

The Reformation Story
Applications to the 21st Century
Celebrating 500+ Years of the Reformation Story
September 5-19, 2024—Main Tour (includes travel days)
September 19-24, 2024—Post Tour (limited availability)

with
Randy Roberts, Senior Pastor, Loma Linda University Church
and
Michael Campbell, PhD, Church Historian

The Reformation story is the story that changed the
Western World,
changed history, changed who we are today.

Johannes Hus 1370-1415
Martin Luther 1483-1546
Ulrich Zwingli 1484-1531

Luther quotes that still ring true today.

“The whole being of any Christian is faith and love. Faith brings the person to God, love brings the person to people.”

“Pray like it all depends on God, then when you are done, go work like it all depends on you.”

Main Tour

Thursday, September 5, 2024—Trans-Atlantic flight U.S. to Rome Italy

Friday, September 6—Arrive Rome

Transfer from airport to hotel.

Following dinner, introduction to the tour as we begin to celebrate the 500+ years of our Christian heritage since Martin Luther nailed his **95 Theses** to the door of the **Castle church in Wittenberg, October 31, 1517**. This tour will retrace the steps of Martin Luther and other Christian reformers down to the Papacy in Rome, including applications to Christianity today.

Friday--Saturday—Rome—September 6, 7

Our visit to Rome will focus on Papal **Captivity and the Inquisition**.

The Beginning of the 1260 Years, height of the Papacy, and the early Christian persecutions.

We will visit numerous sites in Rome (including The Martyr Train)—sites connected to the first-century martyrs: Basilica of St. Peter in Chains; Site of Nero's House, Basilica of San Clemente, and Circus Maximus.

Focus Imperial Rome

Capitoline Hill, Mamertine Prison, Roman Forum, Arches of Titus and Constantine, the Colosseum Catacombs, Chapel of St. John in Oil, the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Wall, burial site of Paul.

Focus on Constantine and Rise of the Roman Catholic Church

Vatican Museum and Basilica of St. Peter

Palace of Corsini, St. John Lateran (the cathedral of the popes), St. John's Baptistery, the Scala Sancta (Pilate's Staircase), Church of Jesus

Dinner and overnight—Rome—6th – 7th BW Blue Hotel

Sunday, September 8—Rome—Florence

Following breakfast, our morning drive will take us through the beautiful Italian countryside to **Florence**, known as the "**cradle of the Renaissance**" for its monuments and churches. The best-known site is the domed cathedral, **The Duomo**. We will have an opportunity to explore this beautiful cathedral and enjoy a city tour.

Along the way as we drive from Rome to Florence, we will talk about **Ravenna** and its importance to the **Reformation story** and **early church history** as **Pope Gregory IV** revealed the supreme power of the papacy by humiliating **Emperor Henry IV at the Castle of Canossa**.

Dinner and Overnight—Florence

Monday, September 9—Florence—Torre-Pellice

Waldensian Valley

Today our focus—**The Church in the Wilderness—The Church living under the Papacy**

Following breakfast our journey continues as we make our way through the beautiful northern Italian hills and valleys to **Torre-Pellice**.

Dinner and Overnight—Torre-Pellice Waldensian Lodge

Tuesday, September 10—Waldensian Valleys (Piedmont region of northwest Italy)

The Piedmont area of northwest Italy is where some of the Waldenses were located going back to at least the 11th century and probably much earlier and where they were bitterly persecuted by the Roman Catholics until the 18th century. The term “Waldenses” refers to “people of the valleys.” There are four major valleys in the Cottian Alps that formed the historic home of these Waldensians: Val Germanasca, Val Chisone, Val Angrogna, and Val Pellice.

Following breakfast, we will have morning worship in the **Waldensian Church**, taking time to reflect on the dawn of the Reformation. We will spend our day hiking to the caves where they hid and prayed. All these valleys were scenes of terrible massacres during the 15th to 17th centuries. The cruelties perpetuated against the Bible believing Christians were vicious.

If possible, we will visit the College of Barbes at Pra del Torno, see the historic Waldensian monuments of Chanforan, Beckwith School, and the Cave Church.

Dinner and overnight—Torre-Pellice Waldensian Lodge

Wednesday, September 11—Torre-Pellice—Courmayeur, Italy—Chamonix, France (via Arguille du Midi Cable Car

Following breakfast, we leave the northern Italian Valleys making our way to Courmayeur. Leave your belongings on the bus and board the gondola for an unforgettable **4–6-hour ride across the Alps. Up—over Mont Blanc—descending the Alps Chamonix, France**

Dinner and overnight—Chamonix, France

Thursday, September 12— Chamonix, France—Geneva—Zurich, Switzerland

Following breakfast, we quickly leave France and continue through the beautiful Swiss countryside to Geneva as we **focus on Calvin and the French Reformation.**

We will make several stops along the way. **St. Pierre Cathedral, Reformation Museum, Calvin’s House, and the Reformation Monument.**

Dinner and overnight—Zurich, Switzerland

Friday, September 13— Zurich, Switzerland—Heidelberg, Germany

Today we focus on Zwingli, the Anabaptists, John Huss and Jerome of Prague.

