

Easter Breakfast Sunday, April 1 9:15-10:45 a.m.



Wake up your taste buds at the Annual Easter Breakfast! The Reformation Youth will be hosting breakfast Easter morning, April 1, between worship services, and we need your help to prepare a yummy meal. We are seeking donations of specific breakfast treats: fresh fruits, canned fruits, fruit breads, orange juice, and egg casseroles. If you missed your chance to sign up to bring something, contact Pastor Kristin and she'll let you know what we still need. Thanks!

Holden Evening Prayer Third Saturday of each Month 5:30 p.m.

Do you love Holden Evening Prayer? Would you like to worship using that liturgy more often than just on Wednesdays during Advent? If you answered "yes," you are in luck!

Holden Evening Prayer will be the foundation of our Saturday evening worship on the third Saturday of each month. Join us at 5:30 p.m. as we sing this beautiful liturgy together on a regular basis.

JOIN US ON THE JOURNEY TO EASTER



Maundy Thursday *March 29, 12:00 & 7:00 p.m.*

12 p.m. — simple communion service

7 p.m. Foot Washing, Prayer Stations, Holy Communion, and Stripping of the Altar

With nightfall our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to begin the Three Days during which we participate once again in the saving power of Jesus' passing over from death to life. At the heart of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved.

Good Friday *March 30, 5:00 & 7:00 p.m.*

5:00 - An interactive family experience for all

Holy Week is rich with powerful stories about the depth of God's love for us. But sometimes those stories and the worship services shaped around them can be difficult for little ones to understand. In order for families to fully enter into the wonder and power of this week, you are invited to a special experience on Good Friday afternoon, where we will walk together through different pieces of this holy story of Jesus with hands-on experiences. Join us as we enter into this story in a family friendly way.

7:00 - A service of Scripture and darkness

At the heart of the Good Friday liturgy is the passion according to John, which proclaims Jesus as a triumphant king who reigns from the cross. The ancient title for this day - the triumph of the cross - reminds us that the church gathers not to mourn this day but to celebrate Christ's life-giving passion and to find strength and hope in the Tree of Life. In the ancient bidding prayer we offer petitions for all the world for whom Christ died.

Easter Vigil *March 31, 7:00 p.m.*

with Holy Communion

This is our Passover with Christ from darkness to light, from captivity to freedom, from death to life. Tonight is the heart of our celebration of the Three Days. The resurrection of Christ is proclaimed in word and sign, as we gather around a pillar of fire, hear ancient stories of our faith, and share the food and drink of the promised land.

Easter Sunday *April 1, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. with Holy Communion*

8:30 - Rise worship, led by piano, guitar, percussion and vocalists

11:00 - Traditional worship, led by organ, piano, choirs and brass

Christ is risen, indeed! On Easter morning, we are met by an angel at the tomb. With the women and the disciples, we are called to proclaim the amazing news of the resurrection.

Easter Breakfast will be served 9:15-10:45 a.m.

Watch for God!



Pastor Kristin Neitzel Woelk
Associate Pastor

Jesus said:
"And remember,
I am with you always,
to the end of the age."
Matthew 28:20

Maybe you have heard this joke before...

A couple had two little boys, ages eight and ten, who were excessively mischievous. The two were always getting into trouble and their parents could be confident that if any mischief occurred in their town, their two young sons were involved in some capacity.

The parents were at their wit's end as to what to do about their sons' behavior. The parents had heard that a pastor in town had been successful in disciplining children in the past, so they contacted him, and he agreed to give it his best shot.

He asked to see the boys individually, so the eight-year-old was sent to meet with him first. The pastor sat the boy down and asked him sternly, "Where is God?" The boy made no response, so the pastor repeated the question in an even sterner tone, "Where is God?" Again the boy made no attempt to answer, so the pastor raised his voice even more and shook his finger in the boy's face, "WHERE IS GOD?"

At that, the boy bolted from the room, ran directly home, and slammed himself in his closet. His older brother followed him into the closet and said, "What happened?" The younger brother replied, "We are in BIG trouble this time. God is missing and they think we did it!"

