

REFORMATION TIMES

VOLUME 32 No. 11

NOVEMBER 2011

SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER

November 6 – All Saints Sunday-- Today, we give thanks for all the saints whose faithfulness in life sustained the church. And we will be remembering with special prayers, those Reformation members, relatives and friends who have died during the past year and now live with all the saints in God's eternal kingdom.

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship/ 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

**DON'T FORGET DAYLIGHT SAVINGS END
TURN BACK YOUR CLOCKS**

November 13 – Consecration Sunday -- Today is the day when members of Reformation dedicate their financial commitments for the coming year to the work of our as part of our annual stewardship emphasis. Please read the special insert about the Financial Festival which will be held at 9:45 a.m.

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

9:45 a.m. Making Money Matter: A Financial Festival

November 20 – Christ The King Sunday -- This is the final Sunday of the Christian Church Year and when we celebrate that day when Christ's kingship is realized and the fulfillment of our prayer, "Thy Kingdom Come on earth . . .,"

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship/ 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

November 27 – First Sunday in Advent -- A new church year begins and we prepare for Christmas with the lighting of the advent wreath, and use a special liturgy, *Lightening the Load* which recognizes that holiday preparations can be difficult for persons experiencing the loss of loved ones, loss of jobs or other life changing events. Both our worship service will have opportunity for individual prayer, lighting of votive candles and quiet reflection. A special **Advent Family Workshop will be held during the 9:45 a.m. Sunday School hour with many special crafts. See the separate news article.**

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship/ 11:00 a.m.



THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Wednesday, November 23

7:30 p.m.

Traditional Thanksgiving hymns

Special prayers

An inspirational service

ADVENT FAMILY WORKSHOP

NOVEMBER 27

9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Make an Advent wreath for the family!

Or a Christmas ornament for your tree!

A fun workshop for all ages

(Children 8 and under need a parent with them)

YES, we will have refreshments!

**Start preparing for Christmas
with a faith-focused event!**



Contemporary Worship/ 9:45 a.m. **Advent Workshop**

December 4 – St Nicholas Sunday! Come to Reformation to meet St. Nicholas and hear the special story of his life of commitment to Jesus. The bishop will also bless the gifts we bring for those in our community and nearby institutions who have special needs.

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship/ 9:45 a.m. Sunday

C H U R C H L I F E

COUNCIL NOTES

- Thanked the Tanzanian Mission team for their outstanding report to the congregation on October 2 and October 9.
- Reported on the upcoming “Making Money Matter” festival on November 13 and encouraged members to attend one of the seminars.
- Noted that there are eight youth and three adult advisors registered for the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans and that we will be partnering with Holy Trinity Lutheran, Wallingford for that event.
- Reported that Dick Hughey is working with the township on approvals needed for the kitchen renovation.
- Received the Treasurer’s report that noted a deficit of \$20,000 as a result of the summer slowdown in receipts and the extremely low worship attendance with the Hurricane Irene.
- Reported that our advertisement in “Fig Media” will feature St. Nicholas Day on December 4.

DECEMBER LOOK AHEAD – Events to put on the calendar now!

DECEMBER 3 – The annual Eagle watch trip. An hour’s drive and see over 100 eagles. A memorable and spectacular trip for all ages.

DECEMBER 4 – DURING WORSHIP – ST. NICHOLAS DAY with a visit by St. Nicholas!

DECEMBER 4 – City Team Benefit Holiday Concert at Reformation – 4 p.m. A wonderful concert of traditional Christmas music and holiday tunes that all ages will enjoy. This is for the entire Media community, so spread the word.

DECEMBER 9 – Chester Children’s Chorus – 7:00 p.m. Last time this popular chorus under the direction of John Alston packed the church and their holiday concert is even better. A perfect event for children to enjoy the singing of other children and youth.

ADULT FORUM

The Adult Forum meets weekly at 9:45 a.m. and presents a variety of topics reflecting social issues, faith issues, church beliefs and family life/personal growth topics. It meets in Creighton Hall. There is also a weekly Bible Study, wonderfully led by Nancy Clark that meets in the choir room on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m.

