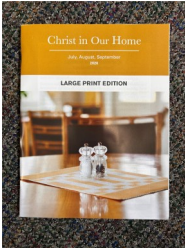

REFORMATION TIMES

July 2026

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.

Reformation from a Different Perspective



This beautiful photo was taken by Kendyll Ward prior to the SEPA Synod's Delaware Conference Ascension Worship hosted by Reformation on May 14.

Vacation Bible School



Join us for "Just Like Me," a garden-themed VBS program that celebrates community, inclusion, and justice. VBS will run **July 6 - 9** from 5:30 - 7:30 pm for children age 3 through completed 5th grade. Register at myvbs.org/ [relcmedia](https://relcmedia.org/) or scan the QR code above. Contact Pastor Eileen with any questions.

New Eagle Scout Project



Congratulations and thanks to Adam Stroffolino for building two outdoor storage boxes for the pavilion. These boxes will be used to keep outdoor classroom materials in the pavilion for our school programs.



Council Highlights

The June Council meeting included these highlights:

- Welcoming New Council members
- Appointment of School Board members
- Approval of funding request to sponsor the DAP 50th anniversary celebration

There will be no July meeting.



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

1 Corinthians 12:26

Colton David Nelson and **Waylon Reese Jarman**, children of Emily Black and Patrick Jarman, were baptized on **May 31**.

Stella Blue Dooley and **Nora Mae Dooley** received their first communion on **June 7**.

Julissa Bucher and **Marshall Smith** were married on **June 14**.

Ushers Needed!



USHERS NEEDED

We are in need of some additional volunteers to usher during worship at both services. For

more information, please reach out to one of the pastors or contact the church office.

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.



Summer Hours



This is just a reminder that while our normal office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm (and closed on Fridays), with our

small staff and summer vacation schedules, this might not always be the case. Please call the office before stopping in to make sure someone will be there to help you.

Reformation Facebook Group



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

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 Merch!

Reformation apparel is still available to purchase at relcmedia.org/75. Treat yourself or your loved ones to new Reformation gear!



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!

REFORMATION TIMES

Published Monthly by

Reformation Lutheran Church

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

Congregation Council and Officers

Laura Reiter, *President*; Jameson Troutman, *Vice President*; Chase Perry, *Secretary*; Marian Filtz, *Treasurer*, Jamie Anderson, Allison Bocian, Linda Bucher, Evie Fernandez, Eric Hathaway, Jessica Reitano, Pastor Alina Gayeuski and Pastor Eileen Ruppel-Doan.

Backpack School Supply Collection 2026

Collection Ends **August 2**

It's time for the Backpack School Supply Collection. We hope to again be able to supply stuffed backpacks to students in the Chester and Upper Darby Communities. Last year 605 backpacks were filled by 18 faith communities in Delaware County. Here are 3 ways you can support the collection this year.

One way to make a contribution this year is to use the links below to an Amazon Wishlist – School Supplies. Place an order and it will be shipped directly to the crew that will assemble the backpacks.

Link to Wishlist:
tinyurl.com/Interfaith-School-Supplies

or scan here:



You can also make a monetary contribution. Checks can be mailed to:

School Supplies c/o Jody Troyan
1201 Swarthmore Ave.
Folsom, PA 19033

Checks should be made payable to Grace Lutheran Church – Broomall.

Dave Ehret is again serving as Treasurer of this effort.