We visit the **battlefield where Zwingli died**, and we will visit **Zwingli sites in Zurich.**

In a walking tour we will visit places where **John Huss** and **Jerome** lodged, the church of their trial and the site where they were burned at the stake.

Dinner and overnight—Heidelberg, Germany

Saturday, September 14—Heidelberg—Mainz—Marburg

Traveling north from Heidelberg we will make a quick stop at **Worms**. When Rome, in 1521, promulgated a bull against all that Luther believed, Charles V convoked the Imperial Diet of Worms and invited Luther to appear before it. Luther refused to retract his beliefs and was banned from the Empire. We will see the **Luther Monument**, which commemorates his appearance before the Diet and visit the **18th Century Church of the Holy Trinity**. Its interior has been remodeled to commemorate the Luther Reformation.

Mainz is a **German city on the Rhine River**. It's known for its old town, with half-timbered houses and medieval market squares. In the center, the Marktbrunnen is a Renaissance fountain with red columns. Nearby, a distinctive octagonal tower tops the Romanesque Mainz Cathedral, built of deep red sandstone. We will visit the **Gutenberg Museum** which honors the inventor of the printing press and view the museum's most prized possession, the Gutenberg Bible of 1452-1455.

We will continue our journey to Marburg with a cruise on the Rhine. The river winds through the medieval town of Limburg, with its **13th century seven-spired Cathedral of St. George**.

Dinner and Overnight— Dammuehle Hotel, Marburg

Sunday, September 15—Marburg—Eisenach—Erfurt—Eisleben (*as time permits*)

Wartburg Castle—Eisenach—Erfurt—St. Augustine Monastery—Wittenberg

Luther's birth home is in the small community of Eisleben.

Marburg remains a relatively unspoiled spire-dominated, castle-crowned Gothic or Renaissance city on a hill partly because it was isolated between 1600 and 1850. Architecturally, it is famous both for its castle Marburger Schloss and its medieval churches.

The Philipps University of Marburg, founded in 1527, is one of the oldest universities in Germany and famous for its scientific research and coveted prizes. A large chunk of Marburg's population is made up of students of this university, which contributes to the vibrant, young atmosphere of the town. Many legendary personalities have received their education at this university, including Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm. The lessons they received about the history of the German language and literature and folktales here undeniably shaped the magic they weaved with words. The Brothers Grimm best-known tales include "Hansel and Gretel," "Snow White," "Little Red Riding Hood," "Sleeping Beauty," "Tom Thumb," "Rapunzel," "The Golden Goose," and "Rumpelstiltskin." The universal appeal of these stories—whether they are considered as psychological archetypes or as fantasy narratives have inspired many children to read.

Today's focus is on the Birthplace of the Reformation

We will board our bus for a short drive to Eisenach where we will visit **Wartburg Castle a UNESCO World Heritage site**. Wartburg Castle is perched some 400 m (approx. 1300 ft) above the quiet countryside. It was originally built in the Middle Ages and opened in 1067.

Erfurt—we will view a tall gravestone-like rock with Luther's plea to St. Anne and visit.

St. Augustine Monastery—Monastery where Luther entered the priesthood—the beginning of freedom of speech and freedom of thought. Erfurt is a timeless community with seemingly untouched history with its cathedral and the church of St Severin, its matchless Gothic and German Renaissance houses and its 600+ year old bridge with 33 houses built on it.

Before arriving in Wittenberg, we will view Mansfield Castle on the hillside which inspired Luther's writing the hymn, **A Mighty Fortress**.

Luther spent his childhood with his parents in Mansfield.

Dinner & Overnight—Wittenberg

Monday, September 16—Wittenberg—Berlin

Today without rush, we will explore Wittenberg.

Wittenberg is the adopted hometown of Martin Luther and the birthplace of the Protestant Reformation. For centuries, not only Germans, but the Christian world has celebrated Wittenberg for its ties to Luther. As we explore Wittenberg, we will time travel backwards to the beginning of the 16th century.

Luther lived and taught for 36 years in this traditional old German town on the banks of the Elbe River.

Town Church—Wittenberg’s oldest building (14th-15th Century) the church of which Martin Luther was the pastor.

Castle Church—Site of the nailing of the 95 theses—grave of Martin Luther and Philipp Melanchthon.

Dinner & Overnight—Berlin

Tuesday, Wednesday, September 17 & 18— Berlin

Various sites in Berlin

Dinner & Overnight—Berlin

Thursday, September 19—Flights back to US from Berlin

Following breakfast, we conclude our inspiring Reformation study tour. Book your return flight back home from Berlin International Airport (or choose to stay for the post tour or stay in Berlin following the return of the group).

Tour Price: \$5750 per person double occupancy.

