
REFORMATION TIMES

March 2022



Worship Wednesdays in Lent

Join us on Wednesdays, March 9, 16, 23, and 30 for Holden Evening Prayer at 7:30 pm. Scripture readings for these services will reflect our theme, *Renewed in Christ*.

Easter Food Bags

Reformation will once again provide nonperishable grocery items and gift cards for our neighbors in need during the Easter Season.



Bags, along with a list of needed items, will be available on Sunday, March 20, and Sunday, March 27. For those not worshipping in person, bags will be available

during the week of March 20 in a box outside the main entrance. Please feel free to take a bag (or 2), fill it with the requested items, and return it to Reformation no later than Sunday, April 3.

The filled bags will be distributed to:

- Second Time Around Parents (STAP)
- Phoenix Recovery Houses
- The Philadelphia Group
- Migrant Ministries of Chester County

Thank you for providing for our neighbors in need!

Lenten Prayer Path

Our woodchip path will feature *Stations in the Street* – a contemporary stations of the cross by artist Scott Erickson. Stop by for a meditative walk anytime. The path begins in the east parking lot on the side by Rose Tree Road.

Lenten Care Kits

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

These Care Kits will be distributed to:

- men and women at the Phoenix Recovery Houses
- women at the Well, a women's shelter in Philadelphia
- children in need, through Cradles to Crayons.

Bags will be available beginning on Sunday, March 6, and may be returned to Reformation any time, up to Easter Sunday, April 17.

Thank you for your support!

Holy Week @ Home



Holy Week @ Home packets will be available on March 27. Packets will include scripture and activities for each day of Holy Week.



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

1 Corinthians 12:26

Betty Sultzer entered eternal life on January 26. A memorial service was held on February 2.

Sunday School Dates



Coloring fun at Reformation Sunday School.

Join us for Sunday School in the new year! All children from birth to grade 6 are invited to join us for Sunday School. Children's Choir is for children age 4 to grade 5. Special Sunday celebrations are for all children and youth at Reformation. Contact Pastor Alina with any questions.

Sunday School will be held on:

March 6
March 20
May 1
May 15

Children's Choir will practice for Easter on: (Children's Choir will sing at 9:30 am worship on Easter)

March 27
April 3
April 10

Special Sunday Celebrations on:

March 13 – Bear Creek Camp
April 24 – Eco Sunday

* Small Stars will resume on April 3

THANKS TO YOU!

We Are Tackling Hunger

Once again you fed those who hunger in Delaware County. Thank you for helping us TACKLE HUNGER!

The scores are in! 445 food items were collected for Chester Eastside and the Media Food Pantry including:



- 250 cans of canned meat/fish
- 58 bags of dried beans
- 48 bottles of oil
- 21 jars of honey
- 68 other items

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to serving our neighbors!

Sock Collection Success!



586 pairs of socks were collected for the "Joy of Sox" organization. The Joy of Sox collects socks for people living in homelessness. Socks are the least donated item, and clean, dry socks are

essential for people experiencing homelessness. Many thanks to everyone who donated!

REFORMATION TIMES

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Reformation Lutheran Church

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Congregation Council and Officers

Debbie Conley, *President*; John Grantland, *Vice President*; Pat Burke, *Secretary*; Tom Conroy, *Treasurer*, Jamie Anderson, Rachel Bingeman, Kristen Chorney, Eric Hathaway, Uli Neubert, Bev Norton, Mike Polito, Tyler Troutman, Pastor Alina Gayeuski, and Pastor Wayne Matthias-Long.

2022 Scholar-in-Residence

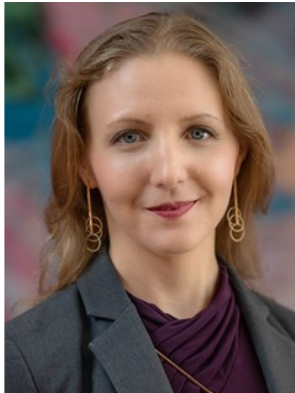
Reformation Lutheran Church
102 West Rose Tree Road, Media, PA 19063 • relcmedia.org

Dr. Crystal Hall

Rising from “The Fall”: Creation Care in Genesis 1-4

Saturday, April 23, 2022, 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Genesis 1-4 presents three stories—a beautifully expansive liturgy of the creation of the world in seven days, one about the relationships among God, Earth and humanity in the Garden, and another about the first murder that leads to the founding of the first city. In four short chapters the biblical story moves from God’s intention for intimate inter-relationship to brokenness and alienation. This workshop will take a classically Lutheran “both/and” approach, exploring both how Creation and humanity are gifted with the grace of relationship from God and how humanity continually falls short in those relationships. In preparation for the celebration of Eco Sunday, these texts will be read with an eye toward how they might serve as theological resources for enlivening Creation care today.



