



# The Reporter

The Monthly Newsletter of Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church  
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Churches of America  
Organized Feb 5, 1956

Volume 56 Issue 2

February 2012

## Our Mission

*Through God's grace, we commit ourselves as disciples to heal hurts, to teach God's word, to discover God's joys, and share the light, love, and peace of Jesus Christ.*



## Reformation Lutheran Church

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Milford, Delaware 19963

Ph: 302 422-9117

Fax: 302 422-9184

Website:

[www.reformation-lutheran.net](http://www.reformation-lutheran.net)

## Kids, Inc.

Ph: 302 422-9099

## Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm

## Worship Services

Sept.-May

8:30am & 11:00am

Memorial Day- Labor Day  
10:00am

## Christian Education

Sept-May

9:45am-10:45am



## A Time to Gather: A Story That Includes You

Toward the end of February (the 22<sup>nd</sup>), we will begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday. The forty days (not counting Sundays) of Lent are a time of preparation for Easter. Traditionally, they are somber, with Christians focusing on our need for God's grace,

Christ's suffering on the Cross, and our journey of growth in discipleship. One way these are often tied together is through a fast of some kind. It might be giving up a favorite food or turning off the television; the idea is to deny oneself (in reflection of Christ's self-denial), struggle against whatever distracts us from God, and use the time and attention freed up by our fasting to focus on discipleship. This practice is a way of participating in the story of Christ's suffering and victory on our behalf.

You see, it's not giving up chocolate or taking a 40-day timeout from Facebook that helps us spiritually. It's our connection to the story of Jesus, his ministry, his death, and his resurrection that makes the difference. Without that, giving up soda or whatnot might help you lose a few pounds, but will not make a difference in your soul. So I encourage you to consider gathering together in worship and Bible study this Lent, to connect more deeply to the love of Christ.

I am particularly excited about our Wednesday night soup suppers and Bible studies. Starting February 29<sup>th</sup>, the week after Ash Wednesday, we will have soup at 6:00 followed by a Bible study called "The Bible's Big Picture." Over the 6 weeks, we will survey the whole story of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. This is an incredibly useful set of knowledge to have, because it helps you to better understand whatever part of the Bible you are reading. On Sunday mornings, you'll have a better idea what the 3 lessons are about. When you come across some strange Old Testament prophet, you'll be able to see more clearly what they are talking about. Books like Revelation won't

*Pastor's message continues on page 2.*



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

## Our Church Leaders:

### Head of the Church: Jesus, the Christ

<b>President:</b> Neal Richard	249-5380
<b>Vice-President:</b> Chris Antonik	430-7616
<b>Secretary:</b> Susan Emory	422-3115
<b>Treasurer:</b> Lisa Mallard	422-2844

### Council Members:

Gary Johnson	398-4744
Kevin Oldland	752-7130
Lezlie Eustis	422-3742
Joan VanGorder	422-9589
Jill Racz	645-0969
Dharma Luiken	422-9005
Dale Leyden	

## Our Staff:

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	Email: <a href="mailto:pr.evers.rlc@gmail.com">pr.evers.rlc@gmail.com</a>
<b>Gail Betton Kelso</b>	<b>Director of Music Ministry &amp; Organist</b>
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The Reporter is published monthly, and mailed to all member households. The deadline for submitting material for the next issue is the **10th day of** each month. Please send, as early as possible, your articles, notices, photos, etc. to the editor, Linda Helm. The Reporter is assembled on the Monday of last full week of each month and mailed that week. A full color downloadable PDF version is posted on our website: [www.reformation-lutheran.net](http://www.reformation-lutheran.net).

## Pastor's message continues



seem as scary, and you'll be able to notice things about long-familiar stories that you never knew before. But most importantly, you will grow in your knowledge of Christ's love for you and what it means to follow him. This is what Lent truly is about: focusing not on ourselves ("self-improvement" by giving something up), but on the One who came, died, and rose again for our salvation.

