



Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
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## Our Saviour's Good News

Volume Xii, Issue X

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### MISSION STATEMENT

*Our Saviour Lutheran Church welcomes all people to a safe place to grow in faith and serve the Lord Jesus Christ*

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#### ENCLOSED:

- **Crop Walk**



### PASTOR'S VOICE

Many of us long for the "good ole days". There was a simple pace to life in our youth. Decisions were not complicated, we were not bogged down with all the technology we have today and our free time seemed more enjoyable. As children, our summer vacations would last an eternity and the wait for Christmas seemed just as long. We learned anticipation early and the result was patience.

Today we live in a fast paced world where instant gratification is not only desired, it is demanded and required. Christmas decorations are displayed in late September and seem to be going on sale earlier and earlier. Amazon now offers same day delivery on certain items. You can watch almost any movie instantly on line and buy any song instantly.

But how many of us would be willing to trade in our cell phones and go back to coin operated pay phones? Air conditioning in our homes for fans and open windows? GPS in our cars for a map and compass? Life was different years ago and while technology and these comforts have changed our lives, we all managed to survive somehow back then without these things.

Yes, change is constant and all around us. You can try and resist it (my parents still don't use a cell phone!) but eventually you will be swept up in the storm of technology and forced to move forward. Wouldn't it be nice to take a break from this constant barrage of new-ness and enjoy what we have today for a while?

The good news is Scripture does exactly that. You can always turn to the Bible and be comforted that God is unchanged,

unchangeable and will always be the same. God is constant and yet created us and the universe to be dynamic – to create and improve! It is good to know that however we hear His message – regardless if it is from the Old Testament or the New Testament, from the prophet Jonah or from a letter by the apostle Paul, or even words from Jesus Himself, Scripture is Scripture and does not change.

In 1 John 4:8, John writes that God is love. And the love He has for us is not a nostalgic or sentimental love but rather with a holy love. That brings great comfort knowing that God is constant in an ever-changing world. And that is Scripture!

Grace + Peace!

*Pastor Pete*



### Reformation Sunday

We will be celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Luther's nailing his 95 theses to the church door at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Gastonia on October 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:30 pm.



Purchase the book *Reformation*

go to page 10

## History of Halloween



### The Word on Hallows Eve

The word Halloween comes from the phrase 'All Hallows Eve.' It is the evening before the Catholic Church holiday on November 1st known as, All Hallows Day, All Saint's Day, All Souls Day, or All Hallowmas Day. In Old English, Hallow means sanctify. In the past on November 1st, Catholics honored all saints while Romans prayed for the dead *and* honored saints. Halloween, the night before this, has many different customs and origins attached to its history.

Perhaps the oldest recordings of a celebration on Halloween are that of a druidic fire festival called Samhain. This was celebrated by the Celts (people who now live in Great Britain and Northern France), in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. It meant the closing of a harvest and the beginning of winter. After the Romans conquered most of that territory, they combined two of their own festivals with the traditional Celtic ritual of Samhain. The first Roman festival was called Feralia. This was a day in late October set aside to commemorate the passing of the dead. The second Roman festival was to honor Pomona, the Roman goddess of the harvest or fruit and trees. Her symbol was the apple, which could be the reason we bob for apples on Halloween.

### Trick or Treat for Prayers?

As with the history of Halloween, there are many different ways the act of trick or treating came about. One is from the 19th century custom called souling. This means Christians would walk from town to town on Halloween night, begging for soul cakes. The soul cakes were actually square pieces of bread made with currants. The more soul cakes people received, the more prayers they had to say for the dead family members of the donors. During this time, people believed the dead remained in limbo for a while after death. They also thought that prayer, even by strangers, could speed up a soul's passage to heaven.

There was another recording of the handing out of souls cakes, this time to *poor* citizens. It was also in exchange for prayers for the family's dead relatives. The church encouraged this as a way to replace the practice of leaving food and wine on doorsteps for roaming spirits.

Europeans and Celts believed that to avoid the spirits, they should wear masks when they left their homes. The Celts also believed that on Halloween, the disembodied spirits of everyone who had died that past year, would come back to search for bodies to possess. So the people put out all their fires and disguised themselves with masks and costumes and marched around town trying to ward off the spirits.

Today, families can avoid having tricks played on them if they give the kids who wander door-to-door, Halloween treats.

### Party Time

Eventually, the customs of European immigrants combined with American and American Indian customs. Although annual autumnal festivals were common, the very first American Halloween celebrations were called 'play parties.' At these public events people celebrated the harvest, shared stories of the

dead, told each other's fortunes, danced, sang, and told ghost stories. During the second half of the 19th century, a new flood of millions of immigrants fleeing the Ireland potato famine of 1846 came to America. This created the meshing of Irish and English Halloween traditions, and people began dressing up in costumes and going house to house for visits. In the 1800's there was a push to make Halloween more of a community-based event, and anything scary and gross was forbidden. In the 20th century, because of the 1950's baby boom, there were a lot of children. Vandalism increased during the celebration of Halloween.

### Traditions or Trade-Offs?

As told before, the idea of bobbing for apples could have come from the Roman goddess of the harvest and her scared fruit of apples.

The name 'witch' comes from the Saxon Wicca meaning 'wise one.' A sacred ointment was rubbed on the skin of the which, to give them a feeling of flying.

