Connecting the Reformation with Children, Families and the Home

Rev. Janelle Rozek Hooper

Debbie Streicher
What are you currently doing in your congregation to engage children and families in faith talk?

What have you heard or seen shared today that is new to you? What excites you and what will you take back to your congregation?

How can we stay in touch and connect and network with one another?

Keep these in mind. We will revisit them in a short while...
What important aspects of the Reformation and our ever-reforming church would our children and households benefit from learning?

How can we actively involve children, youth, and families in hands-on faith formation opportunities during worship, at home, and in the community?
People are empowered to do God’s work as part of the “priesthood of all believers.”

“fathers and mothers are apostles, bishops, and priests...”
Thank you Augsburg Fortress!

https://www.augsburgfortress.org/
COURSE SUMMARY
Join thousands of learners around the world and discover what church reformer Martin Luther might do 500 years after his historic thoughts and writings shook the Christian church.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Five centuries ago monk and academic Martin Luther stood up to say the Church can do better.
Today that's still the case.
In this free course, Elizabeth Eaton, the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America applies Luther's thoughts and writings to contemporary issues. Her video presentations are entitled:

- Origins
- Poverty and Ecumenism
- Climate Change
- Legacy

This course is ideal for those seeking to better understanding of how Lutheranism might address current affairs. Register beginning January 2. The course opens January 16 and is free through January 30 thanks to the generosity of 1517 Media (Augsburg Fortress) and United Lutheran Seminary.

Starts January 16th
Registration closes January 31st
It’s free!

https://www.churchnext.tv/library/what-would-luther-do-today/44943/about/
Reformation of Worship

- Milestones
- Godly Play
- Set aside a season
- Art
- Hymnody
- Lord’s Prayer Signing
- Involvement during worship
“At the heart of Lutheranism is grace and wonder.”

http://www.godlyplay.org/
...in the home, the community, and the congregation...

At the heart of Milestones Ministry are the Four Keys faith practices: Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals and Traditions.

www.milestonesministry.org
How do we identify and connect faith to milestones in our lives?

- Name it
- Equip it
- Bless it
- Gift it
- Reinforce it

- First Cell Phone
- Getting a Driver’s License
- Back to School
- Easter Egg Blessing
- Broken Bone
Reformation of Worship
Frolic
Support your children as they take their first steps of faith.
Birth 0–3

Spark: Activate Faith
A comprehensive Sunday school program for kids.
Age 2–Grade 6

Whirl
Bible-based and relatable for kids.
PreK–Grade 6

Holy Moly
An innovative, interactive curriculum for children.
Grades K–4

Connect
Bible-centered Sunday school tailored to tweens.
Grades 5–6

Sparkhouse Online
Sunday school preparation has never been easier.
Age 2–Grade 6

https://www.wearesparkhouse.org/

- children’s message
- prayers during Prayers of Intercession
Send
Who do we pray for?
Listen to the prayers in worship today. Draw someone you hear about in the prayers or someone you know.

Be with us, Lord, no matter where we are. Amen.

Gather
Welcome to worship. When can\'t
How often can we pray? There\'s no end to our prayers to God.

Some people use large circle
paths or labyrinths like this one to walk and pray. As they walk in the circle they remember God\'s never-ending love.

Use your finger to trace this circle; finally reach the end you can begin praying as you go on your way!

What\'s Your Favorite Line?
During worship we sing many, many songs. Have you ever paid close atten-
tion to the words? Follow along in the hymnal or bulletin, look on the screen, or listen closely to find one that you like in these different songs today. Write the words here.

SONG #1

SONG #2

SONG #3

SONG #4

SONG #5

SONG #6

SONG #7

SONG #8

SONG #9

SONG #10

Design Your Own Log Cabin
Trees can make homes for animals. These can also provide wood as people can build homes. Using the lumber that this tree gives, design your very own big home below.

