From the Pastor’s Desk

October 31, 2017 marks the 500th Anniversary of the customary date for the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. In 1517, on the day before All Saints’ Day (November 1), monk and scripture scholar Martin Luther nailed his “95 Theses” to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. To nail them to the church door was analogous to posting them on social media or buying a full page ad in the newspaper. Luther was challenging the Church to a vigorous debate over the extent to which its practices did—or did not—reflect the spirit and will of Christ as revealed in Holy Scripture.

Luther didn’t intend to divide the church; he hoped that the debate would move the church toward repentance, reform, and renewal. Eventually, though, the Roman Catholic Church did not just split into a few pieces; it splintered and shattered into a multitude of them. Now, of course, there are thousands of churches, denominations, and movements.

The various reformers who led breakaway churches issued clarion calls for the authority of the Spirit who speaks through Scripture hold greater sway than the authority of history and tradition; for grace, not human effort, to be the prime energy of salvation; and for faith in the form of radical trust, not the mere repetition of doctrinal statements, to be the appropriate response we make to grace.

Theologian Robert McAfee Brown said: “There has not been a moment in the church’s life when it has not stood in need of reformation, redirection, and renewal at the hand of God.” The church—our church—can always benefit from an honest evaluation of how faithfully, winsomely, and lovingly we reflect the ways of Jesus in our life together.

Is it unmistakable in our worship that we trust in the goodness and grace of God? Is it clear in our compassion for one another and for the world that we have experienced the mercy and healing of Jesus? Is it obvious that we are listening for the Holy Spirit who is always guiding us into new and renewed understandings of the Scripture?

Five centuries after the beginning of the Reformation, it is still wise for the church to make whatever changes it must make to ensure that when people experience us they will also experience Jesus.

Grace and Peace,
Guy

September Leadership Team Minutes

The meeting was opened with prayer and the minutes were approved.

The new agreement with Guy Sayles was signed by Guy and Dan Bradshaw. A new agreement has been made with the Homeschool Co-op. Frank Richardson has volunteered to be our acting Operations Manager. Aaron DeWeese has asked for vacation in October and this will be reviewed.

Lennie sent paint information for approval by the city for the lead paint problem. Termites have been found under the window beyond the stage in the Candler Center.

Jim Burnett will be on leave for the month of September.

Prayer meeting will begin again on Wednesday on October 4th at 6:00PM.

It is time to start preparing the 2018 budget. The budget needs a line item for the maintenance of the church.

Things are going well so far with Missio Dei.

Officers for 2018 nominations needed for the Leadership Team, Deacons, and Treasurer.

Upcoming events: October 4th Wednesday Prayer Service; October 18th Open House for Missio Dei; November 15th Shoe box Packing; December 3rd Church vote on Leadership Team, Deacons, and Treasurer.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully,
Jennie Dalton, Church Clerk
Thank you to Dr. Rev Buddy Corbin and Rev. Sue Barron for the beautiful service they performed and to Terry Smith for singing "I Bowed on My Knees and Cried Holy". We also want to thank Terry Smith for singing "I Bowed on My Knees and Cried Holy" and thank you to everyone who came to visit with my pre-cious mom whether in the Hospital or at home her last 24 days. Also to those who called, those who sent cards and those who sent food. I would especially like to thank mom’s SS class for all the delicious food they prepared for us fol-low ing the service. Thanks to Barbara Roberts, Mary Ruth Duyck, Mona Moore, Neva Hancock and Dick Green for bringing to the house and having it all set up.

If you haven’t done so already please go to the website: grocefuneralhome.com and sign mom’s guest site: grocefuneralhome.com and sign mom’s guest

Our annual Homebound Christmas bags will be located in the Coffee House from November 5th to December 3rd. Please bring gift items and place in the bags for our homebound members. See Linda Farlow for more details.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
A PROJECT OF SAMARITAN’S PURSE

We are fast approaching our Packing Party on Wednesday November 15th at 6:00 and we will be joined with Missio Dei again this year. We are hoping to fill 400+ boxes this year. You have always been so generous with providing items for the boxes and we are so grateful!

This year we will NOT be able to pack candy or toothpaste, war related items (toy soldiers, guns, etc.) No chocolate, seeds, fruit roll-ups, or other snacks. No drink mixes, liquids or lotions. No medications, vita-

If you are interested in possibly working at the Opera-

Psalm 17:7-8

"Wondrously show Your steadfast love, O Savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at Your right hand. Guard me as the apple of the eye, hide me in the shadow of Your wings."

If you are interested in possibly working at the Opera-

Logic Problem: Doctor’s Surgery

History: Five patients, all potential blood donors, are waiting in the doctor’s surgery and are sitting on the bench from left to right. Can you determine the position of each patient along with their blood group, age, height and weight? Their ages are 5, 9, 30, 46 and 69. Their heights are 40, 48, 60, 65 and 74. Their weights are 40, 75, 96, 125 and 165.

- The person on the far right is 37 years older than Jason, and is 60 inches tall.
- Jason weighs 56 pounds more than his height.
- Alan weighs 75 pounds and is 74 inches tall.
- John is type AB and weighs 56 pounds less than Jason.
- The person in the center is 9 years old, is blood type AO and weighs 96 pounds.
- Adam, who is the first, is 65 inches tall, and weighs 100 pounds more than his height.
- The person who is blood type O, is 25 years older than the person to the left of them.
- Kevin is 69 years old.
- The person who is blood type A, is 55 years younger than Kevin and is not next to the person who is type AO.
- The person who is next to the 9 year old but not next to the person who is 65 inches tall, is blood type B, and weighs 125 pounds.

Puzzle answers are on the calendar page.

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