
REFORMATION TIMES

October 2024

Celebrate Our Confirmands!

On Sunday, **October 20**, during a special worship at 3:00 pm, four students will affirm the promises made at their baptisms during the Rite of Confirmation. This year's Confirmands are:

Elle Bumsted

Leo Foti

Kian Perry

Andy Smith



Together we continue to pray for these young members as we celebrate what God is doing in their lives!

May we continue to build this community - the coming of the kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. May we show the love that has been first shown to us through Christ. May we be the Beloved Community here at Reformation for the good of the world and for the sake of the gospel.

Thank you, Liz!



Liz Hazlett will be concluding her time as our Children's Choir Director. While she is stepping down from leadership in an official staff capacity, she will remain active as part of our

ministry at Reformation through our Vacation Bible School music, playing as a substitute worship musician, and other special events. Reformation thanks Liz for her 15 years of staff leadership in our congregation! We will have a special opportunity to thank her between services on **October 6**.

Capital Campaign Update

A special campaign mailer was sent out in September. To see those updates, please visit relcmedia.org/lifeabundant. See Pastor Alina's article in this newsletter for another exciting update!

Blessing of the Animals

You and your pet are invited to a Blessing of the Animals service on **Sunday, October 6, at 1:00 pm**. The service will be held near the gazebo. If your pet is unable to attend the service, please feel free to bring along a photo of your pet.



You are also invited to bring along a donation for the Providence Animal Shelter. These items are part of their wish list:

- New or gently used, clean sheets and towels
- Wet dog and or cat food
- Unopened dry cat food
- Soft dog treats
- Rawhides (not made in China)
- Dog collars
- Cat toys

To view the complete Wish List, please visit providenceac.org/support-us/wishlist.

Electronics Recycling



Reformation will be hosting a PAR Recycle Works Electronics Recycling event on Saturday, **October 5**, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Anything with a plug can be recycled. Some larger or older items might require a small recycling fee – cash and card will be accepted on site. Volunteers are needed to welcome and direct cars. Please contact Pastor Alina to sign up to volunteer or with any questions.



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

1 Corinthians 12:26

Margie Gibson entered eternal life on **September 3**. A funeral service was held on **September 12** at Reformation.

Sunday School Dates



All children from birth to grade 6 are invited to join us for Sunday School. Children's Choir is for children age 4 to grade 5. Special Sunday celebrations are for all children and youth at Reformation. Contact Pastor Eileen with any questions.

Sunday School will be held on:

- October 6
- October 13
- October 20
- October 27 (Trunk or Treat!)

Small Stars (Ages 0-3)



Join us for story time, play, and music for infants and toddlers on Saturday, **October 5**, at 9:30 am in the church nursery.

Acolyte Training



Acolyte Training for 3rd Grade and up will be held on Sunday, **October 6** during the Education Hour. Confirmation students will all attend the training, and younger children in that age range who

are interested can attend for the first half of Sunday School. Please reach out to Pastor Eileen with any questions.

Join the Prayer Shawl Ministry!

Since the Prayer Shawl Ministry began in 2006, the group has made over 1,450 shawls that have been given to our RELC members, family, friends and visitors and organizations like KenCrest and CHOP. They have been used to celebrate marriages, new babies and their baptisms, as well as being given in time of illness and death to comfort those who mourn or are in need.



We invite you to join us as we knit the future of this ministry. You can support this work by attending monthly gatherings on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Women's Connection Room or by making shawls on your own time. We welcome those who knit or crochet at any skill level and we are always happy to support and teach skills together.

If you are interested in joining the group, feel free to contact Kathy Ewens at 610-952-0437 or kewens607@gmail.com.

More information can also be found at relcmedia.org/prayer-shawl-ministry.

Reformation Facebook Group



Did you know we have a Facebook group in addition to our church page? Scan this QR code to join!

