St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church "Good News"

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 5566 Chambersburg Road, Huber Heights, Ohio 45424 Telephone: (937) 233-4632

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October 2017



From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Kelly W. Reagan

When Jesus Christ utters a word, he opens his mouth so wide that it embraces all heaven and earth, even though that word be but in a whisper. The word of the emperor is powerful, but that of Jesus Christ governs the whole universe.

-Martin Luther, Table Talk

Reformation milestone: celebration and repentance

October 31, 2017, marks the 500th anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation, when Martin Luther posted his "95 Theses" on a church door in Germany. This wasn't an unusual act at the time; Luther was simply welcoming scholarly debate. But his ideas opposing certain teachings and practices of the Roman Catholic Church led to a monumental shift in Christianity.

Along with other reformers, Luther taught that Scripture is the supreme authority for the believer; that salvation comes by grace alone, through faith alone; and that baptism gives all full access to God in Christ ("the priesthood of all believers"), so there's no need for an intermediary such as a pope, priest or saint.

Initially, the reformers intended not to leave the Catholic Church but to reform it. But those who protested church practices became known as Protestants, and eventually, multiple denominations arose — Lutheranism, Presbyterianism, Anglicanism and others — and did, in fact, separate from the Roman tradition.

This October 29th 2017 we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. On this day we celebrate our faith: the gospel of Christ - the Good News – that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to

the world. In the waters of baptism, we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.

The Reformation begun by Luther did not abandon the theological, sacramental, and liturgical traditions of the church. It sought to reform them so that the gospel would shine through all the church does. Since the beginning of the Lutheran Reformation to this day (actually October 31st), there have been twenty-six thousand Sundays to proclaim the Gospel and share in the gracious presence of Christ in Holy Communion. How many souls have heard the Good News because of what happened in 1517? How many hearts have been transformed? Celebrate the impact of the Lutheran Reformation on real lives of ordinary people over time and place through a Word and Sacrament ministry. (excerpts taken from Sundays & Season-Year A 2017)
Blessed 500th Reformation to all God's children.

In Christ, Pastor Kelly

From the Prez

John Armstrong

Fall is here! With fall, there are a number of things going on at St. Matthew, as you can see in this newsletter.

- ✓ First, thanks to everyone who contributed to the LCMS Disaster Relief Fund drive we held on September 3 and 10 -- we collected \$2,984. The Vestry added \$500 from the Vestry Discretionary Fund and the Ladies Guild added \$500 from their Mission Fund that's a total of \$3,984!
- ✓ The St. Matthew Preschool currently has a morning session plus a "Taste of Preschool" on Friday morning. On October 4 at 11:30 a.m. we will again host the preschool children and their parents for lunch. If you would like to help out, contact Diana Tavener. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex.
- ✓ October 29 "Reformation Sunday" we will celebrate the Reformation with several special events. First, we will have a guest preacher that day Rev. Dr. Ronald E. Duer a long time friend of Pastor Reagan. You will find more information about Rev. Duer later in this newsletter. Following the worship service there will be a luncheon/brunch beginning at 11 a.m. The Vestry will provide the meat and drinks members are asked to bring a covered dish to share. We will also welcome new members to the congregation that day, so put it on your calendar and plan to attend the worship service and luncheon that day.
- ✓ One final note. On September 16, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, along with Sulphur Grove United Methodist Church and Thrivent Financial, sponsored an opiate addiction awareness event at the Huber Heights YMCA. Entitled "What Can I Do To Help? Equipping the Church in the Fight Against Opiate Addiction," the event included

speakers from local law enforcement agencies and a variety of faith-based agencies that are fighting the opiate epidemic. Probably the most eye-opening part was testimonies made by several recovering addicts who described how they became addicted. By the way, Pastor Reagan gave the opening prayer. The event was very educational and will be a topic for church leadership to see how or if we can get involved.

Pastor Reagan Contact Information

Pastor Reagan-614-564-7317 (cell)

Work – 614-645-6254

Email – k w reagan@yahoo.com

If you require pastoral assistance in any way and/or are scheduled to go into the hospital or end up there unexpectedly, please contact me so that I/we can include you in our prayers (unless instructed to maintain privacy) and I can visit you. Your health and well-being is important to all of us!