The use of Jack-O-Lanterns perhaps comes from when children used to carve out potatoes or turnips and light them for Halloween gatherings. The name Jack most likely comes from a story of 'Jack the Irish Villain.' It was about a man rejected by good and evil, who wandered the world forever looking for a place to rest. His only warmth came from a small candle in a rotten potato. With the Irish potato famine from 1845-50, almost 700,000 people immigrated to the Americas. They brought with them the Jack-O-Lantern tradition but turnips were scarce. The pumpkin became a good replacement because there were a lot of them around.

Masks were worn to scare off demons and evil spirits and to keep people from being recognized.



## WALK FOR LIFE report

The Walk for Life was sponsored by Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County, Inc. on September 9, 2017. Our church raised \$235.00. Several members contributed time, money, and prayer. Thanks to all who gave. From all over Gaston County, church members joined in this Walk for Life and have raised over \$58,000 and funds are still coming in.

The mission statement of Crisis Pregnancy Center is:

The Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County, Inc. affirms the value of life by compassionately sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and providing the following services: Pregnancy Counseling, Abstinence Education, Limited Ultrasounds and various other Medical Services, Adolescent Parenting Programs, Post Abortion Counseling to women, men, and families affected by crisis pregnancy situations, with the hope of changing lives. Phone number 704-868-4636. Address: 800 Robinson Road Gastonia, NC, 28056, website: [www.cpcgaston.org](http://www.cpcgaston.org)

## Our Saviour Lutheran Church Bill Trudnak, President August 21, 2017 Council Minutes



**Devotions:** Robbie Wooten

Meeting called to order by President Bill Trudnak.

**Members present:** Bill Trudnak, Bud Penley, Robbie Wooten, Melinda White, Teri Trudnak, Shirlee Marazza and Pastor Feige. **Absent:** Becky Messick, Alice Vlaservich and Steve Digh.

**Minutes** for July 17, 2017 were reviewed. Motion made by Bud Penley to approve the minutes and a second was given by Robbie Wooten.

### Reception of Petitions and Communications:

- Institute of Lutheran Theology notice to be placed in bulletin and newsletter for congregational support and prayer.
- Kids Alive International – Hauna reviewed.

**Report of the Pastor:** Pastor Feige was present at the Council Meeting. He reviewed with the Council duties and responsibilities perform during the month. A written report was requested and to be submitted to Council each month. He would like to begin a mid-week bible study soon, confirmation classes to begin in September, Christmas plans were briefly discussed. A motion was made by Shirlee Marazza to accept the Pastor's report and Melinda White gave a second on that motion.

**Report of the Treasurer:** Motion by Shirlee Marazza to accept the Treasurer Report and seconded by Melinda White.

### Report of the Ministries:

- Property: No report.
- Stewardship and Finance: No report.
- Worship & Music: No report.
- Youth Team: No report.
- Witness: Cards and prayers continue to be sent out.
- Christian Education Team: Discussed confirmation classes and schedule.

### Report of Auxiliaries:

Rachel Circle: No meeting this month. The next meeting will be at the home of Betty Clemmer.

### Old and/or Unfinished Business:

- Agreement with Pastor: A final draft was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Bud Penley to accept this agreement and a second was given by Shirlee Marazza.
- Use of the Sanctuary for Sharps & Flats was rescheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:30pm. Melinda White made a motion we accept this request and Teri Trudnak seconded the motion.

### New Business:

- Pastor Feige suggested we consider giving the Sunday School hallway entry a new updated look. Clean up bulletin boards, paint, redecorate. Robbie Wooten made a motion we move forward with this idea and

Teri Trudnak seconded that motion.

- Pastor Feige needs a better microphone for sermons. He will look into prices and let us know.

### General Information:

- Attendance
- Kids Alive Report
- Thank you note from Gordon/Conwell-Mary Haven
- Organ was tuned.

Adjourned with Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: September 18, 2017. Devotions: Alice Vlaservich



## 2017 Dallas - North Gaston Area CROP WALK

Thanks to cooperative efforts of the *Dallas Ministerial Association*, the *Dallas / High Shoals Christian Social Ministry Board*, the *Dallas Area Churches* and the *CROP Walk Steering Committee*, plans are underway in preparation for the *Twelfth Annual Dallas / North Gaston Area CROP Walk* which will be held on Sunday, Oct. 15, 2017. Registration will begin at 1:00 PM in the Dennis Franklin Gym in Dallas. The walk will begin at 2:00 PM at Cloninger Park track in Dallas and participants will walk the track approximately six miles or as long as they can walk. We walk 6 miles because this is the average distance a person in most underdeveloped countries of the world must walk each day to provide water for their family.

In 2016, 111 participants walked in the Gaston Area CROP Walk and yielded \$6,268.52 to help address the scourge of hunger at home and around the world. We need more participants this year and hope you can make a difference.

We join with the Whole Church in Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession for your willingness to WALK and SERVE so others can share in the abundance of life that God desires for all people as revealed most clearly in *Jesus - The Christ*.