The misunderstanding of the pastor's question brings a laugh, but it is a good question to ask ourselves. As we think about the pastor's question, our answers may include "everywhere," "in heaven," or "in my heart," or, if you are feeling particularly Lutheran, "in, with and under the bread and wine."

Perhaps a rephrasing of the question would help us to think about it in a different way. During Vacation Bible School, it has become a tradition for children and volunteers alike to "Watch for God!" throughout the week. Answers about where they saw God may come slowly at the begin-

ning of the week, but by the final day, the things they come up with are too many to mention!

Several years ago, we started a tradition with the confirmation students during the season of Lent, where they were to watch for God and find at least one moment each week when they saw or experienced God at work in their daily lives. They document those encounters with pictures, songs, or simply writing about the experience, and on our first Wednesday back together after Easter, we share those experiences with one another. It is one of my favorite evenings of the year.

I do, however, get a little preview, as students are supposed to submit one God moment a week. These middle school students have seen God in the hospitality of friends, in solid teamwork with a sports team, through the emergency personnel working at the scene of an accident, in the buds and flowers of springtime, in the success of their siblings (yep! it's true!), and even something as simple as having a few really good days in a row.

As we intentionally watch for God, we will see God everywhere around us – because that is where God is! As we journey through Holy Week and into the season of Easter, I encourage you all to watch for God. Not just in worship, but in every moment of your day. Watch for God in those moments that you feel like you are standing at the foot of the cross. Watch for God in resurrection moments of celebration and joy. Watch for God in those moments in between, that feel like nothing special. Because God is in each one.

Where do YOU see God?

Watching with you,

Pastor Kristin

Yellow Bag Challenge



Open Door Pantry Focus for April

Who doesn't love a casserole and what makes a great start for a quick and healthy one? Let's make the April Food Focus:

canned meat and fish!

Tuna, salmon, chicken, Spam, dried beef – whichever is your family favorite, grab an extra can or two to help feed hungry kids and parents.

Don't forget we *always* have a need for canned vegetables and fruit, boxed macaroni and cheese, 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.

Best Times of Life

Laura Hartley

From the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame



BTOL (Best Times of Life) will meet April 9 at 12:00 p.m. in parish hall. All who are 55 and older are invited to attend.

Our program will be presented by Laura Hartley of the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame, Speaking on Women in Sports. Her topic "Throw Like a Girl" will include information on Kansas women in a variety of Sports.

Please bring a covered dish to share and your own table service. Also, please call Jolene Dougherty (776-2068) or Doris Moden (213-2068) with your reservations.

Women of Reformation Calendar

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| April 2 | Blanket Makers, 9 a.m. |
| April 12 | Rebecca Circle
Lesson Leader: Dallas Cronk
Hostess: Jolene Dougherty |
| April 16 | Blanket Makers, 9 a.m. |
| April 18 | Dorcas Circle, 1:30 p.m.
Lesson Leader: Jan Barr
Hostess: Sandy Muse at church |
| April 21 | Annual Ark River Valley Spring Meeting
Resurrection Lutheran Church, 9 a.m. |



Beginning April 17 through April 23, we will begin collecting professional attire clothing, shoes and jewelry for Dress for Success.

These items should be clean and only gently worn. You may bring your items anytime the church is open. There will be a clothes rack and boxes for collections at the east end of the parish hall by the basketball goal.

The mission of Dress for Success is to empower women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and the development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Your support is needed and appreciated.

Church Property Work Day

Saturday, April 28

10:00 a.m.— 2:00 p.m.

Join us on April 28 for our spring work day at the church. There are several projects inside and out that require our attention. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Please bring your own work gloves if needed for working outside. Lunch will be provided.



Do You Have an Article for Ref Life?

Please e-mail Debbie .

Deadline for the May *Ref Life* is April 15.

And the Winner Is...



