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# REFORMATION TIMES

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AUGUST 2018

## God's Work, Our Hands

Save the date – **Sunday, September 23.**

Reformation, in coordination with Trader Joe's in Media, will hold a Food Drive to support the Media Food Pantry and Chester Eastside Ministries in Chester.



*Mark your calendars. Save the date. Identify a family member or friend, a pew buddy or coworker and invite them to serve with you. Many hands and hearts serving together truly impacts lives. Contact Karen Chorney at karenchorney1621@gmail or see Deacon Beth if you can volunteer for a one hour shift between 11 am and 3 pm.*

## Installation of New Bishop



You are invited to celebrate the installation of the Rev. Patricia A. Davenport as Bishop of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod on **Saturday,**

**September 22,** at 2 pm at New Covenant Church of Philadelphia, 7500 Germantown Avenue. A reception will immediately follow.

Prior to her election, Bishop Davenport served as the Director for Evangelical Mission, Assistant to the Bishop in SEPA Synod. We thank God for her leadership among us!

## Women and Justice

A discussion on the proposed ELCA Social Statement on Women and Justice will be held on **Thursday, August 23.** There are two sessions to choose from – 10:30 am and 7:00 pm. Both sessions will be held in the ROCK Room.

Copies of the social statement are available on the counter in the lobby. Please take a copy to read before the discussion sessions. See Deacon Beth or Pastor Alina with any questions.

## Art in the Heart of Worship

Faith engagement takes many forms. Inspired by Stik the Street Artist in June and the works of Vincent van Gogh in July, we continue with our final Art in the Heart of Worship on **Sunday, August 19,** with a new activity and mystery artist. Stop by one of the two 'creation stations' located indoors by the elevators in our main hallway or at the front entry way leading into the lobby. There is a place for everyone!



## Life Together



*If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.*  
– 1 Corinthians 12:26

**Ethan Harlow Merkins**, son of Julie and Randy Merkins, was baptized at Reformation on July 1.

**John Kulp** entered eternal life on July 7. A memorial service was held at Reformation on July 13.

We bid Farewell and Godspeed to **Kirk, Pat, Jessica, and Vicky Simmet** during worship on July 15. Kirk and Pat are moving to Texas.

**Barbara Smith** entered eternal life on April 28. A memorial service was held at Reformation on July 19.

**Dick Whittington** entered eternal life on June 29. A memorial service was held at Reformation on July 21.

## Youth Gathering in Houston

Reformation's Youth Gathering Team poses with Molly Beck Dean, Gathering Director, at Community Life. 10 Reformation youth and 2 Reformation adults attended the triennial gathering held in Houston this year, June 27-July 1. Thank you to everybody who supported this opportunity for our youth!



## Blessing of the Backpacks

Bring your backpacks to worship on **Sunday, September 9**, for a special blessing as we celebrate the start of another school year and God's blessings in our lives every day!



## Underwear Collection

*Matthew 25:36, 40 "I was naked and you clothed me...as you did it to one of the least of my brethren, you did it to me."*

August is upon us, and underwear is on sale, so once again Reformation is working with the Needlework Guild of America (NGA) to collect NEW underwear and socks from August 19 to September 23. NGA is a grassroots charity dedicated to providing NEW Toiletries, Linens, and Clothing (TLC) for new tomorrows. We serve 10 agencies in Delaware and Chester Counties. Remember, the needy come in all sizes, shapes, ages, and genders from the newest baby at the pregnancy center to the oldest resident at Fair Acres. Last year, Reformation provided 373 much needed items. For further information, please contact Sally Burkam, 610-566-8737.