November 6 – A Lutheran View of Saints – What did Martin Luther say about the veneration of the saints and the role of saints within Christianity? How do we honor and remember saints today? Pastor Smoose leads the discussion.

November 13 – FINANCIAL FESTIVAL – MAKING MONEY MATTER -- see the special insert in this newsletter and register for one of the outstanding seminars and for a chance to win a bottle of Pastor Smoose’s legendary Maple Syrup.

November 20 -- Predictions of the End of the World – A look at the Book of Revelation and other images of the end of the world and what it means today.

November 27 – ADVENT FAMILY WORKSHOP
Make an Advent Wreath or a Christmas ornament. Learn some Advent fun facts. This will be for ALL AGES (children 8 and under must be accompanied by an adult) and will take the place of our regular Sunday School classes.

Know Your Church Council

President: Carol Steinbrecher Vice-Pres.: Kathy Ewens
Secretary: Sally Helms Treasurer: Tom Conroy
Members: Ron Bingemen, Deb Felton, Gary Kamin, Eric Lucas, Joe Mirarchi, Wilson Moffett, John Prichard, Jen Troutman

Newsletter Submission

Articles for the Reformation Times should be emailed to Sandy Niss at reformationnews@gmail.com by the second Friday of each month.

C H U R C H H U L I F E

PARISH NURSE

Pat Woerheide

The holiday season is starting with the arrival of Thanksgiving. A way to show our gratefulness is to share our used durable medical equipment. Many articles end up in a basement or attic and are not used again. In the past, we have collected durable medical equipment and distributed it as needed, but for the most part, the halls of our church have become unsafe storage places. After consideration, we've decided to have members let us know if they have supplies or durable medical equipment while keeping them in their home, then I will publish the supplies in my newsletter quarterly. Also if you have an equipment need, let me know and I will alert the congregation to this need. This way we can connect people and reuse these products while saving resources. We have a wheelchair in the church office but it should remain available for emergencies. At this time these durable medical supplies are available:

- 50 inch wooden crutches
- Adjustable quad cane
- Adjustable straight cane
- Metal adjustable walker with a chair feature
- Commode
- Large shower chair (30 " x 16 ")
- Circulating cooling pad with storage case
- Baby crib with drop sides

Thank You for your generosity.

A NOTE FROM PASTOR ANITA

Dear Friends,

It is with deep gratitude that I'd like to thank all of you for the outpouring of love and support after my sister's sudden death. Your kindness expressed in person or by phone, through cards and emails have been a great source of comfort. Thank you very much for your thoughts and prayers during this time of sadness.

Love, Pastor Anita

TAIZE PRAYER SERVICE



Monday, November 21

7 PM in the sanctuary.

The one hour service consists of prayerful songs to guitar accompaniment, scripture readings, responsive prayers and a period of meditative silence. Please plan to come and experience this hour of serenity.

FALL LEAF CLEAN-UP DAY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

9 A.M. TO NOON

(Rain Date November 19)



Please bring your blowers, rakes, wheelbarrows, tarp, gloves and energy to clean up the property in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Many hands make light work.

KIDS AND ADULTS WELCOME

CONFIRMATION YOUTH EARN SERVICE POINTS!

Donuts and Coffee will be available

Please fill out sign up form and put it in the offering plate or the church office.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF LAY MINISTRY

Diane Black

GIFT GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Silver Springs – Martin Luther School

Pick a gift tag and bring the child's choice of gift to the celebration, **unwrapped**, with Silver Springs-Martin Luther School gift tag attached

Aid For Friends

Pick a tag for new gifts of warmth for the elderly: robes, housecoats, nighties of all sizes, blankets, afghans, towels and wash cloths. Also needed are Ensure, Boost and incontinent bed pads. Please put tag on the gift.