From the Congregation

Holiday Bazaar - Saturday, November 11th

As the Bazaar date approaches, we are asking for volunteers to make the biggest fundraiser of the year successful! Along with our beautiful crafts and hand-made gifts, we are asking all the bakers at St. Matthew to look up your favorite holiday cookie recipes and bake away for this year's Bazaar. Sign-up sheets will be in the narthex soon! We need volunteers to make items for our baked goods sale and our kitchen menu, work as cashiers, help serve food in our kitchen, and help set up or clean up.

COOKIE SALE: We are asking for 6 dozen cookies from each baker. You may bake as many varieties as you wish. Please let us know the name of the cookies and if they have nuts in them. This is one of the highlights of our bazaar! So many visitors love to buy a box of cookies and freeze them for holiday gatherings!

BAKED GOODS: Bakery items are welcome and encouraged. We request that clear plastic wrap or bags be used on the bakery items. Feel free to add festive touches such as bows, stickers or ribbons! Please pre-price all bakery and Bazaar items you bring. Labels will be available if you would like to price them when you drop them off. All items need to be dropped off before 9 a.m. on Saturday, November 11th.

ATTIC TREASURES: Bring down those items from the attic that you no longer use to decorate your tree or home for Christmas. Our Bazaar shoppers love these items!

CRAFT VENDORS: If you know of someone who is interested in a table for the bazaar, please contact Alicia Driver at 974-5010 or alicia.a.driver@gmail.com. Table rental - \$30.

You may pick up fliers in the narthex advertising this year's Holiday Bakery & Bazaar. Please share them on social media with neighbors, post them at work, and invite friends and family!

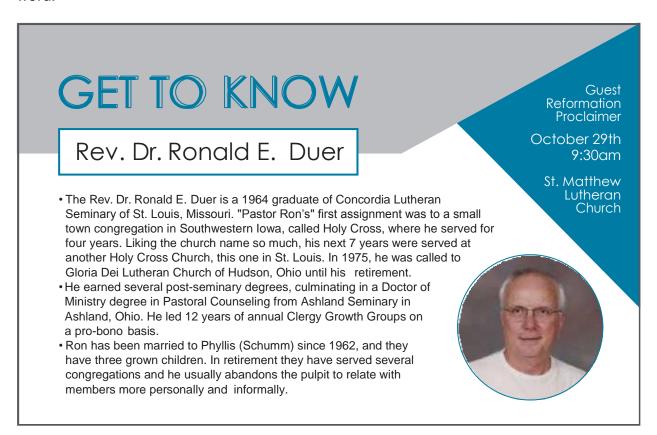
Believe me, every donation of time and talent helps with this day! The Ladies Guild could not do this without your help! THANK YOU!

St. Matthew Ladies Guild

- Vacant Kitchen Chairperson
- Alicia Driver Craft Vendor Chairman
- Vacant Bake Sale Chairperson

Men's Bible Study - October 14

The St. Matthew's Men's Bible Study will be meeting on Saturday, October 14, beginning at 9 a.m. We will continue our study of Martin Luther using part 3 of the DVD series we started last year. Coffee, tea, and donuts will be available. Please join us to learn more about God's word.



Dimes for Missions

The October Dimes for Missions will go to LWML Mites. In November dimes will go to the Huber Heights FISH food pantry. Please bring your dimes to church on the first Sunday of the month.

Food for FISH

The Social Concerns Committee will be collecting food for the Huber Heights FISH Food Pantry from October 15 until November 12. There will also be a free-will offering for FISH on Sunday, November 12. While any food is welcome, immediate needs are cereals, canned

meat, rice, potatoes, snacks and personal items, like shampoo, bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste, etc. If you have any questions, contact Pat Souders or Nancy Jamerson. All items will be very much appreciated.

Directory Addition:

Thomas & Vanessa Hefty Korey & Natalee 6221 Stoney Creek Dr. Huber Heights, OH 45424 Thomas's cell – 530-844-2412 Vanessa's cell – 916-670-9282 vanessahefty@yahoo.com

Caregiving Ministry Opportunity – MEALS ON CALL

Pat Siler

As brothers and sisters of Christ we have the duty and pleasure of caring for each other. One way we can show our love is to provide a meal for a person or family after a hospitalization, a birth or some other stressful life event. If you need, or know someone that needs a little support, please call the church office.

