The symbol on our cover, *Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum* (I Peter 1.25), was adopted as motto by Luther’s sovereign, Frederick the Wise, and his successors. The original “Protestant” princes walking out of the imperial Diet of Speyer 1529, unruly peasants following Thomas Müntzer, and from 1531 to 1547 the coins, medals, flags and guns of the Smalcalde League all bore the most famous Reformation slogan, the first Evangelical confession: the Word of the Lord remains forever.
About This Issue

On occasion, church historians or theologians will presume to write social history and/or analyses of social policy, but as amateurs. Aarhus professional and Professor of Social Policy Jørn Henrik Petersen first wrote multiple volumes on the history of the welfare state in Denmark, and then, in 2016 and 2017, books on the role of Martin Luther and Lutheranism in that history. Next up, in Danish, is Luther as a Social Reformer. jhp@sam.sdu.dk; Center for Welfare State Research, University of Southern Denmark, Campusvej 55, DK–5230 Odense M, Denmark.

Volker Leppin, recent LQ co-author with Timothy Wengert as to the “posting” of the 95 Theses, returns to our pages in this translation of his essay on how Luther was made into a monument even in his own lifetime. Georg Rörer, assistant and secretary to the Reformer, played a major role in this movement “from charismatic leadership to institution.” Of the Tübingen professor’s many publications, some have seen recent English translation, such as his compact Baker introduction, Martin Luther, A Late Medieval Life. Volker.leppin@uni-tuebingen.de; Liebermeisterstr. 12, D-72076 Tübingen, Germany.

Many lectures on or near October 31, 2017, told the familiar story of Luther’s stand for Reformation, but Kenneth G. Appold’s inaugural lecture that very evening as Princeton Seminary’s Nichols Professor of Reformation History was singular. Besides his own insights into Luther’s situation, Appold juxtaposed another courageous stand, the less familiar story of a nun who kept her vows even on Lutheran territory, Caritas Pirckheimer (1467–1532). Appold, successor to Scott Hendrix in the Nichols chair, is recently the co–editor of the Cambridge History of Reformation Theology. Kenneth.Appold@ptsem.edu; 62 Mercer Street, P.O. Box 821, Princeton, New Jersey 08542-0803.

The quincentennials keep coming along, this time courtesy of Suzanne Hequet retracing Luther’s trip to Augsburg in October of 1518, another milestone on the way to excommunication and Reformation. After Heidelberg in our last issue, now Augsburg, and Leipzig next year, these pivotal events will yield the famous treatises of 1520 and then the papal action. Hequet is our Associate Book Review Editor and thus, with Mary Jane Haemig, to be thanked also for the generous array of reviews in this and every issue. hequet@csp.edu; Department of Theology and Ministry, Concordia University of St. Paul, 1282 Concordia Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104.

Mary Jane Haemig is also shepherding our series on translations of Martin Luther into the world’s various languages, this time “Luther in Swedish.” Tomas Appleqvist, lecturer at the University of Karlstad, wrote a 2009 Lund thesis on Luther’s theology of prayer. Tomas.appleqvist@kav.se; Bråknevägen 13, S-372 61 Bråkne-Hoby, Sweden.