelicalism” means something very different than “Lutheranism.” We can try to redeem our namesake, but when a disparate voice becomes loud enough, we assume the opponent’s epithet and retort, “You rightly say who we are, because we stand in the truth!”... just like the “Christians” did 2,000 years ago.

So, this 500th anniversary of the Reformation, I say wear the name “Lutheran” with pride as a confession in the truth of Christ! Display your Luther rose and make known your tradition that changed the course of the Western church, uncovering the gospel of Jesus and proclaiming His death alone as that which saves! And as an un-shameless plug, I urge you to invite your friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to our Reformation Hymn Sing and Dinner on Sunday, October 29 @ 2:30pm, so they can hear the history, theology, and hymnody that continues in a tradition of the “one holy Christian and Apostolic Church”!

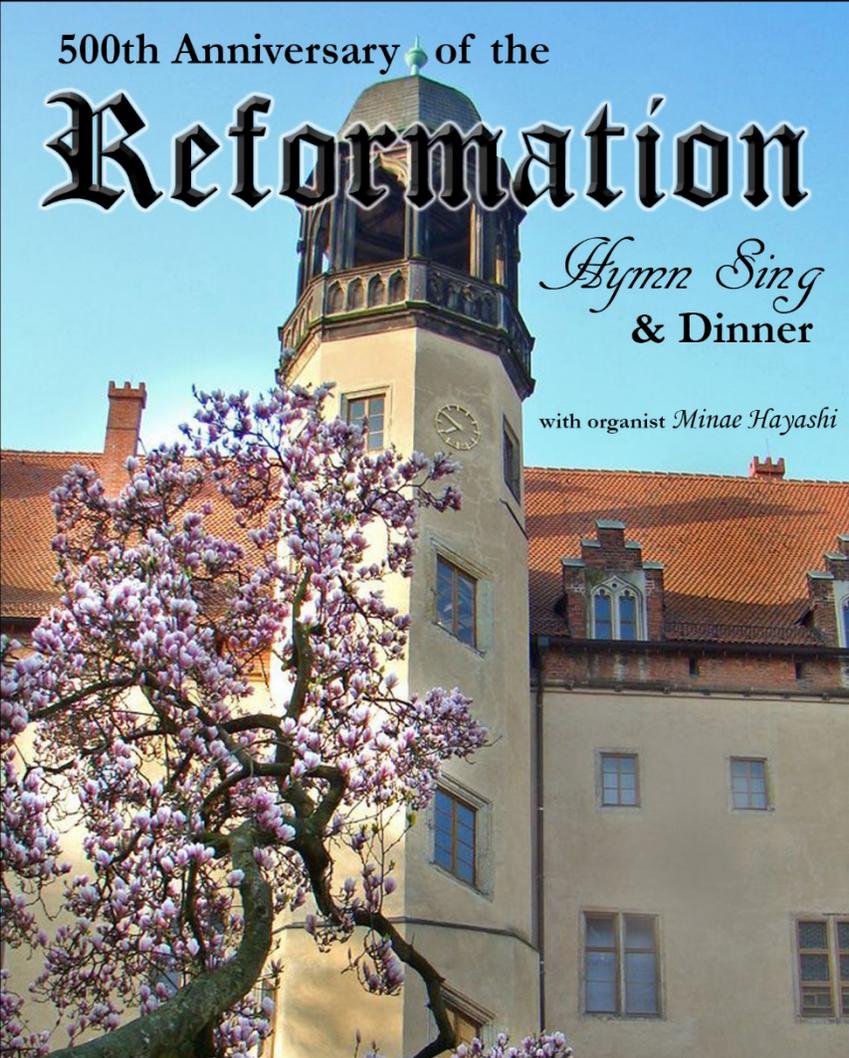
In Christ,
Pastor Greg



“Are you a shepherd like those who saw the angels?”



All ladies of Ascension are invited to
attend the July LWML Meeting:
Saturday, October 14, 10am-2pm



A New Song Now Shall Be Begun / O Lord, Look Down from Heaven, Behold / Salvation unto Us Has Come / All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall

500th Anniversary of the
Reformation
*Hymn Sing
& Dinner*
with organist *Minae Hayashi*

If God Had Not Been on Our Side / A Mighty Fortress Is Our God / O God, Our Lord, Thy Holy Word / Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide

Sunday, October 29, 2017 @ 2:30pm

All are invited to hear the rich history and theology
of early-Reformation hymnody while joining together
to sing timeless musical confessions of the Christian faith!
Dinner to follow immediately after the Hymn Sing.

Ascension Lutheran Church
610 W Old Hickory Blvd, Madison TN 37115
More information: (615) 868-2346 | www.ascensionmadison.com



Look the *Right* Way First

By Denise Gudlin

In March, I had the opportunity to visit Les Cayes, Haiti which received a direct hit from Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. Natural disasters such as hurricanes can be

devastating and scary to first-world as well as third-world countries. We are thankful for the warning systems in place even to those who have no electricity, televisions or computers such as rural areas of Haiti.

