
REFORMATION TIMES

April 2025



Holy Week

Our Holy Week worship and gatherings enable us to journey with Jesus from the shouts of Hosana during his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, to the cross, and finally to the empty tomb. Join us for these special services and other opportunities for fellowship.

This year we are partnering with our neighbors at Grace Lutheran in Broomall (2191 West Chester Pike) for some joint worship opportunities. All Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday worship services will be at Reformation and all but the “Sonrise” worship will be live streamed. Please note the time and location for the other Holy Week services below.

Palm/Passion Sunday – April 13

Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 am

Palm Sunday Celebration at 9:45

We start our Holy Week journey with palms and the reading of the passion. Join us for a special celebration at 9:45 am in the pavilion to celebrate Palm Sunday!

Maundy Thursday – April 17

Wine and Cheese Reception at 6:30 pm

at Grace Lutheran, Broomall

Worship at 7:30 pm

at Grace Lutheran, Broomall

We begin the three days with our neighbors at Grace Lutheran. A wine and cheese reception will precede worship.

Good Friday – April 18

Worship at 12 noon at

Grace Lutheran, Broomall

We gather again with our neighbors at Grace for our noon service to hear the passion.

Good Friday – April 18

Worship at 7:30 pm at Reformation

Our neighbors from Grace will join us for our evening worship, with the gospel of John, songs, and prayer.

Easter Vigil – April 19

Worship at 7:30 pm at Reformation

Guest preacher: Pastor Kayla Sadowy

This service is one of the oldest traditions in the church. We welcome Pastor Kayla Sadowy from Grace, Broomall as our guest preacher

Easter Day – April 20

“Sonrise” Worship at 6:15 am in the pavilion

Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 in the sanctuary and live streamed

Celebrate Christ’s triumph over the grave! There will be no Sunday School classes on Easter Day.



Palm Sunday Celebration!



Please contact Pastor Eileen for more details.



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

1 Corinthians 12:26

Quinn Sioux Sena-Urban received her first communion on **February 25**.

Welcome Rick and Sarah Sultzer, who joined Reformation on **March 16**.

Anthony Welsh received his first communion on **March 16**.

Sunday School Dates



All children from birth to grade 6 are invited to join us for Sunday School. Special Sunday celebrations are for all children and youth at Reformation. Contact Pastor Eileen with any questions.

Sunday School will be held on:

April 6

April 13 (Palm Sunday Celebration)

April 27 (Eco Sunday)

Small Stars (Ages 0-3)



Join us for story time, play, and music for infants and toddlers on Saturday, **April 12**, at 9:30 am in the church nursery.

Christ In Our Home Booklets



The April/May/June 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.



Council Highlights

The March Council meeting included these highlights:

- Approved Reformation taking a new Deacon Intern beginning in April
- Approved funding requests from benevolence funds for Lutheran Settlement House's Powerful Together event

Mark E. Davis Scholarship



The Mark E. Davis Scholarship was established by The Rev. William and Irene Davis, following the death of their son, Mark. Applications for the 2025-2026 academic

year may be obtained by downloading from the church website or obtaining a printed copy by contacting the church office. All applications and support materials must be received or postmarked by the **May 1, 2025** deadline.

Complete details can be found in the January Reformation Times. Any questions can be addressed to the following committee members: Ellen Davis Conroy, Evan Davis, Rebecca Funk, Marilyn Gilroy or William Grauer.

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 Gayeuskii and Pastor Eileen Ruppel-Doan.

Upcoming Youth Events



- **April 4-6** - Tuscarora Synod Youth Retreat
- **April 6** – Breakfast Club
- **April 27** – Eco Sunday

Youth Service Camp

Reformation LUTHERAN CHURCH

YOUTH SERVICE CAMP

Youth entering Grades 6 - 12

Saturday, June 28, 2025

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

REGISTER HERE:

Learn - Serve - Advocate

Please contact Pastor Eileen for more details.

Graduate Info Needed

Information is needed for our students graduating from high school! Please send the following for your graduating senior to pastoreileen@relcmedia.org by **May 25**.

