

February 2019  
Reformation Lutheran  
Church



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

# DIVERGE

Romans 12:2

*life of Christ, we need to diverge from the ordinary roads of this world to follow the extraordinary path God created for us.* During their weekend together at the Hyatt Regency here in Wichita, they will hear inspiring messages from “Packer” Dave Gunnlaugson, sing along with uplifting music from Adelaide, and experience interesting break-out sessions that are a mixture of fun, service and education. Please hold these young people in your prayers as they engage in this weekend: Elizabeth Allbritten, Jack Bruntz, Kate Bruntz, Cecelia Jowdy and Maya Reed (along with adult sponsors, Pastor Kristin and Allison Bruntz).

## Youth Quake! February 1-3, 2019 Hyatt Regency, Wichita, KS

We have a great group of young people attending Youth Quake this year, under the theme, “Diverge”: *To live a*



## Partners for Wichita Trivia Night Saturday, February 16, 7:00 p.m.

Come test your knowledge of completely random (and often challenging) trivia questions at this year's Partners for Wichita Trivia Night! Whether you know all of the answers or not, it is a fun evening of fellowship! Join us at First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Broadway. Doors will open at 6:15 pm and trivia will begin at 7:00 pm. The cost is \$120 for a team of eight people registered in advance. Otherwise, the cost is \$20 per individual, in advance or at the door. The price of admission includes a fun-filled night of trivia and games, soda, water, and snacks. Feel free to bring your own snacks, but please, no alcohol. Pastor Kristin is working to put together a Reformation team, so contact her ASAP if you are interested.



## Beyond Tolerance Dinner Dialogues February 21

Global Faith in Action and Beyond Tolerance are co-hosting the next “Dinner Dialogues” in homes and public venues around Wichita. The Dinner Dialogues will be at 6:00 p.m. on February 21. Dinner Dialogues are an opportunity to hear the experiences and perspectives of people from a range of faiths, races and backgrounds. The dialogues center around a shared meal in someone's home. A group of 8-10 people gather with a trained facilitator to take turns answering question about their lives and perspectives on the world. These dialogues are a time to listen and learn in a non-intimidating setting. People who want to participate in the dinner dialogues are invited to go to [www.beyondtolerancewichita.org/dinner-dialogues.html](http://www.beyondtolerancewichita.org/dinner-dialogues.html). People who would like to host a dinner or be moderator are invited to contact Maria at 316-269-0635 or e-mail .



## Ash Wednesday—March 6

Looking for information about Lent? It is a little later than normal this year—Ash Wednesday is March 6. Plan to join us for worship at noon or 7:00 p.m. that day (and the following Wednesdays)!

## Poetic Life



Rev. Kristin Woelk  
Associate Pastor

Following the recent death of poet Mary Oliver, I find that I have been drawn back to reading some of my favorite poets.

The silly yet poignant poetry of Shel Silverstein brings back childhood memories and frequently makes me laugh. I spent some time embracing my inner child following the recent snow we got in Wichita, heading out to make a snowman, but settling for snow angels when I discovered that it wasn't great packing snow. So when I saw Silverstein's poem entitled "Snowball," I could totally relate:

I made myself a snowball  
As perfect as could be.  
I thought I'd keep it as a pet  
And let it sleep with me.  
I made it some pajamas  
And a pillow for its head.  
Then last night it ran away,  
But first it wet the bed.

*Falling Up*, Shel Silverstein, © 1996.

You can be assured that I did not bring a snowball inside as my pet, but Silverstein's imaginative words helped to capture the joy I felt out in the snow that day.

Ted Loder's words also have the ability to capture my thoughts and feelings—not about snow, but about living a life of faith. As we celebrate a few extra weeks of Epiphany this year, thanks to a late Lent and Easter, I share with you his poetic prayer, "I Praise You for What Is Yet to Be". May it be our collective prayer as we continue to step into this new year.