In the United States when the warning is given that a hurricane will make landfall and you are in its path, the first thing most do is stock up on food and water, buy new batteries, sharpen the chainsaw, buy gas for the generators, and finally put up the storm shutters on all the windows and doors. When our mission team asked our Haitian translator, Sargine, what her family did to prepare for Hurricane Matthew in Haiti she said, "We first prayed to God for His protection." They spend more time in fervent prayer to their Heavenly Father than they did buying stuff. Shelters with generators, water and food are not available to them but instead everyone hunkers down in their modest home which may be cement block and wood with tin roofs. Securing food and water is not an option when most do not have the extra resources to buy for the next day. It was a big lesson to me to know which way to look first. Everything we do is in vain if we don't first pray to God!



Many Haitians we met shared their Hurricane Matthew story and all started out with, "Let me show you how God protected us." God gently laid down trees between vehicles and homes so nothing was damaged. In a home where many in the community took shelter, God's hand protected them as he laid the 100-year-old, heavy, falling, coconut tree on the fence post which diverted it away from the home saving all the lives inside. You could see the love of Jesus in their face and eyes as they told their stories of God's blessings and they were full of JOY!!



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!!!

Our Fellowship activity for October is going to be providing treats on TUESDAY, October 31, 2017 starting at 6:00 p.m. in the church parking lot. We would be reaching out to our neighbors while we sit around a fire and fellowship together!

We will pull out the grill and Board of Fellowship will provide hot dogs and the fixings for dinner. (If you want something else on the grill please feel free to bring it along and we will cook it up for you). Please bring treats to pass out to the Trick or Treaters of our church and if any neighbors come by.

Any questions, please contact Susan Hanley
susan@walwynlaw.com or 500-3259



Serving Ascension in October

| | October 1 | October 8 | October 15 | October 22 | October 29 |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lector | Cherri Walker | Dennis Anderson | Dennis Fritz | Jeff Meyers | Jennifer Meyers |
| Greeters | LaVon & Ora Mae Golter | Mark & Trisha LaLumondier | Phil Weinert | Tim Hanusa | Dennis & Linda Fritz |
| Acolyte | TBD | TBD | TBD | TBD | TBD |
| Elder | Phil Weinert |
| Ushers | Cecil Willis & Dennis Fritz |
| Cantor | Tim Hanusa |
| Altar Guild | Joan Johnson & Pam Oehlkers |

If you're unable to serve, please find a replacement.



October 1: Cherri Walker
 October 8: Jane Chitren
 October 15: Carolyn Willis
 October 22: Trish Lalumondier
 October 29: Kathy Meyers

The Organist

October 1: Minae Hayashi
 October 8: Cindy Dougherty
 October 15: Dennis Anderson
 October 22: Cindy Dougherty
 October 29: Minae Hayashi



Birthdays

October 1: Jane Chitren
October 3: Beth Newton
October 5: Samuel Blittle
October 6: Ben Houston
October 7: Gordon Bradley
October 11: Cora Houston
October 16: Maxwell Smith
October 18: Beverly Scurlock
October 19: Corey Shaffer
October 22: Jennifer Meyers
October 24: Jeff Meyers
October 25: Robert Conner
October 25: Samantha Golter
October 28: Alice Blittle
October 28: Henry Blittle
October 29: Gabriel Szusterman
October 30: Elise McMahan
October 30: Carol Wachter
October 30: Carol Wright



ANNIVERSARIES

October 8: Rob & Cindy Dougherty



Baptismal Birthdays

October 2: Katie Shaffer
October 4: Shan Rose
October 4: Carolyn Spann
October 13: Keith Mullen
October 30: Jane Chitren
October 30: Kaytlyn Deland



If a celebration is incorrect or missing, please call (615-868-2346) or email (office@ascensionmadison.com) the church office so our records can be updated. Thanks!

Church Calendar

| October | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| 1 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/ Lord's Supper | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 10:30 Bible study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 6 <i>Pastor's vacation</i> | 7 11:00 Bertha Sauer Memorial Service |
| 8 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship (LWML Sunday) 11:30 Voter's Meeting | 9 <i>Pastor's vacation</i> | 10 <i>Pastor's vacation</i> | 11 <i>Pastor @ District Conference</i> | 12 <i>Pastor @ District Conference</i> 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 13 <i>Pastor @ District Conference</i> | 14 <i>Pastor's vacation</i> 10:00 LWML |
| 15 <i>Pastor's vacation</i> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/ Lord's supper | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 10:30 Bible study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 20 | 21 5:30 Reformation Hymn Sing practice |
| 22 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 8:30 Retired Romeo Breakfast 10:30 Bible study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous | 27 | 28 |
| 29 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship w/Lord's supper 2:30 Reformation Hymn Sing & Dinner | 30 | 31 | | | | |



The mission of Ascension Evangelical Lutheran Church is to connect people to the one true God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—so that they may come to know and believe they are saved for eternal life by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.



Rev. Greg Bauch, Pastor
610 W Old Hickory Blvd, Madison TN 37115

Church Office: (615) 868-2346
Office email: office@ascensionmadison.com
Pastor Greg: (904) 553-7066
Pastor's email: pastorgregbauch@gmail.com
website: www.ascensionmadison.com

Sunday School & Bible Study at 9:00am
Coffee Half-hour at 10:00am
Worship at 10:30am

Please email newsletter submissions to office@ascensionmadison.com one week before the 1st of the month.

Please email all weekly bulletin announcements for the upcoming Sunday to office@ascensionmadison.com by Wednesday.