Chester Eastside Mission

Pick a gift tag of toys, games, art supplies or gift cards and bring your unwrapped gift with the gift tag attached.

Kencrest

Purchase a gift card from your favorite store, Kohl's, Wal-Mart, Acme, or any store of your choice. Give the Gift Cards to Diane Black or Linda Lorino.

MIGRANT MINISTRY IN KENNETT SQUARE

Pick a gift tag of full size blankets, toys, or gift cards and bring in requested gift unwrapped with the tag on it.

MEN'S BREAKFAST
Saturday, November 12
7:30 a.m .

Good food and fellowship

Topic:
"Home Brewing –
From Colonial Days to Today"

Eric Lucas will share his experience in
brewing beer at home

A NOTE FROM PASTOR SCHADE

Thank you from Pastor Schade, Jim, Rachel and Benjamin.

What a blessing it was to see so many familiar faces from Reformation at my installation service at United in Christ Lutheran Church in West Milton on Oct. 9th! Thanks to all of you who made the long trip up to West Milton and back – you made me and my family so very happy! Thanks also to Pastor Smoose for serving as lector and communion assistant for the service – it meant so much to have you there! I know many of you would have liked to come but were prohibited by the distance and busy schedules. But you sent your prayers and well-wishes which were also greatly appreciated!

A brief update: I successfully defended my comprehensive exams in September and am now a PhD *Candidate*, ABD (All But Dissertation). I will be submitting my dissertation proposal, and after that is approved, I'll begin writing the thesis. I'm hoping to have it completed by 2013. While I'm serving at United in Christ, I'm also attending academic conferences to present papers, submitting pieces for publication, and still playing the harp on occasion. Jim is making connections with the music scene here in the upper Susquehanna Valley, and is thoroughly enjoying our new home. Rachel is now in third grade and still enjoys art, writing and reading. Benjamin is in his last year of pre-school and is as extroverted as ever with a full social calendar of playdates. Rachel is now an acolyte at church, and they both serve as greeters, ushers, and communion helpers.

Thanks again for your continued prayers, cards, emails, and Facebook postings. It is so wonderful to be able to keep in touch and maintain our connections which have nurtured us over the years.

Your in Christ,
Pastor Schade

ECO MINISTRY

Conowingo Dam Trip
December 3, 2011

The Eco Committee is again doing the trip to Conowingo Dam on December 3, 2011 to see approximately 100 Bald Eagles plus many other species of birds plus the beautiful view of the Susquehanna River, This is a great family outing.

We will meet at the church at 9:00 AM and drive 45 miles to Conowingo. At the dam site, there are heated bathrooms and a stop along the way to get cheap gasoline and food. Bring binoculars if you have them. We will have telescopes and extra binoculars.

For questions, please contact Tom Reeves naturalist@verizon.net or cell 267-879- 0000.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

The Reformation Library Book Club was fun, exciting, and informative. We're looking forward to the next meeting in January, when we'll discuss, Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet, by Jamie Ford.

The next visit of the book cart to Sunday School will be on October 30th, when 3-year-olds will join Pre-kindergarten, Kindergarten, and Grades 1 and 2 for an opportunity to select books. Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6 will get their chance on November 6th. Of course, books may also be checked out from the library at any time!

Among the books in our church library are many by and about Luther and Lutheranism, and a collection of books about Henry Muhlenberg, patriarch of the American Lutheran Church. The latter are currently on display for the occasion of Muhlenberg's 300th birthday and Reformation's 60th year. Did you know, however, that books about many other world religions can also be found here? If you wish to learn more about Islam, Buddhism, Judiasm, check out our library. We even have a new book by the well-known atheist philosopher, Christopher Hitchens.

Mormonism is currently in the news, since two potential presidential candidates are of that religion. The October 4th issue of *The Christian Century* has an interesting article about this religion and how it has evolved over the years. *The Christian Century* and *The Lutheran* magazines can be found in the wall racks in the hall. They are available for a 7 day check-out.

Thank you for donations!

