

# On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – October 2017

## Growth

### Pastor's Paragraphs

Months and years of planning have been leading up to this month – the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. The Protestant movement within Christianity traces its roots to Martin Luther posting the 95 Theses to the Wittenberg Castle Church door on October 3, 1517. You may remember me mentioning before that this legend is probably untrue. Luther himself never said that he did it and there is only one passing reference to it by one of Luther's friends. It doesn't matter anyway because the 95 Theses were written in Latin and almost nobody could have read them! What is definitely true is that Luther mailed the Theses to Albert of Brandenburg, the archbishop of Mainz, on October 31. That act definitely set the Reformation into motion.

There will definitely be news coverage about the anniversary as October 31 approaches. I'm curious to see how Luther is portrayed. He may be portrayed in a positive light and listed alongside Copernicus, Leonardo da Vinci, Gutenberg and other great contributors to the Renaissance. Or, he may be portrayed negatively. There is no denying that the things he wrote late in life are full of anger and hostility.

One thing is certain - Luther wouldn't want the anniversary celebrations to be about him. He saw himself as a child of God and a sinner in need of God's grace. The Reformation was not about Luther's actions. It was about God's actions. Most of the work of the Reformation remains unfinished. In the book *Lutheranism* theologians Eric Gritsch and Robert Jenson argue that Lutheranism is not a church at all. It is an ecumenical and evangelical movement within Christianity that proclaims "justification by grace through faith alone."

These days that sounds like a theological slogan; just church talk with no real-world connections. But justification by grace remains a message the world desperately needs to hear. Here's the truth: God created

you. God created the faith inside you. God maintains the faith that exists in you. And God alone has the power to save you.

So what? you may ask. Isn't that all just more church talk? No. Contrast it with what the world teaches. Advertising agencies know that before they can get you to buy something they first have to convince you that there is something wrong with your life: you're not good looking enough, you're not educated enough, you're not stylish enough, you're not having enough fun, etc. They are subtly suggesting that God left you flawed and incomplete. However, if you buy their product you'll be one step closer to a fulfilled life. Or if I can substitute a theological term, you're one step closer to "salvation."

People all around us are trying to earn their way to a fulfilled life. They'll never find it. Let's call it "fulfillment by their own works and virtue" which is really a different way of saying "justification by works."

The God who made you, gave you faith, and saves you has given you an important task to do - call the world out on these lies. This is exactly the same thing Martin Luther did. It is the same thing St. Paul did. And it is what Jesus did. The Protestant Reformation is about what God did, and what God continues to do. May the truth of God's work drive your life and inspire you to show people the real way to true life.

Blessings,  
Pastor Jon

**Freed & RENEWED**  
**in Christ** 500 YEARS OF GOD'S GRACE IN ACTION

### Reformation Celebration

#### Sunday October 29:

10:30 Celebration Worship

12:00 German Lunch

1:00 *Luther* Movie

7:00pm Catholic/Lutheran Service of Word and Prayer  
(at Sacred Heart Cathedral)

#### Tuesday October 31:

8:00 am Bell Tower Dedication

# Worship

## October Worship Assistants

	October 1	October 8	October 15	October 22	October 29
Greeters & Ushers	Nancy & Ivan Shuler	John & Linda Thompson	Mike & Bettina Kalish	Mike & Cassie Ross	Paul & Babette Huber
Lector	Kevin Maynard (8:30)	Susie Maynard (8:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30)	Judy VanDeVelde (8:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30)
Acolyte	Molly Perdan	Katya Kurilovitch	Viala Wagerne	Morgan Sakett	Mary Erhlinger
Altar Care	Gary Boisseau		Gary Boisseau		Gary Boisseau
Communion Assistants	Gary Boisseau & Rob Stroup		Bruce & Connie Stevenson		Bruce & Diane Boncke
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup	Kristi Bullwinkle	Beth Perdan	Katy Stimmel	Lynne Minkel
Counters	Beth Perdan & Bettina Kalish	John & Linda Thompson	Don Mansfield & Tim Brown	Babette Huber & Burdie Gillern	Tom Kurilovitch & Helen Crown
Coffee Hour					



### October Sermon Series

The Sundays in October we'll have a special worship series developed by Luther Seminary revisiting the core themes of the Protestant Reformation. It's been 500 years but these issues are still present in our world today.

