

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

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Join Us For: Holy Week Services

7:00 PM Thursday Evening

8:00 PM Friday Evening

Easter Sunday Services at 8:00 AM & 10:45 AM

9:15 AM Easter Breakfast

9:50 AM Easter Egg Hunt

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-9a.m.-12:00p.m.
 Monday—Thursday Closed Fridays
 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: James Rhoads
Secretary: Jane Humbert

Alan Blackburn	Cheryl Hadley
Robert Galbraith	Shelby Rutherford
Kurt Kohler	Becky Schaeffer
Debra Dombroski	Teri Stoddard
Lisa Sokoloff	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	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
April 1	Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Richard & Dolores Noble	
April 2	Friday at 7:00 p.m. Rich Hawk & Bob Rutherford	
April 4	John & Renee Donovan	Richard & Dolores Noble
April 11	Greg & Teri Stoddard	Matt & Alison Reinsel
April 18	Tom & Beth Brizek	Rich Hawk & Bob Rutherford
April 25	Pat & Kathy Austin	Randy & Muffy Reinecker

Acolytes	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
April 1	Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Sarah Galbraith	
April 2	Friday at 7:00 p.m. Andrew Claycomb	
April 4	Annie Ryder	Andrew Claycomb
April 11	Ben DeAcosta	Karlee Werner
April 18	Adam Dombrosky	Christopher Rothbard
April 25	Cade DiGuardi	Tate Dewalt

Torch Bearers	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
April 4	Cade & Cory DiGuardi	Eric & Brian Blackburn

Crucifer	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
April 2	Friday at 7:00 p.m. Neal Donovan	
April 4	Neal Donovan	Adam Gochnauer
April 11	Mike Kern	Nathan Reinhart
April 18	Emily Larson	Brian Rothbard
April 25	Cory DiGuardi	Tyler Huber

CD Recording Assistants		CD Delivery Volunteers
April 4	Tim Austin	Jane Farrell
April 11	Mike Kern	Pam Schneeberger
April 18	Eric Blackburn	Pam Schneeberger
April 25	Scott Galbraith	Pam Schneeberger

Readers	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
April 1	Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Andrew Claycomb	
April 4	Ruth Blatt	Jim Rhoads
April 11	DeeDee Werner	David Russell
April 18	Ruth Blatt	Andrew Claycomb
April 25	Brenda Haag	Don Smith

Communion Assistants	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
April 1	Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Kathy Miller	
April 4	Cal Booser	Jeanne Gochnauer
April 11	Carol Kohler	Alan Blackburn
April 18	Kathy Miller	Elisha Barnett
April 25	Kathy Galbraith	Judy Plica

Nursery	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
April 4	Mary & Jenny Ryder	Allison Larson
April 11	Sue Kern	Robyn Shaffer & Mosers
April 18	Nan Melber	Huber Family
April 25	DeeDee Werner	Richards Family

Counters: April counters are: Russ Clauser, Cal Booser and JoAnn Smith

Opportunity House
April 15th

Food Preparers: Please meet at the church by 2:00 p.m.— JoAnn Smith, Bonnie Claycomb, Shirley Harner and Joanne Scattergood
Substitute: Cheryl Hadley

Servers: 6:30 p.m.at church or 6:45 p.m.at the shelter—Jerry Centofanti, Tim & Pat Austin, Debbie Genova and Barbara Weir
Substitute: Jane Farrell

Bakers: Please resume baking the pineapple cake —Beth Brizek, Linda Centofanti, Harriet Clauser, Audrey DiGuardi and DeeDee Werner
Substitute: Peggy Kersher

Volunteers please call JoAnn Smith (610-779-4031) whether you can or cannot serve.

Please Note: We are looking for help in the kitchen with preparing the meal. It only takes a hour and a half to two hours of your time. Men or women are welcome! Please consider helping with this vital ministry. Call JoAnn Smith at 610-779-4031.

