

# REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

700 South Broadway  
New Ulm, MN 56073

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## WORSHIP

Sunday 9:00 AM

Monday 6:30 PM

*Following 1st & 3rd  
Sundays of the Month  
With Communion*

## FELLOWSHIP TIME

10:00 AM

## SUNDAY SCHOOL (Sept.—May)

10:15 AM

## ADULT STUDY (Sept.—May)

10:30 AM

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Grant T. Bode, Pastor  
Tammy Gramstad, Youth/Music  
Jaime Kirtz, Secretary  
Lucy Dolly, Organist  
Jim Krapf, Custodian

## CHURCH PHONE

507-233-3470

## FAX

507-359-7789

## WEBSITE

[www.redeemernewulm.net](http://www.redeemernewulm.net)

## E-MAIL

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## KINDER HAUS

354-1220

## KINDER HAUS II

354-5102



THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MISSOURI SYNOD



## REDEEMER VIEWS      OCTOBER 2009

For we maintain that a man is justified by faith  
apart from observing the law.

Romans 3:28

This month marks for Lutherans the Reformation. The Reformation historically has its beginnings with Martin Luther and the nailing of the 95 Theses (Statements) on October 31, 1517 to the castle Church doors in Wittenberg, Germany where he was a pastor and professor. Today when one visits Wittenberg the original door of the church is long gone, but replaced now by a metal door with a replica of Luther's 95 Theses embrowned upon the door for all to see. One could say that what happened there at that church door changed the world... it really did! I cannot underscore that enough.

The 95 Theses were nailed to the door in opposition to the sale of indulgences. An indulgence was in short a means by which ordinary people could buy papal papers of forgiveness. The revenues were used by the Church and Roman Empire as a "hidden tax" for which crusades could be funded, land purchased, cathedrals built and maintained, as well as the act of "simony" ... the buying and selling of political positions. The Bible warns that the love of money is the root of all evil (1 Tim. 6:10). Luther's stand for truth and purity in the Church was remarkable in such times. The Reformation is remarkable that it was able to happen at all. Only by the grace of God could it have weathered the storm that would follow... wars upon wars over control and the desire to extinguish what was from the view of the Vatican a heresy filled with heretics worthy to be burned at the stake. Fortunately Luther was through divine providence protected by powerful German princes who too saw I am sure an opportunity to exert independence. Out of the Reformation would eventually come a newfound freedom that really changed the Western world right down to today.

Although we do not worship Luther, we recognize that God worked through him the reforming movement to renew the Church and reestablish in her the good news that we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. And that the life we live should be filled with good works not because that is what will save us, but because that is what pleases our Lord who saved us by his blood and sacrifice at Calvary. The fear of course today, now almost 500 years since Luther as one stands and sees the Church in culture and society, is that this freedom in the Gospel is sadly so often abused, ignored, cheapened, twisted to say what it doesn't. What the Church needs is another Luther... a voice of one in the wilderness crying out (Jn. 1:23). What the Church needs are people in the pews and pastors in the pulpit that take seriously their faith and want it to shape them and their children, grandchildren and so forth. People who believe and put into practice the FAITH... something that so many before us even died for, so that we could have.

Luther's motto: *You shall find strength in quietness and hope (Is. 30:15).*

