
REFORMATION TIMES

November 2026



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 15**, we will celebrate the abundant blessings we have received and give thanks to God.

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 8**.

Christmas bags will be available for pick up Sunday, **November 29** and must be returned (along with any cash or gift card donations) to Reformation by Sunday, **December 6**. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need!

We Remember All the Saints



On All Saints Sunday, **November 1**, 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:

**Paul Badey
Gray Creighton
Hilbert Felton
Bill Haines
Cindy Lighton
Donald Storey
Clara Ward**

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

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:

November 1
November 8
November 15
November 22

Small Stars (Ages 0-3)

Join us for story time, play, and music for infants and toddlers on Saturday, **November 7**, at 9:30 am in the church nursery.

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.

Donations to Providence Animal Center



Pastor Alina's car was filled to the brim with donations collected during October. Thank you for your generosity!

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.

2026 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 6** 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)

- Toy cars and trucks
- Wooden puzzles
- Building blocks
- Baby dolls

Early Elementary (Ages 4-7)

- Art/craft supplies
- Spiderman toys
- Barbie dolls
- Lego sets

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 the following:

- **Diapers (unopened or labeled in Ziploc)**
- **Baby formula (unopened, not expired)**
- **New children's toys**
- **Baby wipes (unopened)**
- **Personal cleaning wipes (unopened)**
- **Hygiene products (unopened shampoo, conditioner, lotion, etc.) for a variety of ethnicities**
- **Dental hygiene items (unopened)**
- **Feminine hygiene products (if opened, please tape closed.)**

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.**

Reflection Garden Dedication

Join us on Sunday, **November 1**, as we dedicate the Reflection Garden. This dedication will be part of our All Saints celebration as we remember all the faithful who have helped to bring this project into reality. The dedication will be part of the conclusion of the 11:00 am worship.

PAR Recycle Works



PAR RECYCLE WORKS
Recycling electronics.
Restoring lives.

PAR Recycle Works is hosting a community e-waste recycling event on Saturday, **November 14**, at

Strath Haven High School in Wallingford from 9 am to 1 pm. For more information, please visit par-recycleworks.org/upcoming-events.

Blood Drive

Reformation is hosting its next Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, **December 26**, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. To register, please visit RedCrossBlood.org.



Life Center Update



Our next serving date is Thursday, **January 28**. 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.

Endowment Bylaw Updates

At their September meeting, the Congregation Council approved recommended updates to the Endowment Bylaws. They will be voted on at the Congregational Meeting in January. The changes are updates to language and to bring them into alignment with the Constitution and Bylaws of the congregation. They were last updated in 2007. Pursuant to the current Endowment Bylaws, Article IX, Section 1.C, this notice shall serve as the mailed notice to the congregation. To view the proposed changes, visit relcmedia.org/constitution. If you have any questions about the proposed changes, please contact Pastor Alina.



Council Highlights

The September Council meeting included the following highlights:

- Updates on the Reflection Garden project
- Approval of Confirmation Students as Voting Members through the Rite of Confirmation
- Approval updates to the Financial Policies
- Approval of Youth Gathering Fundraiser and financial support of Erik's Half Marathon fundraising for LSH and Reformation, Beit Jala, Palestine

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!



Domestic Violence Awareness Support



Pastor Alina and her Dad, Jim, spent the morning of September 24 delivering DAP coffee sleeves to coffee shops around the county. October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month and these coffee sleeves helped to put the Domestic Abuse Project of Delaware County, Inc. Hotline number into the hands of people who might need it. Our Lunch Bunch group assembled 2000 of the 12,000 sleeves going out across Delaware County.

Upcoming Youth Events



- **November 1** - Breakfast Club, Confirmation, Youth Group Arasapha Farms Trip (6:00 pm-9:00 pm - RSVP Required))
- **November 8** - Confirmation with Mentors
- **November 13-15** - High School Peer Ministry Retreat
- **November 15** - Confirmation
- **November 22** - Confirmation, Youth Gathering Participant Meeting (12:00 pm)

Breakfast Club Returns!



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 but will have guest speakers throughout the year. The group meets on Rally at 9:45 am in the Community Room and then the first Sunday of the month through May. Please register using the QR code below or at relcmedia.org/breakfast-club.



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.



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 29**. 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.



Upcoming Events

- **Winter Connect**
January 8-10, 2027
Cozy cabins, winter adventures, familiar faces, new friends, and a weekend designed to help you grow in your faith. Visit bearcreekcamp.org/camps/winter-camp for more information and to register.
- **All Ages Spring Retreat**
March 19-21, 2027
Expect the same great programming, with a winter/spring agenda. Who knows — there might even be sleigh riding! This is a great time to take a mini trip and beat the winter doldrums. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for registration details coming soon!



