

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN LCMS, REV. WILLIAMSON, VACANCY PASTOR  
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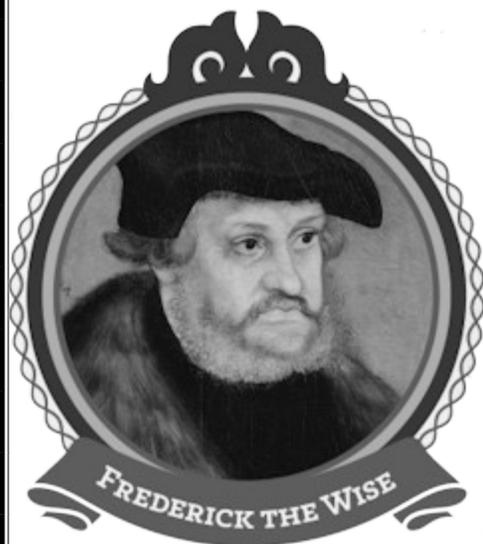


Come to the cross and learn of God's great love for all His people. There is friendship, fellowship, and the gift of God's word of forgiveness.

# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 33 MARCH 2017

## FACES OF REFORMATION



Luther's Prince and Protector Frederick the Wise Born: Jan. 17, 1463 - May 5, 1525

Frederick the Wise was the son of Ernest of Wettin. Only a year before Ernest's death in 1486, the land of the House of Wettin was divided between Ernest and his younger brother, Albert. Albert took the title of "duke" and ruled over his half (Ducal Saxony, or Albertine Saxony). Ernest, who adopted the title of "elector," had the larger but poorer area of Saxony that would be known as Electoral Saxony, or Ernestine. At the age of 22, Frederick assumed his father's title of elector of Saxony. The chief castle was in Torgau, but Frederick had other castles in Saxony, including Wittenberg, Coburg and Wartburg. These would be important land-

marks in Luther's life.

Frederick was a devout Catholic with an extensive relic collection. His relics included fragments of the cross, the cradle, the swaddling cloths and others. At the end of his life, Frederick had more than 19,000 relics. He had been taught that venerating relics would aid in getting to heaven. He made his relics available to the public for this purpose. They served another use, though: They were a tourist attraction and moneymaker. He also believed in indulgences, the practice of purchasing remission of sins. The idea was that Christ and the saints had accrued more good works than were necessary for their entrance into heaven. You could purchase an indulgence that would move some of the saints' line of credit to your account and thus take some of the years off your sentence in purgatory. Frederick used some of the money from indulgences to build a bridge near Torgau and to fund the building of his university at Wittenberg. He employed a monk named Johann Tetzel to sell indulgences.

Tetzel came around again in 1517 selling indulgences for the building of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. It was here that Frederick drew the line. It was one thing to "tax" the citizens for internal usage, but it was quite another to let good German money leave the area for Rome! Nevertheless, Tetzel could conduct business just over the border. The parishioners of Luther's church in Wittenberg queried their priest about Tetzel's practice, prompting Luther to post his 95 Theses. His theses were an invitation to debate the practice of selling indulgences, among other theological concerns. The theses were posted Oct. 31, 1517, the day before Frederick put his relics on display for All Saints' Day.

Frederick kept an open mind and listened to Luther's thoughts, which were based on Scripture. His motives may not have been purely theological, but instead more political. Luther's ideas fit well into Frederick's ideas of German nationalism, and protecting his young monk/professor was beneficial to both parties. To ensure his safety, Frederick arranged to have Luther "kidnapped" and hidden in the Wartburg castle after the Diet of Worms, at which Luther refused to recant. Frederick was respected amongst princes and popes for his wisdom. This respect was possibly a reason that other nobility listened to and supported Luther's ideas at the Diet of Augsburg.

Although there is no evidence that Luther and Frederick ever met face to face, the two had a symbiotic relationship. At the end of his life, Frederick, who never openly renounced his Catholic faith, received the Lord's Supper in the manner of the Reformation, in two kinds (the body and blood of Christ in, with and under the bread and wine of the altar).

