
REFORMATION TIMES

May 2020

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 1 Peter 3:3-5

Dear Members and Friends of Reformation,

The first Easter didn't come with trumpet fanfares, lily adorned altars, or filled churches. It came, instead, while it was still dark outside, to grieving women at an empty tomb and to lonely and scared disciples hiding in their homes.

This Easter has come to us in much the same simple way. The quiet promise of the resurrection coming to us in our homes, with our families, in the midst of so much unknown. And while our celebrations have been different, the reason for our joy has remained. This is the good news of Easter – the promise of the resurrection never fails in finding us!

Easter is not only one day on our calendar, but rather 50 days – a full season of living in and celebrating the promises of God's triumph over death. But may we also find that we are people called to live in the joy of Easter every day – celebrating the promise of new life that cannot be taken away from us!

May you be strengthened and encouraged by the resurrection promise now and always!

Peace,
Pastor Wayne Matthias-Long
Pastor Alina Gayeuski
Deacon Beth Barkhau

Thank you for your generous support of the Annual Fund and the Holiday Offering Fund.

Special Grants of \$500 were given in April from the Holiday Offering Fund to:

- Chester Eastside
- Caring For Friends
- Media Food Bank
- Upper Darby Community Outreach Corp.
- The Welcome Church
- The Well
- Life Center in Upper Darby
- Philabundance
- Feast of Justice
- New Creation Lutheran Church
- Lutheran Settlement House
- Chester County Migrant Ministry
- Phoenix Recovery Project
- Lunch for Riddle Hospital Staff
- Lunch for Upper Providence Township Police Department
- Lunch for Media Fire/EMS

Opportunities to Serve Our Neighbors

A full list of our community partners and service opportunities is available on our website. To find it, click on the “Connect” tab at the top of the homepage. Then, on the drop-down list, click on “Community Partners.” If you don’t have internet access and you have questions, contact Deacon Beth, Pastor Alina, or Pastor Wayne.

When social distancing restrictions are lifted, our community action ministry team will be busy coordinating site visits and engagement days for many partners on this list.

Here is a partial list of current service opportunities.

Make “Caring Notes” for snacks bags for Caring for Friends (see the samples in the photo on p. 3). The instruction sheet for the Caring Notes is on the church website.

Make Breakfast Bags for Caring for Friends. Caring for Friends provides meals for homebound and hungry people in the Philadelphia area. Instructions are on the website. Breakfast bags can be dropped off at Reformation on Mon., June 1, between 9:00 am and 12:00 noon (“drive through” outside Creighton Hall).

Drop off donations of basic food supplies, household supplies, and personal hygiene items directly to the Media Food Bank, Monday through Friday, 12 noon – 2:00 pm, at First Church, Media (west end of State Street).

Pack food and organize daily produce deliveries at Lutheran Settlement House any weekday morning. Schedule a time to volunteer by contacting Erica Zaveloff at ezaveloff@lsh.org.

Send notes of cheer and good wishes to residents of Pauls’ Run Retirement Community. Paul’s Run is a Lutheran care community but home to people of many faith traditions so please make notes general well wishes that can be shared with everyone! Notes can be mailed to: Chaplain at Paul’s Run, 9896 Bustleton Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19115.

Volunteer to provide grocery shopping services to local seniors and adults who are immuno-compromised. Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is partnering with Covaid and with Shopping Angels to help meet the high demand for assistance during the pandemic. Go to <https://www.rsvpmc.org/volunteer-1> and click the button that says “Sign up for Volunteering.”

KenCrest is in need of technical devices (iPads, iPhones) for individuals to connect with tele-health therapists and their social networks. Contact Pastor Alina for donation information.

The Red Cross is in need of blood donations. If you are able to donate, visit the Red Cross website (redcross.org) to locate a blood drive near you.

Become a “Tele-health Volunteer” to help relieve the massive workload of our healthcare workers from your own home. Learn more about the 10-hour online training program sponsored by Rotary International and The Global Impact Group by visiting the website at <https://theglobalimpactgroup.org/>.



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

David Moore entered eternal life on April 25, 2020.

A Note of Thanks

Dear Reformation Family,

Gary and I were so thankful for the e-cards, cards, phone calls and prayers in the past weeks after the passing of my mother, Jeanette Brown. It was a difficult time in that we could not be there with her to hold her hand and comfort her as she slipped away to be with her heavenly Father. Thank the Lord for the Compassionate Care person! We will miss her greatly but she had a great 101 years! As an almost "Charter Member" here at Reformation, she was surrounded by love and prayers, visits from so many, visits from the Pastors, home communion and comforting prayers and prayer shawls. We were so blessed to have a loving mother and so blessed to have such a loving and caring church family!

In Christian Love,
Betsy & Gary Kamin

Generous Gift for Covid-19 Relief

In April, members of Reformation donated \$1,215 to Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) for Covid-19 Relief. This amount was matched by our Holiday Offering Fund resulting in a total gift to LDR of \$2,430! Thanks be to God for this abundant generosity!



Pictured above are some of the Caring Notes for Caring for Friends snack bags made by the Fontes family – Lillian, Elizabeth, Kara, and David.

**Stay connected – go to
relcmedia.org/virtualchurch**

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Congregation Council and Officers

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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

610-891-0600
www.relcmedia.org

Label

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MISSION: Called by Christ,
we **INVITE** all people,
SERVE our neighbors, and
BUILD a living faith.

WELCOME: Called by Christ, we invite and welcome all people. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, age, abilities, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or employment status. We welcome all without regard to religious belief or identity, citizenship, political views, or anything that might divide us. Our unity is in Christ.

Join us for worship and other
faith building resources at
relcmedia.org/virtualchurch