



The Reformation



Fountain of Hope

Chung-dong First Methodist Church, English Ministry— October/November 2017

Why does the Reformation matter to us?

With millions around the world, the English Ministry community of faith will celebrate 500 years of Reformation on the last Sunday of October. 2017 is a very special year for Christians all over the globe, as it marks the 500th anniversary of the year Martin Luther made his 95 Theses known to the world, thus changing the history of the church and the world forever. In honor of this monumental occasion, Chungdong First Methodist Church will host a special Reformation Day Service on Sunday 29th October during the 1:30 Service with Dr. Gunshik Shim, an expert in the field of John Wesley's Theology and Reformation, as our guest preacher. We are inviting all Chungdong members and friends to participate in this celebration service with us.

Why does the Reformation matter to us? What does it mean to be a "Reformed or Protestant Christian?"

To a Protestant Christian, the "world" is more than just a source of temptation. It's a responsibility.

So instead of condemning culture, Protestant Christians contribute to it. Instead of fearing the intellect, Reformed Christians develop it. Instead of wagging their fingers, Protestant Christians reach for the stars. Because they know that God's sovereignty extends beyond the sanctuary to every city, state and country on earth. And that the church's purpose is not to passively await Christ's coming but to prepare the way. Yet vital as it is, the Protestant world view comes not from simply attending a Protestant church, but from a lifetime of careful discipling.

It matters because Christ has called us to engage the world, not run from it.

Theoretically, today's evangelical could spend his or her entire life avoiding the secular world thanks to Christian cable networks, magazines and music. Not to mention T-shirts, refrigerator magnets and work-out tapes. But Protestant Christians refuse to live in an evangelical ghetto. They know that God's Word is not just a refuge for the church--it's a legal and ethical guidebook for all human society. Without it, any man-made culture is ultimately doomed to fail.

EM Highlights for October

15 October 2017

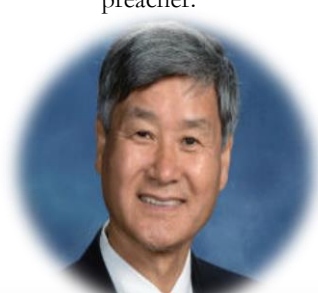
Prof. Chris Bounds, Scholar in Residence and Professor of Theology at Asbury University will be our guest speaker at the 1:30 Worship Service.



29 October 2017

Reformation 500th

Celebration Service with Dr. Gunshik Shim, an expert in the field of John Wesley's Theology and Reformation, as our guest preacher.



*Our passion is God.
Our motivation the love of Jesus Christ.
Our power is through the Holy Spirit. Our mission is the world.*

Reformation (cont.)

That's why at EM we seek to always be faithful to the living Word of God, the Bible, and strive to give every Christian an intimate, deeply personal knowledge of God's Word. But while other ministries may stop there, Chungdong EM desires to raise up Christians who are also capable of applying the Scriptures in the outside world—who are articulate champions of biblical truth in the courts and legislatures, in the arts and media and schools.

Because in the end, the Bible is not a plan of escape but a platform for action. In the end, a Christian subculture is no substitute for a truly Christian world.

It matters because the Bible's principles apply not just to the church, but to the whole world.

For Christians of the Reformation, the Reformation is more than just an echo of the past. It is nothing less than the clearest, truest expression of the biblical faith. That's why at EM, we focus the Scriptures through the lens of Protestant theology, particularly as interpreted by John Wesley, the father of the Methodist movement. That is what gives EM its unique identity as a covenant community.

For it is in mastering the rigors of Protestant theology that Christians learn to use their minds, and develop a logical framework for their faith, asking and answering pre-suppositional, conceptual and integrative questions about all areas of truth. But while learning theology is important, we seek to also empower Christians to "do" theology. So instead of simply memorizing historical creeds, Christians of the Reformation can make history of their own. Applying theology in ways that will transform their lives, their communities, their world.

It matters because the Reformation is not just our heritage, but the world's hope!

The English Ministry's prayer is to slowly but surely shaping a generation of Christians and leaders who are fully-equipped to engage their culture and take on the world.

It Matters Because If We Aren't Equipped To Shape The World, The World Will Shape Us.

Martin Luther says:

"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing."



Martin Luther says:

"Whatever your heart clings to and confides in, that is really your god."