God's peace & joy,

*Pastor Kristin*

### ***I Praise You for What Is Yet to Be***

*Wondrous Worker of Wonders,  
I praise you  
not alone for what has been,  
or for what is,  
but for what is yet to be,  
for you are gracious beyond all telling of it.*

*I praise you  
that out of the turbulence of my life  
a kingdom is coming,  
is being shaped even now  
out of my slivers of loving  
my bits of trusting  
my sprigs of hoping  
my tootles of laughing  
my drips of crying  
my smidgens of worshipping;  
that out of my songs and struggles,  
out of my griefs and triumphs,  
I am gathered up and saved,  
for you are gracious beyond all telling of it.*

*I praise you  
that you turn me loose  
to go with you to the edge of the now  
and maybe,  
to welcome the new,  
to see my possibilities,  
to accept my limits,  
and yet begin living to the limit  
of passion and compassion  
until,  
released by joy,  
I uncurl to other people  
and to your kingdom coming,  
for you are gracious beyond all telling of it.*

*Guerillas of Grace*, Ted Loder, © 1984.

## Open Door Food Pantry



As the cold winter months drag along, quick, hot, simple meals are very helpful. This month's food focus:

**MACARONI & CHEESE  
AND RAMEN NOODLES**

Don't forget we ALWAYS have a need for canned meat and fish, canned vegetables and fruit, dried beans, cereal and oatmeal, sugar and flour, soup and crackers.

Place your items in the grocery cart located by the door in Parish Hall. Thanks for remembering to add these items on your shopping trips.



**Best Times of Life**  
**Monday, February 11**  
**12:00 p.m.**

Our program will be presented by Tim Allbritten, a member of Reformation.

He will tell us about his trip to the White House in 2018, representing the State of Kansas for small business products "MADE IN AMERICA". His company, B&G Products, was the only Kansas business chosen to attend.

Please bring a covered dish to share and your own table service. You can make reservations with Jolene Dougherty (776-2068) or Judy Carlson (733-0809). All 55 and over are invited to attend.

## Women of Reformation Calendar

February 4	Blanket Makers, 9:00 a.m.
February 14	Rebecca Circle, 10:00 a.m. Church Office Conference Room, Hosted by Cam Wilson
February 20	Dorcas Circle 1:30 p.m. Church Office Conference Room, Hosted by Kathy Drake
February 18	Blanket Makers, 9:00 a.m.



**Women's Night Out**  
**Tuesday, February 26,**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Chili's at 21<sup>st</sup> & Greenwich**

All women are welcome to join us for an evening of good conversation and food at the 21<sup>st</sup> & Greenwich Chili's on February 26 at 6:30 p.m. We would love to see you there! If you plan to attend, please contact Martha Deines at 214-4414 by Monday, February 25.



**3rd Sunday Study**  
**February 17**

Third Sunday meets in the conference room (with the cool new chairs) on February 17th at 12:15p.m. for potluck lunch at 1:00p.m. for class. We are studying the Small Catechism, the Bible, and their relationship to daily life. Whether you've memorized the Catechism or never even seen one, you are welcome! Newcomers are very welcome. This month, we're starting with The Lord's Prayer. New students are always welcome! Contact Pastor Mari if you want to know more.

**Do You Have an Article for  
the March *Ref Life*?**

Please e-mail us  
Deadline for the March *Ref Life* is February 15.



## Sound Volunteers Needed for 11:00am Worship

Reformation needs more sound system operators for our Traditional Worship. We currently only have three. We would like to find at least two persons who feel comfortable working with our audio system. No previous experience is required, but any previous experience you have will be gratefully accepted. Youth are welcome to volunteer! If you can help, please contact Royce in the church office ASAP. Training and supervision are provided.



### Stephen Ministry

A review: What is Stephen Ministry?

In 1974 Kenneth Haugk began his ministry, full of energy, hope and excitement. His special passion was pastoral care. But he soon found that there were more people and more needs in his congregation than he had the time and ability to care for. These needs included grief, job loss, and other life passages. The needs also included what many would consider minor issues, such as decisions to be made, sense of self, and faith issues.

