

The Love Letter

Volume 47

October 2017

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Worship Schedule

Sundays 8 and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

Mission Statement: Celebrating and sharing God's love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others.

Looking Ahead

October 11: Aged to Perfection Luncheon

October 14: Fall Clean-up Day

October 29: Reformation Sunday

November 5: 2018 Budget Forum for members

November 12: Congregational Meeting



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Submit articles for *The Love Letter* in the Love Letter mailbox at church or by email at loveletter@lord-of-love.org.

Articles (recipes or favorite poems, quotes etc., are also welcome) must be received by the 20th of the month.

PASTOR'S PAGE

"Sola Scriptura. Sola Fide. Sola Gratia, Solus Christus. Soli Deo Gloria."

October 31, 1517 marks the day when Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the Wittenberg Church door as a call for reform of the practices being done by the church—in the name of Christ—that were against what Martin Luther could find in the Bible. Until Martin Luther translated the Bible into the hands of common folk, and many copies could be made and shared with others, the Word of God as found in the Bible could not be read or interpreted by simple folk. Whatever the highly educated (the priests) taught the people in the church became the Law and will of God, rather than what was actually written in the Bible.

Since then, the Christian Church, and especially the Lutheran Christian Church, has fought against social injustices and reform in the church and the political world, focused around the following Latin phrases. Three of these bold statements of faith appear upon the Luther Rose, as pictured on this page.

Below, these phrases were translated into English with simple sentences to clarify what is meant by each. You can find this and much more at: <https://www.elca500.org/> These simple sentences were found at: <https://thereformation500.com/>

- ***Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone)***: The Bible alone is our highest authority.
- ***Sola Fide (Faith Alone)***: We are saved through faith alone in Jesus Christ.
- ***Sola Gratia (Grace Alone)***: We are saved by the grace of God alone.
- ***Solus Christus (Christ Alone)***: Jesus Christ alone is our Lord, Savior, and King.
- ***Soli Deo Gloria (To the Glory of God Alone)***: We live for the glory of God alone.

These were cries heard at the beginning of the reformation, and they continue to be claims that we as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America would agree with, along with areas in which we are still reforming our faith practices and the way we are called to live in the world.



One thing that Martin Luther was truly appalled at in his lifetime was about how little the “common folk” in the pews knew about the Bible and its teachings. This was one of the reasons he put together the large and small catechism to break down important teachings of the church for us. That way we can memorize key teachings of the church by heart, and pass these onto our children and our children’s children, thus fulfilling the words of Deut. 6:4-7

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. ⁶ Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷ Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.”

(This is also known as the *Shema*, the main teaching of the Jewish faith) and Matthew 28:19-20: (Jesus said,)

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
(continued on next)

PASTOR'S PAGE

This is known as The Great Commission, Jesus' last words to all of his disciples before ascending into heaven. We have been reading about all of this in our Adult Education Class with a book called, *By Heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism*, published by Augsburg Fortress, 2017.

Sadly, I am not sure that the average biblical competence or incompetence of the "common folk" has completely changed today, despite the glorious freedoms we hold in being able to read the Bible in our native tongues, and worship in our country without fear of persecution. As Lutherans celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, now is a great time for us to study the teachings and roots of the Reformation and take a look at how scripture, the Small Catechism, and the declarations made 500 years ago have formed us into who we are, and what those teachings are calling us to reform today. This might include our understanding of who we are, what we know and claim by faith, and what injustices we are called to fight for today.

Sola Gratia
Grace Alone

Sola Fide
Faith Alone

Sola Scriptura
Scripture Alone

So as we celebrate this anniversary, may we too take on the challenge to be more well-versed and educated in scripture and the stories involved in what it means for us to be able to call ourselves Lutheran Christians in today's world with the same sense of passion and urgency that Martin Luther and other reformers of his day found through scripture, faith, grace, and Christ alone. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

-Pastor Becky <><

NURTURE

Donut Pick-Up and Clean-Up Needed

Please help! We are in need of volunteers to pick up donuts from Hy-Vee at 108th and Fort by 9 a.m. and/or clean up mugs after second service. This is for one month of Sundays. We will give training on the dishwasher if needed. Please sign up on the table by the donuts. Thank you.



Lunch on Reformation Sunday

October 29 is Reformation Sunday. After second service, at 11:45, a German lunch will be provided. The Church Council has approved for this event only that those attending may bring beer or wine of their choice to enjoy with their lunch. Lemonade and water will also be served.