### REFORMATION TIMES

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Materials to: [newsletter@relcmedia.org](mailto:newsletter@relcmedia.org)

#### Congregation Council and Officers

Marian Filtz, *President*; Kristin Gress, *Vice President*; Dick Hughey, *Secretary*; Tom Conroy, *Treasurer*; Emily Black, Brett Conley, Talitha D'Italia, Marilyn Gilroy, Skip Hoffman, Uli Neubert, Layla Phillips, Mike Polito, Walt Woerheide, Pastor Alina Gayeuski, Pastor Wayne Matthias-Long

## Homecoming Sunday

Join us on **Sunday, September 30**, as we



welcome home all members of Reformation – past and present!

During worship we will recognize our “Heritage Members” – those who have been members of Reformation for 50 or more years.

We will also recognize members of Confirmation Classes from years ending in “3” and “8.” A list of names from these classes is printed in this newsletter. Please help us locate anyone from these classes who may have moved away by providing the church office with contact information you may have for them and be sure to extend an invitation to all members to join us for this celebration.

## Rally Day

Rally Day is **Sunday, September 9!** Our regular worship schedule resumes that morning with worship at 8:30 and 11:00 am and Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:45. Please plan to join us that morning as we embark on another great year of life here at Reformation!

## VBS – Thank You!

Thank you to all who worked to make Vacation Bible School a wonderful and special week here at Reformation! We give thanks to God for the blessing of all of the teachers, site leaders and helpers and for all of the children who helped us see God’s amazing grace!

## From Our Intern—Leigh Richard

Hello, Reformation! I have had a wonderful summer working here and serving you all. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work alongside and make friends with many of you! Thank you for being such a welcoming and fun community. I am moving back to Gettysburg College to start my senior year on August 13, so August 5 will be my last Sunday worshipping with you all. I have gained a great amount of confidence while here and I think I have done a good job of practicing “adulting.” I wish you all the best going forward!

## News from the OWLs

The OWLs have been meeting for many years with the help of many different people who volunteered to do the various tasks necessary for each meeting.



In May, the steering committee reminded folks that we needed more help if we were to continue to function. We sent out a survey to members twice (in case you missed it the first time) listing the areas in which help was needed. Thank you to those who responded with offers to help in some way or another!

*It's been a HOOT!*

However, there were no offers to take over planning the program, planning/organizing the meal, or recruiting someone to give the devotion. These three areas—program, meals, devotion—are essential to continuing OWLs meetings. Therefore, the OWLs senior group of Reformation Lutheran Church will not meet for the foreseeable future.

There will be no OWLs meeting in September!

## New Shingles Immunization

Herpes Zoster, also known as Shingles, is a painful, itchy rash that lasts for two to four weeks. It develops along a nerve pathway and happens as we age. A complication called postherpetic neuralgia sometimes happens after the shingles rash resolves which causes nerve pain at the healed site for up to six months or more. When you've had chickenpox, a small amount of the virus may remain inactive in a nerve. This reactivates as Shingles when a physical or emotional stress wakes the virus. While Shingles is not a life-threatening disease, the pain can be severe and reoccur. The CDC (US Center for Disease Control) relates that one in three Americans will develop Shingles in their lifetime.

Since 2006, **Zostavax** has been available to adults to prevent Shingles. Zostavax is a live vaccine that introduces a weaker version of the virus into a person's body to stimulate an immune response, so when faced with the actual virus, your body will prevent the disease. Statistics have proven Zostavax to be 50-60% effective for those over 60.

There is a new vaccine called **Shingrix** which has 97% effectiveness for those aged 50-69, and 91% effectiveness for those over 70 years of age and seems to be more effective at reducing postherpetic neuralgia. Shingrix is not a live vaccine, which can reduce the possibility of an adverse reaction.

The CDC relates that both vaccines decrease in effectiveness over time. Zostavax diminishes 15-25% after each year and is ineffective after 9 years. Shingrix produces effectiveness for four years at 85%. Longer results have not been reported yet.

