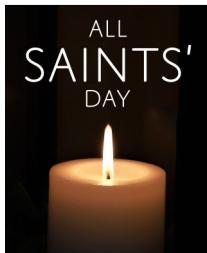


REFORMATION TIMES

November 2025

We Remember All the Saints



On All Saints Sunday, **November 2**, we remember and give thanks to God “for all the saints, who from their labors rest.” The following members of Reformation are named and remembered on that Day:

Betty Bell
Bob Haines
Doris Kemper
Bill McIntyre
Tom Reeves
Charles “Doc” Schock

“Rest eternal grant them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them.”

Holiday Food Bags

The Community Action Ministry is collecting bags of food, cash donations, and \$25 Giant gift cards to help our neighbors in need with holiday meals. These bags will be delivered to Second Time Around Parents and Migrant Ministries of Chester County. The food lists have been adjusted to better meet the needs of those we serve. If you prefer to give a cash or gift card donation, please use the envelopes on the lobby counter.

Thanksgiving donations must be returned to Reformation by Sunday, **November 16**.

Christmas bags will be available for pick up Sunday, **November 23** and must be returned (along with any cash or gift card donations) to Reformation by Sunday, **December 7**. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need!



Thanks Living

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices.



- *Now Thank We All Our God (ELW No. 840)*

For Christians, “Thanksgiving” is not just a one-day holiday; it is a way of life—“Thanks Living”. We give thanks to God for all our blessings by our daily choices, actions and attitudes.

On Sunday, **November 16**, we will celebrate the abundant blessings we have received and give thanks to God. During worship, we will hear more about ELCA World Hunger and how to feed our neighbors.



Daylight Savings Time Ends

Mark your calendars and remember to turn your clocks back on Sunday, November 2.





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

1 Corinthians 12:26

Nico Matro received his first communion on **August 31**.

Bob Haines entered eternal life on **October 6**. A funeral service was held on **October 25** at Reformation.



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 Alina with any questions.

Sunday School will be held on:

November 2
November 9
November 16

Small Stars (Ages 0-3)

 Join us for story time, play, and music for infants and toddlers on Saturday, **November 1**, at 9:30 am in the church nursery.

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.



Council Highlights

The October Council meeting included the following highlights:

- Approval of the updated Child Safety Policy
- Approval of the Facility Use Agreement between the church and school

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 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
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 Gayeuski and Pastor Eileen Ruppel-Doan.

2025 Gift Giving Opportunities

It is St. Nicholas time at Reformation!

How can you participate? Give a direct donation to any of the agencies listed, shop for gifts and bring all **UNWRAPPED** gifts to worship by **December 7** for a special blessing in worship, or use the agency Amazon wish lists provided to place an order to be delivered directly to the agency. You can also have items shipped to Reformation's address labeled **ATTN: St. Nick**. Questions? Please contact Pastor Eileen.

Caring for Friends

This ministry serves isolated homebound persons, primarily the frail elderly, in the Greater Philadelphia area, with free daily home-cooked meals delivered weekly by volunteer visitors. The goal is to help people enhance their quality of life, maintain their independence, and remain in their own homes for as long as possible. Their wish list includes the following: **shelf stable, non-perishable foods, single serve items that can be used for snack bags (juice bags, fruit cups, applesauce cups, granola bars, oatmeal packets, etc.).**

Chester Eastside Ministry

A respected force for good in Chester, this agency provides food and clothing ministries, basic tutoring and educational enrichment programs, crisis counseling and community advocacy programs.

Target and Wal-Mart gift cards requested. Please indicate the amount of the gift card and place in an envelope marked "Chester Eastside". \$25 gift cards preferred.

Domestic Abuse Project

Domestic Abuse Project provides services for partners and their families who are in abusive relationships. Items on their wish list include: **Gift cards (\$25 to Giant, Acme, Target, Walmart, Aldi, Wawa), packaged single serve snacks and drinks, cleaning supplies, pillows, basic sweatshirts and pants (i.e. Hanes brand unisex S, M, L, XL no designs, neutral colors) socks, basic women's underwear all sizes, full-sized toiletries (deodorant, lotion, body wash and Dove Sensitive Skin bar soap), Diapers (Size 4+ - including pull-ups).**

KenCrest

KenCrest provides services for early childhood development and for individuals with developmental disabilities. Their needs are for:

Toddlers (Ages 1-3)