1. Name
2. School they are graduating from
3. Current photo
4. Baby photo

Graduates will be celebrated at both worship services on **June 2**.



Summer 2025 Theme Announced and Registration is Now Open!



“All Together” is about the connections that unite us—at camp and beyond. Like intertwined roots, together we grow stronger through love and service, grace-filled faith and belonging and community. Bear

Creek Camp’s overnight program is centered on spiritual growth, outdoor living, and small group development for all children who have completed grades 1-12. Each age group experiences a mix of small-group and all-camp activities throughout the week to meet their group’s spiritual, social, and developmental needs.

Spring Women’s Retreat

April 11 - 13, 2025

Our Fall Women's Retreat was so popular that we added a Spring Retreat this year! This Spring Retreat will focus on slowing down and working on projects intended for self reflection and relaxation. Programming will include spiritual endeavors, arts & crafts, puzzles, hiking and enjoying the serenity of camp.



For more information and to register for any of these programs, please visit bearcreekcamp.org/camps.



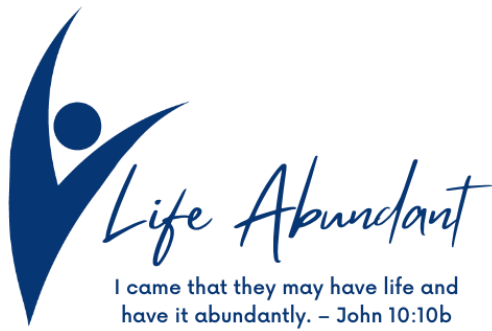
SAVE THE DATE!

Vacation Bible School



This year’s VBS will be held from **July 21 - 25** from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Be sure to mark your calendar! For more details, please visit myvbs.org/relcmedia or reach out to Pastor Eileen.

Capital Campaign Update



A special Capital Campaign Update newsletter was sent out in March! All updates are always available at relcmedia.org/lifeabundant.

Lenten Care Kits


During Lent, zip lock bags, with a list of personal care items to purchase, will be available to fill and return.

These Care Kits will be distributed to:

- men and women at the Phoenix Recovery Houses (personal care items)
- and to children in need, through Cradles to Crayons (socks and underwear)

Bags should be returned (with the list enclosed) to Reformation by Easter Sunday, **April 20**. Thank you for your support!

Lutheran Night at the Phillies

 SEPA Synod is organizing three options for Lutheran Night at the Phillies this year! Please register yourself by going to tinyurl.com/44trmhxt or scanning the QR code and using passcode "Lutheran". A portion of each ticket sale supports SEPA Youth programs.



Life Center Update



Our next serving date is **May 22**. Watch for our sign-up sheet and casserole pans in the lobby. For more info about this meal program and to offer your

assistance, please contact Dave Smith, yanky68@comcast.net or 610-719-7190.

SAVE THE DATE

Thrivent Representatives Coming to Reformation

thrivent®

On Sunday, **May 4**, we will welcome representatives from Thrivent. They will be

available for conversation before and after each service as well as leading an education program at 9:45 am. If you have questions about your particular products with Thrivent or want to learn more about all that Thrivent offers, please plan to join us and speak with a representative. You can learn more at thrivent.com.

Great News for Our Neighbors at Campbell AME!



Campbell African Methodist Episcopal Church has been awarded the Preserving Black Churches program at the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund and the National Trust for Historic Preservation! We are proud of our history in

Delaware County, Pennsylvania and are excited to tell our story of almost 200 years! This funding will support our 2027 Bicentennial Preservation Prioritization Plan. The African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund exists to advance ongoing preservation activities at historic sites, buildings, and landscapes that represent African American cultural heritage. With more than \$150 million in funding, the Action Fund is the largest U.S. resource dedicated to the preservation of historic Black places. The Preserving Black Churches program is designed to uplift and preserve historically Black Churches and the communities they serve. Since its launch in 2023, the program has helped congregations from Alaska to Florida address preservation challenges, safeguard their spiritual and cultural legacies, and provide vital social services. To learn more about the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund, the Preserving Black Churches program, and this year's PBC grant recipients, visit savingplaces.org/black-churches.