Side effects from both are a sore arm with redness and some swelling. These local side effects seem worse in Shingrix. Also, people have reported muscle pain, headaches and shivering with fever stomach pain or nausea. One out of six people related the side effects from Shingrix prevented them from doing normal activity, which resolved after 2 to 3 days. A serious reaction called anaphylaxis rarely happens but watch for swelling of the face, trouble breathing or dizziness. Get emergency help right away. If you have any questions about side effects, talk with your doctor.

Do not take Shingrix or Zostavax if you have ever had any reaction to any component of a vaccine, if you tested negative for immunity to varicella zoster virus (consider obtaining the chickenpox vaccine), if you currently have shingles or are pregnant or are breastfeeding. When your immune system is compromised by drugs and chemotherapy, or you have a disease that lowers your immune response like leukemia, lymphoma or active tuberculosis don't immunize. All adults should consider this new immunization.

Pat Woerheide, RN



## Library News

### August: High Season for Corn, Tomatoes and Relaxation

What other month celebrates taking it easy like August? National Lazy Day is August 10, followed quickly by National Relaxation Day on August 15.



Can't set aside work or other responsibilities? You can still relax. Reading a book you lose yourself in or find useful in dealing with

an issue can give you a mini-vacation from stress. Studies have shown that reading delivers some important benefits: it slows heart rate and relaxes muscles, focuses energy and improves concentration, and can foster empathy as we immerse ourselves in the experiences of others. Reading can even improve sleep, easing the transition between wakefulness and drowsiness.

The Reformation Library collection offers something for everyone, from children to young adults to mature adults – picture books, storybooks, novels, biographies, works on faith and on dealing with challenges. Here are a few titles that might appeal: for children – *Explorers for God*, for older kids – *Diamonds in the Shadow* and *Woods Runner*, and for adults – *The Signature of All Things*, *Zealot*, and *How to Live Well with Chronic Pain and Illness: A Mindful Guide*.

## Travel With Jesus This Summer!

Pick up your Traveling Jesus from the counter in the lobby. Each sheet has instructions for you to take Jesus with you as you travel around the world or across the street. Post your photos of Jesus's travels on social media and use #TravelWithJesus #relcmedia.

## The Stranger in our Midst

### MCC Immigration Community Day

**Saturday, August 4**, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Centro de Alabanza Church (440 Snyder Avenue, Philadelphia, PA)

Mennonite Central Committee (MCC)'s mission is to share God's love and compassion for all in the name of Christ by responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. MCC's program in Philadelphia proudly partners with Solidarity Christian Community Development Association (SCCDA) to provide assistance to TPS holders through adjustment of legal status, advocacy, resource referral and more. SCCDA is part of the Kingdom Builders Network (KBN), an MCC partner.

At the community day we will hear from a panel of speakers on how immigrants can protect and advocate for themselves and each other in the current political and social climate. This includes knowing immigrants' rights and formulating a safety plan. Panelists will also touch on the role of the church in assisting immigrants and healing their communities. This event seeks to affirm the immigrant, to realize the valuable contributions of immigrants, and to unify the Philadelphia community. We will also reflect on performances from various cultural artists in the community and enjoy some authentic ethnic food.

For more information and to RSVP by July 25, visit [mcc.org/community-day](http://mcc.org/community-day) or call ChiChi Oguekwe, Philadelphia program coordinator, at (215) 535-3624.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Summer months are often marked by a slower, more relaxed pace of life. But at Reformation ministry was full speed ahead in the month of July. As July began, our group of 10 youth and two adult advisors returned from the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston where they had the thrill of worshipping with 30,000 other Lutheran youth. Their experience included faith-building learning events and service projects and much, much more. On Sunday, July 22, they planned and led worship for both services at Reformation. We thank them for the gift of inspiration which they give to all of us!

Our annual Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held the second week of July under the direction of Pastor Alina – and what a great week it was! 85 children were enrolled in VBS – that’s double the number enrolled in 2014! Each year the enrollment has grown by 10-20%. God has given us the great gift of sharing the faith in a fun way with all these children!