We would like to have a cadre of volunteer cooks that we could call upon to provide a meal for someone or a family needing a break from planning and providing meals. Sometimes it's just too much for the care receiver to make something for dinner. It may be after a birth when the new mom just needs 2 or 3 meals over the course of a week. It could be a single person home alone after surgery, needing a little company and a meal. The volunteer would call the person to ask about food preferences and allergies, and the best time for the delivery. Sometimes it could be just doubling the ingredients for your own family meal, made ready for reheating.

If you are willing to make a meal for someone or have questions, please contact Pat Siler at r.siler@sbcglobal.net or 864-5747. It's such a blessing to provide a breather for another, binding us closer together in God's love.

Outreach Good News

Below is an inspiring story about outreach from THE CHRISTIAN HISTORY DEVOTIONAL by J. Stephen Lang.

REFORMATION'S BIRTHDAY

October 1517: If the printing press had not been invented in the 1400s, we would never have heard of **Martin Luther**. He was a German monk and university professor who began to question the Catholic Church's teachings about salvation and on October 31, 1517, he posted a notice on the door of the castle church in Wittenberg, which served as a community bulletin board. The notice listed 95 "theses," topics for theological debate. They probably would have been long ago forgotten but thanks to the printing press, they were reproduced all over Europe, and soon Professor Luther was seen as a brave man challenging the authority of the pope and the church's role as mediator between man and God.

Without meaning to, Luther had launched the Protestant Reformation. Soon, thanks to the printing press, all Europe would know of Luther's insistence that the Bible alone was the standard for Christian belief and that Christians were not saved by doing good works but

performed good works because they were saved. The popes, Luther said, could be wrong in their teachings and so could church councils which in the past had executed reformers. The Catholic Church condemned him as a heretic and would have executed him, but the ruler of his native country, Saxony, protected him, hiding away in a castle where Luther made good use of the time by translating the entire Bible into German, giving German speakers direct access to the Word of God. This set a precedent Protestants would give people the Bible in their own languages so they could know what to believe and how to behave. The centuries when the Bible was available only in Latin, to be read only by scholars, had come to and end. By the time Luther died in 1546, much of northern Europe had become Protestant. But his greatest contribution to Christianity was his emphasis on the individual believer, saved by faith and guided by the Bible.

Walt Kaye
Outreach Chair

Stewardship

We are nearing the 500th Anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation, All Saints' Eve, 1517, when Martin Luther posted the Ninety-Five Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. So, let's hear from Luther himself on the topic of giving and stewardship.

In the Small Catechism under the Table of Duties, Martin Luther gives specific Bible passages to help Christians know their duty in their various vocations as members of their family, society at large, and in God's family, the Church. Under the heading "What Hearers Owe Their Pastors," Luther lists five passages from the Bible, three of which have to do with giving to your local congregation. They are these:

"The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel" (1 Corinthians 9:14).

"Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows" (Galatians 6:6–7).

"The elders [presbyters, i.e., pastors] who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially whose work is preaching and

teaching. For the Scripture says, 'Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,' and 'The worker deserves his wages'" (1 Timothy 5:17–18).

Luther comments on these passages in his 1535 Lectures on Galatians. He wrote:

When Paul says "all good things," this is not to be taken to mean that everyone should share all his possessions with his preacher. No, it means that he should provide for him liberally, giving him as much as is needed to support his life in comfort. . . . The apostle is so serious in advocating this topic of support for preachers that he adds a threat to his denunciation and exhortation, saying: "God is not mocked.". . . All this pertains to the topic of support for ministers. I do not like to interpret such passages; for they seem to commend us, as in fact

they do. In addition, it gives the appearance of greed if one emphasizes these things diligently to one's hearers. Nevertheless, people should be taught also about this matter, in order that they may know that they owe both respect and support to their preachers. Christ teaches the same thing in Luke 10:7: "Eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages"; and Paul says elsewhere (1 Cor. 9:13-14): "Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the Gospel should get their living by the Gospel." It is important for us who are in the ministry to know this, so that we do not have a bad conscience about accepting for our work wages . . . it happens when those who proclaim the glory of God and faithfully instruct the youth derive their livelihood from them. It is impossible that one man should be devoted to household duties day and night for his support and at the same time pay attention to the study of Sacred Scripture, as the teaching ministry requires. Since God has commanded and instituted this, we should know that we may with a good conscience enjoy what is provided for the comfortable support of our lives from church properties to enable us to devote ourselves to our office. (LW 27:125–126).

