



Dear Friends,

One time it's a person on the metro with a distinctive unclean smell. Another time, it's a beggar who's holding a sleeping child on her arm. Then it's a refugee who has come with the masses. Our first reaction often is to turn away, maybe feeling insecure or even disgusted. Foreigners and strange smells can have that effect on us. We are not alone with such feelings, but we find a rising influence of intolerance in all of Europe these days.

I as your pastor would like to raise the questions: Where do we as Christians stand? I'm not talking about a political solution. I'm talking about the personal encounter: How do we meet the stranger?

As Christians we look at the One who made us to what we are: **"You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household."** (Eph 2:19) It's the truth that we ourselves were all strangers and even enemies of God. We had no right to God's Kingdom and our sinfulness was detestable to the Lord like an unbearable stench in His nose. We should be cast out and put far away from His sight, and rightly so. But in His mercy He had compassion on us, came down into our filth and cleaned us all up. That's what He did in Jesus Christ. Now we are acceptable in His sight and no longer foreigners and strangers. We are welcomed into the glorious presence of the Lord who loved us so perfectly. It's the truth, promise and Gospel that we preach every Sunday. That we are accepted and forgiven. That God gives us unmerited grace. That He shows us compassion and humanity.

Now, how do we meet the stranger? As Christians, we feel particularly obliged towards strangers who are excluded because of their appearance or their origin. This may imply that we help such people in the current situation. But especially it must include that we perceive them as fellow human beings and grace them with a sense of humanity. This includes a polite salutation or greeting, eye contact and a smile. A conversation, a gift, a prayer. After all, these are creatures of the same God who made us and with whom He wants who have a relationship as well.

My prayer is that we all let all of our encounters be spiced with love. Remain blessed,

Pastor Tepper

**"Nothing you confess
could make me love you less."**

- Jesus



Please Pray...

- For **Brussels** that God send His Holy Spirit to open and prepare the hearts of the people that they might believe.

- For us that we ever grow in our faith, study the Bible, and love God and one another more and more.

- For those with birthdays this month:

- Oct 3: Johannes
- Oct 9: Elijah
- Oct 9: Isaac
- Oct 15: Emily
- Oct 17: Andrea
- Oct 19: Mike
- Oct 25: Martin
- Oct 28: Naike

Send your requests to: pastor @ alcb.be and specify whether it is private or to be shared.

Enjoying the last summer weekend with church fellowship and potluck on the eve of the Car Free Sunday on Pastor's patio



Upcoming Events... Last minute updates/changes: www.alcb.be

Sunday, Oct 3

4:30pm Harvest Service in Woulwe-Saint Pierre

Sunday, Oct 9

4:30pm Worship Service in Woulwe-Saint Pierre

Sunday, Oct 16

4:30pm Worship Service in Woulwe-Saint Pierre

Saturday, Oct 22

10am-16pm belgium2go street evangelism

Sunday, Oct 23

2:30pm Bible Study and Kids' Club

Saturday, Oct 29

4:30pm Worship Service in Woulwe-Saint Pierre

Sunday, Oct 30

5:00pm Luther movie at the parsonage

Switch to winter time!

4:30pm Reformation Service in Woulwe-Saint Pierre

Worship services are held normally at: Ave. Salomé 7, Woluwe-St. Pierre (across the Centre Sportif, close to Stokkel)

Pastor Tepper: 0487 45 85 99 pastor @ alcb.be www.alcb.be 

Please support our church and mission. Thank you for your cheerful giving: **IBAN: BE71 9530 6054 7769, BIC: CTBK BEBX**

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Once a month we invite you to get together to discuss a Bible passage together. Just grab a cup of coffee or tea and

join in! It's a good place to ask questions you might have. **On Sundays, 2:30-4:00 p.m.** (just before our church service). The children enjoy instruction and fun at the same time during their Kids' Club.