APRIL SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

<u>Altar Guild</u>	8:00 a.m. Kathy Miller Muffy Reinecker	10:45 a.m. Judy Zettlemoyer Melaine Bechtel
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<u>Bulletin Helpers the week of</u>	<u>(note the change)</u>
March 28	Jane Farrell (Thursday, 11:00 p.m. April 1)
April 4	Evelyn Keller (Thursday, 11:00 p.m. April 8)
April 11	Patti Kline (Thursday, 11:00 p.m. April 15)
April 18	Cheryl Hadley (Thursday, 11:00 p.m. April 22)
April 25	Richard & Dolores Noble (Thursday, 11:00 p.m. April 29)

<u>Greeters</u>	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
April 1	Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Fantilli Family	
April 4	Michael & Becky Schaeffer	Tony & Sara Lambert
April 11	Scott & Brenda Haag	Dale & Carole Miller
April 18	Randy & Elyse Miller	Steve & Elisha Barnett
April 25	H. Hinnershitz, M. Howell-Clarke	R. Hawk, B. Rutherford

Holy Week Services



Maundy Thursday Service, with Holy Communion
April 1st at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service
April 2nd at 7:30 p.m.

Easter Service with Holy Communion
April 4th at 8:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Easter Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt at 9:50 a.m.



Bible Study– Will continue on Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M.
March 31st will be the movie “The Passion”. All are invited.

Thank You

We would like to thank Charles and Carolyn Royer for the book donations to our library and the card tables. Reformation Church Family.

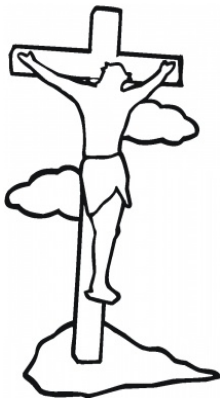
To Our Reformation Church family:

Many thanks for all the meals, visits, cards, prayers, and offers of assistance that I have received since my surgery. Pastor Steve and I have been very blessed by all the love and care our church family has given us during my recovery. With love and appreciation, Pastor Steve and Bonnie

Good Friday

Workshop

For children of all ages with an adult partner



Friday, April 2nd

Beginning at 10:00 AM

Pizza lunch following at 12:00 PM

Drama, Music, and Art

Interpret, sing, and create!

God's Work. Our Hands.

Help create a gift for our shut-ins

And a special visit from

Mary, mother of Jesus

Please *sign-up* on the kiosk in the gathering space.

Bring a friend!

From My Heart to Yours

As I write this, we are still deep in winter with a good two feet (or more) of snow on the ground and the beginning of the Lenten season coming very soon. I'm not usually this far ahead with a message but as I've been preparing for Lent, I have been using a devotional on the Passion of Christ—one message for each day of a calendar year, not just the 40 days of Lent.

The focus has been on the 13th through the 19th chapters of John's Gospel. At the beginning of this section of devotions, it was suggested that this portion of Scripture be read in one sitting. Instead of doing it at the beginning of the 37 daily readings, I did it at the end. Many topics are covered in these chapters of John, but the one that really got my attention today was about service.

I don't know about you, but from time to time I really struggle with service—especially when my TO DO list is enormous and my energy level is exceptionally low. As I read John 13:1—17, I begin reflecting on service in a new light. The Scripture is very familiar—Jesus washes the disciples' feet in the Upper Room just before His arrest, trials and crucifixion! Verse 17 in the New Living Translation sums up this beautiful act of loving service with a command from Jesus: “You know these things—now Do them! That is the path of blessing!” My Bible has small devotional/teaching inserts scattered throughout, and the one for this message is SERVICE John 13:1—17.

“Can you imagine the shape those feet were in that night? Gnarled from years of tramping over the pitted paths and rocky terrain of Palestine: grungy with a blend of dust, mud, and sweat from a day of walking in sandals; some of them unsightly just because they were big flat fisherman's feet. Yet Jesus washed every one of them. It was normally the job of a slave or servant, offered in hospitality to guests. No one, after all, would volunteer for such a distasteful duty. Or would they? Jesus, the glorious incarnate Son of God, who could claim the kingdoms of the world with a snap of His fingers, got up; took a towel; and taught US how to serve. So often we agree to serve only if asked repeatedly or if there is some kind of perk in it for us. Jesus shows us that no service is too inconvenient too mundane, or too grungy when we understand WHO it is we are serving. Whose feet could you “wash” by being willing to serve today?”

It seems to me that, that is a perfect question to prayerfully consider as we enter the week called Holy. I hope you will join me on that prayerful reflection as we prepare to live as Easter people once again.

Serving Jesus,

Judy Plica

For further encouragement and direction, read and apply: Colossians 3:23 & 24. Although Paul was addressing slaves in particular in Verse 22, if we consider ourselves “slaves” (or servants) for Jesus, the application can become very personal!





