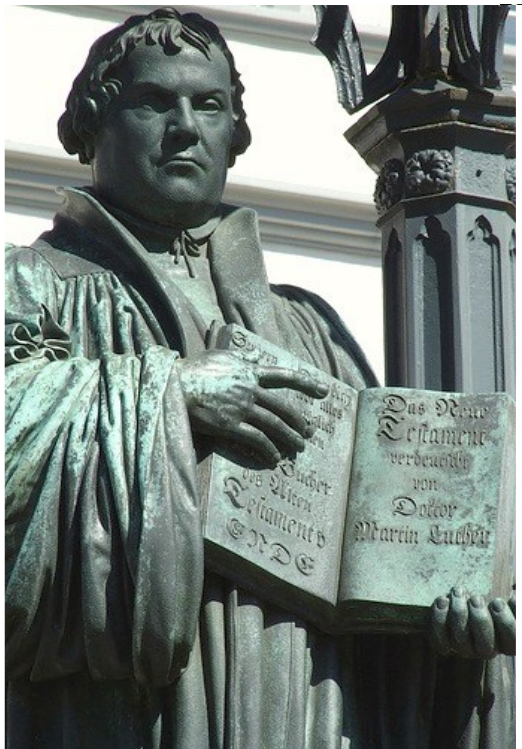
Trinity Lutheran Church presents

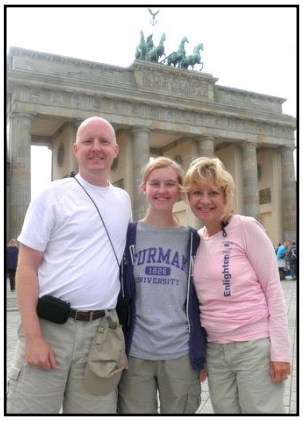
Lutheran Heritage Tour

Hosted by Pastor Susan Crowell & Amy Brown

July 7-17, 2016



Lutheran Heritage Tour



In the summer of 2013, our family traveled to Germany with a Lutheran congregation from Kalamazoo, Michigan to explore our Lutheran heritage. Traveling with other Lutherans to places significant to the Reformation was a phenomenal experience! We came home eager to plan a similar trip with our Trinity family. It is our hope that you will consider joining us in the summer of 2016 as we travel to Germany, learn more about the Lutheran faith, and nurture relationships within our church family.

Key: IF = In Flight Meals, B= Breakfast, D = Dinner

Day 1: Thursday, July 7, 2016: Overnight Flight to Berlin, Germany
Our journey begins with an overnight flight to Berlin. (IF)

Day 2: Friday, July 8, 2016: Arrival in Berlin
On arrival in Berlin, we will be met at the airport and have an orientation tour of the city, stopping at the Brandenburg Gate and Checkpoint Charlie. We then check into our hotel in Berlin and enjoy a welcome dinner. (IF/D)

Day 3: Saturday, July 9, 2016: Berlin
We will have a relaxing breakfast this morning, then our expert local guide will take us on a World War II-themed tour of Berlin, including the Holocaust Memorial, the Bonhoeffer House and St. Matthew's Church where Bonhoeffer was ordained. The evening is free to dine at the restaurant of our choice. (B)

Day 4: Sunday, July 10, 2016: Berlin, Wittenberg
We have the option of attending an English-speaking church service this morning in Berlin, or free time in the city. In the afternoon we will visit Sanssouci Palace and Gardens in Potsdam, the summer residence of Frederick the Great. We will then check in to our hotel in Wittenberg, our base for the next two nights. Dinner is at our hotel this evening (B/D)

Day 5: Monday, July 11, 2016: Wittenberg
Wittenberg was Martin Luther's home for 30-plus years and the birthplace of the Reformation. We will enjoy a guided walking tour of the Luther House Museum, where Martin Luther and his family lived. This well-preserved place of Reformation relics includes Luther's desk, his pulpit, and first editions of his books. We will go to the spot where Luther reputedly burned the Papal Bull, by which Rome condemned him as a heretic. Nearby is St. Mary's Church, a twin-towered gothic church where Luther preached the Reformation, got married (1525), and baptized his six children. In the Castle Church we will see Luther's tomb and gather outside the doors where Luther posted his 95 Theses against the sale of indulgences—and launched the Reformation in 1517. This afternoon we have free time and dinner at a restaurant of our choice. (Please note that some churches and museums may be closed in 2016 for renovations) (B/D)

