

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Earthbound:

Called and Created to Care for Creation

Wednesdays in August at

11:00 a.m. and 7 p.m

Join Pastor Anita for this timely series in which we will examine the origins of our call to care for creation as our vocation and how God's people are living out that call throughout the Church.



GLOBAL MISSION GATHERING Camp Hill, PA Nov. 12-13

One of the ELCA Global Mission gatherings will be in Camp Hill, PA on November 12-13. This is a great opportunity for children, youth and adults to discover the amazing extent of Lutheran ministries around the world, meet some of our missionaries, hear about the work to combat World Hunger and celebrate multi-cultural diversity.

You can learn more about Global Mission gatherings at www.elca.org and watch for future notices in the newsletter.

Know Your Church Council

President: Debbie Felton
Vice-Pres.: Gary Kamin
Secretary: Kathy Ewens
Treasurer: Tom Conroy
Members: Andy Benzing, Eric Lucas, Joe Mirachi, Wilson Moffett, John Prichard, Connie Richardson, Carol Steinbrecher, Jen Troutman

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

Articles for the *Reformation Times* should be emailed to Sandy Niss at ssmlniss@verizon.net by the second Friday of each month.

SUNDAY'S IN AUGUST

August 1 – Preaching through the Bible – A New Beginning

Abraham and Sarah mark the beginning of a new era of Biblical history as God decides to try a different way to save humanity. We follow the ups and downs of their faith journey. Ms Laura Scotti and daughter, Olivia provide special music at our Worship services at 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

August 8 – Jacob and Esau – Sibling rivalry

Two brothers vying for their father's approval and blessing result in deception, theft and a split that seems irreconcilable. The drama and intrigue of family relations come alive in this soap opera like story. Worship services at 8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

August 15 – Jacob and Esau – Reconciliation modeled

Time can work wonders and God can work even greater wonders as brothers reconcile and a changed Jacob reveals a wisdom and caution that can help all of us learn about reconciliation. Worship Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

August 22 – Joseph – betrayal and perseverance

When life knocks you down and it seems everyone is against you, how do you persevere and survive. Joseph's story is not so far-fetched as a true life story will reveal and we discover how faith is the core to survival at the lowest points of our lives. Worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

August 29 – Joseph – God meant it for good

Over and over the Bible reveals how God can turn life around and turn tragedy into joy. Learn the secrets of turning life around using God's formula for new starts and new life. Worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

September 6 – LABOR DAY WEEK END – LAST DAY OF SUMMER HOURS

Today we continue our preaching through the Bible series with the story of – Moses – Sleeping with the Enemy. We also honor daily work on this Labor Day weekend and encourage members to wear their "work" clothes. Worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION (YAGM)

One-Year International Opportunity



Priority application deadline is February 15 for service in the same year. All applications MUST be received by March 1 for service in the same year.

The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program invites you to step out of your comfort zone and challenge yourself in a one year international mission service and learning opportunity. As you offer yourself in service, you will also learn more about yourself, your relationship with God, and your place in God's world. You will make friendships across culture and language that will change the way you look at the world. You will be a part of a group of young adults who are open to being transformed by your experiences, equipping you upon return to provide a global perspective on issues facing the church and society.

As this is a program of the ELCA for developing servant-leaders, we ask that you have a relationship to the ELCA (either as an ELCA member or connection through an ELCA church college, campus ministry or church camp), are between the ages of 19-29, willing to receive the gifts of others as well as to share your gifts, participate in an intentional process of service and learning, and live at a subsistence level to help meet needs worldwide. You will welcome the opportunity to gain new perspectives on life and work and to build relationships across culture, race, language and faith. You will also deepen your faith by showing the love

SAVE THE DATE!