UPDATE ON EXETER SCHOOL DISTRICTS ADMINISTRATION BUILDING SALE

As noted in a previous newsletter, Reformation was informed the Exeter Administration Building would go up for sale in 2010. Council appointed a committee to review the potential sale. The committee reviewed the building's appraisal report and focused on two areas to evaluate the congregation's interest in a purchase:

Mission possibilities that the building could provide

Financial considerations

After considering the current long-range strategic plan, our recent building expansion and evaluating the financial situation of the Church, the recommendation to Council was NOT to pursue a purchase. The major items supporting this decision were:

Our current building has sufficient space for our needs.

The Administration Building is "dated", would require renovations and has high annual operating costs.

The long-range strategic plan focus areas do not require additional space.

We currently have a declining income trend which has resulted in budget cuts to our programs.

Although the purchase price appears "reasonable", the building does not currently provide any alternative type of space – gym, child care, etc. that could expand our mission.

If you would have any questions, please talk to Steve Barnett, Council President or Kurt Kohler, Council Liaison to the purchase review committee.

FAMILY PROMISE

Family Promise week at Reformation is approaching fast. We will be in need of volunteers, so please consider doing so the week of June 6th to the 13th. This is a very worthy outreach to our community, to provide food and shelter to people in our own community in their time of need.

If you are spring cleaning, please remember we are in need of good used towels and single bed sheets with pillow cases and also lightweight blankets.

We are looking for a new Family Promise Coordinator starting as soon as possible. I will be resigning after the Family Promise week in June. We will be housing the program again in October. Please pray for guidance in this ministry so it can continue to grow and flourish at Reformation. Thank you for all the support and help I have had with this ministry. Cindy Shirey

At this month's Bible study we were discussing the scholarships for Utanziwa, and someone asked me a very important question. Is our group of women who meet for Bible study responsible for funding all the scholarships for Utanziwa? The answer is no! Many members of the congregation and even some former members and friends of our congregation have given scholarships. Our WELCA group has, however, taken on the responsibility of keeping everyone in the congregation informed, to the best of our ability, in this piece of our partnership with Utanziwa. From the very beginning of our partnership, our WELCA group felt this was a way we could participate in the partnership.

In a recent beautiful e-mail from Utanziwa we learned that they will have not less than twelve girls, 4 at Bulongwa and the rest will be at Mwakavuta and Usililo. Bulongwa is a government school. I came across this website while trying to learn more about these other 2 schools: <http://tanzaniaruralrevival.com> Scholarships are \$450 and partial scholarships are welcome. If you wish to contribute, envelopes are available in the narthex and may be placed in the offering plate.

The beginning of our WELCA purpose statement reads "as a community of women"; I have never appreciated this phrase more than during our Bible Study on Paul's letter to the Romans. So much learning has gone on, and so many of our women have contributed to that learning, sharing gifts I believe they don't sometimes know they possess. All women of our congregation are automatically members of our WELCA group, and we invite you to become members of our "community of women". April's Bible Study from *Lutheran Woman Today* is "Holy Hospitality" Romans 15:7. Come and join us and discover what the word "welcome" meant in Paul's time.

WELCA EVENTS:

April 5th- Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.

April 13th -LWR at 9:30 a.m.

April 26th—Spring Cluster Meeting

At St Daniels, Robesonia, 6:15 p.m.

Meet at Reformation's back lot at 5:45 P.M. to carpool

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We were so glad to see so many of you in Sunday School. With the coming of spring and the Easter season, we have many events planned. We hope to see you at Sunday School to help us grow and learn together.

We want to thank the youth of the Sunday School for their wonderful performance in the "Prodigal Son - Barnyard Skit" during the 10:45 a.m. service on March 14th. The youth did a wonderful job, and the younger children enjoyed the play. A special thank you to Kathy Galbraith and the Lamberts for directing the youth.

Continuing and Upcoming Events:

We will continue with the food drive through Palm Sunday, March 28th. We would like to thank everyone who has already donated canned goods to the pantry. We will be gathering as a group on Sunday April 11th to tally the final count of canned goods. The winning class will be receiving a doughnut party on Sunday April 18th.

Please join us for the Good Friday Workshop on Friday April 2nd from 10:00 a.m. until noon, ending with lunch. There are many great activities planned for the day. Please sign up in the narthex!

We will be having our Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 4th at 9:50 a.m. The hunt is open to all students from nursery through grade six. The Jumping Juniors have already stuffed many eggs with goodies and are excited to hide the eggs. We will meet in the parlor and then go hunting for eggs. If you have any questions, please see Brenda Haag.

