



The Reporter

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

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October 2011

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

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



Thriving through the Word

This fall, our sermons are going to be loosely connected to the topic of "thriving:" as Christians, as a congregation. What it means to "thrive" as followers of Jesus is very different than what thriving looks like in our culture. It's not about money, status, power, or comfort. For the Christian, it is about the life of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit being at work in us. Vibrant life is a gift from God when he turns us from sin and selfishness and leads us in faith and love. So, an important question is, "where can I find this gift?"

On October 30, we will celebrate Reformation Sunday, remembering the work of Martin Luther in restoring the Church to greater faithfulness. For Luther, the Scriptures were the source for Christian teaching and life, the authority that points us to Christ. This means that we, as Lutheran Christians, will thrive best when we are fed by the living Word of God. We read Scripture not as a rule book, not as a "guide to get to heaven," but as God reaching out, to speak to us, to draw us into faith. The Bible, first and foremost, points us to Jesus. It also points out our need for Jesus, sometimes in ways we do not want to admit! But this is what we should expect from Scripture: it will call us, push us, and drive us first away from those sins that are deadly to our spirits, and then to the Lord who loves us unconditionally.

You see, like all of Christian life, the Bible is about relationships. In the words of Scripture, the Holy Spirit is reaching out to draw us into a closer relationship of faith, love and trust with Christ. And so we should expect to find ourselves not just challenged, but also fed in our faith when we read the Bible. That's why every Sunday we center ourselves around hearing the Word of God. But three readings and a psalm every Sunday is not a very steady Scriptural diet. On Reformation Sunday, we will have the opportunity to rededicate ourselves to our Lutheran roots through a covenant of Scripture and prayer. I encourage you to come on the 30th, and on the Sundays before, when you'll get the chance to hear more about this.

Committing ourselves to reading the Bible and praying about what we read is not a matter of making ourselves more righteous. It is a matter of going to the very place where God has promised to be found, so that his grace can



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Our Church Leaders :

Head of the Church: Jesus, the Christ

President: Neal Richard	249-5380
Vice-President: Chris Antonik	430-7616
Secretary: Susan Emory	422-3115
Treasurer: 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	856-6404

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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.

Pastor's message continues

transform us. One of my colleagues summarizing research he had done in his synodical work on evangelism, put it this way: growing (in faith and in numbers) have one main characteristic in common: they are churches that are serious about Bible study and prayer. This is where we find the power to thrive. This is where Christ gives life. Let us make the journey together!

In Christ
Pastor Evers

From the Music Pews.....



The Chancel Choir and
the Bells have had their first

rehearsals and what a treat! The choir had 14 strong voices that sang away, and we are always looking for more voices to make that 'joyful noise'! Please, you do not have to have a solo voice or a great voice or even read music...just a willingness to come together for some fun and fellowship and a desire to sing to His Glory! We'd love to have you join us! Chancel choir rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 7:30-8:45.

For the bells, there were 11 ringers and we even are fortunate to have some alternates. Again, if anyone else is interested in being an alternate, please see Gail. We're planning on ringing once a month and could always use people who could fill in if there are absences. The bells are planning to ring once a month, and their rehearsals are on Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30

As we move toward the Advent season, our hope is also to have some sort of Youth musical group....a band or a choir or...? If you have any ideas, please share them.

Blessings!
Gail



The Women's Devotional Group has *changed the meeting time* to the first Wednesday in the month to coordinate with the Confirmation class time. This month the meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 5th 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.

The Christian Service

Committee will meet on **October 9th** after the 11:00 service.

We plan to have a food drive the month of October for the food pantry that is located at the Avenue Church.

Last year we were involved with the Milford Homeless Shelter. We have been told that there will not be a shelter this year. We are looking for another outlet for our services. If you would like to be a part of our committee, please call Alice Daino at 430-0935 or e-mail to adaino2@verizon.net



Need A Ride? Can You Give A Ride?

The Christian Service Committee is looking to find ways to help members of our congregation.

We are wondering if there are members who might need occasional local transportation (for example to church, to appointments, or even to the grocery store) or other help with errands. If you could use that kind of assistance, please contact Alice Daino at 302-430-0935. Also, if you are available to provide transportation or similar needed services, please call Alice as well.