Family & Friends Spring Retreat March 19-21
Spring Women's Retreat April 9-11
May Open House Explore Camp May 1
June Open House Experience Camp June 13th

SUMMER 2027 SESSIONS

Session 1: June 20-25	Session 5: July 18-23
Session 2: June 27-July 2*	Session 6: July 25-30*
Session 3: July 4-July 9+	Session 7: August 1-August 6
Session 4: July 11-16*	Session 8: August 8-13*

*Try camp is available
+Family & Friends Summer Camp, Artist's Retreat

Congratulations, Pastor Kayla!



Pastor Kayla Sadovy was recognized with the Faithful Servant - Outstanding Recent Alumni Award from the United Lutheran Seminary Alumni Association. Pastor Kayla received this award for her leadership of Grace's Wellness Center. Pastor Eileen served as her nominator and gave her introduction at the award ceremony.

Help Erik Raise \$13,100 for Lutheran Settlement House for His 13.1 Miles!

On **November 21**, Reformation's Director of Music Ministry, Erik Flaten, will be participating in the Philadelphia Half Marathon. He will be running to raise money for Lutheran Settlement House. Help him reach his goal of \$13,100 in honor of his 13.1 miles. David Chiles, Executive Director of LSH will be with us for worship on **November 8** to help cheer Erik on! Reformation's Council has approved a \$5,000 challenge gift from Endowment Outreach to match the first \$5,000 donated!



Finance Smart

by Christine Corson

It's Turkey Month and I'm sure you're looking forward to a delicious holiday dinner with family and friends. According to LatestCost.com, this year's cost of a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for a family of 8 to 10 will be approximately \$82 to \$255.



Do you know what the cost was of the world's most expensive Thanksgiving Dinner? It was a whopping \$181,000!!! This luxurious Thanksgiving dinner took place in 2019 at Old Homestead Steakhouse in

Manhattan, New York City. The guests were served two 20lb free range turkeys with edible gold flakes and extravagant sides. In addition to such a lavish dinner menu, there were high-end extras such as a \$50,000 SeaDream Yacht Club cruise for two and four Super Bowl LIV tickets valued at \$30,000, just to name a few!

No matter how simple or fancy your Thanksgiving dinner will be, it's the time spent with family and friends that means the most! Happy Thanksgiving!

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!



FROM THE PASTOR

Deacons likewise must be serious, not double-tongued, not indulging in much wine, not greedy for money; they must hold fast to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience ... for those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and great boldness in the faith that is in Christ Jesus. - 1 Timothy 3:8-9, 13

Dear Reformation,

Throughout the history of our congregation we have been blessed by the diversity of those called to diaconal ministry. Deacon Linda Furia and Deacon Beth Barkhau were both called to serve Reformation. In the last several years we have also been honored to be part of the formation of other deacons as Sister Paula Estornell and Deacon Bruce Pollock completed their internship with us. (And we are lucky to have Deacon Pat Polilli as a member of Reformation!)

I had the privilege of being part of both Sister Paula and Deacon Bruce's ordination (Deacon Bruce was just ordained on October 2 in Goose Lake, IA!). I rejoice in serving a congregation that recognizes and celebrates the role of deacons in the mission we all share together. As a pastor, I am grateful for my colleagues that help us to continue stretching out into the world.

The word for Deacon in Greek literally translates as "kicking up dust." Our deacons help us to remember we must never remain complacent in the way we live out our call to serve our neighbors. Thanks be to God for them and their ministry among us!

Pastor Alina



Longing for the Light

November 29 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 29

First Sunday of Advent

December 6

St. Nicholas celebration during worship

December 13

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 27

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 29, December 6, 13 and 20**), please contact

the church office (rlc@relcmedia.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.



Eco Meeting

The next Eco Ministry meeting will be held on Monday, **November 2**, at 7:00 pm via zoom. Contact Pastor Alina for the meeting link.

NEW DATE!

Eco Ministry Nature Night

Join the Eco Ministry on **November 13**, at 7:00 pm in the ROCK Room for an evening of beauty, inspiration, and community. We are gathering to celebrate the incredible gift of our Earth through our own experiences. Three members are already set to take us on a visual journey through their recent nature immersions. From the majestic vistas of our National Parks to a trek up Abercrombie Mountain in the Selkirk Mountains, you will get to experience these spaces through their stories and photographs.

