
REFORMATION TIMES

November 2022

We Remember All the Saints



On All Saints Sunday, **November 6**, 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:

Jess Allsman
Ernie Bogert
Leslie Brubaker
Regina Evans
Evelyn Hansen
Cathy Koch
Barbara Newby
Jody Owens
Mary Smith
Pastor Carol Steinhart
Betty Sultzer
Jean Zeien

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

Supporting our Neighbors



Laura Reiter, Kris Hughey, and Sally Helms present a check for \$10,000 on our behalf in support of redevelopment work at Grace Lutheran Church in Broomall, PA on September 25.

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 13**, we will celebrate the abundant blessings we have received and give thanks to God. During worship, we will bless our food gifts which are being sent out into the community for Thanksgiving meals.

Stewardship Response

On **October 23** we celebrated Commitment Sunday.

Thank you for your generous response to all that God has done and is doing in your life and in our life together at Reformation for the past 72 years and for untold years in the future!



If you have not had a chance to return your *Estimate of Giving* card yet, please do so as soon as possible so we can plan for 2023 in a fiscally responsible manner. You can complete it confidentially and securely online at relcmedia.org/stewardship.

Reusable Bags Needed!

The Community Action Team can use any reusable grocery bags that you are willing to donate. They will be used for future holiday food bags for our neighbors in need. Please place your extra bags in the collection bin in the lobby. Thank you for your donations!



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

1 Corinthians 12:26

Ernie Bogert entered eternal life on September 19, 2022. A memorial service was held on September 30, 2022 at Reformation.

John Grantland and Pat Donnelly were joined in marriage on October 1, 2022.

Sunday School Dates



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 Vicar Eileen with any questions.

Sunday School will be held on:

- November 6
- November 13
- November 20
- December 4

Children's Choir schedule:

- November 20
- December 18

Fostering Hope Delco

Fostering Hope Delco is a volunteer-run organization that serves families and children in foster care in Southeastern PA. They are always in need of volunteers as well as financial support and donations of duffle bags, clothing, and items for care kits. To learn more, go to: <https://fosteringhopepa.com/chapter/delaware-county/> to find links to specific items that they are looking for. Contact Linda Bucher for more information.

November ECO Tip



The following website is a great resource for those who are serious about the commitment to recycle: www.Earth911.com. No matter what the material or object you may be recycling, this website will connect you to a location that will accept it. There may be a fee depending on what you are trying to recycle, but it is a handy reference.

Thank you, Reformation!



A BIG "thank you" to all who donated underwear for the National Giving Alliance. Reformation donated 403 items and NGA gave a total of 6,041 items to ten agencies on October 6. We have donated 15,333 items of toiletries, linens and clothing so far this year!

We would also like to thank the following people who came out on October 15 to help with the Rose Tree Road clean-up: John and Marilyn Berberich, Evie Fernandez, Kate Fernandez, Kris and Dick Hughey, Toini and Peter Scherer, Joanna and Paul Stearns, and Joseph Trainor, as well as the support that Tom Reeves supplies with PennDOT. They covered almost the entire length of Rose Tree Road and collected 18 full bags of trash!

Shopping Can Benefit Reformation



Planning to shop on Amazon for the holidays? Remember to use smile.amazon.com and specify Reformation as the charity to benefit from your shopping.

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*; Debbie Conley, *Vice President*; Laura Reiter, *Secretary*; Tom Conroy, *Treasurer*; Jamie Anderson, Rachel Bingeman, Kristen Chorney, Eric Hathaway, Marian Filtz, Mike Polito, Tyler Troutman and Pastor Alina Gayeuski.

2022 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 4** 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 Linda Bucher at 610-566-0862.

Caring for Friends (formerly Aid 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. To send a gift directly to Caring for Friends, use the link found on our website:

relcmedia.org/stnick

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".

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. To find wish lists for the Lutheran Settlement House, please go to our website:

relcmedia.org/stnick

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 men, women, boys and girls.

KenCrest

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

Books (ages 0-10), hats, gloves, mittens, etc. for boys and girls (ages 0-5), puzzles, toys (for ages 0-5) and diapers (especially for 0-6 months).

Cradles to Crayons

Cradles to Crayons provides children from birth through age 12, who are living in homeless or low-income situations, with the essential items they need to thrive. To send a gift directly to Cradles to Crayons, use the link found on our website:

relcmedia.org/stnick

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, packaged snacks and drinks, new sheet sets, new pots and pans, new cooking utensils, cleaning supplies, shower curtains, new towels, ziploc bags and Tupperware.