REFORMATION TIMES

Published Monthly by
Reformation Lutheran Church

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

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

Domestic Abuse Awareness Month



October is Domestic Abuse Awareness Month. At Reformation we partner with and support the work of the Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County and The World Council of Churches – Thursdays

in Black Campaign. To recognize this issue in our society and to work for a better future, we invite you to join us in raising awareness through some of the following actions:

- Pick up a Thursdays in Black pin at Reformation to wear during the month – especially on Thursdays. The pastors will be wearing them each Sunday in October during worship.
- Wear purple or a purple ribbon during the month – the color of Domestic Violence Awareness.
- Join the Domestic Abuse Project at one of the events throughout the county during the month including: DAP Halloween Party on **October 18** at the Towne House, Survivor Celebration/Victim Tribute at the Courthouse on **October 10** at 12:00 noon.
- Share information about DAP with anyone who is in need of their services.

Upcoming Youth Events



- **October 6** – Breakfast Club, Confirmation, Youth Group (12 - 2 pm)
- **October 13** – Confirmation
- **October 20** – Confirmation, 3 pm
- **October 27** – Trunk or Treat!

DAP Halloween Party

HALLOWEEN PARTY

for the Domestic Abuse Project

We know that domestic abuse is scary,
but getting help doesn't have to be.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18TH
6 PM to 9 PM

The Towne House
117 Veterans Square, Media, PA 19063

Tickets: \$50.00

Costume Contest, Open Bar, Raffle Baskets, Hors d'oeuvres & More!

*100% of proceeds support programs & services of the
Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County, Inc*

For Information on becoming a sponsor or to buy tickets visit our website. Tickets can also be paid for using this QR code, via Venmo, or you may reach out directly at info@dapdc.org.

DAP is hosting a Halloween Party on Friday, **October 18**. Please contact them at 610-565-6272 or dapdc.org for more details.



Council Highlights

The September Council meeting included the following highlights:

- Updates on the pavilion project.
- Approval of an Eagle Scout project to install a music library and build picnic tables.
- Updates on the continuing partnership with Grace Lutheran Church, Broomall.
- Holiday Offering donations approved for the Media Fellowship House 80th anniversary celebration and the Making a Change Group 20th anniversary celebration.

Stewardship Campaign: Beloved Community



At Reformation we are building the Beloved Community through our worship and outreach, our learning and fellowship, and all the ways that we share God's love with each other!

This year our stewardship campaign is celebrating the generosity of our congregation through our support of Vicar Paula's internship, our partnership with Grace Lutheran Church, our Youth Gathering participants, and our Capital Campaign.

As you hear these stories over the next few weeks, reflect on the ways you are seeing the Beloved Community here at Reformation. Here are what some of our Council leaders said:

- God says love your neighbors and we are very good at following directions! - Marian Filtz
- Reformation is a church whose actions are a "Communion of Saints." Each time you walk through the door you feel so welcome ... That is something we embrace and never take it for granted. - John Grantland
- I experience and see our Beloved Community here at Reformation...the unwavering support and love was especially evident during our Capital Campaign. It has shown me that our Reformation community values the work that we do so much, that we want it to reach our community and the world at large. I could never have imagined the generosity of our community during this important milestone in our church lives. I am SO PROUD to be a member of Reformation!!!! - Debbie Conley
- The word beloved is wonderful to say – it refers to a love that lies at the core of us. When you are beloved, you are treasured and accepted for who you are. Let Reformation be your beloved community in ways big and small. There is room for all God's children to find belovedness here. - Laura Reiter

Learn more about our stewardship campaign and these generosity highlights at relcmedia.org/stewardship. Join us for Commitment Sunday, **October 27**, where we will collect 2025 pledges and celebrate the year of ministry ahead!

SAVE THE DATE!

Rose Tree Road Fall Cleanup

Can you smell fall in the air and see the leaves start to change colors? Well then, it's time for a clean up of Rose Tree Road! Join us on Saturday, **October 26**. We will meet at the church at 10:00 am. Orange vests and gloves will be provided.



October Eco News



With the news of floods, heat domes, and early hurricane seasons, now is the time to exercise your vote for candidates that support a more common interest in saving our planet. To find out more about people running for office on how they stand, go to allsides.com.

