

What's Inside?

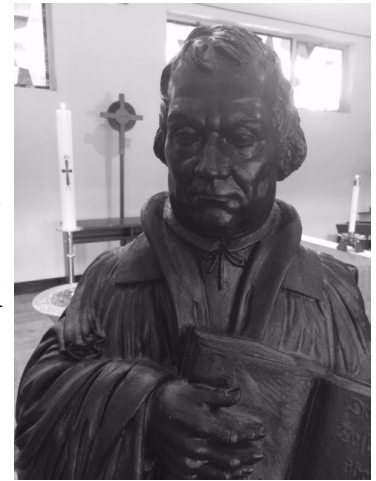
- October Calendar and Ministry Schedule
- October Birthdays
- October Gratitude!

October 2017

www.gethsemanesd.org church@gethsemanesd.org
2696 Melbourne Dr., San Diego, CA 92123
Church Office: 858-277-6572 FAX: 858-277-6511

500 Years of Reformation: Martin Luther Came to Serra Mesa

On the day which is commonly marked by pumpkins and 'trick or treat', the Lutheran Church is celebrating something else: **Reformation 500**. 500 years ago, on October 31, 1517, the Augustinian monk and university professor Dr. Martinus Luther nailed 95 theses on the door of the Castle Church of Wittenberg, Germany. The purpose of making them public was to begin a thorough discussion about the churches policy and future. In his eyes there was so much that was simply wrong in the church and needed to be renewed and reformed.



All of Luther's ideas were based on a threefold principle: (1) Through faith alone man is justified (Romans 1:17) and not by 'dues' paid to the church or by good works or merit, instead faith has to be active in love resulting in good works; (2) Scripture is the basis of faith, and God's Word is of ultimate authority; and (3) Through Christ all believers have been given direct access to God, so every Christian has equal potential to minister for God (priesthood of all believers). These three principles became the foundation for the Lutheran Church today. Martin Luther never had intended to establish a new religious institution bearing his name! He simply wanted to restore his old church, which he loved so dearly. He wanted his criticism and protest to become the leading and positive energy that would eventually turn the whole church into a movement of renewal.

Martin Luther had no idea that one day his teachings would be important to a smaller membership church in Serra Mesa, San Diego but his teachings and ideas not only spread throughout Europe; with settlers and missionaries they crossed the oceans, and here we are in a Lutheran congregation in this niche of the universe together with approximately 80 million Lutheran sisters and brothers around the globe.

No, we are not "mini Martins" but in the midst of change and transitions we know first hand that since 1517 (or 1960!) the church needs the leading and positive energy to remain an ever reformed and reforming church.

With a toast on Martin Luther and joined in the movement of renewal,
Yours, *Pastor Karin*

Did you know...

- The Preschool will be holding a **CPR Class** on Saturday, November 18 from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The fee is \$55.00—Please contact Becky or Vicki to sign up @ 858-277-7710.
- Based on the subtle changes in the service experience and avoiding wrong expectations the 8:00 a.m. service will be called “**Communion Service with Word and Music**” until further notice. If you are interested in Centering Prayer join us Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. here at GLC or attend the introductory workshop in La Mesa (see page 3).

Transition Team Update

During September we had some busy weeks: The Transition Team worked hard. The Ministry Site Profile (MSP, which functions as the ‘business card’ of GLC) is moving towards its completion. First, Council will review it and give feed back. Then you will get to see it. So watch out for special announcements during October! Only thereafter will the MSP be submitted to the larger church and thus made available to potential pastor candidates.

Meanwhile GLC’s “people were getting anxious”, and the TT and your pastor heard you. We all know that this is a required process, yet none of us likes ambiguity and uncertainty. Sometimes “it takes as long as it takes” isn’t good enough. But: we are getting there!

If you are still having it, pull out the Sustainment and Transition Planning Task Force Outline #1, dated Nov. 2015. It describes the process in detail and will help you to realize that we are on a good track!

There is good communication with the bishop and his staff and your leaders are doing an outstanding job!!!! PK

Notes on Worship Attendance

There are voices among you lamenting that recently worship attendance seemed to be down. Reading these lines, you might ask yourself if you are one of those who were missed lately. And if you are be assured that we do miss you! To those concerned: yes, we did have a summer decline – we always do. Over the summer weeks for some the early service seems more convenient - especially for some choir members who otherwise would have come to sing at the later service. Therefore the second service wasn’t as well attended as it used to be, the first service had a ‘crowd’.

But let’s do some fact checking: since 2004 the average worship attendance at GLC hovered between 48 and 52. Due to Pastor Gloria’s retirement as well as two larger baptism services, 2016 was an exception with an average attendance of 54. Currently attendance is at 50(!) – that is only one less than 2015!

Yet worship experience matters! God shows up and wants to strengthen us with word and heavenly food. Then we are sent back into the world for God’s mission and ministry. And for many among you this is so true that you just *need* to come. PK

October
Happy
Birthday



Cyndi Jones	1st
Bruce Davidson	6th
Judy Nagy	11th
Deb Hoistad	17th
Dottie Burger	22nd
Pam Hartley	23rd

GLC Endowment Fund Committee

Call for Grant Proposals

The Endowment Fund Committee (Mary Erlenborn, Earlene Trinkle, Joanne Driskill, Dottie Burger, Debbie Attwood) invites members of the congregation to submit grant proposals for consideration.

