

Lutheran & Catholic Comparison

Wednesday Bible Study, Faith & Fellowship Nights, Fall 2022

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School, Lansing, MI

Origins - The Lutheran Church

- Events Leading to the Reformation
 - Medieval Councils & Corruptions
 - Civil Role of Pope and Bishops
 - Land owned by the Church
 - Simony
 - Indulgences
 - “Outside the Church there is No salvation” (St. Cyprian, 3rd Century)
 - “It is necessary to salvation that every person be subject to the Roman Pontiff” Unum Sanctum 1302, Pope Boniface VIII
 - Early Reformers
 - John Wycliffe (1328-1384)
 - Jan Hus (1370-1415)

- Martin Luther (1483-1546)
 - Life as a Catholic monk (Augustinian)
 - Augustinian Cloister Church and Monastery, Erfurt, Germany 1505
 - Ordination as Catholic Priest, Erfurt, Germany 1507
 - Doctor of Theology, Wittenberg, Germany, 1512
 - Points system
 - Works for justification
 - Finding the Bible and the Gospel (Romans 3:19-28)
 - 95 theses, October 31, 1517
 - The church and the papacy had no divine right in things spiritual
 - Scripture, not the church or the priest, has final authority over conscience
 - The individual conscience is responsible to God only
 - The Bible is the clear, perfect, inspired and authoritative Word of God
 - People are forgiven and absolved of their sins
 - Not by good works
 - Not by imposition of the church rite (indulgences), but by the spirit-empowered turning from sin directly to God
 - By grace alone: It is a gift from God
 - By faith alone: Justification is attained by faith, not through ceremony
 - By Scripture alone: It is the infallible word of God.
 - Faith is not subscription to the dictates of the church, but the heart’s trust in Christ
 - The birth of the Lutheran Church
 - Luther’s Excommunication 1521
 - Diet of Worms 1521
 - Deutsche Messe (1526)
 - Small and Large Catechisms (1529)

- Philip Melanchthon (1497-1560)
 - Authored the Augsburg Confession (1530)
 - Apology to the Augsburg Confession (1531)
- Lutherans united in Faith and Doctrine and resisted Counter-Reformation
 - Smalcald Articles of Faith (1537)
 - Formula for Concord (1577)
- Forming of Churches in Europe
 - Peace of Augsburg 1555 (*cuius regno, ejus religio*)
 - Peace of Westphalia 1648
 - German Lutheran Territories – Saxony, Hannover, Brandenburg, Mecklenburg, Wurttemberg, Nurnberg, etc.
 - Scandinavia
 - The Lutheran Church of Norway 1527
 - The Lutheran Church of Sweden 1527
 - Lutheran Church of Denmark 1536
 - The Lutheran Church of Finland, Latvia 1561
- Lutherans in the new world
 - Lutheran Christmas service at Hudson Bay (1619)
 - Immigration from Holland
 - First group arrived at Manhattan Island (1623)
 - Start in New Amsterdam (1649)
 - Immigrants from other European countries
 - German immigrants – 1700's & 1800's
 - Scandinavian immigrants
 - First independent colony, New Sweden, established at Fort Christina, along the Delaware River (1638)
- The different Lutheran churches
 - The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS), 1847
 - 750 Lutherans from Saxony landed in New Orleans in 1838
 - The German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states, name changed 1947
 - C.F.W. Walther (1811-1887)
 - The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), 1850
 - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), 1988
 - The America Lutheran Church
 - The Lutheran Church in America
 - Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches
 - American Association of Lutheran Churches (AALC)
 - North American Lutheran Church (NALC)
 - Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)
 - The Church of the Lutheran Brethren
 - Lutheran Confessional Synod
 - Lutheran Free Church
 - Church of the Lutheran Confession
 - Apostolic Lutheran Church of America
 - Association of Free Lutheran Churches
 - Evangelical Lutheran Synod