Upcoming Youth Group Events



- **November 13** – Cookie Baking for Thanksgiving Food Bags
12:00 noon – 2:00 pm at Reformation
Lunch will be provided
- **December 11** – Christmas Party/White Elephant Exchange
7:00 PM at Reformation
- **January 22** – Disney Virtual Escape Room and Games
7:00 PM at Reformation
- **February 12** – College Care Kit Making
12:00 noon – 2:00 pm at Reformation
Lunch will be provided
- **March 24-26** – Tuscarora Lutheran Youth Retreat
See additional mailing for more information
- **May 14** – Scavenger Hunt and Dessert
2:00 – 4:00 pm in Media

Winter Connect Weekends



CONNECT is a fun-filled weekend at Bear Creek Camp to share with camp friends and returning summer counselors in activities unique to BCC in the winter! The weekends kick off on Friday night and run until Sunday after lunch. Cost for the weekend is \$130/person.

9th - 12th Grade - **January 6th-8th**

4th -8th Grade - **January 13th-15th**

Learn more at <https://bearcreekcamp.org/connect-winter-camp/>.

Welcome Choral Scholars!

Our Chancel Choir welcomes two choral scholars, Talitha Kyle and Julian Raeford Romanek. Tali and Julian are students at West Chester University. We are grateful for their gifts and leadership in our congregation. If you see them on a Sunday morning, please welcome them!

SAVE THE DATE

Fall Property Clean Up

On Saturday, **December 3** from 9:00 am to 12 noon, we are looking for volunteers to help clean up leaves, fallen branches and do some sprucing up of the Reformation grounds. Please bring rakes and work gloves with you. For more information, contact Paul Stearns.

LWR Ukraine Update

After millions were forced to flee violence following the invasion of Ukraine, our congregation responded with love. Through your generosity, our congregation became a part of something much bigger than ourselves. The gifts shared through Lutheran World Relief have provided shelter and community, warm meals, emergency cash funds, life-saving medical care and supplies, and mental health resources to the most vulnerable of our Ukrainian neighbors. But most importantly, because of our congregation, families fleeing war have hope. Our congregation's love is making a powerful difference around the world in the lives of our Ukrainian neighbors. Thank you for sharing God's love

when it was needed most. To learn more about the work of Lutheran World Relief, visit lwr.org.



In Krakow, Poland, newly arrived Ukrainian refugee Marta Detsyk and her four-year-old son wait in a line at a supplies distribution center.

Longing for the Light

November 27 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.

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 27**. 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.

Advent Calendars

Advent calendars from ELCA World Hunger are now available at church.

Holiday Food Bags

The Community Action Ministry is collecting bags of food, cash donations, and \$40 Giant/Shop Rite gift cards to help our neighbors in need with holiday meals. These bags will be delivered to Second Time Around Parents, Migrant Ministries of Chester County, the Philadelphia Group, and Phoenix Recovery Houses. 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 6**.

Christmas bags will be available for pick up Sunday, **November 21** and Sunday, **November 28**, and must be returned (along with any cash or gift card donations) to Reformation by Sunday, **December 4**. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need!

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.

December 4

St. Nicholas celebration during both worship services

December 18

Blessing of the Greens during both worship services
Hanging of the Greens following the 11:00 am worship

December 24

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

December 25

Christmas Day Worship at 10:00 am
(In-person only)

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 27, December 4, 11 and 18**), 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.

Advent Devotions on Facebook Live

Join Vicar Eileen throughout the season of Advent for midweek devotion time on Facebook Live! A brief time of prayer, Scripture, and other devotional elements will take place every Wednesday at 7 PM

from **November 30 - December 21**. Contact Vicar Eileen with questions or just drop in!

For more details on our Advent schedule, please go to:

[Relcmedia.org/advent](https://relcmedia.org/advent)

FROM THE PASTOR

I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.
- *Philippians 1:3-5*

Dear Reformation,

These verses from Paul's letter to the Philippians are ones that often come to my mind as I think about this congregation and the ministry we are blessed to share in this space.

As we leave October and head into November, I think of these verses anew.

Of course, there are the obvious ways in which November brings to mind a sense of gratitude and thanksgiving (something we will celebrate in worship on November 13 with our annual Thanks Living Sunday!)

But this year I am especially grateful for you, Reformation. It has been a year since Deacon Beth's retirement and already four months since Pastor Wayne's retirement. This year of significant change and transition has not stopped the love and grace with which you all share and support the ministry of this congregation. I am in awe of that, always.

Throughout October as you all recognized Clergy Appreciation Month, Vicar Eileen and I were blessed with your outpouring of prayers and words of support and encouragement. We are truly grateful to be partners in this work of the gospel with you.

