

# THE REFORMATION

**Reformation Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
3670 Perkiomen Avenue  
Reading, PA 19606**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Spring is Coming (3weeks)**

**8:00 a.m. Sunday Worship**

**9:30 a.m. Sunday School**

**10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship**

**Wednesday Evening Lenten Service**

**7:00 p.m.**

Nonprofit Organization  
U. S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
READING, PA  
PERMIT #478

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**MARCH SERVICE PARTICIPANTS**

**Reformation's Staff**

Pastor: The Rev. Steven C. Claycomb  
revclay@comcast.net

Parish Administrator: Cindy Shirey  
mail@reformationlutheran.org

Minister of Music: Kathryn Fellman  
reformationmusic@msn.com

Organist: Donald Hinkle

Sexton: Mike Schneeberger

Custodian: Volunteers of the Church

Secretary: Pam Schneeberger

Treasurer: Rod Kline

**Church Office Hours-9 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**  
**610-779-0534**  
**mail@reformationlutheran.org**

**Thank-you**

Dear Reformation Family,

Thank you for the cards, flowers and prayers. Especial Thank you to Pastor Steve for his visits and the Sunday School classes for their cards. I appreciate your thoughtfulness very much. Anna Hoffman

**The Need Is Still Great!**

The food we gathered for Hope Pantry was delivered the week of February 15th, but the need is greater than ever. Thank you for your continued support. Throughout the season of Lent, please continue to bring whatever you can. Place it near the Pantry Signs in the Narthex. All that you do is greatly appreciated!

**Ushers**

March 1 Rod Kline & Bruce Seiz  
March 8 Rod Kline & Bruce Seiz  
March 15 Gerry Wegman & Haag Family  
March 22 Kathy & Pat Austin  
March 29 Mary Ryder & Family

**8:00 a.m.**

**10:45 a.m.**

Gerry Wegman & Haag Family  
Nadine & Alan Blackburn  
Alison & Matt Reinsel  
Tammy & Dave Moser  
Elyse & Randy Miller

**Acolytes**

March 1 Ben DeAcosta  
March 8 Cory DiGuardi  
March 15 Mike Kern  
March 22 Derek Werner  
March 29 Cade DiGuardi

Tyler Lambert  
Annie Ryder  
Nathan Reinhart  
Adam Dobroskey  
Michael Fost

**CD Delivery Volunteers**

March 1 Blanche Link  
March 8 Julie Seiz  
March 15 Jane Farrell  
March 22 Pam Schneeberger  
March 29 Blanche Link

**CD Recording Assistants**

Tim Austin  
Kevin Blackburn  
Jerry centofanti  
Evan Reinsel  
Tim Austin

**Wednesday Lenten Service Acolytes**

March 4 Mike Kern  
March 11 Annie Ryder  
March 18 Adam Gochnauer  
March 25 Cory DiGuardi

**Readers**

March 1 Cal Booser  
March 8 Cal Booser  
March 15 Allison Larson  
March 22 Kathy Austin  
March 29 Kathy Austin

Jeanne Gochnauer  
Jeanne Gochnauer  
Elisha Barnett  
Bonnie Claycomb  
Tina Stanton

**Communion Assistants**

March 1  
March 8 Brenda Haag  
March 15  
March 22 Dee Dee Werner  
March 29

Alan Blackburn  
Bonnie Claycomb  
Bonnie Claycomb

**Nursery**

March 1 Larson Family  
March 8 Katie Barnett  
March 15 Muffy Reinecker  
March 22 Mary & Jenny Ryder  
March 29 Dee Dee Werner

Nancy Hemberger  
Chrystal & Maddie Fost  
Nadine Blackburn  
Kaja O'Leary  
Lauren Knockstead & Jason Koslow

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL BANQUET

Wednesday, March 25th, 6:00 p.m., at the Sheraton of Wyomissing

COST: \$200.00 per table of 8

\*We would like to find 6 individuals/3 couples to sponsor a table with us at a cost of \$25 per person. Contact Jeanne Gochnauer by Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> if interested.