- Baby dolls
- Sensory toys
- Building Blocks
- Wooden puzzles
- Cars, trucks, trains

Upper Elementary (Ages 8-12)

- Remote control cars
- Arts and crafts kits
- Jewelry making kits

Early Elementary (Ages 4-7)

- Magna-Tiles
- Spiderman toys
- Play-Doh, Kinetic sand
- Toy cars, Hot Wheels
- Play food/cooking sets

All Children (Ages 4+)

- Coloring Books
- Barbie Dolls
- Lego Sets
- Markers

Lutheran Settlement House

Since its founding in 1902, LSH has served vulnerable children, adults and families living in the inner city. Today they serve especially the newly homeless, abused women and children, and low-income seniors. They are in need of gifts for babies through to older adults including:

- Coloring books (all ages)- Art supplies
- Dolls (diverse)
- Board games
- playing cards
- Fidget Toys
- Fun socks
- \$25 gift cards (Target, Walmart, Amazon, Wawa, Sephora, Ulta, Movies)
- Craft kits
- Skincare kits
- Tech accessories (phone chargers, pop sockets, Bluetooth speakers)

Migrant Ministry of Chester County

This ministry works year-round with people who harvest mushrooms in Kennett Square, providing warm clothing and blankets as well as having Bible studies and offering many diverse services for the families. Migrant Ministries' needs are: **New full-size blankets, socks, gloves, scarves for children and adults.**

Reformation School Corner

Meet Our Directors

ERIN HAYES,
Early Childhood Program Coordinator



Erin Hayes is the Early Childhood Program Coordinator at Reformation, where she brings two decades of experience in education and child development. She holds a B.S. in Early Childhood Education and Special Education from the University of Delaware. As a former military spouse, Erin's career has taken her across the country, serving as an Early Interventionist in Delaware and South Carolina, a teacher in South Dakota, and a School Principal at Chesterbrook Academy in Chadds Ford, PA. She has been a dedicated member of the Reformation Schools team for five years.

Erin is a proud mom of two, a dog mom to two French bulldogs, and an avid Formula 1 fan—always cheering for Ferrari. When she's not working, you'll find her in the garden, cooking up Italian dishes, or enjoying time with her family.

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!



Finance Smart

by Christine Corson

Investing your hard-earned money into secure investments or high yield savings accounts is always a smart choice and a topic often thought about. But do you ever think about investing yourself in God? I can't think of a better investment! How do we do this? Well, a good start would be daily reflection and prayer. Reflecting on our day, focusing on the highs and lows, and thinking about how we can improve ourselves will strengthen our relationship with God. Daily prayer lifts us up to God and gives us the opportunity to selflessly pray for others in need, and most important, God loves praying with you! Investing your time with God, even if it's only a few minutes, is the best investment decision you will ever make in your life and that makes you...

Finance Smart!!!



Attention!



Microsoft ended support for Windows 10 last month and is no longer providing security updates or patches on Windows 10 devices, making them more vulnerable to security risks. If you haven't done so yet, check your device that may be running on Windows 10, or have someone more qualified do it, to see if it is eligible for Windows 11. If it is not and you are unable to purchase a new device at this time, Microsoft offers a paid Extended Security Updates (ESU) program which provides an extra year of critical updates. For more information, visit Microsoft.com. Keeping your devices up to date is crucial to keeping your personal information safe and secure.

Reformation Merch!



Want to wear your Reformation Pride just in time for our 75th Anniversary? Head to relcmedia.org/75 to shop Reformation apparel.

Upcoming Youth Events



- **November 2** - Breakfast Club, Confirmation, Youth Group (12:30 pm to 2:00pm)
- **November 9** - Confirmation
- **November 16** - Confirmation with Mentors
- **November 23** - Confirmation

Breakfast Club for High School Students



Attention High School Students: We invite you to join us for Breakfast Club this year! This is an opportunity for those in grades 9-12 to gather during the education hour – with breakfast! This is a safe space for everyone to learn valuable life skills you will actually use in the future as well as to build lasting friendships, eat some yummy food and have fun. Questions are encouraged! Jen & Jameson Troutman are the leaders of this group. They will also have guest speakers throughout the year. The group meets the first Sunday of the month at 9:45 am in the Community Room through May. Please register using the QR code below or at relcmedia.org/breakfast-club.



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.



Upcoming Events

Visit the websites listed below to register!



