

REFORMATION TIMES

July 2023

Under Construction!



Please note that during the week of **July 17**, the front, back and west parking lots will be closed. They will be seal coated and the lines repainted. The east lot (closest to 252) will be accessible. All lots will reopen for worship on Sunday, **July 23**. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Lunch Bunch

Our "Lunch Bunch" does more than just lunch! They recently collected and delivered over \$100 worth of toiletries to the Domestic Abuse Project in Media, PA. This month's lunch will be at Miller's Ale House at Granite Run on Thursday, **July 6**. For more information, please contact Sue Bianco or Edna Bogert. All are welcome!



Edna Bogert and Linda Bucher dropping off toiletries donated by the Lunch Bunch to the Domestic Abuse Project on June 6.

Christ In Our Home Booklets

The July/August/September issue of the *Christ in Our Home* devotional booklets are now available for pick up at the church. If you would like to have one mailed to you, please contact the church office.

Vacation Bible School

This year's Vacation Bible School will be **July 10-14**, 5:30-7:30 pm.



Children Age 3 through completed Grade 5 are invited to join us! For more information and to register, please visit:

www.myvbs.org/relocmedia.

Volunteer at VBS

Want to help our children and youth have a great week at Vacation Bible School? Contact Pastor Eileen to volunteer! Volunteers are needed to lead class groups and activities during the week. Child care is provided for children who are too young to participate in VBS if parents are volunteering at VBS. VBS is **July 10-14**, 5:30-7:30 pm.

Summer Office Hours

This is just a reminder that while our normal office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm (and closed on Fridays), with our small staff and summer vacation schedules, this might not always be the case. Please call the office before stopping in to make sure someone will be there to help you.



Drum Lessons

Would you like to learn to play the drums? If so, please reach out to Joe McGuth at 267-607-1415 or thejoemcguth@gmail.com. He is offering lessons for all ages and skill levels. Costs range from \$35 for a half hour to \$60 for a full hour.



If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

1 Corinthians 12:26

John Grantland (President), Debbie Conley (Vice President), Laura Reiter (Secretary), Marian Filtz (Treasurer), Jamie Anderson, Madison Benzing, Kristen Forster, Eric Hathaway, Gabby Parker and Kaylee Troutman were installed as Council members and officers during worship on **June 4**.

Rachel Bingeman, Arianna D'Italia, Lindsay Gamiln, Megan Gress, Joelle Hacik, Valerie Issa, Kelsey Schaub and Jordan Sharer were the 2023-2024 recipients of the Mark E. Davis Scholarship. The scholarship was presented at worship on **June 11**.

Prepare for First Communion



It is our practice at Reformation that children receive their first communion at the desire of their parents. This can be done for any age (or ages if you wish for siblings to receive first communion together).

First communion instruction is an at-home lesson set that can be completed at your own time and pace. Any time we celebrate communion as a congregation is a date that can be chosen.

Families desiring for their child to receive their first communion should contact Pastor Eileen.

Explore the Holy Land!

Pastor Alina and Pastor Dan will be leading a trip to the Holy Land for Reformation and Holy Trinity Lutheran Churches, family, and friends. The trip will be **January 7-17, 2025**. More information will follow, but if you are interested in being part of the trip, contact Pastor Alina to be added to the list!



Council Highlights

In June the Council meeting included these highlights:

- Welcome of new Council members: Gabrielle Parker, Madison Benzing, Kaylee Troutman
- Approved a funding request for a match from Holiday Offering for the Vacation Bible School Offering to benefit Fostering Hope.

**Note—there is no July Council Meeting*

Helping Hands Para Support Grants Available

Reformation has recently created the Helping Hands Para Support Fund. Grants are available to offset the cost of paraprofessionals or aids needed for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities to attend our education programs or other Reformation activities. Contact Pastor Eileen with questions or to apply.

REFORMATION TIMES

Published Monthly by
Reformation Lutheran Church

Deadline: Noon the 15th of every month
Materials to: newsletter@relcmedia.org

Congregation Council and Officers

John Grantland, *President*; Debbie Conley, *Vice President*; Laura Reiter, *Secretary*; Marian Filtz, *Treasurer*; Jamie Anderson, Madison Benzing, Kristen Forster, Eric Hathaway, Gabby Parker, Kaylee Troutman, Pastor Alina Gayeuski and Pastor Eileen Ruppel-Doan.