In the last few years, our Reformation congregation has contributed to this worthwhile cause in the form of money, man-hours, and prayer support.

**Flower Chart** The flower chart for 2009 is on the bulletin board. Please consider sponsoring a vase to the Glory of God. You may sponsor one or more vases per Sunday. Details are on the bulletin board next to the chart. Please remember to make your check to Reformation Lutheran Church for \$35.00 for each vase you sponsor.

## OFFICE HELP

Please consider using your gifts to volunteer time in our church office. We need help in all areas. Some examples are answering phones, filing, typing up newsletter articles, folding bulletins and putting together the newsletter for mailing, calling weekly service participants and general office duties. We also need help with our website. Thank you for considering to help in the office. Call the church office with any time that you can help. 610-779-0534

## MARCH SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

### Altar Guild

**8:00 a.m.**

Cheryl Hadley  
Deb Dombroski

**10:45 a.m.**

Judy Plica  
Elisha Barnett

### Greeters

March 1 Teri & Greg Stoddard  
March 8 Cheryl Hadley & Rich Hawk  
March 15 Renee & John Donovan  
March 22 Judy Dorner & Kathy Miller  
March 29 Patti & Rod Kline

Terry Trumbauer & Barbara Weir  
Brenda & Scott Haag  
Linda Moyer & Bonnie Claycomb  
Jane Farrell & Lisa Sokoloff  
Kathy & Bob Galbraith

### Bulletin Helpers

March 6 Evelyn Keller  
March 13 Joanne Reinhart  
March 20 Harriet & Russ Clauser  
March 27 Joyce Osborne

Reformation family and friends,

After much conversation at the Congregational Council level we have decided to call an end to our partnership with Emmanuel Lutheran Parish in Namibia. The partnership was established a number of years ago and a close relationship formed between Pastor Bennethum and Pastor Theofilus Nelumbu. In 2000 the congregation was worshipping under a roof without walls. Throughout the years Reformation has been able to support Emmanuel's building program and rapidly expanding ministries. Steve and Kathryn Fellman were able to visit with Pastor Nelumbu and the congregation in 2002. Throughout the ensuing years Reformation continued to contribute to their exponential growth. Please take the time to read their latest correspondence with us, posted on the kiosk. We invite you to keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they move forward in their ministries. We will be writing them to inform them about the council's decision as well as including a check for \$2,727 (*designated giving from Reformation's members to Namibia*) for them to use as they need. Council feels that this has been a successful partnership that has run its course. We intend to concentrate our efforts and resources with Tanzania and Hope Lutheran church.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Steve & Steve Barnett, Council President

## *Lenten Services*

We'll be gathering each Wednesday evening in Lent at 7:00 p.m. for worship. We'll be using Holden Evening Prayer accompanied by one or two readings and a choir anthem sung by the Senior Choir. If you have time before service please join us for soup and salad meal at 5:45 p.m. that evening. If you can't join us until 6:30 – we'll take you anyway – just come in and grab a quick bite. Check out the sign up sheets in the narthex and join us for a simple meal of soup and salad. Following the service continue on your Lenten journey with a Bible Study lead by Pastor Steve titled, *Watching the Disciples*.

## BEAR CREEK CAMP 2009

BEAR CREEK is YOUR camp! Bear Creek is a ministry of the Northeastern and South-eastern Pennsylvania Synods of the ELCA, devoted to providing opportunities for kids and adults to deepen their relationships with God, nature, and each other. There is so much going on up there!

### Coming up this Spring:

**Earth Day is April 26<sup>th</sup>** – a family oriented spring day to get back in touch with nature. This celebration of God’s creation includes high ropes course, hikes, crafts, boating, climbing wall, and much more.

**Wild Women’s Weekend – May 1-3** – a unique little get-away experience for women to relax, recharge and reconnect. Includes bible study, worship, hiking and a great variety of activities to take your weekend where you want it to go! Some of Reformation’s ladies really enjoyed this last year – let me know if you’re interested!

