

October Newsletter 2011



Rev. Dr. C.F.W. Walther Bicentennial (1811 - 2011)

Ebenezer Lutheran Church – Port Hudson

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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From the Pastor's Desk:

Carl Ferdinand Wilhelm Walther

C.F.W. Walther was born 25 October 1811 in Langenchursdorf, Kingdom of Saxony, as the eighth child (of twelve) to Pastor Gottlob Heinrich Walther and his wife Johanna Wilhelmina Zschenderlein. Only six of their twelve children lived to adulthood.

Ferdinand, as he was called by his family, was first educated by his father. At the age of eight he attended school in Hohenstein for two years. He then entered Latein Schule (Latin school, a formal education on a college track from which a student graduates at a level comparable with today's junior college) in Schneeberg, from which he graduated in September 1829. One month later he enrolled in the University of Leipzig to begin his study of theology and joined his older brother Otto Hermann, who was enrolled in the same university. During his college years in Leipzig he suffered of a near-fatal lung disease and had to interrupt his studies for six months. During this time he read Luther's works intensely and became convinced of the firm scriptural foundation of Lutheran doctrine and the importance of a firm confessional position. In 1833 Ferdinand took his first exam at the university. This examination authorized him to accept a position as a private tutor for the Friedemann Loeber family in Kahla. The experience of two years' tutoring was necessary for him to take his second examination in Leipzig, which equipped him to accept his first call as a Lutheran pastor.

On 15 January 1837 he was ordained in Bräunsdorf in the church "Zum Guten Hirten," where he was the sole pastor and taught religion classes in the local school as part of his pastoral duties. During his university time as well as during his time in the ministry, Walther experienced difficulties with the rationalistic government of the Kingdom of Saxony. He felt he could not carry

out his duties as a Lutheran pastor in accordance with the confessional writings of the Lutheran Church as he had vowed at his ordination. Ferdinand and his brother Otto Hermann became acquainted with Pastor Martin Stephan of Dresden and eventually followed Stephan's call to the liberation of orthodox Lutheranism in the United States of America.

In November 1838 Walther left his homeland on the ship Johann Georg (one of five ships in the Stephan group to sail for America). He arrived on 5 January 1839 in New Orleans. Approximately 800 Saxon immigrants in the group settled either in St. Louis or to the south along the Mississippi River in Perry County, Mo. Soon after the immigrants were settled in the new homeland, their leader and self proclaimed bishop, Martin Stephan, was accused of financial and sexual misconduct and was expelled from the settlement. The immigration party was deeply disturbed and unsure whether they were still a Lutheran congregation after leaving the authorities and church hierarchy in Germany behind. Walther, who was originally called to be the pastor of a dual parish in the Perry County settlements of Dresden and Johannisberg, struggled severely over the questions that the other pastors and laity were asking. In April 1841, soon after his brother Otto Herman in St. Louis had died and after a call had been extended to him by his late brother's congregation, a public disputation was held between Walther and an attorney Marbach, one of the lay leaders of the settlers, in what is known as the "Altenburg Debate." Walther convinced Marbach that they could validly consider themselves to be a church. He then accepted the call to Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Louis and served this congregation from May 1841 until his death in 1887. While still in Perry County, he was instrumental in establishing a log cabin college, which was opened in December 1839.

On 21 September 1841 Walther married the former Emilie Buenger. Six children were born to this union: Magdalene (b. 22 Nov 1842; d. 15 May 1936), Herman Christoph (b. 25 Oct 1844;

died at age four), twins Constantine und Ferdinand (b. 23 February 1847; Constantine d. 21 Dec 1905, Ferdinand d. 25 May 1933), Julie (b. 27 July 1849; death date unknown) and Christian Friedrich (b. 29 June 1851; d. 29 Oct 1852). Walther's son Ferdinand was pastor at Brunswick Missouri, until his death in 1922. Both daughters became pastor's wives. Magdalene married Stephanus Keyl, who ministered in New York; Julie married J.H. Niemann and followed him to Cleveland. Constantine became a miller.

