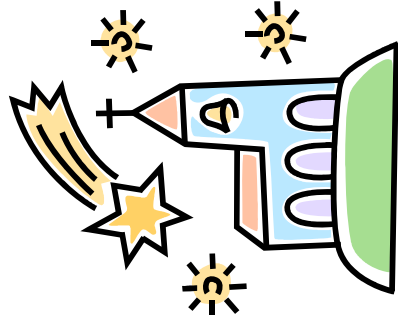


**Reformation Evangelical
Lutheran Church
3670 Perkiomen Avenue
Reading, PA 19606**

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Join Us For:

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

The Reformation Scoop!

Reformation's Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Steven C. Claycomb
 revclay1@verizon.net (new e-mail address)
Parish Administrator: Cindy Shirey
 mail@reformationlutheran.org
Minister of Music: Kathryn Fellman
 reformationmusic@msn.com

Organist: Donald Hinkle
Sexton: Mike Schneeberger
Custodian: Margaret McDevitt
Part-Time Secretary: Pam Schneeberger
Treasurer: Rod Kline

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

West Berks Mission District
 www.westberksmissiondistrict.org
NEPS Website: www.godslove.org
ELCA Website: www.elca.org

Congregation Church Council Members

President: Steve Barnett
Vice President: Tony Lambert
Secretary: Jane Humbert

Alan Blackburn	Wendy Richards
Robert Galbraith	Shelby Rutherford
Ron Hartzell	Becky Schaeffer
Kurt Kohler	Donald Smith
K.C. Kohler	Herb Zettlemoyer

REMINDER: Together @ nine will continue the first Sunday of each month . Join us for good food and fellowship. Meet and greet your Reformation church family.



Ushers Continued

January 24	8:00 a.m. Steve & Elisha Barnett
January 31	Glenn & Melaine Bechtel

Acolytes

January 3	8:00 a.m. Ben DeAcosta
January 10	Cade DiGuardi
January 17	Derek Werner
January 24	Karlee Werner
January 31	Ben DeAcosta

Crucifers

January 3	8:00 a.m. Emily Larson
January 10	Cory DiGuardi
January 17	Neal Donovan
January 24	Emily Larson
January 31	Tim Austin

CD Recording Assistants

January 3	Mike Kern
January 10	Scott Galbraith
January 17	Eric Blackburn
January 24	Tim Austin
January 31	Eric Blackburn

Readers

January 3	8:00 a.m. Cal Booser
January 10	Ruth Blatt
January 17	Greg Stoddard
January 24	Allison Larson
January 31	Kathy Austin

Communion Assistants 8:00 a.m.

January 3	Greg Stoddard
January 10	Greg Stoddard
January 17	- - -
January 24	Brenda Hagg
January 31	- - -

Nursery 8:00 a.m.

January 3	Anastasia Fantilli
January 10	Mary & Jenny Ryder
January 17	Sue Kern
January 24	Dee Dee Werner
January 31	Nan Melber

Counters
 January counters are: Russ Clauser, Gerry Wegman, Joanne Smith

10:45 a.m. Jim & Nancy Rhoads
Alan & Nadine Blackburn

10:45 a.m.
 Karlee Werner
 Sarah Galbraith
 Christopher Rothbard
 Tyler Lambert
 Annie Ryder

10:45 a.m.
 Emily Moser
 Scott Galbraith
 Brian Rothbard
 Tyler Huber
 Jenny Ryder

CD Delivery Volunteers

Blanche Link
Pam Schneeberger
Julie Seiz
Jane Farrell
Blanche Link

10:45 a.m.
 Tina Stanton
 Bonnie Claycomb
 Lisa Sokoloff
 Nan Lewis
 Anastasia Fantilli

10:45 a.m.
 Bonnie Claycomb
 Carole Miller
 Judy Plica
 - - -
 Lisa Sokoloff

10:45 a.m.
 Richards, J. Centofanti
 Mosers, Robin Schaeffer
 Nadine Blackburn
 Chrystal & Maddie Fost
 Richards

Opportunity House January 21st

Food Preparers: Please meet at the church by 2:00 p.m.— JoAnn Smith, Bonnie Claycomb, Sue Kern, Sara Lambert, Shelby Rutherford

Shopping Duty: Renee Donovan Substitute: Elaine Vardjan

Servers: 6:30 p.m.at church or 6:45 p.m.at the shelter—Jerry Centofanti, Jeanne Gochnauer & the 7th and 8th grade class.