Day 6: Tuesday, July 12, 2016: Leipzig, Eisleben
This morning we will drive to Leipzig for a walking tour of the city. Luther was here more than once, but Leipzig is really the town of Johann Sebastian Bach. Bach served as cantor in St. Thomas Church for 27 years. While in Leipzig we will also tour St. Nicholas' Church and hear how the congregation was instru-

mental in the events that led to the collapse of the East German state in 1989. We will also admire the beautiful old city hall, which houses Katharina von Bora's original wedding ring. We will end the day with dinner at our hotel in Eisleben. (B/D)

Day 7: Wednesday, July 13, 2016: Eisleben, Erfurt
Eisleben is where Luther was born and also where he died and it is sometimes referred to as his Bethlehem and Jerusalem. We'll visit both these homes, as well as St. Anne's, an old miner's church famous for the Biblical Scenes hewn in stone. We will also visit St. Peter and St. Paul Church where Luther was baptized. Then we drive through the Thuringian countryside to Erfurt where Luther lived six years as a monk. We will have time to stroll through the narrow streets of the old town, and walk across the famous Krämer Bridge. We will stay in the Augustinian Monastery in Erfurt for two nights and soak up the atmosphere of this historic city. (B/D)

Day 8: Thursday, July 14, 2016: Eisenach, Erfurt
This morning we will visit Wartburg Castle, just outside Eisenach. This is where Martin Luther was captured for safety and translated the Bible into German in just 10 weeks. It's only since then that ordinary folks are able to read the Bible in their mother's language. We will return to Erfurt in the afternoon and join a local guide for a walking city tour, including St. Mary's Cathedral where Luther was ordained as a priest and the Medieval Kramer Bridge, on which 33 dwellings are built. We will have a service in the monastery, then a free evening to dine in the restaurant of our choice (B)

Day 9: Friday, July 15, 2016: Nuremberg, Munich
On our way to Bavaria, we will stop in Nuremberg, which is well known for its long tradition of toy manufacturing. Nuremberg was also the city where the Nazis held their party rallies in the 1930s, and the Documentation Center presents this history on the rally grounds where it occurred. We will have a guided tour of Munich and dine at our hotel, where we will stay for two nights. (B/D)

Day 10: Saturday, July 16, 2016: Oberammergau, Munich
Today we will enjoy some of the highlights of Bavaria, including a tour of the spectacular Neuschwanstein Castle and the Baroque splendor of Wieskirche. In the afternoon we go to the village of Oberammergau and have a guided tour of the famous Passion Play Theater, where the Passion Play has been performed every ten years or so, since the Middle Ages (next performance is in 2020). We will have free time to enjoy the woodworking shops before we return to Munich for dinner in the Pilsner House Restaurant. (B/D)

Day 11: Sunday, July 17, 2016: Depart
After breakfast, we will depart for Munich Airport for flights back to the USA. (B/IF)

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RSC16 Tour Price: $2,499* *per person land only*

Price based on a minimum of 20 participants

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- Land transportation via private, deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- Twin accommodations in superior tourist and moderate first class hotels
- Meals as indicated in itinerary
- Services of professional escort throughout the tour
- Local step-on guides for city tours and major attractions
- Entrance fees included as per itinerary
- All transfers as a group
- All taxes and tips, including the tour director and driver

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Air transportation, related taxes & fees (available in August)
- Meals not indicated on itinerary
- Beverages except with breakfast
- Single supplement $250
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees (*Passport must be valid for six months beyond return date)*

Payment Schedule:

- Deposit of $350 will secure your place on the tour.
- Final invoices will be sent in March 2016
- Final payments will be due no later than April 23, 2016
- Any traveler signing up after April 23, 2016 will need to pay in full.
- Early registration is encouraged. *Please note: all credit card payments will incur a 3% surcharge.*

Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing and the date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Anyone canceling 14 days or less prior to departure will receive no refund. In the unlikely event the tour does not reach minimum enrollment required, all deposit money will be returned.

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