This ministry would not be possible without the support of nearly 40 volunteers. We thank God for the blessing of so many members of Reformation who are willing to share their love for God with these children.

A significant part of VBS is a mission project. The project at VBS was Habitat for Humanity. Children made more than 100 inspirational nail aprons for Habitat volunteers. They also painted 20 flower pots which will be given to new residents of Habitat homes. We are also grateful for the generous financial support given by VBS (and other members) to the Montco/Delco Habitat chapter. The offering of \$706 will be matched by our Holiday Offering Fund for a total contribution of \$1,412!

There was also a very well-received adult class during VBS. More than a dozen adults studied five cities in the book of Acts under the outstanding leadership of Nancy Clark.

Another highlight of July was Art in the Heart of Worship on Sunday, July 22, which celebrated the patterns and connections of God’s good creation, inspired by Van Gogh’s Sunflower paintings.

A dozen members continued to put their faith into action serving a meal at the Life Center in Upper Darby to more than 100 people living in homelessness.

July, like every month at Reformation, was indeed full of excitement and the blessings of ministry. I hope you and your loved ones have had or will have some time for relaxation and renewal this summer. Have a great August!

Pastor Wayne

## Calling Past Confirmation Class Members

Listed on the following page are the names of Reformation Confirmation Classes of years ending in “3” and “8.” Your help is needed in order for us to invite these individuals back to Reformation for Homecoming Sunday, September 30. Please provide the church office with the contact information (and name changes) of any people on this list that you may know. (These lists are the complete lists of the Confirmation Classes - so if it is someone who is still a member then we already have their information but appreciate the help in extending invitations to them to join us!)

The list has been compiled from the Parish Register. In some instances the handwriting was difficult to read. The names in italics were indecipherable. Thanks for your help.

**1953**

Marshall *Autmsns*  
 Constance Brown  
 David *Confrd*  
 Gordon Davis  
*Mahlm*Harris  
 Judith Kuder  
 Alyce Thompson  
 John Tinsman  
 Donna Wilkinson  
 James *Pentinall*

**1958**

Martha Bell  
 David Brown  
 Douglas Brown  
 Richard Gabriel  
 Jane *Krarnr*  
 Dorothy *????endor*  
 Michael *??????*  
 Donald Powell  
 Elaine *??Iford*  
 Francis *Sherman*

**1963**

Thomas Acton  
 Carol Ann Bell  
 Pamela Benson  
 Stephen Cannon  
 Diane Davis  
 Marjorie Deininger  
 Edna Dawson  
 Virginia Carol Gabel  
 Jessica Lee Jones  
 Gary David Kamin  
 Judith Helen Kline  
 Stanley Lavender  
 Robert Moore, Jr.  
 Natalia Anne Peters  
 Geoffrey Radford  
 Darlene Lee *Repperl*  
 Lynn Alice Schock  
 Matthew  
 Soennichsen, Jr.  
 Linda Jane Strohm  
 Sally Jane Johnson  
 Carol *Wietknechl*  
 Douglas Winn

**1968**

Eric Richard Altman  
 Nancy Lee Andersen  
 Jeffrey *Apoian*

Mark Bauserman  
 David Shaffer Bevan  
 Richard Alan  
 Caldwell  
 Carol Robin Cox  
 Edward Creighton  
 Mark Jolli Cross  
 Karen Dickson  
 Doborah Di Giovanni  
 Janet Ann Dodgson  
 Phyllis Lynn *Enlund*  
 Jeffrey Morris Foulk  
 Scott Galloway  
 Olga Glenstrup  
 Douglas Grunwald  
 Hollis Eve Holland  
 Sally Donna Jensen  
 Peter Bruno *Joner*  
 Dorothy Koehler  
 Deborah Ann Korn  
 Carin Ann Leisey  
 Gary Mac New  
 Donald Marshall  
 Joanne *McCay*  
 Douglas Melton  
 Kyle Messick  
 Heather Neal  
 John T. Praznic, Jr  
 Susan Rawlinson  
 Gail Ann Roberts  
 Gary Edward Rosser  
 Barbara Lee Royer  
 Joyce Anne Rupp  
 Bernard Scheidle  
 Karen Virginia Shook  
 Scott Alan Smith  
 Vicky Ann Spielman  
 Gail Stuverude  
 Debra Terstappen  
 Kathy Thompson  
 Joan Marie Ticknor  
 David Yerger  
 Cheryl Jersey