Easter Food Bags



Reformation will once again provide nonperishable grocery items for our neighbors in need during the Easter Season. Filled bags are due back to Reformation no later than Sunday,

April 6. You can also use the envelopes provided to make a monetary donation. Thank you in advance for your help in feeding our neighbors in need.- The Community Action Ministry

Eco Tips for April

by John Berberich

Ten ECO friendly tips for Spring Cleaning:

1. Ditch paper towels—use cloth or microfibers.
2. Switch to cleaning products that are non-toxic.
3. If you can, hang laundry to dry.
4. Go paperless—opt for electronic statements and communication.
5. Reuse and repurpose things around the house.
6. Organize your home by using containers and boxes you would throw out.
7. Use less water!!
8. Use energy efficient bulbs and electronic equipment.
9. Compost expired food—donate the rest.
10. Don't throw out unwanted textiles. Recycle in our bins or use Green Drop.



ECO Sunday

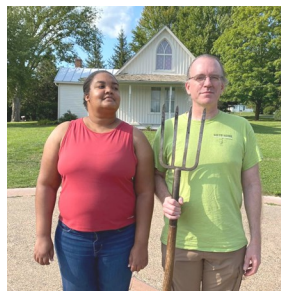


Our Eco Ministry Team will be hosting a special education program on Sunday, **April 27**, at 9:45 am in the pavilion.

Reformation member Jamie Anderson will lead a session using an enviroscape model

to do watershed water quality lessons, and we will learn about our new rain garden and how it is helping with managing storm water on our property!

Welcome, Vicar Bruce!



My name is Bruce Pollock. I will be starting at Reformation on **April 7** as your Vicar for a four-month internship. I am also a student at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, IA, where I am in

the final year of the Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry program. I am called to be a Minister of Word and Service which the ELCA also calls a deacon. My first vocation is as an architect. I am called as a deacon to use the gifts that God has given me to walk alongside congregations to help them understand the relationship between their church buildings and their call to mission and ministry in their community with a particular focus on accessibility for persons with disabilities through sustainable building design. My most important vocation is as a husband to my spouse, DaMisha McFarland-Pollock, who is currently serving in her first call as a pastor to Messiah and Bethany Lutheran Churches in Burlington, IA. If it were not for her support and encouragement, I would not be here today. If you would like to send a note of thanks to Misha for being willing to share me with you for my internship time and to encourage her as she answers her own call to ministry as a new pastor without her spouse to support her in person, please write to her at: Pastor Misha McFarland-Pollock, 2501 Madison Avenue, Burlington, IA 52601.

Join the Delaware County Children's Chorus!



Does your child love to sing? Let their voice shine with Delaware County Children's Chorus! This exciting new choral program offers a joyful and welcoming space for young singers, with no audition required!

Ensembles:

Choristers (Grades 2-4): Tuesdays, 5:15-6:30 PM

Chorale (Grades 5-8): Tuesdays, 6:45-8:00 PM

Location: Reformation Lutheran Church,
102 W. Rose Tree Rd, Media, PA

Season Starts: **September 2, 2025**

Registration Opens: **May 1, 2025**

Give your child the gift of music and community!
Visit delcochildrenschorus.org for more details.

"We all are one in mission; we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ the Lord of all. A single great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love."

[We All Are One in Mission, Hymn 576, verse 1]

Dear Reformation,

It is always so exciting to find out the new places God is calling us to be as a congregation. Each year at the Annual Meeting we talk about how the generous giving to the Faith Engagement Fund enables us to do things we don't yet know about during the year ahead and confidently say yes when the opportunity arises.

We have been asked to once again be the field education site for a deacon intern. This intern, Vicar Bruce Pollock, is a student at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. He will be with us for four months of a full-time internship. (Vicar Paula was part-time and therefore able to be with us for a longer period of time.)

Vicar Bruce will be starting in April and we look forward to welcoming him here to Reformation!

Thank you for all the ways you support the mission and ministry of our congregation and help us to form future leaders in the church!

