

REFORMATION TIMES

June 2025

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/relocmedia or reach out to Pastor Eileen.

Spirit Day



On **June 1**, we invite you to show your school spirit by wearing apparel from any school to worship!

Council Installation June 1

The members of the 2024-2025 Congregation Council will be installed during worship on **June 1**. Officers and members include the following: John Grantland, President; Laura Reiter, Vice President; Marian Filtz, Treasurer; Chase Perry, Secretary; Jamie Anderson, Evie Fernandez, Kristen Forster, Eric Hathaway, Lindsay Lighton, Gabby Parker, and Jameson Troutman.

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.

Volunteer at PRIDE!

Every year, Reformation sponsors and participates in the Delaware County Pride Festival! This year you are invited to help us at our Reformation table on **June 14** for any amount of time between 1:00 - 6:00 pm. Contact Pastor Eileen to sign up!



New Donation Cabinet



Thanks to Roland Rennick-Zuefle's Eagle Scout project, we have a newly installed collection cabinet for donations near the front entrance of our building! Donations for any of our Community Action projects can be safely left in this cabinet when the office is closed and will be regularly emptied by our staff. This project was generously supported in loving memory of Steve Bingeman. The cabinet will be blessed following the late service on **June 1**.

Stay Cool During Summer Worship!



Our worship leaders will not be wearing albs during our summer worship services. If you serve as an acolyte, crucifer, or liturgist, there is no need to grab an alb on Sunday mornings from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.





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

1 Corinthians 12:26

Brendon Eric Ernst, son of Joelle and Steve Ernst was baptized on **April 19**.

Welcome **Jim & Rose Hutchinson**, **Beatrice Semo** and **Marilyn Smith** who joined Reformation on **May 4**.

Mae and **Lucy Copeland** received their first communion on **May 4**.

Welcome **Barbara Ryan** and **Marsha Tantaros**, who joined Reformation on **May 18**.

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.

Ushers Needed!

We are in need of some additional volunteers to usher during worship—especially for the late service. For more information, please reach out to one of the pastors or contact the church office.



USHERS NEEDED



Council Highlights

The May Council meeting included these highlights:

- Approval of new members
- Approval of donations from our benevolence funds in support of the Delaware County Backpack project, a seminarian from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land , and HVAC replacement
- The election of officers

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.

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*; Laura Reiter, *Vice President*; Chase Perry, *Secretary*; Marian Filtz, *Treasurer*, Jamie Anderson, Evie Fernandez, Kristen Forster, Eric Hathaway, Lindsay Lighton, Gabby Parker, Jameson Troutman, Pastor Alina Gayeusk and Pastor Eileen Ruppel-Doan.



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. For more information and to register, please visit bearcreekcamp.org/camps.

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.

Care Kit Thank You!

Thanks for all your help with the Lent Care Kit projects, and especially thanks to Sandy who helped sort everything! We collected:

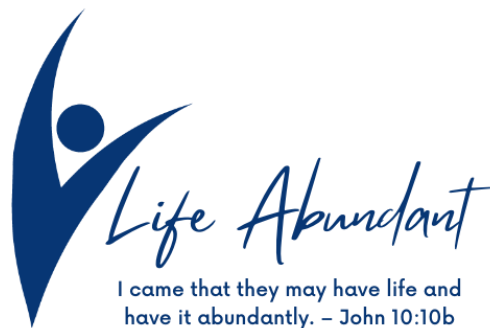
36 Cradles to Crayons bags

66 Women's Care Kits for Phoenix Recovery

67 Men's Care Kits for Phoenix Recovery

Total of **169** Care Kits!

Capital Campaign Update



It was a gift and a joy to celebrate Easter with a Sunrise service as our first official gathering in the new pavilion. The service included a surprise for Dave Chorney – the dedication of the bench on the path to the labyrinth. The plaque reads: “In Thanksgiving for Dave Chorney, A Master Builder and Dedicated Member of Reformation! *Whatever work you do, do it with all your heart, as for the Lord.* – Colossians 3:23.” This is a small token of our appreciation of all the work that Dave has done to make our Capital Campaign projects a reality – thank you, Dave!