Thank you to all who entered the "Name the Newsletter" contest. Thirty-one names were submitted, and the competition was fierce. The name, "Ref Life," was selected for its reference to Reformation and its inclusive understanding of our time: in community with each other when we come together for worship, education, and fellowship; in our communities as we reach out and serve and servants and stewards.

By the way, last month's history of "Refocus" was inaccurate. Several of you recognized that it was inaccurate, but only one knew the full story. Here it is:

The saga began when Pr. Earl Wall retired in 1987 and Pr. Joel Schmalz arrived in 1988. During Pr. Wall's tenure, a mailing titled "The Midweek Communicator" was sent to all member households every Wednesday. "The Midweek," as it was called, was basically the previous Sunday's bulletin. New info appeared infrequently, if at all.

Pr. Schmalz expressed some dissatisfaction with "The Midweek" concept and worked with Dallas Cronk to invent a "real" newsletter. The original plan was to publish twice a month, but computers were not user-friendly back then and the church secretary was inexperienced. As a result, the once-per-month newsletter was created by literally cutting and pasting things together; much of this was done by Dallas on her kitchen table. The name "Refocus" was birthed at the same kitchen table 30 years ago and continued to be used through the Capital Appeal 15 years later.



Stephen Ministry

Ahh Spring, the season of new beginnings. By God's grace we have the opportunity to make a change! Max Lucado said it well: "Thank you for accepting me as I am but not leaving me the same."

If you or someone you know could benefit from Stephen Ministry, a confidential one-to-one Ministry for people who are lonely, grieving, ill or stressed, call one of the following Stephen Leaders for information: Anita Dorf (210-9124), David Dorf (208-4064), Lotus Gerards (283-8602), Marsha Sears (634-6101).



On Wednesdays, beginning April 4, we will begin Bible studies at Noon and at 6:45pm on the book of Acts. All are welcome to participate; no previous Bible study experience is required. Bring your own Bible or use one in the conference room where we meet.

Many of us are familiar with Acts 1:8, "...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" and the story of Pentecost in Acts 2, but we don't know the rest of the story told in this book. You are invited to journey with the followers of Jesus after the resurrection.

Welcome to the Table Fundraiser Dinner and Silent Auction Thursday, April 19 St. Paul's Lutheran Church



All are invited to the Welcome to the Table Fundraiser dinner on Thursday, April 19, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 925 N. Waco. The event will also include a silent auction.

Outback Steakhouse will be preparing the grilled chicken and steak meal and there will be salad and vegetables and dessert. Tickets are \$20.

A representative from the committee will be available at Reformation each Sunday morning between now and the deadline to purchase tickets, April 8. People can also purchase tickets through PayPal via St. Paul's website at stpauls-wichita.org and put "dinner ticket (s) in the comments. No ticket sales "at the door." Contact St. Paul's at 316-263-0810 if you have questions.

Our fundraising efforts to upgrade and renovate the kitchen where St. Paul's and Area Ministry 5 partner churches prepare the weekly Community Breakfasts serving hungry and homeless neighbors, have brought our total raised to date to over \$60,000. Thank you to our many generous donors— individuals, congregations, and friends of the Community Breakfast for your contributions! Join in the celebration by attending the dinner!

ENDOWMENT fund

The Reformation Mission Endowment Fund was established in 2000 and the earnings on the fund provide grants. Requests for funding may come from programs that further the mission of Reformation Lutheran Church or the broader ELCA.

Any individual or group interested in requesting funds for 2018 should pick up an application in the Reformation office, complete it, and return it to the office by April 15.

Soon after that, the Endowment Committee will meet to consider the applications and award grants based on the amount of money available this year in the fund.

Ruth Ann Koepsel, Endowment Committee Chair



Camp Tomah Shinga

This summer's theme at Tomah Shinga, "*Endure: Low Impact, Lasting Legacy*" is all about sustainability. Drawing from John 1:3, "Through God, ALL things were made," we will

dive deeper into how God created everything – from the small mustard seed to us, and how important it is that we sustain the earth as much as our faith and the relationships all around.