NURTURE

Family Game Night

Everyone is invited to join in the fun at Fat Brain Toys Family Game Night!

Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Bring your family and your favorite snack to share to LOL's Fellowship Hall and enjoy the best of the best in new, innovative learning games for all ages. Presented by a great crew from Fat Brain Toys. The evening will end with root beer floats!



MISSION

Summer Breakfasts

Thanks to all for your generosity in supporting special missions through our summer breakfasts. Because of you, **\$1859.30** will go to the Siena/Francis House to help with their ministries of housing, feeding and rehabilitating the homeless.



The Mission Possible Team will meet soon to discuss upcoming special offerings. All input is welcome, and new team members are also wanted! Please talk to any team member if you have input or would like to participate on the team: Charise Adams, Jesse Brewer, Paul Christenson, Paula Foster, Deb Lund, Jeri Morgan and Bill Morris.

Lutheran Disaster Response

The ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

Learn more at www.elca.org/en/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/How-We-Work

Where Lutherans are responding:

- Hurricane Irma Relief
- Hurricane Harvey Relief
- South Sudan Relief
- Louisiana Gulf Coast Flooding
- Africa Drought
- West Virginia Flooding
- Nepal Earthquake
- Middle East & Europe Refugee Crisis
- AMMPARO: Protecting Migrant Minors



MISSION

Reformation Commemoration Service

A Reformation Commemoration Service is to be held jointly by the Nebraska and Western Iowa synods on **Sunday, Oct. 29**, from 2-3:15 p.m. with reception to follow. The service will be held at St. John's Parish on the Creighton University campus in Omaha. Bishop Brian Maas of the Nebraska Synod and Bishop Rodger Prois of the Western Iowa Synod will be leading the worship service. The service also will feature choral music and brass by the Lord of Love Brass to help commemorate the occasion. Representatives of the ELCA's ecumenical partners will be invited to attend and participate. [Register here.](#)

If you are unable to attend this service in person, consider participating in a live stream worship event at one of the designated congregations. For more information, go to the [Nebraska Synod website](#).

To view the service online, go to [St. John's YouTube channel](#) at the start of the service.

Commemoration Celebration

“All Things New”

Monday, Oct. 30, 2017

7:30 p.m.

Southwood Lutheran Church
4301 Wilderness Hills Blvd., Lincoln

The Lincoln Area Mission Cluster of the Nebraska Synod, ELCA, Southwood Lutheran Church, and the Nebraska Synod TheoCon are partnering to host a celebration of our common witness to the Gospel commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Congregations, ministries and individuals are invited to bring quilts for Lutheran World Relief, and an offering for Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska to support the expanded Lincoln Health 360 center. We hope to display at least 500 quilts, and to contribute to those in need in our community! Bishop Brian Maas will preach and musicians from area congregations will offer their talents in praise.



MISSION

Lutheran Service Corps Spaghetti Feed

Sunday, Oct. 22, 2017

Trinity Lutheran Church
6340 N 30th St.

5-7 p.m.

Adults: \$7; Children 5-12: \$4

Children under 5: \$2; Families: \$20

Free tours of Hillstrom House, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Bring your family and friends! All proceeds support the social ministry of Lutheran Service Corps! For more information, call 402.457.5890 or email Omaha.dev@lutheranvolunteercorps.org



Lord of Love Community Garden

Thanks to all who worked so faithfully to raise wonderful vegetables for the hungry this past summer. Many pounds of onions, carrots, squash, sweetcorn, potatoes, tomatoes, and peppers were grown, harvested, and given each week to the food pantries at Project Hope and First Lutheran. The season is winding down, and the ground is being prepared for winter's rest.



RESOURCES

Fall Clean-Up Day

October 14, 8-11 a.m.

We will be cutting and raking day lilies, trimming some tree and bush branches, re-assembling the bench and spreading some mulch in the meditation garden, along with miscellaneous cleanup of the building and grounds. The kitchen is in need of some TLC on the front and inside the cupboards - please bring a pair of gloves if you can help with this task. Please try to fit a couple of hours into your schedule to help. Thank you from the Resources Committee.