Dr. Crystal Hall is the Kraft Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at United Lutheran Seminary (ULS). She has taught at ULS since 2018 and co-directs the Guatemala Immersion Semester Program. Her research and teaching address God’s call into right relationship with the human Other and with Earth. She is a frequent speaker in congregational and synodical settings on women’s leadership, LGBTQIA+ inclusion, and immigration. Before coming to ULS, Dr. Hall worked as a community organizer and political educator with organizations advocating for human rights, environmental justice and ending poverty. She served on staff with the Poverty Initiative (now the Kairos Center for Religions, Rights and Social Justice), United Workers and the Sierra Club. Dr. Hall is a lay leader in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). She resides in Philadelphia, and enjoys hiking and bringing friends together around a meal.

REGISTRATION

Register online at relcmedia.org/scholarinresidence or use the form below and return to the church office. Cost is \$10 per person. Registration and payment must be received by April 10.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Amount due: \$ _____

Payment by (check the box below to indicate your payment method):

- Check (made payable to Reformation Lutheran Church, “SIR 2022” in the memo line)
- Online (visit relcmedia.org/scholarinresidence)

Free childcare will be provided. Contact Pastor Alina (pastoralina@relcmedia.org) to request childcare.

Library Book Club 2022 Update



Calling all readers! You are welcome to join the **Reformation Library Book Club**. Our 2022 meetings will continue by Zoom and will take place quarterly. Here is our upcoming lineup:

April 19, 7:00 pm: *Another Brooklyn*

by Jacqueline Woodson

"A very brief but beautiful story of four young Black girls growing up in Bushwick, Brooklyn in the 70s. *Another Brooklyn* is a moving tale of dreams lost and found."

Contact Laura Reiter if you plan to attend at longreiter@gmail.com.

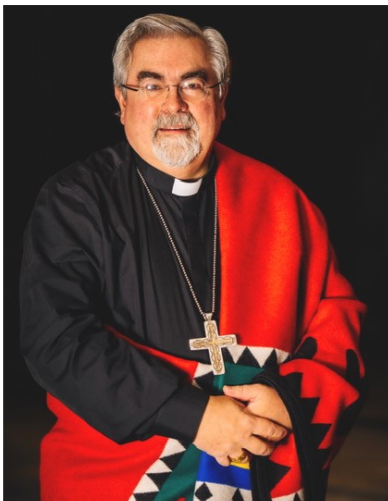
SAVE THE DATE!

Vacation Bible School



VBS will be **July 10-14**. Be sure to mark your calendars!

Easter Vigil Preacher The Rev. Dr. R. Guy Erwin



The Rev. Dr. R. Guy Erwin, President of United Lutheran Seminary, will be our guest preacher at the Easter Vigil service on **Saturday, April 16**, at 7:30 pm.



Bear Creek Camp Sunday

Join us for Bear Creek Camp Sunday! On Sunday, **March 13**, Bear Creek Camp Staff will be with us at Reformation to share upcoming summer plans and lead a special Sunday School program.

Bear Creek Camp Gala

The Bear Creek Camp Gala is an opportunity for community building, fun, fellowship, and fundraising. After two years on pause, we're excited to present the 3rd Annual Campfires and Cocktails Gala on **April 2** at the Homewood Suites in Center Valley, PA. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://one.bidpal.net/bccgala/welcome> or by calling the Bear Creek Camp office at 570-472-3741.

BEAR CREEK CAMP GALA



Save the Date for May Play Day!

Bear Creek Camp May Play Day is Saturday, April 30, 2022! (Yes, we know...)

All families are invited to come to Bear Creek Camp to enjoy a day away, see the facilities, enjoy hiking and boating, meet staff, and have a delicious cookout meal.

Registration is free! Lunch is optional and must be purchased in advance. You can register online at bearcreekcamp.org/mayplayday.

Register Now for Summer Camp

Registration for Summer Camp at Bear Creek Camp is open! Visit bearcreekcamp.org for more information and to register. Reformation has scholarships available – speak with Pastor Alina.