In thanksgiving and servanthood,

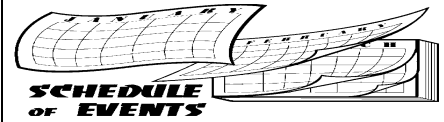
The 2017 Dallas - North Gaston  
CROP Walk Steering Committee

**(SEE ENCLOSED INFORMATION)  
(signup sheet on table in Ed wing)**

# OCTOBER 2016



Sunday School: 9:45 pm  
Church Service: 11:00 pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Food Collection						
1 World Communion Sunday	2 Team Mtg.	3	4	5	6	7
8 National Children's Day	9 Columbus Day	10	11	12	13	14
15 HELP CROP STOP HUNGER	16 Board Mtg.	17 Prayer Group	18	19	20	21
22 Poor Man's SUPPER	23 CLW/Rachel Group	24	25	26	27	28
29 REFORMATION SUNDAY	30	31 Reformation Day				

- **October 1**— 17th Sunday after Pentecost  
World Holy Communion Day  
Chain Life (see p.6)
- **October 2**— Team Meetings—  
Youth at 6:30 pm  
Other Teams at 7:00 pm
- **October 8**— 18th Sunday after Pentecost  
National Children's Day
- **October 10**— Columbus Day
- **October 11**— Gaston Together (see p 8)
- **October 15**— 19th Sunday after Pentecost  
Crop Walk (see p 9)
- **October 16**— Board meeting
- **October 17**— Prayer Group will meet at  
Home of Shirlee Marazza at 1:00 pm
- **October 22**— 20th Sunday after Pentecost  
Poor Man's Supper w/bingo & prizes. (see p 8)
- **October 23**— CLW/Rachel Group TBA
- **October 29**— Reformation Sunday—  
Communion  
Celebrate 500th anniversary at Holy Trinity  
World Hunger Sunday
- **October 31**— Reformation Day  
Trick-or-Treat on the Square  
From 5-7 pm



## Birthdays

- 3 Denice Traveria
- 4 Chase Messick
- 5 Allie Trudnak
- 5 Christian Clemmer
- 20 Jean Huffstetler
- 21 Jeff Lineberger
- 25 Betty Ratchford



- Morgan Dawson
- Nation Finger
- Alice Vlaservich
- Jack Dawson



15<sup>th</sup> ..... Tony & Kathy Trudnak

### Holy Communion Schedule:

- October 1: 17th Sunday after Pentecost
- October 29 Reformation Sunday

### Worship Service Assistance:

- Altar Guild:** Julie Digh/  
Becky Messick
- Acolyte:** Emma Dease
- Crucifer:** Will Trudnak
- Communion Asst:** Yvonne Finger
- Lay Reader:** Teri Trudnak
- Worship Asst:** Teri Trudnak
- Greeters:** Our Saviour Members
- Ushers:** Our Saviour Members

- Devotions: Becky Messick
- Collection: Betty Ratchford



### Nursery Guardians Schedule

- October 1 Julie Digh
- October 8 Becky Messick
- October 15 Anna Cole
- October 22 Teri Trudnak



FOOD FOR THE MONTH: **Pork & Beans,**  
**Pinto Beans,**  
**Green Beans**



CHOIR PRATICE  
7:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

# FLOWERS

### Flower Schedule:

- October 1 Nick Vlaservich
- October 8 Open
- October 15 Jeff Lineberger
- October 22 Brady Ratchford
- October 29 Melinda White



## Martin Luther



Martin Luther (1483-1546) stands in history as one of those unique forces, an individual who by force of will and by his ideas changed the world fundamentally. There are several ironies incumbent on Luther's pivotal role in history: 1) he doesn't really represent a break with the past, but rather a flash point where ideas and trends which had been smoldering in Europe for several centuries suddenly blazed aflame; 2) Luther initially saw himself as a great reformer of the Catholic church, a simple monk who thought the force of his ideas would single-handedly redirect the Leviathan of the church; in the end, however, he divided Christianity into two separate churches and that second division, Protestantism, would divide over the next four centuries into a near infinity of separate churches; 3) finally, Luther (and all the other reformers) saw themselves as returning Christianity to its roots, they believed that they were setting the clock back; in reality, their ideas irreparably changed the world and pushed it kicking and screaming, not into some ideal past, but into the modern era.

Luther was not a person you would want to have dinner with; he was temperamental, peevish, egomaniacal, and argumentative. But this single-mindedness, this enormous self-confidence and strident belief in the rightness of his arguments, allowed him to stand against opposition, indeed, to harden his position in the face of death by fire, the usual punishment for heretics. Luther became an Augustinian monk in 1505, disappointing his equally strong-willed father, who wished him to become a lawyer. He earned a doctorate in theology from the University of Wittenberg, but instead of settling down to a placid and scholarly monkish life or an uneventful university career teaching theology, he began to develop his own personal theology, which erupted into outright blasphemy when he protested the use of indulgences in his **95 Theses**.

Indulgences, which were granted by the pope, forgave individual sinners not their sins, but the temporal punishment applied to those sins. These indulgences had become big business in much the same way pledge drives have become big business for public television in modern America. Luther's Theses, which outlined his theological argument against the use of indulgences, were based on the notion that Christianity is fundamentally a phenomenon of the inner world of human beings and had little or nothing to do with the outer world, such as temporal punishments. It is this fundamental argument, not the controversy of the indulgences themselves, that most people in the church disapproved of and that led to Luther's being hauled into court in 1518 to defend his arguments against the cardinal Cajetan. When the interview focused on the spiritual value of "good works," that is, the actions that people do in this world to benefit others and to pay off the debts they've incurred against God by sinning, Cajetan lost his temper and demanded that Luther recant. Luther ran, and his steady scission from the church was set in motion. The Northern Humanists, however, embraced Luther and his ideas.

