



The Reporter

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

Volume 55 Issue 9

September 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



It Doesn't Have to Be This Way

As I write this, we as a nation are approaching the tenth anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks. There are memories of loss, fear, pain, and anger. We continue to carry in our memories images of horror and heroism as that day brought out the most courageous and generous in many. On September 11 we will gather for worship at 8:30 and 11:00. The assigned Gospel (which comes from a 3-year cycle based on the Church year, and is not coordinated with anniversaries or events on the secular calendar) is Matthew 18:21-35, often called the parable of the unforgiving servant. We will prayerfully consider human forgiveness and divine mercy, and what it means to find our true security in the love and power of Christ. We will ask God's healing for those who grieve, for those who struggle to forgive, and for our nation as a whole. And yes, we will pray as well for those who continue to wish us ill, both that their actions would be restrained and that their hearts would be turned from violence.

I believe that the attacks of 9/11 both radically changed our society and revealed weaknesses in our culture that relative prosperity and peace had masked. Many of our economic woes find root in the instability that came following the devastation. Our politics have grown ever more polarized. Whatever one thinks of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, they have been costly to our nation in many ways. We now take for granted "security" measures that, before 9/11, would have been considered beyond the pale. Anxiety, distrust, and a lack of confidence in both our institutions and our future have all taken deep root. We are unsure of ourselves as a culture, and often as individuals. We look to government or the economic markets to provide our ultimate safety and well-being, and the bitter disappointment that results from this contributes to the anger and poison in our political life.

It doesn't have to be this way. There are other ways to live. But our culture doesn't believe that. This is where the Christian community comes in.

Pastor's message continues on page 2.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Christian Education

Calendar Items:

September 14 – 7:00 Confirmation Classes Begin

September 18 –

8:30 Worship – Bible Presentations

9:45 Sunday School Begins

9:45 Parent Workshop: Exploring the Bible with your Children (parsonage)

9:45 Toddler/Pre-School Parent Workshop begins (13 weeks) See article on next page by Pastor Paige Evers.

9:45 Adult Sunday School “Kicks Off” with football movie

Milestone Celebration *BibleAdventures*

When children are baptized in our church, we promise to place the Holy Scriptures in their hands. During the month of September we will be remembering and recognizing this covenant.

- **Presentation of Bibles:** On September 18 at the 11:00 service, we will be presenting Spark Bibles to youth in the third grade (or who are older, up to 6th grade, but haven't received one yet). *Please call the church office (422-9117) to make sure we have a Bible reserved for your son or daughter!*
- **Bible Mark-Up:** On September 4 and 11, the Bibles will be in the narthex for Reformation members to mark up. What does this mean? Before or after church, find Bible passages that are most meaningful to you, underline them, and put your name in the margin, and maybe a short note. These Bible passages and notes often provide joy, comfort, and hope to children as they grow and meet life's challenges.

Children who received a Bible during the school year last year and who would like to have their Bibles marked up by members of their church family may also place them in the narthex on these Sundays.

- **Parent Workshop** Parents, grandparents, godparents, and caregivers of elementary children are invited to a workshop on September 18 during the Sunday School hour. We will explore ways that parents can use, read, study, and enjoy the Bible at home with their children. The group will be meeting in the parsonage beginning at 9:45 a.m. Bring your ideas, your imaginations, your questions, and your interested friends. *Nursery care will be provided for parents with children too young for Sunday School.*

Confirmation – This fall, we are moving Confirmation classes for 7th and 8th grade students to Wednesday nights at 7:00. We will meet on average 2 Wednesdays a month. The first class will be September 14. Families who have students in the 7th or 8th grade should have received information in the mail by mid-August. For more information or to sign up, contact Pastor Evers at 422-9117.



Parents of Young Children: You are invited to take part in a new group at Reformation geared toward exploring the joys and challenges of parenting God's youngest children.

Pastor Paige Evers will be facilitating this group to help us understand parenting as a spiritual journey. We will learn how we can nurture faith in Jesus Christ in our homes and in everyday life. Together, we will study and discuss the book *For Heaven's Sake! Parenting Preschoolers Faithfully* by Marilyn Sharpe.