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
BEGINS MARCH 13
SPRING FORWARD!**

Save the Date!

Eco Ministry is planning to have the next Rose Tree Road clean up on **Saturday, March 19**. Please mark your calendars and join us for some fresh air!

Mark E. Davis Scholarship



The Mark E. Davis Scholarship was established by the Rev. William and Irene Davis, following the death of their son, Mark.

Applications for the 2022-2023 academic year may be obtained by downloading from the church website at relcmedia.org/internshipsscholarships/, or by contacting the church office for a printed copy. All applications and support materials must be received or postmarked by the May 1, 2022 deadline. Complete details can be found in the January Reformation Times. Any questions can be addressed to the following committee members: Sandy Coll, Ellen Davis Conroy, Evan Davis or Rebecca Funk.

Christ In Our Home Booklets

The April/May/June *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.



Upcoming Events

In the winter and spring of 2022, Interfaith Philadelphia is offering six Art of Interfaith Understanding tour dates with the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

All programs will be guided by Rev. John B. Hougen, PhD, a consultant with Interfaith Philadelphia and a volunteer guide at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. These programs are co-sponsored by Interfaith Philadelphia & the Philadelphia Museum of Art's Division for Community Engagement.

Due to current restrictions on group tours at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, all upcoming tours will be offered virtually. Interfaith Philadelphia offers a sliding scale fee structure for our programs in order to welcome all from our community who wish to attend.

The next tour is "Graven Images: *Prohibitions against Image Making and the Art of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*". The Abrahamic traditions (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam), all support the making of art that conveys sacred truths. At the same time, all three traditions have passages in their sacred texts that forbid making graven images. Within each of the three traditions there are competing interpretations of the relevant texts, resulting in a variety of artistic practices among devotees of each tradition. Looking at art from the three traditions, we will come to a greater appreciation of the variety of ways art and faith intersect, while noting similarities and differences among the Abrahamic faiths. The tours are scheduled for Sunday, March 13 from 2-3:30 pm or Thursday, March 17 from 7-8:30 pm. *Rev. Hougen will be joined by both a Jewish and Muslim presenter TBD.*



For more details or to register, go to www.interfaithphiladelphia.org/art.

FROM THE PASTOR

The season of Lent, which begins on March 2, Ash Wednesday, invites us to continually be renewed in Christ. We are renewed in faith as we return daily to the relationship God created with us in baptism. Being renewed in faith is more a matter of the heart than a matter of the head.

My understanding of this idea has been deepened by the writing of biblical scholar Marcus Borg about what it means to believe. Borg writes:

Prior to the seventeenth century, the word “believe” did not mean believing in truth of statements or propositions Grammatically, the object of believing was not statements, but a person. Moreover, the contexts in which it is used in premodern English make it clear that it meant: to hold dear; to prize; to give one’s loyalty to; to give one’s self to; to commit oneself. It meant . . . faithfulness, allegiance, loyalty, commitment, and trust.

Most simply, “to believe” meant “to love.” Indeed, the English words “believe” and “belove” are related. What we believe is what we belove. Faith is about believing God. . . . to believe in God is to belove God. . . . Faith is the way of the heart.

Marcus J. Borg, *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith*, pp. 40, 41

The Lent coloring page on page 7 of this newsletter is in the shape of a heart with a cross superimposed on it. You can use it to mark the journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter Day by coloring one section a day. As you do so, be reminded that “faith is about believing God” whose love for us was revealed by the cross of Christ.

Pastor Wayne Matthias-Long

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 Alina.

The Church Staff Thanks You

Thank you, Reformation, for your kindness and generosity. We thank God for the privilege of working in ministry partnership with Reformation and we are very grateful for your generous Christmas gift.



