June 2026
Reformation
Lutheran Church

Ref Life

Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Dear Reformation Family,

As I start my sabbatical, I feel grateful, thoughtful, and hopeful. I am taking a break from the daily rhythms of ministry to rest, listen, heal, and find renewal. For me, this time is about letting my voice rest so God can refresh my spirit. Recently, I received the "Emerging Voice" award from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. While I accepted it, smiling awkwardly on Zoom and unsure where to look, I realized something important: no voice ever emerges alone.

Everything I say, every sermon I give, and every prayer I share has been shaped by people who loved, challenged, and encouraged me, reminding me of God's call. I remember my mother telling me, "You are special. God has something bigger for you." My father gave me strength, and my sister always protected me. I also think of mentors, teachers, pastors, bishops, colleagues, and friends who gave me courage when I doubted myself.

And I think of you, my favorite first congregation. Reformation Lutheran Church, you welcomed this young 27 year old woman from the East coast into your church, your lives, and your hearts. You opened your arms to me. You called me pastor, friend, and family. You made space for my voice to grow, and in doing so, you became part of the chorus that shaped it. One scripture that continues to echo in my spirit during this season is from the letter of Romans, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news (10:15)." What I continue to learn is that our voices are not about volume or recognition. They are about willingness. A willingness to show up, a willingness to speak hope in difficult times, and a willingness to listen for where God is calling next.

This sabbatical is an opportunity for me to do just that, to listen deeply again. To willingly see where God is moving and shaping me. To rest not only physically, but spiritually. To allow God to pour back into me after seasons of pouring out.

Do you remember the calling of Samuel? This story has been sitting with me lately. God calls to him in the night, and after listening carefully, Samuel finally answers, with courage: "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."
That is my prayer for this season:
That I would listen.
That I would be renewed.
That I would return refreshed for the work God continues to place before us together.
And just maybe, I am not alone. Maybe this season is also a chance for all of us to reflect on the voices that have shaped our lives, and on how God might still be calling us to encourage, support, and welcome new voices. As I begin my sabbatical, please know that I hold this congregation in my prayers and with deep gratitude. Thank you for giving me this special time to renew. Thank you for your love. May we all keep listening for God's voice leading us forward.
Amen.

upcoming events

Notable Church Events

Sundays in June	**9:30 a.m.**	**Summer Service**
Tuesdays in June	9:00 a.m.	Blanket Makers
June 3	8:00 a.m.	Assistance League
June 8	6:30 p.m.	Ladies Night Out
June 10	10:30 a.m.	In Reach Board Meeting
June 11	10:00 a.m.	Rebecca Circle
June 15	1:00 p.m.	July RefLife Deadline
June 15	Noon	Best Times Of Life (BTOL)
June 17	1:00 p.m.	Dorcas Circle
June 21	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
June 28	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Board
June 29	11:00 a.m.	Assistance League

Throughout the summer, we explore the stories of Ruth and Esther, 1 & 2 Timothy, and the Ten Commandments—narratives that speak of courageous leadership, faithful relationships, and God's enduring wisdom guiding us forward in every season of life.

In Ruth and Esther, we witness courage, loyalty, and God's providence at work in unexpected places. In 1 & 2 Timothy, we hear encouragement for faithful living, teaching, and perseverance in community. Through the Ten Commandments, we are grounded in God's call to live with love, integrity, and care for one another.

Each Sunday at 9:30 AM, we gather to worship, grow in faith, and strengthen our community together, trusting that God continues to shape and guide us in this shared journey.

Summer Coffee Hour

Summer is here! We'd love your help making Coffee Hour a warm and welcoming time for all. Hosting is simple—brew coffee at church, bring a few treats, and help with a light cleanup afterward. Sign up at the coffee table in the Narthex—and feel free to sign up with a friend!

Interested in becoming a member, or know someone who is?
If you want more information about membership at Reformation Lutheran, contact the RLC Office at info@refluthks.org

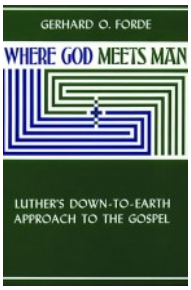
Ladies Night Out

Mark your calendars for **Monday, June 8th at 6:30 p.m**.