**PLEASE HAVE ALL INFORMATION OR ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO BLYTHE DEWEY BY 25TH, THANK YOU!**

**OUR MISSION** Share the Joy of His News by growing inward through God's Word, Sacraments and fellowship and by growing outward through words, actions, and mission outreach.

## LYF NEWS

A MEETING WILL BE HELD FOR LYF ON SUNDAY, MARCH 19 AT 10:30.

## HEALTHY HABITS

Ever have one of those senior moments? We joke about them but when are they just a "moment" and when are they something more serious, like dementia?

Most seniors, at one time or another, forget to pay a bill or come out of a store and can't find where they parked the car. They may put the milk in the pantry and the cereal in the fridge. They may meet an old friend and not recall their name. None of those things are signs of dementia.

Dementia occurs gradually over time and disrupts daily life. Instead of not paying a bill they can no longer manage a checkbook. Items are frequently put where they do not belong and then forgotten. There is a struggle to remember the names of close friends and loved ones.

So, when should you seek help? Go see your doctor if any of these symptoms occur: Memory is deteriorating over time, Inability to speak or write coherently, Withdrawing from social events, Showing poor judgment, Confusion about time, place, or season of the year, Changes in mood, Repeatedly asking the same question.

Early intervention can limit the effects of dementia. There are new meds on the market to slow its progress. So, work with your doctor to come up with a treatment plan. You can find more info at <[www.mayoclinic.org](http://www.mayoclinic.org)>.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS & BAPTISMS

### BIRTHDAYS

1 Deb Ourada  
6 Jacob Meinke, Conner Slama  
8 Deb Nyhoff, Deb Walker  
10 Eric Dewey, Addilyn Brethouwer  
11 Tessa Miller, Ryan Strufing  
13 Braxton Hartman, Butch Mehl  
15 Taylor Reetz, Chris Williams  
17 Andrew Ellingson, Marlow Meinke, Lane Wendelin  
19 Larry Pomajzl, Jolene Reetz  
20 Bradley Pomajzl, Jr.  
21 Sandra Reiss  
23 Cindy Hoesche, Isaac Meinke, Maggie Wohl

25 Jerry Ferguson, Cathy Hollman

27 Marla Musil, Alice Poole

29 Dennis Kattau

31 Cheryl Langfeldt, Kurt Reetz, Whitney Tesar

### BAPTISMS

2 Tory Dello

5 Logan Adam

6 Angie Louch

9 Ryan Meinke

11 Nick Hollman

12 Dave Eggert, Jerry Ferguson Jr., Delyn Meinke, Allan Reetz

13 Camryn Adam, Del Reiss

14 Steve Schultz

15 Megan Korbel

16 Jace Ourada

17 Kade Nelson

19 Deb Walker

21 Peggy Bojanski

24 Noreen Wild

25 Glen Louch, Jacob Meinke, Blythe Dewey

26 Deb Ourada

29 Matt Ellingson, Ken Kahle

30 Joe Ellingson, Dan Underwood

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN  
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For emergency Pastoral care,  
Rev. Haynes 440-5546,  
haynes1213@aol.com  
Or Brent Wohl 440-6843

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER GROWTH

**Schedule at a Glance**

Worship Service (Sundays)	9:00 a.m.
Lenten Service (Wednesdays thru April 5)	7:30 p.m.
Sunday School (Sundays)	10:30 a.m.
Bible Class (Sundays)	10:30 a.m.
Midweek Classes (Wednesdays)	6:30 p.m.
Elder’s Meeting (March 7)	7:00 p.m.
Lutheran Women in Mission (March 21)	7:00 p.m.
Ladies Aid Meeting (March 29)	2:00 p.m.
Men’s Bible Study (March 14)	7:00 p.m.

**FROM THE ELDER’S**

Greeting from the Elders

As many of you may know, we have sent a formal call to Rev. Toensing ,and are currently waiting for a reply and possible visit . Please keep him and his family in your prayers as he deliberates the call. I also ask that you keep in your prayers all the pastors that have helped us out in this time of vacancy . Pastor Williamson, Haynes , Brinkmeyer, Griser, Jacobsen and Snow.

of the Reformation with Bethlehem in Crete. Ideas have been bounced around about a large service in a neutral location and a possible dinner after. If anyone is interested in serving on the planning committee with Bethlehem, please contact one of the Elders.