As in past years, you can do the shopping and drop off the supplies at Reformation. The suggested list of supplies are as follows:

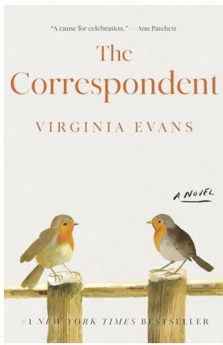
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Plastic Pencil Box
- Composition Books
- Crayons (24 count box)
- Colored Pencils (12 colors)
- Washable Markers (10 colors)
- Glue (4-ounce bottle)
- Glue Sticks
- Large Pink Erasers
- No. 2 Pencils
- Pocket Folders
- Safety Scissors
- Pencil Sharpener
- Ruler

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

- Pocket Folders
- Highlighters
- Fine Line Markers (10 colors)
- No. 2 Pencils
- Mechanical Pencils
- Colored Pencils (12 colors)
- Pencil Sharpener
- 3 x 5 Index Cards (ruled & unruled)
- Pens
- Rulers
- 3 Ring Binders
- Binder Dividers
- Loose Leaf Paper
- Post It Notes
- 1 Subject Notebooks

Library Book Club News



Join our Reformation Library Book Club discussion of *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans on **Tuesday, July 21** at 7:00pm via Zoom. Our conversation will be led by Karen Chorney. Please contact Laura Reiter at longreiter@gmail.com for more information about participating in the book club

zoom meeting. About our selection from Goodreads.com:

“Imagine, the letters one has sent out into the world, the letters received back in turn, are like the pieces of a magnificent puzzle. . . . Isn’t there something wonderful in that, to think that a story of one’s life is preserved in some way, that this very letter may one day mean something, even if it is a very small thing, to someone?”

Filled with knowledge that only comes from a life fully lived, *The Correspondent* is a gem of a novel about the power of finding solace in literature and connection with people we might never meet in person. It is about the hubris of youth and the wisdom of old age, and the mistakes and acts of kindness that occur during a lifetime.

Sybil Van Antwerp has throughout her life used letters to make sense of the world and her place in it. Most mornings, around half past ten, Sybil sits down to write letters—to her brother, to her best friend, to the president of the university who will not allow her to audit a class she desperately wants to take, to Joan Didion and Larry McMurtry to tell them what she thinks of their latest books, and to one person to whom she writes often yet never sends the letter.

Sybil expects her world to go on as it always has—a mother, grandmother, wife, divorcee, distinguished lawyer, she has lived a very full life. But when letters from someone in her past force her to examine one of the most painful periods of her life, she realizes that the letter she has been writing over the years needs to be read and that she cannot move forward until she finds it in her heart to offer forgiveness.

Sybil Van Antwerp’s life of letters might be “a very small thing,” but she also might be one of the most memorable characters you will ever read.

Capital Campaign Update



The concrete work began on the Reflection Garden in the middle of June. The transformation will be significant in the coming

weeks. Please use caution when approaching the building from the east parking lot.

Join the Delaware County Children’s Chorus!



delaware county
children’s chorus

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

Ensembles:

Choristers (Grades 2-4): Tuesday, 5:15-6:30 pm

Chorale (Grades 5-8): Tuesday, 6:45-8:00 pm

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

Season starts: **September 8, 2026**

Registration: **NOW OPEN!**

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

Reformation Has PRIDE!

Reformation had a great time celebrating Pride throughout the month of June. Thank you to everyone who volunteered!



ECO MINISTRY
UPDATES

July Eco Tip

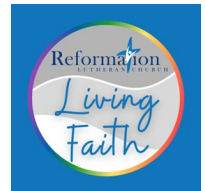
from CreationJustice.org



This July 4, take a moment to reflect upon the environmental impact that traditional Independence Day activities have. In a day characterized by consumerism, single-use items, barbecues with excessive meat and polluting fireworks, consider what eco-conscious product swaps you can make while celebrating.

Living Faith Podcast

Miss a sermon? Want a new podcast for your morning commute? Reformation Sunday sermons are now available as a podcast! Follow the Living Faith podcast on Spotify or Apple Podcasts to be notified of all the new episodes!



SAVE THE DATE!

Blood Drive



Our next Red Cross Blood Drive is on Saturday, **August 15**, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. To register, please visit RedCrossBlood.org.

New Synod Website



Lutherans Together: Loving God, Loving Neighbor

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod has a new website! For all SEPA Synod information visit sepa.org.