YOUTH

Church Garage Sale Coming Up



Saturday, Oct. 21, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Proceeds to Youth Fund for National Gathering in June 2018 in Houston, TX

If you are doing some cleaning up and cleaning out, bring those lightly used items to the church fellowship hall the week of Oct. 15 for the Fall Church Garage Sale. All donations will be sold with proceeds to the Youth Fund or will be passed on to another local donation organization. Be sure to stop by the church on Saturday and rummage through our wares.

YOUTH CALENDAR

Oct. 21, 2017

Garage Sale: Proceeds to Youth Fund (arrive: 7:30 a.m.)

Nov. 17-19, 2017 - Grand Island

LYON (Lutheran Youth of NE) - Sr. High Retreat

Jan. 13-14, 2018 - Omaha

MSG (Middle School Gathering) - Grades 6-8

June 27-July 1, 2018 - Houston

National Youth Gathering



CHURCH COUNCIL

2017 Lord of Love Church Council

Vision and Coordination: Brian Walther, President; Don Rowen, Vice-President; Kathy Christiansen, Secretary; Jackie Combes, Treasurer

Nurture: Chris Rich and Susan Lueders

Outreach: Paula Foster and Jesse Brewer

Resources: Craig Pennell and Paul Christenson

Worship: Doug Aden and Heather Hansen

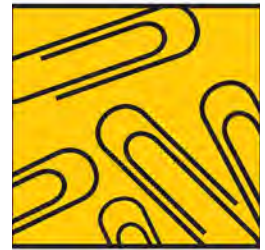


CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council Meeting Notes

The Lord of Love Church Council met on Sept. 19, 2017 and the following are some of the highlights of the meeting:

- Although our _____ remain in the black, giving amounts were low during the summer months.
- Resources committee updated the Council about the status of the Major Improvement Projects for 2016 and 2017. Most are completed or nearing completion.
- Worship committee is looking for a scheduler for the liturgists, greeters and communion servers.
- Worship and Nurture committees continue to work on a job description for a nursery attendant who would be hired for Sunday mornings.
- Nurture is planning a Reformation lunch with a German theme on Oct. 29, 2017. Council discussed and approved that members can bring an adult beverage for this luncheon.



COUNCIL meeting NOTES

Giving Status

August 2017:

Actual Income - \$22,207.00

Actual Expense - \$30,663.23

Financial Information Year-To-Date as of the end of August:

Actual Income - \$213,171.00

Actual Expense - \$211,646.23



As of the end of August, the available cash balance is \$4,555.92. Weekly offerings of \$7,223 are needed to meet budgeted expenses. The weekly offering average for the end of August was \$6,091. Thank you for your continued support.

"The Two Ways God Wants You to Use Your Talents"

From Heather Hansen, taken from Chris Brown On Air

Although God wants you to enjoy what He's given you, he didn't gift you with talents just for your own benefit. So how exactly does God want us to use our talents for Him?

What are you really good at? Painting? Counseling? Maybe you've never met a car problem you can't repair, or you're an amazing chef. Perhaps you just _____ opportunities to help people wherever you go. *(continued on next)*

STEWARDSHIP

"Two Ways God Wants You to Use Your Talents," continued

Whatever your talent or skill is, guess what? God's behind it! But He didn't bless any of us with a talent or skill simply so we could look awesome or earn lots of cash.

God wants us to steward those gifts for Him! Maybe you thought stewardship was just for your money. Well, yes, that's a big part of it. But it's so much bigger than that. If we want to please God—if we want to hear Him say, "Well done good and faithful servant" when we meet Him in heaven—then we must faithfully use our talents.

Colossians 3:23–24 (ESV) tells us that everything we do should be for Christ: *"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."* So how exactly does God want us to use our talents for Him? Two ways: blessing others and building His kingdom.

God wants us to bless others. In 1 Peter 4:10, we're called to use our gifts to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace. Now, in that context, Peter was talking about spiritual gifts like prophecy and healing. Those are supernatural abilities God gives each Christ-follower, but the general idea of blessing others also carries over to talents. God doesn't give us anything just for our own After all, we're blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2)!

Just as with spiritual gifts, God wants us to use our talents and skills for the of others. How can you put that into practice? Maybe there's a ministry that uses your skill or talent to help others. If you love working on cars, volunteer to repair single moms' cars



for free. Or if you paint, hold art classes for nursing home residents. If you look in your community, you're sure to a need you can meet with the talents God's given you. If nothing exists, start your own ministry!