This is the story that matters the most. It is also the story that will show you the truth of your own story. Our lives only make sense when they are claimed as part of the grace of God. We can't know who we are without knowing who Christ is and what God is up to in the world. And there is no better way to explore this story than with others who are on the same path. That is why being together for worship, fellowship, and study is so important. And that is why I hope all of you will come, starting on Ash Wednesday (2/22 at 7:00) and then starting the next week for soup and Bible study. It is why Lent is such an important time to be together for worship on Sundays. It is the story that allows us to live the truth about God, ourselves, and each other. So come and be fed

In Christ  
Pastor Evers

## Lay Eucharistic Ministers:

On February 11 and 18, from 10:00 am to noon, Pastor Evers will be offering training for people interested in bringing Holy Communion to our homebound members. Attendance at only one session is required. Please call or email Pastor Evers to sign up. Lay Eucharistic Ministers do not replace pastoral visitation, but supplement it. This is an incredibly rewarding ministry, allowing you to bring the love of Christ to others through the Sacrament, Scripture, prayer, and the fellowship of visiting. Interested? Contact Pastor Evers to learn more!

## From Worship and Music



Dear Members of Reformation,

I am writing this letter of request to those who have the gift of the Holy Spirit of music and facilitation. I have been chair of the Worship and Music Committee since at least 1994 ( earliest minutes I could find in my pile of papers)!! I have enjoyed being part of such great things at Reformation. But, the time has come, especially since Jay's illness, to turn this job over to someone else called by God in their love of music.

One needs to have a good understanding of the worship service and the liturgical calendar and to be able to facilitate a wonderful committee in their jobs. Each person serving on this committee has taken on jobs and carried them out without reminder. To have such a committee is a blessing.

I'm asking anyone who feels God calling them to service to prayerfully consider taking over as chairperson. I will stay on the committee if my schedule allows. As of June 1, 2012 I would like to pass the torch. Please feel free to call or write to me with any questions about the committee. May God's grace be with you.

In Christ,

Mary K. Konesey

302-423-7599

[mkonesey@comcast.net](mailto:mkonesey@comcast.net)

A **Flower Coordinator** is needed to look at the flower donation chart in the Narthex and call or send a note to the people donating for the upcoming month as a reminder. We also hope to have an easier way to pay: immediately upon signing the chart, a person would fill out a special envelope and place money inside and put into the offering plate. That way the money would be in the office after service. Gooden's Florist is no longer billing individuals from churches unless they call independently to order flowers for a particular Sunday. Please contact me about this service.

## Update from Lutheran Campus Ministry at UD:

As the new year rolls around it is important to think about our accomplishments from the past year and what we hope to achieve moving forward. One of the programs I am most pleased to be a part of is Fellowship in Serving the Hungry or "FISH".

FISH is a grocery distribution program that currently serves about 60 families a month. The program is made possible through a



variety of supporters. Volunteers come from University of Delaware's Lutheran Campus Ministries; the program is hosted by St. Paul's Lutheran Church and supported by many other churches in the community. FISH runs on a budget of \$500 a month and purchases discounted food from the Delaware food bank. The program also receives donated food from the USDA. We distribute food every 3rd Friday of the month.

Our volunteers have made a great difference in the lives of our clients this year. This was displayed at our annual FISH fundraising dinner this October when two of our clients spoke about what the program has done for them. Our volunteers order the food, call clients, collect winter coats for a coat drive, make bread, pack and distribute our boxes and most importantly show respect and compassion for the people in our program.

So as you make your new year's resolutions I encourage you to consider volunteering for our program and listen more for the voice of God in your life.

*Galatians 5: 13-14* Serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command "Love your neighbor as yourself."

If you are interested in volunteering for the program please contact Beth Goodland at [goodland@udel.edu](mailto:goodland@udel.edu)

# Christian Education

**Sunday School** continues for all ages. Please join us on Sunday Morning from 9:45 to 10:45.

*The Parents of Pre-schoolers and Toddlers* and *The Parents of School-age Children* groups will continue to meet during the Sunday School hour in February.