Backpack School Supply Collection 2023

Collection Ends August 6



It's time for the Backpack School Supply Collection! We hope to once again be able to supply stuffed backpacks to students in the Chester and Upper Darby Communities. Last year, we filled just over 363 backpacks. Over the past three years, this has become an Interfaith effort with several faith communities joining what was started with the Lutheran Churches in Delaware County.

Here are 3 ways you can support the collection this year:

One way to make a contribution is to use the links below to an Amazon Wishlist – School Supplies. Place an order and it will be shipped directly to the crew that will assemble the backpacks.

Links to Wishlist:

<https://shorturl.at/ackDV>

or scan here:



You can also make a monetary contribution.

Checks can be mailed to:

School Supplies c/o Jody Troyan

1201 Swarthmore Ave.

Folsom, PA 19033.

Checks should be made payable to Grace Lutheran Church – Broomall.

Dave Ehret is again serving as Treasurer of this effort.

As in past years, you can do the shopping and drop off the supplies at Reformation. The suggested list of supplies are as follows:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Plastic Pencil Box

Pocket Tissue Packs

Composition Books

Crayons (24 count box)

Washable Markers (8 count box)

Glue (8-ounce bottle)

Glue Sticks

Large Pink Erasers

No. 2 Pencils

Pocket Folders

Safety Scissors

Pencil Sharpener

Ruler

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

Plastic Pencil Box

Pocket Folders

Scotch Tape

Highlighters

No. 2 Pencils

Mechanical Pencils

Colored Pencils

Pencil Sharpener

3 x 5 Index Cards (ruled & unruled)

Pens

Ruler

3 Ring Binders

Binder Dividers

Loose Leaf Paper

Post It Notes

1 Subject Notebooks

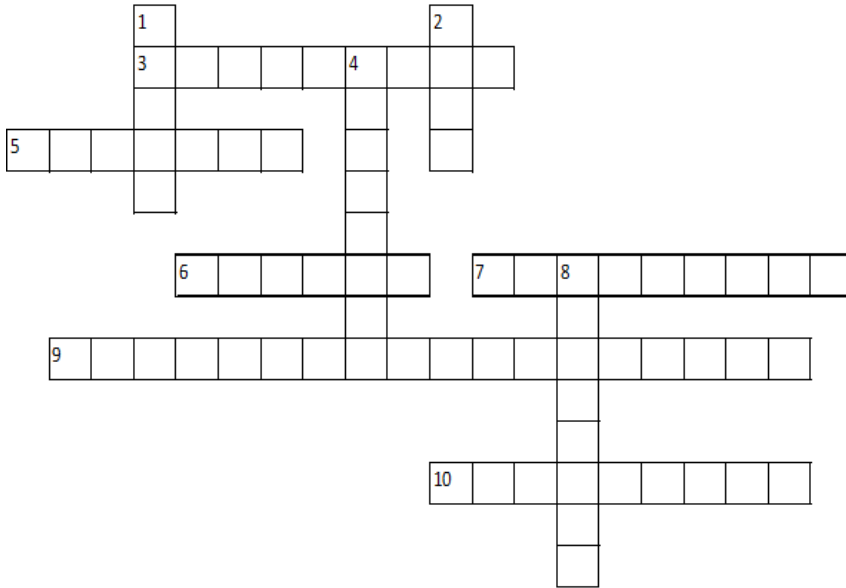
3 or 5 Subject Spiral Notebooks



Finance Smart

by Christine Corson

It's time for summer financial fun! If you can solve this crossword puzzle, you are pretty awesome and also....**Finance Smart!!!**



Down:

1. Nat'l Financial Literacy Month
2. Paper money
4. Earn or pay
8. Where in and out transactions occur

Across:

3. Try to pay off early
5. For a rainy day
6. Follow to save
7. The higher the better
9. Generous givers
10. Use PIN# with

Answer key is on page 6.



Grief and Loss Group

Grief and Loss Group



GRACE
Lutheran Church

The Wellness Center
2191 W Chester Pike,
Broomall
Enter from Mather Ave

Wednesdays, 7-8 pm

Pay what you can; professionally facilitated

For more info:
610-356-1824 or gracebroomall@gmail.com



Grace Lutheran Church hosts a Grief and Loss Group every Wednesday evening. Please contact them at 610-356-1824 or gracebroomall@gmail.com for more details.

