

REFORMATION TIMES

VOLUME 31 NO. 2

FEBRUARY 2010

You Are Invited To

The Service of Ordination and Installation of

The Rev. Anita London

Sunday, February 28, 2010

3:00 p.m.



*Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church
102 W. Rose Tree Road
Media, Pennsylvania*

*Bishop Claire S. Burkat, Presiding
The Rev. William DeHass, Preaching*

*Reception and dinner follow in
Creighton Hall*

*Rsvp by February 21 to
610-891-0600 x110 or www.relcmia.org*

SUNDAYS IN FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 7 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany-- SCOUT SUNDAY

Today we welcome the scouts from our troop and their leaders at our 11:00 a.m. worship service. Before and after worship be sure to visit the Scout display in Creighton Hall.

Worship: Traditional– 8:30 a.m. Contemporary – 11:00 a.m.

Sermon: “Is Christian Unity Possible?”

FEBRUARY 14 – Transfiguration, The last Sunday after Epiphany

Transfiguration witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus.

Worship: Traditional– 8:30 a.m. Contemporary – 11:00 a.m.

Rejoicing Spirits Worship at 4:00 p.m.

WEDESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 – ASH WEDNESDAY

This is the beginning of Lent and an opportunity to deepen our spiritual life with small group Bible studies and mid-week worship services. Each of our worship services begin with the imposition of ashes (a reminder of our mortality and a sign of sincere penance) and conclude with Holy Communion.

Worship: Daytime – 11 a.m. Evening – 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 21 – First Sunday in Lent

Worship: Traditional– 8:30 a.m. Contemporary – 11:00 a.m.

Sermon: “Lead Us Not Into Temptation”

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24 – Mid-week Lenten Service

6:30 p.m. Soup Supper 7

:15 p.m. – Vespers

FEBRUARY 28 – Second Sunday in Lent

Worship: Traditional– 8:30 a.m. Contemporary – 11:00 a.m.

Sermon: “A Wesley-like Mission”

3:00 p.m. ORDINATION OF PASTOR ANITA LONDON

Presiding: Bishop Claire Burkat

Preaching: The Rev. Bill DeHass, preaching

Dinner reception follows.

Know Your Church Council

President:	Debbie Felton
Vice-Pres.:	Gary Kamin
Secretary:	Kathy Ewens
Treasurer:	Tom Conroy
Members:	Cynthia Atwood, Andy Benzing, Ron Brzowski, Carol DeLuca, Joe Mirachi, Wilson Moffett, John Prichard, Connie Richardson, Carol Steinbrecher
Youth Rep:	Lizz Baldwin

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION

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

COUNCIL NOTES

- Reviewed 2009 year end financial statement. Treasurer Tom Conroy noted that the December snowfall had a major impact on our December contributions resulting in \$8,000 less in envelope giving than in the previous three Decembers. The outcome of that shortfall was a deficit that required using nearly \$2,000 in reserve funds.
- Reviewed the 2010 proposed budget and recommended it for adoption by the congregation at the Annual Meeting.
- Voted to make the following distributions from the Holiday Offering Fund: \$500 for the Haily Ward Fund, to help with medical expenses for Haily, who is the granddaughter of our member, Clara Ward. Haily's mother and father and sister were killed in a tragic car accident and Hailey was severely injured. \$500 to help send a student from the Rock Point Navajo congregation to a Global Youth Leadership Conference. \$1000 in memory of member Wayne Norton for the Wayne Norton memorial garden at Williamson Trade School where Wayne taught for many years.
- Reviewed plan for a Labyrinth and agreed to present the plans at the Annual Meeting for congregational comment and suggestion. The Labyrinth, when approved, would be constructed through special designated gifts.
- Reminded council members about the long-range planning retreat on February 5-6 and agreed to invite ministry chairpeople to attend.
- Encouraged members to attend Pastor London's ordination service on February 28 at 3:00 p.m.



Sundays at 9:45 AM
Creighton Hall

The Adult Forum meets Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in Creighton Hall and is open to all adults. Topics vary from Bible study to current issues that impact faith and life.

February 7 – Christianity in Africa. Yidaa and Josephine Hne will tell about their experience with the Lutheran Church in Liberia and Ester Mukasa will talk about her family church, the Episcopal Church in Kampala, Uganda.

February 14 – St. Valentine – Myth, Mystery and Opportunity. A look at this well known but recently uncanonized saint and why he captures our American imagination.

