

Sunday Schedule:

- * **9:00 a.m. &**
- * **10:15 a.m.**
(Both liturgical worship services)
- * **11:15 a.m.** Sunday School
- * **12:00 p.m.**
Misa en Español
(Latino worship on an experimental stage.)

Thursday Schedule:

- 6:30 P.M.**
Advent Service (December)
- 7:00 p.m.**
Choir Practice



In This Issue:

- ⇒ Quincentennial Year of the Reformation 2016 - 2017
- ⇒ A Spirit of Generosity
- ⇒ Events and Happenings.
- ⇒ Blessing of the Animals

Quincentennial Year of the Reformation 2016 - 2017

"The true treasure of the Church is the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God." --- Martin Luther, Thesis 62

Wittenberg, Germany, October 31, 1517. On the door of the castle church at Wittenberg University, a young Biblical Scholar named Martin Luther posted 95 theses for debate by the university scholars and theologians. The topic was indulgences—the means by which souls could shorten their time in purgatory, according to medieval church theology. The time and place of Luther's action was not accidental. All Saints' Seminary in Wittenberg held one of the largest collections of religious relics in Europe. Each year on November 1, All Saints' Day, these relics could be viewed by any penitent who made a pilgrimage to Wittenberg. The penitent could thereby receive an "indulgence" of up to 500,000 years off their time in purgatory.

At the same time, plenary ("all time off") indulgences were being sold for cash. The young Albert of Brandenburg had paid the Vatican treasury 25,000 ducats to secure the papal appointment as Archbishop of Mainz. In order to repay the bankers who had loaned the money, Albert was permitted the sale of indulgences throughout Germany. For Martin Luther, these practices were a corruption of the Church and a clear and unjustifiable distortion of the Gospel.

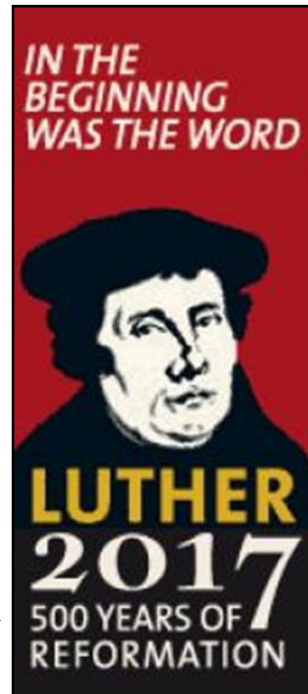
Aided by the latest communication technology—the print-

ing press—a movement now called the Protestant Reformation was unleashed. Luther and his ideas for the reform and renewal of the Church gained a wide hearing and engendered spirited debate. Within the next four years, Luther "found his voice" on the many issues central to reforming Christian faith and practice

The Reformation was a powerful force, but did not bring unity to the Church. Luther himself was excommunicated in 1520 and declared an enemy of the Holy Roman Empire in 1521. Only the protection of the Duke of Saxony kept him alive. Though the Counter-Reformation brought many needed changes in the Roman Catholic Church, common ground and good will had been lost among Western Christians. Protestants of many varieties and Catholics came to harbor suspicions, resentments, and even hatred of one another. Bloody sectarian wars erupted from time to time, most notably the Thirty Years War that ravaged Central Europe in the 17th century. Nonetheless, the chief legacy of the Protestant Reformation has endured—the clear and firm grounding of Christian theolo-

gy in Scripture and its central witness to the grace of God in Jesus Christ.

What does the future hold? Since the Second Vatican Council of the Catholic



Church fifty years ago, a new era of ecumenical engagement has dawned. This has been an amazing time for healing the breach between Lutherans and Roman Catholics. Patiently, and often behind the scenes, theologians and church leaders have sought to find common ground for our life of faith and our witness in the world. Local parishes and clergy have

reached out to one another. In 1999, Lutherans and Catholics formally agreed to a common understanding of "justification by faith"—the chief theological issue for Luther at the time of the Reformation. In 2015, a lengthy document "Declaration on the Way: Church, Ministry and Eucharist" was published. It outlines the many theological and pastoral problems that have been resolved, past misunderstandings that have been laid aside, and proposals for hopeful paths to approach the dwindling number of issues that still divide us.

