

PROTESTANT REFORMATION

500th ANNIVERSARY

1517 - 2017



Here We Stand

***Join Adult Spiritual Formation This Fall
Begins Sunday, September 17, 4:00 - 6:00 PM, Fellowship Hall***

Happy Quincentennial! This year, Protestants around the world celebrate the 500th Anniversary of The Reformation: the catalyst for which Martin Luther's 95 theses were nailed to the door of Wittenberg Castle Church in Germany on October 31, 1517. Luther wrote his theses as a way of establishing a framework for debate and reform within the Catholic Church. The debate resulted in the birth of Protestantism and set in place religious, political, intellectual and cultural beliefs that define our modern era.

We hope you will join us for an extraordinary series of classes and experiences designed to immerse you in the Reformation. SMCC is fortunate to have access to some of the foremost experts in the field. Sunday classes will be led by:

- **September 17: Dr. Mark Eaton, Professor APU**
- **September 24 & October 1: Dr. Ronald C. White, New York Times best-selling author, Huntington fellow and UCLA Visiting Professor**
- **October 22 - November 12: Dr. Mark Eaton & Dr. Phil Eaton, President Emeritus of Seattle Pacific University**

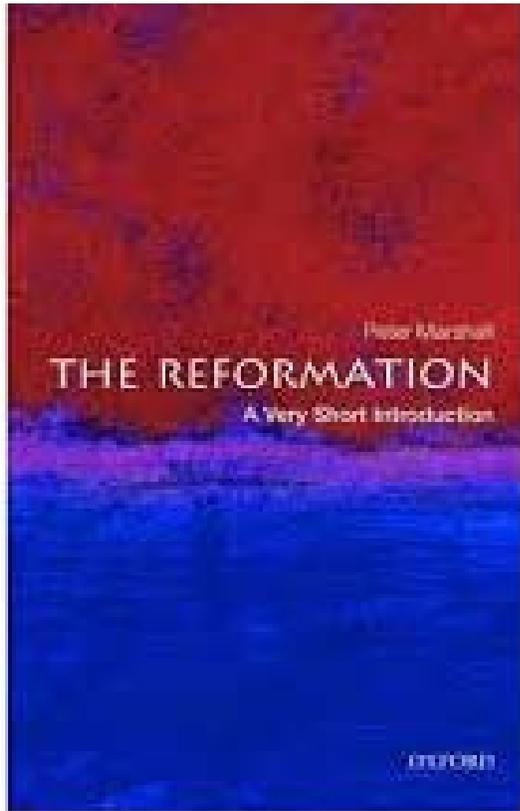
Beyond the Sunday classes, there will be events to bring The Reformation to life:

- **October 29:** We all know beer was an important beverage during this time in history, so on **Reformation Sunday** we have arranged an evening **Biergarten**, in the Virginia manse garden, where participants will enjoy a tasting experience and learn the historical significance of beer. A "kindergarten" (childcare) will be available on the south green.
- **January 21:** There will be guided tour for SMCC members of **The Reformation Exhibit at the Huntington Library**.
- **Summer 2018:** Plans are underway for a **guided European trip**. What better way to appreciate our spiritual heritage than to travel together to the sites where the Reformation took place!

Our fall classes begin **Sunday, September 17, 4:00-6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall, continuing through mid-November**. A second series of classes, focusing on our Presbyterian legacy in America, will continue in 2018.

Please email Peggy Flynn at PFlynn@smccpby.com. Your email will not only register you for the classes, but also give you email updates on the entire program, and links to materials as they are available. Can't wait to get started? See next page...

Recommended Reading Regarding The Reformation



The Reformation: A Very Short Introduction by Peter Marshall

Available for purchase in
the church office for \$10.

Here's what Amazon says about Peter Marshall's book:

The Reformation was a seismic event in European history, one which left an indelible mark on the modern world. In this Very Short Introduction, Peter Marshall illuminates the causes and consequences of this pivotal movement in western Christianity. The Reformation began as an argument about what Christians needed to do to be saved, but rapidly engulfed society in a series of fundamental changes. This book provides a lively and up-to-date guide that explains doctrinal debates in a clear and non-technical way, but also explores the effects the Reformation had on politics, society, art, and minorities. Marshall argues that the Reformation was not a solely European phenomenon, but that varieties of faith exported from Europe transformed Christianity into a truly world religion. The complex legacy of the Reformation is also assessed. Its religious fervor produced remarkable stories of sanctity and heroism, and some extraordinary artistic achievements. But violence, holy war, and martyrdom were equally its products. A paradox of the Reformation--that it intensified intolerance while establishing pluralism--is one we still wrestle with today.