This month, we'll be gathering at Mediterranean Grill for a fun evening filled with great food, warm conversation, and meaningful fellowship! Join us as we enjoy a delicious Mediterranean-inspired meal together, catch up with friends old and new, and spend time building community in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. We hope you'll come hungry and ready for a wonderful night at 335 S Towne East Mall Dr!

To RSVP, please contact Susan Martin **by Sunday, June 7th**

June Book Recommendation



Where God Meets Man by Gerhard Forde

Where God Meets Man by Gerhard Forde is a clear and modern introduction to Lutheran theology. The book looks at grace, the cross, and how God meets people in their weakness instead of their success. Forde's writing is both thoughtful and easy to understand, which makes this book a good pick for church groups or personal reading. Throughout, it reminds readers of God's unconditional grace, not human achievement or perfection. It is especially helpful for anyone struggling with faith, failure, doubt, or the feeling that they need to have everything figured out.

June 2026 Council Recap

What a nice transition it was to our Summer worship schedule with our Pentecost service.

While Pastor Ralen is on her Sabbatical this summer she will not be able to take care of any Reformation business, instead please reach out to the Reformation office (316) 634-0586 info@RefLuthKS.org, myself, or another council member so we can put you in touch with the right individual for your needs.

We were blessed to have been able to fill 2 staff positions in the past month, we welcomed Jennifer into the Office Administrator position and Cypress into the redeveloped Health & Wellness Advocate position, Welcome aboard.

Financial Snapshot: Our expenses continue to be managed well and are being kept in line with our budget. We will focus on several smaller maintenance projects over the summer, as I've already had the council max out that budget line item this year with needed but costly larger projects.

April was a strong giving month and put us right at our budget needs for this point in the year! Your support is greatly appreciated. While we have continued to see strong giving this year, we are only at the halfway point of the year and have some great opportunities available to us if we can exceed last years giving. We have made things work within the financial parameters that are established but could use some extra influx of funds to make sure we can properly take care of the wonderful resources we have. We ask members to prayerfully consider their financial support as we continue to carry out the mission of Reformation Lutheran Church.

Growing in Faith & Fellowship

Food Cart

June's food cart challenge is canned vegetables. Drop off a can or two or three of your favorite canned vegies in the Grocery Cart in the Narthex. The need for basic food continues to grow in our community where those who are without food are relieved by your donations. We take your donations to the United Methodist Urban Ministry Open Door Food Pantry where they make your donations available to those needing extra help to support their families. The Service Board thanks you for your generosity and assures you that you are helping needy families in the Wichita area.

Community Outreach—Coleman Middle School

We were able in April to provide school uniforms to students at Coleman Middle School. Watch for an opportunity to donate to this cause again as we get into mid-summer. A collections' jar will be available in the entrance to the Sanctuary.

Collecting Clothing for those in Need

Clothing collection for the community breakfast is on hold for now. We are seeking a way to provide a hot meal and other services and will inform you of the result as we work our way through opportunities.

Collecting for Family Promise

While we are not providing meals and sleeping services right now for Family Promise, we continue to be part of the overall program by providing needed home-settling items that you donate. You will find a container on the floor next to the Food Cart for any items you contribute. Think about what you would need as you settle in to a home after not having a home for a period of time. Any items you may be downsizing, such as sheets, towels, bedspreads, kitchen ware, etc., are welcome. We deliver the items you donate to Family Promise headquarters in downtown Wichita. Thank you for thinking of this incredible service opportunity.

