

NEW HOPE HERALD

OCTOBER

2013

**"THE GRASS WITHERETH, THE FLOWER
FADETH: BUT THE WORD OF OUR GOD SHALL
STAND FOREVER."** Isaiah 40: 8



SERENITY OF AUTUMN

Watercolor, original mouthpointed by ROBERT RYCROFT

THE DAWNING OF A DIVINE LIGHT

The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up, Mat 4:16

Modern science affirms that anything left to itself will revert to its lowest state, as the Second Law of Thermodynamics. If this is true for things in the natural world, it is not surprising that in the matter of Biblical Religion, it is true as well. It is not enough that we look longingly back in Church history to remember the Reformation to claim it as our movement but also to our present day to search out if we are the theology of the Reformers. Are we as a Church family, covenant family and individual members of New Hope Reformed Fellowship Church embracing the doctrine and life of true Christians? This can be answered by the following questions that were major issues that the Reformers held to be of utmost importance-



which is known
realm, it should
Therefore, it is
Protestant
still embracing
Church
New Testament
Reformers held to

- I. How can a sinful man be fully accepted in the sight of a Holy God.
- II. How can this man find the true Church to join himself in order to worship God in spirit and truth?

These Truths were not only laid on the Reformers but also upon those who came before them, commonly known as the Forerunners of the Reformation.

Well before Luther and Calvin, men had worked at reforming the Church. They advocated a return to the simplicity of the Gospel, called into question the hierarchy of the Church and believed in the exclusive authority of the Bible

The main forerunners of the Reform movement were:

- Pierre Valdo in the XIIth century in France,
- John Wyclif in the XIVth century in England,
- Jan Hus between the XIVth and the XVth century in Bohemia

Their doctrine influenced Luther and the reformers of the XVIth century.

We will focus our attention upon a not so well known man in whom Jehovah used to light the way for His revival of the Church.

Jan Hus: c. 1369 – 6 July 1415), often referred to in English as **John Hus** or **John Huss**, was a Czech priest, philosopher, reformer, and master at Charles University in Prague. After John Wycliffe, the theorist of ecclesiastical Reformation, Hus is considered the first Church reformer, as he lived before Luther, Calvin, and Zwingli.

He was burned at the stake for heresy against the doctrines of the Catholic Church, including those on ecclesiology, the Eucharist, and other theological topics. Hus was a key predecessor to the Protestant movement of the sixteenth century, and his teachings had a strong influence on the states of Europe, most immediately in the approval of a reformist Bohemian religious denomination, and, more than a century later, on Martin Luther himself.

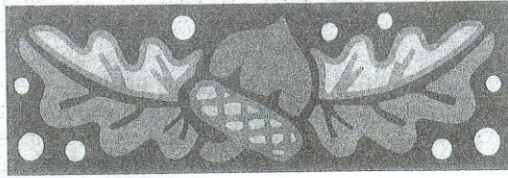
The executioner undressed Hus and tied his hands behind his back with ropes, and bound his neck with a chain to a stake around which wood and straw had been piled up so that it covered him to the neck. At the last moment, the imperial marshal, Von Pappenheim, in the presence of the Count Palatine, asked him to recant and thus save his own life, but Hus declined with the words "God is my witness that the things charged against me I never preached. In the same truth of the Gospel which I have written, taught, and preached, drawing upon the sayings and positions of the holy doctors, I am ready to die today. He was then burned at the stake, and his ashes thrown into the Rhine River.

After his death, between 1420 and 1431, followers of Hus' religious teachings (known as Hussite) rebelled against their Roman Catholic rulers and defeated five consecutive papal crusades in what became known as the Hussite Wars. A century later, as many as 90% of inhabitants of the Czech lands were non-Catholic and followed the teachings of Hus and his successors.

Are we willing to stand with the remnant of true children of Jehovah in our apostatizing Church world?

May we be a people who not only have the true light of the gospel but those few that influence others with this light.

Rev. D. J. VanderKlok



OCTOBER CALENDAR

- October 2—Bible Study on Daniel at Dan and Ann Mejeur's home
7—Glenda Klamer (birthday)
16—Bible Study
30—Pastor Vander Klok (birthday); Reformation Day speech at Messiah's, 7:00 pm
31—Reformation Day

“There are only two days on my calendar: today and the day of judgment.”-Martin Luther

LAST BABY MYSTERY!!

The cute little baby from the last issue was Jolene Ybema.

Last, but not least, is this happy child! Who could she be?



Laughter is the Best Medicine

***A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, “I know what the Bible means!”

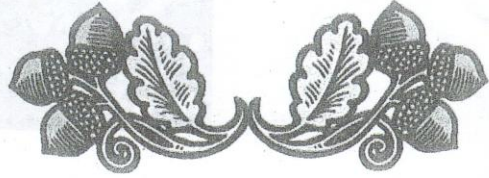
His father smiled and replied, “What do you mean, you ‘know’ what the Bible means?”

The son replied, “I do know!”

“Okay,” said his father. “What does the Bible mean?”

“That’s easy, Daddy. . .” the young boy replied excitedly, “It stands for ‘Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.’”

UP-HILL



Does the road wind up-hill all the way?
Yes, to the very end.
Will the day's journey take the whole long day?
From morn to night, my friend.

But is there for the night a resting-place?
A roof for when the slow dark hours begin.
May not the darkness hide it from my face?
You cannot miss that inn.

Shall I meet other wayfarers at night?
Those who have gone before.
Then must I knock, or call when just in sight?
They will not keep you standing at that door.

Shall I find comfort, travel-sore and weak?
Of labour you shall find the sum.
Will there be beds for me and all who seek?
Yea, beds for all who come.

**My sin—O the bliss of the glorious thought
My sin—not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross: and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well, it is well with my soul.
(Horatio G. Spafford)**

--Christina Georgina Rossetti

CAN YOU FIND 20 BOOKS OF THE BIBLE IN THIS PARAGRAPH??

Someone made a remark about hidden books in the Bible. The idea was a lulu-kept people looking so hard for facts, and to others it was a revelation. You will smile at them at the way it works. Some were in a jam, especially since the books of the Bible were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. No matter who you are or where you are from, answers will come. You need not be a pro, verbs and pronouns are to be found. We want it to be a most fascinating few minutes for you. Yes, there will be some easy ones to spot. Others might require judges to determine. We will quickly admit, it usually takes a minister to find one and there will be loud lamentations when you see how simple it is. If things get dismal, a child may give you a clue. A little lady says that as she brews tea, she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax and have yourself a good time!

Reformation Day Word Search

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Find the Reformers within the grid of letters!

EMREPOOHNHOJSEN
FAJEOLUSCHORLOJ
FROIMSTUSHVATOO
ITHMZIFPNZDCCKH
LINOEVTCENNQIYN
KNKMMAAAYAUHLXH
CLNXFLTLEKILCA
IUOGVSMELHMSNGU
WTXIGAMEJWGONGS
NHNLIPFKOWTUBYS
HERLIEPYEPFFHFC
ORLLVANYOWSGHCH
JIIRECUBNITRAME
WHEULRICZWINGLI
PTHOMASCRANMERN

Hugh Latimer

Jocque Lefevre

John Calvin

John Hausschein

John Hooper

John Knox

John Wickliffe

Martin Bucer

Martin Luther

Philip Melancton

Thomas Cranmer

William Tyndale

Ulric Zwingli