In other words, pastors are not to suffer from low wages just because they are servants of Christ and the Word. They are to share in the livelihoods of all to whom they preach the gospel and instruct in the faith, so that the Word can be proclaimed and the faith carried from one generation to the next.

Prayer List

In our prayers this month, we pray for:

Anna Vincent, 11 yrs old, bone cancer; Bob Cronian; Jon Larsen; Liz Grimsley; Sheldon Smith; Margaret Thomas; Richard Grabowski; Ruth Nixon; Mike Nixon; Rachel; Don & Verni Kramer; Alisa Cahill; Carol Meadowcraft; Dorothy Tate; Mason Kincaid; Betty & Gary Farrington; Colten Pointer; Robert & Linda French; Cindy French; Jen Juergensen; Dana Bradley; John; Chris McGarigle; Max Garrison; Linda Miller; Willie Gruber; Cheryl Younger; Joe & Connie Schindelholz; Susan Fife & Bob Schmitzer. We ask that you be with those who are away serving our country, especially Sarah Petrock, all absent members, and those suffering from manmade and natural disasters. We continue to pray for the deliverance of your people oppressed around the world. Thanks to God as Pastor Reagan, Liz Reagan & Fern Babcock celebrate their birthdays. We also thank God as Devin Cahill & Connor Hammond safely return to the U.S. from their service in Iraq.

If you have a prayer request, please send your request to the Church Secretary, Linda Brock, no later than Thursday morning for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. You can send your prayer request electronically to the church email address, leave a note in the church office, or call and leave a message on the telephone. If the need for a prayer comes up after that time, please give your prayer request, in writing, to the Pastor, one of the Elders or one of the Ushers before the Sunday worship service so it can be included in the Sunday prayers. Once the need for the prayer request passes, please let Linda Brock know so she can take the request off the prayer list in the bulletin. Thanks for your help.

St. Matthew Shut-Ins

Some of our members are unable to attend church on a regular basis. These members appreciate cards, calls and visits. Here is the current list of shut-ins.

Jon Larsen Sheldon Smith
Stillwater Health Center 412 Burgess Ave.
Cottage B Dayton, OH 45415

8100 N. Main St. Dayton, OH 45415

Liz Grimsley Margaret Thomas

Bethany Lutheran Village Room 108

6445 Far Hills - Room 509 6445 Far Hills

Centerville, OH 45459 Centerville, OH 45459

937-436-7744 937-236-7723

Those Celebrating Birthdays in October: Those Celebrating Anniversaries in

Kelsey Paden October 1 October:

Cindy Driver October 1 Walt & Kay Kaye October 1
Kay Kaye October 2 Brian & Jenna Posey October 11

Lillie Iadarola October 6
Charles Miller October 8

Jon Larsen October 13 **Ordination Anniversary:**

Brian Posey October 16 Rev. Ted Scheidt October Larry Hess October 22 Rev. Kelly Reagan October

Kim Lingg October 22
Pastor Mel Younger October 27
Jodi (Brock) Milburn October 28

May Jesus Bless You All!

If your name has not appeared in either the birthdays or anniversaries listings; please let us know. We would like to include your name here as well.

Check out St. Matthew on Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewhuberheights/

Or click the link on the homepage of the church website, http://www.stmatthewlutheran45424.com/

ST. MATTHEW ACTIVITY CALENDAR

<u>Date</u> <u>Activity</u>

September 30 Oktoberfest. 4 p.m.

October 1 Vestry Meeting 11:00 a.m.

October 1 LWML Sunday

October 11 Welcome Lunch 11:30-12:30 October 14 Men's Bible Study, 9 a.m.

Hymnfest, 3 p.m. October 15

October 29 Reformation Celebration - Brunch/Potluck (New Bunch Brunch)

Bible Quiz

How many times does Jesus say we should forgive others?

A. 7

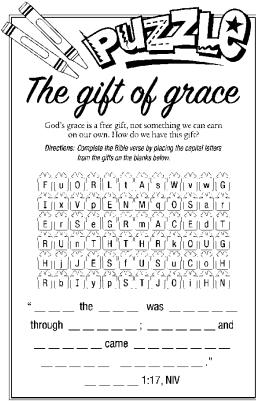
B. 70

C. 77

D. 70 x 7

E. C or D, depending on the translation

Answer: E (See Matthew 18:22.)