- Today is the Third Sunday after Pentecost.
- Today we learn about the amazing miracles of Jesus.
- Today we are reminded to look for God\'s miracles in our own lives.
• learning to sign the Lord’s Prayer

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHZiPWxpEvM
• Discuss religious symbolism, art, banners, etc.
• Intergenerational table event
Luther wrote many songs.
He viewed hymnody as a way to get theology into the hands / voices of the people.
http://www.justinroberts.org/home.php

• How can young people be involved in worship?
• Include children being actively involved during worship
Could a young person in your congregation chant the leader refrain of the psalm?
• Puppets
• Invite the children to do the children’s message
• For the children, by the children
• Invite all ages to do ministry together
Sing and sign scripture

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VjZrwk6bz3Q
• Prayground? Rocking chairs? Children’s Leadership?
• Contact Rev. Janelle Hooper for consulting and advice.
Reformation of Intergenerational Learning

- Milestones
- Rally Day/Pentecost
- Story Bibles
- Luther movie
- Indulgences Activity
- Take a stand
- Faith Practices for the Home
...in the home, the community, and the congregation...

At the heart of Milestones Ministry are the Four Keys faith practices: Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals and Traditions.

www.milestonesministry.org
Five Principles for living and passing on faith:

- Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships – often in our own homes.
- The church is a living partnership between the ministry of the congregation and ministry of the home.
- Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church too.
- Faith is caught more than it is taught.
- If we want Christian children and youth, we need Christian adults.
Four Keys for practicing faith:

• Caring Conversations
• Devotions
• Service
• Rituals and Traditions
In celebration of the 500th Anniversary, there is a Milestone Moment designed for you to use at home or as a faith community.

Click here to download.

➤ Name it
➤ Equip it
➤ Bless it
➤ Gift it
➤ Reinforce it
Stir Us to Deeper Discipleship

Luther’s info drive-thru

An intergenerational program for nurturing Lutheran identity

Luther’s Info Drive-thru is an interactive program for children, youth and adults. It is designed to stir us to deeper discipleship as we come to a clearer understanding of the fundamental teachings of the Christian faith through a Lutheran lens. It urges us to appreciate the depth of its biblical insight and celebrate the many gracious gifts of faith it gives.

Luther’s Info Drive-thru provides a variety of large and small group experiences that will help us strengthen our understanding of what it means to be a disciple.

The content for this 60-90 minute program is based on:

- Stir Us to Deeper Discipleship
- Suggestions for craft and activity centers that will strengthen our Lutheran identity within the context of Christian community.
- "Stir Us to Deeper Discipleship at Home" reproducible sheets.

The 25-30 minute, large group celebration is referred to as Luther’s Drive-In Theater. It includes Scripture, a brand new "I’m a Lutheran" song, a “Prayer for Lutherans Everywhere,” and a skit titled "The Big Race," featuring the Lil’ Buddies from the Back Pews. A reproducible "Songs and Prayers" sheet is available on-line, along with a scripted version of the entire celebration at www.elca.org/stem/2000/31/ProgramPlanner.

Rally Day

Martin Luther, EveryDay Disciple!

Frightened Child
Martin Luther, for whom the Lutheran church is named, did important things in the history of the church. We know this because five hundred years later we still read his words and talk about him. His childhood, however, was very much like that of other boys in his time, who are long forgotten to us.

When Martin was a child in Germany in the late 15th century, his parents raised him in the Christian faith, as was the practice. They attended church regularly and had devotions at home.

Martin was also raised with the superstitions of the time. When he gathered firewood with his mother, she told him tales of witches and demons and other evil things that lived in the dark forest. Even the stories of God filled him with fear, because he was taught about the horror of God that awaited those who disobeyed God.

But now God’s way of putting people right through their faith is new. There is no difference at all between God and the free gift of God’s grace to all who believe.

Enlightened Monk
Even as a monk, Martin continued to study, but now he began to study the Bible more. By the time he was 28, he was a professor at the new University of Wittenberg, lecturing about the Bible to other students much older than he. When Martin lectured on Paul’s letter to the Romans, he was caught up with the idea that “the just shall live by faith” (Romans 1:17). Martin began to realize that Christians did not have to try to live perfect lives, because God had sent Jesus for people’s sins, and made them “right” with God.

