



Faith Family

News

October 2024

*In response to God's grace flowing
through Christ, we grow in faith
and show Christ's love.*

Oh What If... A Reformation of Disagreeing Well

By Pastor Adam

Hey Lutherans! It's October! Pull out your red sweaters and socks... *Reformation Day is coming!*

Reformation Day is a high-holy day amongst Lutherans, but what are we really celebrating? In 1517, Martin Luther, a Roman Catholic priest at the time, nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenburg church. It was his attempt to debate the errors he saw in church theology and practice. It did not go well! It sparked the Protestant Reformation, a price was put on Luther's head, some were burned at the stake, and a revolt among peasants started a war that killed thousands. It also split the church, creating the branch of Protestantism that has continued to split into countless denominations to this day. I wonder, what would have happened if Luther and the Roman Catholic Church knew how to disagree well?

Last month, Bishop Emeritus John Roth polished off a presentation he gave in 2009 when he was pastor here at Faith. The Jacksonville World Affairs Council invited him to share it at their recent meeting. The title? "Disagreeing Well." He suggests that we can disagree well if we are holding to three marks:

1. **Fairness.** We disagree well when we can state the other position accurately enough that those who hold it claim it as their own.
2. **Intellectual integrity.** We disagree well when we can state the strongest argument against our position.

3. **Honest humility.** We disagree well when we acknowledge that, as flawed, fallen humans, we may be wrong.

If Martin Luther and the Roman Catholic Church had practiced this 500 years ago, what would we be celebrating today? Would necessary reform have taken a less violent and more unifying path? Would there be one church today? And if we could put this into practice today, what might we be celebrating 500 years from now? Or even five months?

I believe strongly that disagreeing well is how we care for community — in our churches, our schools, our work places, our families, all the way to our country. Do I sound naïve? Maybe. We can't control how others engage the arena of disagreement. But we can choose differently. As I have shared many times in the last few months, disagreement is inevitable, but division is a choice.

I encourage you to do the hard work of putting these marks of disagreeing well into practice in your life. Teach them to others. Create laboratories in your relationships where these practices can spread. And may I be so bold as to add one more mark to Bishop John's list:

4. **Respect.** We are disagreeing well when we love and respect one another, recognizing them as beloved children of God.

Show this love to one another, speaking of one another in love. If we fail at this, we lose everything. If we succeed, oh what a reformation it would create!

Pastor Adam



Faith Family Updates

What's new around Faith? Maybe you haven't been here in awhile or you just haven't noticed, but our ministry is constantly changing.

Fall Stewardship Appeal - "Generations Blessing Generations"

Psalm 79:13 proclaims, "We your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise." What a perfect verse for our congregation at this time. We are a Faith Family, comprised of many generations, called together, committed to the gospel, and recounting God's praise. This is one of our greatest strengths and will be our overarching goal for 2025, generations blessing generations as we provide care and connection across all ages. We have already seen this at work in the last month with the introduction of Faith's Little Flock and Bible Boot Camp, two programs for our children that are involving adults as well. Faith Inkubators is back for our youth, and a new Youth Ministry Team is organizing Sunday morning and fellowship events for our youth that also connect us to other generations. God is at work with generations blessing generations!

In the weeks ahead, we will be holding a stewardship appeal inviting each of us to generously respond to God's blessings and support our future efforts in ministry. Here is what you can expect:

- Early October... you'll receive a letter that outlines our stewardship appeal, goals for 2025, and a pledge form inviting you to prayerfully consider your financial support.
- Sunday, October 20... join us for a special celebration meal after worship as we give God thanks for our ministry impact of 2024 and present our goals for the year to come. We will also have preliminary budget increases to share.
- October 27-November 10... bring your pledges to church and we will share the progress.

We are grateful to God for so many blessings in our Faith Family and are so aware of your effort and support that has made a difference. Let's look to the year ahead as God is at work through generations blessing generations.

BUILDING FUND APPEAL UPDATE: As you can see on the Stewardship Snapshot on the back of the newsletter, your generosity has helped us to meet our goal! Thank you so much for your generous support!



Tasha Layton Concert (and Faith Lutheran, too!)

