



Strikepoints

A Mighty Fortress

Words and Music by Martin Luther, 1483-1546
English Translation by Frederick H. Hodge, 1805-1890

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God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, through the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea. (Psalm 46:1, 2)

October 31, 1517, is perhaps the most important day in Protestant history. This was the day when Martin Luther, an Augustinian monk and professor of theology, posted on the doors of the Ca-

thedral of Wittenberg, Germany, his 95 theses (complaints) against the teachings and practices of the medieval Roman Church. With this event, the 16th century Protestant Reformation was formally born.

The Protestant Reformation movement was built on three main tenets:

- The re-establishment of the Scriptures.
- Clarifying the means of salvation.
- The restoration of congregational singing.

“A Mighty Fortress: was written and composed by Martin Luther. The date of the hymn cannot be fixed with any exact certainty. It is generally believed, however, to have been written for the Diet of Spires in 1529 when the term “protestant” was first used. The hymn became the great rallying cry of the Reformation.

From *Amazing Grace*
by Kenneth W. Osbeck

BIBLE VERSE: Isaiah 26:4 (NLT)

4 Trust in the LORD always, for the LORD GOD is the eternal Rock.

Song of the Month— “A Mighty Fortress”

A mighty fortress is our God,
 A bulwark never failing;
 Our helper He amid the flood
 Of mortal ills prevailing.
 For still our ancient foe
 Doth seek to work us woe—
 His craft and pow'r are great,
 And, armed with cruel hate,
 On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide
 Our striving would be losing,
 Were not the right Man on our side,
 The Man of God's own choosing.
 Dost ask who that may be?
 Christ Jesus, it is He—
 Lord Sabaoth His name,
 From age to age the same—
 And He must win the battle.

And tho this world, with devils filled,
 Should threaten to undo us,
 We will not fear, for God hath willed
 His truth to triumph thru us.
 The prince of darkness grim—
 We tremble not for Him;
 His rage we can endure;
 For lo! His doom is sure -
 One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly pow'rs—
 No thanks to them—abideth;
 The Spirit and the gifts are ours
 Thru Him who with us sideth.
 Let goods and kindred go,
 This mortal life also;
 The body they may kill;
 God's truth abideth still—
 His kingdom is forever.



October Birthdays

No October Birthdays



**Celebration Ringers / Chimes of Joy
Rehearsal Schedule**

October 2 5:45 PM Rehearsal
 October 9 NO Rehearsal
 October 16 5:45 PM Rehearsal
 October 23 5:45 PM Rehearsal
 October 30 5:45 PM Rehearsal



**Echoes of Faith
Rehearsal Schedule**

October 2 4:00 PM Rehearsal
 October 9 4:00 PM Rehearsal
 October 16 PRELUDE 8:00 / 11:00 service
 OFFERTORY 8:00 service
 October 16 4:00 PM Rehearsal
 October 23 3:00 PM Rehearsal in Helms Hall
 Disney taping
 October 30 4:00 PM Rehearsal

October 2005						
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**Resound
Rehearsal Schedule**

October 2 5:00 PM Rehearsal
 October 9 NO Rehearsal
 October 16 5:00 PM Rehearsal
 October 23 5:00 PM Rehearsal
 October 30 5:00 PM Rehearsal

November 2005						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

**Weddington UMC
Handbell Department**

13901 Providence Road
Weddington, NC 28104
(704) 846-1032 (voice & fax)
www.weddingtonchurch.org

HANDBELL WEB SITE:
[http://www.weddingtonchurch.org/
WC_Handbell.html](http://www.weddingtonchurch.org/WC_Handbell.html)

Sarah Sheffield
(704) 779-7359
Live2Ring@aol.com

Cheryl Lukac
(704) 846-1032 ext 31
ctlukac@yahoo.com

Notes from the Director...

REMINDER TO ALL GROUPS:

DECEMBER 17—please mark this evening down on your calendar and reserve it. We will be helping put on a Dessert Dinner Theater in the Family Life Center as part of a Music Department Fundraiser. We will need ALL Handbell participants to help out in one way or another and we will be a part of the entertainment for the evening. I will be getting more information to you as we set details. If you have any suggestions on what we should serve or decoration suggestions or know of a company that would be willing to donate supplies, please let me know.

ADULTS & YOUTH—there are 2 festivals that I want you to attend (at least one of them). Both are optional and we will take only those that can go.

November 12—Mid Carolinas Handbell Festival at First Presbyterian Church in Charlotte

**Please let me know this Sunday (10/2) if you can attend this festival. Cost is \$25 which includes lunch. Day starts at 8:45 AM with the final concert starting at 4:00, which the public is invited to attend.

March 3-4, 2006—Area III Intergenerational festival in Hickory, NC

**More information on this festival to come.

YOUTH—Summer Tour trip—Please watch for a separate letter with more details.

Wonderful job on September 18 adults!!! You ladies (& Milton) did a good job for the prelude for only having 1 rehearsal!

Side Note—Laurie Primm is working with the newly formed Youth Choir. She currently rehearses on Sunday evenings after the Jr. High meeting but during the same time as Sr. High Youth. She would really like to move this rehearsal to Wednesday nights to avoid the Youth group conflict, but in order to do so she needs someone to direct the 3-5 grade children's choir (which would free her up). This would only be an every other week commitment for rehearsals because the kids will attend Orff one week and then choir the next, and so on. So if you know of anyone that would be interested, have them contact Laurie (or Cheryl) at the church office.

Sarah