**Memorial Day Family Camp – May 22-25** – for families of any combination. Hiking, canoeing, devotions and high/low ropes activities – great way to kick off the summer!

**Men’s Retreat – May 29-31** – All men welcome – dads, sons, nephews, grandfathers and grandsons. Join us for special presentations, high/low ropes, and devotions, fishing, canoeing, and just hanging out.

**Summer Camp runs from June 21 through August 15.** Information and registration forms can be found on the display in the narthex. Please, if you have questions, or are unsure of anything, ask me. I can connect you with someone who has been to the camp, or provide any other information you may need.

Bear Creek will provide financial assistance for those in need who want to experience all the camp has to offer. Reformation will also assist any members who sign up for camp. Please contact Alison Reinsel for more information on these programs. If you are able, please consider contributing to **Bear Creek’s Campership Fund**. All donations go directly to reducing the cost of camp for campers in need.

**College Students:** Bear Creek is accepting applications for summer staff and other positions. Check the website for more information.

Please check the display in the narthex and watch for further camp information in the bulletins and newsletter. Please contact Alison Reinsel (610-582-0608) for questions and more information. Check out the camp website at [www.bercreekcamp.org](http://www.bercreekcamp.org)

### Men’s Group at Reformation

All men are invited to join us March 14 at 8:30 a.m. We will be meeting at Mt Penn Restaurant. If you have any questions please call Steve Barnett (610-301-9900) or Rod Kline (610-621-2270). This group will do varied activities from short Bible studies, guest speakers, maintenance projects and community



## HEALTH MINISTRIES

**(W)holy, (W)holy, (W)holy!** “Then God said, I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food. And it was so. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.” (Genesis 1:29-31a, NIV)

Indeed it was, and continues to be, very good ... at least as long as we take care of it! We have the gift of hind-sight that has allowed us to see the result of our [at times] poor management of God’s creation. What is good for the soil, is good for the water, and what is good for the water, is good for the air, and what is good for the air, is good for the soil – the cycle goes on ... as long as we humans don’t disturb that delicate balance. But we have, and we do, however, we also have the ability to learn from our mistakes... which brings us to this month’s topic.

Armed with what we know about environmental protection and product safety, the thinking behind how we should go about disposing those drugs has changed. In February 2007 the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), with the assistance of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), released some guidelines for drug disposal that minimizes the risk to other humans, animals, fish and plants. The following guidelines are taken from the FDA’s resource, *Consumer Health Information*, June 23, 2008, titled “How to Dispose of Unused Medicines” and can be found at [www.fda.gov/consumer/updates/drug\\_disposal062308.html](http://www.fda.gov/consumer/updates/drug_disposal062308.html).

1. First, follow any specific disposal instructions on the drug label or within the *Patient Information* sheet which accompanies the medication. **Do not flush prescription drugs down the toilet unless this information specifically instructs you to do so.**
2. **Do not** give medications to friends. A medication that works for you could be dangerous for someone else.
3. If no instructions are given, throw the drugs in the household trash, **but first:** take them out of their original containers and mix them with an undesirable substance such as kitty litter, old coffee grounds, anything that will make them less appealing to other people, children and pets, who may intentionally go through your trash (Yes – people really do ‘dumpster dive’ for these kinds of things!). You may even want to crush any tablets, or empty capsules into the mixture. Next, put this mixture in a sealable bag, empty can, or other container to prevent the medication from leaking or breaking out of the garbage bag if it is torn or opened.
4. Before throwing out the empty container, scratch off all identifying information on the prescription label to make it unreadable. This is to help protect your identity and the privacy of your personal health information.
5. When in doubt about proper disposal, talk to your pharmacist.
6. Take advantage of community drug take-back programs that allow the public to bring unused drugs to a central location for proper disposal. Call your city or county government’s trash and recycling program to see if a take-back program is available in your community. **Note: Patients should always refer first to printed materials accompanying the medication for specific instructions.** This is from Debbie Best, program coordinator at Family Life Services, Congregational Health Ministries; Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries.

