

**REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4543 DOUGLAS ROAD  
TOLEDO, OH 43613**

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016**



# REFORMATION

## News and Views

Reformation Lutheran Church  
4543 Douglas Road – Toledo, Ohio 43613  
419-473-1369

Pastor: Stacy Lauer-Scovanner  
Secretary: Jan Weatherly  
Organist: Martin Britsch

reformationluth@gmail.com Email  
website: reformationlutherantoledo.org  
Worship Services: Saturday – 4:00 pm  
Sunday – 9:00 am  
Sunday School – 10:15am

Office Hours: Mon and Wed. 9:00 – 3:00, Fri. 9:00 – 1:00

*In case of an emergency, you may reach Pastor Stacy at 419-680-0358.*

### Mission Statement

“With the help of the Holy Spirit, God’s purpose for Reformation Lutheran Church is to use everyone’s talents to transform lives and serve others by boldly taking the Good News of Jesus to all people.”

---

### A Message from our Pastor

Romans 12:4-5 “For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.”

Perhaps you have heard these verses before. But they still ring true. And I witness this truth every time I see you—the body of Christ—in action together or wherever you are sent into the world.

Together, we are the body of Christ and that is an incredible blessing. It means that we have received Christ’s incredible love for us, demonstrated through his life, death, and resurrection. It means that we know that we aren’t perfect, that we won’t be perfect during this present time here on earth, and that’s all right. It means that we recognize that there are times when we will let each other down and when feelings will get hurt.

But being a part of the body of Christ also means that we are forgiven, freed, loved, cherished, and accepted just as we are. Without changing anything, Christ came, lived, and died for us. As we recognized a few months ago, it means that we are surrounded by the love of the saints who have gone before us, and the saints who are still in here with us.

And this means that we get to have a huge impact on the world around us, as Christ continues to call us to be a part of the healing that he began. We don’t get to stand on the sidelines watching the world pass us by, but we are called to let Christ work through us to use our special (or seemingly ordinary) gifts to bring healing, hope, restoration, and love to the world. We get to listen to those around us share their stories, we get to share our burdens and our joys, we get to share our abundance of resources and receive what we need. Together, great things happen.

Like most years, this past year has been both challenging and affirming as we strive to follow Christ. We miss the members who have joined the eternal company of saints. But we also welcome new members to our family, sisters and brothers who we serve alongside. We continue to sometimes struggle financially, but we are reaching out to our neighbors and sharing the Gospel in new and exciting ways. This world needs to hear the good news of Christ’s never-ending love for them—and we are offering it.

This is my fifth annual meeting, and I still feel so very blessed that Ryan and I have been called to serve in this great community of faith and that Mia now gets to learn of your faith and love. I truly believe that the Holy Spirit is working in this place and in our neighborhood.

Instead of listing all of the great things that happened this year, I invite you to read through your annual report and discover again how together we are the body of Christ here and throughout the city, state, country, and world.

Walking with you in Christ,  
Pastor Stacy

**ANNUAL MEETING: JANUARY 17, 2016 – LUTHER HALL**  
Meeting starts immediately following worship. A delicious meal will be provided!  
**PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND THIS MEETING!**  
**YOUR INPUT INTO THE DIRECTION AND MISSION OF OUR CHURCH IS IMPORTANT.**

## **What's New at Reformation?**

### **Facebook Page**

If you haven't been to Reformation's Facebook page yet, please visit there (and Like us). Anyone is welcome to share photos of church activities, say hello to one another and just keep up on news. You can also share upcoming events with your Friends.

### **Donations to the Fish Bowl**

Each week donations to the Fish Bowl will be designated to a different cause, organization or other purpose. Any and all donations are always gladly accepted.

**Catechism:** The catechism class continues to meet. This month, we are studying the Apostles' Creed. We will also be worshipping at Good Shepherd of the Deaf Lutheran Church on January 31st.