Luther's first writing was **The Sermon on Good Works**, in which he argued that good works do not benefit the soul; only faith could do that. Things took a turn for the worse: Pope Leo declared 41 articles of Luther's teachings as heretical teachings, and Luther's books were publicly burned in Rome. Luther became more passionate in his effort to reform the church. His treatise, "Address to the Christian Nobility of Germany," pressed for the German nation to use military means to force the church to discuss grievances and reform; "A Prelude concerning the Babylonish Captivity of the Church" literally called for clergy in the church to openly revolt against Rome.

In 1521, the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, demanded that Luther appear before the diet of the Holy Roman Empire at Worms. Luther was asked to explain his views and Charles ordered him to recant. Luther refused and he was placed under an imperial ban as an outlaw. He managed to escape, however, and he was hidden away in a castle in Wartburg where he continued to develop his new church.

In a more conciliatory effort, Luther wrote a letter to Pope Leo explaining the substance of his ideas, *Von der Freiheit des Christenmenschen*, "On the Freedom of the Christian," from which your readings have been selected. This conciliation didn't work (the treatise is not, in fact, very conciliatory, but somewhat arrogant), and Luther was excommunicated from the church in 1521. What had started as a furious attempt to reform the church overnight turned into a project of building a new church independent of the Catholic church. Nevertheless, this small work, "The Freedom of the Christian," is the theological and ideological core of Luther's thinking; the fundamental term of value, that center around which every other aspect of his thought rotates, is the concept of **Freiheit**, "freedom," or "liberty." This is not our concept of freedom, but in the eventual turn of time it will give rise to the notion of "individual freedom," and later "political freedom," and later "economic freedom." Most of the European Enlightenment revolves around freedom and the project of "liberating" people: liberating them from false beliefs, from false religion, from arbitrary authority, etc.-that is, what we will be calling "liberation discourse." Westerners still participate in this Enlightenment project today. This idea of "liberating" people, so common to the international politics of our own period, comes out of Luther's idea of "freedom."



### DO YOU WANT TO HELP THE HURRICANE VICTIMS?

You can either donate on line or mail.

On Line: [samaritanspurse.org](http://samaritanspurse.org) Select Hurricane Relief.

Mail: Samaritan's Purse, P.O. Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607



725 Gastonia Technology Parkway  
Post Office Box 475  
Website: [oslc-nc.org](http://oslc-nc.org)  
Email: [oslcdallas@aol.com](mailto:oslcdallas@aol.com)

## EVENTS for:

### Agrape/Kure Beach

#### Contact Camp Agapé:

Telephone: 919-552-9421

e-mail: [agape@agapekurebeach.org](mailto:agape@agapekurebeach.org)

#### Contact Kure Beach Lutheran:

Telephone 910-458-0783

e-mail: [kurebreach@agapekurebeach.org](mailto:kurebreach@agapekurebeach.org)

Web site: [www.agapekurebeach.org](http://www.agapekurebeach.org)

Directions to Camp Agapé are on the web site.

Please see calendars and other information on the bulletin board or go on-line

## Events for:

### Lutheridge -Lutherock-Lutherspring- Lutheranch

Web site: [www.NovusWay.com](http://www.NovusWay.com)



"I have set before you  
LIFE and DEATH ....  
CHOOSE LIFE so that  
you and your descendants may live."  
Deuteronomy 30:19, NRSV

Gaston County will host a **Life Chain** in conjunction with the National Life Chain on Sunday, October 1, from 2:00 pm– 3:00 pm on Garrison Blvd. Life Chain is an annual, peaceful, prayerful witness in which people line the sidewalks standing 10 feet from each other holding pro-life signs and praying quietly to form a "living monument" for life. Everyone is involved to participate.

Google: Life Line Gaston

#### Gastonia

- **Location:** Sidewalks of E. Garrison Blvd from Union Rd to New Hope Rd
- **Parking:** Parkwood Baptist Church, Grier Middle School, East Garrison Baptist Church, Public Library or Lineberger Park

**Sign Pick Up:** Along the sidewalks of the route



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOE BOX) IS COMING!

### What is Operation Christmas Child?

This annual project enables caring individuals, families, schools, churches, businesses, and other organizations to fill ordinary shoe boxes with small toys, school supplies, sweets, and other gifts for needy children around the world.

Operation Christmas Child sends a message of hope to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes.

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project. Since 1990 the project has brought the joy of Christmas to more than 47 million boys and girls throughout the world. Last year we sent 1.24 million shoe boxes from the UK to children in hospitals, orphanages, Internally Displaced Persons camps, homeless shelters and impoverished neighborhoods. With your help we want to reach even more children in the poorest parts of the world in 2016.

### Your gift is powerful!

Your shoe box will make a child feel special and valued, and let them know that you care about them. Choosing gifts and then wrapping and filling a shoe box is a fun and rewarding activity for all the family – especially when you know these gifts are going to be used and treasured.