**DINNER OUT**  
**ON THE BORDER**

**Monday, March 30, 2009**

The restaurant **ON THE BORDER** located at 796 Woodlane Rd. Wyomissing, Pa..19601 (610-736-3280), will be offering to Reformation 10% back on each check, which will be sent to World Hunger by Reformation. We will meet as a group at 6:30 p.m. on the 30th. You can dine anytime during the day or evening on the March 30 th **only** to take advantage of this great benefit for World Hunger. Just make sure you tell the server that you are part of the Reformation World Hunger ministry. Look for more details in the bulletin. Please support this ministry for World Hunger. If this is a success the restaurant may allow us to highlight other ministries each month and provide us with 10% back on each check.

**Lutherans in Faith Together**

**Get Ready for**  
**LIFT 2009**  
**June 13, 2009 Muhlenberg College**  
**2400 Chew Street**  
**Allentown, Pa.**



**Shane**

Ages 8-108 are invited to join us for an evening out to see a movie. Feel free to invite any friends, family or neighbors, which might enjoy this event. Trivia will be shared by Dennis Humbert who has had a long time passion for classic movies.

We will be meeting in the parlor at Reformation Lutheran Church. **On Friday—Match 20 at 6:30 p.m.** This month's viewing will be "Shane".

**Opportunity House**  
**March 19**

Food Preparers: Please meet at the church by 2:00 p.m.

JoAnn Smith , Bonnie Claycomb, Beth Brizek, Shirley Focht,  
Evelyn Keller

Substitute: Sara Lambert      Shopping Duty: Renee Donovan

Servers: 6:30 p.m.at church or 6:45 p.m.at the shelter  
Jerry Centofanti, Youth Group with Jeanne Gochnauer & Becky Schaeffer,

Bakers: Renee Donovan, Sherry Davis, Barb Mishler, Alison Reinsel,  
Alice Trumbauer

Substitute: Jamie Wagner

**To All Volunteers:**

Please call Frances Stuebner if you can or cannot prepare, serve, or bake on the designated date. (610) 320-0296.

**BLOOD DRIVE—Saturday, March 21**

**8:30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.**

Mark you calendars now and plan to come out and give blood. Participation has been lower recently, so if your schedule permits, we really need your support. If you've considered donating but have questions, feel free to stop by the sign-up table in March or call Nadine Blackburn at 610-582-9897.

On Sunday, March 1, Michele Zurawski, a representative from Miller-Keystone will be speaking at morning worship services, sharing information about how the blood center works and how your blood donations are used. It should be an interesting presentation.

**March 8 And 15th, -** The Health Ministry will offer blood pressure checks after each service in the Library.. We will have nurses that have volunteered their time to take your blood pressure and to hand out information about Blood donors and we will start a blood pressure card for you to keep track of your blood pressures on a regular basis. We will be having blood pressure check once a month after services.



**WELCA'S Bible Study** – In March we will start the book of Esther, and find out through the Bible study how loving loyalty, the hidden hand of God and heroic actions work for Esther. Come and join us, you need not attend all the Bible studies to participate. We start at 7:00 pm and close our session at 9:00 pm with light refreshments. The Bible study is found in Lutheran Woman Today magazine, but you need not have one to come. We will gladly share ours with you. The study can also be found online at <http://lutheranwomantoday.org>.

**LWR Quilt Tying** – Lutheran World Relief Quilt tying is assembling quilts to be used for humanitarian needs in Africa, Latin America and Asia. We actually do not quilt, but rather tie the quilts together. If you can thread a large eyed needle, tie a knot, and cut, you can help. We usually meet on the second Tuesday morning of the month at 9:30 am and end around 11:00 am.

**Can you help?** The LWR quilt tying group in is need of fabric donations. Cottons, cotton blends, old sheets and light weight upholstery material can all be used. Please, no knit fabrics! Call Blanche Link at 610-779-7361 if you have donations, or bring it by the Church office in the mornings for Pam.