**Making Sense of the Cross:** We will be having a study on the cross through January and February. We will meet January 12, 26, February 2, 9, 16, and 23rd at noon at varying homes. There is a book that goes with the material. If you would like to purchase a book, please let Pastor Stacy know. If you are interested in participating, please also let Pastor Stacy know so we can get you the addresses for the study.

**Morning Worship:** We will have Wednesday morning worship on January 13 and 27 at Reformation at 10:30.

**Cooperation and Support:** Cooperation and Support will plan Holy Week on January 27 at 6:30 at Bethany. You are welcome to join the meeting.

## **Time, Talents, and Treasures**

Thank you to all who turned in their pledge cards and time and talent sheets. We had a number of people indicate interest in serving on committees, and that is good! If you haven't turned it in, it is not too late. We welcome any and all people who want to participate in the mission of Reformation.

## **Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – Feb. 9**

Lent starts very early this year!

The annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 9 from 5:00pm to 6:30. As always we will have delicious pancakes, sausages, fruit and beverages. We hope that you will once again come out to enjoy a good meal and good fellowship with other members of your church family!

**Ash Wednesday worship:** Ash Wednesday is Feb. 10, just around the corner. Worship will take place at noon at Reformation, and at 7:15 at Bethany Lutheran Church. Midweek worship begins on Feb. 10, Feb. 17 and Feb. 24 at Bethany at 7:15, and on March 2, 9 and 16 at Reformation. A complete schedule of Holy Week will be published in the March newsletter.



## **Retrouvaille™** **... a lifeline for Marriages**

**A program to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages.**

- **Do you feel lost, alone, or bored in your marriage?**
- **Are you frustrated, hurt, or angry with your spouse?**
- **Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down?**
  - **Have you thought about separation or divorce?**
    - **Does talking about it make it worse?**

**...Retrouvaille provides marriage help!!**

The word Retrouvaille (pronounced re-tro-vi with a long I) is a French word meaning rediscovery. The program offers tools needed to rediscover a loving marriage relationship. Thousands of couples headed for cold, unloving relationships or divorce have successfully overcome their marriage problems by attending the program. The next Christian Non-Denominational weekend for Northwest Ohio/Southeastern Michigan is scheduled **January 29-31, 2016**. If you would like more information, go to [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org) or call 419-481-1116.

### **Snow Emergency Policy**

Although we have had a very mild winter thus far, we are sure to be dealing with bad roads soon. With the possibility of bad roads on Sunday mornings, it is wise for us to review our policy for cancelling worship. If it is a level 3 we will be closed. If it is a level 2 we will be open, but please use your best judgment about the safety of you coming to worship. We have noticed that the county roads can be icy while the city streets are perfectly clear under a level 2, so we have decided to be open but advise you to come with caution. Closings are generally announced on the local television stations.

### **Thank You Thank You Thank You...**

At this time of year we have many people to thank for all of the special work done around the holidays.

Thank you to the many people who planned and set up, cooked, cleaned up and everything else that went into providing the wonderful Holiday Dinner for our community.

Thank you to Dennis Oehlers for once again providing the brass musicians for Christmas Eve. Their beautiful music added much to our candlelight worship!

Thank you to all who participated in the Angel Tree by purchasing gifts for Crossroads families. These gifts helped brighten the holidays for many families in need.

Thank you, also, to the many who baked cookies for the cookie buffet sponsored by the Social Ministry committee. The money received for these cookies helps pay for the many gifts taken to shut-ins around the holidays throughout the year.

Thank you to all who attended the Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata. It was a wonderful and very meaningful program that reminded us all of the true meaning of Christmas.

Thank you to the choir for all of their hard work in preparing for the Christmas Cantata, and to Marty Britsch for directing the choir. Thank you, also, to the reception committee who, once again, prepared a beautiful reception following the concert.

Thanks to the members who joined with Bethany Lutheran's members to Christmas Carol at St. Anne's Hospital. It was a wonderful experience for both the patients and those who were singing!