**Child Care** is available during the Sunday School hour as well as during the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services

**Feb. 15 7:00 pm** Parents of Middle School Students will meet in the parsonage.

**Feb. 19 and 26** Date Change: The movie, *Fireproof*, which was featured in the January Reporter, will be shown to the adult Sunday School class on February 19 and 26.

**Feb. 28 10:00 am** Parents of Adult Children meets.



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR Vacation Bible School

June 18 – 22, 9:00 am – noon

Prepare to join us for

"Operation Overboard -- Dare to Go Deep With God"

For more information or to volunteer to help, please e-mail or call Pam Ferguson, Director, at [ptcr87@yahoo.com](mailto:ptcr87@yahoo.com) or 745-3288 or Mary Lu Wilson, Co-Director, at [mlwilson36@hotmail.com](mailto:mlwilson36@hotmail.com) or 422-8164.

## Living our Baptism -- Sharing our Stories:

At our Intergenerational Event on January 8, we celebrated God's gifts to us in Baptism. We made baptism posters and candle holders. We talked about ways to remember our Baptism every day and to live as children of God. We gathered at the Baptismal font, sang "This Little Light of Mine", and blessed one another with the sign of the cross. Here are some great ideas for "Living our Baptism" that may be helpful to you, your family, your grandchildren, and godchildren.

## Celebrating Baptism in the home

*(from a handout prepared by Pr. Paige Evers for our January 8 Intergenerational Event):*



- On your child's baptismal birthday, light the baptismal candle, hang up the "Baptized in His Name" poster you worked on today, and bless your child by:
  - ❖ Having each family member share something about the child that they are thankful for (for example: he is kind to his friends, she helps me feel better when I'm sad, he shares his toys with me.)
  - ❖ Looking at special baptism remembrances (photos, baptismal gown, other gifts the child was given at the time)
  - ❖ Calling grandparents or Godparents and talking about the day your child was baptized and how he or she has grown in faith since then.
  - ❖ Praying together: **Gracious God, help us remember our baptism every day. Thank you for washing away our sins and giving us new life. Today we thank you especially for (name). May he/she always remember that he/she is a baptized and beloved child of God. Help us all to shine the light of Jesus Christ every day. Amen**
  - ❖ Every night at bedtime, make the sign of the cross on your child's forehead and bless them: **"(Name), you are a child of God, marked with the sign of the cross forever. God loves you and so do I!"** Have your child give you this same blessing back!

## Celebrating Baptism in the Home Continued

- ❖ Read Bible stories about baptism in a children's Bible together. Baptism of Jesus: Mark 1:4-11, Matthew 3:13-17, Luke 3:21-22. Baptisms of the first Christians: Acts 2:37-42. Acts 8:26-40, Acts 9:1-19
  - ❖ Point out to your children how milestones in their lives are part of their faith journeys which began at Baptism. Growing in prayer, reading Scripture, attending Sunday School, worshiping with their church family, receiving Holy Communion, learning in Confirmation, are all ways that they are growing as children of God and as disciples of Jesus Christ.
  - ❖ Use water time as a reminder that your child is a baptized and beloved child of God: bath time, beach time, and even leaving wet footprints as you get out of the pool!
- **Remembering Godchildren on their Baptism Birthdays:**
    - ❖ For my Godchildren on their Baptismal Birthday, I give them a gift to remind them that they are a loved member of God's Family. For example: My niece's baptism birthday is in the end of November, so each year I get her an ornament for the Christmas tree. (Juli McDuff)
    - ❖ This year I plan to write a letter to my adult godchildren on their Baptism birthdays to let them know that I still pray for them and to remind them that God walks with them every day (Bethel Crockett)

