

WOMEN OF FAITH

The next Women of Faith meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 24 at 10:00 a.m. at the Redeemer Lutheran Church.** All women of the church are invited to join with other women from the many surrounding churches to help elevate our community. Some say we are "sisters celebrating the art of friendship." Come enjoy the satisfaction of interfaith friendships. Please plan on being with us on October 24. Questions? Call Paula Lickfeldt 633-6739.

SOUTH SHORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT SEASON BEGINS

Sunday ~ October 29 ~ 2:00 p.m. ~ SouthShore UCC Sanctuary

The theme of their first concert is "Tricks and Treats" and will feature selections from the following: Edvard Grieg's *Peer Gynt Suite No.1*; Modest Moussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*; Felix Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture*; Leroy Anderson's *The Typewriter*; Ralph Ford's *Blunderbuss Battles*; Hector Berlioz' *Symphonie Fantastique*; and John Williams' *The Empire Strikes Back*. The South Shore Symphony Orchestra has a reputation for energetic and engaging concerts since its founding in May 2010. Under the baton of Artistic Director, Dr. June C. Hammond, the Orchestra continues to provide high-quality and diverse classical and pops repertoire to the entire Tampa Bay community. Season tickets are \$50 for all five concerts (a savings of \$25); groups of 15 are \$10/ticket; or \$15/person at the door. Purchase tickets in the church office. Your support of them helps your support of SouthShore church.

Visit: www.southshoresymphonyorchestra.org.

NEARLY NEW FASHION SHOW ~ November 9 ~ 1:00 p.m. ~ Hospitality Hall

Tickets \$10/person. Hors d'Oeuvres included.

Come see our people model the beautiful outfits they find at the Nearly New Shop. Each model will receive \$10 to spend on their fashion show attire. (Clothing will also be available for sale.) Questions? Call Paula Lickfeldt 633-6739. Tickets are on sale in Hospitality Hall following morning worship, and in the church office during the week from 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon.

COMMUNITY CHURCH COLLEGE TRIPS UPDATE

Southern Belles Tea Room Rescheduled for November 10, 2017

The owners of the Tea Room were forced to reschedule because of hurricane damage. Due to this inconvenience, they added some additional features: a mini seminar on "How to Brew a Perfect Pot of Loose Leaf Tea" and "The History of Afternoon Tea." There will also be a drawing of a gift for a lucky guest. You still have time to sign up.

Singing Christmas Tree Trip Still Available

Because of its popularity, a second bus has been acquired. Other trips are also still available. Pick up a catalog at the church or purchase at <http://www.4lifelearning.org/college-trips--fall-2017-.html>. Questions? Please contact the College Office at (813) 634-8607.

DISASTER RELIEF DONATIONS

The SouthShore Church Fun Brigade will be making a contribution to Puerto Rico and to Florida's Disaster Assistance Program. If you would like to make an additional monetary offering to be included, please write: **F. B.* Relief** on your check and on the outside of your contribution envelope. The monies are being sent through the United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries. * **Fun Brigade**

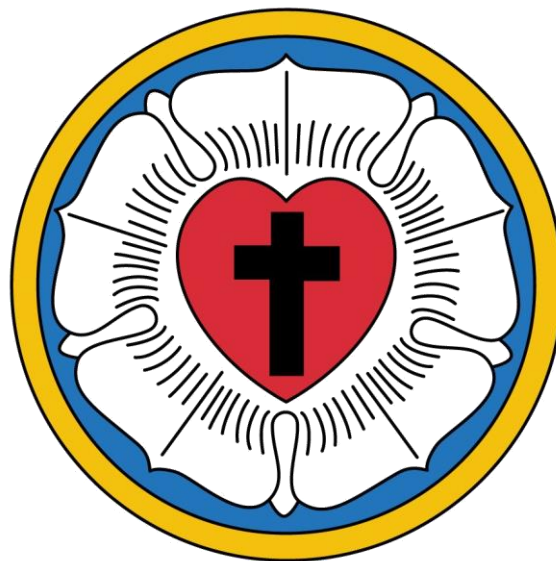
GREETINGS FROM TOM LIPPERT

It's been much too long since I last gave you an update on my cancer. I am sorry about that, but I just have not felt much like doing much of anything. As I write this, I am at Moffitt getting an infusion. I had a CT scan earlier this morning, and the doctor has pronounced me to be "stable," which is good news. Generally I am doing well, and last week was particularly good. I think the new thyroid medicine I'm on has really helped my energy level (and the doctor just upped the dosage, so I'm looking forward to feeling even better). Before I would get up in the morning, eat breakfast and read the paper, and then go back to bed. Now I get up and stay up. Most of the time I stay at home, but if I do go out, it wears me out pretty quickly. I started physical therapy last week, and that seems to be helping. Please know how much I miss you all, and I am particularly grateful for all your notes, cards, and prayers. I remain optimistic, and I intend to beat this stupid disease. I would love to come worship with you sometime, but it will probably be a while before I'm strong enough to do that. You all remain in my prayers. May God richly bless each of you! ~ Fondly, Tom

CELEBRATING 500 YEARS OF REFORMATION HERITAGE ~ OCTOBER 29, 2017

The most enduring symbol of the Lutheran Reformation is the seal that Luther himself designed to represent his theology. By the early 1520s, this seal begins to appear on the title page of Luther's works. Here is how Luther himself explained its meaning:

First, there is a black cross in a heart that remains its natural color. This is to remind me that it is faith in the Crucified One that saves us. Anyone who believes from the heart will be justified (Romans 10:10). It is a black cross, which mortifies and causes pain, but it leaves the heart its natural color. It doesn't destroy nature, that is to say, it does not kill us but keeps us alive, for the just shall live by faith in the Crucified One (Romans 1:17). The heart should stand in the middle of a white rose. This is to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace—it puts the believer into a white, joyous rose. Faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). This is why the rose must be white, not red. White is the color of the spirits and angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12). This rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing



that a joyful spirit and faith is a beginning of heavenly, future joy, which begins now, but is grasped in hope, not yet fully revealed. Around the field of blue is a golden ring to symbolize that blessedness in heaven lasts forever and has no end. Heavenly blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and better than any possessions, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.

The year 2017 marks 500 years since a stubborn monk and towering thinker, Martin Luther, published his Ninety-five Theses, against the Catholic Church and launched the Protestant Reformation, a momentous religious revolution whose consequences we still live with today. These Theses were nailed on the door of the All Saints' Church in Wittenberg, Electorate of Saxony within the Holy Roman Empire. The Reformation divided the Western church and transformed millions of people's understanding of their relationship with God. The hymn written by Martin Luther, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," originally a paraphrase of Psalm 46, became associated with the Reformation. *Reformation today can represent healing of old wounds as, together, we all work to build and strengthen Christ's church and love one another as Christ has loved us.* (McIntyre, Dean. "Reformation Day: What, Why, and Resources for Worship". *Discipleship Ministries*. February 22, 2017.)