Don Smith will begin a Bible study in the adult Sunday School class on Sunday April 11th. Don's study will focus on the book of Ephesians. The adult Sunday school group meets in the parlor.

We hope to see you in Sunday School or at some of the special events that we have planned.

Blessings to All, Sara Lambert and Brenda Haag

FLOWERS

Please consider sponsoring flowers. Carol Shoppes Florist, 320 W. Neversink Rd, Reading, PA. is doing a wonderful job decorating the altar. The price is \$25.00 per vase. 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. **April 18th, May 9th and May 30th are open dates; only one vase per service.** Thank you for your help in this matter.

Health Ministry—Care Notes

Look and see what's NEW in our Narthex! We now have a display of Care Notes from Abbey Press. Perhaps you've seen them at other churches like I have and wondered why we didn't have them too. Cindy Shirey was thinking the same thing, and we finally acted on our "passion" which is helping people in their times of trouble and loss.

The booklets are free, and we encourage you to take what will be helpful to you and your family. If you see a topic that may help a friend, please feel free to take one along to share.

Care notes cover a wide range of health and loss issues, so if you don't see one that applies to your situation, please speak to myself or Cindy. We did order some extra stock and may have what you are looking for. If not, we have the complete list of titles and would be happy to order whatever is needed.

Serving Jesus

Judy Plica

VIOLETS AT TWILIGHT

As my dog and I walked in the twilight
In the woods at the end of our street
We discovered a beautiful carpet
Of shy violets beneath our feet.

The oaks, the pines and the birches
Stood guard as they gaily danced
To the tune of the evening breeze
While long shadows slowly advanced.

We've a lesson to learn from the violet
A lesson of lofty appeal,
For when crushed by a careless trespasser
Leaves its fragrance upon his heel.



by Catharine Reed

National Kidney Month

For wisdom is a defense as money is a defense, but the excellence of knowledge is that wisdom gives life to those who have it.” Ecclesiastes 7:12 NKJV

Three Simple Tests You Should Ask Your Doctor To Do

More than 26 million Americans – one in nine adults-have kidney disease. Millions more are at risk for getting it. Kidney disease can be found and treated early to prevent more serious kidney disease and other complications. The National Kidney Foundation (NKF) recommends three simple tests to check for kidney disease.

Blood pressure. High blood pressure is the second most common cause of kidney disease. High blood pressure may also happen as a result of kidney disease. A blood pressure of 140/90 or higher is called high blood pressure. If you have diabetes or kidney disease a target less than 130/80 is recommended. Keeping blood pressure under control is important to lower risk of kidney disease, heart and blood vessel disease, and stroke.

Urinalysis. A urinalysis is a test that checks a sample of your urine for the amount of protein, blood (red blood cells and white blood cells) and other things. Protein and red and white blood cells are not normally found in the urine, so having too much of any of these may mean kidney disease. Having protein in the urine is one of the earliest signs of kidney disease especially in people with diabetes. Several other tests can be done to check for protein in urine. One of the tests is called the **protein to creatinine ratio**. It is the most accurate way to measure protein in the urine. A value of 200 mg/gm or less per day is normal. A value higher than 200 mg/gm is too high. Another test, called the **albumin to creatinine ratio**, is good for people at increased risk for kidney disease-people with diabetes, high blood pressure, or family history of diabetes, high blood pressure or kidney disease. A value of less than 30 mg/gm per day is normal for the albumin to creatinine ratio; a value of 30 mg/gm per day or higher is high and may be a sign of early kidney disease. With either of these tests, you don't need to collect a 24-hour urine sample, which may be hard to collect.

Glomerular filtration rate (GFR) GFR is estimated from results of a serum (or blood) creatinine test. The GFR tells how well your kidneys are working to remove wastes from your blood. It is the best way to check kidney function. A serum (blood) creatinine test alone should not be used to check kidney function. GFR is calculated using the serum creatinine and other factors such as age and gender. In the early stages of kidney disease GFR may be normal. A value of 60 or higher is normal (GFR decreases with age). A GFR number of less than 60 is low and may mean that you have kidney disease. Check with your doctor about having the GFR test (a GFR calculator can be found at NKF's web site www.kidney.org/KLS). If you are at increased risk for kidney disease (have diabetes, high blood pressure, or family history of diabetes, high blood pressure or kidney disease), you should find out if you have kidney disease. Ask your doctor about these three simple tests. They should be done at least once a year so that if you have early kidney disease, it can be treated right away. Early kidney disease can and should be treated to keep it from getting worse.