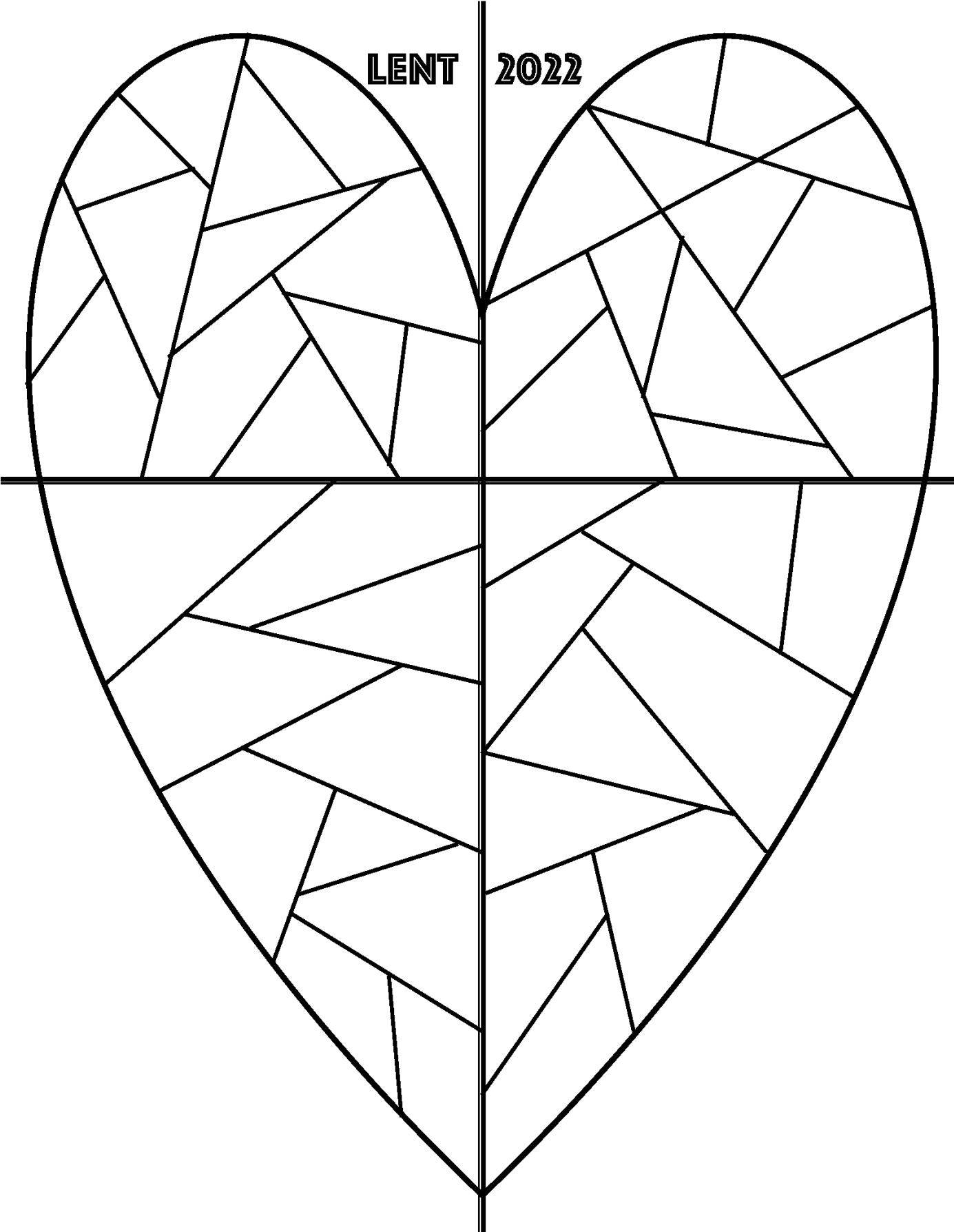
P. Wayne Matthias-Long *Pastor Alina Jayuslie*
Valerie A. Koyak *Erik Eldon*
Quinn Corson *Liz Haglott*
Andrea Trenton

ECO Tip

May 16 is Love A Tree Day! Trees produce oxygen that is the lifeline of all living beings, so it only makes sense that there is a day designated to showing them some love!



Instructions: Color one block each day to mark the days of Lent.





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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. Wayne A. Matthias-Long
The Rev. Alina S. Gayeuski

Return Service Requested

Label

REFORMATION TIMES

March 2022

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

WELCOME: Called by Christ, we invite and welcome all people. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or mental health, age, abilities, imprisonment, socio-economic circumstances, or employment status. We welcome all without regard to religious belief or identity, citizenship, political views, or anything that might divide us. Our unity is in Christ.

Wednesday, March 2

Ash Wednesday

Worship 12 noon & 7:30 pm
(Only 7:30 pm service
will be livestreamed)

Sunday, March 13

Bear Creek Camp Sunday

Saturday, March 26

Tuscarora Youth Retreat