- **Thank you** to those who donated televisions and DVD players to classrooms in the parsonage. At this time we appear to be well equipped.
- **Pray with the PAC during Lent** - Parents of Adult Children will meet at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 28 in the church narthex. We will be using Stormie Omartian's book The Power of Praying for Your Adult Children: Book of Prayers. All are welcome. To learn more or to be sure a book is reserved for you, please contact Bethel Crockett (335-4264 or [bcrockettde@yahoo.com](mailto:bcrockettde@yahoo.com)).
- **Faith Formation: Lent** – This month we are sharing practices that have been meaningful to us during Lent. What personal or family traditions have strengthened you in faith during this penitential season? Perhaps these practices will be helpful to someone else. Please stop by the Faith Formation Bulletin Board, write your idea on a card, and pin the card on bulletin board. Ideas posted before the Reporter deadline will be included in the March issue.

## From the Music Pews...

The choirs enjoyed sharing our music during the Advent and Christmas seasons and are now looking forward to the Lenten season. We would love to have you join us on Thursday evenings if you'd like to sing and if you are interested in joining us as a substitute for bells, please let me know, 228-4155. Joyfully,  
Gail



# WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AMERICA (WELCA)

All ladies are invited to join us for our meetings.  
We are currently studying the  
women of the Bible.

February Meeting Date and Time

**February 2, 2012** - 1:00 PM @  
the home of Joan VanGorder

2011-2012 OFFICERS:

President	Joan VanGorder
V. President	Gesine Abrutyn
Secretary	Dot Willis
Treasurer	Peggy Gallego
Devotions Program	Maggie Haggerty Helene Reed

MISSION STATEMENT: "To mobilize women to  
act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ."



Women of Reformation Lutheran Church donated \$200 to the Milford Community Pantry. Shown (left to right) are Peggy Gallego (WELCA Treasurer) and Tita Lewis (Coordinator of the Milford Community Pantry).

WELCA also donated a coffee pot and three carafes. These are located in the parsonage kitchen for use there.

## E-Mail Prayer Chain



Dear Friends in Christ,

Your Email Prayer Chain primarily gets prayers requests for health concerns, but these are not the only things for which we are willing to pray. Consider the following suggestions and, if any of these - or any others - sound like topics for which you'd like us to pray on your behalf, please contact me. And if you'd like to join the Email Prayer Chain, all communications are forwarded by email and easy to incorporate into your daily prayer routine. We also encourage feedback and follow-up, if you so desire. Prayer concerns are only kept on the list for one month. This is not the same list as is used on Sundays in the worship service. If you want to be on both, please so request.

- addictive behavior
- comfort / grief
- depression / anxiety
- family issues (you need not share exact concerns unless you want to)
- finances / job
- God's will
- healing
- marriage / relationship
- life transitions
- salvation
- travel



In Him,  
Trish Boyer  
[2trish@comcast.net](mailto:2trish@comcast.net)



## Sunday (Public) Prayer List

Jay Konesey  
Madison Dodge  
Anne Hurd  
Baby Dreama  
Thyra Steelman  
Lilly  
The Elmore Family  
The Lewis Family

The Davis Family  
David Evans  
Phyllis Crockett  
Susie  
Raven  
Rich  
Fritz  
Family of Tegan Penney



## Birthdays

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Candace Gorman        | 14 Janet Yonker      |
| 1 Searah Kehler         | 14 Lindsay Adams     |
| 2 Lida Gannon           | 15 Lynn Wajda        |
| 4 Laura Sullivan        | 15 Dale Leyden       |
| 5 REFORMATION           | 17 Juli McDuff       |
| LUTHERAN CHURCH         | 17 Kevin McPherson   |
| 5 Sandra Stallings      | 18 George Caccamise  |
| 6 George McDonough      | 18 Richard Coherd    |
| 6 Dorothe Mumford       | 19 Richard Steenland |
| 7 Amanda Schatz         | 22 Pamela Thomas     |
| 8 Erin Papp             | 24 Pat Venett        |
| 10 Heike Cottrell       | 25 David Dingess     |
| 10 Michael Schlegel     | 26 Wilmer Nauman IV  |
| 11 Craig Crawley        | 27 Patricia Smeltzer |
| 12 Ashley Bullock       | 28 Caleb Cresson     |
| 12 Collins Batchelor    | 28 Evelyn Irwin      |
| 12 Michelle Engelsiepen | 28 Michael Wajda     |
| 14 Andrew Burkett       | 29 Barbara Kinkle    |