Christ In Our Home Booklets

The October/November/December 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.

You're Invited: In God's Image



On Saturday, **October 12**, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ardmore, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod will be hosting the 6th annual *In God's Image: Shaping your Ministry to be Inclusive and Safe for LGBTQIA+ Folk*. The Rev. Dr. Karyn Wiseman, professor of homiletics and author of the upcoming book *Queering the Pulpit*, will be preaching at a festival worship to start the day. Please contact a pastor to sign up. Reformation will cover the cost of registration for all members who wish to attend.



Celebrating Our Relationship with Grace Lutheran Church, Broomall

Reformation is grateful for a growing relationship between our congregation and Grace Lutheran, Broomall. Grace is a strategic ministry of our synod, committed to providing mental, spiritual, and physical wellness services through their Wellness Center.

Over the summer, volunteers under the leadership of Bill Grauer, helped Grace revitalize their fellowship hall so that it could be used for additional Wellness Center space and service providers. Reformation's Council approved a donation from our Endowment Fund to ensure the work could be done and help transform the work of this ministry at Grace.

Interested in learning more and supporting the Wellness Center? Talk to Pastor Alina or Pastor Eileen about being part of the Wellness Center Team. This group of volunteers will help represent the Wellness Center to the community.



Volunteers remove carpeting. Renovations included new flooring, fresh paint, and other cosmetic upgrades!

**All are invited to a blessing
and celebration of this
enhanced space on
October 6 at 3:00 pm at
Grace Lutheran in Broomall.**



Pastor Kayla Sadowy will be our guest preacher on Sunday, October 13, as part of a pulpit swap with Grace. Come welcome Pastor Kayla to Reformation. She will preach at both services and lead an education program. (Her presentation will be part of the

Navigating Issues at the End of Life Connection Group – all are welcome, even if you are not registered for that group.)

Ways to connect with our neighbors at Grace:

Pub Theology with Grace, Broomall

Pub theology is an informal gathering where folks ask questions and search together. We celebrate theology as an activity; whenever we talk about God, we are in fact doing theology. Everyone pays their own way for food, drink, both, or neither. What are some issues and challenges in our world that make you wonder where God is? Or, what would Jesus do? We will spend pub theology unpacking faithful approaches to these issues and challenges. Feel free to submit the ones that you would like to discuss to Pastor Kayla. Pub Theology Gatherings are the third Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm at The Ale House in Newtown Square (3546 W. Chester Pike in the Newtown Square Shopping Center).

Bible Study with Grace, Broomall

Throughout the year, we will be exploring our Lutheran identity and how that resonates in our world. We will be working through Daniel Erlander's workbook, *Baptized, We Live*. We will explore how being Lutheran affects our way of life and shapes how we see the world. We will visit some important scriptures that help us understand this and serve as the foundation for our tradition. If you want, BYOB bring your own Bible! Bible Study is on the second Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm at Grace Lutheran Church (2191 West Chester Pike, Broomall).

Finance Smart

by Christine Corson



Owning a vehicle is something we may take for granted until it's time to schedule routine maintenance or worse, your vehicle breaks down; therefore, it is extremely important to save for the unexpected. The cost of car repairs has skyrocketed which can really put a dent in your savings account or drain it completely. If you have an older model car, your repair costs may be even more expensive and more frequent. It's also difficult to budget for repairs because it's an unpredictable expense. A responsible vehicle owner must be prepared at all times to be able to afford routine maintenance, unexpected repair bills, registration renewals, and state inspection costs. A smart way to handle this is to create a separate savings account that you are able to contribute to on a consistent basis. Even if you can save a small amount each week, this will help to offset your vehicle expenses and that makes you...**Finance Smart!!!**

Delaware Valley Interfaith Gospel Choir

The Delaware Valley Interfaith Gospel Choir is performing its 26th annual community concert on Sunday, **October 6** at 4:30pm at First United Methodist Church of Media. Please mark your calendar for this joyous community event. Please email Interfaithchoir@firstchurchmedia.org with any questions.