**Prayer Shawls**— This is a time to come together to knit or crochet, and work on our prayer shawls. It is very informal, and relaxing. Come join us on a second Monday of the month, for knitting, praying and conversation.

**Spring Cluster Event**—is April 15th, at Bern Lutheran in Leesport. The topic is “How Firm Is Your Foundation?” Registration and “social hour” start at 6:15 pm with the program starting at 7:00 pm. More information will be available later.

WELCA DATES
March 2-7:00 p.m. Bible Study
March 9-2:30 p.m. Prayer Shawls
March 10-9:30 a.m. LWR Quilting
April 15—6:15 pm Spring Cluster Event at Leesport

### Volunteer Opportunity

Reformation is in need of a volunteer to schedule **readers** and **communion assistants** for worship. There is a list of many wonderful people who are willing to serve as readers and communion assistants; they just need to be scheduled. It's easy! For more information, please call Steve Barnett at 610-301-9900 the church office.

At its January 28,2009 meeting, the synod council voted overwhelmingly to approve Bishop Samuel Zeiser's recommendations on staffing.

**Full-time Staff** :**Current staff who will continue** are the Rev. D. **Michael Bennethum**, the Rev. **Kurt Garbe**, AiM **Karen Matthias-Long**, **Ethel "Smoky" Schelly**, and the Rev. **Catherine Ziel**. Each of these staff persons will continue with their current responsibilities, although Karen's position has been adjusted to increase the amount of her time devoted to youth ministry. To compensate for the additional youth ministry work, some of Karen's responsibility to the Resource Center has been shifted to **Debbie Frey**, who has assisted Karen with the center. **New to the full-time staff** is the Rev. **Mary Gade**, pastor of Ziegels Lutheran Church, Breinigsville. Pastor Gade will be responsible for the 35 congregations of the East Berks Mission District, candidacy, misconduct prevention/intervention, campus ministry, and Synodically Authorized Lay Ministers (SALMs). She will begin on February 15.

**Part-time Staff:**The Rev. **Glenn Simmons**, currently shared staff with the ELCA Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission program unit, will be working **half-time** as coordinator of the bishop's conference and synod assembly, and liaison to the 34 congregations of the Lehigh Mission District, to Bear Creek Camp, and to Appalachian Ministry.

Serving quarter-time with the 28 congregations of the Northern Lehigh Valley Mission District and union churches is the Rev. **Gene Handwerk**. Pastor Handwerk formerly served as an associate of the bishop in East Berks and Schuylkill mission districts and related to the Interim Ministry Committee and farm advocacy. He begins quarter-time on February 1.

Two other part-time contract staff are the Rev. **Niels Nielsen**, relating to the 26 congregations of the Pocono Mission District, and the Rev. **Carl Shankweiler**, relating to the 29 congregations of the Schuylkill Mission District. Both will continue serving as pastors in their congregations. They begin their service as associates of the bishop on February 1.

**Carol Weiser**, current director of communications and assembly/bishop's conference coordinator, will retire February 28. However, she will continue maintaining the synod website and producing E-News on a part-time contract basis.

**Still to be named** are someone to oversee other synod communications on a **part-time** contract basis and a **director of evangelical mission**, a **deployed** post with the ELCA Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission that will be funded entirely by the ELCA. That person will be responsible for outreach and ministry adjustment.

Please keep Bishop Zeiser and all those serving on the bishop's staff in your prayers.

## Back Door

ATTENTION 7TH-12TH GRADERS: The first Back Door of the year will be held at the church on Saturday, April 4th from 7-10 PM. Several EHS students are showcasing their bands. Come enjoy the music and support future rock stars! Cost is \$2.00. Snacks are available. Bring your friends! **Chaperones are needed.** Please see Jeanne Gochnauer if you are able to help.

## Sunday School News

During the season of Lent, our Sunday School classes will be collecting food for Hope Food Pantry. Look for each class's collection box in the narthex and watch them fill during this friendly "competition". Feel free to support our classes in this effort. Thank-you!