CONNECT

WINTER CAMP AT BEAR CREEK CAMP

- Winter Camp
January 9 - 11
bearcreekcamp.org/camps/winter-camp
- Spring Family Nature Retreat
March 20 - 22, 2026
bearcreekcamp.org/spring-nature-family-camp

Faith and Family Newsletter



Scan below to register for our seasonal "Faith and Family" e-newsletter with prayers, readings, and activities for each liturgical season - designed for children, youth, and families.



Blessing of the Animals



Pastor Alina is shown blessing some of Reformation's furry friends on October 5.



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Reformation,

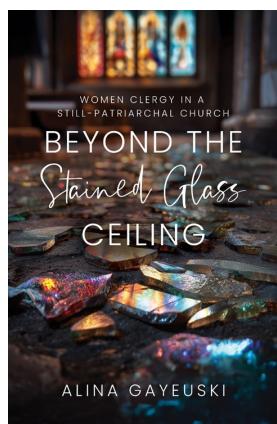
As I previously shared, I am excited that my doctoral research is being turned into a book! *Beyond the Stained Glass Ceiling: Clergy Women in a Still-Patriarchal Church* is being published by Chalice Press in March 2026.

This publication is an incredible privilege as my book contains the story of close to fifty other clergy women and the way they have had to navigate the sexism that continues to pervade the church. My book is also part of the Young Clergy Women International line – meaning that a percentage of the profits for each book sold will go back to YCWI. This organization has been one of the most meaningful parts of my ministry formation and I am grateful for this way I can support them.

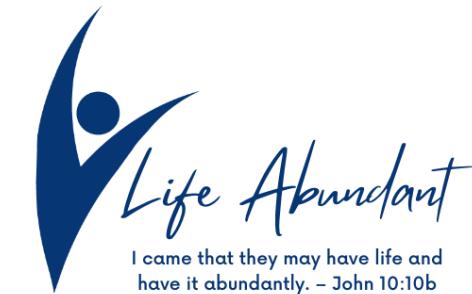
On the release date, March 3, United Lutheran Seminary is hosting a launch event. It will be on the campus of the seminary in Philadelphia and online. This book has been possible because of the education and support I received through the seminary community and it is such a gift to celebrate the launch in that space. All are most welcome to attend. Registration information will be shared with you all soon!

Thank you, again, for all of the ways you continue to celebrate with me! I cannot adequately express the gratitude I have for being able to share these exciting life moments with all of you!

Pastor Alina



Capital Campaign Update



Let there be light! The electricity has been installed in the pavilion! We also received our official certificate of occupancy.

We are waiting on final approval for the reflection garden area and will start that work as soon as that is received.

Gala Benefit for Refugees

Join the Chester County Conference of ELCA Lutheran Congregations for an unforgettable evening of music, community and compassion—featuring a live DJ and silent auction—as we come together to support relief efforts for Palestinian and Ukrainian refugees. The gala will be held on **November 9** from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Penn Oaks Golf Club in West Chester, PA. Tickets are \$100 per adult and \$25 per child. For more information, please call 610-436-0807 or email AdventLutheranwc@gmail.com.

Life Center Update

Our next serving date is **January 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, yankyl68@icloud.com or 610-719-7190.



Eco News for November

by John Berberich and Christine Corson



Do you have used but wearable sneakers that you no longer want? A good idea would be to donate them! Check with your local homeless shelters or you can drop them off at any Green Drop location near you. Another good idea is to pass your gently used sneakers on to athletes in need around the world. For more info on this special program, visit oneworldrunning.com/donate.

If you have Nike or Converse shoes that are no longer wearable, Nike has a Reuse-a-shoe program where unwearable shoes will be ground up and used for tracks, gym floors and playground surfaces. Visit nike.com/help/a/recycle-shoes for more info!

Also, Reformation has an onsite collection bin with ACR Trading, a local company that collects old clothes and shoes and recycles them.

Donations can be dropped off at any time in the collection bin, located at the west end of the building near the dumpsters. Proceeds received from the collections go to Reformation's Eco Ministry. Any donation, no matter how small, reduces waste in our landfills and protects our environment.

Blood Drive

Reformation is hosting its next Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, **December 27**, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. To register, please visit RedCrossBlood.org.



Donate by Phone!



Did you know that you can now donate to Reformation via text? Simply text the amount you wish to give to 844-628-3176!

