

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

MARCH 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

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. Galatians 5:13

Throughout the season of Lent, we are reminded again and again of Jesus’ amazing love for us, of his journey to the cross on our behalf, and of the fact that he continually seeks us out so that we can recognize his love in our lives also then share it with the world. And we aren’t doing it alone.

The Holy Spirit works through each one of us, challenging us and inspiring us to go further in serving our neighbors than ever before. We pray for people near and far, share the Good News of Jesus’ life, death and resurrection through word and deed to a hungry and hurting world, and serve in a variety of ways. We make a huge impact on so many lives just through our small congregation of mighty servants, but we also make a tremendous change by being part of the ELCA.

During this season of Lent that includes prayer, fasting, and service, I thought you might be interested in knowing some of the ways we and our sisters and brothers around the world are sharing Christ’s love where it is needed. These are just a few of the things that are happening, but please know that you are making a difference and get to be part of something truly wonderful as the Spirit works through you! In fact, the ELCA’s website says that we are a church that “rolls up our sleeves and gets to work!”

Together, we are:

- Working for justice and peace in Palestine and Israel through our campaign, Peace Not Walls. Through accompaniment, advocacy and awareness-raising, Peace Not Walls promotes dignity, full respect for human rights, healing and reconciliation.
- With our Palestinian Lutheran companions, we also accompany Palestinians and Israelis, Jews, Christians and Muslims working together for peace with justice
- Training and education in the areas of anti-racism and racial justice for leaders in partnership with synods, congregations, associations and social service agencies.
- Serving in over 80 countries to share the Gospel anew through Young Adults in Global Mission
- Working with Companion Synods around the world to bring fresh water and living wages to our sisters and brothers
- Caring for God’s beautiful creation at camps and sharing the Gospel with young people in inviting settings
- Coordinating housing for people who are homeless

- Resettling refugees and providing safe places for their lives to find a new normal
- Being the first on the scene at times of disaster to provide relief, medical care, prayer, and other essentials
- Providing sustainable food and water through ELCA Good Gifts

We have an amazing God who is always doing terrific things in, with, and through us. Together, we are able to care for all of God's beloved. I hope you are enjoying the journey.

Walking with you in Christ,
Pastor Stacy

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.

Veteran Honors: Bill Woodward, a World War II veteran, was recognized and honored at the Toledo Walleye Game, Sunday, February 21, at the Huntington Center. Bill served in the 10th Armor Division. Congratulations, Bill! We are proud of you and THANK YOU for your service!

Stewardship Note At our Annual Meeting we discussed supporting the ELCA mission outreach. Many members now add \$1 to their weekly offering! Will you?

Support World Hunger and spreading the gospel by adding a little to your contributions and designate it as Outreach (that is work outside our own church).

The Lenten Sketches

The Chancel Choirs of Reformation and Bethany are combining to present the Lenten Sketches, a Holy Week Cantata, on Palm Sunday, Mar. 20 during the morning worship service. We will then go to Bethany and present the Cantata during their worship. The Cantata, which tells the Passion of Christ in song, will take the place of the reading of the Passion. The music in this cantata is based on works of sacred art. In the composer's words, "In the Lenten Sketches, I have chosen to focus on some of the important scenes in the last days of Christ's life, and with words and music build a frame to cradle God's masterpiece of grace. This piece is specifically written for Holy Week and ends on Good Friday with the crucifixion of our Lord. Please plan to join us during worship on Palm Sunday for this beautiful piece of music.

2016 Church Council

The members of Church Council were recently installed: Grace Anton, Sharon Ansted, Terry Belcik, Char Bowlus, Carole Haugh – Financial Secretary, Rick Hagg, Peg Hinds – Secretary, Joanne Kraus, Donna Morrin, Corinne Olinger – President, Fran Oliver, Roger Stygles – Treasurer, and Jan Weatherly – Vice President. We meet the 2nd Monday of each month in the conference room at 7:00pm. You are welcome to attend any meeting! If you have a suggestion, question, or concern, please talk to any Council member. We value and encourage your input!

2016 Committees

You may want to volunteer on one of the working committees of the church. We don't hold meetings, just to hold meetings! We plan WHAT WE WILL DO!!