Dr. Haugk, "...had a church full of needs, but also a church full of people." The solution for him was obvious: "...equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." Ephesians 4:12. Reflecting on Acts 6, he considered that Stephen provided an excellent example of lay Christian caregiving, so he called this ministry, Stephen Ministry.

In the first class at his church, he trained nine lay caregivers; among them a secretary, a teacher, an insurance agent, an executive, a homemaker, a beautician, a retiree—ordinary people. Upon completion of this first training, he assigned each to a care receiver. He found that the care they provided those assigned to them extended exponentially the pastoral care he was able to provide. He saw Christ working through these Stephen Ministers to bring hope and healing to another person.

When he realized the potential for all churches, and once again realized his limited time to provide all the training, he developed a train-the-trainer course: Stephen Leader Training. Each congregation has at least one Stephen Leader who trains and supervises the Christian Caregiving given by lay caregivers, Stephen Ministers.

Today there are over 13,000 congregations, 180 denominations, and 600,000 trained lay people in 50 states, 10 Canadian provinces, and over 30 countries.

Next issue: Reformation Lutheran Church and Stephen Ministry.



### A Word of Thanks

If you haven't had a chance to see Eric Jensen's most recent newsletter about his YAGM (Young Adults in Global Mission) experience, here is a word of thanks he shared:

*Spending the holidays away from home for the first time was a surreal experience. As they came and went, I often thought of many of you in my sending community. I'd like to take this opportunity to offer a word of thanks and love to both of my home congregations, Reformation Lutheran Church in Wichita, and First Lutheran Church in Manhattan for all you've done to support and make this year possible.*

*Also, to each of you who sent me a Christmas card, I read, received, and absolutely loved each and every one of them. What a surprise and a treasure it was to discover your words waiting for me in the mailbox. They sit collected neatly to my right at this very moment, as I sit writing these words to you all. I'd also like to thank all of those who donated to my year, and gave me the chance to know this crazy, enormous, family full of love here in Buenos Aires, Argentina. I often think about how incredibly thankful I am to have so many wonderful human beings supporting me.*

*Lastly, to my friends and family. Yes, I miss you. Yes, I love you. And I look fondly forward to seeing you again.*

If you would like to read the whole newsletter, you can find it on Reformation's Facebook page. You are also invited to read Eric's blog at <https://arquitectodelcambio.wordpress.com/>





**Chris Cakes  
Ash Wednesday  
Supper  
March 6  
5:30-6:45 p.m.**

Are you ready for flying pancakes? Reformation's Ash Wednesday Chris Cakes Pancake Supper tradition continues this year. Just \$5 gets you all you can eat pancakes, sausage, and a beverage (juice and milk). Come to enjoy dinner and fellowship before Ash Wednesday worship which begins at 7:00 p.m.

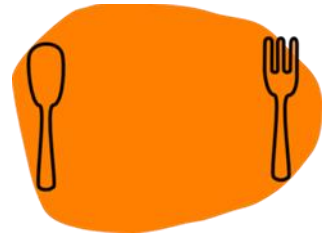
**Community Breakfast -  
20 Years of Service!**



The Free Community Breakfast at St. Paul's-Wichita celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this ministry of welcoming neighbors and offering a hot and nutritious

breakfast all in the name of Jesus on Saturday January 12 and began a new year of service. Thanks to all who have partnered in this ministry over the years. Reformation serves this breakfast on the third Saturday of each month. Contact Susan Martin if you would like to be involved!

**Lenten Meals**



As we gather for worship during the season of Lent, part of our time together involves lunch following the noon service and dinner before the evening service. Those meals have been provided by groups or individuals from the congregation. The Fellowship Ministry Board is once again seeking volunteers to provide these meals. You may donate your meal or submit receipts to be reimbursed. There will be a sign-up sheet available in the narthex, and if you have any questions, you may contact one of the members of that ministry board – Angela Davis, Jane Camenzind, Camilla Wilson, or Pastor Kristin. Thanks in advance for serving in this way!

New Address!



