

# the 809

October 2017  
Volume XXXVII



Inspire ♦ Involve ♦ Inform

(The number 809 represents the approximate total of Concordia's membership age 50 and older)

## A WORD FROM PASTOR MEGGERS...



By now it is likely that you have heard a lot about a 500-year celebration. It was 500 years ago in October that an Augustinian monk named Martin Luther nailed 95 sentences (or theses) suitable for academic debate to the door of a Wittenberg church. And the world has not been the same since. This is not an over-statement. The Reformation resulted in greater literacy, dramatic growth in education for all, a shift from one central power to more localized government. Indeed, Luther was one of the most influential people of the last millennium.

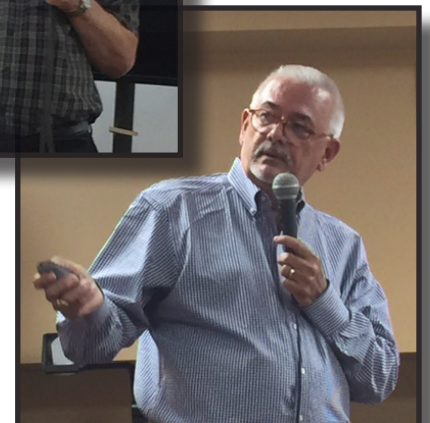
However, at the center of the Reformation was Jesus. Luther re-discovered the freedom we have in the Gospel of Jesus and the connection we have with God through Him and only Him, not through deeds done by us. That is the freedom and connection in which we live today. That is why we are celebrating the Reformation over the next weeks at Concordia under the banner **RE: formation**. Not merely looking back, but "straining on to what lies ahead," we will truly honor these 500 years by being people who take this Good News into the next 500 years.

God bless you in JOY and continue to "RE: form" you for life and service in His Kingdom!

## LUNCH AND LEARN HAPPENINGS

Following a July break, we resumed our monthly Lunch and Learns in August and were inspired by Rev. Vince Stanley's presentation on his prison ministry at the St. Louis County Justice Center. A free-will offering of \$350 was received for Pastor Stanley's ministry. In addition, Janel Burch shared some details of her prison visitations.

Our September gathering featured a presentation by Concordia's Dr. John Eckrich on wellness in our lives. His recent book *Vocation and Wellness* explores the importance of balancing mind, body, and spirit. Dr. Eckrich gave attendees important tips on effectively caring for themselves.



Our annual Oktoberfest celebration will be held in the Concordia Commons on Thursday, October 19, 11:30am. Those who have attended in the past know that this is an event that can't be missed! Rev. David Mahsman will share information on the Wittenberg Project and a brief visit from "Katie Luther" is expected! A suggested donation of \$5 will cover the cost of brats and fixins, including home-brewed beer, apple cider, and dessert. Please bring non-perishable food items to share with *Feed My People* and *Kirk Care, Inc.*



Our November 16 gathering will have a veterans' focus. This year we plan to feature women who have served in the military. Our guest speaker will be Kitty Bickford from Rolla who served 10 years on active duty in the Air Force and was married to a career military person. If you are aware of any female veterans, please share that information with Don Wolfinger, dlwolf@charter.net or 636-778-0416. Please sign up to bring either soup, bread or dessert.

Please note the date change for our December Christmas gathering. This year's event will focus on the theme "What Child Is This?" and will be **Tuesday, December 19**, 11:30am in the dining hall. The meal will be catered by The Hawthorne Inn. As always, there will be special entertainment and fun fellowship. Additional details will follow.

All are welcome at our Lunch and Learn gatherings. Please RSVP by calling Patty Wilson, 314.822.7772 x128, by signing the welcome tab on the Sunday bulletin or by signing the list in the Concordia Commons. We hope you will join us!

### 809 UPDATE

This 809 issue is again being sent via email to those for whom we have email addresses. It will continue to be mailed to our homebound members, to those for whom we do not have email addresses, and to anyone else who wants to receive a copy mailed to their home address. Please contact Patty Wilson, 314.822.7772 x128 or pwilson@CKhome.org, if you wish to remain on the home mailing list. Printed copies will continue to be available at church.

