

October 2024 Newsletter

October is a beautiful time of year. Leaves continue to fall and the weather becomes colder. We may have one or two weeks of warmth but then we begin to enjoy the warmth of fireplaces, pumpkin spice everything, and prepare for the days of hot chocolate ahead.

I love October. It is the month of many celebrations. This month we celebrate our 55th anniversary as a congregation on October 13. Pastor Liermann returns to preach, Pastor Feldscher returns to aid in the liturgy, and we rejoice in fellowship together. We rejoice to declare that God the Father has had mercy on this congregation and continues to bless us with His word and sacraments. We rejoice that the members of this congregation still love and care for each other. We rejoice in the fellowship of the saints at communion and at the dinner table. What would a celebration be without a potluck.

It is also that time of year that we remember the reformation. While we get tired of hearing about it sometimes, it is very close in importance to the crossing of the red sea. That sounds a little off doesn't it. Yet, Luther and the reformers brought back God's word that speaks of how our Lord suffered and died and rose for us, how He justified us apart from works through faith in Him. The bonds of works righteousness were removed through the preaching of the word in its truth and purity. We were blessed to know God's forgiveness to each of us through Jesus.

This year is also a time of reflection of another exodus. We remember that in 1974, the LCMS went through a fight, a battle, over the truth of the Bible. Seminex at St. Louis seminary created ripple effects still profoundly felt today. Many still discount the word of God in favor of historical criticism. Yet, we hold fast to the word as it was given to us. Through the word comes the revelation of Jesus Christ which means that we teach everything He has taught us. We pray God's richest blessings upon this congregation and her people.

Pastor Ficken