

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED!

**THE 31st ANNUAL FESTIVAL
CELEBRATION OF THE
REFORMATION**



Reformation Sunday
October 30, 2016
7:00 p.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Alliance, Ohio
On Union Ave. (St. Rte. 183)
One mile south of State St. (US 62) at
second stop light

With Guest Preacher
The Rev. Hank Langknecht
Professor of Homiletics and Christian
Communications
Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus,
Ohio

Holy Communion
Special music / Staffed Nursery
Social Hour after Worship

This annual celebration of the
Reformation is a ministry of the
following seven Lutheran congregations
of the Eastern Cluster of the Canton-
Massillon Conference.

Abiding Savior, Alliance
Emmanuel, North Georgetown
Kountze Memorial, Louisville
St. John's, New Franklin
St. Paul's, Alliance
St. Paul's, Minerva
Trinity, Sebring

For further information, call the
Reverend James B. Metzger,
330-823-8384.



We are indeed
fortunate to
have as this
year's
Reformation
Service
preacher, the
Rev. Hank
Langknecht,

Professor of Homiletics (preaching) and
Christian Communications at Trinity
Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio.

Henry J. Langknecht (who goes by Hank)
was born on November 2, 1956, near
Ithaca, New York. His parents are both
living though divorced, and he has one
brother. He grew up and graduated from
high school in Cherry Hill, New Jersey,
and attended Stetson University in
DeLand, Florida, where he received a
Bachelor of Music in Theory and
Composition. His principal instrument
was piano. While in college, he met his
wife, Shirila, whom he married in August,
1980.

His religious upbringing was a mixed
bag: baptized Methodist; confirmed

Presbyterian; attended a Southern Baptist
university; and married by an Episcopal
priest. It was after college that he was
first exposed to Lutheranism when he
became a choir director at Faith Lutheran
Church in DeLand. At Faith his duties
included adult, children, and bell choirs,
some youth work, and worship planning.
During Lent 1981, he volunteered to fill a
space in the mid-week sermon schedule
and delivered his first sermon on April
Fool's Day, 1981. As Pastor Lyle Sucher
and he left church that evening, Sucher
leaned over and said, "You're going to
seminary."

One year later, in the spring of 1982,
Langknecht entered Trinity Lutheran
Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. He
interned at St. Mark Lutheran Church in
Norwich, Connecticut, and finished his
course work in the fall of 1985. In
March, 1986, he accepted a call to serve
as pastor at First English Lutheran
Church, Marysville, Ohio.

There Langknecht remained until
receiving an offer from Trinity Lutheran
Seminary to attend graduate school with
the promise of filling a faculty position in
homiletics. He began graduate studies in
homiletics at Emmanuel College of the
University of Toronto, Ontario, in
September, 1996, where he also served as
interim pastor of St. Ansgar Lutheran
Church and was a regular supply
preacher at Runnymede United Church.

In January, 2000, Hank and his family
returned to Ohio so he could begin
teaching homiletics (preaching) at Trinity
Lutheran Seminary.

He received his doctorate (Th.D.) in
2008; his dissertation area was the
"Literal Sense of the Pericope for
Preaching." In Fall, 2008, Hank was
installed into the Haman-Pfahler Chair
for Christian Communications. His
teaching areas at Trinity are preaching,
parish communication, urban ministry
and the emergent/missional conversation.
His major research/reading interests are
the literal sense of the Bible; biblical
interpretation for preaching; metaphor
and imagination; the emergent/missional
church; and sermon form and
composition.

Hank stays connected to parish life
through his membership at Gethsemane
Lutheran Church, Columbus; regular
contributions to Workingpreacher.org
and *Sundays and Seasons*; and frequent
teaching and preaching gigs in
congregations around Columbus.

Hank and Shirila have two sons, Adam (b.
1987) and Jacob (b. 1988). Adam is a
CPA in the Washington D.C. area; Jake
is a drummer in Cincinnati with a day job
as a barista. Hank and Shirila currently
share their home with a schnauzer named
Zeke. Hank's personal interests and
hobbies include bicycling, slow-water
kayaking, movies, reading, and puzzles
of all sorts.

**ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO
WORSHIP WITH US AND TO HEAR
PASTOR LANGKNECHT.**