The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod was formed on 26 April 1847, and Walther served as its president from 1847 to 1850 and again from 1864 to 1878. The "log cabin" college was moved from Perry County to St. Louis in 1850 and developed into Concordia Seminary. Walther became its first president and held this position until his death in 1887. He also founded the St. Louis Lutheran Bible Society in 1853 and started two important publications: *Der Lutheraner* (in 1844) and *Lehre und Wehre* (in 1855). He was author of many books and periodical articles, among which the most noteworthy *Pastoral Theology, Church and Ministry* and his classic treatise on "The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel." While holding synodical and seminary positions as well as editing and publishing several periodicals, Walther was also the head pastor of the four Saxon Lutheran congregations (called *Gesammtgemeinde*) in St. Louis (Trinity, Holy Cross, Immanuel and Zion). In August 1855 Walther turned down an honorary doctorate from the University of Goettingen, but he accepted a doctor of theology degree from Capital University, Columbus, Ohio, in 1877.

At the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination in January 1887 he was already quite ill and never fully recovered. He died on 7 May 1887 and was buried ten days later at Concordia Cemetery, where a mausoleum was later erected in his honor.

Walther Movie

On Thursday, October 27 and Tuesday, November 1 (All Saints Day) Pastor will be showing the movie “Walther” in the church dining hall at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM. The 2 hour movie was produced on location by Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. Pastor will show part one on Thursday, October 27 and the second part on November 1. All members including children are invited to attend. Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, (as well as historians from Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne), have been instrumental in the development and production of a new film about C. F. W. Walther. Popcorn and refreshments will be served.

Quarterly Voter’s Meeting

The next Quarterly Voter’s Meeting will be held here on Monday, October 17th at 7:30 PM. Please try to attend this meeting and be a part of making the choices about the business of running the Church! The Church Officers will meet on Thursday, October 13th at 7:00 PM.

Nut Sunday

It will soon be time for the walnuts to ripen and fall. We are planning to pick up walnuts on Sunday, October 16th after a light lunch at Church. All are welcome to join us. If you have a good crop of walnuts and would like to donate them or have us pick them up, please contact Pastor or

Margaret.

Weather permitting, we will pick up walnuts for recycling in Beaufort. The funds received will go toward our recycle for missions money. These funds help our missionaries: John Strasen, Mike and Cindy Rodewald, and Robin McCoy.

Ebenezer Mission Society

Our annual “Cookie Sunday” is being held Sunday, October 2nd. Each Mission Society member is asked to please bring 6 doz. cookies. The cookies will sell for \$4.00 per dozen. All proceeds will go to Orphan Grain Train.

The Mission Society will be having a Country Store at the Pork Sausage Supper. Any craft, needlework, canned items, baked goods, fresh produce you are willing to donate will be appreciated. Please price your items since you know what went into them, and bring to the Church basement. All proceeds go to mission projects. Thank you!

Reformation Sunday

Reformation Sunday will be October 30th. The Washington Circuit will hold a Reformation Service at Camp Trinity at 3:00 PM. Rev. Brent Klawitter will be the Speaker.

Pork Sausage and Sauerkraut Dinner

Our annual Pork Sausage and Sauerkraut Dinner is fast approaching – October 23rd. Please help us make this a success by volunteering for one of the tasks listed on the signup sheet in the back of Church. We will be serving from 11:30 AM to 5:30 PM and have shifts that spread the workload into small chunks of your time so nobody is worked too hard. This is a fun project and helps us support the work of the Church! We will set up for the Sausage Dinner on Thursday, October 20th.