Addition for single supplement \$1250

Tour Price Includes:

Two meals a day (full breakfast and dinner)

Small delightful local countryside hotels 3 and 4 star

Same air-conditioned coach and licensed tour leader throughout tour from Berlin to Rome

Daily worship by Pastor Randy and lectures by Dr. Campbell relating to the day's itinerary

Local licensed step-on guides in Berlin, Zurich, Geneva, Florence, Rome

All entrance fees to sites in itinerary:

- Prague Hardcany
- Lutherhouse Museum
- Town Church
- Philipp Melanchthonn
Mansfeld Luther's Parent's House
- Geburtshaus Museum
- Panorama Luther 1517 Multimedia
- Geburtshaus Museum
- Steberhaus
- St. Augustine Monastery
- Wartburg Castle
- Bach Museum
- Luther Haus—Eisenach
- Gutenberg Museum
- Reformation Museum—Geneva
- Gondola on Mont Blanc
- Mamertine Prison
- Roman Forum
- Colosseum
- Vatican Museums—Sistine Chapel
- Palazzo Corsini
- Domus Aurea (Nero's House)
- Berlin sites
- Tips
- Risk Management Health Insurance Only (this is not full travel insurance; trip cancellation etc.)

Tour Price does not include for both main tour and post tour:

Airfare or transportation to and from the airports (if needed add \$85 for a private transfer upon arrival in Rome for up to 2 people in sedan car + driver waiting with your name on sign in arrivals hall at Rome International airport to take you to the hotel or transfer to Berlin International Airport at the end of the tour.)

Travel Insurance, Passport, Items of personal nature, private transfers,
Drinks—water and additional drinks will be available on the coach as well as in the hotels for a small fee.

*****TRAVEL INSURANCE: HIGHLY RECOMMENDED*****

A physical copy of your passport is required. Please email a copy of passport to shirleym4u2@gmail.com

TRIP INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: each registered person should apply for trip insurance within two weeks of making their deposit. Your trip insurance should not only cover your land costs, but also your anticipated airfare cost.

Tour Refund Policy:

- From the date of your \$500 deposit, you have 30 days for a full refund of your deposit.
- Cancellation on day 31 and anytime up until your final payment will result in a refund of 50% of your deposit. (\$250)
- Final payment is due June 30, 2024: after that date and beyond 100% cancellation penalties apply.

Post-Tour Itinerary

Please Note: post-tour has limited availability.

Thursday, September 19—High Speed Train Berlin to Prague

Train 7:16am Berlin Main Train Terminal/Arrive Prague 11:24 am Main Terminal

Lunch Prague

Wavel Castle, Old Town

Dinner & Overnight—Hotel Vítkov Prague

Friday, September 20--Prague

Prague's most venerated landmark, **the Hradcany** which overlooks the city. The simple Slav fortress of the 9th century grew into a **Romanesque castle** in the 12th century, which in turn, gave way to a **Gothic palace** in the 14th century. Sections of the Hradcany now serve as concert halls and museums.

Following lunch, we will visit the **Old Town** with its beautiful **Town Hall** and medieval clock, **Tyn Church**, one of Prague's finest Gothic features and a gathering place for the **Hussites**, the **Old-New Synagogue**, and the **Old Jewish Cemetery**. We will also visit **Prague University**, central Europe's oldest university where **John Hus was Rector**. **Bethlehem Chapel** is where he preached.

Dinner & Overnight—Hotel Vítkov Prague

Saturday, September 21—High Speed Train Prague to Krakow

Train 10:19 am Prague Main Train Terminal/Arrive Krakow 4:28pm Main Terminal

Transfer to hotel.

Dinner & Overnight—Krakow

Sunday, September 22—Day trip to Auschwitz

Dinner & Overnight—Krakow

Monday, September 23—Oskar Schindler's Factory, Ghetto Heroes Square, Jewish Community

Dinner & Overnight Krakow

Tuesday, September 24 Transatlantic flights to US

Post Tour Price:

\$1920 per person double occupancy. Addition for single supplement \$350

Post Tour Price Includes:

- Two meals a day (full breakfast and dinner)
- Small delightful local hotels 3 and 4 star
- Tips
- Train: Berlin to Prague
- Train: Prague to Krakow
- The Hradcany
- Romanesque Castle
- Tyn Church
- Old-New Synagogue
- Old Jewish Cemetery
- Prague University—Bethlehem Chapel
- Day trip to Auschwitz
- Oskar Schindler's Factory
- Ghetto Heroes Square
- Jewish Community
- Risk Management Health Insurance Only (not full travel insurance; trip cancellation etc.)

Post Tour Price does not include: (see notes at the end of Main Tour)

Airfare or transportation to and from the airports

*****TRAVEL INSURANCE: HIGHLY RECOMMENDED*****

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND GETTING TRAVEL INSURANCE TO COVER **ALL YOUR EXPENSES** FOR ANY UNFORESEEN AND UNEXPECTED TRIP CANCELLATIONS! LLUC WILL NOT BE HELD LIABLE FOR REIMBURSEMENTS.

Passport

Items of personal nature

Drinks—water and additional drinks will be available on the coach as well as in the hotels for a small fee.