

Still Re:Forming, 501 years & a few continents later

What does it really mean to be Lutheran?



I learned about the Reformation fall of 5th grade. Before that, I had attended a public school, where October was all about leaves and pumpkins and costumes. Once I was enrolled in a Lutheran grade school, though, I had an entirely different October education: fitting the Protestant Reformation into every single grade school subject possible, a ritual which was repeated each fall throughout grade school, high school, and college. I can still basically recite most of the facts about Martin's life, almost every word of *A Mighty Fortress* and (I think) explain the significance of the Luther seal.

The part my dear teachers neglected was any connection to the Lutheran Church of the 21st century. I was an adult before I realized that most Lutherans live neither in Germany nor the United States,

but instead in Africa. I was in Seminary before I learned that Lutherans do more for refugees, immigrants, and foster children in the US than nearly any other religious group.

When an acquaintance read my tee shirt one day and asked, "So... what's a Lutheran, anyway?" I didn't have a great answer which was also short. I could give her the history of the Protestant Reformation and international colonialism and American Immigration... but that wasn't what she was asking. She could have found all that on line.

What she wanted to know is what we all want to know. *What does it really mean to be Lutheran, anyway?*

Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber, a somewhat well-known ELCA pastor, author, and speaker from Denver has published in her book *Pastrix* the things her own pastor taught her about what Lutherans actually believe about God, the Bible, and faith:

God's grace is a gift that is freely given to us. We don't earn God's love, we only try to live in response to it.

Humans always need God's grace. We can't get so spiritual that we don't need God.

We are sinners and saints at the same time, all the time.

We can't move closer to God. God is always coming to us, most especially in baptism and communion.

The Bible is not God. The Bible points us to God, especially to the saving work of Christ in our broken world.

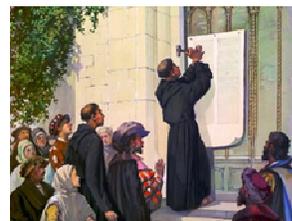
Remembering 5 truths is much easier than 95 theses. And, they're posted on my facebook wall, rather than on a church door.

But I'm hoping my former teachers won't mind. I'll still be singing loudly this October, even if I'm much more ok with my Catholic and Protestant friends in their own churches on Reformation day.

We're not Christians because we made the right choice. We are Christians because God welcomed us into the Kingdom of God. We're not Lutherans because we are smarter than other people. We are Lutherans because this particular confession is the one which best explains our own faith experiences. Together, we'll celebrate Reformation in Worship on October 28 – and we'll celebrate Global Church Sunday on Oct 21, because most Lutherans aren't German anymore.

As we celebrate Reformation this year, I encourage you to consider:

How is God calling us to RE-FORM the church once again? How can we do things differently, in order to ensure that God's grace and love and gift of faith is widely shared with everyone in our community? What would our 95 Theses look like here, today? As you pray, please share your ideas with our congregation. Let's re-form, in faith, together.





Beginning a new school year is always fun; September was full of exciting new experiences at HWG, with new friends & families enrolled and friends moving up to their next classroom.

This month the children will be experiencing exciting fall activities including harvest, fall colors and Halloween, including costume parties. Within the classrooms teachers are having fun doing Jesus and Me activities, and joining Pastor Kelly on Thursdays for J.A.M. time.

Thank you to our volunteers,

Patti Luedtke, Kay Schnell, Brad LeDuc and Cliff Polheber.

We appreciate all you do for us, and the kiddos at Here We Grow. The things you do and help you give and the time you give means so much and makes managing all the aspects of running our center so much easier and pleasant!!

Please join us for the annual Here We Grow
OPEN HOUSE/SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
Thursday Oct. 11, from 5:30-7:00pm.
Everyone is invited to attend.