Library Book Club News

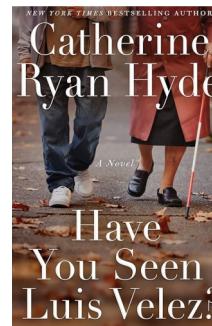
All are invited to join the Reformation Library Book Club via zoom for our always lively book discussions. Contact Laura Reiter at longreiter@gmail.com for more details.

Coming in January:

Have You Seen Luis Velez?

- January 20, 2026 at 7:00 pm:

led by Marilyn Berberich



From Goodreads.com:

New York Times bestselling author Catherine Ryan Hyde brings heartwarming authenticity to the story of two strangers who find that kindness is a powerful antidote to fear.

Raymond Jaffe feels like he doesn't belong. Not with his mother's new family. Not as a weekend guest with his father and his father's wife. Not at school, where he's an outcast. After his best friend moves away, Raymond has only two real connections to the feral cat he's tamed and to a blind ninety-two-year-old woman in his building who's introduced herself with a curious Have you seen Luis Velez?

Mildred Gutermann, a German Jew who narrowly escaped the Holocaust, has been alone since her caretaker disappeared. She turns to Raymond for help, and as he tries to track Luis down, a deep and unexpected friendship blossoms between the two.

Despondent at the loss of Luis, Mildred isolates herself further from a neighborhood devolving into bigotry and fear. Determined not to let her give up, Raymond helps her see that for every terrible act the world delivers, there is a mirror image of deep kindness, and Mildred helps Raymond see that there's hope if you have someone to hold on to.

Advent Icon Retreat

From December 1 – 5.

The Rev. Bonnie Oplinger



leads a week-long workshop of growth and artistic expression as participants create/write an icon of the Madonna and Child. Visit unitedlutheranseminary.edu/calendar/kindling-faith to register.

Longing for the Light

November 30 is the First Sunday in Advent. Worship that day will include our “Longing for the Light of Healing and Hope” liturgy which includes a Prayer Litany and, optionally, Candle Lighting and Individual Prayer for Healing.

December Preview

There are many upcoming events in December. Mark your calendars and plan to join us! Look for more details in next month’s newsletter, the weekly bulletin announcements and on our website.

November 30

First Sunday of Advent

December 7

St. Nicholas celebration during worship

December 21

Blessing of the Greens during worship

Hanging of the Greens following worship

December 24

Christmas Eve Worship at 2:00, 4:00, 6:00 & 8:00pm.

December 25

Christmas Day Worship at 10:00 am
(*Online only*)

December 28

Worship at 10:00 am

Light the Advent Wreath



If you are interested in serving as an Advent Wreath lighter at one of our worships during the Advent season (**Sundays, November 30, December 7, 14 and 21**),

please contact the church office (rlc@relicmedia.org) and tell us the dates and worship time you are able to serve. If you are already on our Worship Team, you can choose your date directly through the scheduling system.

Advent Gospel Procession

by Children

There will be a special opportunity for children to be involved in worship during the season of Advent,

beginning on **November 30**. Children will be invited to help the preacher bring the Bible forward from a table in the back of the sanctuary and stand around the preacher for the reading of the gospel. Everyone will then continue with the Sermon on the Steps as usual in the service.



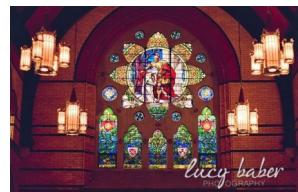
Art of Interfaith

Understanding: Tiffany &

More: Stained Glass

Windows at

St. Martin-in-the-Fields



Most of the stained-glass windows at St. Martin’s are more than a century old, crafted by the finest artisans of the era. They are designed to enhance worship with supernal light and color. Some highlight key moments in the order of worship.

This program is not a lecture, but rather a process by which participants will explore the effect and meaning of specific windows and share their discoveries with all. Insights into the Episcopal way of being Christian will be woven into our experience of fine art. Persons from all religious perspectives and other worldviews are encouraged to attend.

Facilitated by Rev. John B. Hougen, PhD, *Art of Interfaith Understanding* Coordinator and Volunteer Docent at the PMA.

Sunday, November 16

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields
8000 St. Martin's Lane, Philadelphia

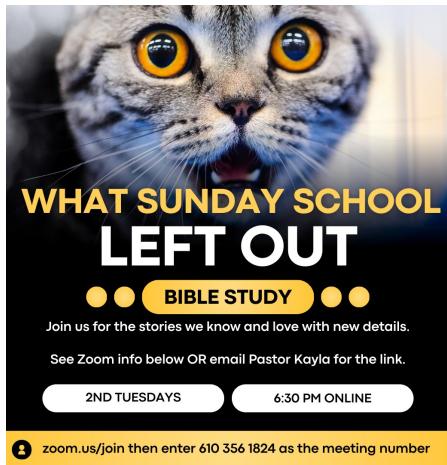
For more information and to register, please visit interfaithphiladelphia.org/upcoming-programs.