Our community came together for a wonderful concert featuring Tasha Layton. The venue moved from the square to Lincoln Avenue Baptist Church due to rain, but we packed the place with close to 1,000 guests. Before the concert, local singers performed openings acts, including a group from Faith (Marilyn, Benen, and Louis Dichsen, Adam Krohe, Terri Kimler, and Melissa Street).

Reaching Up... Connecting with God through Worship

Flows. Grows. Shows



Music is a great way to connect!

The Chancel Choir will sing for **Reformation Sunday, October 27**.
Rehearsal will be **Thursday, October 24 at 6:30pm**. Hope you will join us!!

We are always looking for people to sing or play special music for a prelude or a stewardship offering. Please contact Jean Welch if you are interested in sharing your musical gifts.

jrwelch53@msn.com or 217-652-7009 (phone/text)

One more time! Outdoor Worship and Indoor Potluck on October 6

Temperatures are perfect to worship outdoors, so we are going to do it again on **October 6**. Following the service, we will move indoors for a potluck meal in the Great Room. Come early if you'd like to help set up chairs. Invite a friend and join us for this wonderful time together! We are in need of volunteers to help set up and clean up for both the service and the meal. Please bring a dish to share. If you can help, please sign up by the Total Ministry Center.

Fall Sermon Series – “God Keeps God’s Promises”

Using the Narrative Lectionary, we continue to follow the story of God’s people through the Old Testament. Again and again, God makes promises with God’s people. Again and again, God’s people turn away from God, but God keeps God’s promises! Here are the themes for October:

- October 6 – “Moses: God’s Promises Tested”
- October 13 – “David: God’s Promise Beyond Walls”
- October 20 – “Solomon: God’s Promise for All People”
- October 27 – “Elijah: God’s Promise of Provision”

Using resources from *Spill the Beans*, a worship resource from Scotland, we will be incorporating dialogues, prayers, and artwork made by our children.

Reformation Sunday October 27

Let’s roll out the red carpet (or paraments) as we celebrate Reformation Sunday! It will be a special morning with traditional Lutheran liturgy, a musical offering from our Chancel Choir, and an opportunity (or two) to belt out “A Mighty Fortress is Our God.” Celebrate Reformation Sunday with us and wear red, the color of the Holy Spirit, as we trust that God’s reforming work and refining fire continue to be at work in us and throughout Christ’s church.

All Saints Sunday

On November 3, we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday, an opportunity to remember all the saints of God, specifically recalling members and loved ones of members of our congregation who have died or were baptized in the last year. If you would like the name of your loved one shared, please submit it to the church office **by Friday, November 1**.



Flows. Grows. Shows



Bible Boot Camp with our Elementary Children

We introduced Bible Boot Camp, a new program for elementary school aged children, in September. Pastor Adam warmed them up with singing, dancing, and some retelling of Bible stories from recent worship services. Patty Nelson and Shelley McDaniel led them in some creative play and crafts, and then we all joined with parents and older youth for a meal. Future events are scheduled on Sundays, from 4:30-6:00, September 29, October 13 and 20, November 10 and December 15. Spread the word and bring a friend!

Reaching In... Connecting through Discipleship

Faith's Little Flock Sunday School

Faith's Little Flock meets in the classroom next to the nursery after the children's sermon until communion time. Activities this month will follow Pastor's theme of God's promises. The children can look forward to making mini water globes, crafts with hearts and lambs, and more while listening to a Bible stories. We are also adding some fun music for the little ones called "Sing the Bible". A special thanks to everyone who has volunteered your time in September. We will be working on a schedule for volunteers and getting things organized for the remainder of the year.

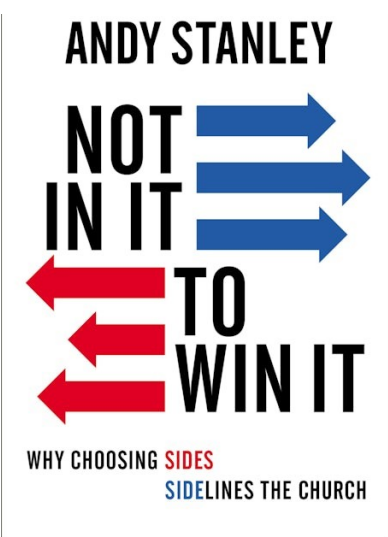
Blessings, Melissa Street

Psalm 127:3 "Children are a gift from the Lord, they are a reward from Him."