Bakers: Please resume baking the pineapple cake —Kathy Austin, Beth Brizek, Harriet Clauser, Jusy Plica, Alison Reinsel

Substitute: Pam Hoffman

Volunteers please call Judy Plica (610-775-0524) whether you can or cannot serve.

Please Note: We are looking for someone to make reminder calls for Opportunity House Ministry. All information will be provided to you, and you can do this important task from the comfort of your own home! Interested? Please call Judy Plica at 610-775-0524 or the Church Office 610-779-0534.

JANUARY SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

<u>Altar Guild</u>	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
	Audrey DiGuardi	Judy Zettlemoyer
	Becky Schaeffer	Kathy Miller

Bulletin Helpers the week of (note the change)

January 3	Jane Farrell (Thursday, January 7)
January 10	Harriet and Russ Clauser (Thursday, January 14)
January 17	Joanne Reinhart (Thursday, January 21)
January 24	Cheryl Hadley (Thursday, January 28)
January 31	Jane Humbert (Thursday, February 4)

<u>Ushers</u>	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
January 3	Rich Hawk, Bob Rutherford	Dave & Tammy Moser
January 10	Randy & Muffy Reinecker	Bob & Kathy Galbraith
January 17	Darren Remlinger, Kathy Miller	Alan & Nadine Blackburn

A Different New Year's Resolution?

Today we live in an entertainment culture in which people would rather watch a sport from the bleachers or better, from the living room sofa watching it on television than to actually play the sport themselves.

Lots of Americans today say that they are "spiritual" if not "religious." They seek to develop their spiritual nature, devising spiritual goals and spiritual methods which are in reality a way of satisfying their own self-centered desire. They imagine a God who is the idealized image of their highest aspirations and wishes. They delve deeper and deeper into themselves, thinking that they are climbing up higher toward the divine.

The "God" that they are imagining is but a creature of their own imaginations, something that is projected out there to reinforce their desires in here, something that gives importance to their own sense of importance and virtue. Much of a Texas Preachers 'prosperity gospel' focuses on you! Check out some of his recent book titles.

It's **Your** Time to Activate **Your** Faith, Achieve **Your** Dreams, and Increase in God's Favor
 Become a Better **You**: 7 Keys to Improving **Your** Life Every Day
Your Best Life Now
 Become a Better **You**

Do you sense a theme yet? The 19th-century Danish philosopher Kierkegaard said that lots of people think that they are "religious" when their religion is actually a rather complex way of avoiding discipleship. That is, avoiding a relationship with the person of Jesus Christ.

As we gathered one Christmas Eve most of us heard a reading from John 1 by candlelight. We heard that God's light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it. We heard of the Baptizer who pointed to this light and that when this light 'came to his own, his own people did not accept him, but to all who received him, he gives the power to become children on God' (John 1:11-12).

We are called to discipleship. As the New Year begins I invite you to make a resolution to aide you in your discipleship. What would such a resolution look like? How about one of these: I will worship weekly. I will get involved in Bible Study. I will give generously to the ministry and mission of God's church. I will pray for our church and people on our prayer chain daily. I will give of my time to others.

So what is discipleship about? Read John 1:15. Go ahead – just one of possibilities of a discipleship resolution might be: I will read my Bible every day. The book of John is a great place to start.

Pastor Steve

SCRAP BOOKING YOUTH EVENT

Our Youth will be hosting our 2nd Scrapbooking Retreat, here at church on Saturday Feb. 27, 2010. We will be “Scraping” from 9AM until 8PM.

The cost is \$30.00 and this includes a goodie bag, lunch, dinner, snacks, drinks, and a special class or two. We will also have raffle prizes.

We will have Beth Bussler from Scruptacular and Dee Dee Werner from Creative Memories as vendors in case you want to buy supplies or get ideas. Also a massage therapist will be available to ease your tired muscles.

The proceeds of this fundraiser will be used by the Youth of Reformation for trips and service projects.

Please call or see Linda Bechtel (610-528-4569) to reserve your space. Everyone who reserves and pays before Feb. 1 will get 10 free raffle tickets.

Everyone is invited (experience not needed). Bring a friend or 2 and have a fun day scrapping and being with friends.

If you have never scrapped before, we would love to introduce you to this great art. Please let Linda know, and we will arrange special beginner classes that morning for you.