Here are some opportunities for you! Contact the chair to see how you can serve:

Social Ministry – Joanne Kraus
 Gifts/Memorials – Char Bowlus, Rick Hagg
 Worship – Peg Hinds
 Fellowship – Corinne Olinger
 Stewardship – Rick Hagg, Donna Morrin
 Property – Don Baker

Evangelism – Fran Oliver
 Christian Education – Peg Hinds,
 Donna Morrin
 Finance – Roger Stygles

Budget Woes

We're running a very tight budget at Reformation! That's not news! Right now our giving is not quite up to our commitments! For some reason our weekly giving is down a little.

AND we've had another major repair on our aging heating system. A generous member stepped up to cover that \$1600 expense, but we need to build up our contingency fund to help with costs that are not in the budget. Pray for the work of Reformation, our monthly expenses, emergencies, and the work we do in mission!

Please know that our Treasurer is diligent in paying bills on time, researching the best contracts – disposal, elevator service, insurance, etc. – to carefully use our offerings. Thank you, Roger Stygles, for your faithful service.

Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 26 at 1:00pm. at Reformation

This year we will again hold our traditional Easter Egg Hunt as an outreach to the community as well as for our own children. We need your help! We ask that anyone who is able to provide a dozen plastic Easter eggs filled with little Easter candies. We have saved the plastic eggs from last year so we just need volunteers to purchase candy and fill them. We will hand out the plastic empty eggs on Sunday, Mar. 6 and 13 and ask them to be brought back by Sunday, Mar. 20 if possible. If that is not possible, we certainly will accept them during the week before the Easter egg hunt. These will then be “hidden” on the front lawn of the church for the children to find. Children, ages 3 to 6th grade (approximately 12 years old) are invited to participate. Bring your neighbor children, your grandchildren, your nieces or nephews, anyone you want! Crossroads will also be advertising this event, so we are planning BIG! We also would encourage adults to come and help with the event. Because we are on a busy street we plan to have adults line the sidewalk to keep the children away from the street. Anyone who can help with this is welcome!

Mark your calendar – bring the neighbors!

Easter Brunch

The Easter Brunch has become a long-standing tradition at Reformation. This year, as in past years, we will have the brunch following the Easter Festival Worship Service. The menu will be egg casseroles, coffee cakes and doughnuts, juice and coffee. This is a wonderful brunch and one we look forward to yearly! Plan to stay after the worship service and enjoy an Easter Fellowship with your Reformation friends.

Holy Week Schedule

The Holy Week Schedule is slightly changed from previous years. Please make note of the times and locations of each of the services!

Sunday, March 20	9:00	Palm Sunday (Reformation)
Thursday, March 24	12:00	Maundy Thursday Worship @ Reformation
	7:15	Maundy Thursday Worship @ Augsburg
Friday, March 25	12:00	Good Friday Worship @ Bethany
	7:15	Good Friday Worship @ Reformation
Saturday, March 26	7:15	Easter Vigil @ Bethany
Sunday, March 27	9:00	Easter Festival Worship @ Reformation
	9:00	Easter Breakfast @ Bethany
	10:15	Easter Breakfast @ Reformation
	10:45	Easter Festival Worship @ Bethany

Dental Problems and Solutions for Older Adults

Lutheran Village at Wolf Creek will be sponsoring a FREE public seminar on dental care for the older adult on Tuesday, March 15, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in their chapel.

Dr. Peter McGowan, a local dentist who has been in practice for 20 years, will be the guest speaker. Lutheran Village at Wolf Creek is located at 2001 Perrysburg-Holland Road. LVWC is a ministry of Lutheran Homes Society in partnership with St. Luke's Hospital. For more information, contact Sue at [419-861-5619](tel:419-861-5619).

Adult Volunteers Wanted...

If anyone would be interested in working approximately 4 hours a week in Lutheran Village at Wolf Creek's Village Store, please call Bethany at 419-861-5603. Lutheran Village at Wolf Creek is located at 2001 Perrysburg-Holland Road, Holland, OH.

Cherry Street Mission

“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

Genesis 2:7

Each and every person on this planet is unique.