God wants us to build His kingdom for His glory. God made us all different. That's great, because together, all of us make up the kingdom. In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul compares the body of Christ to a human body: Each of us is unique, but together we make the body complete. And Christ is the head of the body (Ephesians 5:23), so everything we do points back to Him. He directs it all!

In other words, God wants you to use your unique role in the body of Christ to glorify Him. Use your God-given abilities to reach those who don't know Him—and give Him the credit for your talents.

Jesus gives us two commandments: **to love the Lord and to love others as we love ourselves (Matthew 22:37–40)**. And when we steward our talents to honor Him and to bless others, we're doing just that.

MEN'S NEWS CORNER

Men's Breakfast

Men's breakfast group meets **every Saturday morning at 0700** in the fellowship hall. All men are welcome to attend for Christian study, fellowship and breakfast. Come and join us!



WOMEN OF LOVE

Thankoffering Sunday

Women of the **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA** 

Oct. 8, 2017 is Thankoffering Sunday for the Women of the ELCA. The tradition dates to the 1800's, when women formed "Cent Societies" to collect offerings at home to support the ministry of the church. Women collect their offerings in different ways – some keep a collection box and add to it throughout the year to show gratitude. Others make a yearly offering to support the work of the church wide group. Offerings support the life-changing ministries of the Women of the ELCA.

There will be a time during both services on Oct. 8 for you to bring your thankoffering forward and place in the designated basket.

Upcoming Dates

Oct. 6 and 20: Crane Coffee fellowship



Oct. 3 & 17: Quilters

Nov. 11: Women's Team Annual Meeting and Planning Event, 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Jane Gehringer & Gwen Edwards will be sharing their experiences from the Triennial Convention

Gather Bible Study

Monday Night Gather Bible Study will meet on **Oct. 2** at the Village Inn one block north of 144th & L St. (3304 S 143rd Plaza Oakview Mall).

Wednesday Night Gather Bible Study group will meet at the church at **6 p.m. on Oct. 4**. The church receives a copy of the *Gather Magazine*, which is placed on the round library table for your reading pleasure. If you would like to join either Bible study group, you are welcome to use the magazine.

Please talk to Ruth Manning (ruthypoo38@gmail.com) if you are interested in the Wednesday Group or to Rose Roberts (dougroberts@cox.net) if you are interested in the Monday Group.

Lutheran Women of Omaha

Lutheran Women of Omaha will meet at **noon on Tuesday, Oct. 10** at Luther Memorial Church, North 60th and Western. Lunch is \$7, and membership is \$3 a year. Reservations must be made with Ruth Manning at 451-0221 by 3 p.m., Sunday, October 8. Watch the Sunday bulletin for program and free-will offering information.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Dick Bell
Connie Bennett (cousin of Karen Armitage)
Jerry Boylan (father of Saylor Boylan)
Candee Brandon (friend of Dave & Lisa Rieff)
Gail Conyers (wife of Kirk Conyers)
Ruth Cooley
Olivia (daughter of Scott & Dana)
Earl Hansen (Brandon's Dad)
Pr. Joe Hernandez – Missionary in the Middle East (cousin of David & Chris Boarts)
David Hojnacke (neighbor of the Armitage family)
Jan Hughes (aunt of Paula Foster)
Julie (friend of Pat Brewer)
Jim Jacobson (friend of Jon & Carol Novak)
Izzy Lightle (relative of Kim Gust)
Lisa Lueders (sister-in-law of Dave Lueders)
Ruth Manning
Marcy Miller (aunt of David Egr)

Don St. Ours (brother-in-law of Lynda McGraw)
Becky Reinhardt
Paul Rumbaugh
LeRoy Schuchard
Jason Shupp
Brian & Nancy Shinrock
Peggy Seck (cousin of Ann Kroll)
Brenda Thom
Nancy Thoman (stepmother of Ann Kroll)
James Thompson (son-in-law of Lynda McGraw)
Pam Todd
Pauline Shaffer
Ted (former co-worker of Brian Shinrock)
Steve Wiitala (friend of Karen Mullen)
Caregivers and those who suffer with depression.
Those seeking employment.

T

narthex and place it in the basket.

LOVE NOTES

THANKS



"I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped me celebrate my 80th birthday. A very special thank you to the garden group for their card and to all the other individuals who gave and sent me cards. It was appreciated. Again, thank you and God's blessing to all of you."