Faith Inkubators with our Youth

Our Confirmation Class has resumed under a different name. Our Faith Inkubators youth nights incorporate all the learning of confirmation, but also some games and activities so that it is open for some upper-elementary-aged kids that are up for the challenge and our high school youth to still be involved. Future events are scheduled on Sundays, from 5:30-7:30, September 29, October 13 and 20, November 10 and December 15.

Book Discussion - "Not in It to Win It"



As election day approaches, we are bombarded by information that seeks to increase the divide by demonizing the "other." Consider reading this book with our book group to reflect on the danger of choosing sides and needing to be "right." Pastor Adam will lead a discussion after worship on October 27.

Women of Faith

The next Women of Faith gathering will be dinner together on **Wednesday, October 9 at 6:00pm** at Kitchen 63 at K's Creek Golf Course (1265 Sandusky Rd.). Please RSVP to Monica (217-737-0475) by **Sunday, October 6** if you can make it. We'd love to have you join us!

Men's Breakfast

We're still at it! Join a great group of guys for food, fellowship and faith conversation. Come at 8:00 to cook or 9:00 when breakfast is served.

Women of the ELCA

Please consider attending the Central/Southern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA 2024 Biennial Convention on **Saturday, October 19** at St. John's Lutheran Church (2477 W. Washington St., Springfield, IL 62702), sponsored by the Women of the ELCA (WELCA). Contact Sharon Zuiderveld for more info or would like a ride.

— Sharon Zuiderveld

Discipleship Group

Join our monthly discussion at 10am on Wednesday, October 16, in the Faith Library. Enjoy good food, great discussion, and a lovely, vibrant community of believers. For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Reaching Out... Connecting through Outreach

Carry-Out Style Soup Lunch

Sunday, October 13

Our Carry-Out Soup Lunch returns! Soups (cold), Desserts, Cornbread, and Crackers will be available on **Sunday, October 13, from 10:30am - 1:00pm.**

Sign-up sheets are available (at a table in the gathering area) for making **Soups, Desserts, & Cornbread** and working for the event. We ask that you bring your soups, desserts, and cornbread **by 10:00am on Saturday, October 12** for us to begin packaging them into serving containers.

A “**Worker**” sign-up is available for helping to package on Saturday and helping to serve on Sunday (2 Sunday shifts are available).

Tickets are available for you to buy for yourself or to take to sell to friends (\$7 in advance/\$8 at the door).

Posters are available for you to take around town to help us advertise.

A money box is available if you'd like to provide a **Monetary Donation** for purchasing supplies. Put your donation in the box provided, and please put your name on the sign-up list. (Checks to Faith Lutheran Church.)

Let's work together to serve our community and share some delicious Lutheran Love! (**Please bring in any cardboard trays or small boxes for us to use.**) Thanks!

Trunk-or-Treat at Faith - Need Volunteers!

This year Faith is hosting its first trunk-or-treat! Save the date for **Sunday, October 27, 2-4 pm.** This free, family-friendly event will be a great way for us to connect with the community, but we need your help to make it a success! We need people to sign up to decorate their trunks and hand out candy/trinkets, people to donate candy/trinkets, and for everyone to help spread the word. Please talk with Monica Proefrock or the Youth Ministry Team if you have any questions. And sign up now to volunteer for this fun outreach event!

Jacksonville Food Center

The above title is the official name for our Jacksonville Food Center that provides so many people and families healthy meals on a regular basis. The Food Center has a Facebook site, where you can find out what needs replacing on the shelves. The site is JACFC — **where you will find a Thank You to Faith Lutheran Church!**

The number of clients needing help is still increasing. Melissa is also supplying daily eats to many homeless

individuals because the new Salvation Army site is too far to walk to.

The August statistics are as follows: they served 560 families (1,276 individuals) at a cost of \$65,064.80 (34,219 pounds). For the daily bakery offers, which are limited to once a week for takers, 322 families were served at a cost of \$5,255 (3,220 pounds).