Church Website – Pictures: We are looking for pictures of people and current or past activities for the Church website. If you have digital pictures you can easily send them to us at: mail@reformationlutheran.org. We will format, label and post them to the website as appropriate. If you have traditional film developed pictures, we can also scan and post them to the website, but, this takes a little longer to process. All we need are the pictures [digital or traditional], identifying information about the picture[s], your name and a telephone number to return them to you as needed. Be a part of the “God is on the loose” activities at Reformation Lutheran Church.

From My Heart to Yours

As I sit to write this, our landscape has been turned into a Winter Wonderland as a result of a fairly substantial snowfall. The time for celebrating will be upon us very soon, but in the meantime there are long “to do” lists to tackle.

I hope you were able to set aside some Quiet Time to truly ponder the Reason for the Season. Every year I am impressed more and more with the reality that Mary and Joseph were ordinary people, like us, with willing and obedient hearts. They said “yes” to God’s amazing salvation plan! God, The Father, Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth CHOSE to become human and live among us! What an incredible thought! THEN after He took on “frail flesh” He DIED for us! I hope you will be intentional, now that the hustle and bustle is over, and really PONDER the AWESOMENESS of such a thought! Even though historically this took place a long time ago, Immanuel is still with each one of us TODAY. Praise and thank him for His Indescribable Gift! New Year’s Blessings to you

Serving Jesus,

Judy Plica



GRIEF SHARE

The New Year –2010– has come. The hustle and bustle of the Christmas season is now a memory and the deep, dark winter months are upon us. If you were able to set aside your grief for a little while and “enjoy” (as best you could) being with family and friends, that is all behind you now if all of the feelings associated with grief have come rushing in upon you again, COME to GriefShare and we can work through this season of grief, with God’s help, together. We will resume sessions on: Thursday, January 21st at 7-9 p.m. in the Reformation Rehearsal Hall. Please enter the door from the rear parking lot.

I know it’s hard to come alone, so I encourage people to bring a friend or family member along. This can be very helpful as you reflect on what you learn during the week.

Questions? Call Judy Plica at 610-775-0524. Please leave a message if I’m not home, and I will call you back, my promise to you!

Annual College Recognition Sunday

Singing My Thanks

I'm thankful Heavenly Sunshine
And for The Beauty of the Earth,
I'm thankful that Away In a Manger
The world received virgin birth.

The Love of God was sent to earth
Upon that day so long ago
Love Divine All Love Excelling
To us children here below.

I'm thankful for the Blessed Assurance
I find within The Sweet Hour of Prayer,
He sends us all that's for our good—
Heaven And Earth, And Sea And Air.

Jerusalem the Golden
Is a promise to us all
While The Everlasting Arms
Uphold us when we fall.

I'm thankful for The Old Rugged Cross
That rose upon (Golgotha's) hill
And for the Amazing Grace
It supplies (His) children still.

As you Count Your Blessings
To Thee O Lord Our Hearts We Raise
So Rejoice All Ye Believers
Give To Our God Immortal Praise.

(All capital letters are song titles for first lines.)

by Catharine Reed

The Parish Outreach Committee will host its annual College Student Recognition on Sunday, January 3, 2010. Thirty-eight students have received an Advent calendar greeting card (complete with windows to open each day!) and a letter inviting them to a sit-down breakfast at 9:15 in the fellowship hall. The students have also been invited to take part in the worship services that day. You'll spot them wearing their college sweatshirts. Please plan on being present in worship on January 3rd to help welcome home our students.

THANKSGIVING AT REFORMATION LUTHERAN

With Reformation's "first" community Thanksgiving Dinner behind us, I say THANK YOU to everyone who was a part of this wonderful ministry. All went well and we had help from Mosaic house, Elizabethtown, Wernersville, Hope Lutheran, Exeter Township, and our family here at Reformation. We fed approximately 50 persons; a good number for our first time. The Holy Spirit was truly at work bringing so many together for ministry and fun. We had a wonderful day! Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way; from set-up, decorating, cooking, to providing music and clean-up. There were so many volunteers who gave their time and talents! I also want to thank everyone who roasted turkeys, provided desserts, and donated coolers and kept the food "iced" while our refrigerator was down. Many hearts and hands led by the Spirit made this possible! I think we are all looking forward to providing this ministry next year.

With a grateful heart for all your work,

Bonnie Claycomb

WELCA EVENTS:

January 4th - Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.

January 11th-Prayer Shawl Ministry at 2:00 p.m.

January 12th-LWR at 9:30 a.m.

