

February, 21, 2017



### **Pastor Eric's E Note**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Sunday I preached on Jesus' command to, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." After worship I was asked, "How am I supposed to respond to an abuser?"

Please hear me, all you who are victims of another's hatred, evil, an object of another's violation: Jesus is not ordering you to be a doormat, an excuse for another's sinful abuse. Jesus doesn't tell you how to be a more passive, docile victim; he tells you how to be a victor. Don't take abuse lying down. Don't submit to the enemy who would do you harm. Take charge and seek help! Turn this thing around! Defiantly stand up for yourself! Pray. Forgive. Refuse to lower yourself to return evil for evil. Pray that God will work in your enemy's life as powerfully and redemptively as God will work and has worked in yours.

Pastor Eric

I have not seen some of you since Christmas—see you this Sunday!

### **Lent 2017**

The year 2017 marks the international observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. In honor of that anniversary, our midweek Lenten series will focus on Luther's Small Catechism. Martin Luther designed the Small Catechism as a teaching tool of the faith, not just within the church but in the home. Luther intended for the home to be the place where faith was first shared and taught. To that end he created the Small Catechism: a simple explanation of the Ten Commandments, the Apostle's Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism and Communion. He included basic prayers for morning and evening, and suggested ways to worship, praise, and revere God during each part of our day.

Lent Schedule (All Services at 7 p.m. following our Lenten Suppers at 6 p.m.)

### **With Awe and Love**

March 1 - Ash Wednesday- "Why Repentance?"

March 8 – Ten Commandments

March 15 – Apostle's Creed

March 22 – Lord's Prayer

March 29 – Baptism

April 5 – Holy Communion

Beginning March 8<sup>th</sup> every Lenten service will involve lighting a candle of commitment and placing it in a Lenten Cross.



### **Martin Luther: 500 Years of Reformation -**

The Lay School of Theology at Luther Seminary is a program of informal, non-credit classes taught by seminary professors, staff and guest lecturers for people who want to learn more about matters that relate to their Christian faith and life. Four courses are offered during the program year conveniently at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie.

*Leader: Hans Wiersma, Associate Professor at Augsburg College*

*Seminary Title: Martin Luther: 500 Years of Reformation*

*Location: St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie*

*Dates: Mondays, March 6, 13, and 20 (3 sessions)*

*Course Time: 6:30-8pm*

*Cost: \$35.00*

Martin Luther gets credit for starting the Reformation of the Church five centuries ago. Luther was a controversial figure in his day; he remains a controversial figure today. This 3-part session will take a close look at Luther, the man and his career. Dr. Wiersma will consider the good, the bad, and the ugly and will also spend a little time each session taking stock of his legacy — 500 years of reform! Audio recordings of class sessions: Audio recordings of each session are available for registered participants.

Registration online at: <https://standrewlu.org/small-groups/luther-seminary/> by February 28.

Let Darcy know if you have registered and we can set up carpooling.

### **The Learning Ministry Team is hosting a Sparkhouse Book Fair!**

The resources from Sparkhouse are designed to help parents instill an open-hearted, transformational, lifelong Christian faith in their children at every age and stage. Looking for that perfect Easter gift for your kids or grandkids? Stop by our Book Fair table on March 12 and 19 and shop award-winning Bibles, books, and videos for kids. Save up to 50% PLUS free shipping on all titles. AND our church will earn 20% of the proceeds to go towards curriculum or other resources!

### **Vacation Bible School (VBS) registration is now open!**

VBS is June 12-15, 2017. 9:00-11:30 a.m. VBS is for students Age 3-Grade 6 (entering fall 2017). We are gearing up for a great week of fun with our theme, "Mighty Fortress!" We'll have music, Bible stories, crafts, games, and snacks. EVERYONE is invited to VBS at All Saints so tell your friends, neighbors, cousins, EVERYONE! Be sure to tell them that transportation is available! Cost is \$18 per child with a \$36 family max. Scholarships are available. REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 1, 2017.

Register online at <http://www.allsaintsnya.org/ministries/vbs.html> or you can pick up a registration form at the Welcome Center, fill it out, and turn it into the church office.



### **Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering**

An exciting opportunity for women is knocking on our door right here in Minneapolis. The Women of the ELCA Tenth Triennial Gathering will take place at the Minneapolis Convention Center July 13-16, 2017. Over the years this gathering has taken place all over the nation so it's exciting to have it be a local event this year. See the bulletin board in the hallway for more information. You can attend all of the days of the gathering or attend just one day, either Friday or Saturday. If you are interested in attending, let Christin Fugate know. You can also visit this website for more info: [www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org) and click on Triennial Gathering.