Stephen Ministry: The Courage to Receive Care

We are small but mighty in our desire to help any one in need of a Caring Ear. Our role is to be listeners to those in the congregation and community who are facing issues of change and distress. Our Stephen Ministers are confidential and never reveal the names of those whom they visit. Talk with us about becoming a Stephen Minister and/or receiving a Care Giver. You may contact Anita Dorf

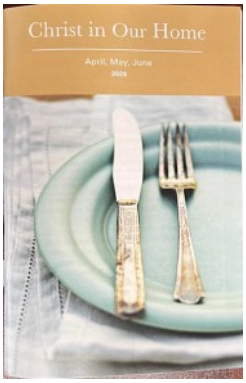
~ Sunday Service Volunteers ~

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who has served as Lectors, Ushers, Altar Guilds, Musicians, and Communion Assistants! Our Sunday worship wouldn't be possible without your faithful help, service, and dedication.

Tanya Flores	2nd
Chris Wendt	4th
Ryan Hoepner	6th
Emily Weaver	6th
Clement Mtawali	8th
Melissa Nix	9th
Jill Pletcher	13th
Karen Pfeiffer	14th
Theodor Walter	14th
Cheryl Hoops	16th
Anita Dorf	17th
Justin Schrader	18th
Emma Wendt	21st
John Camenzind	22nd
Liz Rindt	23rd
Brian Johnson	23rd
Jeanne Tiller	24th
Ken Hobart	26th
Sally A. Livingston	26th
David Lee	30th

Christ in Your Home

Pick up the latest edition in the narthex.



Take a copy home with you!

Prayer Ministry at Reformation Lutheran Church

At Reformation, we believe in the power of prayer and the comfort of lifting one another before God. Our congregation offers two ways to share prayer needs:

Monthly Prayer List
This list is updated regularly and shared with the congregation. It's a place for ongoing or long-term concerns. To add a name or ensure a prayer continues beyond one month, please contact the church office or Pastor Ralen.

Prayer Circle
Our Prayer Circle is a dedicated group of people committed to praying faithfully for those in need. Requests may be for yourself, a loved one, or a friend, whether it involves illness, surgery, grief, or any personal hardship. Updates and prayer requests are shared with the congregation through Mailchimp. We also celebrate answered prayers, giving thanks and praise to God together.

Please remember in your prayers:

Larry Allbritten	Marilyn Allbritten
Sheila Carlson	Richard Flaharty
Sammy Flaharty	Suzanne Koch
Tom McFarlane	Marlen McIntosh
Robert Pfeiffer	Ray Wacker
Marcia Werts	Eva Whetstone
Ed Wilks	Kenn Woodard

Additional prayer requests may be written in the book at the back of the sanctuary before each worship service.

From Sally Livingston

I just wanted to thank my church family for all the prayers, cards, phone calls and text messages that I received during my surgeries and recovery. I'm truly Blessed and doing well.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT RLC

BLANKET MAKERS

Our wonderful blanket makers donated 27 quilts to the Wichita Family Home and Orphan Grain Train. Thank you for sharing your gifts and compassion with our neighbors in need! These quilts are more than blankets, they are signs of comfort, care, and God's love for those facing difficult seasons. We are grateful for the many hands and faithful hearts that made this ministry possible.

Would you like to be part of this caring ministry? New friends are always welcome! Whether you sew, cut fabric, tie quilts, or simply enjoy fellowship and serving others, there is a place for you. Blanket Makers meet Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Come join us as we create comfort, share friendship, and make a difference together.

BTOL

Best Times of Life (BTOL) is a fellowship group for adults ages 55 and older. BTOL will gather on Monday, June 15, from 12:00–1:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall for a covered dish luncheon followed by a special program.

Our own RLC health and wellness advocate, Cypress, will share about who they are, how they can serve our church community, and future hopes for health and wellness ministries at the church. Cypress is interested in offering opportunities such as yoga, basic first aid classes, walking groups, tours, and other wellness activities—but first, they would love to hear from you!

Sign up in the Narthex on the pillar behind the Food Cart and chairs.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT RLC

OPEN DOOR FOOD DONATIONS

You know that cart in the Narthex that collects food donations for United Methodist Open Door? Thanks to your generosity, more than 32,000 unduplicated individuals received much -needed support through these donations.