February 21 -- Our Pangani Partnership. Pastor Smoose will give an update on our partnership congregation in Pangani and talk about the ministry there.

February 28 – Rock Point Navajo Mission. A look at our Arizona partnership and their ministry.

FROM THE ALTAR GUILD

Thank you to all who donated poinsettias for Christmas. We especially want to thank Minutella's for the two large plants which were placed in the Narthex. Also, a thank you to Dave Bevan for delivering approximately 20 plants to the sick and shut-ins.

We are still in need of someone to make baptismal towels. These can be done by machine. Material will be supplied. Please call Mildred Royer at 610-459-2426 if you can help.

PARISH NURSE



Pat Woerheide

WHAT DISEASE CANNOT DO

Disease is limited

It cannot cripple love

It cannot shatter hope

It cannot destroy peace

It cannot kill friendship

It cannot suppress memories

It cannot silence courage

It cannot steal eternal life

It cannot conquer the spirit

Thank you Lord,

Happy Valentines Day!



O. W. L. S.

Older, Wiser, Lutherans

The OWLs heard from David Whiteknack in January about how we can use our assets to benefit Reformation, as well as ourselves. Marjorie Gibson led the devotion. Instead of sandwiches/hoagies this time, we ordered out-- Pizza! Desserts were provided by members.

February's program is still being planned. Mary Shook will lead the devotion.

March's program will be lively entertainment by Ken Delmar's brass quartet, **The Media Dixies**.

We are always glad to see our old friends at meetings of the OWLs, as well as meet new ones. So, mark your new 2010 calendars for the second Monday of each month!

REFORMATION ALL STARS

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

25 Stars - Certificate

- Alexandra Benzing
- Sarah Michelle Bingeman
- Tyler Reed Bingeman
- Ciara Bradley



75 Stars - Certificate

- Rachel Bingeman
- Kyle Korhaus

100 Stars - Certificate & \$10 Gift Card

- Jordan Sharer

125 Stars - Certificate

- Kelsey Schaub
- Olivia Biordi

150 Stars - Certificate

- Matthew Gane

250 Stars - Certificate

- John Walter, III

ECO-MINISTRY PRESENTS

Friday Night Movie

Friday, February 5th

At 6:00 PM



Join us for a potluck dinner and a movie, followed by discussion.



**FROM THE DIRECTOR
OF LAY MINISTRY**

Diane Black

Are you down after the Christmas and New Year celebrations? Are you cold and tired of winter already? If your answer is Yes! We invite you to the following fellowship events which are sure to warm up and pick up your spirits!

Saturday, February 13th- Men's Breakfast 7:30am. And every 2nd Saturday of every month.

Sunday, February 14th- Valentines Day and the last Sunday before Lent, your Hospitality Ministry will be serving coffee and Fast Naughts after both services.

Saturday, February 20th- The Youth Auction, I know you all heard how fabulous this event was last year, I am sure this year will be even better. Great food, great fun in Creighton Hall which you won't recognize.

Wednesdays, February 24th thru March 24th- Soup Suppers and Mid-week Lenten Services.

Sunday, February 28th, 3:00pm.- Pastor Anita London's Ordination, followed by a catered dinner in Creighton Hall which will again be unrecognizable. Your meal will be buffet style, which includes salad, two entree choices, pasta, rice, and cake for dessert. The Hospitality Ministry would appreciate it if you sign up and bring a Veggie tray or a Cheese and Cracker Tray.

NOW FOR SOME THANK YOU' S!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thanks to all the volunteers led by Dave Helms who helped "Un Hang the Greens". It was done fast, efficient and clean.

Thanks to all those who sponsored the West Point Cadets. They are a special group of young adults, we are so fortunate to have them visit us and perform for us.

Thank You to all of our Chairpersons for leading our ministries to do God's work.



COUNCIL RETREAT

Friday, February 5, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
at Reformation

Saturday, February, 6:00 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
at Philadelphia Serminary

The Rev. Janet Corpus, former Assistant to the Bishop, will be the Facilitator

HCI COMMUNITY FORUM

with

VINCE PAPALE as KEYNOTER

Wednesday, February 3

6:00 – 9:30 p.m.

AT

Penncrest High School

Youth Services Exhibits;

Door prizes and more!

Men's Breakfast



Saturday, February 13

7:30 a.m.

Creighton Hall



You're Invited to the
2^{N D} ANNUAL
SILENT / LIVE AUCTION
February 20, 2010
5:30 p.m.