## **Community Dinner Thank You**

Thanks to the work of many helping hands, our annual community dinner was once again a great success. We served approximately ninety person in addition to all those helpers who were present that evening. A full ham dinner was enjoyed by all, followed by fellowship, bingo, face painting, and a variety of games and crafts for children. This dinner would not have been possible without the cooperation of many. Thank you to everyone who provided salads or desserts, who helped with the set up, or to all those who worked so hard in any way that evening. You truly added some holiday joy to the lives of numerous people.

## **Thank You**

To those of you who were unable to attend the Christmas cantata performed by Reformation's choir and guests, you missed a lovely evening of beautiful music. The songs, both bell and vocal, surely helped to set the mood for "the birthday of our King." Of course, the candlelight and attractively refurbished decorations, along with the delicious snack afterwards also added to the enjoyment. We want to say thank you to anyone who had any part in "this wonderful story of love."

(Note: Quotations are meaningful words taken from a couple of the songs that were sung that evening.)

In appreciation,

Chuck and Jan Ellenberger

## **From the Office Secretary**

We made it through another Advent and Christmas season. While they are very hectic times, I cannot thank Pastor, Corinne, Peg and Linda enough for all the help they provided, and still provide, to help me get through the past few weeks. We now begin to gear up for Lent, which begins in mid-February already, and Easter. I know that all these people, and more, will help things run as smoothly as before.

I received a list from council containing the names of people who noted on their Time and Talent Sheets that they would be interested in taking a more active role in church operation and worship. I will be reaching out to those people as time permits and see about getting all of you on the monthly schedules. Your offers are very greatly appreciated.

Grace Anton, Donna Morrin, Joanne Kraus and myself all participated in the NWOS-ELCA "Got Health? Challenge. Since the last week of November we have been trying to make sure we get a minimum of 150 minutes of exercise each week. The challenge ends on January 9<sup>th</sup>, at which time we will tally all of our minutes and send them to the Synod office. We're hoping to have a good showing for Reformation. I would personally like to thank the other three ladies working with me on this. It was definitely helpful to have others doing this to make me work at it.

I would also like to say thank you to Don Baker. Don makes it a point of coming into the office once or twice a week to make sure that all is working well for me. Anytime I need help, Don is always there. He is a marvelous asset to Reformation, and a good friend of the office. Thank you Don.

I wish everyone a very happy, blessed and safe New Year.

Jan Weatherly

Church Secretary

## **New Women's Bible Study**

'Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith,' a Lutheran perspective on faith traditions in America, is the subject of our next study. Join us Mondays (10 weeks) at 12:30 at the home of Phyllis Neeley, 2750 Edgebrook, beginning January 25. Call Phyllis (472-2922) or Corinne (460-1679) to reserve your spot and to order the book (\$12.99). We will learn about various religions as well as comparing the many denominations of Christians. Presumably we, as Lutherans, believe that the Lutheran understanding of God is the most faithful. How, then, do we approach the beliefs of other faith groups? This should be very interesting, maybe even difficult!

**In Our Prayers...**

**AT HOME:** Kathy Kier, Mike Hillesheim, Miriam Rude, Phyllis Neeley, Bernie Haugh, Char Bowlus, Barb Belcik, Shirley Kennedy, Sandy Matzinger, June Kutzly, Linda Bailiff, Jan Leonard.

**IN HOSPITALS / CARE CENTERS:** Eleanor Dull (Kingston), Michael Morrin, Alice Notheis (Swan Creek), Lois Rywalski (Kingston), Ken Robertson (Vibrant Life), Linda Stirn (Spring Meadows Senior Community).

**IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY:** Bill Myers, Jason & Ashley Weatherly, Joshua Rittner, Kyle Dietrich, Jared Kusz.