October 1 – The Church is Messy and Holy

October 8 – Telling the Truth Twice

October 15 – Forgiveness Will Change Your Life

October 22 – Finding God in the Last Place You'd Look

October 29 – Jesus Is the Best Idea Ever! (Justification by Grace)

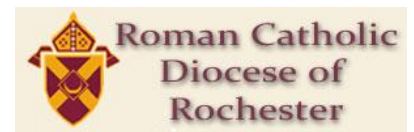
### Annual Blessing of the Animals

**October 1 – 2:00**

Our annual blessing of the animals service is inspired by the ministry of the 13<sup>th</sup> century saint, Francis of Assisi,

who is recorded to have died on this day. Bring your pets, large or small. We'll meet in the Outdoor Chapel if weather permits.

### Reformation 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at Sacred Heart Cathedral



Even though Martin Luther's posting of the 95 Theses caused a split in the church the Roman Catholic Church also recognizes the importance of Luther's actions. To celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lutherans and Catholics from around the region are celebrating a joint worship service at Sacred Heart Cathedral on October 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00pm.

## Nuts and Bolts



### Bell Tower

The tower was erected by Ramar Steel on September 6<sup>th</sup>. The bells have also arrived and should be installed on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The electrical work is scheduled but is yet to be complete. If you live close to the church you may hear the bells in the coming days as they are being tested. We plan to dedicate the tower on Tuesday October 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 am.

## September Council Meeting Notes

Notes from Church Council meeting on 9/11/2017  
 Reviewed the plan for the Reformation dinner planned on 10/29. Jim Spawton will cook  
 Working to secure a high quality projector for the movie following the dinner  
 Requested status of the Endowment Fund activity from the Finance committee  
 Requested Education to develop ideas for recruiting kids to Sunday School  
 Reviewed the status of the Bell Tower - bell installation planned for 9/23, obtaining insurance certificate before installation  
 Received update on Family Promise of Ontario County fund raising activities  
 Discussed evangelism in the form of service projects where we invite people to join us  
 Decided to pursue Sign-up Genius and Survey Monkey to help us with time and talent  
 Approved Ceilidh Band concert at St. John's on 12/9 with proceeds to support Family Promise  
 Recommended cost savings ideas for the 2018 budget proposal  
 Respectfully submitted by Tim Brown from Tricia Kolczynski's meeting minutes

## Financial Update

	Income	Expenses	Difference
Year to Date	\$136,453.15	\$138,648.78	(\$2,195.63)

## Service



### Potato Harvest

Thank you to everyone who helped harvest potatoes on September 10<sup>th</sup>. We grew 905 pounds this year. The Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard sent trucks and picked up the potatoes just as we were finishing. See our Facebook page for more pictures.



### Pumpkins from the Garden Project

The pumpkins from this year's garden project will be arriving at church for the last weekend in September. As we've done in years past, just make a donation for the pumpkins you take. All proceeds will go to the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard. Special thanks to Thrivent for providing the funds to plant this year's pumpkins!



### 500 lbs. of Soap Collection

We're at 433 pounds – really close! Let's be sure to collect 67 more pounds by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Service (Cont.)

### Community Outreach Projects

Thanksgiving baskets: This annual Food Cupboard effort will take place right before Thanksgiving. We will be collecting items for baskets from October 8<sup>th</sup> through November 13<sup>th</sup>. Please look to the weekly worship bulletin for the items being collected. Baskets will be prepared on November 14 with distribution on November 16<sup>th</sup>. If you'd like to help out with preparation and distribution please talk to Linda Flood. Talk to Burdie Gillern for more information.

Give Around Victor Day: This event will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> at various churches in Victor. We will again be a food distribution site. More information will be coming in the November newsletter.



The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester. Also the Rev. Eric and the Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo as they work in Malaysia. Gail Holbig as she has health problems and is often confused.

Linda Ellis who has metastases on her spine and hip. Amy Plouffe who has been receiving treatments for cancer in a couple areas of her body.

Bob Stroup, Rob Stroup's dad, who has been suffering from dementia and other health problems.

Linda and Gabe Roy, sister and brother-in-law of Helen Crown. Linda has metastatic breast cancer and Gabe has brain cancer.

Leigh Adams, Linda Flood's brother, who is receiving IV antibiotic treatment for an infection in the bones of his leg.