Pastor Alina

Finance Smart

by Christine Corson



April is Financial Literacy Month! What is financial literacy? "Financial literacy" is the possession of skills, knowledge, and behaviors that allow an individual to make informed decisions regarding money [Wikipedia]. Everyone's life revolves around finances. You need financial literacy to do something as simple as counting your pennies to a more complex task like creating a household budget. Financial behaviors usually begin at a young age, such as when parents teach you to save your birthday money in your piggy bank! By the time you reach adulthood, you have learned skills and gained knowledge that will help you manage your money in the real world. There is good debt and bad debt, and unfortunately, some people make poor choices which can cause them to accumulate bad debt. Financial knowledge helps you to know when you need assistance so you can be responsible and make a good effort to tackle your debt. Being in control of your finances is an important responsibility. Always be willing to learn more financial skills, gain more financial knowledge, and control your financial behavior, and you will be...**Finance Smart!**

Conversation with Debie Thomas

Debie Thomas, the author of our Lent Book, *A Faith of Many Rooms*, will be joining us for an author conversation on Wednesday, **April 23**, at 7:00 pm on Zoom! All are welcome to join in this time of conversation. Visit relcmedia.org/zoom for the link.



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.

WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS


Rick & Sarah Sultzer



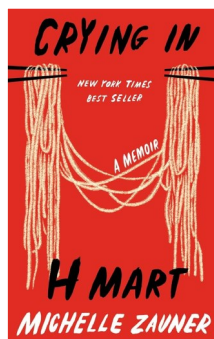
Rick and Sarah Sultzer are 35 year residents of Swarthmore and (almost) 43 years married. They are the parents of two adult children and a red standard poodle. They met at St. Lawrence University in upstate NY and went on to pursue MBAs in Durham, NC and Evanston, IL. Rick followed a career in finance and Sarah worked in higher education, human resources and consulting. After spending several years caring for elderly parents, they are currently retired and enjoy visiting with family, traveling, hiking, and antiquing.



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. Please do not leave any items outside of the bin.

Library Book Club News



All are welcome to join the Church Library Book Club! We look forward to meeting again on Tuesday, **April 22** at 7:00 pm (after Holy Week) by Zoom to discuss *Crying in the H Mart* by Michelle Zauner.

Contact Laura Reiter at longreiter@gmail.com for more information.

About *Crying in the H Mart*
(from Penguin Random House):

In this exquisite story of family, food, grief, and endurance, Michelle Zauner proves herself far more than a dazzling singer, songwriter, and guitarist. With humor and heart, she tells of growing up one of the few Asian American kids at her school in Eugene, Oregon; of struggling with her mother's particular, high expectations of her; of a painful adolescence; of treasured months spent in her grandmother's tiny apartment in Seoul, where she and her mother would bond, late at night, over heaping plates of food.


As she grew up, moving to the East Coast for college, finding work in the restaurant industry, and performing gigs with her fledgling band—and meeting the man who would become her husband—her Koreanness began to feel ever more distant, even as she found the life she wanted to live. It was her mother's diagnosis of terminal cancer, when Michelle was twenty-five, that forced a reckoning with her identity and brought her to reclaim the gifts of taste, language, and history her mother had given her.

Vivacious and plainspoken, lyrical and honest, Zauner's voice is as radiantly alive on the page as it is onstage. Rich with intimate anecdotes that will resonate widely, and complete with family photos, *Crying in H Mart* is a book to cherish, share, and reread.


Grief Support Group

Be there for each other.

Grief Support Group



2nd and 4th Wednesdays • 6:30 PM • Enter on Mather Ave • Suggested \$10 donation*



GRACE
Lutheran Church

2191 W. CHESTER PIKE, BROOMALL
GRACEBROOMALL@GMAIL.COM FOR MORE INFO
**No one will be turned away for lack of donation.*

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

SAVE THE DATE!

ELCA Women's Gathering



Save The Date

THE GATHERING
FOR THE
WOMEN OF THE ELCA
SOUTHEAST PA SYNOD

06.07.2025

REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH
MEDIA, PA

Reformation will be hosting the "WELCA" gathering on Saturday, **June 7**. More details to come!

Upcoming Events at Grace Lutheran, Broomall


BAPTIZED WE LIVE SERIES

BIBLE STUDY


This month:
What makes the liturgy Lutheran

Why do we worship the way we do?
How does it connect to scripture?