Canned vegetables (especially corn & string beans)  
Tuna  
Peanut butter  
Jelly  
Cereal (greatest need!)  
Soup  
Spaghetti sauce

## Lenten Suppers

**Wednesdays March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th & April 1st**

- Please join us for Soup, Salad and Bread.
- We'll begin at **5:45**, but come when you can.
- Sign up in the Narthex for the dates you plan to attend.
- If you are willing to bring food to share, mark that on the papers too.
- Thanks for helping to try something a little different!

Evening Prayer Service will follow at 7 PM

## NOT TODAY, LORD

As we walk with our Savior  
We can help Him to bear  
The weight of the cross  
That is always there.  
The cross of the suffering  
The cross of deep sorrow  
The cross of the problems  
That face us, tomorrow.

So lift high your cross  
Then reach out and share  
The weight of the cross  
Your neighbor must bear.

The more Christians carry  
The crosses they see  
The lighter the cross  
Jesus carries, will be;  
He'll give us the strength  
As we travel His way  
For He promised, you know  
To be with us, always.

By Catharine Reed

## Property Committee

Please welcome Margie McDevitt to our Reformation family! Margie began working as our custodian in February. She has been both a blessing and a pleasure to get to know. You can meet Margie most weekday mornings as she stops by to check up on our building.

Volunteers for cleaning are both welcomed and appreciated since Margie's work hours are limited.



## Prayer List for March

Please keep the following in your prayers for the coming month. If you would like to place a name on the prayer list please call the information to Cheryl Hadley at 610-779-7901 or email her at chrylhdy@yahoo.com. To place someone's name on the list please be sure you have their permission to do so. We will keep their name on the list for one month. If the name needs to remain on the list for the next month just call Cheryl with an update.

**Reformation Family:** Jayne Phillips, Catharine Reed, Reynold Miller, Anna Hoffman, Frances Gilbert, Jean Smith, Mildred Arner, Marion Henne, Dorothy Oswald, Dorothy Pettit, Grace Sanna, Marguerite Scholl, Pearl Gerth, Skyler Reed, Dorothy Arndt, Steve Barnett, Barney Bombay, Genevive Cloak, Hazel Cosentino, Sue Wood, Jay Yerger, Julia Seiz, Judy Martin and the family and friends of Grace Booser.

**Friends of Reformation:** Ann Schaeffer, Dolores Hilbert, Ryan Weber, Paul O'Leary, Patricia Phillion, Daniel Heffner, Michael, Matthew Tobias, Ronald Roland, Rita McHale, Bob Korn, Joe & Deb Gargiulo, Kelly, Krista Stone, Jana McMillan, Bryant Domina, Tori Jones and family, Paul Lewis, Terry Keiser, Elvia Cataldo, Dick Ashley, John Handy, Kate Schimmel, Connor McKemey, Ronald Hawk, Woodrow Warner, Liz Rothermel, Donna Wainwright, Karen Heck, and Heather DiGuardi.

Please contact Cheryl Hadley if you are interested in taking over the duties of the Prayer Ministry.

### LIGHT UP A LIFE! - Hofstra University

Dear Reformation,

I have the incredible opportunity to practice humility and compassion through service to others during my *Alternative Spring Break* in New Orleans, April 4-11, 2009. This is the fourth annual *Alternative Spring Break* trip that has been coordinated by Student Leadership and Activities. The trip is a chance for me to encounter an impoverished community within the United States. This will be an intense week of volunteer service and will not be a typical "Spring Break." During this week long project, I will help restore a home, place light bulbs in homes and volunteer with local schools.

Project Greenlight New Orleans is one of our partners; they provide environmental and social aid, this non-profit's solution is to mitigate carbon emissions while helping low-income residents. Green Light New Orleans has demonstrated once again that simple ideas can result in a remarkable impact.

I am required to attend three training sessions before I leave for the trip and also need to fundraise \$725 for the total cost of the trip. I am inviting you to be a part of my learning and serving experience by partnering with me for the 4th annual *Alternative Spring Break* by making a tax-deductible donation.