The Koethe-Kleckner Family

Anonymous

You are invited to The Winter Reformation Library Book Club Meeting



When: Monday, January 23, 2012

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Reformation Lutheran Church

Our winter book selection is
"Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet"
by Jamie Ford

We had a great inaugural Book Club meeting in September with great company, food and conversation. Won't you join us for the next one in January? All are welcome! See you there!

RSVP to: Laura Reiter at Ireiter101814@comcast.net or Sue Bianco.

C H U R C H L I F E

MARK DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Mark Davis Scholarship Fund was established by the Rev. William and Irene Davis, following the death of their son, Mark. It was initially established at and overseen by St. Luke Lutheran Church, Dublin. With the dissolution of that congregation, the Davis' have transferred the fund to Reformation, conditioned by the bylaws of the fund. The financial assets are administered by the ELCA Foundation.

Income from the fund will be received quarterly and should be kept in a separate reserve account "The Mark Davis Scholarship Fund."

The bylaws specify the membership of the oversight committee and the conditions for receiving the scholarships. Scholarship preference is given to any grandchildren of the Davis'. Additional scholarships can be given to members of Reformation, and if there are no grandchildren doing undergraduate work, all scholarships will be given to Reformation members within the guidelines of the fund. These include:

- Regular attendance at worship
- Activity in the congregation (youth group, teaching, choirs, worship leadership)
- Academic achievement in High School
- Special consideration for those preparing for a church vocation.

The committee overseeing the fund will include the three children of Bill and Irene Davis (Ellen Conroy, Becky Prince and Evan Davis) and two members of Reformation as approved by the Congregation Council.

The fund is currently returning income of about \$2200.



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

What a great time the two dozen OWLs had at our last meeting! We were treated to a special devotion by our very own resident puppeteer, Eurla Frederick, who presented a puppet show with a moral. After our lunch, we heard a dynamic presentation by dietitian, Terri Crossan.

Next month, Rich Hendricks, a representative from Thrivent, will not only be conducting the forum on Sunday, November 13th, but will also speak to the OWLs on Monday, November 14th following lunch. Come to both events. You can ask all the questions on Monday that you thought of *after* the forum was ended. (That's what we *older* folks often do!) Come and bring a friend to get answers to all your financial questions!

Don't miss this informative meeting!

THE MARK DAVIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Rev. William and Irene Davis also established the Mark Davis Memorial Library at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Dublin. Appropriate volumes from that collection have been added to the Reformation Library. The Library Committee of Reformation is determining which volumes would be most appropriate and enhance our existing collection.

Council has approved a recommendation that a section of shelving in our library be designated as "The Mark Davis Memorial Collection" and that an appropriate plaque be placed over that section to acknowledge their generous gift of books and the remaining funds from the original gift given to St. Luke's.



NOVEMBER 2011

November 6- Ice Skating at Ice Works
1:30 – 3:45 p.m.
\$11.00. Bring extra money for snacks!
Meet at church at 1:15 p.m.

November 13- Regular Youth Group – R.O.C.K. Room,
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

November 20- Marple Zone, Sports & Fitness Complex
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Meet at church at 1:15 p.m. Bring your bat and have a
great time at the batting cages. Putt-Putt and Soccer too!
Batting Cage Rental:
\$2= 1 token (12 pitches)
\$5= 4 tokens
\$10= 8 tokens
\$20= 17 tokens

November 27- No youth group.
Happy Thanksgiving!

ANNUAL COOKIE BAKE

Friday, November 25 at 9:30 am

On Friday morning, November 25th, Reformation will host the **Eleventh Annual Jean Roberts Cookie Bake**. Any and all are invited to come to Reformation's kitchen at 9:30am or after. Bring your already mixed cookie dough to bake in the church ovens. Or, even better, bring a batch of already baked cookies!

A box of cookies will be added to each of the 45 food baskets given to the three organizations helped by Reformation through our Community Action Ministry: Chester County Migrant Ministry; Media Grandparents Raising Grandchildren; and the Philadelphia Black Minister's Coalition.