Recycle Old Clothes



Reformation has partnered with ACR Trading, a local

company that collects old clothes and shoes and recycles them. We have a collection bin at the west end of the building near the dumpsters. The following items are accepted: wearable clothing, shoes, belts, purses, linens, blankets and stuffed animals. All items must be clean and dry and placed in a tied plastic bag. Donations can be left in the bin at your convenience.

Reformation Sunday



Our congregation has the name "Reformation Lutheran Church" because it was founded on Reformation Sunday, October 29, 1950. This year, on Reformation Sunday, **October 27**, we will

celebrate the 74th anniversary of our founding. Part of that celebration will be the recognition of our Heritage Members (those who have been members for 50 years or more) and members of the 1517 Society (those who remember Reformation in their estate planning). Join us for worship as we celebrate being a church in this place for 74 years!

Trunk or Treat!

Celebrate Halloween with Reformation! Sunday, **October 27** during Education Hour will be a Trunk or Treat event for



Reformation children. Volunteers are invited to dress up, decorate your trunk, and bring some candy! A Signup Genius will be available to fill the spaces around the back of the building. Please reach out to Pastor Eileen for more information.

Breakfast Club for High School Students!

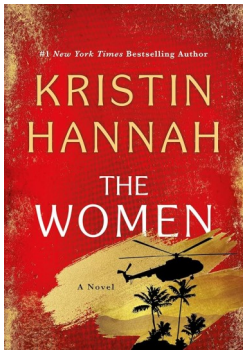


Attention High School Students: We invite you to join us for Breakfast Club this year! Those in grades 9-12 are invited to join

Breakfast Club for some yummy food, fun and a few life lessons along the way. We will be gathering in the Community Room the first Sunday of each month. Learn more and register using this QR code:



Library Book Club



All are welcome to join the Church Library fall book discussion of *The Women* written by celebrated author Kristin Hannah via Zoom on **October 15** at 7:00 pm. Mark your calendars! Contact Laura Reiter for more details: longreiter@gmail.com.

About *The Women* from [Goodreads](#):

An intimate portrait of coming of age in a dangerous time and an epic tale of a nation divided.

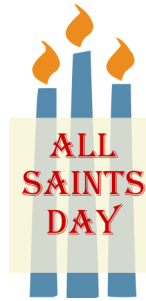
Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances “Frankie” McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path.

As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is overwhelmed by the chaos and destruction of war. Each day is a gamble of life and death, hope and betrayal; friendships run deep and can be shattered in an instant. In war, she meets—and becomes one of—the lucky, the brave, the broken, and the lost.

But war is just the beginning for Frankie and her veteran friends. The real battle lies in coming home to a changed and divided America, to angry protesters, and to a country that wants to forget Vietnam.

The Women is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm’s way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has too often been forgotten. A novel about deep friendships and bold patriotism, *The Women* is a richly drawn story with a memorable heroine whose idealism and courage under fire will come to define an era.

Remembering All the Saints



All Saints Sunday is a time when the church celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. So too, it is a day for us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. Once again, this year at Reformation, we will remember those we love by creating a temporary art installation entitled, “Ribbons of Remembrance.”

On Sundays **October 13, 20** and **27**, there will be a station in the lobby where you will be able to make your ribbons. Ribbons made the last several years will be on display again this year. Stop by and use the materials provided to create a remembrance ribbon with the name of the person you would like to have remembered. Your personalized ribbons will be hung in our worship space on All Saints Sunday, **November 3**.

Reinhard Scholarship

On **October 6**, the Reinhard Scholarship for seminary students will be awarded to a current student at United Lutheran Seminary. Seminarian Nicole Young will be at Reformation and will participate in leading worship.

The Reinhard Scholarship was established in 2001 in memory of Chester and Helen Reinhard by their daughter, and Reformation member, Helen Beck. This annual scholarship is awarded to seminary students.

