Celebrating Years of Service and New Beginnings

New Seminarian Jake Bellinghausen, upper left, receives encouraging words from Pastor Rich at the church picnic on Aug. 24. Upper right, Ed & Pat Kuerschner were honored at Ed’s retirement reception on July 9. At right, Timothy Lutheran School staff thank Ed for his years of service and friendship as their principal.
On October 31, 2017 Christians around the world will celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. The Reformation was not about anything new but about returning to the unchanged and unchanging truth. So it is today. The celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation is not a time for novelty. It is a time to return: to the truth, to the basics, to the foundation.

Do you remember the Small Catechism? Many of us were made to memorize the catechism (or at least part of it) during our Confirmation classes. Some of us might have even suffered through a public examination over its contents. How much do you remember? Say it with me: “I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. . .” Can you finish? Do you remember where that is found? (It’s in Luther’s explanation of the Third Article of the Apostles’ Creed!)

It’s time to return. Luther wrote the Small Catechism for the instruction of lay people. Luther intended the Small Catechism to be used at church and in the home to instruct children in the faith and to reinforce the faith in the hearts and minds of adults.

There is no better time than in this year of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation to review the catechism. Read it for yourself. Refresh the theology in your mind. Pray the catechism daily. Memorize it. But even more, teach it. If you are a parent, teach it to your children. As you have opportunity, share it with your friends and peers.

The catechism teaches the fundamentals of the Christian faith: the Ten Commandments, the Lord’s Prayer, the Apostles’ Creed, the Sacrament of Baptism, the Sacrament of the Altar and the Office of the Keys and Confession. This small book is well worth your time and study. May this celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation be a time when we return to the Word and Sacraments, when we turn to Christ and His love. It’s still all about Jesus.

Blessings!

Pastor Rich
Timothy Lends a Hand (or two!) at Habitat for Humanity

On Saturday, July 15, Bruce Wands, Terry Calvin and Gary Flandermeyer completed landscaping, general site cleanup and interior painting at 1129 S. Pope, Independence (above, left) to prepare for a house blessing the next day with the new owners. Now it’s on to the next house on Hill Street (right). On Aug. 19, Bruce Wands, Ron Riedel, Steve Schild, Terry Calvin and Gary Flandermeyer completed interior & exterior framing. Please join these volunteers on future work days as they share of the love of Jesus through building hope for people in need.

Vacation Bible School leaders shared Bible stories, crafts, music and lots of fun! King Rodnay, above left, kicked off each day with royal decrees and declarations. Thanks to all who helped share the message of Jesus’ love!
4th graders cool off on the first day of school, while, above right, Rams soccer team practices after school.

Summer Care friends enjoyed Adventures Oasis and Burr Oaks trips (above left & center). 7th & 8th graders relaxed on outdoor equipment on the first day of school.

Another successful Rummage Sale on Aug. 3-5 benefitted scholarships and other charities. Many thanks to all donors & volunteers! At right, Jan Holsten enjoyed sorting goods wearing a fun hat!
During the summer **Volleyball Camp**, players practiced receiving the ball, *above*. *At left*, the Rams Volleyball team huddles up during a time out. Go, Rams!

**New TLS Principal** Ken Holland and Administrative Assistant Kristen Anderson, *right*, welcome students and their families to a new school year!

**Seminary Sunday and Church Picnic** Timothy celebrated the enrollment of Jake Belllinghausen at Concordia Seminary-St. Louis with grilled burgers & hot dogs and delicious potluck sides on Aug. 26 at the South Campus.
Minerva & Lee Prynne, above left, enjoy fellowship and food at Pairs & Spares June picnic at the home of Janet Masters. Friday Morning Bible Class, above right, gathered at Corner Café for food and fellowship recently.

Lutheran Women Missionary League guest speaker Karen Drury (left) spoke at the Aug. 26 society meeting. Enjoying brunch were Diane Mayfield, Past President & charter LWML member Verna Lohman, Past President RoseMary Thompson and Karen Drury.

Thanks, Steve Schild, for your commitment to serving in numerous ministries at Timothy but also for stepping up to rebuild the cabinet and add the laminate for the kitchen unit, shown above, in a Hillcrest Transitional Housing apartment. Your skills are much appreciated!
**Fall Festival Committee** “red shirts” and hundreds of other volunteers served burgers and their faith with the community during the annual Fall Fun Fest on Sept. 15-17. A beautiful weekend was an added blessing! Thanks to all 300+ volunteers who helped make this another successful year!
The Rock Fall Kickoff Miss Mary helped young ones enjoy The Rock fall kickoff on Sunday, Sept. 10 (above, left). Older students enjoyed treats during this Bible Study hour for children up to 5th grade (above, right). The Rock invites all youth 3 years through 5th grade to join them at 9:45 each Sunday in the Fellowship Hall.

Friends Café—Coffee, Faith Story, Fellowship
Timothy women enjoy an entertaining video clip by comedienne Patsy Clairmont at the Sept. 9 Women of Hope event at the Epic Coffee Shop. Donna Nissen, pictured at far right, shared a faith story about forgiveness.

Welcome Inn residents expressed heartfelt thanks for a homemade meal from Timothy on Sept 24. Volunteers, left & below, sported new orange Timothy t-shirts to serve a casserole, salad, rolls & dessert. Families also appreciated free toys, books and Bibles.