April 9, 1 pm
Fellowship Hall



GRACE
Lutheran Church



Seen in the "Pray Ground"



This "mini-Reformation" was created by our own Pastor Eileen for our younger members to play with. Be sure to check it out in our Pray Ground at the back of the sanctuary!

**Art of Interfaith Understanding:
Connections: Passover and Holy Week
Illustrated in Art**

In 2025, Passover and Holy Week overlap, offering a unique opportunity to explore their themes and rituals. Discover their fascinating similarities and distinct differences through the lens of art.



Sunday, April 6
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
Virtual

Facilitated by Rev. John B. Hougen, PhD,
Coordinator, Art of Interfaith Understanding Series.

**Art of Interfaith Understanding: Connections:
Light and Color, Art and Text; the Stained Glass
Windows of Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel**



The ten stunning stained-glass windows which surround KI's large sanctuary comprise a series titled The Prophetic Quest. They combine ancient symbolism and traditional teachings with the colors, shapes and imagery of sophisticated art movements in the 1950's. Rabbi David will help us appreciate and understand the message and impact of the windows and introduce us to other elements of the sanctuary that bring the congregation together for prayer, learning, and celebration.

Sunday, April 27
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm
Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel
8339 Old York Rd, Elkins Park, PA 19027

Facilitated by:
Rev. John B. Hougen: PhD, Coordinator, Art of Interfaith Understanding Series.
Rabbi Benjamin David: Senior Rabbi, Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel.

Register for these and other events at interfaithphiladelphia.org.

Ride/Walk for Understanding

Join us! Help us amplify awareness of our work and support our mission

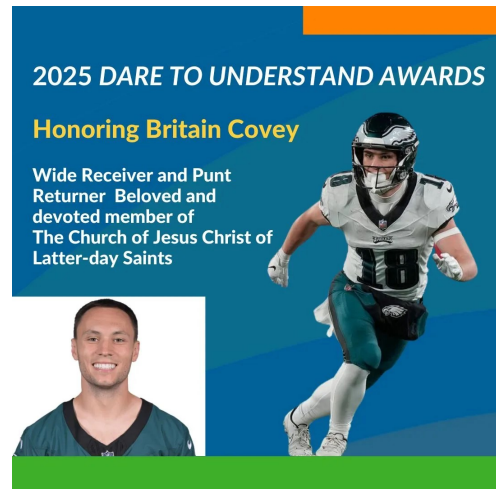
Sunday, May 4
1:00 pm
Schuylkill River Trail:
Betzwood Trail Head
175 Sullivan's Bridge,
Norristown, PA 19403



Register for this and other events at interfaithphiladelphia.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

2025 Dare to Understand Awards



Join us for the 2025 Dare to Understand Awards ceremony honoring Britain Covey, Philadelphia Eagles #18, Wide Receiver and Punt Returner, and beloved and devoted member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The awards ceremony will be held on Thursday, **May 15**, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Chapel, 1682 Wood Street, Philadelphia, PA. For more information, please visit interfaithphiladelphia.org/events/2025-dare-to-understand-awards.



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.



Reformation's lunch bunch enjoyed their get together on March 6. If you would like to join them, they will be meeting at Lima Estates on May 1. Reach out to Patty Boccella for more details.



Phyllis Brady and Edna Bogert dropped off donations from the "Lunch Bunch" to the Domestic Abuse Project on February 24.



