

About This Issue

V/D In 1977, the American Lutheran Church published a slender **M/A** pamphlet on the weighty topic of “Luther, Lutherans and the Jewish People.” Although now largely superseded by subsequent studies and the 1994 official declaration of the successor Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the pamphlet contained an essay of enduring value by the late Gerhard O. Forde. Why Luther’s later writings differed so sharply from his earlier works is explored with theological insight about Luther in his time and pastoral wisdom about an incendiary subject in any time. For recent literature, see the first three book reviews in this issue.

V/D Unlike Luther’s well-publicized comments on the Jews, Jewish **M/A** support for the Lutheran Salzburger refugees in 1732–33 is barely known at all, until Wolfgang Splitter’s work. That Jews so frequently and generously helped the Lutherans who had been expelled from Roman Catholic territories challenged several anti-Jewish stereotypes. This essay is Splitter’s own revision and translation of his essay in the *Zeitschrift für Religions- und Geistesgeschichte* 63.4 (2011): 332–347. Splitter’s previous publications here on H.M. Muhlenberg (LQ 21 and 25) stem from his position at the Zentrum für USA-Studien, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, *Dachritzstrasse 12, 06099 Halle (Saale), Germany*; splitter@zusas.uni-halle.de.

V/D On December 17, 1534, Martin Luther and Martin Bucer both **M/A** penned statements on the Lord’s Supper that proved crucial to the “Concord” of 1536 between the Wittenberg theologians and the South Germans. Debated, then and now, are the questions “What is eaten?” and “Who eats?” as Gordon A. Jensen lays out the texts and the specific words at stake. Jensen is Dean of Studies and the William Hordern Chair of Theology at the Lutheran Theological Seminary Saskatoon, *114 Seminary Crescent, Saskatoon SK S7N 0X3, Canada*; gordon.jensen@usask.ca.

V/D Five hundred years can prompt historical reflection, as seen in 1983 **M/A** and coming up soon enough in 2017. Meanwhile, 2010 nicely focused attention on a woman Lutheran reformer, Duchess Elisabeth of Braunschweig, born in 1510. Kirsi Stjerna calls on numerous recent studies to give an overview of Elisabeth’s life and career especially in the service of the Lutheran Reformation. Stjerna (kstjerna@lts.edu) is Professor of Reformation Church History at *Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, 61 Seminary Ridge, Gettysburg, PA 17325*.