

SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

Malone, Texas

October 2006



Grace and peace to you in Christ Jesus, God Incarnate!

Every year when Reformation day comes around, I think of how much we have to celebrate as Evangelical Lutherans. It is easy to become disheartened when we see how many so-called Lutherans turn away from the pure Word of God to chase after the idols of mammon, 'success,' 'political correctness,' and the spirit of the age; but it is far more amazing that the Reformation ever happened *at all*. Whenever anyone disparages the efforts of the remnants of confessional Lutheranism (not just in America, but around the world) all I can think is, "What would you people have thought in 1517? Where would you have stood: with the Romanists, or with the Gospel?" There is no cause for despair when what we see is the Lord teaching us once again that we must rely upon Him alone (*sola*).

We hear a great deal of talk about faith *alone* and grace *alone* out of such 'Lutherans'; it is another thing to believe it. When we talk about 'grace alone,' and then begin to count our resources—are we relying on grace alone? When we are tempted to find consolation in institutional identity, rather than in the Word of God—are we confessing faith alone?

Christ Jesus is the Cornerstone of the Church, and the foundation consists of the prophets and apostles. That which is built upon the Cornerstone and foundation is the Church. Anything built anywhere else isn't the Church. Built upon Christ Jesus, the Church stands, even while steeples are falling—and it is Christ's Church which endures amidst the trials of this world, and is established forever.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Heiser

Schedule for October

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| Sunday, Oct. 1 | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Divine Service-Holy Communion |
| Monday, Oct. 2 | 7:15 p.m. | Board of Elders |
| Wednesday, Oct. 4 | 11:00 a.m. | Midweek Bible Class-Psalms |
| Saturday, Oct. 7 | 4 p.m. | MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BBQ |
| Sunday, Oct. 8 | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Divine Service-Holy Communion |
| | | Adler Reunion |
| Wednesday, Oct. 11 | 11:00 a.m. | Midweek Bible Class-Psalms |
| Sunday, Oct. 15 | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Divine Service-Holy Communion |
| | 11:45 a.m. | Potluck |
| | 1 p.m. | Voters Meeting |
| Wednesday, Oct. 18 | 11 a.m. | Midweek Bible Class-Psalms |
| Saturday, Oct. 21 | 8 a.m. | Men's Fellowship Breakfast |
| | 8 a.m. | Salem Lutheran Women's Guild |
| | 9 a.m. | Board of Trustees |
| Sunday, Oct. 22 | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Divine Service |
| | 11:30 a.m. | Board of Education |
| Wednesday, Oct. 25 | 11 a.m. | Midweek Bible Class-Psalms |
| Sunday, Oct. 29 | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| <i>Reformation Sunday</i> | 10:30 a.m. | Divine Service |
| | 11:45 a.m. | Potluck-Coffee Cake Contest THE LUTHER MOVIE (the black & white one, this year) |

Celebrate the Reformation!

On October 29th, Salem will observe the 489th anniversary of the beginning of the Lutheran Reformation. In addition to the celebration in the Divine Service, and the potluck to follow service, we will have the opportunity to watch the classic, black and white movie of the life and ministry of Dr. Martin Luther.



October Birthdays:

1st: Teresa Kucera
3rd: Danielle Reamy
4th: Bradley Kelm
9th: Connie Bratcher
10th: Nicholle Baxter, Arthur Reinke (happy 90th!)
15th: Blake Willenborg
25th: Edwin Kunkel
27th: Pam Krumvieda
29th: Darlene Kelm, Tina Bow
30th: Dawn Flores

October Anniversaries:

7th: Pastor and Denise Heiser
8th: Billy Joe and Kay Watson
9th: Ronald and Heather Wilcoxon

THE LUTHERAN HERALD—The latest issue of *The Lutheran Herald* (the publication of our diocese) is available in the narthex. Each issue contains edifying articles and news from around the diocese.

Ladies' Guild and Men's Fellowship

October is filled with wonderful opportunities for fellowship. The Men are having a **BBQ Chicken Dinner** on **Saturday, October 7th at 4 P.M.** Proceeds and donations collected from the dinner will benefit Salem Radio Ministry and the Confessional Lutheran Mission Fund. Currently, there is music, games and fellowship planned for entertainment. The suggested donation is \$5 per person.

On Sunday **October 29th** the Church will be celebrating Reformation Day. In observance of Reformation, there will be a German potluck following service. Along with our German potluck the ladies are holding a Coffee Cake Contest. All ladies, men and children are encouraged to enter a coffee cake.



For the holiday season the Ladies' Guild is working on two holiday traditions. First is our yearly **Pie Sale**. This year, we are looking into expanding our offerings with specialties from our ladies that may include cakes, cookies, brownies and fudge. Plan your Thanksgiving dinners to include a dessert from the Ladies' Guild. Another tradition of the Ladies' Guild is the Christmas party. The date for this year's **Christmas party** is Friday, **December 15th at 6 P.M.**

The next meeting for the Ladies and Men of the congregation is Saturday, October 21st. Breakfast is at 8 A.M. and both meetings start at 9 A.M. The men will continue their study of the book of Proverbs.