Thanks be to God!

With gratitude and thanksgiving,
Pastor Alina

Seen Around Reformation



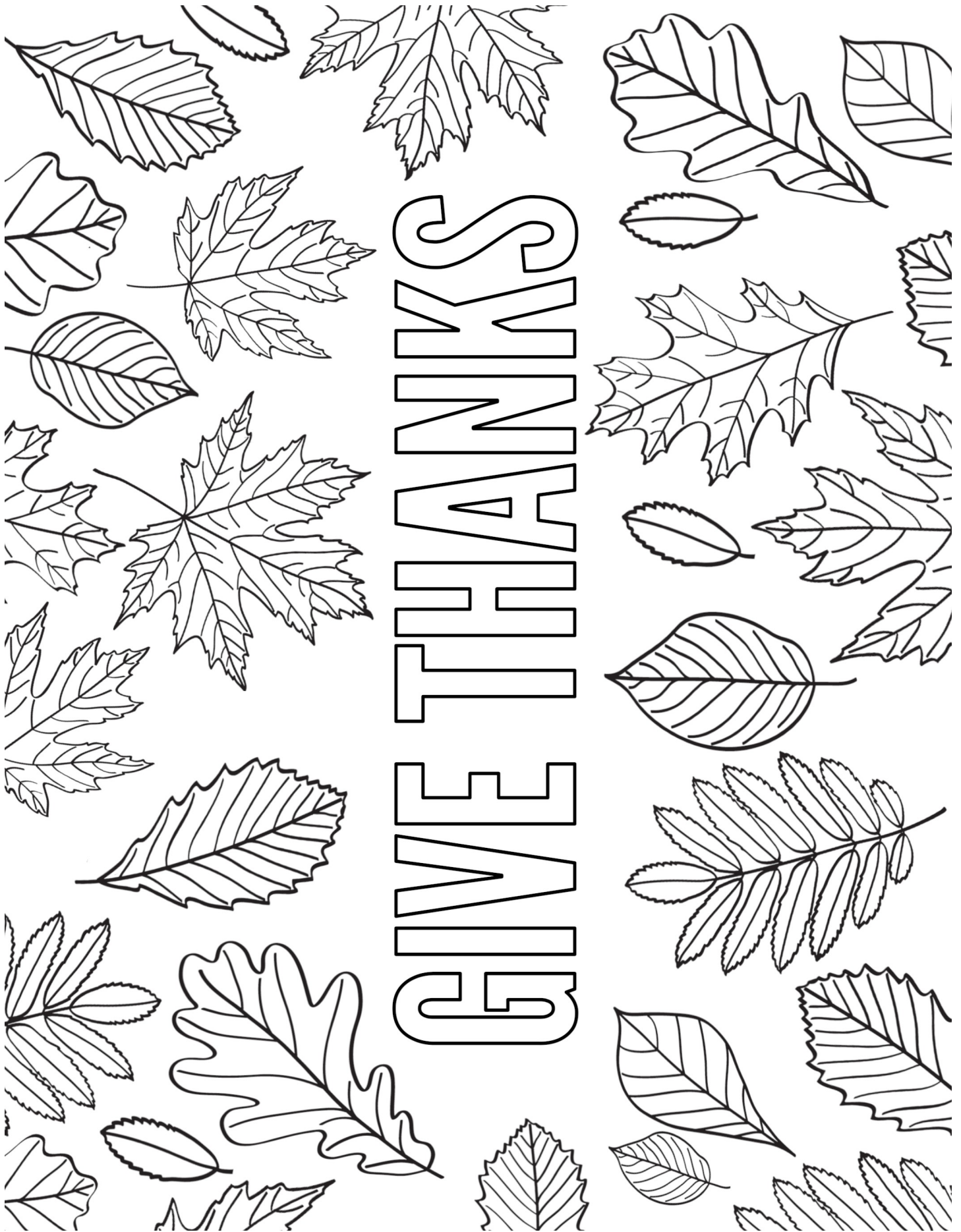
New Acolyte and Crucifer recruits being trained on October 2.



New Acolyte and Crucifer recruits being trained on October 2.



Pastor Alina giving blessings (and getting kisses) at the Blessing of the Animals on October 2.





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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.

Lead Pastor
The Rev. Alina S. Gayeuski
Pastoral Assistant
Vicar Eileen Ruppel-Doan

Return Service Requested



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November 2022

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 6

All Saints Sunday

Thanksgiving Food Bags Due

Daylight Saving Time Ends

Sunday, November 13

Thanks Living

Sunday, November 27

First Sunday of Advent

Longing for the Light