Upcoming Events at Grace Lutheran, Broomall

For more details on any of these events, please contact them at 610-356-1824 or pastorkayla@gracebroomall.org or visit gracebroomall.org/events.

Bible Study



Join us for the stories we know and love with new details.

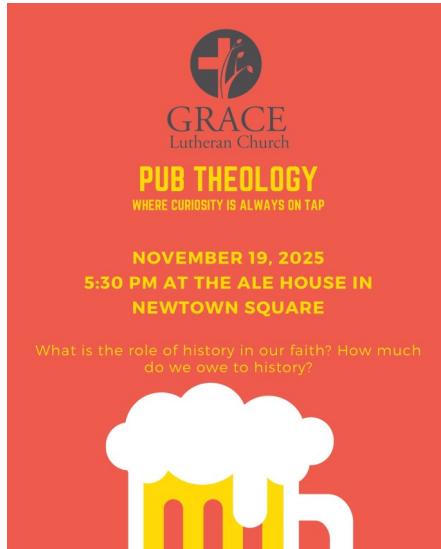
See Zoom info below OR email Pastor Kayla for the link.

2ND TUESDAYS

6:30 PM ONLINE

zoom.us/join then enter 610 356 1824 as the meeting number

Pub Theology

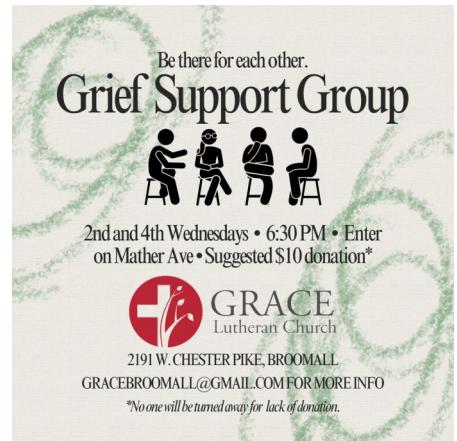


NOVEMBER 19, 2025

5:30 PM AT THE ALE HOUSE IN NEWTOWN SQUARE

What is the role of history in our faith? How much do we owe to history?

Grief Support Group



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



2191 W. CHESTER PIKE, BROOMALL.

GRACEBROOMALL@GMAIL.COM FOR MORE INFO

*No one will be turned away for lack of donation.

30 DAYS OF PRAYER

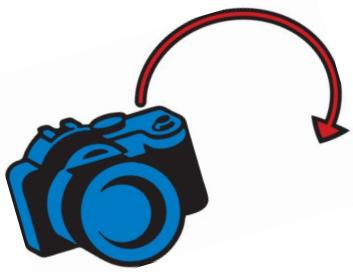


Fill in a heart each day you pray.

www.tracismith.com

for your family	for the earth
for a friend	for something you hope for
for clean water	for leaders
for your church	for your town
for your health	for your home
for another country	for a news item that concerns you
for a pet or animal	for someone who has helped you
for your teachers	for your school or job
for the opportunity to help someone	for God's love
for your country	for those who are without shelter
for those who are sick	for the opportunity to show God's love
for kind people in the world	for the gift of a new day
for peace on earth	for the sun and moon
for the people you love	for forgiveness
for the sunrise	for anything that comes to mind

www.tracismith.com



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.



Pastor Alina celebrating Reformation's oldest member, Clara Ward, on her 104th birthday on September 11. Clara said her secret is: "I love life, I love to dance, and I love ice cream!" Celebrate Clara with some ice cream today!



Thank you to everyone who helped us pack 225 meals and make 75 meal bags on God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, September 14.