In addition, each of the shut-ins visited by our Christmas Carolers will receive a box of homemade Christmas cookies. That's a lot of cookies! So, come, bake, bring, or send some cookies for these vital ministries!



Attention current High School, College Students, and interested adults: Save the Date!

Appalachia Service Project Interest Meeting

When: Sunday, November 20, 2011 at 12:00 pm (after the second service)

Where: Here at Reformation Church

We will talk about Reformation's plans for a RETURN high school/college mission trip to central Appalachia during the week of June 24, 2012. Last year we sent two work crews with 14 people. Can we send three work crews this year? The answer is Yes, with the help of God!.....Any questions about the life changing experiences experienced by our youth, contact any of our 2011 participants!

College students: Adam Fender, Matt Reiter, Teanna Cutadean, Aaron Hench, Kristin Chorney, Thao Nguyen, and Jennifer Yoegel

High School Students: Katie Ward, Emily Black, and Grace Brooks

Adults: Connie Richardson, Dave Chorney, Tom Hench, and Ron Brzowski



I'm at the age where "the has" as my son Matthew would say, becomes a natural part of my reflections. "The Has" are stories of the way things were, the changes evident from the past. It is a disease most noticeable in those of us who are older, but can be readily observed even at 10 year reunions of high school or college chums. Sometimes it is the product of nostalgia, or it can be the lament of changes made or customs revised.

As we move into November and the wonderful National Day of Thanksgiving, I was bitten by "The Has" bug. The first national proclamation that I could find was made by President Washington in 1789:

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor - and Whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me "to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

There are many other such proclamations, not all for the traditional thanksgiving, but sometimes simply calling for a day of "fasting and humiliation" at a time of crisis in our nation. In each case, the proclamation is urging all citizens of our country to pause from their usual labors and take time to acknowledge our dependence on God, to give thanks for God's beneficence and pray for God's guidance and blessing for our nation.

In the early years of my ministry (this is "The has") it was not unusual to have a joint worship service in which members of the community could gather together on the eve of Thanksgiving – and the church would be full! I am sure that still occurs, most likely in the smaller, rural towns and communities of our nation where most of the residents know each other and enjoy other community-wide events. But in many of our suburban towns, where residents come and go in more transient fashion and community wide events are less frequent, I have seen fewer and fewer joint services.

Even more disconcerting is the reality that in those services, and even in the worship services at individual congregations like Reformation, fewer and fewer people attend – and fewer families with children come out to worship. It is not good modeling for our children, not a good expression of our faith and not a good omen for our nation. We will find ways to gather for a Thanksgiving feast and watch football games for hours at a time, but not find an hour to give thanks to the One Almighty God and Lord who has made it all possible.

We can do better and need to do better at acknowledging and honoring God. And, in addition to the time set aside for worship, we can make the Thanksgiving meal a part of our faith conviction by a meaningful prayer – yes, probably longer than usual and not just spoken by rote – and perhaps even some time for young and old alike to reflect on that for which we are thankful.

Sometimes "The has" can be discovered as that which still has meaning and purpose and adds richness to life and that is nowhere more true than in our need to pause and give thanks to God, acknowledging his providence, being grateful for his benefits and imploring his protection and favor.

~ Pastor Smoose

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

MAKING MY MONEY MATTER

YES, Your Money Matters. Your Generous Contributions MAKE MISSION HAPPEN!

It's GOD'S WORK – and YOU ARE THE HANDS

YOU provide for the mission work pictured in this brochure
YOU provide salaries and benefits for our excellent staff
YOU provide for our mortgage and the care of our building
YOU provide for the Christian education of our children and youth
YOU help begin new mission churches in the U.S.
YOU help feed the hungry, house the homeless, provide prison ministry

You might say – “When did we do this, Lord?” and Jesus will respond
“When you gave your weekly offering and volunteered your time.”

Members give at many different levels – BECAUSE income levels vary.

CAN YOU GROW IN YOUR GIVING?