Backpack Blessing in September



**“All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small;
all things wise and wonderful: the Lord God made them all.”**

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Saturday, October 13 - 10-11 am

**GRAND AVENUE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
505 W. Grand Ave, Port Washington**



Short Service

Individual Pet Blessings

Pet Treats & Certificates

Light Refreshments

**Friends, neighbors ... all are welcome
to come and bring pets!**

*As a courtesy to all, please have animals on leashes or caged, as appropriate,
and be prepared to clean up after your pet.*

**Co-Sponsored by Grand Avenue United Methodist Church
and Christ the King Evangelical Lutheran Church, Port Washington.**



**Youth grades 6-12 are invited
to a pumpkin and pizza party!**

WHEN: Sunday October 14th 4-6pm

**WHERE: Grand Avenue United Methodist Church
(505 W. Grand Avenue, Port Washington)**

FREE! Bring a friend!

**RSVP: alexpieper@gmail.com or text 414-350-2994 by 10/13/18 so we can
make sure we have enough food/pumpkins available! All are welcome!**

Sponsors: Port Washington Saukville Ecumenical Youth Group and Spieker's Pumpkin Farm



TRUNK OR TREAT & CHILI DUMP

A FUN FAMILY EVENT
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

DATE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21st

TIME: 11:30am-1:00pm

WHERE: LIVING HOPE-HERE WE GROW PARKING LOT

We will also be having a chili dump for those that are interested, so
bring your favorite recipe to dump in the pot.

ABOUT TRUNK OR TREAT:

- FAMILIES DECORATE THE TRUNK OF YOUR CAR
- CHILDREN OF ALL AGES DRESSED IN COSTUMES GO TRICK OR TREATING FROM TRUNK TO TRUNK
- BRING A BAG OF INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED CANDY TO PASS OUT TO THE CHILDREN
- THERE WILL ALSO BE A FUN SCAVENGER HUNT!

CONTACT CHRISSY CURRAN WITH QUESTIONS AT
christinemariecurran@yahoo.com



HUMAN TRAFFICKING: IN OUR BACKYARD

It happens in ALL 72 Wisconsin counties.

***Learn the Who, How, and Where
Learn the Red Flags
Be Encouraged and Take Up Hope***

OCTOBER 30 at 6:00pm

**at Parkside Community United Church of Christ
166 W. Dekora Street, Saukville**

Chaplain Krista Hull will be presenting. Krista is the Founder and Executive Director of Redeem and Restore, an organization formed to build awareness, provide outreach services, and care for the victims of sex trafficking. Krista has never been in prostitution herself, yet she understands the vulnerabilities that can lead to it. She was born out of an abusive relationship, experienced abandonment, and sexual abuse that led to much loneliness and brokenness. At a young age, in the beginning of her own mess, she was drawn to women trapped in prostitution and drugs. Now, Krista is a Chaplain and a Crisis Intervention Specialist- all for the mission of loving, restoring and supporting women escaping the hell of domestic sex trafficking.

Questions? Call us at 262-284-0588

Spirit of Inclusion

a free discussion series for adults

Our vision is to be a church and community that is affirming and encouraging. Our mission is to promote inclusiveness in our congregation and neighborhood by connecting with those who are enlivened by the idea of widening their circles of compassion.

DATES & TOPICS:

Mon., June 25: *LGBTQ & the Church*

Tues., July 17: *A Truer Representation of Islam*

Mon., August 6: *Acknowledging White Privilege*

Mon., September 17: *Immigration &
Welcoming the Neighbors Around Us*

Mon., October 15: *Black Lives Matter (a Lot!)*

Mon., November 12: *Transgender Awareness*

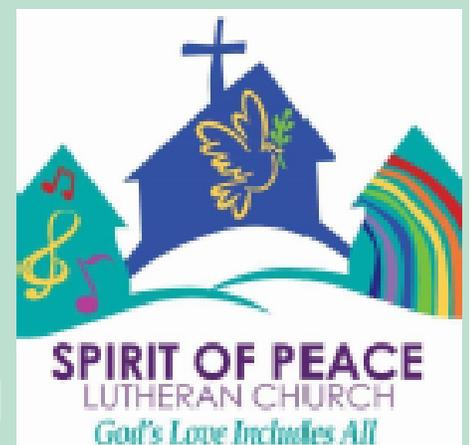
WHEN: 6-8pm — (Includes a meal!)