Gods Blessings,

The Elders

The elders are looking into a group celebration on the 500th anniversary

**PLEASE JOIN US** for quilting day on Thursday, March 2, 2017, from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. Please join us any time during those hours. Please bring something to share for lunch and bring a scissors. No sewing experience necessary. The quilts are primarily donated to Orphan Grain Train and most go to the orphanages in Russia and the Baltic nations. Thank you for your help with this project.

**THOSE SERVING DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY**

DUTY	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
<b>Organist</b>	Jolene Reetz	Jayne VanAsperen	Jolene Reetz	Jayne VanAsperen
<b>Elders</b>	Ken Tesar	Terry Reetz	James Walker	John Reitz
<b>Greeters</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Terry Dittmer	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Eggert	Diane Gropp & Darleen Dittmer	Mr. & Mrs. Troy Henning
<b>Acolytes</b>	Colton Homolka & Mersadies Kvasnicka	Mara & Skye Hoyer	Ted Muff & Madison Persing	Rylee Pospichal & Elliot Reitz

## LENTEN SERVICE DUTIES

### Ash Wednesday, March 1:

Pianist: Ellen Miller

Elder: Terry Reetz

Acolytes: Elliot Reitz & Nick Hollman

### Wednesday, March 8:

Pianist: Ellen Miller

Elder: Ken Tesar

Acolytes: Skye Hoyer & Ted Muff

### Wednesday, March 15:

Pianist: Ellen Miller

Elder: James Walker

Acolytes: Aaron & Jacob Meinke

### Wednesday, March 22:

Pianist: Ellen Miller

Elder: John Reitz

Acolytes: Olivia & Hugo Pomajzl

### Wednesday, March 29:

Pianist: Ellen Miller

Elder: Terry Dittmer

Acolytes: Maggie Wohl & Nick Hollman

### St. John Men's Bible Study Group

The Men's Study group will be moving on to another video series entitled, "How We Got The Bible featuring Dr. Paul L. Maier". The story of the Bible has been called "The Greatest Story Ever Told." But did you ever wonder where the Bible came from? Who wrote it? Why did they write it? Who decided which books to include? In this study, Dr. Paul Maier travels to The Bible Museum in Goodyear, Arizona, to take a look at, "how we got the Bible". Thereby, the men of St. John wish to invite all those interested to attend and take part in this new Men's Network video study.

## LAMBS OF CHRIST

**Thank You!!** We would like to thank everyone who supported us at the chili feed. We raised approximately \$2,000 to support our operating budget. Thanks for making Lambs of Christ a part of your mission outreach.

**2017 – 2018 Enrollment** Open Enrollment has begun at Lambs of Christ Preschool. If you know of a child who is of preschool age please contact the preschool so that we can send information about our preschool to them.

**Preschool Sneak Peek** Children who are interested in attending Lambs of Christ for the first time are invited to join us for a Sneak Peek. The children are invited to join us from 9:00 – 10:30 to learn about a preschool day. A Sneak Peek into Preschool will be held for the M/W/F class on Wednesday, March 8th for children age 4 by Aug. 1. Children who will be 3 by Aug. 1 are invited to join the T/Th class on Thursday March 9th. Please RSVP to Preschool if you would like to join us for a Sneak Peek Event. You may reach us at 402-826-4375 or email us at lambsofchristcrete@gmail.com

Rhonda Beethe, Teacher

402-826-4375, lambsofchristcrete@gmail.com

## LADIES AID MINUTES

St. John Ladies Aid met on February 22, 2017, with Darleen Dittmer as hostess. The meeting opened by singing the hymn, "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds".

Carol Brinkmeyer led us in Bible Study on "Esther, Queen of the Pagan's". We will continue studying Esther next month. Roll call was taken with nine members present. The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given and accepted.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A thank you card was read from Shirley Vosika, thanking the Ladies Aid for the Christmas gift.

Next month our meeting will be held on March 29th, with Irene Reiss as hostess.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and table prayer.

Shirley Reetz, Secretary