

Resources for Reformation

Reformation

Find a variety of Reformation ideas on the [Old Lutheran](#) website!

MOVIE TIME!



Joseph Fiennes stars as Martin Luther, the brilliant man of God whose defiant actions in 16th century Germany changed the world. This film traces Luther's extraordinary and exhilarating quest for the people's liberation. The synod resource center has

Just for Fun: Diet of Worms Pudding!

The Diet of Worms was an imperial diet (a general assembly) of the Holy Roman Empire held in Worms, Germany. Martin Luther refused to refute his writings (including The 95 Theses) and was declared a heretic.

But don't let that get in the way of a little play on words for this yummy treat!

INGREDIENTS

- 1 16 oz package sandwich cookies
- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup confectioners sugar
- 1/4 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 2 (4oz) packages vanilla instant pudding mix
- 3 1/2 cups cold milk
- 12 ounces whipped topping, thawed
- 1 package gummy worms

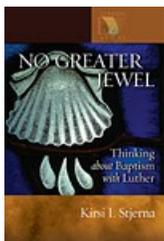


DIRECTIONS

1. Process cookies in food processor or blender until finely crushed.
2. Beat cream cheese, confectioner's sugar and butter in mixer bowl until smooth, scraping bowl occasionally.
3. Combine pudding mix and milk in bowl, stirring until blended. Fold into cream cheese mixture. Fold in whipped topping.
4. Layer cookie crumbs and pudding mixture alternately in new 8- or 10-inch flowerpot until all ingredients are used, ending with cookie crumbs.
5. Chill for 2 to 10 hours.
6. Decorate with gummy worms.

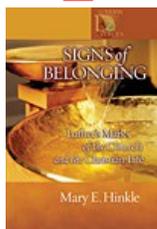
(Recipe posted on "Old Lutheran" website).

IN YOUR SYNOD RESOURCE CENTER...

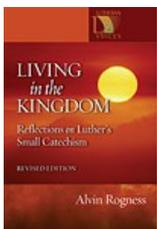


Lutheran Voices is a series of books by Lutheran authors that inform, teach, inspire, and renew. Grounded in Lutheran theology and practice, the books will cover a wide range of subjects and themes of interest to ELCA members and the wider Christian community. These resources would be excellent for personal use as well as for small group discussion. The following three resources are particularly appropriate Reformation.

"No Greater Jewel: Thinking about Baptism with Luther" explores Martin Luther's teaching of baptism in terms of the history of Christian practice, the theology of Christian teaching, and the implications for spirituality inherent in Luther's emphasis on life as living out of one's baptism. (by Kirsi Stjerna)

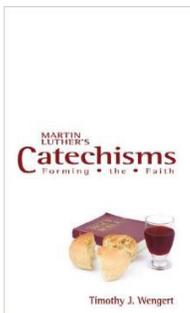


“Signs of Belonging: Luther's Marks of the Church and the Christian Life” focuses on Luther's seven marks (confession and absolution, the Word of God, ministry, worship, suffering, baptism and the Lord's Supper) to illustrate points of connectedness between the individual and the larger church community. Questions follow each chapter. (by Mary Hinkle)



“Living in the Kingdom: Reflections on Luther's Catechism” is a reflection on Luther's Catechism, presenting clear and concise responses to dozens of questions. This resource is equally valuable for adults and youth. (by Alvin N. Rogness)

WE ALSO RECOMMEND...



Martin Luther's catechisms responded in part to “the deplorable, wretched deprivation that I recently encountered while I was a visitor” to rural Saxon congregations. The Small Catechism was for the laity and the Large Catechism an elaboration for the education of the clergy, with Luther excoriating “their pure laziness and concern for their bellies.”

Author of “Martin Luther's Catechisms: Forming the Faith” reformation scholar Timothy Wengert has studied catechisms for the light they shed on the maturing Reformation faith and also for the fascinating lens they afford into the social world of Wittenberg in those years: children, clergy, education and publishing, marriage customs, devotion and prayer, and celebration of the Lord's Supper in this period, along with Luther's own hearty faith.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: THE LUTHER ROSE

The Luther Rose (or Luther Seal) was designed for Martin Luther.

This is Luther's interpretation of it:

“I shall...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" (Romans 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" (Romans 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 (cf. Matthew 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.”

For more information about resources, contact Debbie Frey (Debbie@nepsynod.org)

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Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM—4:30 PM or on evenings or weekends by appointment.

