



HAPPENING NOW

- **Confirmation Retreat, October 7 – 8**
- **Acolyte Training , October 8, 12:30 p.m.**
- **Church Council Meeting, October 10, 7 p.m.**
- **Staff Meeting, Noon, October 11**
- **Needlework Friends, 11 a.m., October 14**
- **Empty Nesters “Chalktoberfest”, October 15, 1 p.m.**
- **Confirmation Rehearsal and Banquet, October 15, 12:30 p.m.**
- **Cat on vacation, October 16—20**
- **Ladies Night Out, 7 p.m., October 17**
- **New Member Sunday, October 22**
- **FX3/Confirmation, 12:30 p.m., October 22**
- **Praise Team Rehearsal, October 27, 6:30 p.m.**
- **Confirmation Sunday, October 29**

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News You Can “Ewes”

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2017

Reformation 500

Freed & RENEWED
in Christ 500
YEARS OF GOD'S
GRACE IN ACTION

October 29 is Reformation Sunday commemorating the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther posting his Ninety-Five Theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517. That action is considered the pivotal event that ultimately resulted in the Lutheran Reformation.

Luther never intended to start a new church separate from the Roman Catholic Church, of which he was a priest. His theses were a list of matters he hoped to discuss within the Roman Church, primarily the sale of indulgences. Indulgences were documents folks could buy from the Church to receive forgiveness for their sins. Luther proclaimed that, according to Scripture, we can only be saved by the grace of God. Unfortunately, the Roman Church received the Ninety-Five Theses as an attack on church hierarchy, igniting the Reformation.

Luther challenged the Roman Church to renew and reform itself with scripture—a challenge for Lutherans still today. Though we give thanks for and commemorate what Martin Luther did, we also pray that God will continue to renew and reform Christ's Church now. Though the actions of Luther and other Reformers led to the birth of a new church, the Lutheran Church, we continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will make Christ's Church one again.

REFORMATION CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, October 29	8:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday, October 29	10:45 a.m.	The Rite of Confirmation
Sunday, October 29	3:30 p.m.	North Metro Joint Reformation Festival Worship, Christ the King Lutheran Church, Norcross <i>GSLC musicians participating in mass ensembles</i>
Sunday, November 12	9:30 a.m.	GSLC Youth present the drama “The Trial of Martin Luther”

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12 SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m.	One combined worship service with Youth drama, “The Trial of Martin Luther”
11 a.m.	Bi-Annual Meeting
12 p.m.	Annual Thanksgiving Lunch

ABOUT THE LUTHERANS

Lutherans in Social Service

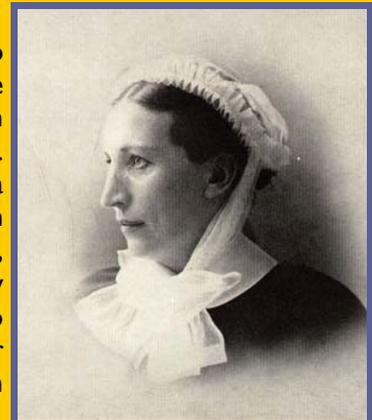


Theodor Fliedner

Care for the poor and those in dire need has been a Lutheran concern from the beginning of the Reformation. In 1522, only five years after the posting of the Ninety-Five Theses, the reformers issued the Wittenberg Church Order, something of an outline for how a reshaped church community was to conduct itself. And part of that document was the call for a common or community chest—a fund that would, among other things, provide for poor orphans and children of poor people, provide refinancing of high-interest loans at 4 percent for those who were in financial trouble, and underwrite education or training for poor children. (Tellingly, Luther was challenged on the possibility of abuse, and he responded, “He who has nothing to live on should be aided. If he deceives us, what then? He must be aided again.”) These ideas were soon being put into practice—not just in Wittenberg, but in other cities as far away as Strasbourg. When the pastor of St. Mary’s Church in Wittenberg, Johannes Bugenhagen, became involved, the church orders also took up the cause of health care.

From that time on, Lutherans have keenly felt the responsibility to care for those in need, and that has been addressed in ways suitable for the time. An important step was taken by nineteenth-century German pastor Theodor Fliedner. Assigned to a poor town called Kaiserswerth (now part of Düsseldorf), he began working with inmates in the dilapidated prison there. Once he got a chaplain assigned to that prison, his focus shifted to caring for inmates, especially women, after their release. This, in turn, led to his development of a plan whereby young women would be trained to care for the sick, since there were few hospitals at that time. In 1836 he opened both a hospital and a school for training women in theology and nursing. He called these women deaconesses.