**Central States Synod Office**

As of January 15<sup>th</sup> Central States Synod offices will be at 420 W. 14<sup>th</sup> St. Suite 101, Kansas City, Missouri 64105. (On the grounds of Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Cathedral) Phone numbers and e-mail addresses will stay the same.

**Recent Official Pastoral Acts**

Baptism

Benjamin Swanson, January 27



**Camp Tomah Shinga**

Online registration for summer camp at Tomah Shinga is open! There are all kinds of opportunities for youth—1<sup>st</sup> grade through high school—to share in a memory making, faith building, fun week at camp!

There is also a great opportunity for families to experience camp together through Family Camp. As much fun, faith, and camp will be packed into this 3-day mini-camp (June 30-July 2) as possible.

Tomah Shinga's traditional summer camp is filled with opportunities for youth to have fun while exploring their faith on a deeper level. Worship and bible studies are a key component to the ministry. While exploring our faith is the most important part of camp, there is plenty of time to sing around the campfire, swim in the pool, do high and low ropes, explore 840 acres of beautiful land, and a thousand other things to have fun while building friendships that can last a lifetime and growing in faith.

Plan now for a week at camp to be part of your summer. If you are concerned about costs, scholarships are available. Contact Pastor Kristin (634-0586).

You can see the full Tomah Shinga schedule on their website ([www.tomahshinga.com](http://www.tomahshinga.com)) and can register now!



## Family Promise March 10-16

We will be hosting Family Promise guests again the week of March 10. Watch for the display in the narthex for upcoming needs and volunteer opportunities. If you have not yet been trained, watch the display and announcements for upcoming trainings.



### Do You Have A Nametag?

If you haven't ordered a Reformation nametag yet, please sign up on the bright green sign-up sheet on the big white board in the narthex on the weekends. The nametag project is sponsored by our Outreach Board. You may make a \$5 donation to cover the cost of your nametag, but that is not required. Gifts in memory of Debbie Stephens are also being used to fund this project. Nametags may be left on the whiteboard during the week or taken with you. (The whiteboard is rolled out of the narthex on Sunday afternoon.)

### Winter storm coming?



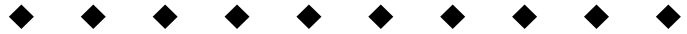
If Reformation Lutheran Church cancels worship due to inclement weather, you can find out by checking:

- ⇒ our Facebook page
- ⇒ our Twitter feed
- ⇒ our website (which will show you the Twitter feed)
- ⇒ the closings on kwch.com or KWCH television
- ⇒ AND your e-mail (e-blasts can be sent if one of the pastors can get to the church)



Dear Friends ~ My husband and I want to thank you for the beautiful floral arrangement of white long stem roses, small tea roses, white carnations, white lilies and white stock... so thoughtful of you to remember us, Kristal Cutler's parents, on the passing of our younger daughter, Dawn.

*Joan & Bill Kildow*



Thank you so much for the love and support my Reformation family has shown me for many years. My family and I are so grateful to all who attended our mom's service, flowers, hugs, and many cards expressing your love for the loss of our mom. Pastor Mari & Pastor Kristin, thank you so much for being there for me all these years while I was caring for my mom.

*Carole Lyons Osborne*



Reformation has recently been registered as an AmazonSmile recipient organization. This means that, if you shop at Amazon through AmazonSmile, and register to give to us (we're called Evangelical Church of the Reformation, Inc. Wichita, KS), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from eligible AmazonSmile purchases to us. Again, it costs you nothing and benefits Reformation greatly. If you are using Amazon to do your online Christmas shopping, why not sign up for AmazonSmile and benefit the church? Thank you!

Thanks to all who have designated Reformation as recipient for their Community Rewards. In

January, we received \$322.56 from 43 households shopping at Dillons (from 10-1 through 12-31-2018). If you would like to designate your Dillons Plus Shopper's Card Community Rewards to Reformation, use code IR054. If you need additional help, see the instruction sheets in the narthex.



This program costs you nothing and benefits Reformation greatly. Thank you!

## FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27 7:30 AM Rise Rehearsal 8:30 AM Rise Worship 9:45 AM Learning for All Ages 9:45 AM Semi Annual Congregation Meeting 11:00 AM Traditional Worship</p>	<p>28 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 6:00 PM Rise Team 7:00 PM Back to Basics 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Supervision</p>	<p>29 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 9:00 AM Blanket Makers</p>	<p>30 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 11:30 AM ROMEOs 12:00 PM Adult Education 6:00 PM Soul Food 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 6:45 PM Adult Education 6:45 PM Confirmation</p>	<p>31 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 11:00 AM Ministry Strategy Meeting - Conference Room</p>	<p>1 Church Office Open 9am-12pm MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH QUAKE</p>	<p>2 MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH QUAKE 5:30 PM Worship with prayers for Healing</p>
<p>3 MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH QUAKE 7:30 AM Rise Rehearsal 8:30 AM Rise Worship 9:45 AM Learning for All Ages 9:50 AM Worship Choir 11:00 AM Traditional Worship</p>	<p>4 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 9:00 AM Blanket Makers 6:00 PM Rise Team 7:00 PM Back to Basics</p>	<p>5 Church Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>6 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 11:30 AM ROMEOs 12:00 PM Adult Education 6:00 PM Soul Food 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 6:45 PM Adult Education 6:45 PM Confirmation</p>	<p>7 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 6:00 PM Youth Ministry Team 7:00 PM Ministry Boards</p>	<p>8 Church Office Open 9am-12pm</p>	<p>9 5:30 PM Worship</p>
<p>10 7:30 AM Rise Rehearsal 8:30 AM Rise Worship 9:45 AM Learning for All Ages 9:50 AM Worship Choir 11:00 AM Traditional Worship</p>	<p>11 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 11:30 AM Safe Haven Meeting 12:00 PM BTOL Potluck 6:00 PM Rise Team 7:00 PM Back to Basics 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Supervision</p>	<p>12 Church Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>13 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 11:30 AM ROMEOs 12:00 PM Adult Education 6:00 PM Soul Food 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 6:45 PM Adult Education 6:45 PM Confirmation</p>	<p>14 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 10:00 AM Rebecca Circle</p>	<p>15 Church Office Open 9am-12pm <i>Ref Life Deadline</i></p>	<p>16 7:00 AM St. Paul's Community Breakfast 5:30 PM Worship - Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 PM Partners for Wichita Trivia Night at First Presbyterian Church</p>
<p>17 7:30 AM Rise Rehearsal 8:30 AM Rise Worship 9:45 AM Learning for All Ages 9:50 AM Worship Choir 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 12:15 PM 3rd Sunday Class</p>	<p>18 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 9:00 AM Blanket Makers 6:00 PM Rise Team 7:00 PM Back to Basics</p>	<p>19 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 7:00 PM Church Council</p>	<p>20 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 11:30 AM ROMEOs 12:00 PM Adult Education 1:30 PM Dorcas Circle 6:00 PM Soul Food 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 6:45 PM Adult Education 6:45 PM Confirmation</p>	<p>21 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 6:00 PM Beyond Tolerance Dinner Dialogues</p>	<p>22 Church Office Open 9am-12pm</p>	<p>23 5:30 PM Worship</p>
<p>24 7:30 AM Rise Rehearsal 8:30 AM Rise Worship 9:45 AM Learning for All Ages 9:50 AM Worship Choir 11:00 AM Traditional Worship</p>	<p>25 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 6:00 PM Rise Team 7:00 PM Back to Basics 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Supervision</p>	<p>26 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 6:30 PM Women's Night Out</p>	<p>27 Church Office Open 9am-3pm 11:30 AM ROMEOs 12:00 PM Adult Education 6:00 PM Soul Food 6:30 PM Handbell Choir 6:45 PM Adult Education 6:45 PM Confirmation</p>	<p>28 Church Office Open 9am-3pm</p>	<p>1 Church Office Open 9am-12pm</p>	<p>2 5:30 PM Worship with prayers for Healing</p>