### From you to a child in need.

Your shoe box will be hand delivered to a child in need, asking nothing from them in return. All boxes are given to the neediest children regardless of nationality, political background or religious beliefs. Operation Christmas Child empowers local overseas partners to ensure that your shoe boxes are delivered with the highest levels of integrity and respect. Where appropriate and in culturally sensitive ways, our local overseas partners will make available a booklet of Bible stories, which gives a message of hope and includes an explanation of the true meaning of Christmas – God's gift of His Son, Jesus

## A Stewardship Minute

This month's Stewardship has an article that gets fairly personal. It suggests that a reader take his or her checkbook and see where checks were made out for purchases or gifts or worthy causes or whatever.

Wow! That could be quite revealing or embarrassing, couldn't it? I suspect most of us would be reluctant to hand our checkbook to just anyone to peruse. After all, the matter of our financial stewardship is a matter between us and our loving Savior.

Consider also that real stewardship involves far more than giving

money to the church. What about our time that we give to the church? What about service to single mothers or fathers or elderly persons or the homeless or little children who need to be adopted? Or what about the foreigners who come to America because their native countries are being destroyed by warfare? As Christian stewards is it not our responsibility to help them?

Listen to these words found in Hebrews 13: "Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

Stewardship involves being servants of the Lord in totality. It involves giving of oneself totally without reservation. The giving of our time, talent or resources is what we dedicated Christians do!

### Prayer:

Merciful Lord, you have called us to be your people, your representatives. Keep us from lethargy and denying our responsibility. Stir up our energy and our need to be worthy stewards of Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.



## OCTOBER

It's in **OCTOBER** that we give thanks and celebrate the reform of the church, that we commemorate St. Luke the physician. We remember St. James, the brother of Jesus and a martyr, and we remember Simon and Jude who were apostles. It's also the month our children and grandchildren transform into ghouls and goons and goblins and all manner of outrageous things. They stalk around the neighborhoods shrieking and snarling like wild animals (even the little princesses have been seen joining in). They roam from door to door claiming what is theirs laughing and slinking away. They do all this at night. In an atmosphere of shadows and superstition about what is over there, and above that, and (shuttering) below here, they brood. Following them through the terrifying maze of pumpkin heads and ghosts are large, plain looking, somewhat disengaged 'adult'. You can hear steady murmuring from them with the rotating refrain from among them, "Remember to say thank you!" Those two words said together—thank you—take all the strange potentials, all the odd possibilities, all the awkward occurrences, and paint smiles across the faces of ghouls and plain looking parents and grandparents alike. It's a parade of unlikely encounters with the stated possibility of "trick" or "treat". It is an exercise in the choice of hospitality to the very different and a chance to remember to say thank you. As we remember the Saints of the church and the reform Luther began let us ask the Lord to give us the gracious hospitality and thankfulness that mark us as His children.



## TRICK OR TREAT ON THE SQUARE

**OCTOBER 31**

**5-7 PM**

## DALLAS COURTHOUSE SQUARE





# Church News



## GASTON TOGETHER'S CLERGY & CITIZENS COALITION

October 11, 2009  
8:30 to 10:00 am  
Clinton Room, Gaston Memorial Hospital

### OUTREACH MISSION

#### SHUT-INS NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Please remember our church members who are shut-ins or reside in a nursing home and visit them.

Marilyn Finger\*  
1150 Meadow Way Dr., Dallas

Ralph Summey\*  
1612 Dallas-Cherryville Hwy., Dallas

Jerri Presley\*  
2604 Ole Home Trail, Dallas  
(If others, please let the church office know)



**Poor Man's  
SUPPER**

Fall  
Family  
Night

**October 22, 2017, 6:00 pm**

**Sign Up Sheet**

<b>B I N G O</b>				
15	28	37	51	73
6	17	32	45	61
9	15	★	60	70
12	26	44	52	66
7	22	34	48	72

**For  
Pinto Beans, Slaw,  
Potato Casserole,  
Corn Bread, Corn  
Dogs,**

If you need a Pastor,  
please contact Pastor Pete Feige at 704-516-2805  
or our office at 704-922-4648.



### CLWRACHEL GROUP

WILL BE MEETING AT THE HOME OF T/B  
ON OCTOBER 23 AT 1:00 PM



### PRAYER GROUP

WILL MEET AT THE HOME OF SHIRLEE MARAZZA  
ON OCTOBER 17 AT 1:30 PM



**LET US PRAY...** "Are any among you suffering? They should pray...The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up." (James 5:13-15)

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** MARGARET Addington (friends of the community), SUSAN Aderholt, SETH Alexander, AMANDA (friend of the Penley's), MARVIS Anderson, KELLY Ballard (friend of Shana Dease), ADDISON Blanton (friend of Dease's), KATHY Bohanan (cancer), KAREN Braddy, ANN Digh (Steve Digh's mother-colon cancer), HUNTER Digh (Steve and Julie Digh's nephew -cancer), MARILYN Finger, LEVI Friday (Joan Scarborough's nephew) CHARLIE Fox (friend of the Ratchford's), ROBERT Gentile (friend of Shirlee Marazza-heart attack), ANNA Harbour (CDIFF-Shirlee Marazza's granddaughter), DOUG Hoffman (friend of Bill Trudnak-unknown mass in his side), JEAN Huffstetler, LESLIE Hunsucker, JEFF Lineberger, JOHNNY Lineberger (friend of the community), MARY Johnson (Pastor Feige's mother-in-law), ELAINE Kanupp (friend of the Digh's—colon cancer), BOB Lewis (friend of Shana Dease), HALEY Mauney (brain blockage- daughter of Julie Digh;s co-worker), ROBERT L. McCannless, Jr. (failing health - Charles McCannless' father), GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), NANCY Parker (friend of Marie Lingle-ALS), EDITH Paysour, LAW-RANCE Paysour (friend of Ratchford's), RIVER Peedin (Ursela Peedin's great-grandson— leukemia), SONDRRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White) JERRIE Presley, BERNICE—Leon Rawlinson's mother, LEIGH Sellers (college friend's daughter of Libby Bickley), RALPH Summey, KIM Tucker (friend of Joann Scarborough-heart surgery) GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), SHERREE B Turner (mother of Jason Turner), KELLY Walters (mother of Brie Murray) ANNE White (niece of Betty Ratchford-breast cancer), LORI Wood (Steve Digh's cousin-colon cancer).