One of the graduates of that school was Mother Katinka Guldberg, who established a deaconess house in Kristiania (now Oslo), Norway, where one of her students was a young Elisabeth Fedde. After working for a time in northern Norway, Fedde moved to New York City to begin ministry there. In short order, she founded or cofounded the Norwegian Relief Society, a deaconess house, and a small hospital that eventually became the Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn. After a few years, she moved to Minneapolis, where again she founded a deaconess center and a hospital that has now become part of the Hennepin County Medical Center. Hospitals in Chicago and Grand Forks, North Dakota, can also be traced to her work. Other important activity in social services was propelled by Pastor William Passavant.



Elisabeth Fedde

These days Lutheran care for the needy can readily be seen in the work of Lutheran service organizations across the country, often among the most active such agencies in any given area. Worldwide, Lutheran World Relief is known and respected not only for showing up where needed, but for staying there even after the news reports fade away. In 2015 Lutheran World Relief touched over four million people in 36 countries.

Caring for Creation, Luther-style



Lutherans around the world are celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Simultaneously, the Southeastern Synod is also celebrating 2017 as the "Year for Care for Creation". As part of these celebrations, the Southeastern Synod Green Team is lifting up Luther's commitment to creation. He taught us to care for creation through his writings and the explanation of the First Article to the Apostle's Creed (below).

The First Article: Creation: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true. — Martin Luther

To assist in this awareness, the SE Synod Green Team has developed "95 Theses of Creation Care." Ten of these theses will be published each month in our Good Shepherd Newsletter. Here are the next ten:

95 Theses for Creation Care (72-81)

72. Self-centeredness turned inward leads to apathy.
73. Apathy inflicts laziness in our care for creation.
74. Greed, apathy, and self-centeredness create an addiction.
75. Addiction to materialism is minimized when we lose our lives for the sake of the Gospel and Christ.
76. Cultural addiction to materialism causes great harm to the resources of the earth.
77. When we refrain from being addicted to materialism, we pick up our crosses and follow Jesus.
78. We lose our lives when we give up our lust for material goods.
79. When we give up our lust for material goods, we find life.
80. Loving creation and the earth is loving God.
81. Loving creation and the earth creates love for one another.

Items to Commemorate the Reformation!

As the 500th anniversary of the Reformation approaches, GSLC is recommending and making available a worthy and varied selection of books on Luther and Lutheranism, including some for the kids in your life. We are also giving you the opportunity to

order some Lutheran gift items and other fun things—mugs, Nalgene water bottles, window clings, key chains, and much more! Samples of these items and books are on display in the Fellowship Hall, along with order forms. Simply place your order form, along with cash or check, in

the mail slot by Office Coordinator Kathy Gunn's office. You will be notified via email when your order is ready for pickup. Note that **October 15** is the last day to order items in time for the actual Reformation!

Reformation Commemoration Events

Reformation Day at Emory: October 26

The 30th Reformation Day at Emory University takes place on **Thursday, October 26**, celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Kessler Reformation Collection at Emory University and marking the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 Theses. This year's program explores the question, "Did the Reformation fail?" by inviting bishops from the Lutheran and Methodist Churches and an archbishop from the Catholic Church to share their perspectives and thinking with us. Register by calling 404-727-6352. More information, as well as registration links, can be found at <http://pitts.emory.edu/about/news-events/reformation-day.cfm>

If you are interested in carpooling with other Good Shepherd members (for part or all of the event), please see the sign-up sheet at Sign-Up Central in the Fellowship Hall.

The day begins with registration, a reception and a review of the Kessler Reformation Collection. Musical programs, a chapel service, the panel discussion and a collaborative concert are highlights of the event. Panel presenters include Bishop Julian Gordy, Southeastern Synod, ELCA; Bishop Larry Goodpaster, Candler School of Theology; and Archbishop Wilton Gregory, Archdiocese of Atlanta. The Kessler Reformation Concert is a collaboration between the Emory University Chorus, Eric Nelson, conductor and the Emory University Orchestra, Richard Prior, conductor. With Jonathan Easter, organist. Concert Hall, Donna and Marvin Schwartz Center for Performing Arts.