Upcoming Events

- Summer Camp
Registration
NOW OPEN
June 21—August 14, 2026
- Visit
bearcreekcamp.org/camps/summer-camp
for more information and to register!



Finance Smart

by Christine Corson

Do you use your credit card to donate to Reformation? Did you know the credit card processing fees charged for donations range from 2 to 4% on each transaction? That can really add up! Did you know you are able to donate an offset for the credit card fees? When giving on Reformation's website, after you enter your donation amount, go to the basket and click on "I would like to help offset the processing fees associated with online giving" and it will add 2.9% to your donation. That amount will be separated from your donation and will help to offset the fees that are charged. If you are unable to give extra, that is perfectly fine. But if you are able to help, it is greatly appreciated. Also great to know is that we are not charged fees when you use Venmo to give. If you would like to use Venmo, it's free for both the giver and the receiver!

Reformation is very thankful for your generosity and support!



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!

Media PRIDE Parade



Vicar Megan and Reformation members were seen marching in the Media Pride Parade on Saturday, June 6.

Appalachia Service Project Update



The ASP Team completed their tools training by making step stools for the church on June 7.

Davis Scholarship Presentation



The Davis Scholarship was awarded to seven deserving Reformation students during worship on June 7.

FROM THE PASTOR

Therefore, beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord.
- 1 Corinthians 15:58a

Dear Reformation,

On May 31 we had the privilege of welcoming the Rev. Dr. Fursan Zumot to worship with us. He serves as the current pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Reformation in Beit Jala. This is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land - one of the closest ministry partners of the ELCA.

For several years, Reformation in Beit Jala has been one of our partner congregations. We provide annual financial support that goes to helping children of the congregation pay for their school tuition fees. With 70% of Palestinian Christians working in the tourism industry, there has been significant financial instability for our Lutheran siblings. This is one small way that we are able to help our neighbors around the world.

I also invite you to learn more about the ELCA's ministry support in the Holy Land through the program Sumud. (Sumud is an Arabic word that means "steadfast" - a reminder that our call is to be steadfast in our accompaniment just as God is steadfast in love.) Visit elca.org/sumud to learn more.

In peace,

Pastor Alina



Welcome Pastor Fursan!



Pastor Alina and Pastor Eileen welcomed Rev. Dr. Fursan Zumot as a guest during worship on May 31. Pastor Fursan is pastor of our partner church, Reformation Beit Jala.

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 2025, over \$25,000 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!

Life Center Update



Our next serving date is Thursday, **July 23**. 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.



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.

Weekly Prayer & Sunday School

Pub Theology

GRACE Lutheran Church
PUB THEOLOGY
WHERE CURIOSITY IS ALWAYS ON TAP

JULY 15, 2026
5:30 PM AT THE ALE HOUSE IN
NEWTOWN SQUARE

What does freedom mean to you?

COME JOIN US
TUESDAYS AT 9:00- 9:45 AM

GRACE Lutheran Church

*Weekly Prayer
Contemplative Prayer
Gatherings*

Opening our hearts and minds to God

Wellness Center at Grace Lutheran Church
Sanctuary
2191 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA 19008
www.gracebroomall.org

WHAT SUNDAY SCHOOL LEFT OUT

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

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.*

The Joy of Living Retreat

July 11, 2026, 9:30-3:00

Grace Lutheran Church Wellness Center
2191 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA
www.gracebroomall.org

Laughter and Love Give Us Health and Wholeness!

Come ready to take deep breaths, laugh, and playfully experiment with new tools for joyful living and creating your self-care toolbox!

Registration & Coffee: 9:30 a.m. Retreat: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Cost: \$60 per person, including all materials, snacks, and lunch

Presented by Sister D'Etta Broam
Deacon for Health and Wholeness Ministries in the ELCA SC Synod
Retreat Leader and Certified Yoga Therapist

Please RSVP by July 6, 2026 by emailing sisterpaula@gracebroomall.org, subject line "RSVP Joy"

For more information about the Retreat Leader, please visit her web site at:
<https://sites.google.com/view/sisterdb/home>



Interfaith Philadelphia

Political Empathy and Religious Pluralism



Can empathy, an ability to stand in the other person’s shoes, change how we perceive those who worship and vote differently than we do? Can religious differences be bridged to help us cross political divides?