- Thank you to everyone who mowed the church lawn in September
- Thank you to the worship band for providing music when Heidi was on vacation.
- Thank you to everyone who has helped with the renovations to the Fellowship Hall.
- Thank you to everyone who helped to harvest potatoes for God's Work Our Hands Sunday.
- Thank you to everyone who staffed the Hang Around Victor Day booth on September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Thank you to everyone who donated to the school kits for Lutheran World Relief.
- Thank you to the Sunday School children for packing the materials in the school kits.
- Thank you to Mike Ross and John CiPollina for their work on the bell tower foundation.

## Fun

### Annual Thrivent Night at the Strong Museum of Play



On Sunday, October 8, from 6-8:30 p.m, Thrivent will be funding another evening at the Museum of Play. There is no cost and no tickets are required, but baskets for a free will offering will be placed at the door. No matter whether you're young or old, this is a great chance to go to Strong Museum!



# Fun (Cont.)

## Trunk or Treat 2017



Middle school and high school age members are invited to participate in our display at this year's Trunk or Treat at the Victor Municipal Park on October 28<sup>th</sup> from 11:00-12:30. (Please note this is a new time!) We'll create our display in the afternoon of Sunday October 22<sup>nd</sup>. With the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation being just four days later our display will be a model of the Wittenberg Castle Church (above) where Luther posted the 95 Theses. Talk to Pastor Jon for more information



### September Trivia Answers:

1. How many sons does Jacob have? Twelve (Genesis 49)
2. Who is Jacob's uncle? Laban (Genesis 27:43)
3. What are Jacob's two wives? Leah and Rachel (Genesis 29)
4. How old was Jacob when he left home? About 40 (Genesis 26:34)

### October Bible Trivia Questions

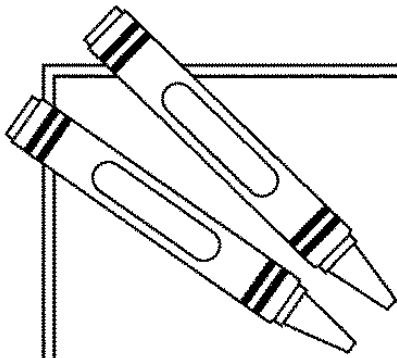
1. Complete this verse from Ephesians: "For by grace you have been..."
2. Which prophet said the righteous shall live by faith?
3. According to Romans 8 what can separate you from God's love?
4. Who said, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends"?

## October Birthdays

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 2  | Michael Kalish, Wendy Sackett              |
| 3  | Jim Spawton                                |
| 4  | Maria Kusel                                |
| 6  | Ted Bair, Matt Bair                        |
| 7  | Patrick Maynard                            |
| 9  | Craig Morley                               |
| 10 | Joyce Twitchell, Jacob Kurilovitch         |
| 12 | Rich Buch                                  |
| 13 | Sarah Townsend                             |
| 14 | Robin Allen, Brian Busby                   |
| 16 | Karen Brownlee                             |
| 17 | Alex Brown                                 |
| 19 | Bruce Boncke, Allison Stark, Cindy Swigart |
| 20 | Hanna Stroup                               |
| 21 | Bob Lasky                                  |
| 23 | Anna Christman, Oliva DeLeon               |
| 25 | Kayla Ratka, Anne Stromstad                |
| 26 | Elliott Wilmot, Sarah Brownlee             |
| 27 | Jeff Spawton, Heidi DeLeon                 |
| 28 | Tim Brown                                  |
| 30 | Karen Spawton,                             |
| 31 | Marie Kesel                                |

# OCTOBER 2017

<b>1</b> <u>17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion  2:00 Blessing of the Animals	<b>2</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  10:00 Holy Yoga  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Church Council	<b>3</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>4</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>5</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  1:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>6</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <u>18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	<b>9</b> 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs  10:00 Holy Yoga  Columbus Day	<b>10</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>11</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  8:00 Men's Breakfast  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons  7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>12</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  1:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>13</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <u>19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	<b>16</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>18</b> <u>St. Luke, Evangelist</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>19</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>20</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	<b>21</b> 10:00 Fall Conference Assembly (St. Timothy, Geneseo)
<b>22</b> <u>20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship  Trunk or Treat Display Construction	<b>23</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>24</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus 7:00 Property Comm.	<b>25</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>26</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>27</b> 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs  3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	<b>28</b> <u>Simon and Jude, Apostles</u> 1:00-12:30 Trunk or Treat
<b>29</b> <u>Reformation Sunday</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion 12:00 German Lunch 1:00 Luther Movie 7:00 Service of Word and Prayer (Sacred Heart Cathedral)	<b>30</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>31</b> <u>Reformation Day</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Bell Tower Dedication 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus				