ABOUT THE KESSLER REFORMATION COLLECTION

The Richard C. Kessler Reformation Collection is a repository of rare and valuable documents produced in connection with the Protestant Reformation. The collection now contains more than 3,800 pieces written by Martin Luther, his colleagues, and his opponents, and printed during their lifetimes. Supported by the vision and resources of Lutheran laypeople Richard and Martha Kessler and partners throughout the Southeast, the collection is housed in the Pitts Theology Library of Candler School of Theology. It provides a rich resource for scholars of the Reformation and for clergy and laity who seek to understand the history of the Christian faith.

Looking Back & Called Forward: ELCA 500

On **Tuesday, October 31**, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will co-host a commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in Washington, D.C. The event will be livestreamed, so there's no need to leave your home to attend! The livestream link is: elca.org/livestream.

The event, which will include speakers and a service, will be at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Bishop Eaton will be joined by co-hosts Indiana-Kentucky Synod Bishop Bill Gafkjen, ELCA Vice President Bill Horne, and Metropolitan Washington, D.C., Synod Bishop Richard Graham.

The event will be held from 10 am until 5 pm. Topics will include ecumenical and inter-religious partnerships, as well as stories of congregational vitality and leadership. The day will close with a Eucharistic worship service commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. More details, including the full schedule, can be found at <https://elca500.org> under the "Events" section.

Reformation Commemorations in Northern Georgia

Several churches in northern Georgia are hosting Reformation commemorations in late October. More details will be available as the time draws near. If you are interested in carpooling with other Good Shepherd members to any

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Reformation Commemoration Events, Continued

of these events, please see the sign-up sheets that will be posted at Sign-Up Central in the Fellowship Hall.

October 25: Ecumenical event "From Conflict to Communion" at St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church, Roswell

October 29: Reformation 500 Festival, Christ the King Lutheran Church, 5575 Peachtree Parkway, Peachtree Corners (Norcross)

October 31: Reformation Commemoration in Atlanta at the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Christ the King, 2699 Peachtree Road Northeast, Atlanta

The Reformation on TV

Rick Steves' Special on Martin Luther

Renowned television travel host Rick Steves has produced a one-hour TV special titled "Luther and the Reformation." It aired on PBS stations, but if you missed it, you can view it for free at this page of Steves' website, <https://www.ricksteves.com/watch-read-listen/video/tv-show/tv-specials/luther> (or simply do an internet search for "Rick Steves Martin Luther"). The show was filmed on location in Europe, and Steves visits key sites relating to the Reformation while telling the story of Luther and the beginning of the Protestant Reformation.



"Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World" airs on PBS

In 1517, power was in the hands of the few, thought was controlled by the chosen, and common people lived lives without hope. On October 31 of that year, a penniless monk named Martin Luther sparked the revolution that would change everything. He had no army. In fact, he preached nonviolence so powerfully that — 400 years later — Michael King would change his name to Martin Luther King to show solidarity with the original movement.

This movement, the Protestant Reformation, changed Western culture at its core, sparking the drive toward individualism, freedom of religion, women's rights, separation of church and state, and even free public education. Without the Reformation, there would have been no pilgrims, no Puritans, and no America in the way we know it.

"Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World" follows the dramatic story of Martin Luther's life: the massive lightning storm that nearly killed him, the bleak self-punishment of his time in the monastery, the corruption that unleashed his anger, his trial before the most powerful man in Europe, and the staged kidnapping that helped him escape the death penalty.

This is a highly-visual documentary with elaborate full-scale dramatizations that were filmed in the castles, monasteries and cobblestone streets of eastern Europe. Dozens of historians from Europe and the Americas were interviewed, with a careful eye to ensure all sides of the story are represented. The film is narrated by Hugh Bonneville ("Downton Abbey") and stars Padraic Delany ("The Tudors," "The Man Who Knew Infinity"). Check your local listings to find out when this program may air again!

Confirmation in October...



Confirmation Retreat — The Confirmation retreat will be lock-in style. We will meet at **10 a.m. on Saturday, October 7, and end at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 8.** This day will include several lessons, meals, and some other fun activities. There is no cost for the retreat. This is an overnight retreat so once you are dropped off, please plan on staying for the entire event.

In preparation for Confirmation Sunday, those being confirmed and their parents will attend a Confirmation rehearsal and luncheon on **Sunday, October 15** at noon, with the luncheon to follow.

Confirmation Class takes place **Sunday, October 22** from 12:30 to 2 p.m. The lesson will focus on Luther and the Reformation. Class will be held in the fellowship hall.