Hear the groundbreaking research of University of Pennsylvania political scientist Dr. Lia Howard and her students as they offer strategies for improving our political discourse and strengthening our democratic institutions.

This program is part of the *Religious Freedom: Then & Now* initiative.

Wednesday, September 9

5:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Gloria Dei Old Swedes Episcopal Church
916 S. Swanson Street Philadelphia, PA 19147

Register for this and other events at interfaithphiladelphia.org/upcoming-programs.



United Lutheran Seminary
UNIFYING, LEARNING, SERVING

Aging Grace-fully Author Series II

Thanks once again to a generous grant from the Lutheran Foundation for Long Term Living, we are able to bring eight more authors to our campuses to examine what happens when we grow older and/or care for our aging loved ones. Join us, in person or virtually, to seek understanding and acceptance of these challenges in our ongoing series featuring leading authors who share their knowledge and experiences about aging including suffering, love and loss.

Aging Grace-fully with Rozella Haydée White

July 30, 1:30 pm

Gettysburg Campus or Livestream

Rozella Haydée White is an author, public theologian, and executive leadership coach whose work invites leaders to live and lead with courage, wholeness, and a deep love ethic. She is the founder of RHW Consulting LLC and The Waymaker Agency, where she partners with mission-driven organizations and faith leaders navigating change, conflict, and growth.



Rozella is the author of *Love Big: The Power of Revolutionary Relationships to Heal the World* and a contributor to multiple publications exploring leadership, justice, womanist theology, intergenerational wisdom, and embodied faith. Her writing weaves personal story, theological reflection, and practical application, helping readers reconnect to their beloved-ness while doing demanding public work.

With more than two decades of experience in nonprofit and church leadership, Rozella brings both pastoral depth and strategic clarity to conversations about faith in wilderness seasons. She writes and teaches about spirituality that sustains leaders over the long haul — spirituality rooted not in performance, but in presence.

To register, go to: kindlingfaith.com/kindling-faith-events.



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 Eileen, Dr. Smallwood from ULS and our conference dean Pastor Marie at the Ascension service on May 14.



Special thanks to our "Gardening Angels" (including Toini and Peter Scherer) for keeping our landscaping looking beautiful!



The Handbell Choir performed during worship on May 17.