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Julie Hipple, niece of Roger & Ruth Stygles ; Nicole Erdman, granddaughter of John & Sue Kusz ; Ida Engler, friend of Fran Oliver; Kathy Guerrero & Dick Korn, friends of Jan Leonard ; Paula Sanner & Gina Glover, sisters of Fran Oliver; Jack Schonter and Tom Schonter, brothers of Fran Oliver; Barb Nicely, friend of Linda Bailiff; Jerry Mitchel, friend of Linda Bailiff; Violet Liest, friend of M. Ware; Kathie Myers, sister of Peg Hinds; Jeff Snow, Nephew of Terry Belcik; David Britsch, brother of Martin Britsch; Connie Sondergeld, daughter of Larry & Sandy Matzinger; Clay Wilson, son-in-law of Grace Anton; Cindy Steffel, friend of Fred & Corinne Oliger; Dwight Henry, friend of Linda Bailiff; Sharon, mother of Donna Morrin; Keith & Trina, friends of Terry & Barb Belcik; Dave Moore, friend of Barb & Terry Belcik; Holly Durst, friend of Diane Hitchens; Mike Assman, David & Shirley, friends of Diane Hitchens; Richard Hitchens, requested by Diane Hitchens; John Bailiff, husband of Linda Bailiff; Larry Brechbill, father of Leslee Pryor & Brian Brechbill; Caryl, friend of Linda Bailiff; Christopher Dysterhooose, nephew of John Bailiff; Walt & Carolyn Ellenberger, parents of Chuck Ellenberger; Kelly & family, requested by Jan Weatherly & Leslee Pryor.

**Reminder: We are still in need of contributions of toilet paper, paper towels and liquid soap for our restrooms. Please consider donating. This is a much-needed savings for our church. We especially need paper towels at this time!**

**Reminder to save your cancelled stamps – give them to Miriam Rude.**

**Acolyte / Crucifer Schedule for 1/2/16 – 3/20/16**

Jan.	3	C. Hennessey	Mar.	6	L. Bailiff
	10	S. Wilson		13	S. Wilson
	17	G. Anton		20	L. Pryor
	24	L. Pryor			
Feb.	7	C. Hennessey			
	14	S. Wilson			
	21	L. Pryor			
	28	G. Anton			

**Ushers Schedule for 1/3/16 – 3/20/16**

Jan.	3, 10, 17, 24 & 31	*Oliger / Bailiff / Belcik / Precht
Feb.	7, 14, 21 & 28	*Baker / Brechbill / Link / Hillesheim
Mar.	6, 13 & 20	* Oliger / Brechbill / Belcik / Bailiff

**Offering Tellers Schedule for 1/3/16 – 3/20/16**

Jam.	3	J. Kraus / R. Stygles
	10	R. Stygles / M. Jaramillo
	17	G. Anton / J. Weatherly
	24	G. Anton / M. Jaramillo
	31	M. Jaramillo / J. Kraus
Feb.	7	J. Kraus / R. Stygles
	14	G. Anton / J. Weatherly
	21	J. Weatherly / M. Jaramillo
	28	M. Jaramillo / R. Stygles
Mar.	6	R. Stygles / G. Anton
	13	G. Anton / J. Kraus
	20	J. Kraus / M. Jaramillo

**January Birthdays**

Jan.	3	Chip Irons
	6	Lynn Robertson
	7	Jan Ellenberger
	9	Pastor Stacy
	10	Kristen Young
	11	Mike Hillesheim
		Oliver Hagg
	31	Carol Haar

**February Birthdays**

Feb.	5	Joanne Kraus
	7	Shearl Schmidt & Betty Heiny
	16	Carol Dolt
	17	Irv Precht
	20	Tonya Schmidt
		Danny Jaques
	23	Bill Woodward

**February Anniversaries**

Feb.	12	Mike & Barb Link
	15	Phil & Nancy Sieja
	22	Terry & Barb Belcik

**There are many members who have not supplied me with your birthdate or anniversary date.** You don't have to provide the year! We would like to recognize every member on his or her special day. If you haven't seen your name in the News & Views birthday or anniversary list, call the church office (419-473-1369) so that we can celebrate with you on that special day!