WHERE: Spirit of Peace Lutheran Church
5505 W. Lloyd St.,
Milwaukee, WI 53208

WHAT TO BRING: An open mind.

QUESTIONS? CALL US: 414-476-3189

[NOTE: There is an indoor children's play area.]



Hearts to Hands Ministry

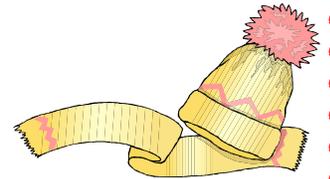
October 2018

Please note the following dates:

Thursdays October 4 & 18
Thursdays November 1 & 15
Thursdays December 6 & 20



Fall Harvest



It's that time of year!! Hearts to Hands' annual Fall Harvest is on **Thursday evening, October 18**. This is when we tag all of the hats and scarves that we have knit/crocheted/loomed over the past year with a message of God's love for the inner-city children in Milwaukee who will receive them. Then they will be blessed during the October 15th worship service before they are sent on their way.

LOVE DOES

by Bob Goff

As a college student he spent sixteen days in the Pacific Ocean with five guys and a crate of canned meat. As a father he took his kids on a world tour to eat ice cream with heads of state. He made friends in Uganda, and they liked him so much he became the Ugandan counsel. He pursued his wife for three years before she agreed to date him. His grades weren't good enough to get into law school, so he sat on a bench outside the dean's office for seven days until they finally let him enroll.

What fuels Bob's impact? Love. But it's not the kind of love that stops at thoughts and feelings. Bob is convinced love takes action. Bob believes. Love does. When Love Does, life gets interesting. Each day turns into a meaningful chance to make faith simple and real.

Bob Goff is the author of the New York Times Best-Selling book Love Does. The U.S. Department of State recognizes Goff as a diplomat and he is known as an Honorary Consul for the Republic of Uganda due to his work with Love Does, formerly known as Restore International, a non-profit organization he founded.

Light and fun, unique and profound, the lessons drawn from Bob's life and attitude might just inspire you. Join us as we listen to this audiobook starting in September.

Please join us as we continue listening to our new audio book *Love Does*.

Remembering His words, "Love one another," Hearts to Hands regularly meets to knit and crochet for others while sharing fellowship and devotional time. We continue to meet at church **on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month**. We will share fellowship time at **6:30 PM** and begin our study about 7:15 PM followed by prayers, concluding about 8:30 PM.

Join us! All are welcome, even if you don't knit or crochet. We encourage you to come, participate in the fellowship and Bible/devotional study. **Please feel welcome to come, share in fellowship and grow in faith.** If you need child care in order to attend, please let us know. If you have any other questions, please call **Cathy at 414-406-4217 or Julie at 262-268-0818**. We look forward to having you join us!

Hearts to Hands uses the Living Hope mailbox, #166.



1800 North Wisconsin Street. Port Washington, Wisconsin 53074. 262-284-1148

Items needed for the Food Pantry

October 7, 2018

Chili
Scalloped Potatoes
Canned Fruit
Ketchup
Muffin Mixes
Soup
Pancake Mix
Pancake Syrup
Cereal
Hash
Tuna Helper Casserole
Rice

October 14, 2018

Cereal
Dried Black Beans
Knorr Pasta Side
Instant Mashed Potatoes
Beef Stew
Pudding
Mustard
Spaghetti Sauce
Canned Fruit
Rice-A-Roni
Suddenly Salad
Soup