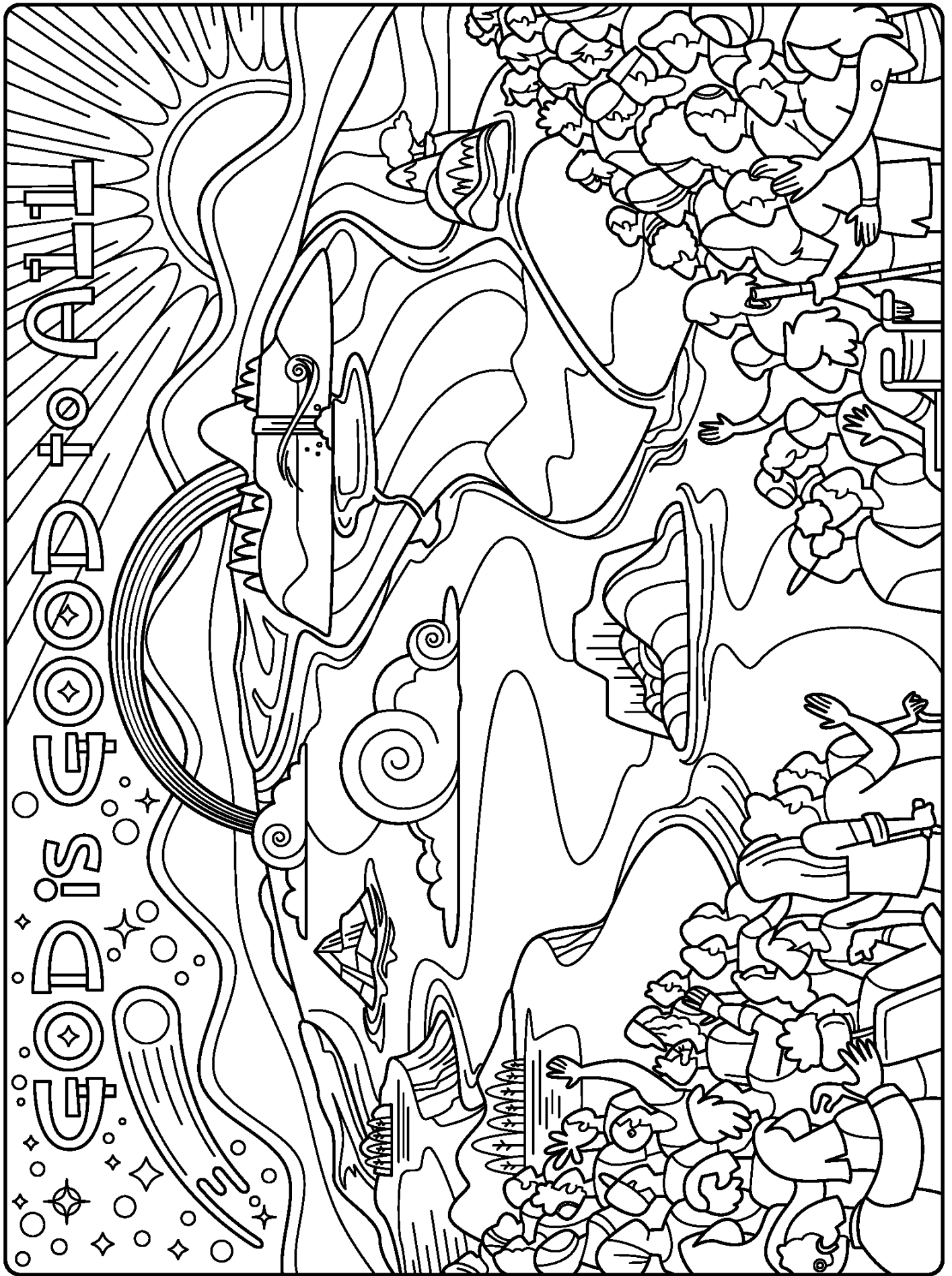
Pastor Alina and Pastor Eileen celebrated a double baptism during worship on May 31.



Outdoor fun for the last day of Confirmation class on May 17!



Pastor Alina and the Troutmans showed their Susquehanna pride on School Spirit Day, May 31.



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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

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Organization
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Permit No. 315



Return Service Requested



REFORMATION TIMES

July 2026

MISSION: Called by Christ, we **INVITE** all people, **SERVE** our neighbors, and **BUILD** a living faith.

WELCOME: Called by Christ we invite all people, celebrating the diversity of God's creation. Reformation is an affirming congregation for all: rejoicing with the young and old, welcoming people of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, working to cultivate an accessible and inclusive community for all abilities, and embracing all races, cultures, and faith traditions.

We serve our neighbors following the teachings of Christ. Reformation responds to the needs of the most vulnerable - providing nourishment and comfort, supporting the work of the local and global church, and protecting God's creation for future generations.

We build a living faith emboldened by the Holy Spirit. Reformation embodies the unconditional love of God through worshiping and learning together and valuing the gifts of everyone. To create the fullness of our community of faith, we nurture relationships, pursue racial equity and gender justice, and advocate for the wellbeing of the marginalized.

Sunday, July 5

VBS Leader Installation

Monday, July 6

Church office closed
(observance of 4th of July holiday)

July 6-9

5:30 pm—7:30 pm
Vacation Bible School