Each presenter will share a brief overview of their journey followed by a showcase of the stunning pictures they captured along the way.

Want to share your own journey?

If you have a recent nature immersion, hiking trip, or outdoor adventure you would like to share, we would love to welcome you to the lineup.

Whether you want to present or simply sit back and enjoy the view, we hope to see you there. Light refreshments will be served.

For questions or to sign up as a presenter, please contact Kathie Leighton at kathieleighton12@gmail.com or (610) 207-5835.

Reformation School Corner

Erin Hayes,
Nursery School Director



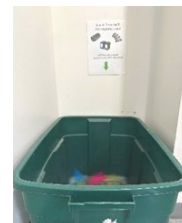
The leaves are falling, the mornings are crispy and Nursery School students are snug as bugs in their classrooms.

In September, we welcomed 91 students back to school! Our classrooms are buzzing with the excitement of learning and friendship. It was wonderful to see families and future students at our first Parent Coffee. A special thank you to our Parent Representative Kelly Lake for being a crucial partner in ensuring we meet the needs of our families as well as our guest speaker Brooke Mullen, mom and registered dietician nutritionist who shared her top tips on Preschooler picky-eating.

During October, students explored the sights, sounds, smells and textures of autumn! October was packed with exciting events: the Rose Tree Fire Department visit, School Pictures, Donuts with Dads, and a Costume Parade!

Looking ahead, students will begin learning about kindness, love and the spirit of giving as they prepare for their Christmas programs.

Donate Your Ink and Toner Cartridges!



Reformation School wants your ink and toner cartridges! Have you ever noticed the large green storage container at the bottom of the stairwell? As a

non-profit, our school can recycle up to 30 ink and/or toner cartridges each month at Staples. In return we receive a \$3 reward for each cartridge recycled. We can then use these rewards for our program to purchase office supplies and craft supplies for our program. Donate yours today!

Thank You from Congregation Beth Israel!



On behalf of our congregation, I wanted to extend our thanks to Bill Grauer and the other amazing volunteers from Reformation Lutheran Church, who once again generously volunteered their time to provide tremendous help with parking vehicles at Beth Israel during the High Holy Days. I have gotten to know these men by their faces and their first names over the past few years, but I wanted to ask if you could pass on our sincere gratitude to all of them for their incredible help with the effort to safely find a parking space for everyone in attendance during these services. Please let us know how we could reciprocate at any time with helping out with a need at your incredible church.

With gratitude,

Alan Ross

Safety & Security Coordinator

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!



Interfaith Philadelphia

EVERYDAY FAITH



Learn about faith traditions other than your own

Upcoming Everyday Faith Events

Everyday Faith is an interactive workshop series designed to help you build a more generous, practical understanding of the diverse ways people live and practice their faith — or no faith at all — every single day.

In a world that often pushes us toward quick judgments and polarization, Everyday Faith invites you to slow down, get curious, and engage with the complex ways religion, spirituality, and worldview shape our daily lives

- **Everyday Faith: Indigenous Traditions**
Wednesday, November 11
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Virtual
- **Everyday Faith: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**
Thursday, December 10
4:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Virtual

Register for these and other events at 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.

Sunday School



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

Weekly Prayer Gatherings

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

Weekly 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

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.

Winter Retreat

LOOK FOR THE LIGHT RETREAT

It's the season of Advent!

Experience the journey of Advent in one day and find the Light of the Season!

Where: Grace Lutheran Church, 2191 West Chester Pike, Broomall, PA
When: Saturday, December 12, 2026, 9:00 am -3:00 pm
Presenter: Sister D'Etta Broam, Deacon for Health and Wholeness
Cost: \$60, Lunch is provided

Register and prepay: <https://forms.gle/Ge5J8pyAw5zEi7d39> or scan QR Code





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.



Sunday school kicked off on September 13.



Deacon Ali Clark joined Pastor Alina and Pat Polilli for worship on Sunday, September 27.



Erik Flaten did some serious multitasking on Sunday, October 4.



Hand Blessing during worship and packing hygiene items for Global Refuge on "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday, September 20.



Chancel Choir and our 3 new choral scholars sing at the 8:30 am worship on October 4.



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

November 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, November 1

All Saints Sunday
Reflection Garden Dedication
Daylight Savings Time Ends

Tuesday, November 3

Election Day - Office Closed

Wednesday, November 11

Veterans Day - Office Closed

Sunday, November 15

ThanksLiving Sunday

Wednesday, November 25

Thanksgiving - Office Closed
11/25, 11/26 and 11/27