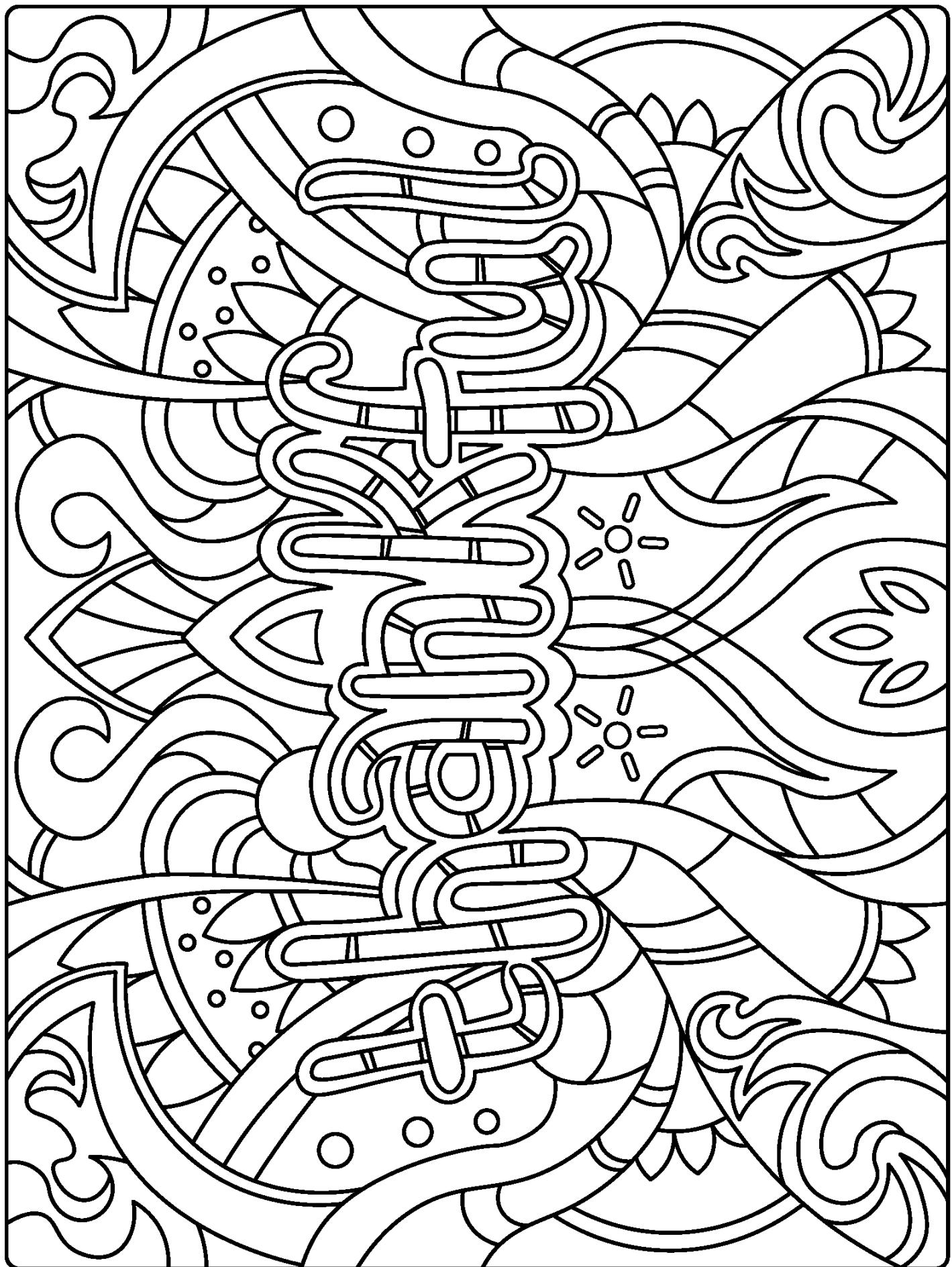
Reformation members provided parking assistance for our friends at Congregation Beth Israel as they gathered for their high holiday services on October 3.



Pastor Alina and Guest Preacher Pastor Erika Strobel Wesch with our Reinhard Scholarship recipients on Sunday, October 5.



Reformation welcomed Frida and Julius from our partner Diocese in Tanzania on October 6.





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. Gayeusk

The Rev. Eileen Ruppel-Doan



Return Service Requested

Label

REFORMATION TIMES

November 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.

Saturday, November 1

Rose Tree Road Clean Up
10:00 - 11:00 am

Sunday, November 2

All Saints' Sunday
Daylight Savings Time Ends

Tuesday, November 4

Election Day - Office Closed

Tuesday, November 4

Veterans Day - Office Closed

Sunday, November 16

ThanksLiving Sunday

Wednesday, November 26

Thanksgiving
Officed Closed 11/26,
11/27 and 11/28

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