God in His genius, when thinking about creating you and me, was obviously thinking about how each of us would be different. He thought about how we would be able to identify one person from the next. So He gave us unique identifiers: eyes, ear lobes, finger prints. Each of these is unique, not like any other person.

Why?

Why was it important to God that none of us could be copied, mimicked or confused with any one else? I've always personally believed God wanted us to see and know, every day when we got up and looked in the mirror, His genius in putting us together. That we are not a mistake. That we were thought about by Him as the foundations of the world were framed.

When I think about the work your support allows Cherry Street to accomplish each day, in our endless pursuit to reach all who come to us, it is this very notion that the uniqueness of each man, woman, and child arriving at our ministry doors is deserving of our very best service.

By the time people arrive at Cherry Street, so much about their life experience has told them they're worthless, that there's nothing unique about them. Life has taught them too well that they are now reduced to a label: homeless, impoverished, felon – and far worse.

Your support tells them something vastly different than what they've heard so far. You tell them through Cherry Street that they are loved. You tell them that their existence, though marred and battered by poor decisions, is vital and able to be redeemed.

For nearly seven decades, you and I have kept our promise to stand in the gap for those marginalized and pushed to the outside of human and community concern. You and Cherry Street have dedicated our existence to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ.

Thank You!

I hope you'll see your hand as they reach out to heal. I hope you'll see your feet as they walk a mile in another's shoes.

As a donor, as someone who prays for the ministry of Cherry Street, I hope you know that you are loved. You are unique. There's no one like you. You are needed now as never before.

God Bless,

Dan Rogers

Cherry Street Missions

Welca – Bethany Collier

"WHAT IF the church became the place where we disagreed, perhaps vociferously, then met together around the table, side-by-side, every one of us beggars in need of grace? WHAT IF the church was not a place where you had to hide how you felt because of your fear of rejection, but became rather the place where people loved and cared for you even when you did not agree? WHAT IF the church and the radical grace of Jesus were actually strong enough to hold us together, even in our differences?" This thought provoking quote from the Rev. Jay Gamelin comes from the time and place when he asked his congregation to accept and even continue to love him even if they disagreed in his decision to marry same sex couples. He entered in conversation with his parishioners not trying to change their minds but rather to share his story of how God was leading him. To his great delight his members not only accepted him but grew in their own faith journeys.

I am reminded of the verse in Romans that says, "So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." I like that it doesn't say If we are all members. It says we are all members. Whether we feel like we belong or not, we do. Whether we are pulling people up or we are being given the lift, we belong. Whether others think we belong or not, we belong. Even if the body is hurting or fighting with one another it still belongs together: maybe even longs to be together. No matter what our Facebook friends post about politics we trust that our Lord is our Sovereign. In his care we are called to continue to find ways to connect with people who look, feel and act different from what we are used to. How much easier it would be to make this body run smoothly if we were better acquainted with all its parts.

As we journey through Lent we have the opportunity to let God's children know that they are loved by a God who is abundantly inclusive. The small amount of uncomfortableness that we experience when we reach out to someone new is so small compared to the comfort of a new friend. Let the Jesus in you shine so that everyone can see the freedom He gives.

Thank You

“Thank you to everyone at Reformation for the cards and flowers I received during the Christmas holiday. It meant a great deal to me and was very much appreciated”. Linda Stirn

Many, Many Thanks to our Reformation and Bethany families. Whatever you did...be it sent a card, stopped by the hospital, prepared food, offered whatever help might be needed, attended/participated in the beautiful service, lent a sympathetic ear, gave a much needed hug, and of course all the prayers sent to Our Lord....Thank You. A special thank you to Wow for making sure Mom got to church on Sundays and to Pastor Stacy for her visits and praying with us.

Linda Bailiff, Nancy Borsani and Dan Dunderman Sr and their families

In our prayers:

HOME: Kathy Kier, Mike Hillesheim, Miriam Rude, Phyllis Neeley, Char Bowlus, Shirley Kennedy, June Kutzly, Linda Bailiff, Jan Leonard, Lucy Young, Lydia Latsch, Sandy Matzinger, Barb Belcik.