Sundays at
**Chung-dong
English Ministry**
Yewon School

Contemporary Worship
Music Room, 5th Floor
- 10:30

Young Adult's Fellowship
5th Floor – 11:30

Youth Group Ministry
1-7 Class Room – 1:00

Kid's Worship
1-6 Class Room – 1:30

Traditional Worship
Main Auditorium –
1:30

Chung-dong People

Lay Leader:
Elder Kyung Eun Kim

Pastors
Rev. Se Hyoung Lee
Rev. Hea Sun Kim
Rev. Chong-ah S. Kim
Rev. Johan Reiners

Intern Pastor
Hye-Eun Chon

Pastoral Assistant
Hakki Min

Staff Assistants:
Hangyoon Cho
In Young Cho
Yeram Josua Kim

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www.chungdongem.com

Please "like" our
Facebook page:
Chungdong Fmc EM

Chungdong Blitz

2017 seems to be a year of transition. With the renovations in full swing at the main campus of Chungdong FMC, all worship services and actions had to relocate to Yewon School. In spite of all the changes, church life goes on. The English Ministry also had to adapt to the changes. A steady flow of visitors are still finding their way to both morning and afternoon services while moving stuff from the offices to worship venues have become part of the “normal” Sunday drill. Here are a few highlights of the summer program and Chuseok activities.



A successful Summer Vacation Bible School took place during the last weekend of July



Contemporary Worship at Yewon School



Summer retreat for EM members and friends



Saying goodbye to Kelly Lee



Chuseok celebrations

These photos are simply snap-shots of a busy and vibrant congregation. This year we had to say goodbye to many longstanding members such as Mark Richeson, Chris Joby, Kelly Lee, Barbara Mullen Kuttler, Chang Yong Shin, Yong-Hui Cline, Yong-ho Cha and many more. Chungdong EM is among other things also a distinctive sending ministry. God send people here for a season and then take them to places all over the world where they continue to serve God. Although we're saying goodbye to many, we're privileged and glad to welcome new ones.



Reformation, Thanksgiving and Much More!

Voices of Hope 4

After three successful publications of Voices of Hope, Chungdong EM is working on the 4th edition which will be published in 2018. Voices of Hope is a collection of testimonies and essays from members and friends of Chungdong EM, celebrating the work of God in and through this ministry.

Holy Communion at Contemporary Service

During EM's Traditional Services at 1:30 on Sundays, the liturgy focus is on Holy Communion. It has been decided that Holy Communion will also be celebrated on the last Sunday of the month during the Contemporary Service at 10:30. Please make this known to friends and family who might be interested in attending the Contemporary Services.

Baptism for Christmas

The next baptism service will take place on December 24th during the Christmas Eve Service. Candidates for baptism can contact the church office or one of the staff members for details. More details will also be provided soon.



Join EM for a special celebration of the Reformation on Reformation Sunday, October 29th at 1:30 in the main auditorium, Yewon School. Dr. Gunshik Shim will be our guest speaker.

Thanksgiving Service and Banquet

Chungdong EM will continue its tradition of Thanksgiving with a Thanksgiving Service and Banquet on November 26th at 1:30. Please invite your friends, family and colleagues to join us in this special event.

Winter Retreat for Adults

A Winter Retreat for EM adult members and friends is planned for 29 and 30 December 2017 at Glory Condo Dogo in Asan, a resort which offers an all-year indoor pool and hot spring baths and lots more to enjoy. In addition it will be a time of deep reflection, contemplation and a great way to end 2017 on a high note.

Preaching Schedule

- Oct 15: Dr. Chris Bounds
- Oct 22: Past. Hye-Eun Chon
- Reformation Sunday**
- Oct 29: Dr. Dr. Gunshik Shim
- Nov 5: Rev. Johan Reiners
- Nov 12: Rev. Sandra Kim
- Nov 19: Rev. Johan Reiners
- Thanksgiving Banquet**
- Nov 26: Rev. H. Kim
- Dec 3: Rev. John Choi
- Dec 10: Past. Hye-Eun Chon
- Dec 17: Rev. Sehyoung Lee
- Dec 24: Rev. Johan Reiners
- Christmas-eve**
- Dec 24: Rev. Sehyoung Lee
- Dec 31: Rev. Sandra Kim

Young Adults

On Sundays at 11:30 young adults are meeting for an hour of fellowship and study of the Bible. The Young Adults Ministry forms an integral part of EM and all young adults are invited to join them.

Young Adults Retreat

A Young Adult retreat is planned for 25/26 November. If you're interested to join, please contact Rev. Sandra Kim or send an e-mail to chungdongem@gmail.com.

"I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess."

Martin Luther