Holiday Offering Envelopes

Did you know that our Holiday Offering envelopes help Reformation live out our generosity every day? All gifts received through any special holiday envelope or given online and designated as holiday offering is used completely for benevolence.



This fund enables us to match other special offerings and make our gifts go twice as far and allows our Council to respond quickly to other needs in the community. In 2022, over \$32,000 moved through our Holiday Offering fund and out into the community and the world.

Please remember to use these special envelopes and help our reach go further! Thank you for the ways you continue to live out the generosity of God's love in this world!



Happy July, Beloveds!

It's been about 6 months now since we drew our "Star Words" at Epiphany to guide our faith in this new year. Little did you know, I would be checking up on how you and your word are getting along! So, how is it going with your star word? Do you remember it? Have you seen it around in your life lately?

Part of the purpose of a star word is to see where God might be pointing us when we focus in on something. Sometimes God speaks to us in as little as one word! My star word for 2023 was "vision." I've had it taped onto my desk at church since January so I am reminded of it often. Here are some ways that I've thought about vision this year!

Vision is something we often take for granted in a physical sense. When my sister-in-law lost a single contact lens on a trip and didn't have access to any replacements, we helped her along by being her vision. When the ash from the Canadian wildfires clouded the sky around the Northeast in June, we had limited vision outside.

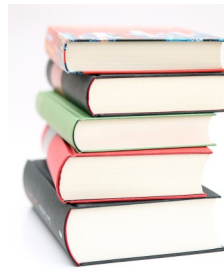
Visions are biblical. Throughout Scripture, God speaks to people in visions and dreams, to show them more about Godself or to warn them of danger. A vision warned Joseph to take the newborn Jesus to Egypt as they escaped King Herod. A vision turned Saul into Paul and changed the course of his life forever.

Vision can also mean forward thinking. One standard definition describes vision as "*the ability to think about or plan the future with imagination or wisdom.*" The vision of the future around us at Reformation is one of generosity and faithfulness.

May you be able to reflect on your Star Word this month. May it speak to you, show up in new ways, and point you in surprising directions.

In Peace,
Pastor Eileen (she/her)

Library Book Club



Summer is the perfect season for reading under a tree, at the beach, or under the stars with a flashlight! Join us for Reformation Book Club on **July 11** at 7:00pm via Zoom for a lively discussion of ***Lessons in Chemistry*** by

Bonnie Garmus. Contact Laura Reiter at longreiter@gmail.com for more information on joining our discussion.

About *Lessons in Chemistry* (from Booktopia):

"The sensational Number One debut of 2022. The major bestseller featuring the uncompromising, unconventional Elizabeth Zott - the most exciting new character in fiction.

THE #1 *SUNDAY TIMES* and #1 *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER

Winner of the Goodreads Choice Best Debut Novel Award

'Sparky, rip-roaring, funny, with big-hearted fully formed, loveable characters' *SUNDAY TIMES*

The most charming, life-enhancing novel I've read in ages. Strongly recommend' *INDIA KNIGHT*

Your ability to change everything - including yourself - starts here

Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing.

But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute take a very unscientific view of equality. Forced to resign, she reluctantly signs on as the host of a cooking show, *Supper at Six*. But her revolutionary approach to cooking, fueled by scientific and rational commentary, grabs the attention of a nation.

Soon, a legion of overlooked housewives find themselves daring to change the status quo. One molecule at a time.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Summer Programs

Summer Ministry Institute

The Lutheran Settlement House is leading our Summer Ministry Institute on the Gettysburg Campus, **July 16-21**. This program is entitled “Creating Sanctuary—Supporting Survivors of Domestic Violence.”

Theological Education with Adults: The Challenges of Ministry in Such a Time as This, July 23-28 on the Gettysburg Campus. Rev. Dr. Emlyn Ott from Healthy Congregations walks us through the challenges of being the church in a post-Covid world.

Theological Education with Youth, July 23-28. The TEY one-week summer Academy is for high school students to live in an intentional Christian community on the Gettysburg campus of United Lutheran Seminary. Dr. Teresa Smallwood challenges participants to live out Jesus’ call to justice.

For more information and to register for any of these programs, please go to:
unitedlutheranseminary.edu/community/calendar.

Eco Tip for July



What is Regenerative Agriculture?

Generally, regenerative growers limit mechanical soil disturbance. Instead, they feed and preserve the biological structures that bacteria, fungi, and other soil microbes build underground—which provide above-ground benefits in return.