For information on upcoming NKF kidney health screenings in your area, visit the KEEP (Kidney Early Evaluation Program) website at www.kidney.org/KEEP.

BEAR CREEK CAMP 2010 – “Keeping the Earth”

BEAR CREEK is YOUR camp! Bear Creek is a ministry of the Northeastern and Southeastern 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!

2010 Spring Events:

Open House – April 11th (2:00-4:00pm) – a great opportunity to come and see what Bear Creek Camp looks like and learn about what will be going on this summer.

Earth Day is April 25th – 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 Weekend – April 30-May 2 – a unique little retreat 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 have been really enjoying the WWW – let me know if you're interested in joining us this year. Bring a friend!**Memorial Day Family Camp – May 28-31** – for families of any combination. Hiking, canoeing, devotions and high/low ropes activities are great ways to kick off the summer!

Summer Camp runs from June 20 through August 14. Information and registration forms can be found on the display in the narthex. Registration is also available on line at the website. Check with me before you register, as **financial assistance** is available, including reduced costs for first-time campers and siblings.

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.

Watch for further camp information at the display in the narthex, in the bulletins and newsletter. Please contact Alison Reinsel (610-582-0608) with any questions. Check out the camp website and apply online at www.bearcreekcamp.org

Many volunteer and service opportunities are available at Bear Creek Camp. It's a great way to serve and enjoy our awesome environment at the same time! The camp is also recruiting for camp counselors, support staff, nurses and chaplains. These are paid positions and are available as both short and long-term commitments.

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.

Service Change For the Summer

Please note for the future— starting June 27th we will have one service on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. An informal service will be held on Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

Mutual Ministry Committee Transition

Two members of Reformation's Mutual Ministry Committee have completed their time of service. We sincerely appreciate the work of Cal Booser and Jeanne Gochbauer. Their dedication and thoughtfulness, and the insights they have shared over the past three years have been invaluable. We cannot thank them enough.

At this time we are happy to welcome three new members to the committee – Lynn DeAcosta, Mick Schaeffer and Greg Stoddard. Their contact information, along with that of the continuing members, is listed below. Please feel free to contact any member of the committee with any concerns you may have.

Reformation Mutual Ministry Committee 2010

Linda Bechtel	610 582-4569	lbechtel@mydadscarpets.com
Alan Blackburn	610 582-9897	alan.blackburn@timet.com
Lynn DeAcosta	610 779-5237	daisflow@yahoo.com
Joanne Scattergood	610 796-9684	jscatter11@comcast.net
Mick Schaeffer	610 370-9306	no e-mail
Greg Stoddard	610 370-9069	stoddardg@readinghospital.org
Pastor Steve	610 779-0534	revclay1@verizon.net



Mark your calendar for MAY 8th. This is the date set for our 2nd annual Yard Sale. There are two important things that we will need.

- * ITEMS FOR SALE
- * VOLUNTEERS TO HELP COLLECT AND MARK ITEMS BEFORE THE DAY OF THE SALE.
- * VOLUNTEERS TO HELP THE DAY OF THE SALE STARTING AT 6 a.m.

Please call the office at 610-779-0534 or Rod Kline at 610-621-2270 if you would like to volunteer or if you have items for the sale and want to make arrangements to drop them off at the church or need them picked up.

Spiritual Renewal & Retreat

May 13 – May 16

Are you looking for spiritual refreshment and an opportunity to grow in your faith? Are you looking for time apart with God? Come join several members of our Reformation community as we intentionally gather in order to help our faith grow.

Several of our members, have attended this type of retreat. If you have any questions or would like to register for this retreat, feel free to talk to them: Judy Plica, Steve and Elisha Barnett, Pastor Steve and Bonnie Claycomb, Rod and Patti Kline, Tina Stanton, Ruth Blatt.

It is truly something you have to experience, and we believe you will find it to be a blessing to you and to Christ's Church! Oh, by the way there's no cost for the event – transportation, meals and lodging are all included. The retreat runs from Thursday night through Sunday afternoon.

Both men and women are invited. Accommodations are separate – this is not a “couples” weekend, however couples are welcome to attend as well as individuals.

Talks are given by lay persons and clergy throughout the weekend, and time is set apart for daily worship. Many have found the retreat has given them a deeper understanding of their faith, even more than one might get through regular worship and Bible study.

