



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

ReMarks and ReMindors

OCTOBER 21, 2020

REFORMATION SUNDAY

This Sunday is the 503rd anniversary of the Reformation. Pastor Dave has put together the article below – I do believe you will find it interesting. If you are planning to attend worship service this Sunday, please call the church office to make a reservation. For those of you at home, this will be a communion Sunday.

Always Reforming

The 500th Anniversary of the Reformation was just three short years ago in October of 2017. One of the themes that came out of that remembrance for the ELCA was that the church is “Always Reforming,” which I think is worth repeating often.

In looking for some reflections of others that I thought might be helpful along these lines of remembering, I came across an article in the publication *Living Lutheran*, entitled, *The Continuing Reformation Deeper understandings - October 2017*, by David C. Ratke, Dean of the College of Theology, at Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory, NC. In it Ratke said, “Luther’s world was characterized by much misery.” He went on to explain how life was changing in Luther’s time - the increase in urban areas and the resulting migration to them and the unsanitary conditions that followed. Ratke specifically pointed out that Luther was very concerned about the marginalized of his day. He also said, “My point in mentioning identity, changing economies and education is to say that these were potent forces in Luther’s era and, I think, in our era as well.” I couldn’t agree with him more.

After mentioning that our justification by grace gives each of us a new identity because of Christ Jesus, he closed with these words.

“The church is always reforming! None of us can know where we as a church are called to proclaim the gospel. We don t know if we ll be called to proclaim in words or in action. We only know that we are being called both as a church and as individuals to live faithful lives of discipleship,

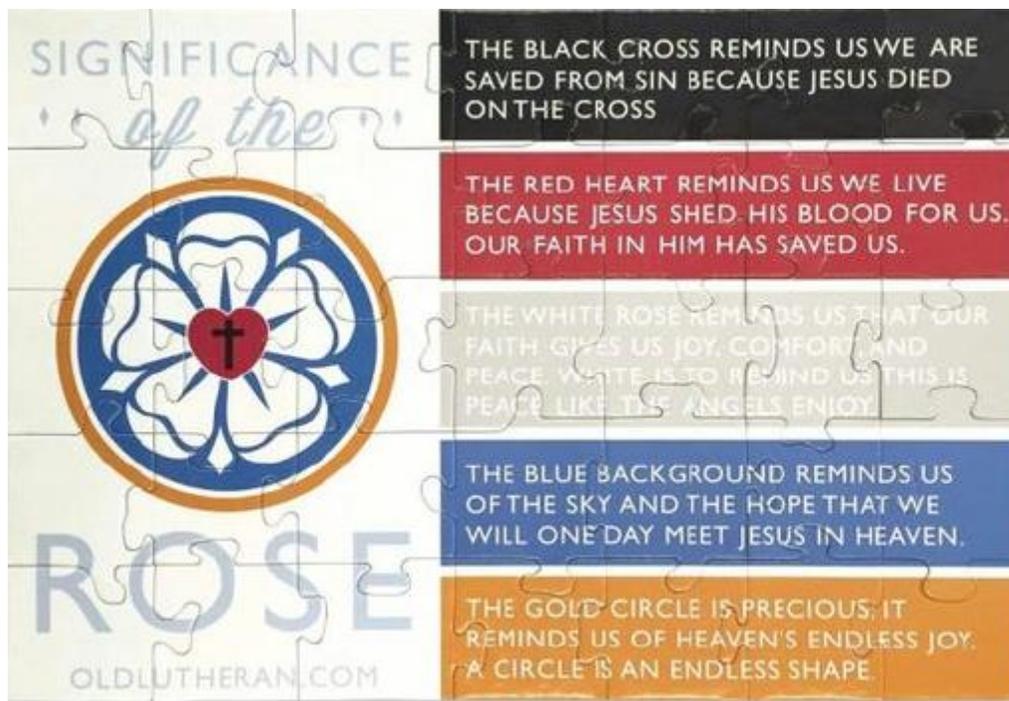
even while we find our hope and our identity not in what we do but in what God has done in Christ Jesus.”

So my hope and prayer for the folks who are St. Marks Pennsburg is that you will realize how your collective and individual lives are changing in these days as you too are...

Always Reforming

LUTHER'S ROSE

“Luther’s Rose” The symbolism of the Luther rose goes back to the 1520s. [Note: The explanation of the White Rose below is hard to read. It says: “The white rose reminds us that our faith gives us joy, comfort, and peace. White is to remind us this is peace like the angels enjoy.”]



CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council wants you to know that there will be open positions to be filled for the upcoming year 2021. We have members whose terms are up. If you are interested in serving your church, please contact a current Council member or call the church office (215-679-9015). Serving on Church Council is a truly rewarding experience.

PROTOCOLS

Perhaps not your favorite word, but necessary so we all know what to do, what to expect. The protocols were sent out in the letter from Church Council. I will summarize them here for you.

- Reservations are required – please call or email the church office
- If you are not feeling well, please stay home and view the service on the website which will be available later on Sunday.
- Masks are required. There are some disposable ones available if needed.
- Enter through the side door facing gazebo only (office/Sunday School)
- Please plan to arrive around 10AM to allow for seating, picking up bulletins and communion sets.
- Ushers will direct you to your seat. Please remain at your seat during service. Communion will be taken at your seat.
- Congregational responses or singing will not be done at this time.
- Dismissal will be led by ushers to comply with distance guidelines.
- Please wait until you are outside to chat and greet your friends!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

The Adult Bible Study class invites you to join us for a Zoom discussion on Sundays at 9:00 AM. We are starting a new 13 week unit called “The Many Faces of Wisdom”. No Bible knowledge needed, just a willingness to listen, learn and share. No long term commitment – each week’s lesson is separate. If you are interested, please contact Deb Long at debra.reed588@comcast.net A Zoom link will be sent to you for the class. Added bonus: you get to see and talk with other members of St. Mark’s!

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

- October 27 is the last day for your mail-in/absentee ballots applications to be received in your county office
- November 3rd is the General Election. Polls are open from 7AM to 8PM. If you are in line by 8PM, you will be able to vote. Mail-in and absentee ballots must be received by 8PM on Election Day.
- You can visit VotesPA for updates and general information

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Lillie Bosler, Lisa Clark, Jack Cross, Marilyn Donis, Randy Dotter, Andrew Erb, Renae Fosbenner, Marie Grubb, Catherine Gruber, Dorothy Hagenbuch, David Haines, Paul Hausmann, Harold Hieter, Marie Jones, Dennis Laubach, Merle Leh, Barbara Lehmann, Kenneth Miller, Deb Mullen, Barbara Opachinski and Lenny Rafalko.

Please call or email me with any changes or additions. The church office phone is 215-679-9015. Email address is: stmarks@stmarkspennsburg.com