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.

MEETING DATES AND TIMES:

October 6, 2011 - 1:00 PM at the Church Parsonage

Hostess: Peggy Gallego

November 3, 2011 - 1:00 PM at the Church Parsonage

Hostess: Pat Nilsson

December 1, 2011 - at noon at the home of Susan Romansky

Covered Dish Luncheon
Reminder: Bring cookies to

be distributed to our shut-ins

2011-2012 OFFICERS:

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

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

Christian Education

October Calendar Items

- Sundays** 9:45 Sunday School for all ages
9:45 Toddler/Preschool Parent
- Workshop continues
- Fridays--** 10:30 Bible Study
- October 2** 9:45 New Members class
- October 9** 9:45 Sunday School Hour Elementary Parents – Discussion on family devotions
- October 11** 7:00 Christian Education meeting
- October 29** 10:00 Communion Instruction begins
- November 6** Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts due



Sunday School Underway

A big thank you from the Christian Education Committee to the following people for agreeing to lead our Sunday School classes this year:

Beginners	Heather Konesey
Pre-K/Kindergarten	Karen Oldland
Grades 1-2-3	Susie Antonik
Grades 4-5-6	Nancy Yost
Grades 7-8 and Janet Lonergan	Kristen Schlegel
High School	Kevin Oldland
Adults	Chris Antonik

Sunday School for all ages – all are welcome. Please keep our staff in your prayers as they lead our programs.

For Parents



Elementary Parents:

Parents, grandparents, godparents, and caregivers of elementary children are invited to a discussion on *Family Devotions*, including a look at the new *Spark* devotional materials. We will also plan our future meetings and topics. Join us on October 9 during the Sunday School hour (9:45-10:45) in the parsonage (*check the sign on the parsonage door for the room location*). Bring your ideas, questions, and frustrations. Please invite a friend to come with you. *Nursery care is provided for parents with children too young for Sunday School*

Parents of Adult Children: Find yourself still worrying about the kids long past age 21 ... 25 ... 30 ...35 ...? You're not alone. Please contact Bethel Crockett if you would like to be part of a new prayer and discussion group this fall and winter. We'd like your input on days, dates, times, locations, and materials. (bcrockettde@yahoo.com or 335-4264)

Parents of recent high school graduates (Classes of 2007ish to 2011)

Please be sure the church office has a current mailing address and e-mail address for your graduate. Thank you!

Holy Communion Instruction!

Starting on Saturday, October 29, Pastor Evers will be offering classes for children, third grade and older, who wish to begin receiving Holy Communion, with their



Holy Communion Instruction

families. Children who have already begun receiving communion, but have not had formal instruction, are also encouraged to attend. At least one parent, grandparent, or caregiver must attend as well. Classes will run for three Saturdays, Oct 29, Nov 5, and Nov 12, from 10:00 to 11:15. This will be an interactive time of learning that will include Bible stories, personal faith stories, and baking bread! To sign up, please call or email Pastor Evers at church.

Friday Morning Bible Study Has Returned

Join us for Bible Study led by Georgene Endy at 10:00 on Friday mornings. These small group sessions give us the opportunity to study, learn, and fellowship together.



Fall Clean up Day



The Property Committee will be holding the Fall Clean Up day on Saturday, October 15.

Rain Date October 22.



REFORMATION SUNDAY October 30

Martin Luther is said to have nailed his 95 Theses on the door of the Schlosskirche (castle church) in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517.



OCTOBER

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

2 Sam Martin, Jr.	17 Wes Smith
3 Avery Richard	18 Bea Stralhe
3 James Reed	19 Matthew Wilson
4 Jacob Moyer	19 Melody Day
6 Dean Fleming	20 Kevin Lonergan
6 Mya Cherneski	20 Kate Neeman
7 Colby Sullivan	22 Sigrid Evers
7 Kourtney Short	22 Ashley Hamstead
8 Soren Evers	24 Melissa Schatz
10 Lori Fowler	25 Lisa Mallard
11 David Snyder	26 Bob Owens
12 Belinda Bahder	28 Ashley Ellingsworth
13 Kelly Huffman	28 Samuel Burkett
13 Annie Marconi	29 Betty Huffman
13 Marge Ressler	29 Albert Osterholm
14 Alger "Pete" Peterson	30 Michael Crockett
16 Kristin Schlegel	30 Logan Huey
16 Robert Walls	31 Dana Bergman
17 Eva Farlow	31 David Steele
17 Sam Martin, III	