Sound System

Volunteers Needed



We are in need of some additional volunteers to help with our sound system during worship. No experience necessary! For more information, please reach out to one of the pastors or contact the church office.



Dear Reformation,

One of the best parts of the work surrounding our Capital Campaign projects is the ability to dream about the ways in which this renewed space will enhance our ministry

Reformation was recently awarded a grant through the ELCA for Ministry with Children – a grant we applied for this summer. This grant is awarded annually to ten congregations or schools throughout the country. We are thrilled to be one of the 2024 recipients receiving \$3,000 for our project.

These funds will be used for enhancing the pavilion area for our children by providing our schools and our education programs with resources specifically designed to enhance outdoor learning. We are currently working with our school directors to plan and implement this grant money alongside of the work of installing the pavilion.

Thank you for all the ways your generosity, support, and enthusiasm for these projects are making these dreams into a reality and transforming our ministry at Reformation!

Blessings!
Pastor Alina



SAVE THE DATE!

75th Anniversary Celebration



Reformation will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary in 2025! Please mark your calendars for Sunday, **October 26, 2025** and join us for Festival Worship with guest preacher Rev. Dr. Leah D. Schade at 3 pm. Reception to follow. Please visit relcmedia.org/75 for more updates.

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 2023, over \$27,000 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!

REMINDER!

Comfort kits for Lutheran Settlement House are due back to the church on Sunday, **October 20.**



ELCA Votes



As people of faith we are called to use our voices for action on behalf of our neighbors, and an opportunity is coming up soon! The **General Election** is coming up on **November 5!** Get prepared to vote at our

voter resource station in the lobby or using the checklist below. Deadlines to register to vote are PA: **October 21**; NJ: **October 15**; DE: **October 12**. Don't forget to pick up an #ELCAvotes pin to encourage others to vote, too! For more resources, visit vote.org.

1. Register to vote OR confirm registration
2. Determine if you will vote absentee, early, or in person on election day
3. Find your polling place and hours
4. See what's on your ballot
5. Learn ID requirements
6. Get an #ELCAVotes pin from church & encourage others to get prepared!

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.



Kindling Faith Summer Events

[ELCA Social Statement: What Does it Mean to be Lutheran in a Crucial Election Year?](#)

Six sessions from June - October 2024

(via Zoom from 7 - 8:30 pm). As our faith informs our day-to-day lives, Lutherans recognize that "faith is active in love [and] love calls for justice in relationships and structures of society" (ELCA, Social Statement on Church in Society, 1991). We also know the church is called to be a community that prays, deliberates, and acts together when it comes to complex social issues. In this election year, how might our Lutheran faith shape our thinking, acting, and voting on major issues? Join us to learn and ponder timely social teachings of the ELCA and to learn tips for leading discussions in your own community. Up next:

- **October 8:** *Earth's Climate Crisis Study Guide* - Dr. Ryan Cumming, Program Director, Theological Ethics, Education and Community Engagement
- **October 22:** *Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity and Culture* - Dr. Richard Perry, emeritus faculty, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

To register for this and other events, please visit unitedlutheranseminary.edu/calendar.

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!



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.



Pat Polilli roasts a marshmallow at our campfire on August 25.



The Chancel Choir singing on Rally Day, September 8.



Making new friends at the Small Stars gathering on September 7.



The 2nd and 3rd grade class competing in a cup stacking game on Rally Day



The Blessing of the Backpacks on Rally Day.

WALLEN WALLEN!





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Sunday Worship: 8:30 am Indoor & Online Worship
11:00 am Indoor & Online Worship
Worship services are livestreamed to our virtual church page.

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



Return Service Requested

Label

REFORMATION TIMES

October 2024

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.

Saturday, October 5

PAR Recycle Works
Electronics Recycling Event,
9am - 12 noon

Sunday, October 6

Reinhard Scholarship
Blessing of the Animals, 1pm
Youth Group, 12 noon

Sunday, October 20

St. Luke Celebration
Confirmation, 3pm

Sunday, October 27

Trunk or Treat