...Continues on page 2

...From page 1

Quincentennial Year of the Reformation 2016 - 2017

This quincentennial year begins with an historic commemoration. On Monday, October 31, 2016, leaders of the Lutheran World Federation and its member

churches, including the ELCA, will convene in Lund, Sweden, along with Pope Francis and leaders of the Roman Catholic Church, for a time of prayer and remembrance. (Go to the ELCA website for a link to the live webcast of these events,

beginning at 7:30 a.m.) We pray that during this year of the Reformation all Christians may be bound more closely as members of the Body of Christ.

- Rev. Tom Peterson

FROM PASTOR'S DESK...



During this month of November, we look in anticipation not just to the Christmas Holidays but the New Year to come, and hopefully we will plan for this future upon us. We count our blessings received and we carefully estimate our God-given capacity to

give. Do you worry? Listen to the words of the Apostle St. Paul:

“What I'm trying to do here is get you to relax, not be so preoccupied with getting, so you can respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep yourself in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met. Don't be afraid of missing out. You're my dearest friends! The Father wants to give you the very kingdom itself. Be generous. Give to the poor. Get yourselves a bank that can't go bank-

rupt, a bank in heaven far from bank robbers, safe from embezzlers, a bank you can bank on. It's obvious, isn't it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being.” St. Luke 12:29-34 (Message translation)

Our church is growing, in attendance, in giving, in new ministries, and in faith. Why not increase your generous contribution? We need it, because together we can do so much more.

Peace,
Pr. Pedro



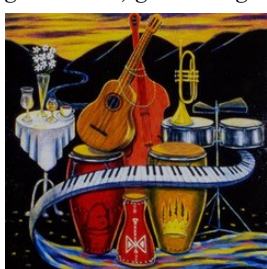
Events and Happenings...

**Saturday, November 5
- Wine & Cheese Event**

Mark your calendar! On November 5TH at 4:30 p.m. we will have our annual event



“Wine and Cheese”. Enjoy live Latin Jazz music while sharing a great time with our church friends. Come enjoy good wine, great finger food, raffles



and companionship! A suggested donation as a fund raiser for our congregation of \$12.00 would be collected at the door.

**Tuesday, November 8
- Voting Day**



Our Fellowship Hall is dedicated on November 8 as a Voting Place. We would like to be good neighbors. Therefore if you have some time that day and are willing to volunteer, we will be needed people to greet and host with coffee and munchies for the people serving and those voting. Please contact the church office to volunteer!

**Saturday, November 12
- Breakfast Bunch**



We will meet on November 12 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, breakfast will be catered.

Kristi Clark from Thrivent will be our guest speaker. Spread the word!



**Saturday, November 19
- Classical Piano Concert**

Pianist Felix Springer will be performing a Classical Piano Concert on the 19th of November at 3 pm at the sanctuary of St. Stephen Lutheran Church. These concerts are a way to promote culture, music and to raise funds for our growing congregation. Tickets will be available at the door for a donation of \$20, advanced \$ 15.



**Wednesday, November 23
- Thanksgiving Eve
Soup Supper and Worship**

As last year, we will have a Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m. and a small worship of Thanksgiving at the Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome!



Fun and Meaningful Blessing of the Animals!



On October 8, the day after Hurricane Matthew was supposed to hit us, many people came with their pets to have them blessed. It was a time to celebrate nature and give thanks to God for those anima companions.

Around 70 animals were blessed. Certificates and an animal tag were given for each animal. We also enjoyed hotdogs, popcorn, snow cones, a petting zoo, a

bake sale, and much more. It was a beautiful day to get to know some neighbors and to make us known in the community. Thanks to all who participated as volunteers!