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Concordia's new worship schedule has gone into effect. In addition to the Saturday 5:00pm Sanctuary service, Sunday-morning services include 8:30 and 10:30am in the Sanctuary and 9:30am in the Concordia Center.

### SERVANT HEARTS AND HANDS

...The Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis has committed matching funds for financial aid to Hurricane Harvey and Irma victims. Concordia will be sending our financial support to our Texas and Florida-Georgia District partners. In so doing, we are assured that our contributions will be used in concert with local congregations to relieve human suffering and to bring spiritual support to broken lives. Donations can be made online at CKhome.org/relief or by check (write "Hurricane Relief" in the memo).

...Dr. Kent Killian will be leading another mission team to Uganda later this month. Our Giving Center is accepting donations of needed items, including individually wrapped toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, stick deodorant, bar soap, and petroleum jelly. Items need to be brought to the Giving Center by October 8.

...Christian Friends of New Americans distributed backpacks and other school supplies that were donated at our Giving Center to 23 recently arrived Ethiopian and Eritrean children.



...On Saturday, October 21, 8:00am-2:00pm, *Lutheran World Relief* will have a tractor trailer on the parking lot at Concordia. Volunteers are needed to move boxed ingathering items and stack them in the large box trailer. Concordia is one of the main collection points in the state of Missouri for this very worthwhile cause. The quilts, kits and soap will eventually be distributed throughout the world. You can volunteer a couple of hours or the entire day. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Redecker, cmredecker@yahoo.com or 573.579.7128.

...Those who can knit or crochet..."Prayer Squares"  
Consider, as the weather gets colder, joining this ministry in making small squares for those who need a reminder of God's love for them. A simple pattern is available from Sharon Ema at the church office. We will have a gathering at Karen Bettlach-Fuerman's home on Wednesday, October 18, 6:30pm, to make some squares.

For more information, contact Sharon, 314.822-7772 x132 or sema@ckhome.org.



## OUR NEXT STEP UPDATE



Korte Construction has been awarded the contract to design the first phase parking and educational facilities of Our Next Step program. Concordia's design team has been meeting frequently to work on these details. The next decision date will be in January 2018 to approve final plans and approve the guaranteed maximum price.

## YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW THAT...

...Our congregation recently celebrated 100 years of ministry with a reception honoring four of our amazing faith leaders at Concordia: Pastor David Meggers, 35 years; Audrey Duensing-Werner, 25 years; Brendan Knorp, 20 years; and Sharon Ema, 20 years. We thank God for their faithful service! In addition to those observances, Concordia member Rev. Eric Erkkinen is marking 40 years in pastoral ministry this year.



...John Hartmann was recently recognized for his service to our country with a trip to Washington, DC, on an Honor Flight.

...Robert Wagner recently celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and participated in the Kirkwood Labor Day Parade!



## UPCOMING...

...Christian Friends of New Americans will be holding their two major fundraising events this Fall. October 10 will be the date for their 5<sup>th</sup> annual Golf Benefit at Norwood Hills Country Club, and the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Trivia Night at the Lutheran Church of Webster Gardens will be on November 11. Items are needed for the Trivia Night auction. For information about these two events and ways in which you can help with this important ministry, go to [cfna-stl.org](http://cfna-stl.org) or call Carol Buckman, 314.517.8513.

...The annual Lutheran Prayer Breakfast will be held on Wednesday, October 11, at the Orlando Events and Conference Center, 2050 Dorsett Village Plaza in Maryland Heights. *SEEING JESUS CLEARLY: Five Hundred Years after the Reformation* will be the topic presented by Rev. A. Trevor Sutton. Go to [lcms.regfox.com/2017-lutheran-prayer-breakfast](http://lcms.regfox.com/2017-lutheran-prayer-breakfast) for more information.