Past grantees in 2016 were Third Avenue Charitable Organization (TACO); Lutheran-Episcopal Ministry at SDSU (Agape House); Fisher House at Naval Medical Center San Diego; Warrior Foundation-Freedom Station; ELCA Good Gifts; ELCA Disaster Relief/Refugees; and GLC capital projects. Individual grant amounts have typically been \$500, but higher and lower amounts have been awarded.

The grant proposals need to align with one of the following three purposes:

- Outreach into the community and synod;
- Missions of the ELCA;
- GLC capital improvements.

The proposals need not be elaborate or lengthy (generally a paragraph or two will suffice). In the proposal, please describe (a) how the organization will use these funds to meet a spiritual and/or economic need, and (b) if the request is for a specific project (if so, please provide information on that project) or for general operating purposes.

In considering the proposals, the Endowment Fund Committee will be vetting the organization’s charitable status and other factors. To this end, please also provide links to sources for this information such as the organization’s web site and Charity Navigator rating.

Deadline for proposal submissions is Friday, October 20, 2017. Questions can be directed to Mary Erlenborn at 858-564-9820 or Mary.E.Erlenborn@gmail.com, or to Pastor Karin or any of the other Endowment Committee members.

An Introductory Workshop Program on Centering Prayer

Saturday, October 14th, 2017

Do you want more from your prayer life?
Do you hunger for a deeper personal relationship with God?

Centering Prayer may be for you. Centering prayer is a simple method of Christ-centered silent prayer, a renewal of an ancient Christian contemplative practice, updated for our time. It can lead to a deeper prayer life, personal healing, spiritual transformation, and closer union with God.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
10842 Fury Lane, La Mesa, Calif. 91941

Registration: 8:30 am – 8:50 am

Workshop Program: 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Program includes the Saturday workshop and continuing sessions.

Continuing sessions to be held on day and time determined by the group

Please contact Jennifer Fenner at the church (619) 670-7656 or jenny.svlc@gmail.com to Pre-Register.

Presented by Contemplative Outreach San Diego.

Find out more at www.contemplativeoutreachsd.org

Lutherans at 500 Class

For the final installment of our **Lutherans at 500** study, we will be watching a Martin Luther documentary DVD produced by travel writer Rick Steves. Please join us on Saturday, October 14 at 10 a.m. at the home of Linda and Bob Juhasz, 4360 Rueda Dr., San Diego 858-268-8071. Discussion and fellowship to follow.

"It is sad to announce **St. Jude's Ranch for Children** has discontinued their card program and will no longer accept cards." If I find another place wanting the cards, I will let you know but at this time, I will not accept any cards. Please recycle them as best as you can.

Linda Juhasz

Service of Common Prayer & Music

Lutheran, Anglican and Roman Catholic Bishops lead a Service of Common Prayer and Music commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation on October 29 at 3 p.m.

The Bishops of the Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego, the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego, and the Pacifica Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, invite you to a special Service of Common Prayer and Music on Sunday, October 29, 2017, commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. It will take place in the beautiful church of The Immaculata on the campus of the University of San Diego at 3 p.m. There is designated parking and a light reception will follow the hour-long service. This service both commemorates an historic movement as well as celebrates the gift of strong ecumenical relationships in the San Diego area.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In a series of articles the Social Committee will reintroduce GLC's core ministries:

(1) GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

"God's work. Our hands."-Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Since 2013, thousands of ELCA congregations have participated in this opportunity and dedicated one day to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all people. GLC was/is one of them! We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. We put our faith into action.

This year we engaged in a book drive, and we collected more than 200 books! On Friday, September 15, they were available to the guests at TACO (Third Avenue Charitable Organization, serving the homeless and the working poor) as they assembled for the meal. It was a great success! As we had hoped all books went. Thanks to all who contributed books including our friends at MMAC and Roxanne and Ian for delivering. RR



Celebrate the Reformation and Support Victims of Recent Natural Disasters:



"OCTOBERFEST – POTLUCK/SOCIAL"

to aid Lutheran Disaster Relief

October 29, following 9:30 a.m. worship

Watch for details,

**Signups and Silent Auction
Information in your bulletins...**

Gethsemane Lutheran Church
2696 Melbourne Drive
San Diego, CA 92123

Phone: (858) 277-6572 - Fax: (858) 277-6511

Preschool: (858) 277-7710

Check out our Website
at
www.gethsemanesd.org



Gethsemane Lutheran Church...
grounded in the gospel, anchored in Word
and Sacrament, traditional yet creative,
seeking to be God's people in this time
and place.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Weekly Opportunities

Worship with us each Sunday
in October

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Communion Service with
Word and Music

9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Word, Prayer, and Meal

Monday

10:00 a.m. Text Study for next Sunday

Tuesday

1:00 p.m. Centering Prayer

24/7

A Labyrinth for prayer and meditation is in our
front yard and available to all.