Please return the designated card to the Office of Student Leadership and Activities, ATTENTION: KIMBERLY RHYAN. You will receive credit of your donation from Hofstra University's Office of Development. When I return from my *Alternative Spring Break*, I will send you a letter about my trip and how your partnership made a difference in New Orleans!

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely, Andrea Gochnauer

## THRIVENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT INC.

### Life events drive financial guidance :

#### Has your life changed?

I see it every day. A person who has never felt the need for financial guidance walks through my door right after a significant life event – maybe the birth of a child, a marriage or even an unexpected inheritance. Life events such as these turn financial advice from a nice-to-have into a need-to-have.

**Marriage.** About two-thirds of married people say they disagree with their spouse about money. A good way to lessen the stress is to discuss your values, goals and needs with a financial professional and make decisions together.

**Birth or adoption of a child.** Making room in your budget for the new addition is important. It's also important to evaluate your need for additional disability income and life insurance coverage. Many new parents start looking at college funding options as well.

**Inheritance.** Many people devote time and attention to what will happen if they die, but often overlook the fact that they might receive a loved one's legacy. A financial professional can help you responsibly steward and invest the money in ways that align with your values, goals and needs.

**Retirement.** Both financially preparing for retirement and appropriately tapping one's financial assets in retirement are key needs in our changing society.

If you need financial guidance because of a life event or would like to discuss how Thrivent Financial can help you achieve your financial goals, contact Kurt Kohler, at 61-779- or [e-mail address] today, or visit [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com).

### April Newsletter Deadline — March 15, 2009

**Please use the green forms for newsletter and bulletin articles.**

**They are available in the narthex or e-mail articles to [mail@reformationlutheran.org](mailto:mail@reformationlutheran.org). Articles received after the due date will not be able to be included in that newsletter. Thank you for your help in this matter.**

**Deadline for bulletin announcements is Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.**

**Deadline for committee reports for council is the Wednesday before the council meetings.**

**From My Heart to Yours**

“Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded?” These ancient words in the form of questions are almost in the middle of the 40th chapter of Isaiah—verse 21, to be exact. In my Bible the heading at the beginning of this chapter is “Comfort for God’s People”. Isaiah was delivering a message of comfort and care for God’s hurting people. Many of us are God’s hurting people today, aren’t we? The reasons for our pain are different from those in ancient times, but pain is still pain, no matter what the cause.

This entire chapter of Isaiah is so beautiful! It might be a wonderful place to spend some devotional time as preparation along with your other Lenten disciplines. When you spend a considerable amount of time on a small portion of Scripture, the Holy Spirit can reach to you deeper meaning which just doesn’t happen unless we commit the time.

Will you join me? Let’s meditate on Isaiah 40 and receive the comforting message of our loving “Abba” Father!



Serving Jesus,

Judy Plica

**USHER TRAINING/UPDATE**

Following each Sunday service on March 8th and March 15th, ushers and prospective ushers are invited to meet briefly at the back of the nave to discuss changes that have been made in the usher booklet and to train any others who may be interested in becoming a part of this ministry at Reformation. Please join us on the Sunday that best fits your schedule. To all of you who have faithfully answered my requests to serve throughout the past year, I offer my sincere thanks.

Shelby Rutherford (610-779-10790)

**Counters**

Reformation is in need of volunteers to help count Sunday offerings. Counters meet at the church on Monday morning at 9:00 a.m. and counting usually takes about an hour to an hour and a half. Trainings will be held following both services on March 1st and March 8 th.



**News About New Orleans and Youth Gathering**

First of all, thank you for your ongoing prayerful and financial support of our trip to New Orleans. We are looking forward to a trip that will include some of the typical Youth Gathering events; however, this year we will also be providing a service to the New Orleans community. What’s different at the center of this Gathering is a deepening of our awareness of God’s call to servant hood. Services we will be providing range from:

- Cleaning Libraries,
- Reading at preschools,
- Advocating for libraries and books in communities of poverty,
- Supporting English as a Second Language program.

