
REFORMATION TIMES

August 2023

Celebrate Erik and Leah!



Director of Contemporary Music, Erik Flaten and his wife, Leah Golub, are expecting a baby this fall!

Join us on **August 13** for a

chance to celebrate them and their little one! A reception will be held after the 10:00 am worship in Creighton Hall. You are welcome to bring cards and gifts (gift cards to Amazon are best!).

Erik will be taking six weeks of parental leave starting **September 17**. We look forward to sharing in welcoming the new baby! Congratulations Erik and Leah!

Lead a CONNECTION Group

CONNECTION Groups will be starting the week of **October 2** and gathering for 7 weeks. If you have an idea for a CONNECTION Group and would like to be one of our leaders, please contact Pastor Eileen by **August 15**. Past groups have included Faith and Fitness, Book Discussions, Labyrinth Visits, Cheeseburger Adventures, Local History, Old Movies, Art, and more! Share your interests with others and make some new connections!

SAVE THE DATE!

Capital Campaign Preview Event

Join us on Sunday, **September 10**, at 4:00 pm at Reformation for a Capital Campaign Preview event! This will be an opportunity to hear about the plans for our capital campaign and enjoy fellowship, hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and special music by Liz Hazlett and Valerie Rozek! Please RSVP by **September 1** by emailing rlc@relcmedia.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

You're Invited: In God's Image



On Saturday, **October 7**, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm, at Upper Dublin Lutheran Church, Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod will be hosting the 5th annual *In God's Image: Shaping your Ministry to be Inclusive and Safe for LGBTQIA+ Folk*. Pastor Noah Hepler, a pastor in SEPA and from Queer Eye Season 5, will be the keynote speaker!

Please contact a pastor to sign up. Reformation will cover the cost of registration for all members who wish to attend.

Recycle Old Clothes



Reformation is partnering with ACR Trading, a

local company that collects old clothes and shoes and recycles them. A collection bin will be placed at the west end of the building near the dumpsters sometime during the month of August. You may drop off donations anytime starting **August 31**.



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

1 Corinthians 12:26

A memorial service was held for **Helga Talbot** on Saturday, **July 8** at Reformation.

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!

SAVE THE DATE!

ELCA Youth Gathering Meeting

Mark your calendars for Sunday, **September 17** at 9:45 am in the ROCK Room for an informational meeting regarding the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering.

Hygiene Drive

**IAE Foundation**
HYGIENE DRIVE

**HELP TACKLE HYGIENE POVERTY!**

We're hosting multiple collection drives to help replenish our low inventory. Looking for a way to help as many people in need as possible? Donate an item(s) from our most needed list and your donation is 100% guaranteed to serve those in need within your community.

DROP OFF LOCATION / DATES

Aston Community Center & Library
3270 Concord Rd
Aston, PA 19014

July:
Friday 7/14 5pm-8pm
Sunday 7/16 8am-11am

August:
Friday 8/4 5pm-8pm
Sunday 8/6 8am-11am
Friday 8/25 5pm-8pm
Sunday 8/27 8am-11am

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

- SHAMPOO/CONDITIONER
- BAR SOAP
- DEODORANT
- FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS
- BABY DIAPERS & PULL UPS
- BABY WIPES
- TOILET PAPER
- PAPER TOWELS
- DISH & HAND SOAP
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT (PODS)

The IAE is hosting a Hygiene Drive through August 27. For more information, please go to iaefoundation.org.

Eagle Scout Book Drive

Tyler Troutman will be hosting a book drive at Reformation from **August 20 to August 27**, to benefit KenCrest, a non-profit organization in Philadelphia that serves underprivileged communities. This book drive is Tyler's Eagle Scout Project. Please bring in new books geared towards readers in first grade and younger. There will be a collection box in the lobby.

REFORMATION TIMES

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Reformation Lutheran Church

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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

It's not too late to support filling backpacks for students in the Chester and Upper Darby Communities. We will be collecting supplies through Sunday, **August 6**. 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.

You can support the collection this year by using the links below to the 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.

Finally, as in past years, you can do the shopping and drop off the supplies at Reformation.



Thank you Max and Kendyll!