Our confirmation students will be attending camp July 15-20 – and there are opportunities for campers of all ages to join us at camp that same week! A shortened week (Sunday-Tuesday) is available for 1st-3rd graders, while upper elementary and high school students can come for the whole week!

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) and can register now!



Soul Food
Wednesdays,
resuming April 4
6:00 p.m.

After a shift in our Wednesday night schedule for Lent, we'll return to our regular schedule on Wednesday, April 4 - including a full evening of food, learning and music! We hope you will be there! After a dinner for all, you can make your way to confirmation, the adult study, or choir rehearsal for the Parish or Handbell choirs (choir resumes the following week, April 11, with Parish Choir practice). You won't want to miss out on the community of Soul Food nights at Reformation!

Easy Way to Help the Homeless



Do you have books you don't need but don't want to send to the landfill? Donate them to New Leaf Book Mercantile, a division of Union Rescue Mission. They take new and used books, DVD's and CD's. They even take tattered or water-damaged volumes. They sell some on line, repurpose some and recycle others.

This endeavor turns books, CD's & DVD's into jobs for the unemployed, meals for the hungry and money to supply needed services such as mental health and educational opportunities for homeless men. The Rebecca Circle has arranged to have a marked collection bin in the Parish hall to make it easy for you to donate.

Eric Jensen— Young Adult in Global Mission!

Reformation member Eric Jensen has been accepted into the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program for the coming year, which will take him to either the UK or South Africa for incredible ministry opportunities from August 2018-July 2019.



On average, it costs about \$15,000 per year for a young adult to be a part of this program. The ELCA provides \$10,000 and the young adult is expected to raise the additional \$5,000.

Eric will be preaching at all three services at Reformation the weekend of April 21-22. During that weekend, we will also be taking a special offering to support Eric in this exciting ministry!

Senior Recognition

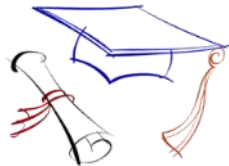
Sunday, April 22

Worship – 8:30 a.m.

Reception – 9:45 a.m.

After years of studying, sports, dramas, musical endeavors, and countless other activities, five young adults from the Reformation church family will be graduating from high school this month! Join us in celebrating these special students as they complete their high school careers:

Kathryn Bunting
Evan Byers
Dylan Hultman
Cory Saunders
Justin Schrader



There are a couple of ways to help honor and celebrate this achievement for these young people:

Join in the celebration

We will share a special blessing for Kathryn, Evan, Connor, Cory, and Justin as we begin worship at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 22. During the learning hour, beginning at 9:45 a.m., the whole congregation is invited to a casual reception for these young people in the Parish Hall. Please join us for some light refreshments and lots of joy.

Write a note

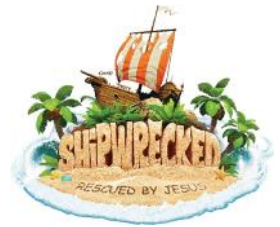
Take a few minutes to stop by the table in the narthex and write a note of congratulations and encouragement inside the books for each student, even if you don't know them well. These books will help these young people carry the love and support of their church family with them in the next steps of their journey. Jot down a favorite Bible verse, share a favorite prayer, or write a note of encouragement.

Seminary Bound!

Congratulations to Reformation member, Kaylie Ines! Kaylie has been accepted to Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkley, California, and will begin her MDiv studies there this fall as she prepares to be a pastor in the ELCA.



Mark your calendars!
Shipwrecked
Vacation Bible School
is coming to Reformation—
July 23-27, 2018!



Keep an eye out for donation boards, volunteer forms, and registration forms – all coming soon! In the meantime, there are a few things you can start collecting to help with decorations. We can use:

- Umbrellas (even if they are broken)
- Brown/tan drop cloths
- Large cardboard boxes
- Blue cellophane

Also watch for information about a VBS decorating party—a day when we'll gather together to work on some of the decorations. All skill levels welcome!