## Why I believe the Bible is the Word of God.

by  
Billy Graham

In the fourth chapter of Hebrews, verse 12, it says: "For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

It is the world's best-seller. Yet this book, for the past 200 years, has been under increased attack. Many people, even within the church, have come to doubt whether the Bible is authoritative and trustworthy. When you talk about the Bible, someone will allege "Bibliolatry." In other words, worshiping the Bible and not the Christ of the Bible. No, this is not Bibliolatry; the only knowledge we have of Jesus Christ is in the Bible.

Today there's a growing movement to do away with the Bible. And if this movement succeeds, anarchy will rule. This generation must face the appalling fact that it's either the Bible, or back to the jungles, because that's exactly what will happen.

Now the Bible teaches that God loves. All over the world men hunger to know God. Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, all the religions of the world, arise from man's searching for God. But God has already revealed Himself, and it's reasonable for me to suppose that God, an intelligent Being, would somehow reveal Himself to us as a human race. Even our most atheistic scientists are beginning to say that something is behind the universe. There is some sort of order behind the universe and there must be some sort of intelligence. They may not say it's God, but we call Him God. This Intelligence Who orders, and arranges, and creates, and makes us—down in our hearts we hunger to know Him.

Has God revealed Himself?

He has revealed Himself in nature. I look through a telescope and I know there's a God. I look through a microscope and I know there must be a God.

And He has revealed Himself in His Son, Jesus Christ. But we get our knowledge of Christ out of the Bible. Only one or two other men contemporary with Christ ever mentioned that He ever lived, Josephus being one. Our total knowledge of Christ comes from the Bible. **The Bible was written by 40 writers, over a period of 1,600 years, in 66 books. And the great theme from one end of the Bible to the other is redemption—God's love for the human race and God redeeming man and bringing man back to Himself after man had rebelled against God. That's what the Bible is all about.**

Down through the years it's been ridiculed, burned, refuted, destroyed, but it lives on. It is the anvil that has worn out many hammers. Most books are born, live a few short years, then go the way of all the earth; they're forgotten. But not the Bible. The Bible is preserved. It lives on.

The prophetic messages of the Bible are coming true in our day. In 2 Timothy, written almost 2,000 years ago, it says, "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power..." (2 Timothy 3:1-5). Isn't that happening? The Bible says in the latter period travel shall increase, knowledge will increase (Daniel 12:4). Look what has happened in the last 75 years in the world. The whole world has become a neighborhood without being a brotherhood. That's precisely what the Bible said 500 years before Christ.

And Jesus, 2,000 years ago, looking forward, said there would be a day like this. Oh, the Bible is true.

Recent archaeological discoveries have thrown some people for a loss. Several years ago many writers spoke of the sure results, the absolute certainties and the final position of a science (archaeology) that had disproved the Bible, but these phrases are no longer uttered.

Hundreds of old volumes fill your libraries right now saying that Moses could never have written the first five books of the Bible as is claimed because writing had not even been invented up until that time. But tablets and inscriptions have been found which were written several hundred years before Moses. The Bible was right and scholars wrong.

And then many volumes once filled libraries about John's Gospel. They stated that he could not have written it; that it was not written until the third or fourth century. Yet scholars of Ryland's University, Ryland's Library in Manchester, England, uncovered a fragment from the Gospel of John dating to around 100 A.D., proving that the Gospel of John existed in the first century.

(The Word cont'd on page 11)

(The Word cont'd on page 11)

The Bible was right and the scholars were wrong. A scientist once said in the *New York Times*, "Every fact and every science that man has so far discovered adds luster and testimony to the value and integrity of the Bible."

I had to decide one day and I had to do it by faith. I saw all the evidences, but I couldn't prove them. I could almost prove them—but I had to take a step of faith. When I did, my life and ministry was changed. There came an authority, and a power, and an assurance and a security.

But let's see about Jesus—and here was the big convincing thing to me. Jesus quoted constantly the Old Testament and not once did He ever tell us to doubt. Not one time. Not one time did He throw a doubt on the Bible. He quoted from it authoritatively many times. He said the Scriptures cannot be broken. He said all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled and after His resurrection the Scriptures said, "And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself" (Luke 24:27). He was saying, "The whole Old Testament teaches about Me."