As the days grow warmer, we are now turning our attention to the work for our Reflection Garden on the east side of the church. Stay tuned for more updates in the months ahead!



Photo: Dave Chorney on his bench with his family, Kate Chorney, Kristen and Brian Forster, after the Sunrise service on Easter.

Lutheran Night at the Phillies

Join the SEPA Synod for Lutheran Night at the Phillies on **August 18!** Please register yourself by going to tinyurl.com/44trmhxt. A portion of each ticket sale supports SEPA Youth programs.



E-Waste Recycling Event



St. John Chrysostom in Wallingford will be hosting a PAR Recycle Works e-Waste recycling event on Saturday, **June 7**, from 8:30 am –

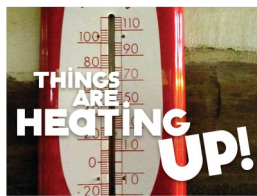
1:00 pm. For more information, please contact Mary at mchollet@sjcparish.org or 610-874-3418 x106.

Eco Tips for June

by John Berberich

Tips to save on electricity this summer:

- Have your A/C serviced before the summer heat.
- Keep thermostats at a comfortable temperature, not frigid.
- Raise temperature if leaving for a period of time and overnight.
- Use shades and blinds to help keep temperature down indoors.
- Lock windows for a better tight seal.



Thrivent Choice Dollars

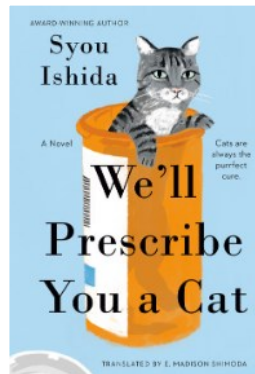
thrivent[®]

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!

Library Book Club News



All are welcome to join us for a Church Library Book Club discussion of *We'll Prescribe You a Cat*, by Syou Ishida. Mark your calendars for **July 15** at 7:00pm via Zoom. Contact Laura Reiter for more details: longreiter@gmail.com.

Here is more about our book selection from Goodreads.com:

A cat a day keeps the doctor away....

Discover this utterly charming, vibrant celebration of the healing power of cats in the award-winning, bestselling Japanese novel that has become an international sensation.

Tucked away on the fifth floor of an old building at the end of a narrow alley in Kyoto, the Nakagyō Kokoro Clinic for the Soul can be found only by people who are struggling in their lives and who genuinely need help. The mysterious clinic offers a unique treatment to those who find their way there: it prescribes cats as medication. Patients are often puzzled by this unconventional prescription, but when they “take” their cat for the recommended duration, they witness profound transformations in their lives, guided by the playful, empathetic, and occasionally challenging yet endearing cats.

Throughout these pages, the power of the human-animal bond is revealed as a disheartened businessman finds unexpected joy in physical labor, a middle-aged man struggles to stay relevant at work and home, a young girl navigates the complexities of elementary school cliques, a hardened handbag designer seeks emotional balance, and a geisha learns to move on from the memory of her lost cat. As the clinic’s patients grapple with their inner turmoil and seek resolution, their feline companions lead them toward healing, self-discovery, and newfound hope.

Welcome, New Members

Welcome, Marilyn Smith!



Marilyn Audrey Baker Smith, a native of Upper Darby was baptized, confirmed, married and attended St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Lansdowne her entire life. She was the President of Church Council for

many years until its closure a year ago. She is a graduate of Upper Darby High School and Temple University where she received her B.S. in Ed. in Spanish and French, M.Ed in Spanish Linguistics and Ed.D in Educational Leadership and Curriculum. Marilyn taught Spanish and French for 26 years in the William Penn School District at Penn Wood High school until her retirement. She is married to Joseph, Sr. since May 16, 1970. They have two sons, Joseph Jr. and Christopher and three grandchildren who live nearby. Marilyn likes to read, sew, knit, garden, travel and collect antiques.

Welcome, Jim & Rose Hutchinson!

Jim and Rose have lived in Wallingford for about six years after raising a family in Northeast Philadelphia. Rose is a retired Philadelphia Police Officer and Jim is a former disabilities advocate. They have two adult children and two grandsons, Teddy and Oliver. Rose enjoys knitting and chasing after her grandsons, and Jim enjoys reading and model railroading.