—Pam Krumvieda

Sunday School-Board of Education

The new Sunday School year has begun. Most Sundays, you will find Denise Heiser teaching Bradley, Hailey, John and Ana in our Sunday School building. In the Nursery, Pam and Agatha Krumvieda are teaching, learning, playing and crafting. We encourage those with children and those who know children to find the time to get them to Sunday School. Both Denise Heiser and Pam Krumvieda will be teaching almost every Sunday. So drop your kids off or (better yet) stay for the Adult Bible Class, both begin at **9:30 A.M. in the Sanctuary**. Coming up before we know it are practices for the Children's Christmas Eve service. **These practices will begin the Sunday after Thanksgiving, November 26th**. This year the kids will practice after Sunday services. They will be provided a healthy lunch followed by practice. We will end practice at 2:30 P.M. This year Christmas Eve is on a Sunday and we will not have a practice after church on that Sunday.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS AND MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS—If you haven't been there, you're missing out! On Wednesdays, we continue our study of the book of Psalms. (We are now studying Psalm 119.) Those who have been attending have seen over and over how the Psalms 'speak' to us today; come and hear the Word of the Lord!

The Sunday Adult Bible Class continues its study of the liturgy. We are concluding our study of the book of Jude, and then we will be learning about the history of the Lutheran Church between the death of Martin Luther and the publication of the Book of Concord in 1580. This is a very important part of the history of Christ's Church. Come and learn why there is a Book of Concord!

The Augustana Ministerium Meets in Colorado

The Augustana Ministerium (TAM), a guild for confessional Lutheran pastors, met September 26th and 27th at Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Arvada, Colorado. The ministerium was founded in 2005 to facilitate support for confessional pastors.

One of the primary tasks of the ministerium is to aid the ongoing education of her

members, and so TAM had its first educational conference in Arvada. Three presenters addressed the assembled pastors: Dr. Burneal Eckardt (*“The Historic Liturgy of the Church: The Case Against and For its Normative Use”*) Rev. Rick Sawyer (*“The Sacred Confessional: Contemporary: Contemporary Threats, Opportunities and Blessings”*) and Rt. Rev. James Heiser (*“Contemporary Gnostic Threats in the Churches Today: Identification and Response”*). Each of the presenters addressed movements in the church and culture which are threatening the doctrine and practice of the Church. All three presentations sparked a great deal of constructive discussions between conference attendees.



The beautiful sanctuary of Risen Christ Lutheran Church (Arvada, CO)

In the past year, TAM has provided thousands of dollars of support to pastors who are enduring harrassment and persecution as they endeavor to fulfill their ministries. It is also assisting pastors engaged in mission work, including one minister in Estonia, and Pastor John Rutowicz (St. Boniface Lutheran Church-Niles, MI).

Salem Choir

For those adults in the choir here is a heads up on some plans. The first practice for the Christmas season will be **Wednesday, November 29th at 7:30 P.M.** We'll make plans for Christmas music and special ensemble pieces. On Friday, **December 22nd** we will be singing Christmas carols to shut-ins and those members who reside in nursing homes in Hubbard and Hillsboro. An exact time has not been decided but likely will begin mid-afternoon. A suggestion to sing at the nursing homes for Easter is finding favor so keep that possibility in mind.

—Pam Krumvieda

CONFESSONAL LUTHERAN MISSION FUND UPDATE

On Easter Sunday, the voters decided at the quarterly meeting to establish the Confessional Lutheran Mission Fund, and elected the first mission board. The board consists of the pastor, chairman of the Elders (Gary Kelm), congregational treasurer (Kay Watson), and the congregation elected the following additional members: Sean Fant, Cliff Krumvieda, Larry Markwardt, and Eric Rachut.

The initial goal of \$5,000 by July 1 was met and exceeded; the July voters meeting set a new goal of \$10,000 by the end of the year. The fund is now roughly half way to meeting the new goal.

The mission board decided in its August meeting to begin preparing support packages for new mission congregations. Toward this end, the board purchased 60 copies of "The Lutheran Hymnal," as well as two copies of the organist's edition of the hymnal, and organist's edition of the liturgy. One full set of communionware has also been acquired.

The mission fund provides Salem with an opportunity to assist other confessional Lutherans in the process of establishing congregations. Please help them by supporting this effort as the Lord has given you the means to do so! With prospects for several new mission congregations, it is important that we do all that we can to help them.

Salem Lutheran Church

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(254) 533-2330

The Rev. James D. Heiser, Pastor

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Divine Service

Holy Communion—1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays

On the Radio: KHBR (1560 AM) Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

On the Web: <http://www.salemchurch.net>