Whether your children are infants or somewhat beyond preschool, this book is for you. It is realistic, encouraging, and supportive. The group will give you the opportunity to learn from the wisdom of the experts in the book and from the experiences of your brothers and sisters in Christ who are also caring for young children.

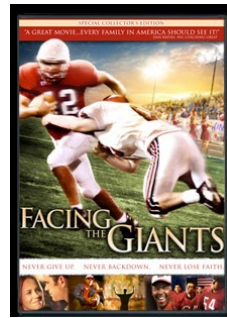
Godparents, grandparents, and other adults who care about raising young children faithfully are also invited to participate.

The group begins on September 18 and will be held on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour (9:45-10:45 a.m.) **Nursery care will be available.** We will be discussing *For Heaven's Sake* from September 18-December 11.

Please contact Pastor Paige Evers (paige.g.evers@gmail.com or 422-5128) with any questions or to sign up so that a book may be ordered for you.



Parenting Preschoolers Faithfully



Adult Sunday School “Kicks Off” with football movie!!!

As promised, the Adult Sunday School class would like to invite you to join them on September 18th and 25th at 9:45 AM for a screening of the movie **FACING THE GIANTS!** The movie will be shown in two parts.

This is the second “must see” movie of a series produced by Sherwood Pictures, the moviemaking ministry of Sherwood Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia. It was written by church members the Kendrick Brothers and stars Alex Kendrick and many other members of the Sherwood Church.

FACING THE GIANTS is an action-packed, family-friendly drama about a high school football coach who draws up a new game plan for his team and himself.

In his six years of coaching, Grant Taylor has never had a winning season. Even the hope of a new season is squelched when the best player on his Shiloh Eagles decides to transfer schools. After losing their first three games of the season, the coach discovers a group of fathers are plotting to have him fired. Combined with pressures at home, Coach Taylor has lost hope in his battle against fear and failure.

However, an unexpected challenge helps him find a purpose bigger than just victories. Daring to trust God to do the impossible, Coach Taylor and the Eagles discover how faith plays out on the field and off.

With God, all things are possible .

The Adult Sunday School class will conclude this movie series by screening **FIREPROOF** in the near future! Sherwood Pictures newest faith-based movie **COURAGEOUS** is scheduled to hit the theaters nation-wide on September 30, 2011.

DON'T DELAY! NO RESERVATIONS ARE NEEDED in the RLC Private Screening Room (Fellowship Hall). We'll have a seat, some popcorn and draft root beer waiting for you!

A Thank You From Starr

Dear Reformation,

I would like to thank the Congregation of Reformation for ten wonderful years. The expressions of your love, warmth, and compassion have been limitless. Your sense of humor and accepting surprises from the choirs and organ have always given me a sense of wonder. We sang, we danced, we walked a funeral dirge and no one stood up and screamed!!!!!! We were always accepted with love and patience.

It is so important to an accompanist to have a congregation that sings and follows the lead of the organ. The feelings of worship, praise, prayer, and loss, you have expressed in your singing. Your singing as a congregation has inspired me many times. Although sometimes I wanted to stand up and say "YOU KNOW THIS SONG - SING IT" I hope you continue singing to MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE TO THE LORD!!

I would like to express my thanks to the Choirs of Reformation. Thank you for your hard work, your persistence (I told you, that you could walk, sing, read music, keep time and not fall down), and your wonderful singing. May you grow in your musical abilities and continue to Praise the Lord.

Thank you all very much.

Starr



Thanks So Much!

Women's Devotional Group

With summer ending, the Tuesday evening Women's Devotional group will once again begin gathering on the second Tuesday of each month.



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 a devotion with and enjoy some fellowship. This month we will meet on Tuesday, September 13th at 6:30 pm at the Church. See you there!! If you have any questions, call Karen Oldland at 752-7130 or 245-1805

WELCA Schedule

Afternoon meetings on the first Thursday of the month at 1:00pm - June luncheon meeting held at noon.