The regenerative agriculture movement addresses the climate crisis with practices that sequester more carbon in the soil and help make farmland—and local communities—more resilient.



Summer Camp Registration Is Now Open!



Registration for summer camp is now open.

For more details, please go to: bearcreekcamp.org/summer-camp/.

Get Involved with Community Action

Help us serve our neighbors! Volunteers are needed to join our community action team in various service opportunities throughout the year. Community Action is responsible for things like our Holiday Food Bags, Lent Care Kits, Souper Bowl, St. Nick Drive, and more! Participation in community action can be as little as once a year or as often as monthly; the needs of our neighbors never stop! For more information or to get involved, contact Linda Bucher at lindabucher1@verizon.net or Pastor Eileen.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

thrivent

Do you have products through Thrivent?

Some of their financial products come with the benefit of Choice Dollars that can be directed to the nonprofit of your choice! These funds need to be designated annually to that nonprofit. Reformation is eligible to receive these choice dollars. This money is used for special projects at the church. Please remember to make your Choice Dollar elections and connect with your Thrivent Representative if you have any questions!

Crossword puzzle answers:

1. April
2. Cash
3. Principal
4. Interest
5. Savings
6. Budget
7. FICO Score
8. Checking
9. Reformation Members
10. Debit Card

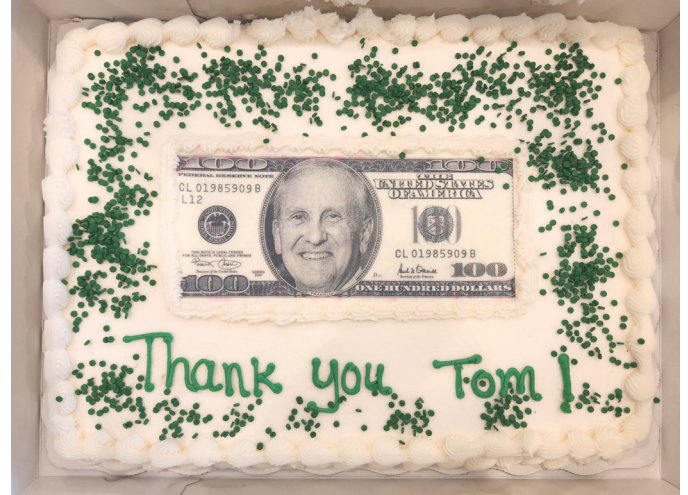


Seen Around Reformation

There is always so much to see at Reformation. We thank you for sharing your photos with us! *Please remember to send your photos of recent events to: newsletter@relcmedia.org.*



Fun under the parachute on the last day of Sunday School, May 21.



No celebration would be complete without the perfect cake!



Potato sack races on May 21.



Mackenzie Fuller is blessed during Graduate Recognition on Sunday, June 4.



Pastor Eileen and Tom Conroy celebrating Tom's 19+ years of service as Council Treasurer on June 4.



David McCarrick, Grace Brooks and Brian Wilson staff the Reformation table at Delco Pride on June 10.



102 W. Rose Tree Road • Media, PA 19063

relcmedia.org • 610.891.0600

Sunday Worship: 8:30 am Indoor & Online Worship
10:00 am Indoor & Online Worship
Worship services are livestreamed to our virtual church page.

Pastors

The Rev. Alina S. Gayeuski
The Rev. Eileen Ruppel-Doan



Return Service Requested

Label

REFORMATION TIMES

July 2023

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

WELCOME: Called by Christ we invite all people, celebrating the diversity of God's creation. Reformation is an affirming congregation for all: rejoicing with the young and old, welcoming people of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, working to cultivate an accessible and inclusive community for all abilities, and embracing all races, cultures, and faith traditions.

We serve our neighbors following the teachings of Christ. Reformation responds to the needs of the most vulnerable - providing nourishment and comfort, supporting the work of the local and global church, and protecting God's creation for future generations.

We build a living faith emboldened by the Holy Spirit. Reformation embodies the unconditional love of God through worshiping and learning together and valuing the gifts of everyone. To create the fullness of our community of faith, we nurture relationships, pursue racial equity and gender justice, and advocate for the wellbeing of the marginalized.

Tuesday, July 4
4th of July Holiday
Church office closed

Sunday, July 9
VBS Leader Installation

July 10—14
5:30-7:30 pm
Vacation Bible School