**WEST BERKS MISSION DISTRICT 2010 Youth Event
For Youth in Grades 7 – 12**

Featuring

CAPTIVE FREE NORTHEAST

DATE & TIME:

Friday, February 19th starting at 7:00 pm through

Saturday, February 20th following the 7:00 pm Concert

PLACE:

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

30 Liberty Street

Shillington PA 19607

ACTIVITIES:

High Energy Worship J Lots of Music

Games & Food J Lots of Fun

Roller Skating J Service Project

Puppets J Connect with Friends

****Please return the included registration form with payments**

no later than Thursday, February 11th. Questions?

Contact WBMD: Dick or Dawn Phone: 610-375-8303

Or Jackie Grauel at Grace, Shillington 610-777-7885

Thank you

Dear Reformation family,

Thank you for the flowers. It has been a privilege to be part of Education Ministry at Reformation. The dedication and enthusiasm of our committee, our Sunday School teachers, VBS staff and other supporters of education ministry activities have always made the work both enjoyable and rewarding. This ministry will always have a special place in my heart. Your partner in His service.

Melissa Howell Clarke

Congregation Council,

I would like to thank the council for the opportunity take the Health Ministry / parish nurse course. It was a very rewarding experience. I was commissioned on Dec. 6th at a ceremony in Lancaster. I am looking forward to working with the Reformation family in developing a Health Ministry here. Cindy Shirey, RN,FCN

February Newsletter Deadline — January 17, 2010

Please use the green forms for newsletter and bulletin articles. They are available in the narthex and library or e-mail us:

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 noon.

Deadline for annual reports January 3rd

Deadline for committee reports for council is January 20th.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: please log in to wgal.com or wfmz.com. If it is a very bad storm, they will put them on Channel 69 news broadcast scrolling across the bottom of the screen. That is decided by Channel 69 news.

January Health Article – Glaucoma

“And that very hour He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight.” Luke 7:21 NKJV

Glaucoma is an eye disease that causes loss of sight by damaging a part of the eye called the optic nerve. This nerve sends information from your eyes to your brain. When glaucoma damages your optic nerve, you begin to lose patches of vision, usually side vision (peripheral vision). Over time, glaucoma may also damage straight ahead (central) vision. You may not notice a loss of side vision until you have lost a great deal of your sight. When checking for glaucoma, eye doctors usually look for damage to the optic nerve and any loss of side vision. They may also check your eye pressure.

Glaucoma is often called “the sneak thief of sight.” That’s because people usually do not notice any signs of the disease until they have already lost significant vision. Once lost, vision can’t be restored. More than 2.2 million Americans age 40 and older have open angle glaucoma, the most common form of glaucoma. At least half don’t even know they have it.

Glaucoma can usually be treated and controlled using medicine(s), laser surgery, glaucoma surgery or a combination of these treatments. Medicines (eye drops) are typically the first step in treatment, but laser surgery may be just as effective as a first choice. Your treatment is up to you and your doctor.

Even if surgery lowers pressure in your eye, it’s still possible to lose vision. Therefore, you and your doctor must carefully monitor the disease.

You will be visiting your eye doctor regularly and you may need medicines every day for the rest of your life. Find support and encouragement from your family, friends and others. Sometimes it helps to talk to people who have experienced the same thing.

Unfortunately, there are a few people whose eyesight will continue to get worse, despite doing all the right things to control their glaucoma. Doctors aren’t sure why this happens, but research in this area continues.

The future holds great promise for treating glaucoma. New medicines are being developed. Other treatments may soon become available. In the meantime, take heart in knowing that you’re doing everything possible to treat your glaucoma successfully. The doctor/patient team approach, support from others and promising scientific discoveries will help you look forward to a bright future.

If you suspect that you are not seeing correctly or have an eye problem, you should arrange for a professional eye exam.

Information from www.preventblindness.net

OPPORTUNITY HOUSE:

THE 7TH AND 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION CLASSES WILL BE SERVING AT THE SHELTER ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 21ST, 2010. WE WILL MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 6:15 PM AND RETURN AT APPROXIMATELY 8 PM. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING, SEE MRS. GOCHNAUER OR SIGN UP ON THE POSTER HANGING ON THE YOUTH BULLETIN BOARD.

THE 9TH GRADE CONFIRMATION CLASS WILL BE SERVING AT THE SHELTER ON THURSDAY, MARCH 18TH, 2010. WE WILL MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 6:15 PM AND RETURN AT APPROXIMATELY 8 PM. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING, SEE MRS. GOCHNAUER OR SIGN UP ON THE POSTER HANGING ON THE YOUTH BULLETIN BOARD.