Our Sincere Condolences



Donna June Marinello



We pray that the Lord may give comfort and peace to the families of Donna Marinello who went to be with the Lord on October 12. Donna was a smiley, friendly, optimistic Christian and a lifelong Lutheran from Minnesota. She began worshipping at St. Stephen since Palm Sunday this year.

Marty Schramm



On the morning of his birthday, October 14, Marty Schramm was called to be with his beloved Savior. Marty left behind his wife, Dawn, who became an official member of St. Stephen at the last membership group, and also his son Scott. Our prayers go to them, that they may feel the presence of Christ and his loving embrace at this time of mourning.

Looking Ahead...

**Saturday, December 10
- Breakfast Bunch, Ornaments
Exchange and Christmas Deco-
ration**



What a way to start the spirit of the holidays that with friends from church. Come at 9:00 am for a great breakfast, like always, bring a Christmas ornament to exchange wrapped as a surprise Christmas gift and have fun! Afterwards, we invite you to stay and help as we decorate our church for the holidays of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany!

**Thursdays, December 1,8,15,22
- Midweek Advent Services**

Every year we wonder how was it for those witnessing the times right before Jesus' birth, and then welcoming that Holy Baby, God made flesh. We invite you to come at 6:30 p.m. during the 4 Thursdays in Advent to journey together from Nazareth to Bethlehem!



**Saturday, December 24
- Christmas Eve Worship**

5:30 p.m. The children will have a chance to portray those involved in the Christmas story. Come worship the Christ child with good music, inspiring message and candlelight.

7:00 p.m. We hope to all be inspired, challenged and filled with the Spirit of God as we sing the Christmas tunes of all times and those new ones. Bring friends and family to celebrate Christ birth. A candlelight at the end helps us to remember that Silent and Holy Night!





2500 NE 14th Street Causeway
 Pompano Beach, FL 33062
 Ph. (954) 942-4473

Pastor: Rev. Pedro M. Suarez

*“Encouraging and Strengthening
 Faith in Jesus and Sharing the Joy of
 God’s Love”*






Email us at:
 sslcpompano@gmail.com
 And like us on.....



Volunteer Assistants in November 2016

10:15 AM	November 6	November 13	November 20	November 27
ASSISTING MINISTER	Pat Belanger	Natalie Prego	Sera Butz	Carol Jacobson
ACOLYTE	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz	Katie Paff	Madison Kibler
LECTOR	Rosie Fennelli	Tom Peterson	Aura Suarez	Pat Belanger
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Suzanne Loggins Sherry Fox Catherine Zippay Jimmy Fennelli	Lynda Smith Zachary Smith Carissa Esposito Lisa Castaneda	Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle Pat Belanger Linda Hanzlik	Darin Kibler Marsha Kibler Drew Kibler Floyd MacDonald
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Barbara Kaptain	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones
SOUND	Dennis Magarrell	Eric Castañeda	Dennis Magarrell	Sera Butz
PROJECTION	Sera Butz	Larry Jones	Web Antill	Katie Paff

November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9am Brain Power 7pm Council Meeting	2 9am Quilters 3pm Preschool Chapel	3 7:00 pm Choir Practice	4	5 4:30 Wine & Cheese 
6 Worship ALL SAINTS 9:00am & 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15am <i>Latino Worship 12:00pm</i>	7	8 Election Day	9 9am Quilters 3pm Preschool Chapel	10 7:00 pm Choir Practice	11 9am Brain Power	12 9:00 am Breakfast Bunch 
13 Worship 9:00am & 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15am	14	15 9am Brain Power	16 9am Quilters 3pm Preschool Chapel	17 7:00 pm Choir Practice	18 9am Brain Power	19 3 pm Felix Springer Classical Piano Concert 
20 Worship 9:00am & 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15am	21	22 9am Brain Power	23 9am Quilters 3pm Preschool Chapel 5pm Soup Supper	24 7:00 pm Choir Practice	25 9am Brain Power	26
27 Worship 9:00am & 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15am	28	29 9am Brain Power	30 9am Quilters 3pm Preschool Chapel			