2011-2012 Officers

President – Joan VanGorder
Vice President – Gesine Abrutyn
Secretary – Dot Willis
Treasurer – Peggy Gallego
Devotions – Maggie Haggerty
Program - Helene Reed



September Meeting

October 6, 2011 - 1:00 PM meet at the Church Parsonage - hostess: Peggy Gallego
November 3, 2011 - 1:00 PM meet at the Church Parsonage - hostess: Pat Nilsson

WELCA invites you to bring your empty coffee cups with lids to the church office so they can be decorated and filled with cookies as gifts to our homebound members.

Our Mission Statement is:

*"To Mobilize Women to Act Boldly on Their Faith in Jesus Christ."
All ladies are invited to grow in faith with us at our WELCA meetings. Please join us.*



September Birthdays & Anniversaries!

Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Kathy Bullock | 17 Barbara Jones |
| 3 Emily Marconi | 17 Chris Antonik |
| 5 Debra Moyer | 17 Sue Owens |
| 5 Glenn Mumford | 18 Becky Hudson |
| 5 Marjorie Reichold | 19 Adara Ryan |
| 5 Todd Hannah | 19 Patricia Hermann |
| 6 Meghan Whitman | 20 Kevin Oldland |
| 7 Jessica Schlegel | 21 Joseph Capece |
| 7 Matthew Gannon | 22 Carol Kinkle |
| 8 Kelsey Oldland | 23 Lester Guyer |
| 8 Joseph Romansky | 25 Dani Kehler |
| 8 Sandra Fox | 25 Glenn Garner |
| 9 Daniel Steele | 25 James Talbott |
| 10 Linda Helm | 25 Kelly Lewis |
| 11 Charlie Bergman | 26 Eddie Towers |
| 11 Karen Hoch | 27 John Greason |
| 12 Carl Nilsson | 27 Carol Mesh |

Anniversaries

- 2 Mr. & Mrs. Ed Leyden
- 3 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Romansky
- 6 Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Jones
- 10 Mr. & Mrs. Duane Fox
- 11 Mr. & Mrs. George Sharp
- 13 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Mesh
- 16 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Gannon
- 16 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Johnson
- 17 Mr. & Mrs. Lester Guyer
- 18 Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Bergman
- 18 Mr. & Mrs. Darryl Boyer
- 27 Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Schlegel
- 28 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Hannah

Reformation's Email Prayer Chain is a group of people who have agreed to set aside prayer time for specific people as requested. These people are not necessarily on the public worship prayer list and remain on the network list for one month. If you wish to include someone on the prayer list or if you would like to be part of this vital ministry, please email Sharon Trotman, our church administrative assistant, at rlcsecr19963@aol.com or call her at the church office at 422-9117. If you wish to participate in the prayer chain, you may contact coordinator Trish Boyer at 2trish@comcast.net or phone her at 422-3483.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Jay Konesey</i> | <i>Brent Bain</i> |
| <i>Joseph Ouge</i> | <i>Charlie</i> |
| <i>Rachel</i> | <i>Don Zook</i> |
| <i>Jake Newcomber</i> | <i>Savannah Messick</i> |
| <i>Nikolas Wright</i> | <i>Bob</i> |
| <i>Kimmie</i> | <i>Sue Burkett</i> |
| <i>James Bailey</i> | <i>Rich Hooven</i> |
| <i>Linda Caccamise</i> | <i>John</i> |
| <i>Lilly Barnett</i> | <i>Amy</i> |
| <i>Megan Rose</i> | <i>Cheryl deLuca</i> |

Knit and Pray

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

A Message from the New Music

Director and Organist



Greetings!

I can't tell you how excited I am to begin my journey at Reformation Lutheran Church! I've driven by the church for years and until recently, didn't realize just how beautiful those stained glass windows really are!

I'm looking forward to meeting you and getting to know the choir people and the bell people and just seeing if I can 'twist anyone else's arm' to become involved in the music program.

