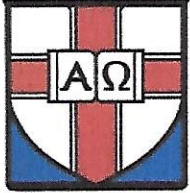


REFORMED
EPISCOPAL



Biblical • Evangelical • Liturgical

THE MOST REV.
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THE REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OFFICE FOR THE UNITED STATES and CANADA

A Founding Member of the Province of the
Anglican Church in North America

Dear Brethren:

I write to call for a special 2017 Lenten Offering in all of our missions and parishes. With the approval of our Board of Foreign Missions and supported by our bishops, the offering is intended to meet a \$10,000 matching donation given to complete the construction of an important Reformation Museum in Osijek, Croatia.

This museum is a full display with lovely courtyard at the RE flagship church in Croatia designed to attract visitors and students to learn about the impact of the Protestant Reformation in that part of Europe. This effort therefore has everything to do with spreading the Gospel in a visual and teaching manner.

As you know, the great reforms instituted in the Western Church in the 16th century restored the authority of Holy Scripture in the Church, and most importantly the clarity of the Gospel as by Christ alone, by grace through faith alone, in the message of the Word of God Written. What is not widely known is that the largest groups initially attracted to the Reformation were in Hungary and the surrounding countries! A leading bishop from that area became part of the Reformation. Important for us in the Anglican tradition, he had contact with and was influenced by the English Reformation!

Our RE brothers and sisters in Croatia have seized the timeliness of 2017, the year of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, for the completion of their important project. In Croatia on July 2, there will be a nationally televised celebration in which our own Reformed Episcopal Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Jasmin Milic, will participate.

The providential timing of the project at this moment compels us to respond with a sense of urgency to help complete their Reformation Museum. We are informed that in the spring, workers are available at reasonable costs to be hired to finalize the construction. This is why the immediacy in Lent, which will begin shortly, to call for a special offering to match the generous gift of \$10,000.

To help spread the word to our people and congregations, attached you will find a brochure that has been prepared to explain the project to your congregations. You will notice pictures of what has begun, as well as a picture of Bishop Royal Grote from his last visit in 2016. He was committed to this new mission effort and project. Therefore, let us give freely as we have received the Gift of God so freely, to the end that this important project may be completed in time to share the love of God in Jesus Christ!

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Ray R. Sutton

The Most Rev. Ray R. Sutton, Ph.D.