October 21, 2018

Cereal
Stuffing
Canned Ham
Canned Fruit
Saltines
Soup
Taco Shells
Refried Beans
Oatmeal
Scalloped Potatoes
Meals for 1
Graham Crackers

October 28, 2018

Jam/Jelly
Cereal
Dried Pinto Beans
Canned Fruit
Soup
French Fried Onions
Rice
Instant Potatoes
Canned Meat
Chili
Sweet Potatoes
Coffee

*****Cash Donations to purchase turkeys and fresh produce for Thanksgiving*****

Food Pantry Statistics for September

September has been a wet cold month, but nothing like August. It was also a 5 week month for us. We began ordering our food items from the Port Washington Piggly Wiggly store fairly exclusively but we are picking up day-old bakery, barrel donations and in-house credit from both locations.

For the month of September, we:

- * Served 288 families; welcoming 6 client families
- * Distributed 6935 pounds of food and household & personal items
- * Redeemed 183 Piggly Wiggly Milk Certificates for \$363.29
- * Redeemed \$4,875.71 in Piggly Wiggly coupons for non-taxable food items

We received 3846 pounds of food and \$4,450.00 in cash donations.

Our Expenses for September were \$9,017.

Chris Flint, Director
262-284-1148



October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal	2 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting	3 9:30 AM Wednesdays in the Word 6:00 PM Men's Bible Discussion Group 6:30 PM Wednesdays in the Word	4 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal 6:30 PM Hearts to Hands 8:00 PM AA Meeting	5 6:00 PM Acoustic Open Mic Live	6
7 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	8 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal	9 6:30 PM BEST Women's Book Club 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting	10 9:30 AM Wednesdays in the Word 6:30 PM Wednesdays in the Word	11 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal 5:30 PM Here We Grow Open House 8:00 PM AA Meeting	12	13 10:00 AM Community Pet Blessing
14 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 4:00 PM Ecumenical Youth Pumpkin & Pizza Party 6:00 PM "Journey" for 7th & 8th Grade Students	15 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal	16 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting	17 9:30 AM Wednesdays in the Word 6:00 PM Men's Bible Discussion Group 6:30 PM Wednesdays in the Word	18 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal 6:30 PM Hearts to Hands 8:00 PM AA Meeting	19	20
21 Global Church Sunday 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Trunk or Treat	22 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal	23 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting	24 9:30 AM Wednesdays in the Word 6:30 PM Wednesdays in the Word	25 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal 8:00 PM AA Meeting	26	27
28 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	29 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal	30 6:00 PM Church Council Meeting 6:00 PM Stop Human Trafficking Discussion 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting	31 9:30 AM Wednesdays in the Word 6:30 PM Wednesdays in the Word			

Please visit us on Facebook or on our church website for more information on upcoming events:
www.livinghopesaukville.org

November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal 6:30 PM Hearts to Hands 8:00 PM AA Meeting	2 6:00 PM Acoustic Open Mic Live	3
4 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:15 AM Worship Committee Meeting 10:30 AM Worship Service	5 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal	6 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting	7 9:30 AM Wednesdays in the Word 6:00 PM Men's Bible Discussion Group 6:30 PM Wednesdays in the Word	8 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal 8:00 PM AA Meeting	9	10
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18 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service	19 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal	20 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting 7:00 PM Community Thanksgiving Worship Service	21 9:30 AM Wednesdays in the Word 6:00 PM Men's Bible Discussion Group 6:30 PM Wednesdays in the Word	22 LH & HWG Closed	23 LH & HWG Closed	24
25 Worship & Meal at Redeemer 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship Service	26 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal	27 Giving Tuesday 7:00 PM Boy Scouts Meeting	28 9:30 AM Wednesdays in the Word 6:30 PM Wednesdays in the Word	29 1:00 PM Tri-County New Horizons Band Rehearsal 8:00 PM AA Meeting	30	

Sunday, November 4th, 2am