The churches contributed \$5,668.52 in money and \$2,367 in food donations in August. Our Faith Lutheran donated \$260 in August. *Lillian Korous & Pat Glyshaw*

Flows.Grows.Shows



Youth Service Projects

Our youth are willing and able to help with service projects in your home! Last month they helped with the *God's Work, Our Hands* clean up as well as washing windows for a member. If you would like to have them help at your home, contact one of our Youth Ministry Team leaders (Marilyn Dichsen, Adam Krohe, and Barb Davenport). They are often available after worship, but may be able to schedule another time as well. If your project falls over a mealtime (or anytime in between), they may appreciate some snacks and drinks.

Doorbell Dinners

October 28 - November 1

Thank you to all who helped with Doorbell Dinners in September. Our next opportunity will be coming up from OCTOBER 28-NOVEMBER 1. We are in need of drivers & deliverers to cover the needs of five routes — time commitment is 11:15-12:30 each day. For more information and to sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair Trade coffee sales.

Worship Assistants

Chancel Committee

Oct. 6 Kris Roth (*outdoors*)
Oct. 13 to be determined
Oct. 20 Pat Glyshaw
Oct. 27 to be determined

Coffee Hosts

Oct. 6 *Indoor Potluck*
Oct. 13 *Carry-Out Soup Lunch*
Oct. 20 Martha Krohe
Oct. 27 Judy D. & Vicki R.

Communion Assts.

Oct. 6 Glen VanderKloot
(outdoors)
Oct. 13 Pam Devlin
Oct. 20 **need volunteer**
Oct. 27 Liddy Stark

Greeters

Oct. 6 Lillian Korous (*outdoors*)
Oct. 13 Barb Fishback
Oct. 20 **need volunteer**
Oct. 27 Liddy Stark

Readers

Oct. 6 Patty Nelson (*outdoors*)
Oct. 13 Liddy Stark
Oct. 20 Terri Kimler
Oct. 27 **need volunteer**

Ushers

Oct. 6 **need volunteer** (*outdoors*)
Oct. 13 **need volunteer**
Oct. 20 Pat Glyshaw
Oct. 27 **need volunteer**

If you would like to help with assisting for the 9:30am worship services, please contact the church office (faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up in the gathering area** at the podium by the east doors.

Altar Plants

(\$15 donation appreciated)

If you would like to donate, please call or email the church office (245-8919 or faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up in the gathering area at the podium by the east doors**; please make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church (1385 W. Walnut St.).

Oct. 6 **Open for donation**
& **Open for donation**

Oct. 13 By Liddy Stark in memory of
Leslie Ann Rowe's 50th birthday
& **Open for donation**

Oct. 20 By the Roth family in celebration of
Elliot (Oct. 18) & Lily (Oct. 25)
Snodgrass' birthdays
& By Pat Glyshaw in celebration of Brian
& Jess' 6th wedding anniversary

Oct. 27 By Lynette Hamilton in celebration of
Brenda & Kip Stevenson's 30th wedding
anniversary
& **Open for donation**

Financial Assistants

Oct. 6 Ken Devlin & Patty Nelson
Oct. 13 Kelly Hartz & to be determined
Oct. 20 Kelly Hartz & Monica Proefrock
Oct. 27 Greg Kimler & to be determined

Stewardship Spotlight

A big "Thank You!" to all for your generosity and response to our special appeal for donations to our Building Fund. As of August 31, we have received over \$36,300 which brings us right on track for our budgeted needs for the same period, and we have even received more donations since then. This has been a huge help in meeting our mortgage payments, and we are making preliminary plans for a debt reduction campaign to eliminate all debt. Our current mortgage balance is \$548,851.

Thank You

It is with sincere appreciation that I want to thank you for your visits, prayers, cards, calls, and other forms of kindness at the death of my son, David.

Thank you God for our Faith Family,

Davalie Fisher

Friends From Faith

A ministry team led by Naomi Hahn: on the last Sunday of each month — everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. **On October 27**, visit the tall white table just outside the sanctuary where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

Newsletter Deadline — Oct. 20