Ask pastor for the location. (pastor@alcb.be)



Walking with the Lord

5 Important Things the Lutheran Reformers Wrote

... and why they're still important today

In this issue: #1 **The Augsburg Confession** – In 1530, the Holy Roman Emperor called the Lutheran reformers to the city of Augsburg, Germany, to defend their teachings. The document they presented became known as the Augsburg Confession. It is mentioned in every Lutheran congregation's constitution to this day. The Augsburg Confession shows how the reformers talked about God's love for sinners. It also depicts how Lutherans organized themselves to make sure God's promises can be proclaimed.

Important Things Luther Said ... and what he meant by it

„When our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, said, *Repent*, (Matthew 4:17)

He called for the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.“

One of the 95 Theses that Luther nailed to a church door in Wittenberg on October 31st, 1517, setting the Reformation in motion.

Luther meant that faith and its Christly acts of love and service are never to be separated from real life. Faith isn't just a hobby, it's an entire way of life.

Taken from the Lutheran Handbook by Augsburg Fortress)

Meeting the Family

I've been at **ALCB** for quite some time. It will be a decade in a few years.

Once upon a time I used to be a child in a country where religion was officially held to belong to the past and atheism was proclaimed as the ultimate truth. God thought otherwise...

I find a lot of joy in living, in the fact of existing.

It's not fashionable but I value down-to-earth simplicity and things that are for free: air, sunshine, nature, love, the gospel. On the other hand, I think many fashionable devices like smartphones and tablets tend to complicate life in an unnecessary way. They kill conversation and make us our own overworked secretaries.

If my life was a book, the title would be "In quest of the eternal sunshine".

I came to **ALCB** because I met Pastor Matthias who preached at the funeral of a friend. After the service we talked and agreed that I attend a Sunday service with my family. We've been members ever since.

One thing I love about **ALCB**: actually there are more than one. Beyond the practical aspects (English speaking congregation not far from our place; our children can play or attend Sunday school during the sermon, etc.), it is a real church family where all are welcome. It is the Church at its best: modern and cool in form, but ancient and traditional in the sense that the eternal gospel of Christ is faithfully proclaimed – with courage and joy.



Tamás

● **Harvest Thanksgiving** – In the beginning of October we give thanks to God for our food and all the blessings He gives to us. Join us for our service on October 2nd.

● **499 Years of Lutheran Reformation** – We will commemorate the rediscovery of the Gospel: 499 years of Lutheran Reformation with our worship service on October 30th.

● **Luther Movie** – Join us at the parsonage in Leefdaal for our movie theater and potluck at the parsonage on Saturday, Oct 29th.

● **Learn to Love in Jesus' name** – Join our outreach efforts and connect to strangers. You step out of your comfort zone, but brings great joy! We recommend the coffee cart and the street action. Next dates are Oct 22, Nov 19, Dec 10 (*winter-2go* and a booth at the Tervuren Christmas Market).

Our Investments in People's Lives

Thanks to all who have set up automatic bank transfer for tithes, contributions and donations for automated giving for God's glory.



| Mission '16 | Sunday Offerings | Bank Transfers | Total (goal vs. received) | Giving goals* |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| July-Aug | € 819,10 | € 1,460.00 | € 2,279.10 (54%) | € 4,166 |
| September | € 792.94 | € 680 | € 1,472.94 (71%) | € 2,083 |
| Year to | € 7,087.28 | € 6,270.00 | € 13,357.28 (71%) | € 18,750 |
| Things that you support | Discipleship | Lives served | You and your family | October € 2,083 |

* 12 x 2,083=25,000 € is what we need to raise ourselves in Brussels. We are currently subsidized by the LCMS and the SELK for our total budget of € 55,000.

catechism quiz

the lutheran

- Complete the seventh petition of the Lord's Prayer: But deliver us from _____. *What does this mean?* We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would _____ from every _____ of body and soul, _____ and _____, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a _____, and graciously take us from this _____ of _____ to Himself in heaven.
- True or false: Forgiveness of sins does not include life and salvation.

1. Evil; rescue; evil; possessions; reputation; blessed end; 2. False. See: Sacrament of the Altar (Holy Communion) Valley of sorrow