**1973**

Susan M. Barnard  
 Carolyn L. Barton  
 John W. Beck  
 Lynne Bjorkman  
 Lynne A. Brady  
 Christopher Brown  
 Stuart W. Bryant  
 Brian Cornelius

Steven R. Cramer  
 John C. *Dalhoff*  
 John R. Dix  
 Lisa Fahl  
 Mark Gewiss  
 Stephen Gotwols  
 Timothy Griffith  
 James P. Grunwald  
 William R. Kirkpatrick  
 Charles E. Kohnstam  
 Steven R. Lebischak  
 Gary Newburg  
 David Oswald  
 Paul Patterson  
 W. Thomas Pike, Jr.  
 Mark S. Ratz  
 Stuart Rhoad  
 Sharon Robinson  
 Jeffrey D. Rupert  
 Craig S. Spangler  
 Nancy B. Spielman  
 Lynn E. Thompson  
 Danielle L. *Werner*  
 Mark Yerger

**1978**

Mary Beth Barnard  
 Donna Beltzner  
 James Benedict  
 Randall Caldwell  
 Jeffrey Cannon  
 Martha Carlson  
 Lisa Cramer  
 Patricia Creighton  
 Michael D'Ignazio  
 Paul Gewise  
 Douglas Knox  
 Michael Kress  
 Patricia Laven  
 Suzanne Litwack  
 Jeffrey Lowrey  
 David Ludin  
 Robert Marencin  
 Rolf Naumann  
 Carl Ostman  
 Virginia Ponton  
 Scott Smith  
 Christine Spielman  
 Melanie Stephenson  
 Deborah Tarr  
 Beth Thompson  
 Jeffrey Weaver  
 Kathleen Zuy

**1988**

Ellen Blandy  
 Michele Gaston  
 Matthew James Hart  
 Patrick Lester Moen  
 Michael Robbins  
 Brian James Ward

**1993**

Brianna Jean Beebe  
 Matthew David Coll  
 Denise Lynn Himes  
 Stephen Kimmel  
 Ross Allen Konar  
 Jennifer Lynn Kulp  
 Nicole Serle  
 Benjamin Swanson  
 Elizabeth Conroy  
 Lara D'Alessandro  
 Joseph Ebright  
 Lawrence Filtz  
 Brynne Sara Norton

**2003**

Emily Brooks  
 Brianna Buchanan  
 (Moretti)  
 Kyle Goodale  
 Stephanie Hoenig  
 Jim McMullen  
 Kristin Reiter  
 Vicky Simmet  
 Kelly Wilkinson

**2008**

Grace Brooks  
 Daniel Buttery  
 Amanda Conley  
 David Fender  
 Kevin Gane  
 Jessica Goodale  
 Alina Hess  
 Jason Tucker

**2013**

Katarina Borichevsky  
 Libby Gregg  
 Emilie Kyler  
 Johnny Walter



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**Return Service Requested**

Sunday Worship: 8:30 am & 11:00 am  
Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 am  
Summer Worship: 8:30 am & 10:00 am

*Pastors*

The Rev. Wayne A. Matthias-Long  
The Rev. Alina S. Gayeuski

Phone: 610-891-0600  
FAX: 610-566-7036  
www.relcmedia.org

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## AUGUST 2018

*Called by Christ, we*

**INVITE** all people

**SERVE** our neighbors

**BUILD** a living faith

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Art in the Heart of Worship

Thursday, August 23  
Women and Justice