You are invited to attend Reformation's Second Annual **Silent/Live Auction** to benefit **Youth Mission Scholarship Fund** on Saturday, Feb. 20 at 5:30 pm on the church's lower level. You may have heard how wonderful last year's event was and this year's event will be even bigger and better.

We are kicking off efforts once again to support real mission outreach by our youth who will be helping to rebuild the 9th Ward in New Orleans. This year we have an exciting evening of live and silent auction fun with delicious catered gourmet food, piano music by Bill Meehan, candlelight ambiance and great fellowship.

Event Tickets are available in the Narthex after each service in the coming weeks. You will also be receiving a mailing with a ticket reservation form for your convenience. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children 5-12 years old. Free babysitting will be provided in the nursery on the night of the auction.

Help make this year's auction event even more successful by **donating auction items, services or gift certificates**. Donation forms are included in the mailing or are available from the church office.

We are in need of empty baskets to display some of our auction items. If you have a basket or basket items to donate there is a collection bin in the narthex.

Some examples for basket items are:

- Teen Basket
- Mystery Basket
- Italian Basket
- Skin Care Basket
- Baby Baskets
- Game Baskets
- Movie Baskets



Thank you for your support! Any questions please contact the church office at (610) 891-0600.

Pastor Smoose, Pastor London and the Youth Ministry Auction Team

C H U R C H L I F E

FROM THE LIBRARY

Quite a few new book, videos, and DVDs were added to our Reformation Library at the end of 2009. Some of these new additions were books for children. They include God's Quiet Times, by Sweetland, The Big Book for Peace, by Durell, What is God Like? by Lewis, and two African tales: God's Holy Breath, and Planting the Trees of Kenya.

Children's Authors and Illustrators Week is February 1st to 7th, so you may want to take this occasion to read one of these new selections to your child!

Recent donations-- books from Erika Brooks and Mildred Royer.

A note about the book Leah by Mildred Royer:

"This is a novel about the birth of Christianity and a personal story of Leah, who was compelled into a betrothal she did not want, and was drawn to a faith she never expected. I was so fascinated with the story that I hated to put it down. In fact, I enjoyed it so much; I bought a copy for the church library."

10TH ANNIVERSARY

Come celebrate then 10th Anniversary of Reformation Library on February 21!

This month marks the anniversary of the Reformation Church Library. To mark this momentous occasion the library committee will host special refreshments following each service on February 21. They will also introduce our new **Book Cart** in the Narthex. Some of our newest books and videos will be available to sign out at this time!

KIDS AND MONEY

A special event for parents and children

In Grades 1-6

Help them learn the basics of money management

And the keys to saving, sharing and spending.

Watch for more details!

Thank You!

Dear Members of Reformation,

My family and I gratefully acknowledge all the cards, prayers and condolences sent on the occasion of my mother's death. Her passing was squick, peaceful, painless and she was surrounded by her family. In that respect, all of our prayers were answered.

We all saw God's hand in her last moments and are comforted to know that she now rests in His perfect peace.

~Linda Lee, Pastor and the Lee family

MOVIE REVIEW-- OSAMA

Reviewed by Edna Bogert

This award-winning movie tells the story of life in Afghanistan under the rule of the Taliban. A twelve year old girl and her mother are destitute after the Taliban close the hospital where they work. Their father and brother have been killed in the war with the Soviet Union and they are not allowed to go outside without a male to accompany them.

The mother disguises her daughter as a boy so she can go out and can earn some money for them. Then, Osama, the girl disguised as a boy, is taken by the Taliban to be trained as a soldier, which leads to the discovery that she is a girl, to her trial and to the eventual outcome.

This movie was filmed in and around Kabul in 2003. I recommend it to anyone interested in learning about life for women in Afghanistan under the Taliban. It can be found in the church library.

BENEVOLENCE REPORT

2009 BENEVOLENCE GIVING – THANKS REFORMATION!

As a congregation, we try to model good stewardship, so that we practice what we encourage members to do. Thus, we begin by tithing our income to our synod and church at large. We then use our Holiday offering fund, Endowment Outreach Account and Special offerings for World Hunger or Lutheran Charities to help with other community and global benevolent causes. Here's the breakdown for 2009.