September 12, 2010



Outdoor Worship & Picnic

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

9:45 a.m. Sunday School Registration,
Confirmation Orientation and Adult Forum
11:00 a.m. Contemporary/Blended Worship
Service

Potluck Picnic at 12:00 pm (Noon)

*Join us for a special day of worship, food and
games (fun!)*

(YAGM continued)

of Jesus Christ in all relationships and by your service to others. Spend some time exploring these pages to find out more about the [YAGM experience](#), consider if YAGM is the [right program](#) for you, learn more specifics in the [FAQ](#), or to experience a bit of the flavor of the country programs.

"I cannot help but be amazed at how central the theme of community has shaped my year and my experience here...I am awed at the impact each and every individual has had on my life as well as the impact we have had on each other. I cannot help but view the gospel now as God's desire to restore community to health and to help us realize our connectedness." - Tom, Argentina

PARISH NURSE



Pat Woerheide

There are many health related topics that I could review for you, but this month I wanted to focus on gratitude. Recently, we have had a lot of member illness. I have had to call on all of you for support for prayers, meals, transportation and visiting. I am overwhelmed by your caring response in every way. We have a very special community at Reformation Lutheran. When we are informed of a need, we respond. I could not be an effective parish nurse without this community. I want to thank God for you and his support and guidance in every way. Know that every time you are assisting members, you are living examples of your faith. God bless you and keep you.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE FOR CITY TEAM

Again this year we are collecting school supplies for needy children. This year the supplies will go to City Team and will be distributed to local children in nearby Chester and the surrounding areas. Last year over 2,000 children received a backpack stuffed with new school supplies! Items needed this year include: composition books (marble, hard bound, not spiral), children's scissors, washable markers, index cards, 3-ring binders (1'), paper folders (with pockets & 3 prongs), pencil sharpeners, colored pencils, glue sticks, rulers, erasers, pencils, crayons, loose leaf paper, pens, highlighters and backpacks. All items need to be placed in the bin in the narthex by **Sunday, August 15th**. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

Anyone wanting to volunteer with City Team to help sort, pack (Aug 24-27) or distribute (Aug 29) the school supplies can contact Paul Homan at phoman@cityteam.org or 610.872.6865 ext. 114.

YOUTH STARS

The following students received awards for attendance at Sunday School and worship services.

125 Stars - Certificate

Tyler Troutman Julia Biordi

275 Stars - Certificate

Layla Phillips

300 Stars - Certificate, \$25 Gift Card & End

of Year Trophy

Matthew Walter

NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY COMING

As we prepare for our 60th Anniversary year, Reformation will be producing a new pictorial directory, and we want EVERYONE to be included! Here's what you will receive if your photo is in the directory:

- A Free pictorial directory with the history of Reformation.
- A Free 8" x 10" portrait

PLAN NOW FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT:

- Thurs., Sept. 23 – 2 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.
- Fri., Sept. 24 – 2 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.
- Sat., Sept. 25 – 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Thurs., Oct. 7 – 2 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 8 – 2 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.
- Sat., Oct. 9 – 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 25 – 2 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.
- Tues., Oct. 26 – 2 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.

WATCH FOR SIGN UP LISTS AT CHURCH



O. W. L. S.
Older, Wiser, Lutherans

What fun we had joining the Prime Time Seniors of Middletown Presbyterian Church in June! There was an excellent turn-out. Over 50 people enjoyed the delicious lunch, talked, sang, and enjoyed each other's company. We hope to reciprocate soon. But, not too soon! The OWLs are on hiatus for the rest of the summer! Look for news of the September meeting in the September newsletter and in Reformation Lite!

FROM THE LIBRARY

Don't you hate it when a book you had forgotten to take back to the library incurs a fine? That never happens at Reformation! You may get overdue notices, but never a fine. So, if you find a book that you've forgotten to return, just slip it into the return bin under the library shelves in the hall, and all will be well!

In June, members of the library committee did a complete inventory of all 1,800 items in our Reformation Church Library. Unfortunately, there are some missing items which were *not* signed out.