And then Jesus did something that was fantastic. The two things that are the most difficult for people to believe are that the whale swallowed Jonah and that the flood came in Noah's day and covered the world. And Jesus deliberately picked out those two stories, confirmed them and underlined them. You say, "Well, Billy, I don't understand. I don't understand all that. I don't understand how a fish swallowed Jonah." But I believe that God is God, He could do it. But I believe even more than that. I believe that Jonah could have swallowed the whale if God wanted him to, because God is God. Now if you wrap God up in a little box and make Him as small as you are, of course it couldn't be done. If you made God as small as your laboratory in the university, He couldn't do it. But God is the God who created all of space and if you believe in that kind of God, He can do anything. And if Jesus said He did it, I believe Jesus.

The very heart of this Bible from Genesis to Revelation is the fact that Jesus Christ is God's Son. Take that by faith, that He was born of the Virgin Mary, and that He died on the cross for a special purpose. It wasn't just death because He was put to death by the Romans. You and I put Him to death. I helped my sins. The Bible says that God took all of our sins and laid them on Him. And it was my sins, your sins, the whole world nailing Him to the cross. But in that cross a great victory came. The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ triumphed over sin and death and the grave and hell and there is hope today—security, peace, assurance—in coming to the cross.

But the first step that you must take is a child-like step. It's a simple step, so simple that many will rebel at it. It's so simple that you may reject it. In fact, the Bible says thousands of people stumble over it because it is so simple, because you see, the man with his Ph.D. has to come like a little child exactly the same way. And that's hard for a businessman or socialite, or union leader, show person, or journalists to do. We don't like to humble ourselves and become small and just come with simple childlike faith. But when you do, your life is changed. Believe that and accept Him by faith into your heart.

But you have to be willing to give up your sins. Repentance means that you acknowledge that you have sinned, that you are willing to turn from them and if you are willing, you come by faith to Christ, and He will give you a new life. And it becomes God's life because the Bible says that God exists from eternity to eternity. Eternal life begins at the moment you receive Christ. It's a new dimension of living. We have third dimension. We're talking about fourth dimension. But I tell you there's another dimension, it's the spiritual dimension that thousands in America have not tried. It's the dimension revealed in this Book—the dimension that Jesus Christ offers free to everyone who will trust Him.

*Scripture quotations are taken from The Holy Bible, New King James Version.*



### *The Reformation (1517-2017)*

Many people recognize the name Martin Luther when they think of the Reformation, but this era was filled with other fascinating personalities and dramatic changes across every aspect of human life throughout the Western world.

*The Reformation* is a richly illustrated and engagingly written overview of this amazing time of change and renewal in the Christian Church and helps the reader sort through the complex chain of events that shook both church and state to their very foundations.

You'll want to display this exquisite book on your coffee table, in your church library, or anywhere you can easily flip through this informative and beautiful book.

IF you would like to have this book, there is a sign up sheet to order this book in Ed Wing Hallway for \$29.99 or you can go on line to Concordia Publishing House and purchase it for \$22.49.

RESERVED  
FOR  
CROP WALK  
INSERT.

*Fight Hunger, Here's How*

## 2017 Mission Emphasis for October :

both SAMARITAN'S PURSE and overlapping from Sept. is CROP WALK, which will be in Dallas on October 18. Pray for these ministries and give as you are able. God loves a cheerful giver from the heart. Our ministry is all about Jesus—first, last, and always.

### ABOUT US

*After sharing the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus said "Go and do likewise." That is the mission of Samaritan's Purse—to follow the example of Christ by helping those in need and proclaiming the hope of the Gospel.*

### Mission Statement

***Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ.***

***The organization serves the Church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.***

### SHOE BOX STORY

*Yuliya received a shoebox at age 9 in a Central Asian country.*

When I lifted the lid on my purple plastic shoebox, the first thing I saw was a stuffed dog. I was filled with exuberant joy! I just remember hugging it.

Even though I had toys growing up, the dog was an item you couldn't find in my country. It was really soft and had puppy eyes. *"It was my new best friend, my newfound treasure."*

My second favorite item was bubble gum-flavored toothpaste that came in a pink tube. We didn't know such a thing existed. We would squeeze out a bit the size of the tip of a match so we could get a little bit of flavor and make it last as long as possible.

Word traveled fast. My friends would line up in our bathroom and my sister and I would squeeze out a tiny amount on their toothbrushes. I think we made it last about two years.

My third favorite item was an Etch A Sketch. At first we had no idea what it was. We kept pushing down on the buttons and asking, "Why is it not working?"

After having it displayed on a shelf for a couple of months, my sister was dusting and she turned the knobs. When she saw the line going up and down on the screen she was so excited. The item we thought was broken was drawing!

The toys were the most important things. "Here was someone I'd never met ... to me as a 9-year-old it also stood

out that the letter in the box said, *"I am praying for you."* As time went on, I realized why she was still praying for me."

We became pen pals and she would always close her letters, "I am praying for you." I always wondered, "Why is she praying for me?" The impact hit me more than seven years later after I became a Christian. She was showing me the love of Christ all along, starting with the shoebox and continuing in her prayers. "She specifically chose that dog for me and wanted to use it to communicate God's love."

The shoebox was a seed. That's how the Lord works. He patiently knocks on the door of our heart and waits until we open the door. Sometimes you see fruit right away and other times it takes years for the seed to grow.