New Bibles for 3rd Graders

If you have a child in third grade this year, we would like to give them a Bible for their use in Sunday School during services on **Sunday, October 15.** Please talk to Janice Swinford, Sunday School Superintendent, if you haven't already, about how you would like your child's name to appear in the front of the Bible. Once they have used it during third through fifth grade in Sunday School, it is theirs to keep. We look forward to sharing this important day with you.

Acolyte Training

Acolyte training takes place **Sunday, October 8,** immediately following the 10:45am service. Any youth in 3rd grade or higher who wishes to serve in this capacity is welcome — you do not need to participate in FX3 to attend. Meet Karen Epstein in the Sanctuary after the service.



Saints and Sinners, for high school youth, meets at **GSLC every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

Wednesday, October 4
Devotions

Wednesday, October 11
Service Project: Blessing Bags

Wednesday, October 18
Devotions and FroYo

Wednesday, October 25
Pumpkin Carving/Halloween Party

Parents of College Students

Whether they live far away or close to home, we want to send some love to our youth that have graduated! Please send their names and addresses to Cat at youthministry@gslutheran.org or place in her box by **Sunday, November 5.**

Are You a Saint or a Sinner?

You can be both! Do you like to hang out with amazing youth and help them along their faith journey? Then we would love to have you. We need adult volunteers for our Saints and Sinners activities. If you are interested, and have taken CYP training, please contact Cat and she will get you added to our SignUp Genius list. If you need CYP training in order to volunteer we can set that up as well. We can't carry out our ministry without you!

Confirmation Sunday

Good Shepherd is excited to celebrate the Rite of Confirmation of youth at the 10:45 a.m. service on **Sunday, October 29**. All members are invited to attend this service and listen to the statements of faith made by each member of the confirmation class. This is an important day in the lives of these young members of our church, but also for our congregation. Each year these proclamations made by the youth are powerful and inspiring messages as they reflect their commitment to God. It is a special worship service that you won't want to miss.

Mission Trip Reminder!

Middle and High School Youth — the reservation deadline for the 2018 Summer Mission Trip is **Sunday, October 8**. Please return your commitment forms and deposit to Cat Ontiveros by this date.



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Kids Are Busy!

There's always something happening for the 21-and-under crowd at GSLC. Top, Pastor Paul teaches confirmation class Sunday. Above left, the Saints and Sinners High School Youth group seems happy to have gone to a great pool party! Above right, the 1st-2nd grade Sunday School class recently learned the story of The Battle of Jericho. The kids built a wall and created their own sundials as part of the lesson. Pictured (left to right) are Spencer, Cora, Lily and Gwen.

Caretakers of Community

As Caretakers of our Community we will be collecting household goods for Next Step Ministries during the months of September and October. Next Step Ministries is a local ministry in Woodstock geared toward helping individuals with special needs/ disabilities and their families in a loving and safe Christian environment. They have several programs, including a weekday Therapeutic Day Care program geared toward young adults, Job Skills Program, a Saturday Respite Care program for ages five through adult, and School Break and Summer Camps for school-age clients. Currently, Next Step is in need of:

Hand Sanitizer
Disinfectant Wipes
Lysol Disinfectant Spray

Paper Towels
Toilet Paper (Septic Tank Friendly)
Bottled Water

**God's work.
Our hands.**



God's Grace in Action: Service

Beginning **October 22**, the Stewardship Committee will be asking you to prayerfully consider how you would like to use your time to serve our congregation. This is a great time to try something new or to continue to serve on a committee or in a group that has had meaning to you throughout the years. All completed forms will be collected by **November 12**. Please see Inreach Coordinator, Janice Swinford, if you have any

Check Out a Fellowship Group!

Needlework Friends invites you to join them **Saturday, October 14**, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the home of Joan Davis (153 Johnston Farm Lane, Woodstock) for needlework and fellowship. Bring your projects, learn something new, teach or help a friend. Knit, Sew, Crochet, Cross-stitch, Embroider, etc. Light refreshments provided. Contact Joan at 404-702-5562, email at wilkesware2@yahoo.com.

Ladies Night Out takes place **Tuesday, October 17**, at 7 p.m. at Gondolier Italian Restaurant, Highway 92, Woodstock. Sign up at Sign-Up Central and leave a cell phone number. Call Sue Pence, 678-522-3670 for information.