The church was not teaching this gospel message. Instead, the church was selling indulgences, pieces of paper that served like a ticket to heaven. Martin, through reading the Bible, now realized that indulgences were not necessary, and didn’t want the people to buy them when they needed their forgiveness.
• Books and Story Bibles
Frolic First Bible

Age 0–3

Introduces little ones to God's love and care with this delightful picture Bible that tells twenty of the Bible's most beloved stories from creation to the resurrection.

Shop Now

Whirl Bibles

PreK–Grade 6

Engage young kids with Whirl Story Bible and help older kids (Grade 3 and up) dig into scripture with Whirl Bible NRSV.

Shop Now

Spark Bibles

Age 2–Grade 6

Help kids encounter the Bible with the colorful Spark Story Bible and the kid-friendly Spark Bible NRSV.

Shop Now

https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/category/286447/Bibles
Holy Moly Bible Storybooks

K–Grade 2
Reinforce the Bible for younger kids through engaging rhymes and illustrations in the Holy Moly Bible Storybooks.

Shop Now

Connect Bibles

Grades 3–6
Help kids connect the Bible to their own lives with the activities and tools in the Connect Bible NRSV.

Shop Now

Pew & Gift Bibles

Youth–Adult
See additional choices for the pew and the classroom that are often given as meaningful gifts and first Bible presentations.

Shop Now

https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/category/286447/Bibles
• Sell Indulgences
• Connect with LWR
• Faith practices
• Monthly fellowship time for all ages
Reformation of Faith Storytelling

- Milestones
- Past and current
- The Little Lutheran and Living Lutheran
- Ask the youth!
- Non-fiction children’s books
- Skits and Puppets
- Biblical Storytelling
• Faith practices
• Monthly fellowship time for all ages
Reformation of Faith Storytelling

- Biblical storytelling
- Skits, signing, puppets, acting out
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What have you heard or seen shared today that is new to you? What excites you and what will you take back to your congregation?
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Additional Resources:

*Ever-Reforming:*
*A Reformation 500 Cross-Generational Study*
[www.nclutheran.org](http://www.nclutheran.org)

*Teaching Children about Martin Luther and the Reformation*
Montana Synod edited by the Rev. Amanda Applehans
[http://tinyurl.com/javwfg8](http://tinyurl.com/javwfg8)
Rick Steves is active in a Lutheran congregation in WA.

Link to Opening the Door on YouTube
Christian formation inspiration from the Center for the Ministry of Teaching at Virginia Theological Seminary

5 Marks of LOVE
Living Life Marked as Christ’s Own
A discipleship offering inspired by the Anglican Marks of Mission
www.5marksoflove.org

http://www.buildfaith.org/
Connect, discover and share information about the 500th anniversary observance of the Lutheran Reformation.

http://www.elca500.org/?_ga=1.166645303.886026874.1476281086
Christian Education Network
of the ELCA
“... that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love ...”
Colossians 2:2

Gifts In Honor of or for a Christian Educator In Your Life!
Looking for gift ideas for a Christian Educator? What better way than to gift a membership or give a donation towards the work of the CENetwork of the ELCA?

Click on the paypal donation button (bottom left hand corner of this page) or mail a check to the office to make the payment and then either

Click here to download a card to give to a person for whom you honor through a donation to the CENetwork of the ELCA. Have your giftee contact the coordinator to claim their membership!

Reformation 500 is coming!
Are you gathering your resources and making plans to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation? The Christian Education Network of the ELCA is here to help! We have added a new tab with resources. We will be adding to that page as we find more valuable resources! One of the CENetwork Board members has shared her "Flat Marty". Another board member shared some curriculum ideas and a power point with us. Here is a sneak peak of the power point! More of the curriculum files can be found on the Reformation 500 page. log in and check it out!
We are your "go-to" resource for living a life of faith.

Imagine people of ALL ages living their faith, claiming their Christian identity, and sharing God's love in the world in creative and unique ways.

We are parents and pastors and we've been there... so busy we don't have time to look up the latest and greatest resources. That's why we created Ministry Links Online.

We curate theologically sound and age appropriate ministry tools so you can spend your time in relational life changing ministry.
Contact info:

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