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 2024, over \$15,000 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!

Interfaith Book Trail Returns!



The 2025 Interfaith Book Trail summer program for rising 3rd through 6th graders in Delaware County and neighboring communities will be hosted by Reformation during the week of **June 16-20** from 8:30 am - noon. Sessions will include books and stories from a variety of religious traditions and cultures, hands-on activities, games, crafts, a service project, cooking/snacks, and a Juneteenth celebration. The book trail intentionally incorporates the five themes from Interfaith *Philadelphia's Passport to Understanding* - Be Curious, Venture Out, Welcome In, Stand Tall, and Stand With - into each session.

Registration begins on **June 1** at interfaithphiladelphia.org. Interfaith Philadelphia is committed to making their programs accessible to all. For financial assistance, please reach out to Taylor Muse at trm@interfaithphiladelphia.org. Please note that the Interfaith Book Trail summer program is open to children of any faith tradition. Questions? Contact Marilyn Berberich at mjberb@aol.com or 610-517-5261.

FROM THE PASTOR

“Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling; crumbled have spires in ev’ry land, bells still are chiming and calling – calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed, longing for life everlasting.” – Built on a Rock, Hymn #652, Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Dear Reformation,

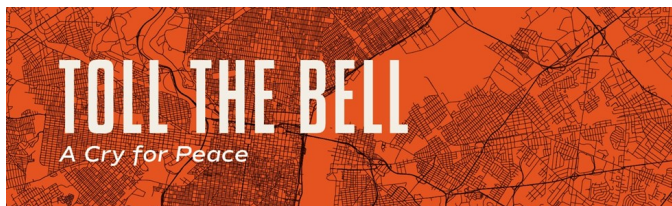
On Friday, June 6, at 1:00 pm, we will join with nearly 50 other faith communities throughout the greater Philadelphia region for a prolonged period of bell ringing. This is to mark the National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

You are invited to join us in the sanctuary at 1:00 pm. Following the time of bell ringing, we will conclude our time together with a brief prayer liturgy.

This joint program, through the University of Pennsylvania and Interfaith Philadelphia is an opportunity to honor those who have lost their lives and call us to action for the work ahead. In the words of Penn Arts Live: “Toll the Bell is not a profile of tragedy, but rather a call to action – a literal ringing of the bell – to honor our fellow citizens who have lost their lives and raise awareness for those working to have a positive impact in our [area].”

Join us as we lament the lives that have been lost and find inspiration and hope for the days ahead.

Pastor Alina



Finance Smart

by Christine Corson

‘Waste not, want not’! We’ve all heard and used this saying before and we continue to pass it down generation to generation. It’s actually very good advice which implies the less we waste or buy now, the more resources we save and the less we’ll need later.



This saying is actually traced back to the year 1576! Jesus also taught us this lesson in John 6:12. After miraculously feeding 5,000 people with just a few loaves of bread and fish, Jesus instructs His disciples to gather the leftover pieces so nothing was wasted. He taught them the importance of appreciating even the smallest of leftovers and to be resourceful with what we have.

Here are some ways you can ‘waste not, want not’. Resist the urge to impulse buy, check stock before you shop, avoid buying in bulk unless absolutely necessary, use up what you have on hand before buying something new, substitute expensive and harsh cleaners with baking soda, vinegar, or dish soap for cleaning, use Caring for Friends trays for leftover meals. These are just a few ways you can stop waste. How many can you think of? Make a list today and start your journey to ‘waste not, want not’ and that makes you...**Finance Smart!**

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.

Life Center Update



Our next serving date is **July 24**. 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@icloud.com or 610-719-7190.



Congratulations to our 2025 High School Graduates!*

*Please see **June 1** bulletin insert for a complete list
of all of this year's graduates.