Angels in Shoeboxes

Christmas is coming, and soon the shoebox project for refugees will begin. Good Shepherd's Yarn Angels are inviting all crafters to make hats, scarves, mittens and gloves to be included with the boxes. This is a great way to use up that leftover yarn and cloth that you may have on hand. If you're interested but don't know where to start, the Yarn Angels can help you with ideas or assist in locating patterns to make these items. We will receive approximately 150 boxes to hold these gifts for tweens and teens. Let's keep these children warm!

It's also time to collect the shoeboxes for the gifts! Please bring any **LARGE** shoeboxes you may have to church over the next few weeks and leave them in the Fellowship Hall. We need lots of them!

Council Update, September, 2017

Discussions

- Financial Secretary, Jaime Escamilla, reported that income for August was at approximately \$55,000, which is ahead of 2016 figures.
- Council is actively reviewing committee requests for new programming utilizing funds that will be available once the mortgage is paid off next Spring. Information on recommended items will be presented at the Annual Meeting.
- Council approved funds to hire a designer to create a plan for a proposed remodel of our entryway. Once the design is received, the job will be sent to several contractors to submit bids. More information will be presented at the Annual Meeting.
- We will have one blended service on Sunday, November 12, which will feature a play presented and performed by John Mau and the youth of Good Shepherd. The service will be at 9:30 a.m.

Accolades

- Thank you to everyone who participated in our God's Work, Our Hands activities on Sunday, September 10.

Ribbons of Remembrance for All Saints' Day



The church will celebrate All Saints' Day on **Sunday, November 5**. To help you honor your loved ones who are deceased, Good Shepherd's Mission Endowment Committee will be selling white "Ribbons of Remembrance" for you to wear to worship that day. In addition, the names of your loved ones will be printed in the All Saints' Sunday worship bulletin. These ribbons will be available in the Fellowship Hall on the Sundays leading up to All Saints' Sunday, beginning **October 8**.

Good Shepherd's Mission Endowment Fund was established in 2006, and its purpose is to fund mission work beyond the operational budget of the congregation. This wide-ranging work may include projects at GSLC, in the community, and around the world. Many of our congregation members choose to honor a loved one by donating to this fund, and All Saints' Day is the perfect opportunity to do so!

13th Annual Taste of Habitat



The Good Shepherd "Crew", above, attended the Taste of Habitat fundraiser in September. The annual event raises money for the Lutheran Coalition for Habitat. Standing are (left to right) Terry George, Susan Epling, Drew Dickerson, Carrie Escamilla, Jaime Escamilla, Max Epling, Eileen White, Michael Epstein, Karen Epstein, Ed Roberts and Ken Kidder. Seated are Nancy Coupland, Myra Rissmiller, Sally George, Linda Rowell, Vic Rowell, Jennifer Taylor, Judy Roberts and Barb Kidder.

Continued from front page

- North Metro Reformation Service in Norcross, October 29, 3:30 p.m.
- Southeastern Synod Reformation Service in Atlanta,

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

1208 ROSE CREEK DRIVE
WOODSTOCK, GA 30189
770-924-7286
GSLUTHERAN.ORG



AN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA) CONGREGATION
SERVING NORTH COBB AND CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMUNITIES. JOIN US!
8:30 A.M. TRADITIONAL
9:30 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL (ON BREAK FOR THE SUMMER)
10:45 A.M. PRAISE

“WELCOME ONE ANOTHER, THEREFORE,
AS CHRIST HAS WELCOMED YOU.”

ROMANS 15:7

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH WARMLY WELCOMES PEOPLE OF ANY AGE,
RACE, NATIONALITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, LIFE CIRCUMSTANCE,
AND PHYSICAL OR MENTAL CAPABILITY.

Empty Nester October Trip

Sunday, October 15

If you join us for the entire day, expect to be busy from 1—6 p.m.!

Gameday Grill — meet at 1 p.m. for lunch with the group. A chance to get to know everyone, even if you can't continue to Chalktoberfest.

Chalktoberfest Marietta Square, after lunch.

Carpool to this chalk and beef festival where will enjoy sidewalk art, live music, food and drink vendors and shops for about two hours.

Frozen Cow in Kennesaw on the way home. “Made right before your eyes, you get a ‘show’ while staff transforms liquid into ice cream using liquid nitrogen!

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board at Sign Up Central.

(if you are not able to get to church to sign up, please email

Karen Yerkes at yerkesk@comcast.net or Tammy Frink at frinks_atl@comcast.net, and they will add your name to the list.)