## Knit and Pray



The Knit and Pray group will continue to meet on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 during February. You are welcome to join them or pick up a pattern for the various projects and work on your own as your schedule allows

## The Women's Devotional Group



will meet on Wednesday, February 1st in the *Church Parsonage* at 7 PM. As always, we welcome all women to join us—the more the merrier! Don't worry if you can't make it every month, drop in whenever you can—there's always someone to share devotions with and enjoy some fellowship. See you there!! If you have any questions, call Karen Oldland at 752-7130 or 245-1805.

## Anniversaries

- 2 Mr. & Mrs. Rex Batchelor
- 7 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Fleming
- 12 Mr. & Mrs. Bob Owens
- 14 Mr. & Mrs. James Bahder
- 14 Mr. & Mrs. John Gornall
- 15 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hascup
- 27 Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Little

# Israel Mission Trip



March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Carly Marconi



## My Thoughts...

After traveling on my first mission's trip to Tinca, Romania in May of 2011, God has really given me an innate desire to document Mission's Trip. This calling to document is rooted in a desire to always document the behind-the-scenes of the film making process. Traveling to Romania showed me that I can truly love on a group of people, teach children and capture it all visually. God protected our team in Europe and my equipment which was loaned to me by a professor at Southeastern, and I believe God continually provides all of our needs. Mission Trips are rarely captured on video so I believe it is my calling to do just that. God specifically put Israel on my heart as a freshman in college and I believe now is the time he has called me to GO.



1

## What the Trip is all About

When Jesus came to this earth, he chose to live and walk among the Jews of Israel. To this day there are still many unreached people living in Jerusalem, Israel and the surrounding areas. Our mission's team will be traveling to Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Galilee to work with Door of Hope ministries and an all girls orphanage. It is in those two places that we will have the chance to serve the very people whom Jesus himself served and cared for, while on earth. This trip is also the chance for our team to visually see the very places the bible talks about; making the Holy Bible come to life. Places like the Jordan River, where Our Savior was baptized, as well as the Sea of Galilee, Mount of Olives, and the tomb site. There are many Jews who have converted to Christianity and are now considered Messianic Jews; however there are still so many people to share Christ's Love with. It will be an amazing opportunity for the bible to not just be something our team reads about, but the chance to experience and see the very places it talks about. Please consider how you can become a part.

2

## How You Can Help

There are 2 ways that I am requesting support:

The first is through your prayers. Prayer is the most powerful tool we have. Please keep our team, our school, Door of Hope ministries, and the people of Israel in your prayers.

The second is through financial support. The trip will cost \$2200 for ten days including travel expenses, housing, transportation, an interpreter, and meals. Whatever amount you feel led to give is greatly appreciated!

If you have questions feel free to contact me via email at: [camarconi@seu.edu](mailto:camarconi@seu.edu)  
Or by phone at 302-290-7580

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## Final Steps of Support

If you would like to make a financial contribution\*, please follow these steps:

1. Make Check Payable to: Southeastern University  
On the Memo line write: "Carly Marconi, Missions"  
Mail to : Southeastern University, 1000 Longfellow Blvd. 1136, Lakeland, FL 33801
2. The first deadline to receive contributions (for the purchase of airfare) is: January 20, 2012.(\$1500)



The final deadline is February 29, 2012 (last \$700) (picture taken in Romania)  
\*You will receive a tax statement in the mail for your monetary contribution.

*"Therefore **GO** and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Matthew 28:19*