Madison Benzing

Graduating from: *Strath Haven High School*
Headed to: *University of Pittsburgh*



Jillian Hacik

Graduating from: *Penncrest High School*
Headed to: *University of South Carolina*



Marissa Kamin

Graduating from: *Penncrest High School*
Headed to: *Cornell University*



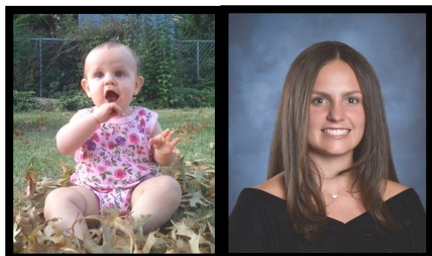
Matt Sharer

Graduating from: *Penncrest High School*



Corrine Skarbek

Graduating from: *Springfield High School*
Headed to: *Florida Atlantic University*



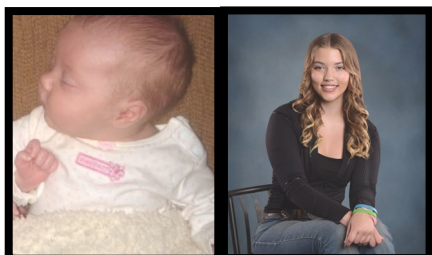
Addie Smith

Graduating from: *Delaware County Christian School*
Headed to: *St. Joseph's University*



Emma Strain

Graduating from: *Penncrest High School*
Headed to: *Indiana University of Pennsylvania*



Ethan Strain

Graduating from: *Penncrest High School*
Headed to: *Indiana University of Pennsylvania*



Pastor Eileen Visits Sacred Heart Academy



Pastor Eileen presents on being a female leader in the church to a first and second grade class at Sacred Heart Academy in Bryn Mawr, along with one of our young Reformation members.

Overdose Prevention Program



The Pennsylvania Overdose Prevention Program is providing free Naloxone as well as drug-checking strips designed to detect xylazine and fentanyl. Reformation keeps

Naloxone stocked in our first aid kits located in the main lobby and in Creighton Hall kitchen. For more information, please visit pa.gov/agencies/ddap/overdose/overdose-prevention-program.

Reformation Facebook Group



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

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.

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**. Please reach out to Joy Grace at joygrace414lna@gmail.com for details.



United Lutheran Seminary
UNIFYING, LEARNING, SERVING

Kindling Faith: Theological Education with Adults - A Deep Dive into the Gospel of John

July 13 - 18

Gettysburg, PA or online



The Gospel of John stands apart from the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) in both style and content. It emphasizes Jesus' divine nature more explicitly, beginning with the profound theological statement, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1). John focuses on Jesus' identity as the Son of God through unique "I Am" statements, lengthy discourses, and symbolic miracles, rather than parables.

The Rev. Dr. Allison deForest serves as the Kraft Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies in New Testament. Her areas of research are John's Gospel, Biblical Justice, and Science and Scripture.

Kindling Faith: Aging Grace-Fully Author Series

This series examines how to age with grace and live fully, with the physical, mental and social challenges that are often difficult to navigate and accept as we age. It is offered in person on the Gettysburg campus and via livestream, and is funded through a generous grant from the Lutheran Foundation for Long Term Living (LFLTL.org). Each event will be followed by a reception and book signing.

All events at 1:30PM in person in the Chapel on the ULS Gettysburg campus, 61 Seminary Ridge, Gettysburg, PA 17325 or via livestream. The remaining events are as follows:



Mia Birdsong,
author of *How We Show Up*
Tuesday, **July 15**



Anne Lamott,
author of *Somehow*
Thursday, **September 11**

To register, please scan the QR code below. For more information, please visit unitedlutheranseminary.edu/calendar or email kindlingfaith@uls.edu.





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.



Members of the Reformation choir performed at Grace Lutheran during Maundy Thursday worship.



Pastor Eileen and Vicar Bruce during Reformation's first Easter "Sonrise" service in the Pavilion on April 20.



Easter Vigil at Reformation on April 19.