Guest Speaker

Mr. Nick Hopfensperger, Principal of Immanuel Lutheran School in Washington, will be our guest speaker at our worship services on Saturday, October 8th and Sunday, October 9th. He will be delivering his message on Christian Education and specifically Immanuel Lutheran School in Washington. Ebenezer Lutheran Church over the past years, has sent children to Immanuel and has supported its mission and ministry. Pastor and Margaret will be gone on Saturday evening and Sunday to celebrate Margaret's birthday.

Pastor will be attending the Missouri District Professional Church Workers Conference at Lake of the Ozarks on October 11, 12, and 13. There will be no Confirmation on October 12th due to this conference.

October Birthdays

Richard Bunge	10-1
Christina Anderson	10-2
David Nelson	10-5
Judy Hubenthal	10-6
Jerry Gilbert	10-7
Clayton Rohlfing	10-8
Jackson Allmeroth	10-8
Margaret Zastrow	10-9
Jacob Sprick	10-10
Kristen Hoemann	10-10
Ashley Compton	10-10
David Menke	10-13
Ruth Marks	10-14
Gretchen Brune	10-18
Barbara Gilbert	10-19
Lucille Brune	10-23
Lee Kassebaum	10-24
Roland Walkenhorst	10-24
Porter Allmeroth	10-24
Jeanna Voss	10-26
Todd Hellmann	10-26
Jennifer Roewe	10-27
Lindsey Meyer	10-27
Douglas Compton	10-29
Amelia Grace Angeles	10-30

**We wish all of you God's
Blessings on your Birthday
and Anniversary**

October Anniversaries

Rick and Ruby Bunge	10-1
David and Becky Summers	10-3
Bryan and Mary Adams	10-6
Randy and Diane Nicks	10-6
Craig and Kathleen Monzyk	10-7
Bill and Jennifer Roewe	10-11
David and Maureen Nelson	10-14
Keith and Tammy Wettling	10-15
Jacob and Shannon Sprick	10-23
Paul and Gretchen Brune	10-24
Rube and Dalphine Deppermann	10-27

Altar Guild for October

Jane Redhage and Dianne Luechtefeld

Usher Schedule for October

1: Jeff Bopp

2: Don Kappelmann

3: Warren Bauche

4: Andrew Kassebaum

5: Donald Hoemann

Alternate: Joe Kassebaum

Head Usher: Marvin Kassebaum

Acolyte and Bell Ringer Schedule for October

October 2

Cody Adams

Brian Nelson

Bell Ringer

Corey Adams

October 9

Brent Thurmond

Justine Huellinghoff

Matthew Kassebaum

October 16

Brian Nelson

Cody Adams

Jeff Hohlt

October 23

Justine Huellinghoff

Brent Thurmond

Codie Brunkhorst

October 30

Cody Adams

Brian Nelson

Corey Adams

Thanks to all who have visited Ebenezer's website, **ebenezerlutheranchurch.wordpress.com**, and to those who have contributed to it. Our Lord has blessed us with the means to reach anybody in the world who has access to the internet! Please share the information with friends and relatives who are not able to be with us every week. We offer live streaming video of most services, and:

- Recorded video posted as soon as possible after the service ends and kept online for several months (if there's a glitch in the live stream, check back later for the recording)
- Audio recordings of sermons (useful if your internet connection is too slow for video or if you don't have time to watch the entire service)
- A weekly column by Pastor Zastrow (published at 1 AM Mondays)
- Printed versions of all sermons
- All bulletins and newsletters (handy if you throw yours away and then wish you hadn't)
- Links to other sites and resources you might find helpful.

After a modest start, we now sometimes have 50 or more viewers per day. Please pass the word and let's break 100!