Answer: "For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." John 1:17, NIV





Martin Luther translated the New Testament into German in 1522.

REFORMATION 500th ANNIVERSARY

St. Matthew Lutheran Church 5566 Chambersburg Rd. Huber Height, Ohio PASTOR: Rev. Kelly Reagan

THIS AD

will appear in the Dayton Daily News Neighbors section on Thursday October 5th.

REFORMATION 500



50 things Luther taught that you may not know



As we commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, *Living Lutherus* is exploring 500 of its unique aspects, continuing the series this month with 50 things Martin Luther taught that you may not know. The first 25 are included here, and the remaining 25 can be found at *livinglutheran.org*.

This list is not meant as an all-encompassing compendium of everything essential to the Reformation and its theology, but rather as a glimpse of the variety of ways the movement that Luther sparked in 1517 would influence the history of the world.

By Mark Ellingsen

I We know that Martin Luther considered justification by grace through faith the most important teaching of Christian faith—the one by which everything else we say and believe is judged (Luther's Works, Vol. 21). But what we need to remember is that salvation is not something yet to come; justification is already complete (LW, Vol. 34).

2 Every baptized Lutheran is a "born-again Christian." And since that's who we are, Luther said we are to start living that way—living our baptisms (Book of Concord).

The righteousness of God is not something God is, but what he does to us—he makes us righteous (LW, Vol. 34). Luther tells us that this insight is the essence of the spiritual experience that changed his life, the famed "Tower Experience."

4 Luther often said justification involves a pronouncement by God, declaring us sinners righteous (LW, Vol. 25). But more frequently he compares justification to a marriage. We receive all that Christ has in the marriage, and having his love and righteousness qualifies us for salvation and makes us more loving in faith (LW, Vol. 44).

5 Luther wanted us to be sure that Christ's work is "for us" (LW, Vol. 34). But the strength of one's faith is not his hang-up. Even a weak faith saves,

Luther said (LW, 12:262). In fact, when it comes to salvation, we're passive—getters, not givers (LW, Vol. 52).

6 The reformer also taught that we can't even believe on our own—it takes the Spirit, who gives us faith (*The Small Catechism*, II.III.6). Lutherans are, in fact, big on the Spirit, believing that the Spirit is active in every aspect of our lives. Every good idea we have is a work of the Spirit, who sets us on fire, Luther said (*LW*, Vol. 24; *Complete Sermons*, Vol. 3/1).

But grace isn't cheap for Luther! Christ's love starts moving us to do good like a spouse's love moves us to faithfulness to our marriage vows (I.W, Vol. 44). We're so filled up with the goodness God pours into us that we can't help but spill out to others (LW, Vol. 31).

8 Indeed, Luther said we're so filled up with God's goodness that it's as if we were intoxicated with him, doing the bidding of God and the Spirit without being in control of ourselves (LW, Vol. 31).

Good works transpire without our willing them, like a good tree can't help but produce good fruit (LW, Vol. 34). Faith is such a busy thing, Luther added, that it's impossible for the faithful not to be doing good works (LW, Vol. 35).



NEWSLETTER ARTICLE FOR REFORMATION 2017

The Reformation was not about anything new, but about returning to the unchanged and unchanging truth. So it is still today. The celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation is not a time for novelty. It is a time to return: to the truth, to the basics, to the foundation.

Do you remember the Small Catechism? Many of us were made to memorize the catechism (or at least part of it) during our Confirmation classes. Some of us might have even suffered through a public examination over its contents.

How much do you remember? Say it with me: "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him..." Can you finish? Do you remember where that is found? (It's in Luther's explanation of the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed.)

It's time to return. Luther wrote the Small Catechism for the instruction of laypeople. Luther intended the Small Catechism to be used at church and in the home to instruct children in the faith and to reinforce the faith in the hearts and minds of adults.

There is no better time than in this year of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation to review the catechism.

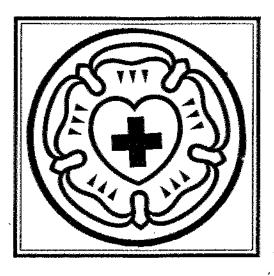
Read it for yourself. Refresh the theology in your mind. Pray the catechism daily. Memorize it.

But even more, teach it. If you are a parent, teach it to your children. As you have opportunity, share it with your friends and peers.

