



Rev. Dr. Stephanie Weiner,
Associate Conference
Minister

Prayer

By Stephanie Weiner

Happy God, we have
So much to celebrate:
All Hallows' Eve,
All Saints Day,
Reformation Sunday,
The fall harvest,
The closeness of "the"
series,
The approaching end
Of the election.

We give you thanks
For all the saints
Who from their labors rest:
Bucer, Calvin, Hus, Knox,
Luther, Melancthon,
Tyndale, Wycliffe, Zwingli,
and all those unnamed,
especially the women, never
named.

We give you thanks for the
printing press in their day
and Twitter in ours.

We give you thanks that we
don't have to pay for
indulgences, even as we pray
for reunion with our
catholic, our universal,

A Conference E-Pistle

Brought to you by Our Church's Wider Mission

Reflections From
The Indiana-Kentucky Conference



Oct. 31, 2016

Trumpet fanfare, on the organ, please...

Today begins the year-long run up to the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther tacking his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg cathedral. Tanya Mohn, wrote in the Oct. 28, 2015 edition of The New York Times that he began one of the most successful media campaigns ever - using books, paintings, prints and music to further the cause. She concludes, "Today he would be using Twitter."

I recently learned from the Rev. Karen Barth that the National Association of Massage Therapists did the same more than 30 years ago. The first thing many people thought about when they heard the word massage was the "world's oldest profession." However, an intense and directed campaign has brought massage therapy into the mainstream of not only acceptability, but desirability. Karen is the pastor of Christ Evangelical UCC in Louisville, Ky. and Executive Director of Empty Vessels Healing Ministry and the Open Hands Wellness Clinic. These ministries are dedicated to the healing and calming power of alternative therapies, especially for those without the ability to pay for their curative effect.

Let us continue to do likewise - educate and blitz the media.
Guess I need to "Twitter."

Staying with Luther for another learning opportunity - this time from the poet's perspective:

"With conscience cocked to listen for the thunder
He saw the Devil busy in the wind
Over the chimney steeples and then under
The doors of nuns and doctors who had sinned.

What apparatus could stave off disaster
Or cut the brambles of man's error down?
Flesh was a silent dog that bites its master
World a still pond in which its children drown.

brothers and sisters.

And we pray for the systems of our country, in need of transformation as they are, dependent on us to do the transforming - by your Spirit.

May we be faithful to You and to the Christ we follow. Amen.

The fuse of Judgement spluttered in his head:
"Lord, smoke these honeyed insects from their hives;
All Works and all Societies are bad:
The Just shall live by Faith," he cried in dread.

And men and women of the world were glad
Who never trembled in their useful lives."
-W. H. Auden

Taking some comfort from the next to last strophe, especially in this election year and striving to be faithful...

Stephanie Weiner
s.weiner@ikcucc.org

Sincerely,

Indiana-Kentucky Conference
United Church of Christ
ikc@ikcucc.org



The Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the United Church of Christ was selected as a Constant Contact All Star in 2011, 2012 & 2013

Indiana-Kentucky Conference
United Church of Christ
1100 W. 42nd Street, Suite 155
Indianapolis, IN 46208
(317) 924-1395
<http://ikcucc.org>