Thank you to our 2023 Summer Interns, Max Bright and Kendyll Ward, for making summer extra special at Reformation! Throughout their weeks of working at Reformation they helped to plan and lead Vacation Bible School, support our administrators, and be an

overall incredible part of the Reformation Team! We are grateful for their work and wish them well as they return to college for the fall semester!

Vacation Bible School—Thank you!

Thank you to all of our VBS leaders and participants for a great week for our Knights of North Castle! Reformation collected \$1,195.00 for Fostering Hope, PA which is being matched by our Holiday Offering Fund! Thank you for helping to invite all people, serve our neighbors and build a living faith together at VBS!



Eco Tip for August

As the summer comes to a close, and we have all suffered from global warming, here are some tips for a greener life style.



Fashion:

- Go vintage
- Buy less
- Look for eco friendly materials
- Learn to DIY

Food:

- Consider more plant based foods
- Eat as locally as possible
- Eat as seasonally as possible
- Think about packaging—the greener the better

If we all think green, we can make a difference!!



Finance Smart

by Christine Corson

Did you know that there is a National Nonprofit Day? That's right! And it happens to be this month! National Nonprofit Day was declared a national holiday on August 17, 2017. The founder of this special day, Sherita J. Herring, wanted to educate and empower others to make a difference and acknowledge those who have an impact on people's lives.

Nonprofits need consistent support in order to thrive. Reformation Lutheran Church is a nonprofit organization who supports other nonprofits; therefore, it is vital to help any way you can!

There are many simple ways to celebrate National Nonprofit Day and help Reformation! For starters, you could set up a recurring donation. This is a great way to contribute regularly. If you need help setting this up, call the office and someone would be happy to assist you! Another big way to help is to give to Reformation's Holiday Offering Fund. This fund is in constant need of donor support in order to assist our community and beyond. Volunteering is another great way to lend a hand. You can also help by spreading awareness online by telling your story using #NationalNonprofitDay. Lastly, pray for Reformation! That's super easy and one of the most important things you can do to support your church!

If you would like to learn more about National Nonprofit Day, visit <https://nationaltoday.com/national-nonprofit-day/>.

Thank you very much for your continued support and generosity to Reformation!

And remember...a prayerful giver is a happy giver! Always be sure to support your nonprofit within your means and you will be....
Finance Smart!



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!



*Do to others as you would have them do to you.
(Luke 6:31)*

As a person who loves all things holiday and celebration related, I'm very interested in the more obscure, daily national observances that hardly anyone knows about. I feel like we are constantly hearing that a given day is National Ice Cream Day, National Sibling Day, Shark Awareness Day...or any other number of things! As it turns out, August 27 is "National Just Because Day," when we're encouraged to do acts of kindness or small gestures for others "just because."

This concept of "just because" seems almost biblical! The idea that serving our neighbors is not for any purpose other than serving, is central to Jesus's life and ministry. Service is not for us, but for the other. This is also central to Lutheran theology. Martin Luther is often attributed with saying some form of the following: *"God doesn't need your good works, but your neighbor does."*

As Lutheran Christians, we know that God does not require us to do anything to earn love, grace, or salvation. But that doesn't stop us from spreading God's love and kindness, "just because." So this August 27 (or all month long!), consider doing something for another person simply for the act of serving another child of God. Our world surely needs your goodness.

In peace,

Pastor Eileen (she/her)

Library Book Club



Great fiction can take you to some amazing places including outer space on a mission to save the Earth! Join us for the Fall Church Library book club discussion of *Project Hail Mary* by Andy Weir on **October 17** at 7:00pm via Zoom. Contact Laura Reiter for more details at longreiter@gmail.com.

From Amazon:

HUGO AWARD FINALIST • ONE OF THE YEAR'S BEST BOOKS: Bill Gates, GatesNotes, New York Public Library, *Parade*, *Newsweek*, *Polygon*, *Shelf Awareness*, *She Reads*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Library Journal* • "An epic story of redemption, discovery and cool speculative sci-fi."—*USA Today*

"If you loved *The Martian*, you'll go crazy for Weir's latest."—*The Washington Post*

Ryland Grace is the sole survivor on a desperate, last-chance mission—and if he fails, humanity and the earth itself will perish.