...Family Shield Ministries is hosting a Christian concert by *Adams Road Ministry*, Friday, October 13 at Concordia, 6:30-8:00pm. *Adams Road* is composed of ex-Mormons who will also share their testimonies. There is no charge but a free-will offering will be taken. Family Shield Ministries also sponsors a radio program each Saturday morning from 10:00-10:30am on AM 1320 KSIV featuring topics relevant to Christian families.

...Concordia will host the Fall LWML Zone Rally on Saturday, October 21, beginning at 8:30am. Help will be needed on Friday, October 20 and Saturday, October 21 to set up, prepare food, decorate the cafeteria, serve and clean up. If you wish to assist either day, please contact Shirley Meckfessel, 314-892-3807, or [smeck@juno.com](mailto:smeck@juno.com).



...*"In Christ Alone We Stand: Redeemed, Reformed, Renewed* (Philippians 1:21)" is the theme for the Lutheran Older Adult Retreat sponsored by the Southern Illinois District LCMS and Lutheran Senior Services at Pere Marquette Lodge, Grafton, IL, on October 25-26. Along with other interesting sessions and activities, Bonnie Matzat will present her Katie Luther portrayal and Bill Matzat will share a presentation on his ecclesiastical art. For further information and reservations, contact Margo Wolf, 618-622-0264 or [dmwvette74@gmail.com](mailto:dmwvette74@gmail.com).

...Shepherd's Center of Webster-Kirkwood *Chores Galore on Saturday, October 28*  
If you are an older adult in need of this season's yard clean-up, please call ahead to register. Call the Shepherd's Center at 314.395.0988 to help.

...Session 2 of Concordia's LifeLight Bible Study classes led by Rev. Dr. Steve Carter will begin on November 7 (7:15-8:30pm) and 8 (9:15-11:00am). A study of the Book of John will be the focus. All are welcome!

## 500<sup>TH</sup> REFORMATION OBSERVANCES

...Rick Steves' *Luther and the Reformation* screening at Concordia-Kirkwood on October 31, 1:00pm. This year marks the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. Join us for this informative documentary as narrated by Rick Steves and see the places in Germany where this happened. We will supply popcorn and drinks!



...Concordia Seminary will host a 500<sup>th</sup> Reformation service at the Seminary Chapel on Tuesday, October 31, 7:00pm. The musical celebration will be structured around three of Martin Luther's teachings central to the Reformation: Grace Alone, Faith Alone and Scripture Alone. Two Seminary choirs plus singers and musicians from Lutheran High School South and other area Lutheran schools and congregations will be featured. Seminary President Dale Meyer will give the meditation. The service is open to the public.

...Concordia Historical Institute, located at 809 Seminary Place on the campus of Concordia Seminary, has an exhibit of rare books and coins documenting the 500-year history of the Reformation. The exhibit is entitled, *Pressed into Service by the Word of God*. Regular exhibit hours are Monday through Friday, 9:30am-3:30pm.

...Members of Concordia, their families and friends are invited to join an inspirational Reformation Tour to Germany, September 27–October 8, 2018. Lutherstadt (Wittenberg, Erfurt, Eisenach and Eisleben) and Bavaria (Rothenburg, Oberammergau, and Munich), as well as Austria (Salzburg) are included in the itinerary. For more information, please contact Don, 636-484-0248 or dlwolf@charter.net.



## REMEMBRANCE ON ALL SAINTS' DAY

Sunday, November 5, after the 10:30am Sanctuary worship. Please submit names of loved ones lost since last All Saints' Day to Sharon Karleskint in the Church Office, 314-822-7772 x123.



## REMEMBERING...

Please keep the families of these departed saints in your prayers...

Ruth Bopp 7/31  
Rev. Bill Dingler 8/5  
John Weiss 8/13  
Ed Schaefer 8/15  
Verne Garrison 8/18  
Irene Medlock 9/2  
Joan Mueller 9/20

*Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life.  
Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.  
Everyone who lives in me and  
believes in me will never ever die..."*

*John 11:25-26*