As you can see, this trip is a great opportunity to share our gifts and learn what we can do to show God’s presence in New Orleans.

Things we have been doing to prepare include learning about New Orleans’ history, culture and incredible diversity. We have scheduled team meetings each month leading up to our July trip to unify our group, become prepared to perform our literacy mission, discuss God’s love and presence in all places and finally, and hopefully, prepare our hearts to work in Jesus’ name.

We are still striving to raise the money needed for this trip and support the operating budget.

**Please look to support the following fundraiser—**

**Pizza Coupons:** A \$10 for a coupon that will get you a \$13 pizza. That is a 23% discount. You can even have it delivered. The Youth gain \$5 for each coupon sold.

**RENT A TEEN!**

Please take a look at the bulletin board outside the sanctuary to see how you might be able to help the youth by “renting” them to help you accomplish some of your own tasks! The youth are offering such services as: babysitting, present wrapping, shoveling, pet sitting, plant watering, leaf raking and yard clean-up, car washing, and many others, including some that you can dream up!

All you have to do is call the teen of your choice to arrange the event. After the work is completed, feel free to pay them whatever you deem appropriate (paying by check to Reformation Lutheran Youth can be used for tax purposes). All of the monies earned will go into a general fund for the trip.

The “rentable teens” are: K.C. Kohler, Erin Donovan, Sarah Mulvey, Neal Donovan, Scott Galbraith and Tyler Lambert.

## Reformation Dances!

There will be a dance workshop, held in the Fellowship Hall, at 12:15 on Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup>, following the 10:45 service. **All** are welcome!

- If you are under 8, bring a parent. They can dance too.
- You may observe, but it will cost you a can of food for the Hope Pantry. We want you to participate!
- Please wear comfortable clothes that will enable you to move freely.
- For footwear, please wear sneakers; we also may do a few things in socks.
- If you like, bring a towel or mat for stretching, and water

We will probably go about 45 min

Come join in for fellowship, some basic movement, a little technique, and another way to express our joy for His love. Our intent is to glorify God through expression and movement.

Tentative Format:

- Introductions/sign-in
- Devotional
- Warm-up/stretch/technique
- Dance segments
- Create a group dance
- Cool down/stretch for those not interested in additional technique

For more information, contact Anndria Ciabattoni. 610-370-1065 or Anndria@ptd.net

**Notice to the congregation:** In order to conduct an effective public relations program, Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church shares news about activities and events that occur at the church to the local newspaper and our website. To do this, names, photos and video images could appear in the local media. Respecting the right to privacy, parents/guardians are asked to notify the church office if there are any objections to their child's name, photo, or video image appearing in any publication. Unless notified in writing the church will assume it has consent for the release of a child's name, photograph, or video image. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

## Opportunities in Music Ministry

All are welcome to participate in these musical groups:

### SENIOR CHOIR – Wednesdays 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Directed by Kathryn Fellman (610-777-4894)  
Starting Wed., September 3  
Grade nine through adult

### YOUTH CHOIR – Sundays 9:00-9:30 a.m.

Directed by Kathryn Fellman (610-777-4984)  
Starting Sunday, September 7  
Grades 7 through 12

### JUNIOR CHOIR – Thursdays 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Directed by Kathryn Fellman (610-777-4984)  
Starting Thursday, September 4  
Grades 2 through 6

### CHERUB CHOIR – Mondays 6:15-6:45 p.m.

Directed by Julie Seiz (610-370-1235)  
New members start Monday, September 8  
Returning members start Monday, September 15  
Age four through grade one

### “RINGERS” - HANDBELLS & HAND CHIMES -Wednesdays 6:15 -7:00 p.m.

Directed by Julie Seiz (610-370-1235)  
Starting Wednesday, September 3  
All ages welcome  
If interested, please call Julie Seiz

### BRASS ENSEMBLE

Directed by Gary Mishler (610-777-0509)  
Call to participate or to learn more

### INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL SPECIAL MUSIC

Speak with Kathryn Fellman (610-777-4894) if you would like to offer your gifts of music or have any questions.