Chris Cakes

On Ash Wednesday, about 100 people enjoyed Chris Cakes before attending evening worship. It was a time of fellowship, good food, and seeing who could catch the most pancakes. It was a great way to kick off Lenten meals!



Thank You!

Thanks to those who have generously given to the Community Breakfast fund! Your kind support is greatly appreciated.



~Susan Martin, Breakfast Coordinator

APRIL 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter Sunday 8:30 AM Rise Worship 9:15 AM Easter Breakfast 11:00 AM Traditional Worship	2 Office Closed 9:00 AM Blanket Makers 6:00 PM Rise Team 7:00 PM Back to Basics	3 7:00 PM Church Council	4 11:30 AM ROMEOs 12:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Soul Food Meal 6:45 PM Adult Study 6:45 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM HS Youth	5 6:00 PM Youth Ministry Team 7:00 PM Ministry Boards	6	7 5:30 PM Worship - with prayers for Healing
8 8:30 AM Rise Worship 9:45 AM Learning for all Ages 11:00 AM Traditional Worship	9 12:00 PM BTOL Polluck 6:00 PM Rise Team 7:00 PM Back to Basics	10	11 11:30 AM ROMEOs 12:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Soul Food Meal 6:45 PM Adult Study 6:45 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM HS Youth 7:00 PM Parish Choir	12 9:30 AM Rebecca Circle 6:00 PM Learning Board	13	14 5:30 PM Worship
15 Ref Life Deadline 8:30 AM Rise Worship 9:45 AM Learning for all Ages 11:00 AM Traditional Worship	16 9:00 AM Blanket Makers 6:00 PM Rise Team 7:00 PM Back to Basics 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Supervision	17	18 11:30 AM ROMEOs 12:00 PM Bible Study 1:30 PM Dorcas Circle 6:00 PM Soul Food Meal 6:45 PM Adult Study 6:45 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM HS Youth 7:00 PM Handbell Choir	19 10:00 AM Assistance League 5:00 PM Welcome to the Table Kitchen Renovation Dinner & Silent Auction at St. Paul's	20	21 5:30 PM Worship - Holden Evening Prayer
22 Senior Recognition Sunday 8:30 AM Rise Worship 9:45 AM Learning for all Ages 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 2:00 PM ELCA Youth Gathering Meeting	23 9:00 PM Rise Team 7:00 PM Back to Basics	24 6:30 PM Women's Night Out	25 11:30 AM ROMEOs 12:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Soul Food Meal 6:45 PM Adult Study 6:45 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM HS Youth 7:00 PM Parish & Handbell Choirs	26	27	28 10:00 AM Church Property Work Day 5:30 PM Worship
29 8:30 AM Rise Worship 9:45 AM Learning for all Ages 11:00 AM Traditional Worship	30 9:00 AM Blanket Makers 6:00 PM Rise Team 7:00 PM Back to Basics 7:00 PM Endowment Fund 7:00 PM Stephen Ministry Supervision	1	2 11:30 AM ROMEOs 12:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Soul Food Meal 6:45 PM Adult Study 6:45 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Parish Choir	3 6:00 PM Youth Ministry Team 7:00 PM Ministry Boards	4	5 5:30 PM Worship - with prayers for Healing

Weekend Worship

Saturday: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: Rise Worship, 8:30 a.m.

Learning for All Ages, 9:45 a.m.

Worship, 11:00 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Friday, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m.

How to Reach Us

Reformation Lutheran Church

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634-0586 phone | www.reformation-lutheran.org

Reformation Staff

Mari Larson, Senior Pastor

Kristin Woelk, Associate Pastor

Debbie Stephens, Office Administrator

Dakota Bennett, Organist

Nancy Martin, Saturday Pianist

Kristal Cutler, Director of Choirs

Carole Lyons-Osborne, Custodian

Kim Powell, Childcare Provider

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Electronic Message Sign Update

Transformation of our sign at 13th and Broadmoor will cost \$35,273.47. As of March 18, we have raised \$11,705.46.

We have a goal of ordering the sign by June 1.

