

**We invite families to get in on the Reformation Celebration too!
Make sure to pick-up your traveling Martin & celebrate with us!**



Traveling Martin is here and ready to spend the summer with you and your family and be a part of all of your activities. Wherever you happen to go this summer, take Traveling Martin with you, and post pictures of you and Traveling Martin to our St. John's Facebook page. Let's find out how many different things you can do with Traveling Martin this summer!

Reformation Party—October 25

We invite all kids (3 years old to 5th grade) to their own Reformation party! Celebrate the gift of grace with festive games, snacks, and even an appearance from "Martin Luther" himself!

Looking for more? Check out our Reformation display in the library—including books for children & youth like "The Life of Luther: A Pop-Up Book" and *Papa Luther*. The library is located in Peeler Hall across from the elevators. Books and other items commemorating the Reformation are available in Seasons Gifts. Open M-Th from 10am—1:30pm



***Celebrating 500th
Anniversary of the
Reformation***

***St. John's Lutheran Church
Calendar of Events***





Calendar of Events

August 30 from 6-8 pm– Women’s Event: Celebrating Katie Luther
Celebrate Katie Luther and her role in the Reformation. We lift a glass to her faith, her courage, and her wit. The event, held at Cauble Creek Vineyard, will even include a “visit” from Katie herself!

September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 10, 17—Senior Seasons Academy
The Academy will be studying the spread of Lutheranism in North America. Led by Pastor Rhodes, the class will explore the history of Lutheranism through key leaders, and especially highlight the history right here in Rowan County. To register, visit our website.

September 23 at 2 pm – NC & SC Synods Reformation Worship
Lutherans in both the North and South Carolina Synods are encouraged to attend the capstone worship at Covenant Presbyterian in Charlotte held on Saturday, September 23, at 2:00 p.m. ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton will preach.

September 23 at 7 pm – Reformation Symphony at St. John’s
The Salisbury Symphony with the Salisbury Symphony Chorus will perform music based on “A Mighty Fortress” and Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 5, “The Reformation Symphony”. Tickets are available in Seasons Gifts or online at stjohns-salisbury.org for \$20.00 each.

October 10, 17, 24 – Joint Catholic & Lutheran Study
Join us as we study together and engage in conversation with our Catholic sisters and brothers from Sacred Heart. Led by Father John Eckert and Pastor Rhodes Woolly. Class will be held in evening. Time TBA.

October 12-15 & 18-21 — In God’s Own Country
The English-version world premiere of this play will be presented in partnership with The Meroney Theater. See sidebar for full details.

October 26 – Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World
Join us for a screening of the new movie, Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World at Tinseltown Cinemark Theater on October 26 at 1:30pm or 6:30 pm. This entertaining new film follows the great adventure story of Luther’s life, packed with political intrigue, kidnappings, and life-or-death showdowns. Tickets can be purchased on our website.

October 29 – Museum Opens
We will tell our own story of God at work through St. John’s. The Museum, located in Peeler Hall, will be a celebration of our heritage and the way God continually renewed and used St. John’s to impact the community for the sake of the Gospel.

October 29 – Reformation Worship Celebration @ 11:00 am
We culminate our Reformation celebration with a worship service featuring St. John’s musicians, brass, and festival liturgy.

In God’s Own Country

Premiering at the Meroney Theatre

October 12-15 & 18 –21

Do not miss the North American premiere stage production of “In God’s Own Country,” a unique collaborative effort between St. John’s, the State Theater Company of Landesbuhnen Sachse (Germany), and the Piedmont Players. The play serves as the Piedmont Players first production of the 2017-18 theater year, incorporating 17 cast members from Germany and an equal number from the Salisbury community.



On the surface, “In God’s Own Country” tells the story of Lutheranism in America; but the broader story tells the dramatic and multifaceted ways in which religion was foundational to our country’s founding. The play makes it clear that we simply cannot understand American history without an understanding of religious history.

The play is centered on Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg, the German pastor-missionary whose call was to plant the church in America during the early and mid-1700s. His journey begins on a treacherous sea voyage from Germany to Charleston, SC, and later continues by horseback throughout Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the Carolinas. “Muhlenberg churches” were established in every part of the mid-Atlantic, including multiple congregations in the Rowan-Cabarras area. There is no doubt that Michael Brown’s time in Rowan County was influenced by Muhlenberg, widely known as the Father of American Lutheranism, but whose impact reached far beyond the church.

“In God’s Own Country” is the perfect play for those eager to know more about early American history. It also tells the dramatic story of this small group of German Lutherans, many of whom were escaping severe persecution, who remained steadfast and faithful to a single call: “The church must be planted.”