The Luther Rose

The Luther Rose, also known as the Luther Seal is easily the most recognized symbol for Lutheranism, and for good reason. Martin Luther personally oversaw the creation of this symbol. It provides a beautiful summary of his faith, a faith that is common to all Christians, of every place and every time. Here is how Luther explained the meaning of his seal:

“Grace and peace from the Lord. As you desire to know whether my painted seal, which you sent to me, has hit the mark, I shall answer most amiably and tell you my original thoughts and reason about why my seal is a symbol of my theology. The first should be a black cross in a heart, which retains its natural color, so that I myself would be reminded that faith in the Crucified saves us. ‘For one who believes from the heart will be justified’ (Rom. 10:10). Although it is indeed a black cross, which mortifies and which should also cause pain, it leaves the heart in its

natural color. It does not corrupt nature, that is, it does not kill but keeps alive. ‘The just shall live by faith’ (Rom. 1:17) but by faith in the crucified. Such a heart should stand in the middle of a white rose, to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace. In other words, it places the believer into a white, joyous rose, for this faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). That is why the rose should be white and not red, for white is the color of the spirits and the angels (Matt 28:3; John 20:12). Such a rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that such joy in spirit and faith is a beginning of the heavenly future joy, which begins already, but is grasped in hope, not yet revealed. And around this field is a golden ring, symbolizing that such blessedness in Heaven lasts forever and has no end. Such blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and goods, just as gold is the most valuable, most precious and best metal. This is my compendium theologiae (summary of Theology). I have wanted to show it to you in good friendship, hoping for your appreciation. May Christ, our beloved Lord, be with your spirit until the life hereafter. Amen.” **From Martin Luther.**

Exercise your Brain

- A. Johnny’s mother had four children. The first was April, the second was May, and the third was June. What was the name of her fourth child?

- B. Imagine you are in a sinking rowboat surrounded by sharks. How would you survive?
- C. A man left home running. He ran a ways and then turned left, ran the same distance and turned left again, ran the same distance and turned left again. When he got home there were two masked men. Who were they?

Answers: A. Johnny B. Stop imagining C. The Catcher and the Umpire

Monthly Treasurer's Summary

August 2011

Beginning checking balance	\$24,485.28
Receipts	\$11,026.23
Disbursements	\$13,986.69
Ending checking balance	\$21,524.82
LCEF savings balance	\$68,790.18
Thrivent FPDA balance	\$18,292.69
Pledged to Missouri District for year	\$4,800.00
Paid to Missouri District this year-to-date	\$3,200.00
Monthly receipts needed to meet budget	\$11,798.00
Surplus or (shortfall) in actual receipts	(\$ 771.77)

OCTOBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Worship 5:00 PM With Holy Communion
2 Mission Sunday – John Strasen Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 AM Ebenezer Lutheran Mission Society – Cookie Sale for Orphan Grain Train	3 Dartball at Boeuf 7:00 PM	4 Elders 7:00 PM	5 Confirmation 6:30 PM	6 Brune/Eckelkamp Wedding Rehearsal 6:00 PM Basic Christianity 7:00 PM	7 Ladies Aid 1:30 PM	8 Brune/Eckelkamp Wedding 1:00 PM Worship 5:00 PM with Mr. Nick Hopfensperger
9 17 th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Mr. Nick Hopfensperger	10 Columbus Day	11 PCWC at Lake of the Ozarks	12 No Confirmation PCWC at Lake of the Ozarks	13 PCWC at Lake of the Ozarks Officers Meeting 7:00 PM	14	15 Worship with Holy Communion 5:00 PM
16 18 th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM with Holy Communion Pick up walnuts	17 Voters' Meeting 7:30 PM	18	19 Confirmation 6:30 PM	20 Pork Sausage Set Up	21	22 Worship 5:00 PM
23 19 th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Pork Sausage Dinner 11:30 PM – 6:00 PM	24	25 Sunday School Teachers 7:00 PM	26 Confirmation 6:30 PM Evangelism Committee 7:00 PM	27 Walther Movie 10 AM and 7:00 PM – Church Dining Room.	28	29 Worship 5:00 PM
30 Reformation Sunday Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Washington Circuit Reformation Service at Camp Trinity 3:00 PM Rev. Brent Klawitter	31 Reformation Day	1 Walther Movie 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM – Church Dining Room.				