Movie Night

Friday, January 15th, 2010 is the movie night at 6:30 p.m.

Ages 8-108 are invited to join us for an evening out. Feel free to invite family, friends or neighbors who might enjoy this event. Come out and enjoy a movie, share in fellowship and good conversation, and maybe even bring a box of popcorn.

The feature this month is Jim Thorpe (1951), a true story of Native American Jim Thorpe, who rose from an Oklahoma reservation to become a collegiate, Olympic, and professional star. It stars Burt Lancaster, and Charles Bickford. There is a list of features for the year in the narthex. Pick one up and mark your calendar for the coming year.

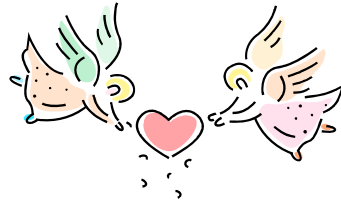
Flowers

The altar flowers have a new look. Our new provider is Carol Shoppes Florist. 320 W. Neversink Rd. Reading, PA. The price has dropped to \$25.00 per vase. The same procedure will remain to pay for the flowers. Please use an envelope and mark it flowers for the Sunday you have chosen to decorate our church with fresh flowers in honor of or in memory of someone. We would like to avoid sending out bills for the flowers. Please pay for your flowers in the month you are providing them. Thank you. The new chart is on the bulletin board outside the library, now for the year 2010.



Prayer List for January

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 chrylhldly@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: Patti Kline, Gerry Wegman, Evelyn Keller, Jayne Phillips, Reynold Miller, Mildred Arner, Marion Henne, Dorothy Oswald, Grace Sanna, Marguerite Scholl, Pearl Gerth, Skyler Reed, Dorothy Arndt, Barney Bombay, Genevive Cloak, Hazel Cosentino, Sue Wood, Jay Yerger, Mae Hall, Julia Seiz.

Friends of Reformation: Jordan Shickel, Howard Kohler, Ann Schaeffer, Dolores Hilbert, Paul O'Leary, Patricia Philion, Daniel Heffner, Michael, Matthew Tobias, Rita McHale, Bob Korn, Krista Stone, Tori Jones and family, Terry Keiser, Elvia Cataldo, Kate Schimmel, Woodrow Warren, Karen Heck, Melissa Bennett, Joan Hinkle, Maureen Manzella, Miriam Nein, Andrea Bolger, David, Jean Brodt, Stephanie Ernst, Paul Braun, Barbara Moyer, Mrs. Paul Kukupka, and Charles Cook.

Thank you to Cheryl Hadley for being the coordinator of the Prayer List over the past years. We are very grateful to her for her dedication to this Ministry at Reformation Lutheran Church.



Starting January 1, 2010, the Prayer List Coordinator will be Pam Schneeberger. Please call the church office at 610-779-0534 or Pam at 610-370-0790 for prayer requests.

Office Help Needed

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 newsletter articles, folding bulletins, putting together the newsletter for mailing, calling weekly service participants and doing general office duties. We also need help with our website. Call the church office with any times that you can help.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

A big thank you to all the children of the Sunday school who made the Christmas program so meaningful and special. Thank you to all the parents who brought their children in spite of the weather. We really had a wonderful program. A special thank you to Kathy Galbraith who dedicated many hours working with the five speaking angels and to Anndria Ciabattoni who spent many dedicated hours working with the dancing angels. They did a wonderful job directing the youth of our congregation. Thank you to all the teachers for your support and cooperation for the program. Also, we would like to thank Shirley Harner and Joanne Scattergood for serving the refreshments and Kathryn Fellman for teaching the songs to the children. We are so blessed to have such a wonderful support system within our church.

As the year grows to the end, sadly we must tell you Melissa Howell-Clarke is resigning as chairman of the Educational Ministry Committee. She has dedicated many years to the committee and will be sadly missed by the members of the committee. We were blessed to work with her for so many years.

Just a reminder, there will be no Sunday school on Sunday January 25th due to the Congregational Meeting.

We look forward to seeing everyone in the new year.
Happy New Year! Sara Lambert and Brenda Haag

Reformation Polo Shirts

This is your opportunity to order additional Reformation Polo Shirts. The men's polo shirt is available in colors of white, navy blue and burgundy (sizes small through XXL). The women's polo shirt is available in colors of white, pink and navy blue (sizes small through XXL). The cost is \$17 per shirt. If interested, please contact Jane Humbert (610-478-4030).