I still have my stuffed dog 14 years later. That's a glimpse of how much the shoebox meant to me because it was packed with love and prayer. It wasn't just any dog. I could tell she specifically chose that dog for me and wanted to use it to communicate God's love.

Shoebox stories is a 13-week series by shoebox recipients telling about the eternal impact of a simple gift.

Check back each Monday from [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org) for the next installment

Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy to millions of children around the world through shoeboxes lovingly and prayerfully packed with gifts that will bring delight to a child. In the hands of local churches, every gift-filled shoebox is a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship—transforming the lives of children and their families around the world through the Good News of Jesus Christ!

After receiving shoebox gifts, boys and girls are invited to enroll in The Greatest Journey, our 12-lesson discipleship program, where children learn what it means to faithfully follow Christ and share their faith with others.

The story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37) gives a clear picture of God's desire for us to help those in desperate need wherever we find them.

After describing how the Samaritan rescued a hurting man whom others had passed by, Jesus told His hearers, "Go and do likewise."

For over 40 years, Samaritan's Purse has done our utmost to follow Christ's command by going to the aid of the world's poor, sick, and suffering. We are an effective means of reaching hurting people in countries around the world with food, medicine, and other assistance in the Name of Jesus Christ. This, in turn, earns us a hearing for the Gospel, the Good News of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

**(Purse cont'd on p 13)**

**(Purse cont'd from p 12)**

As our teams work in crisis areas of the world, people often ask, "Why did you come?" The answer is always the same: "We have come to help you in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ."

In addition to Operation Christmas Child, they have many other expressions of God's Love. Very visible in the USA as well as overseas is International Crisis Response, helping those in emergency

As the Apostle Paul said, "For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake" (2 Corinthians 4:5, NIV).

**HOW TO PACK A SHOEBOX****Find a cardboard or plastic shoebox.**

Decide who would receive it:

Boy or girl:

Ages: 2-4  
5-9  
10-14

Fill with gifts:

Select a "wow" toy, such as:  
Soccer ball and pump, doll,  
Stuffed animal, musical instrument, as harmonica,  
Clothes, shoes

Other suggestions:

Yo-yo, jump rope, ball, toys that light up (with extra batteries,  
School supplies: pen pencils, sharpeners, markers, crayons, picture and coloring books, playing cards, scissors, stamps, hard candy

Accessories: t-shirt, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlight (extra batteries)

Crafts that you make, such as:

Finger puppets, friendship bracelet

Hygiene items: toothbrush, and toothpaste, bar soap (in plastic bag), comb, brush

**Things not to include:**

Guns, knives, military figures,  
Chocolate  
Liquids,  
Medication or vitamins  
Anything breakable such as:  
Snow globes  
Aerosol cans

\*\*\*\*\*You can pick up a card Shoebox in the hallway of the Ed Bldg. on October 4 or use a plastic box.



## Martin Luther's Seal

"From the wilderness of Koburg Castle"  
8 July 1530

Honorable, kind, dear Sir and Friend!

Grace and Peace in Christ!

Since you ask whether my seal has come out correctly, I shall answer most amiably and tell you of those thoughts which now come to my mind about my seal as a symbol of my theology. There is first to be a cross, black, and placed in a heart, which should be of its natural color (red), to put me in mind that faith in Christ crucified saved us. For if one believes from the heart, he will be justified. ["For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved." --Romans 10:10] Even though it is a black cross, which mortifies and which also should hurt us, yet it leaves the heart in its natural color and does not ruin nature...that is, the cross does not kill, but keeps man alive. For the just shall live by faith, by faith in the Savior. ["This Good News tells us how God makes us right in His sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, 'It is through faith that a righteous person has life.'" --Romans 1:17]

Such a heart is to be in the midst of a white rose, to symbolize that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace. In a word, it places the believer into a white joyful rose, for this faith does not give peace and joy as the world gives. ["I am leaving you with a gift--peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give isn't like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid." --John 14:27] Therefore, the rose is to be white, not red, for white is the color of the spirits and of all angels. ["..an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and rolled aside the stone and sat on it. His face shone like lightening, and his clothing was as white as snow." --Matthew 28:2b-3 and "She saw two white-robed angels sitting at the head and foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying." --John 20:12]

This rose, moreover, is fixed in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that such joy in the Spirit and in faith is a beginning of the future heavenly joy. It is already a part of faith, and is grasped through hope, even though not yet manifest.

And around this field is a golden ring, to signify that such bliss in heaven is endless, and more precious than all joys and goods, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.

"May Christ, our dear Lord, be with your spirit until the life to come. Amen."



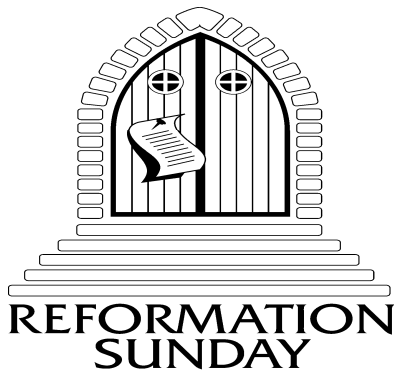
*Martin Luther*



Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 457  
725 Gastonia Technology Parkway  
Dallas, NC 28034



**NALC**  
North American Lutheran Church



**REFORMATION  
SUNDAY**

**OCTOBER 29**

**OCT**  **BER**

**2017**