Except that right now, he doesn't know that. He can't even remember his own name, let alone the nature of his assignment or how to complete it.

All he knows is that he's been asleep for a very, very long time. And he's just been awakened to find himself millions of miles from home, with nothing but two corpses for company.

His crewmates dead, his memories fuzzily returning, Ryland realizes that an impossible task now confronts him. Hurtling through space on this tiny ship, it's up to him to puzzle out an impossible scientific mystery—and conquer an extinction-level threat to our species.

And with the clock ticking down and the nearest human being light-years away, he's got to do it all alone.

Or does he?

An irresistible interstellar adventure as only Andy Weir could deliver, *Project Hail Mary* is a tale of discovery, speculation, and survival to rival *The Martian*—while taking us to places it never dreamed of going.

LOOKING AHEAD



Rally Day

Rally Day is Sunday, **September 10**. Our regular worship schedule resumes that morning with worship at 8:30 and 11:00 am. Please plan to join us as we start another great year of life here at Reformation!

Blessing of the Backpacks

Bring your backpacks to worship on Sunday, **September 10**, for a special blessing as we start another school year and God's blessings in our lives every day!



Blessing of the Backpacks

SAVE THE DATE!

Electronics Recycling



Reformation is hosting a PAR Recycle Works electronics recycling event on October 21. Be sure to mark your calendar!

Wellness Fair



Grace Lutheran Church is hosting a Wellness Fair on Saturday, **September 9**. Please contact them at 610-356-1824 or gracebroomall@gmail.com for more details.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game



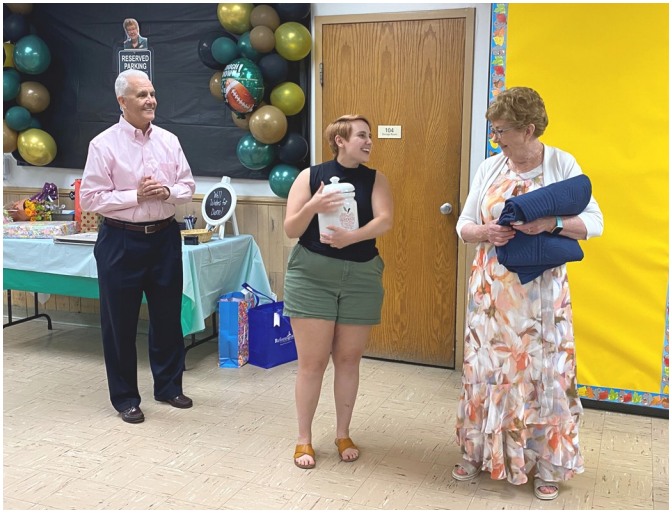
Reformation is putting together a group to see the Wilmington Blue Rocks play Jersey Shore on Friday, **August 25**. Game starts at 6:35 PM and tickets are \$16 each (field box section.) *No charge for children ages 3 and younger provided they sit on a ticket holder's lap.* Stay for the fireworks display after the game! Ticket reservations need to be placed by **August 9**. You can place your order using the QR code below. Payment can be made via check (made out to Reformation Lutheran Church) or using Venmo (designate baseball in text line). Lots of fun and fellowship for families, singles, confirmation matches, friends, neighbors, old and young alike. ALL are welcome! Questions can be directed to Jen Troutman at jtroutman2@yahoo.com or Pastor Eileen.





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.*



John Grantland and Pastor Eileen present gifts from Reformation to Diane Bullen at her retirement party on June 21.



Linda Bucher and Joyce McNally with 79 Dress-A-Girl dresses ready to be blessed on Sunday, July 9.



Farewell and Godspeed wishes from Pastor Eileen and Reformation members to the Fontes family on Sunday, July 2.



Carole Nebhut from Fostering Hope telling our VBS students more about the organization they are packing "Bags of Hope" for on July 13.



Lillian Fontes performs "Ode to Joy" on Sunday, July 2.



Children and adult leaders participate in relay races at VBS.



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

August 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.

Sunday, August 13

Celebrate Erik & Leah
after the 10:00 am worship!

Friday, August 25

Reformation Night at the
Wilmington Blue Rocks