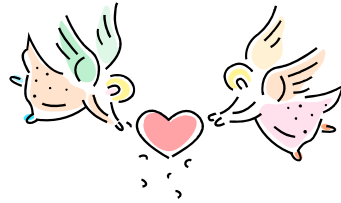
This renewal movement called Via de Cristo or ‘the way of Christ’ exists in many denominations besides the Lutheran Church. In the Roman Catholic and Episcopal Churches it is still known as *Cursillo*. In the Methodist Church, it is called “Walk to Emmaus.” The movement also exists in several other denominations.

RSO Quartet to perform at Reformation

Four gifted musicians representing the Reading Symphony Orchestra will present a first of its kind benefit concert at Reformation on Sunday, April 11. The concert begins at 3:00 p.m. and will feature violinists Christopher Collins Lee, RSO concertmaster; Todd Sullivan, violin; Douglas McNames, RSO principal cellist, and Dorothy Allyn, viola. Given the limited seating available, tickets for the concert must be reserved in advance. Call Joseph McDevitt at 484-824-4757 for tickets. A donation of \$10 per seat is suggested.

Prayer List for April

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 Pam Schneeberger or e-mail her at Lpm33@verizon.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 Pam with an update.



Reformation Family: Patti Kline, 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, Bonnie Claycomb, Tina Stanton, Judy, Helen Luckenbach, Daniel Knechtle and Our Reformation Family

Friends of Reformation: Jordan Shickel, Ann Schaeffer, Dolores Hilbert, Paul O'Leary, 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, Andrea Bolger, David, Jean Brodt, Stephanie Ernst, Paul Braun, Barbara Moyer, Mrs. Paul Kukuvka, Charles Cooke, Sharon Bingamon, Dale Reinecker, Michele Smith, Gayle Hafer, Shirley Scheinhart, Bryant Domina, Toung Phung, Shirley Scheinhart, Tracy Reifsnyder, Terri Getz, Pricilla Kinney, Sadie Weinstien, Denise and Nancy McDermott

The Prayer List Coordinator is Pam Schneeberger. Please call the church office at 610-779-0534 or Pam at 610-370-0790.



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 time that you can help.



8th Annual Souper Bowl
Monday, May 3, 2010
5:30 - 7:00 pm

New Location:

Body Zone
3103 Paper Mill Road
Wyomissing, PA

\$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Each attendee gets to choose a hand-made pottery bowl and feast upon soup, bread and deserts provided by over 30 area restaurants and caterers.

Tickets available March 1st at:

Boscov's Bell Tower Café
Body Zone Fromuth Tennis Panera Bread

On-line ticket sales at www.opphouse.org and www.bodyzonesports.com

For more information, go to www.opphouse.org or contact Becky Burton at 610-374-4696 ext. 231 or bburton@opphouse.org

All proceeds from Souper Bowl support the programs and services of Opportunity House.

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.

WBMD Bowl-a-Thon
Sunday, April 25th
at Bowl-O-Rama
Route 422 in Reiffton

We have chosen to schedule this fundraiser in the Spring so as not to be in competition with the CROP Walk held each October.

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Get a group together to have fun, win prizes, and support our Summer Day Camp! This is our major fundraising effort for the Love for Children Day Camp. In 2009 more than 250 children were able to enjoy a week of camp thanks to the support of the WBMD, and grants from Thrivent's Southwest Berks Chapter and the NEPS Witness & Service Ministry Team!

Registration and Sponsorship forms were e-mailed to all churches and can also be found on our WBMD web site. Teams can request to bowl from either 1-3 PM or 3-5 PM. All bowlers bowl for 2 hours at no charge, (shoes included) and will also enjoy a hot dog & drink. We ask each bowler to try to raise \$15 in sponsorships.

Contact Terry Trumbauer (610-582-5950) for registration forms and sponsor sheets.

Please send in the team(s) registration form(s) to: Jackie Grauel c/o Grace Lutheran Church, 30 Liberty Street, Shillington, PA 19607 or FAX the form(s) to 610-777-3841 by **Thursday, April 15th.**

Everyone must pre-register so that the lanes can be reserved.

NO EXCEPTIONS: NO REGISTRATION WILL BE TAKEN AT BOWLORAMA

Spring Blood Drive
Saturday, May 1 8:30 a.m.--12:30 p.m.

You've donated clothes and food; now it's time for one more important donation. Please come out and support Miller-Keystone, OUR community blood center.

It only takes about 1 hour of your time, and if you bring a friend or spouse with you, who also donates, you'll get a prize! Watch for sign-up table in mid-April.

etc. at community centers under supervision) that will provide them with money to buy necessities for the school year. If you have contacts that can help Pastor Mary, please contact her at jcishope@verison.net.