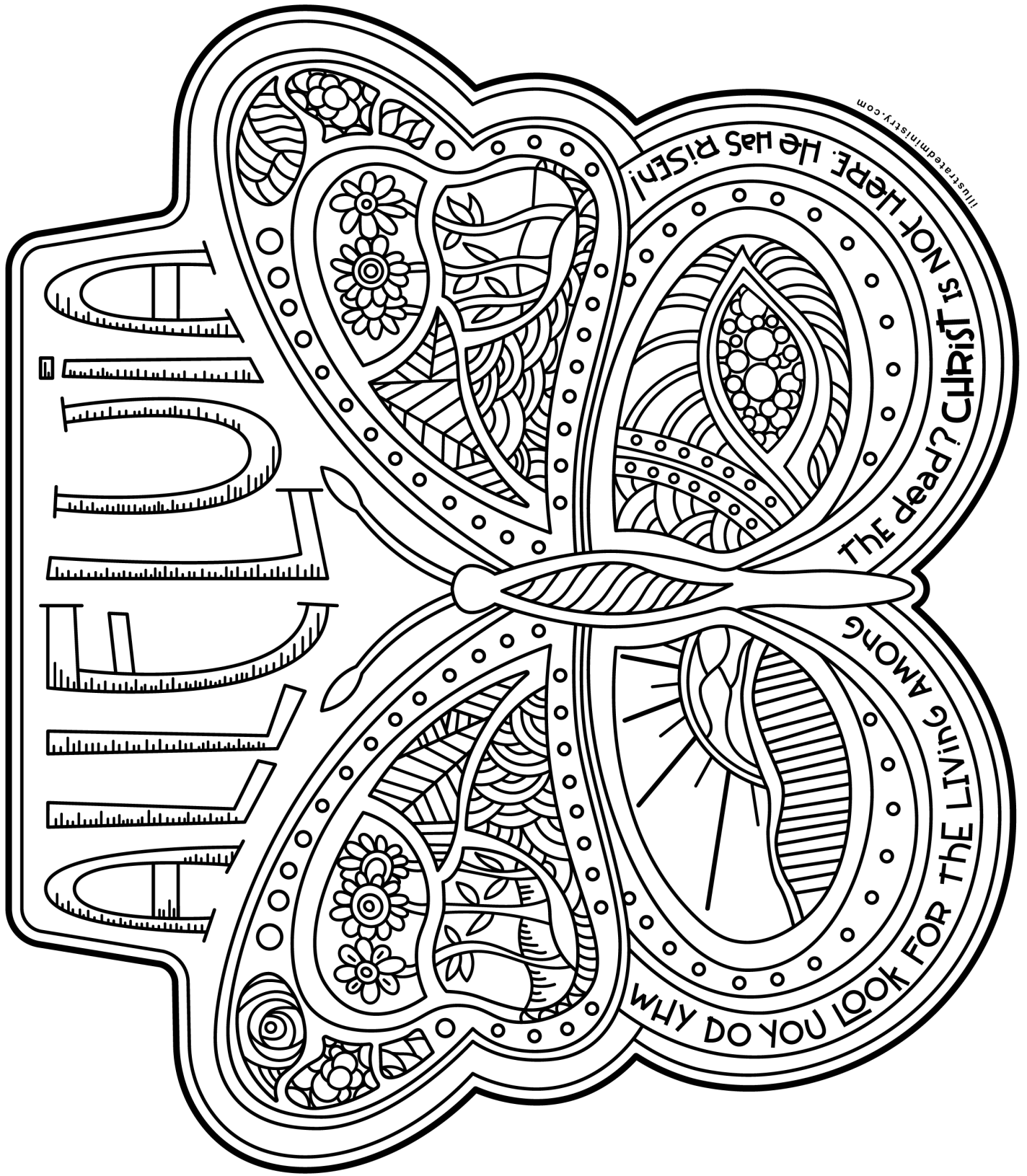
Pastor Alina and Pastor Eileen baptizing one of Reformation's newest members on February 23.



Dave Chorney looks on as Dick Hughey, Rodger Conley and friends help place the cross he created for Reformation's new pavilion area on March 12.



Sunday School students learning about Joseph feeding his family on February 23.



illustratedinstry.com



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MEDIA, PA 19063
Permit No. 315

102 W. Rose Tree Road • Media, PA 19063
relcmedia.org • 610.891.0600

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

April 2025

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.

April 4 - April 6
Tuscarora Youth Retreat

Sunday, April 13
Palm Sunday
9:45 am - Palm Sunday
Celebration in the Pavillion

Friday, April 18
Good Friday
7:30 pm

Saturday, April 19
Easter Vigil - 7:30pm

Sunday, April 20
Easter Sunday
6:15 am “Sonrise” in the pavilion
8:30 am and 11 am worship