Because of your giving, Open Door was able to distribute:

7,000 diapers	90,000 cans of vegetables
Peanut butter and crackers	35,000 boxes of macaroni and cheese
Soup, cake mix, frosting, and so much more	

None of this would have been possible without your faithful donations and willingness to serve others in need. But don't stop now! The need continues, and every donation truly makes a difference. For June, we are collecting canned vegetables such as corn, green beans, peas, and similar meal items. Let's keep filling that cart in the Narthex and continue serving our neighbors with love, generosity, and compassion. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ in our community.

CHECK IN / CHECK OUT PROCEDURE

We are happy to share our church items and facilities with members of our church family. To help ensure everything is available for everyone's use, please check with Jenn at info@refluthks.org in the church office before borrowing items and complete the sign-out form on her desk. Thank you for helping us care for the resources we share together.

SUMMER HELP NEEDED—LESS THAN 1 HOUR ON SUNDAYS

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to help serve on Sundays! Sign up with a friend or a family member and serve together! Sign-up sheets for **Lectors, Ushers, Coffee Hour Hosts, and Communion Assistants** are located in the Narthex for one service each Sunday. Sign up for only one service or all month!

Our Sunday Service needs:

Run Powerpoint at Sunday Service: June 7, 21, July 5
Coffee Host (Brew coffee, bring a treat, and clean-up): June 21, 28, July, and August
Ushers (Greet people and direct communion): July & August
Lectors (Read the Scripture): August 23, 30
Communion Assistants: June 21 (We're looking for three people per summer service)

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

YOUTH GROUP

On The youth group ended the season with flag football, friendship, and fun! We're grateful for an incredible year together and already looking forward to next season!

Hot Dogs, Chips, and Drinks fueled these players. Pastor Ralen even scored a touchdown!

With friends invited along, youth from across Wichita came together to play flag football on Reformation Field to celebrate the end of the year!

SUMMER SEASON

As summer begins, we hope each of you has an amazing summer season filled with adventure, rest, new memories, and safe travels wherever life takes you. Whether you're heading to camps, vacations, jobs, sports, college visits, or simply enjoying time with friends and family, remember that God goes with you in every moment.

Summer can get busy fast, and it's easy to drift away from routines that keep us grounded in faith. But don't forget how important it is to stay connected — not just online, but spiritually and personally with your church family. Keep making time for God, keep praying, and keep surrounding yourself with people who encourage your faith.

No matter how far you travel or how packed your schedule gets, know that you always have a place here. Your church family cares about you, prays for you, and truly misses you when you're gone. We can't wait to hear your stories, see your faces again, and worship together when you return. Have fun, make great memories, stay safe, and don't forget to come back to church — because you matter here, and you are loved more than you know.

SUBMIT YOUR FATHER'S DAY PHOTOS!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed photos for our High School Seniors, Mother's Day, and Father's Day celebration!

We will honor father figures on Father's Day (June 21).

This season, we give thanks for the parents and parent-figures who have shaped our lives with love, wisdom, and care. You are invited to honor them by submitting a photo and name to the church office at info@refluthks.org.

Photos will be featured in a special slideshow during worship.

Father's Day Deadline: June 14th

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 7:00pm Back to Basics	2 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 9:00am Blanket Makers	3 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 8:00am Assistance League	4 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm**	5 **Church Office Closed**	6 9am-3pm Event in Parish Hall
7 **9:30am Summer Service**	8 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 6:30pm Ladies Night Out 7:00pm Back	9 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 9:00am Blanket Makers	10 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 10:30am In Reach	11 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 10:00am Rebecca Circle	12 **Church Office Closed**	13
14 **9:30am Summer Service**	15 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** *Ref Life Deadline* 12:00pm BTOL 7:00pm Back to Basics	16 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 9:00am Blanket Makers 7:00pm Church Council	17 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 1:00pm Dorcas Circle	18 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm**	19 **Church Office Closed**	20
21 **9:30am Summer Service**	22 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 7:00pm Back to Basics	23 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 9:00am Blanket Makers	24 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm**	25 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm**	26 **Church Office Closed**	27
28 **9:30am Summer Service** 10:30am Fellowship Board	29 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 11:00am Assistance League 7:00pm Back	30 **Church Office Open 9am-1pm** 9:00am Blanket Makers				