One last request, Pastor Mary would like to put together a pamphlet about Hope to give to guests. She hopes to have it printed by West Berks Mission at cost. If anyone has a talent in photography and/or layout design, please contact Pastor Mary at the above e-mail address.

For more information call me at 610-779-4138.

Kathy Miller

Tea for Tanzania
Saturday, April 24th, 1-4 p.m.

In The Social Hall



Bring soup, one dozen

small tea sandwiches, scones/muffins or bite size desserts to share

And

a childhood doll/teddy bear or a tea cup/mug for show and tell.

Volunteers are needed; decorate/set tables, greeters, set up and clean up

Fundraiser activities:

Crafts, portraits taken, and silent auction

Sign-up for the tea party at the kiosk by

April 18

Proceeds to benefit

Utanziwa Parish education scholarships

***Any questions? Ask Candy Fantilli or Julie Seiz,
or call 610-370-9140 or 610-370-1235***

There's Hope in Reading

JC is Hope. That is not only a great e-mail address, but it is a statement of the work being done at Hope Lutheran, our partner in Reading. I wish to update Reformation on the activities at Hope and encourage a more active roll in this partnership.

Hope's Food Pantry is still very active. The pantry is open the second and fourth Tuesdays and Thursdays of each month and serves between 200 and 300 families. These families are very thankful for our help through the Berks Food Bank. Right now the pantry, like others throughout Berks County, is short of canned vegetables. With the earthquake in Chili, the freeze in Florida and the flooding in California this winter, I suspect large donations of canned vegetables may not be as forthcoming for some time.

The clothing that we donate to Hope is made available during pantry hours. Loraine greatly appreciates the way our congregation sorts donated clothing. Infant and toddler clothes are greatly needed all the time. The hats and mittens went quickly. As recently as mid March, donated hats and mittens disappeared off the shelves. Thank you to all who participated. Keep knitting and crocheting for next year.

Hope Hangout averages about 30 children each day between 3:30 and 5:30, Tuesday through Thursday. Though most are grade school age this year, several of the older children come and help out by serving food, helping the younger students with homework and helping with activities. That said we could always use more adult volunteers to keep the children busy. If you have a talent you would like to share with the kids, they are always eager to learn something new. With 5 sewing machines and two adults we barely keep 10 to 15 kids going on Wednesdays. Ruth Blatt has joined our crew and led an activity making clay animals while she taught the story of Noah. Maybe you would like to read stories to the younger children, or teach a few kids how to cook or bake a snack, or lead an easy, quick craft. We would love to have a few women join us to teach knitting or crocheting to the kids on a one-on-one basis. Whether you volunteer for one day or on a regular basis I can not begin to explain the joy volunteering brings to these kids. Hangout really makes a difference in their lives. Several of the children are now active in Hope's children's choir.

Hope is also busy in the summer. Lunch is provided by the school district and served at noon 5 days a week at Hope. Volunteers to serve and clean up are always welcomed. The children stay for activities occasionally, if some one volunteers. They enjoy the same kinds of activities that we have at Hangout. Volunteers are also welcomed for VBS (the first week in August) and a week-long summer day camp.

Pastor Mary could also use help in organizing a summer jobs program for city teens. Besides teaching them how to properly apply for a job and save their earnings, she hopes to organize some short term summer jobs (painting, clean-up,

Reformation Ringers

We will be starting practice again on Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 6:15 P.M. Two or three people are needed to ring bass bells. You need to have upper body strength and be able to read music a little. If interested, call Julie Seiz at 610-370-1235.

Beginning Bells will begin again on Mondays at 7:00 P.M.

Movie Night

Friday, April 16th, 2010 is movie night at 6:30 p.m.

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.

Our next feature this month is *To Hell and Back* (1955). It's an exciting true story of America's most decorated war hero of WWII. This movie stars Audie Murphy, Marshall Thompson, Charles Drake and Jack Kelly.



Parish Outreach News

Reformation returning to Exeter May Days

In our ongoing effort to bring our name, ministry, and mission into the surrounding community, the Parish Outreach Committee will again sponsor a tent during Exeter May Days – Friday, May 14th and Saturday, May 15th on the Exeter High School campus. Our tent's theme – "*Pitch for the Pantry*"- will feature a CAN pyramid and will invite those passing by to toss monies into the cans. All monies collected will be given to the Greater Berks Food Bank.