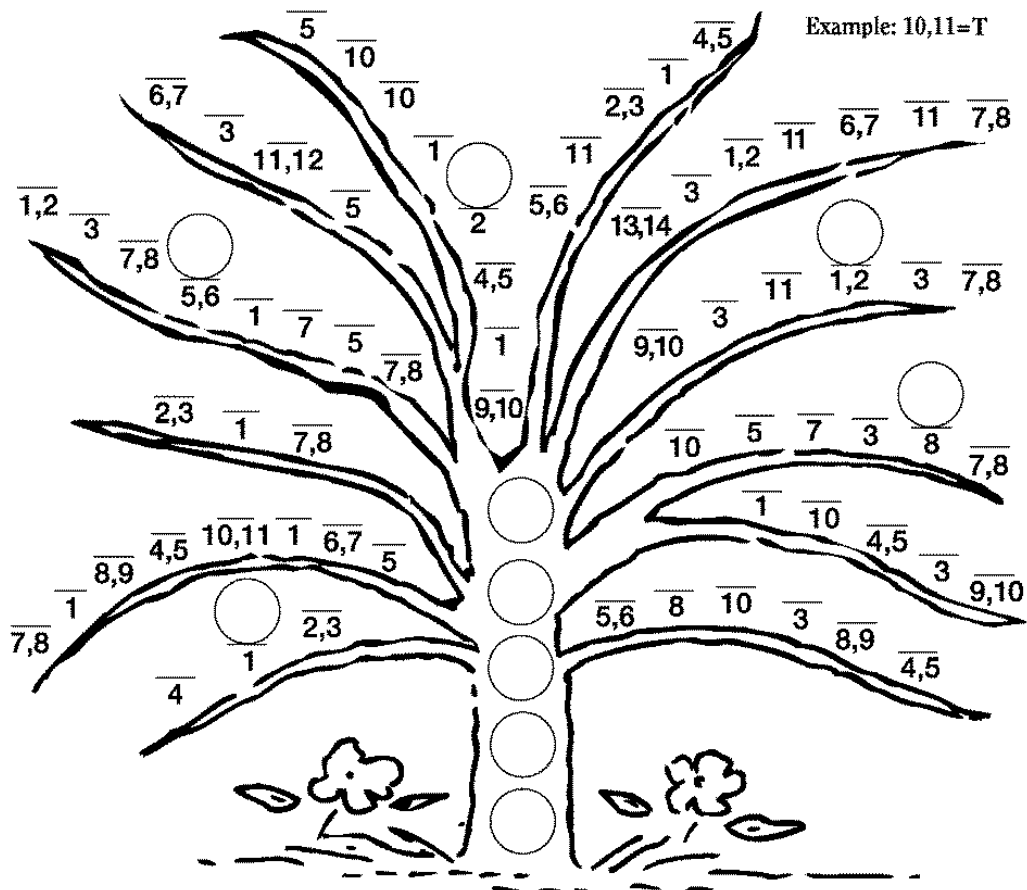


# Just for KIDS

There is a story in the Bible about a father with 12 sons. Fill in their family tree below. Find the names of the sons, then unscramble the circled letters to find the father's name. Write his name on the tree trunk. Read about this family in Genesis 35.

CODE:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14												





# **St. John's Lutheran Church**

## **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

**Grace for Everyone  
-Always-**

*We are a community of faith  
committed to living and sharing the love of God.*

### **St. John's Lutheran Church**

888 County Rd. 9

Victor, NY 14564

The Reverend Jonathan Deibler, Pastor

(585) 924-5192

[www.stjohnsvictor.com](http://www.stjohnsvictor.com)

*Address Service Requested*

### **October Newsletter**

October 29 – 10:30 Reformation Celebration Worship

12:00 German Lunch

1:00 Luther Movie

October 31 – 8:00 am Bell Tower Dedication