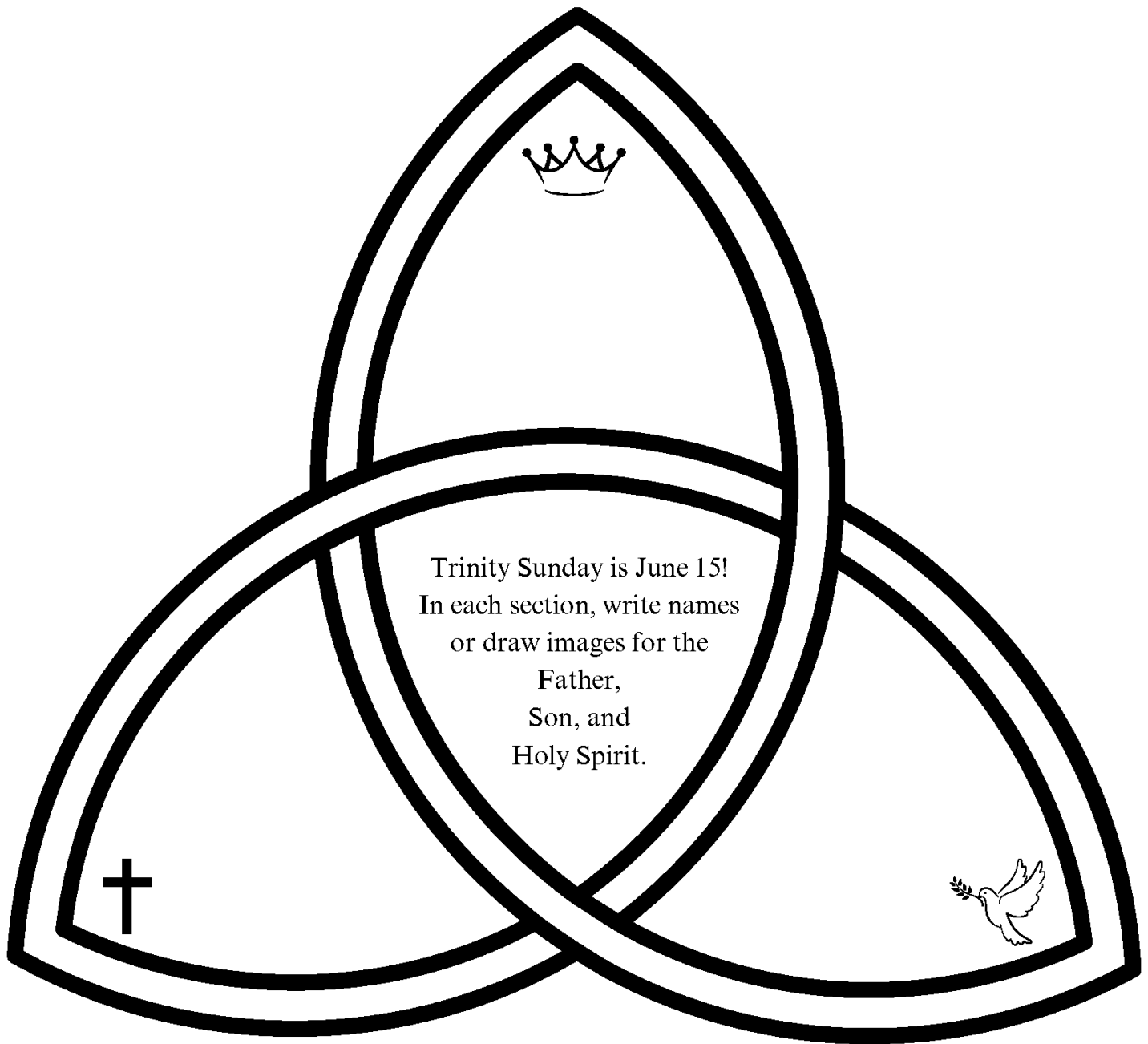
Jamie Anderson used an enviroscape model for an informative Eco Sunday lesson for all ages on April 27.



Pastor Alina, Guest Preacher Pastor Kayla, Pastor Eileen and Vicar Bruce after the Easter Vigil service.



Reformation welcomed new members during worship on Sunday, May 4.



COME, JOIN THE DANCE
OF TRINITY! -ELW 412



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. Dr. Alina S. Gayeuski

The Rev. Eileen Ruppel-Doan



Return Service Requested

Label

REFORMATION TIMES

June 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

Sunday, June 1

Council Installation
Graduate Recognition/
School Spirit Day
Davis Scholarship Presentation

Friday, June 6

Toll the Bell

Sunday, June 8

Bear Creek Camper Blessing

Sunday, June 15

Father's Day