Last year many families and individuals volunteered in 1 ½ hour slots to help "man" the stand. Please consider helping in this easy and fun activity. A schedule will be made for both days. Please contact Tim Dewalt or Judy Zettlemoyer if interested in helping raise dollars for those who are hungry.

College Student Care Packages

Reformation's college students (34 at last count!) will be happy to know that their Final Exam Care Packages will be arriving at their doors at the end of April or early May. These boxes are crammed full with stationery items (post-it notes, note cards, highlighters etc...) as well as munchies and goodies for those all-nighters spent preparing for final exams. Our Senior High Sunday School students will pack the boxes on Sunday, April 18th.

Financial Focus

The Finance Committee is continually focused on the financial health of the congregation. Our missions and outreach cannot be achieved if the congregation falls short in its offerings, and as a result does not have sufficient cash to operate. Overall, where does our income go?

2010 BUDGET

	\$	%
<u>INCOME</u>	\$303,000	100.00
<u>EXPENSES:</u>		
PERSONNEL	\$176,300	58.10%
BENEVOLENCE	\$30,300	10.00%
MORTGAGE & BUILDING	\$62,300	20.50%
ADMINISTRATIVE COST	\$15,100	4.90%
PROGRAMS & OTHER	<u>\$15,600</u>	<u>5.15%</u>
	\$299,600	98.80%
<u>SURPLUS</u>	\$3,400	1.13%

Over the past five years congregational expenses have exceeded income, and as a result, our cash balances have been depleted. We no longer have a “cash cushion”. Early giving trends for 2010 suggest a 7% shortfall over budgeted amounts, approximately \$21,000. We began the year with unrestricted cash of \$2,700.

The congregation needs approximately \$5,800 a week in giving. We are averaging \$5,400. We ask that all members prayerfully consider their financial commitment to Reformation as we struggle to meet our income needs. Unlike past years, our cash balance will require expense restraints be implemented during the year if continued weekly shortfalls are incurred. The Finance Committee

May Newsletter Deadline -April 14th, 2010-For handwritten Articles. April 18th, 2010-For E-Mail Articles

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 Tuesdays at 12:00 noon.

Deadline for committee reports for council is April 14th.

WELCA WEST BERKS CLUSTER SPRING MEETING

WHEN: April 26, 2010 6:15PM – Registration/Fellowship; 7:00PM – Devotions, Program, Business Meeting

WHERE: St. Daniel’s Lutheran Church, 480 Big Spring Rd., Robesonia

DIRECTIONS: Driving Rt. 422 West, after Wernersville, but before Conrad Weiser School complex, Robesonia, turn right at traffic light onto Big Spring Rd. (car dealership on opposite side of 422 at traffic light). Continue across bridge, at the Y bear left and continue; church is on the left.

SPEAKER: Brenda Daelhousen, R.D., L.D.N., Nutrition Consultant

THEME: Nutritional Tips for a Healthful Lifestyle

GOALS:

Have good fellowship.

Learn nutritional tips for a healthful lifestyle.

Accept the responsibility of seeing that the needs of all are met, for they also have been bought with a price – the body and blood of Christ.

Support Cluster leadership (current and new).

Set up our Fall meeting and be aware of and participate in upcoming Synodical events.

MINISTRY OUTREACH:

Regular offering with devotions

Special offering for children-Educational Opportunity for Orphans in the Makete District, Iringa, Tanzania

Lutheran World Relief Health Kits: 1 kit consists of 1 washcloth, 1 handtowel, 1 bath size bar of soap in wrapper, 1 adult size toothbrush in original package, 1 widetooth comb, 1 metal nailfile or nail clipper with a file, 6 bandaids ½” or ¾”, secured with a rubberband. Wrap all items in the handtowel and secure with yarn or ribbon.

Bring unwanted cell phones; they will be refurbished/resold; proceeds to help women.

Help for Haiti

After our mission trip to Haiti, the members of Christ Lutheran, Dryville are working to fill a sea container with needed supplies. According to Food for the Poor, two of the items most needed are peanut butter (in plastic jars) and school supplies (spiral bound notebooks, packs of pencils with erasers and packs of crayons). If your congregation would be willing to help with this collection project, please contact Pastor Cheryl Meinschein at 610-682-7664. Our plan is to collect supplies during April and ship them in May. Financial contributions to help with shipping costs would also be appreciated. Thanks for your help!

Note: Pastor Meinschein was the guest speaker at our WBMD Lenten Prayer Breakfast.