Regular Benevolence Support to Synod/ELCA \$ 45,924

Holiday Offering

Missionary Support (Johnson's and Lowden's) \$ 2,500

Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia (seminary day match) \$ 1,000

Healthy Communities Initiative (With Thrivent match) \$ 2,000

The Center Foundation \$ 650

Easter Food baskets \$ 828

Veteran's Museum/Legacy (Patriotic Concert) \$ 1,200

People for People, Inc. (Thrivent Match) \$ 1,600

Stand for Africa \$ 1,000

Rock Point Navajo Mission (includes VBS offering) \$ 1,535

SeKUCo (Synod supported college in Tanzania) \$ 1,020

Rose Tree Fire Co. #1 \$ 500

Upper Providence Police Benevolence Fund \$ 250

Media Ambulance \$ 250

Delaware County Community Foundation \$ 250

Peace Center \$ 250

Operation Warm \$ 300

Delco Lutheran Conference \$ 300

Pathways PA \$ 150

American Leprosy Mission \$ 150

Media Fellowship House \$ 100

Southern Poverty Law Center \$ 100

Penncrest Band \$ 75

Penncrest After Prom Party \$ 75

Penncrest Drama \$ 75

TOTAL HOLIDAY AND THRIVENT MATCH \$16,158

Endowment and Other

Pangani Scholarships \$ 4,500

St. Michael's Philadelphia Partnership Donation \$ 3,000

Delaware County Community Foundation Sunshine Fund \$ 1,000

City Team Holiday Benefit Concert \$ 600

World Hunger (First Sun. of Month offerings) \$ 5,116

Lutheran Charities \$ 584

Thanksgiving Food Baskets (Delco Chap. Thrivent) \$ 900

Christmas Food Baskets (RELC Chap. Thrivent) \$ 750

TOTAL ENDOWMENT AND OTHER \$16,450

TOTAL ALL BENEVOLENCES \$78,532



In the previous two newsletters I talked about our friendliness and our caring. This month I want to talk about our legacy of serving. This is a legacy that began long before I became your pastor. In fact, in the 1950's – shortly after the first building was completed, Reformation members determined that the community needed a Nursery School and proceeded to establish one in the basement of the church. That was probably the beginning of our community service.

In that same spirit, long-time members like Bob and Madeline Heim, Van and Carol Lee Andersen, Ann Neithammer, Edna Bogert, and others, some of whom are now with the church triumphant, began a Social Ministry Committee that initiated ministries that continue to the present day such as Aid for Friends and the Holiday Food Baskets and City Team Ministry meals.

In 1995, a year before I came as Senior Pastor, Reformation responded to a synod invitation that sought congregations to become partners with a congregation in Africa. Reformation was one of four congregations to initiate those partnerships and Doc Schock and Phyllis Frieberg joined representatives of the other three congregations accompanying the bishop on the first visit to Tanzania. Doc and Phyllis continue to be strong advocates for the Global Mission Ministry and were primary proponents for our Pangani Scholarship Program and the first Sunday World Hunger Offering.

I have encouraged Reformation members to maintain and expand this legacy. Roger Johnsen initiated our partnership with Rock Point and Christel Badey quickly became a strong supporter of that ministry. We have had three mission trips to Navajo communities and efforts to encourage youth mission trips have included participation in the Appalachia Service Project and two previous trips to New Orleans.

The establishment of the Holiday Offering Fund and the re-structuring of our Endowment Fund with its Outreach Account have provided opportunity for expanded influence in our community and throughout the church. We help rehab homes in Chester, provide support to many social agencies and are known as a generous, caring congregation. I have included our 2009 donations in this issue so you can see what those funds have done in this past year alone.

Our Lord told his disciples that he came among them as one who serves and encouraged his followers to use his acts of humble service as a model. That has been and continues to be one of Reformation's best legacies, and those who actively participate in these ministries of service discover that they are also blessed. Keep up the good work!

~ Pastor Smoose

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

REFORMATION TIMES

Volume 31, No. 2

FEBRUARY 2010

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

SCOUT SUNDAY

Today we welcome the scouts from our troop and their leaders at our 11:00 a.m. worship service.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Rejoicing Spirits Worship at 4:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

ASH WEDNESDAY

Worship: Daytime – 12 noon. Evening – 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Mid-week Lenten Service

6:30 p.m. Soup Supper

7:15 p.m. – Vespers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

**3:00 p.m. ORDINATION OF
PASTOR ANITA LONDON**

Presiding: Bishop Claire Burkat

Preaching: The Rev. Bill DeHass, preaching

Dinner reception follows.