**Weekly Calendar**

Sunday	9:00	Worship/Communion
Monday	1:00	Women's Bible Study @ Neeley Home
	7:00	Volleyball – Luther Hall
Tuesday	9:00	Bible Study
	5:30	TOPS – Lounge
	8:00	Serenity Group AA
Wednesday	6:00	Dinner @ Bethany
Thursday	6:00	Basketball – Luther Hall
	7:00	Basketball – Luther Hall
	7:30	Chancel Choir
Saturday	4:00	Saturday Evening Worship/Communion
Monday-Saturday	12-1	Open Minded AA Group

REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2016

**JANUARY 2016**

01/13/2016	10:30	Wednesday Morning Worship/Faith Chapel
01/17/2016		Feed Your Neighbor Sunday
01/20/2016	4:30	Catechism @ Augsburg
01/27/2016	10:30	Wednesday Morning Worship/Faith Chapel
01/27/2016	6:30	Cooperation & Support Committee @ Bethany
01/31/2016	9:00	Healing Service
	9:30	Youth to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of the Deaf

**FEBRUARY 2016**

02/03/2016	4:30	Catechism @ Augsburg
02/07/2016	9:00	Haugen Service/Communion Kits
02/09/2016	5:00	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
02/10/2016	12:00	Ash Wednesday Services @ Reformation
	7:15	Ash Wednesday Services @ Bethany
02/17/2016	7:15	Lenten Evening Service @ Bethany
02/21/2016		Feed Your Neighbor Sunday
02/24/2016	7:15	Lenten Evening Service @ Bethany
02/28/2016	9:00	Healing Service

**Bible Readings for January**

1 Luke 2:15-21  
2 James 3:13-18  
3 John 1:1-18  
4 Acts 7:44-53  
5 John 1:1-18  
6 Matthew 2:1-12  
7 1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
8 1 Corinthians 2:1-10  
9 1 Corinthians 2:11-16  
10 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22  
11 Ephesians 6:10-17  
12 1 John 5:13-21  
13 Luke 11:33-36  
14 Acts 8:18-24  
15 1 Corinthians 7:1-7  
16 Luke 11:14-23  
17 John 2:1-11  
18 Romans 12:9-21  
19 1 Corinthians 1:3-17  
20 Luke 5:33-39  
21 Romans 7:1-6  
22 Romans 12:1-8  
23 Luke 2:39-52  
24 Luke 4:14-21  
25 1 Corinthians 14:1-12  
26 2 Corinthians 7:2-12  
27 Luke 4:38-44  
28 Acts 10:44-48  
29 Acts 19:1-10  
30 John 1:43-51  
31 Luke 4:21-30

**Bible Readings for February**

1 Mark 5:1-20  
2 Galatians 5:2-15  
3 1 Corinthians 9:1-16  
4 Matthew 12:9-14  
5 Mark 1:29-39  
6 Acts 14:1-7  
7 Acts 15:36-41  
8 Mark 3:7-12  
9 Hebrews 12:7-13  
10 Acts 19:11-20  
11 Matthew 26:6-13  
12 Mark 1:40-45  
13 Acts 3:1-10  
14 1 Corinthians 10:14-11:1  
15 John 4:46-54  
16 2 Corinthians 2:12-17  
17 1 Timothy 1:12-20  
18 Luke 19:41-44  
19 Mark 9:2-9  
20 Hebrews 2:1-4  
21 1 Timothy 3:14-16  
22 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21  
23 1 John 1:3-10  
24 2 Timothy 4:1-5  
25 Matthew 9:2-13  
26 Mark 1:9-15  
27 Ephesians 2:1-10  
28 1 Peter 3:8-18a  
29 Matthew 4:1-11