

# REFORMATION DAY SEMINAR

## 2016 30 October 2016

The words "missions" and "reformation" are not often closely associated. However, the world wide Lutheran community is undoubtedly heavily involved in missions, and has been for centuries. Without such missions there would be no Lutheran Church in Singapore today. Missions is a large part of the ministry of the Lutheran Church in Singapore. Despite our small size and very limited resources, we are actively doing missions in Thailand, Cambodia, Mongolia, China and even some on local soil! We have sent full-time ordained and lay workers to Thailand, Cambodia and Mongolia. Many of our members have been on mission trips to one or more of these countries.

What then, is our understanding of missions as Lutherans? What is distinctive about it? The topic of the Reformation Day Seminar 2016 sought to give us insight into this important part of our ministry: Delivering the Sacred Service - The Impact of the Reformation on Missions. Once again we were privileged to have the Rev. Dr. Stephen Oliver, New Testament Professor, China Lutheran Seminary, and the Rt. Rev. Terry Kee, Bishop of the Lutheran Church in Singapore as our speakers. They were the speakers for our Reformation Day Seminar in 2014.

The seminar was also a good opportunity for the members from all our Lutheran congregations in Singapore to come together for fellowship and learning. We rejoiced that over 200 people attended the seminar on October 30, which was Reformation Sunday. The evening began with a fellowship dinner, followed by the seminar proper. The theological and practical aspects were presented by Dr. Oliver and Bishop Kee respectively, and in both English and Mandarin. What a blessing that both our speakers were fluent in both languages!

The impact of the Reformation on missions is the very message of missions itself - the pure Gospel of salvation: justification by faith alone, grace alone and Christ alone. This wonderful justification is delivered in God's Word and the means of grace which radiate in and out of the Divine Service. This was a radical message which Luther rediscovered and preached from Scripture, breaking with other "versions" of the Gospel which inevitably require some form of works for salvation. Instead, good works are given their proper place: "Your good works, growing in Christ, and sanctification cannot save you, but they can save others!" Luther himself embodied the impact of this message of justification by faith alone, grace

alone and Christ alone when he wrote: "There is nothing I want more than to make His Gospel known to the world and to convert many people." May this Gospel which impacted Luther himself, impact us as well, as we continue our active involvement in missions.

Many thanks to our speakers, to the staff and helpers from Yishun Christian Church (Lutheran) who organized and hosted the event, and to all our pastors and brethren from all our congregations who assisted and participated in one way or another. May the Lord bless the work of our hands.

**Rev. Soh Guan Kheng**  
**10/11/2016**



## 2016年10月30日改教纪念讲座

宣教”与“改教”二者之间很少相提并论。然而，全世界的信义会群体几个世纪以来都全力参与宣教的工作，若是没有宣教，新加坡也不可能有信义宗的教会。宣教占据新加坡基督教信义会大部分的事工，尽管我们的规模不大和资源有限，我们积极参与泰国、柬埔寨、蒙古、中国和自己国土上的宣教工作。我们还差派全职按立的牧师和领袖到泰国、柬埔寨和蒙古，我们许多的会友还组织短宣队到这些国家宣教。

然后信义宗信徒对宣教的了解又如何？它的特色又是什么？2016年改教日讲座会的讲题：神圣礼拜的服侍——改教对宣教的影响，就是要让我们洞察宣教事工的重要性。我们很荣幸再次邀请到台湾中华信义神学院的新约教授欧祈人牧师（博士），和新加坡基督教信义会的会督纪木和牧师担任讲员，他们也曾主讲2014年改教日的讲座会。

讲座会也是一个让全体信义宗教会的信徒们能一同来团契和学习的机会。我们为着超过200位的弟兄姐妹出席10月30日的改教主日欢喜快乐。我们以晚餐开始，接着便是讲座会。由欧博士主讲神学方面而纪会督主讲实践方面，两位讲员都能操流利的中、英文，这是何等大的祝福！

改教对宣教的冲击其实就是宣教本身——纯正的救恩福音：唯独因信称义、唯独恩典和唯独基督。这完美的称义来自上帝的道和施恩的媒介，在神圣礼拜的里外绽放光芒。这信息是路德从经文中重新发现和传讲的，打破另外“版本”的福音——要求以某个形式的善工来得到救恩。反之，善工的正确位置是：“你的善行、属灵成长和成圣不能救你，但是它们会救其他的人！”路德本身强调唯独因信称义、唯独恩典和唯独基督这信息要体现的影响是当他写道：“我最想要做的是向世人宣扬福音，甚至许多人归主。”但愿影响路德本身的福音，也影响我们，继续积极的参与宣教的工作。

感谢我们的讲员、义顺基督教会（信义会）的同工和助手们策划这次的聚会；全体教牧和弟兄姐妹在各方面的协助和参与。愿上帝祝福我们手所做的工。

苏源卿牧师  
2016年10月11日