Anniversaries

4 Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Lonergan
4 Mr. & Mrs. Craig Fowler
7 Mr. & Mrs. John Gerhold
17 Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Whitman
19 Mr. & Mrs. John Sullivan
20 Mr. & Mrs. Maynard Gregory
20 Mr. & Mrs. James Reed
21 Mrs. Janet Cole
28 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Ouge

"SHINING IN - SHINING OUT"

Exploring Life's Sacred Spaces
 A Service Learning Vocational Discernment Retreat
 For Young Adults between the ages of 18-30
 in the heart of Manhattan in New York City
 JANUARY 4-8, 2012

Explore God's call to you by serving others; by the witness of others; by experiencing the friendship and support of Christian Community while in New York City!

For more information go to www.projectconnect.org or phone 603-539-7257

This retreat comes to you as an initiative of Project Connect of the Eastern Cluster of Lutheran Seminaries. Its purpose is to encourage young adults to explore God's call in their lives. Providing vocational discernment opportunities like this is one of the great programs offered.

Above reprinted from the Delaware Maryland Synod E-Letter for September 20, 2011.

Check out this Web site if you are interested and in this age group. It appears that \$25 covers lodging, meals, and registration.





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

Sunday (Public) Prayer List



Jay Konesey
Joseph Ouge
Gladys Ouge
Cheryl deLuca
Blue & Lee
Charles Johnson
Joan Coverdale
Eleanor Loderhose
Susan Barry

Bill Evans
Marilyn Stone
Shirley Ernst
Bill Moore
Hank Brewer
Emmy
Marshall Martine
Nicole
Faye Andrew

Knit and Pray

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



What did Martin Luther have to say about procrastination?

Luther had plenty to say about lots of things, even that most human of traits ... procrastination.

Here are the wise pastor's words on the subject:
"How soon 'not now,' becomes 'never.' "

So don't procrastinate!

Mark your calendar now for October 29th, when Lutherans across the region will gather at Lake Montebello Park (Hillen Road and 33rd Street, Baltimore) at 3 pm to honor the 75th anniversary of the dedication of the Martin Luther statue. ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson will be in attendance, as well as our Synod Bishop Wolfgang Herz-Lane, representatives from the ELCA seminaries in Gettysburg and Philadelphia, local dignitaries, and rostered and lay leaders from across the region.

And there are ways you can get involved:

First, we are looking for singers to take part in a choir for the day's service. We will sing good old Lutheran hymns like "A Might Fortress," as well as some more modern pieces.

The choir will rehearse Tuesday, October 18, and Tuesday, October 25, at Holy Comforter Lutheran Church, 5513 York Road, Baltimore, at 7:30 pm.

A final rehearsal will be held on site on October 29th at 1 p.m. We are looking for a representative as many churches in our synod as possible. If you are interested in participating in the choir, reply to Linda Chinnia at 410-230-2867, 800-869-5492 or lchinnia@demdsynod.org

Second, help commemorate the occasion by purchasing an ad in a special program being produced for the event. We have a copy of the original program and it's a treasure; this one is sure to become one in the future!

Ads are available in the following sizes:

- patron (your name or brief message, one line) - \$25
- business card : \$75
- 1/4 page - \$100
- full page - \$400

Deadline for ads is September 30. Checks should be made payable to "Delaware Maryland Synod."

Please mail ad text and checks to:

Reformation Statue Celebration
Delaware-Maryland Synod
700 Light Street
Baltimore MD 21230

Last, but not least, if you are a rostered leader, bring your alb and red stole on the day of the event. There will be an awesome photo opportunity for a group picture with Mark and Martin, one we hope will make it into the local paper as well as onto TV news broadcasts.

So, get the word out ... we'll see you there! It's sure to be a big day and you don't want to miss it

This message is an email sent by the Delaware Maryland Synod on September 22, 2011.