I've lived in Delaware most all of my life. From cherub choirs and Vacation Bible School, to adult choirs and handbell festivals, to piano and organ responsibilities, to contemporary Praise Band services and brass ensembles, it sure seems like I've been involved in church music all of my life as well! I went to East Carolina University on a field hockey scholarship 'back in the day' and graduated with a degree in Music Therapy/Education. I've been teaching in Sussex County for almost 30 years! At present, I live in Millsboro with my family, work at Cape Henlopen High School teaching choir, piano and guitar, and for this month of August, I'm involved in a Possum Point Player fundraiser called 'Brush Up Your Broadway'! Life tends to be busy!

To begin our choir seasons, we're going to keep the schedule somewhat the same, but may possibly do some time or day changes as we move ahead. Our first bell rehearsal will be from 6:15 to 7:30 on Thursday, September 8th. That's the 1st Thursday after Labor Day.

The first Chancel Choir rehearsal will begin that same evening and go from 7:30 to 8:45.

We'll also have a children's choir, a Celebration Choir, say ages 4 or 5 up to grade 5, with a time and start date to be determined and if there is a need, we'll work on a youth music group, maybe a Praise Band, grade 6 and up.

Please consider joining us for one of the groups! Maybe you sang in a choir years ago or were in your school choir or maybe you just sing in the shower. I'm a firm believer in 'Make a Joyful Noise!' I would love to hear from you about your interest in a group or with a suggestion or just to say hello!

Looking forward to our journey!

Blessings!

Gail Betton Kelso

wooden88@hotmail.com

302.228.4155



The Christian Service Committee

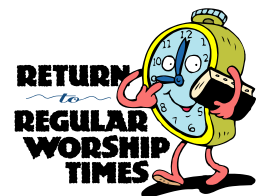
will meet on October 9th after the 11:00am service.

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

We return to two services, at 8:30 and 11:00 on September 11, with special 9/11 activities for all ages between services.

Sunday School will start the following week, September 18.





All ages needed for serving as acolyte.

Of course some need adult supervision!! We will gladly teach anyone wishing to serve in this capacity. Contact Neal Richard for a time to learn.

Our "usual" age has been 8-15 or 16. We think that is too restrictive. All able to safely handle the candle lighter and offering plates are welcome. So whether you are 9 or 90, be of service to our Lord

Mary K. Konesey is now the parish worker scheduler. Anyone wishing to serve needs to email her or call to let her know what service and which job.



To My Dear Church Family,

This year the American Diabetes Association's Step Out: Walk to STOP Diabetes will be held in Wilmington, Delaware on September 24. I am always really excited about the walk... but this year I am even MORE excited. Not only will it be my once in a lifetime opportunity to do the walk as the 2011 National Youth Advocate, it is also my 10th walk as team captain of the Madison's Prayer walk team! I have had diabetes for a decade now, and am even more determined to help find a cure than ever! Since it is my 10th year, I would LOVE for my team to be able to raise \$10,000 to STOP Diabetes! I would LOVE to have the largest walk team, and the largest team total of my Walk Captain career this year! It would mean the world to me to know that together we were doing everything in our collective power to stop the devastating diabetes epidemic in its tracks! Will you join me in my fight to STOP diabetes?

If you are interested in making a donation to my walk, it is so easy to do by going to <http://main.diabetes.org/goto/MadiDodge2011>.



You can donate right online, or if you would prefer, you can always make a donation by checks made out to The American Diabetes Association. They can be mailed to Madison's Prayer, 6530 DeCou Drive, Milford, DE 19963 or even given to me at church☺

On the youth board at church there are some flyers of upcoming events that I hope will help me meet my personal goals. Please look there to find information about a Cash for Cans program at Fitzgerald's Recycling, a computer ink cartridge recycling program and a Community Pizza Dinner night at Grottos on September 12th.

I understand that times are really difficult for many. I appreciate you considering my heartfelt request.

This will be a great walk! Remember, together WE CAN STOP DIABETES!

Thank you!

Your Friend in Christ,

Madi Dodge

New Members Class – Anyone interested in learning more about Reformation Lutheran Church or considering joining the congregation is invited to a New Members' Class

on Sunday mornings at 9:45, starting September 18 through October

2. For more information or to sign up, call Pastor Evers at 422-9117.



Reformation Lutheran Youth