Missing Items from the library:

- Five People You Meet in Heaven, by Algom
- Not a Sparrow Falls, by Nichols
- Scarlet Music, by Ohanneson
- New Student Bible
- Jonah, a Veggie-Tales Movie
- The Artist's Way, by Cameron
- My Final Answer Bible Trivia, by Kent
- Jesus: Uncovering the Life, Teachings, and Relevance of a Religious Revolutionary, by Borg
- Growing Up Lutheran, by Martin
- Being Peace, by Nhbat
- Living Sober, by Alcoholics Anonymous

If you find one of these missing items, please return it to the Return Bin ASAP. Thank you!

A NOTE FROM PASTOR SCHADE...

Greetings to all of you in the name of Christ!

I've now completed the first of two years of course work at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. It has been an incredible year of intense reading (300-500 pages per week), writing (about 150 pages per semester), and scholarly conversation with professors and fellow students. I take three courses per semester, and in the Spring I was the Teaching Assistant for the Introduction to Liturgy class as well. My major is in homiletics (preaching), my minor is in ecological theology, and my research is focusing on how ecological theology informs homiletic theory and practice. After finishing course work next year, I'll be taking my comprehensive exams, then start working on my dissertation, which I hope to complete by 2013/4.

I am very grateful to be the recipient of the Reinhard Scholarship this year, which helps to cover the cost of books and fees. I am constantly energized for this work and enjoy it immensely, so to know I have the prayers and support of all of you is a great gift!

Rachel celebrated her seventh birthday this month, and finished First Grade with very good marks and many friends with whom to schedule play-dates this summer! She was involved in the drama club at school and continues to love art and reading. Benjamin, now three-and-a-half, is on the seminary toddler park evangelization committee, enthusiastically welcoming parents and children of all ages to play and enjoy the beauty of the campus. He will start pre-school in the fall. In addition to caring for the children while I'm in class and the library, Jim continues to teach drum lessons and play drums professionally all around the Philadelphia area. He's the glue that keeps our family together! As for me, in addition to my studies, I supply preach every Sunday at different churches throughout the synod, as well as fitting in a few harps gigs and orchestra performances.

Please continue to keep us all in your prayers, and know that we miss all of you and pray for you continually as well.

~Yours in Christ, Pastor Schade



THE PASTOR PONDERES... **Preaching through the Bible**

At our Synod Assembly the keynote speaker, Dr. Mark Jacobson, discussed ways in which congregational members could gain a better understanding of the Bible. The lectionary, a three year compilation of various Bible passages based on the church year calendar, has served the church well, said Jacobson, but it jumps from one part of the Bible to another. Since most congregational members are not too familiar with the Bible, it does not provide an opportunity to follow the common thread of God's story of salvation from Genesis to Revelation.

As he talked to us, I realized the benefit of preaching key Biblical texts in sequence. Our Bible reading challenge two years ago – the Essential 100 – was based on a similar concept. It was a list of 100 key Bible passages that took us from Genesis through Revelation.

With that in mind, Pastor London and I talked about preaching through the Bible and decided to begin this summer. Our plan is to begin with Adam and work through key Old Testament passages through November. This first portion will take us through David and Solomon. Then, as Advent begins, we will focus on the Gospel of Matthew and the beginning of the New Testament with the Christmas portions of the gospels. Epiphany will be an opportunity to preach about the prophets and during Lent and Easter we will return to the New Testament with the life and ministry of Jesus.

Our hope is that through regular worship attendance, all of you will be able to gain a more comprehensive view of the Bible and discover how these people of faith were much like us, with plenty of short-comings, all kinds of life circumstances, and yet by faith and through the grace of God, they found themselves participating in God's mission – just as we are participating in God's mission and rely upon God's presence and strength in our lives.

Please give us your feedback about this new preaching series so that we can make it interesting, relevant to your lives and helpful as we use God's Word to deepen our faith.

~ *Pastor Smoose*

Called by Christ, we INVITE all people, SERVE our neighbors, BUILD a living Faith

REFORMATION TIMES

Volume 31, No.8

AUGUST 2010

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays in August
at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm

SUMMER SERVICES

Traditional Worship at 8:30 am
Contemporary Service at 10:00 am

September 6—LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Last day of Summer Hours