-Gary Ramsay

October is **Pastor Appreciation Month!** Thank you, Pastor Becky, for your ministry at Lord of Love. We are so fortunate, blessed and thankful that you are here.



Lord of Love's Worship Servants

	October 1	October 8	October 15	October 22	October 29
Greeter(s)					
8:00 a.m.	Doug & Rose Roberts	Christie & Mike Klos	Paul & Peg Murphy	Dale & Karen Finck	Mike & Christie Klos
10:30 a.m.	Ron & Nadine Salak	Christie & Mike Klos	Lynda McGraw	Shelby Lamoureux	Edwards family
Liturgist					
8:00 a.m.	Brian Lund	Doug Aden	Paul Murphy	David Hild	Shawn Lorenzen
10:30 a.m.	Rex Quadhamer	Claudia Rowen	Paul Christenson	Karen Mullen	Tom Olson
Communion Servers					
8:00 a.m.	Kelly Duffy, Doug & Rose Roberts, Deb Lund	Paul Christenson, Joe & Jackie Combes, Mike Klos	Peg Murphy, Jim & Jeri Morgan, Judy Egr	Jesse & Pat Brewer, Matt & Lisa Willard	Mike Klos, Kenn & Shari Garder, Bill Baker
10:30 a.m.	Kathy Christiansen, Charise Adams, Paul & Ann Kroll	Don Rowen, Rieff family	Deb Quadhamer, Lori Vandeventer, Ashley Vandeventer	Joan Witt, Judy Messerschmidt, John & Gwen Edwards	Beth Olson, Miguel & Rosie Avalos, Deb Quadhamer
Altar Care					
8:00 a.m.	Ed & Marjorie Keiser	Cathy Aden, Sue Dieter	Connie Walther, Lisa Meyer	Mardi Fiske	Joan Witt
10:30 a.m.	Rowen family	Nicole Quackenbush, Karen Anderson	Rosie Avalos	Paul & Ann Kroll, Shelby Lamoureux	Deb Quadhamer, Judy Messerschmidt
Ushers					
8:00 a.m.	Josh Combes, Brian Walther, Brandon Zalesky, Dale Finck				
10:30 a.m.	Dave Lueders, Adam Lueders, Miguel Avalos				
Nursery Care					
CD Recording					
10:30 a.m.	Pat Brewer	Paul Christenson	Dave Lueders	Paul Murphy	Jesse Brewer
Donut Help					
Pick up donuts	Gust family				
Clean up	Volunteer needed				

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 5:00pm Bell Rehearsal	2 6:00pm WELCA @ Village Inn Oakview 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	3 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Vision & Coordination Mtg	4 4:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm W/ELCA Gather Study 6:00pm Brass 6:15pm FISH 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	5 7:00pm Boy Scouts	6 9:00am Crane coffee fellowship 9:30am AI Anon Mtg. 7:30pm AA Mtg.	7 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
8 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 1:00pm District 18 AA Ping Mtg 5:00pm Bell Rehearsal	9 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	10 7:00pm Sunnyslope Neighborhood Mtg. 7:00pm Resources Meeting	11 12:00pm Aged to Perfection Lunch 4:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Brass 6:15pm FISH 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	12 7:00pm Boy Scouts	13 9:30am AI Anon Mtg. 7:30pm AA Mtg.	14 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 8:00am Fall Clean-up
15 Thank offering Sunday 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 5:00pm Sons of Norway Torsk Dinner 5:00pm Bell Rehearsal	16 8:00am Office Administrators retreat at CJH 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	17 8:00am Office Administrators retreat at CJH 9:00am Quilters 7:00pm Church Council Mtg.	18 4:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Brass 6:15pm FISH 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	19 7:00pm Boy Scouts	20 9:00am Crane coffee fellowship 9:30am AI Anon Mtg. 7:30pm AA Mtg.	21 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry 8:00am Youth Garage Sale 6:30pm Game Night at Lord of Love
22 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 5:00pm Bell Rehearsal	23 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	24	25 4:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Supper 6:00pm Brass 6:15pm FISH 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	26 7:00pm Boy Scouts	27 9:30am AI Anon Mtg. 7:30pm AA Mtg.	28 7:00am Men's Breakfast Ministry
29 Reformation 8:00am Worship & Communion 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship & Communion 11:30am Reformation Meal 5:00pm Bell Rehearsal	30 8:00pm AA & AI Anon	31				