1% IS ONLY \$1 MORE/WEEK FOR EACH \$5000
OF YOUR INCOME.

BUT THAT 1% MORE WILL BE A BIG DIFFERENCE
FOR OUR MISSION

MAKE YOUR MONEY MATTER

Watch for the special mailing
Read the material
Complete the worksheet
Bring in your Estimate of Giving

**CONSECRATION SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 13
YOUR MONEY MATTERS**

MAKING MONEY MATTER

A Financial Festival for All Ages

CONSECRATION SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 13, 2011 – 9:45 A.M.

Teaching Kids About Money

(for grades 1-4, and their parents)
ALL KIDS ATTENDING GET A FREE PIGGYBANK

Making My Money Count

(for grades 5-8)

The Financial ABCs – Apartments, Budgets & Credit

(for grade 9 through college graduates)

Developing a Game Plan to Cross the Financial Goal Line

(for young adults, newlyweds and young families)

Managing My Gold for the Golden Years

(for mature adults)

Gourmet Home-Baked and Healthy Snacks Provided

Presented by **The Finance Ministry** of Reformation Lutheran Church
with the sponsorship of *Thrivent Financial for Lutherans*

MAKING MONEY MATTER

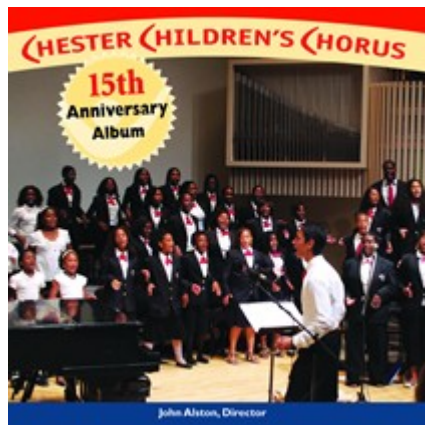
MONEY FOR MISSION – 2011



A team of six members traveled to Tansania and met our partner congregation in Pangani



Two teams of youth and advisors traveled to KY to repair homes for the Appalachia Service Project



We began a partnership with the Chester Children's Chorus

Media enjoyed our Patriotic Concert and helped support the Veterans' Legacy Project and the Pennsylvania Veterans' Museum



Our children enjoyed Sunday School and Vacation Bible School

We help build a habitat home in Chester



MONEY FOR MISSION – 2012



Young people want to return to Appalachia

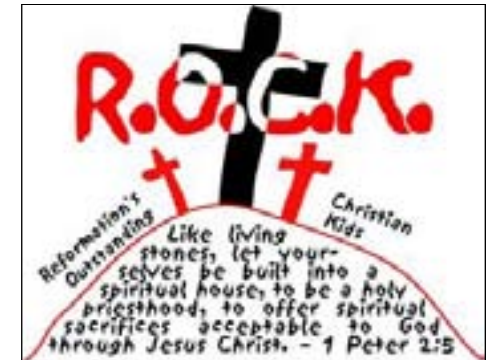
We continue to teach Christian Faith and Values to our children



Holiday Food Boxes



Weekly worship, outstanding music



The national ELCA Youth Gathering provides another life changing opportunity for our youth

Eco Ministry



We reach out to our community with City Team



Caring for our beautiful facility



Supporting our missionaries in Liberia: Brian and Christine Palmer



Partnership Support to the ELCA for National and International Work of the church

REFORMATION TIMES

Volume 32, No. 11

NOVEMBER 2011

NOVEMBER 6: ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Worship: Traditional at 8:30 am/ Contemporary at 11:00 am
Sunday School/ Adult Education at 9:45 am

NOVEMBER 13: CONSECRATION SUNDAY

Worship: Traditional at 8:30 am/ Contemporary at 11:00 am
9:45 a.m. Making Money Matter: A Financial Festival

NOVEMBER 27: FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Worship: Traditional at 8:30 am/ Contemporary at 11:00 am
9:45 am: ADVENT FAMILY WORKSHOP