The catechism teaches the fundamentals of the Christian faith: the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, the Sacrament of Baptism, the Sacrament of the Altar and the Office of the Keys and Confession. This small book is well worth your time and study.

May this celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation be a time when we return to the Word and Sacraments, when we turn to Christ and His love. It's *still* all about Jesus.





The Luther Seal

The joy of our Lord's Resurrection inspired Martin Luther to create what is the the Luther Seal. He made it an integral part of his family's coat of arms. While he was a professor at Wittenberg, Luther wrote to a friend explaining the details of the emblem:

The first thing expressed in my seal is a Cross, black, within the heart, to put me in mind that faith in Christ crucified saves us. "For wiith the heart man believeth unto righteousness."

Now, although the Cross is black, mortified, and intended to cause pain, yet it does not change the color of the heart, does not destroy nature--i.e., does not kill, but keeps alive. "For the just shall live by faith:--by faith in the Savior.

But this heart is fixed upon the center of a white rose, to show that faith causes joy, consolation, and peace. The rose is white, not red, because white is the ideal color of all angels and blessed spirits.

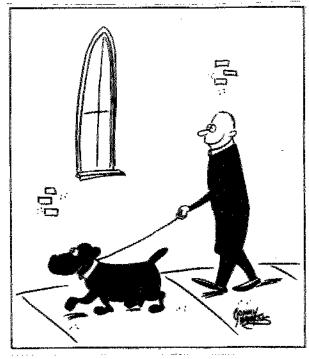
This rose, moreover, is fixed in a sky-colored ground, to denote that such joy of faith in the Spirit is but an earnest and beginning of Heavenly joy to come, as anticipated and held by hope, though not yet revealed.

And around this groundbase is a golden ring to signify that such bliss in Heaven is endless, and more precious than all joys and treasures, since gold is the best and most precious metal. Christ, our dear Lord, He will give grace unto eternal life. Amen.

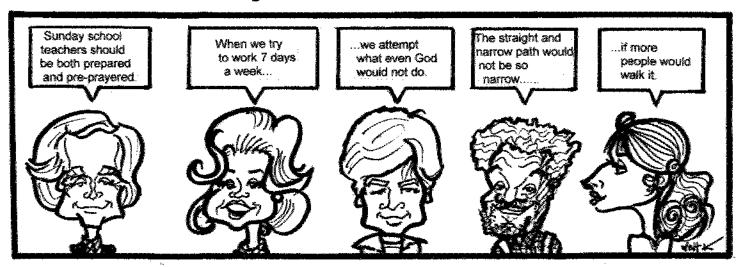
--from Luther's Life by Ingeborg Stolee (Augsburg, 1943).

St. Matthew Cartoon Corner





KARICATURES by Walt K



Preschool Hours: 9:00-11:30 a.m. October 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LWML SUNDAY Vestry – 11 a.m. Choir Practice, 9 am	Preschool 2	Preschool 3	Preschool Preschool Welcome Lunch – 11:30 to 12:30	5 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	Taste of Preschool, 9-11:30 a.m. A.A./Al Anon,	7
,	0	10	Bible Coffee, 10:00 am	10	8:00 p.m.	1.4
Holy Communion Choir Practice, 9 am	9 Preschool	Preschool Yarn Matters, 6 pm	Preschool Bible Coffee, 10:00 am	12 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	Taste of Preschool, 9-11:30 a.m. A.A./Al Anon, 8:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study, 9 a.m. 500 Club Meeting, 10:15 am Choir Practice, 10:30 am
Choir Practice, 9 am HYMFEST, 3 pm	Preschool	Preschool 17	Preschool Bible Coffee, 10:00 am	19 Al Anon, 10:30 a.m.	Taste of Preschool, 9-11:30 a.m. A.A./Al Anon, 8:00 p.m.	Miami Valley Zone Fall Christian Life Retreat, 8:30 a.m2 p.m.
Holy Communion Choir Practice, 9 am	Preschool 23	24 Yarn Matters, 6 pm	Preschool Bible Coffee, 10:00 am	26 Al Anon, 10:30 am	Taste of Preschool, 9-11:30 a.m. A.A./Al Anon, 8:00 p.m.	28
Reformation Celebration Potluck Lunch/New Bunch Brunch Choir Practice, 9 am Holy Communion	Preschool	Halloween! Preschool				

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