HOSPITALS / CARE CENTERS: Alice Notheis (Swan Creek), Lois Rywalski (Kingston), Michael Morrin, Ken Robertson (Vibrant Life), Linda Stirn (Spring Meadows Senior Community), Marge Brechbill (Toledo Hospital).

IN DEATH: Bernie Haugh

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; 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; Shirley & Holly, friends of Diane Hitchens; Richard Hitchens, requested by Diane Hitchens; John Bailiff husband of Linda Bailiff; Carolyn Ellenberger, mother of Chuck Ellenberger; Adrianna D; Kelly and children, friends of Leslee Pryor; Tammy Fobert, requested by Martin Britsch; Ida & Chris, friends of Fran Oliver; Mark P, Lisa, Sandy, friend of Chad Bailiff.

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 3/6 – 3/27

Mar.	6	L. Bailiff
	13	S. Wilson
	20	L. Pryor
*Fri.	25	L. Pryor
	27	C. Hennessey

Ushers Schedule for 3/6 – 3/27

Mar.	6, 13 & 20	* Oliger / Brechbill / Belcik / Bailiff
	27	*Baker / Belcik / Link / Hillesheim

Offering Tellers Schedule for 3/6 – 3/27

Mar.	6	R. Stygles / G. Anton
	13	G. Anton / J. Kraus
	20	J. Kraus / M. Jaramillo
	27	M. Jaramillo / J. Weatherly

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to the following members:

Mar. 7 Fran Oliver
 10 Jan Weatherly
 14 Elsie Johnson
 23 Carole Haugh
 29 Leslee Pryor

Happy Anniversary to the following:

Mar. 21 Fred & Corinne Oliger
 22 Eric & Shearl Schmidt

Regular Weekly Schedule

Sunday	9:00	Sunday Worship
Monday	12:30	Women's Book Group @ Neeley Home
	7:00	Volleyball – Luther Hall
Tuesday	5:30-7:30	TOPS
	5:30-8:30	Cheerleading Practice – Luther Hall
	8:00	Tuesday Night Serenity Group
Wednesday	5:30-8:30	Cheerleading Practice – Luther Hall
Thursday	6:00	Basketball – Luther Hall
	7:00	Basketball – Luther Hall
	7:30	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday	5:00-8:00	Cheerleading Practice – Luther Hall
Saturday	4:00	Saturday Evening Worship – Chapel
Mon-Fri	12:00-1:00	Open Minded AA

March 2016 Calendar

Wednesday, March 2	7:15	Lenten Evening Worship @ Reformation
Wednesday, March 9	7:15	Lenten Evening Worship @ Reformation
Saturday, March 12	1:00-5:00	Private Party – Luther Hall

Saturday, March 12		TURN CLOCKS FORWARD ONE HOUR
Monday, March 14	9:00-1:00	ECOT – Luther Hall
Tuesday, March 15	9:00-1:00	ECOT – Luther Hall
Wednesday, March 16	9:00-1:00	ECOT – Luther Hall
Wednesday, March 16	7:15	Lenten Evening Worship @ Reformation
Thursday, March 17	9:00-1:00	ECOT – Luther Hall
Friday, March 18	9:00-1:00	ECOT – Luther Hall
Sunday, March 20		FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR
Saturday, March 26	1:00	Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, March 27		Healing Service

March Bible Readings

1	Romans 2:12-16	17	Hebrews 2:1-9
2	Luke 13:18-21	18	Hebrews 2:10-18
3	2 Corinthians 4:16-5:5	19	Luke 22:1-13
4	2 Corinthians 5:6-15	20	Mark 14:1-15:47
5	Luke 15:1-10	21	John 12:1-11
6	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	22	John 12:20-36
7	Revelation 19:1-8	23	John 13:21-32
8	Revelation 19:9-10	24	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
9	Luke 9:10-17	25	John 18:1-19:42
10	Philippians 2:19-24	26	John 20:1-18
11	Philippians 2:25-3:1	27	Luke 24:1-12
12	John 11:45-57	28	1 Corinthians 5:6b-8
13	John 12:1-8	29	Revelation 12:1-12
14	Hebrews 10:19-25	30	Luke 24:1-12
15	1 John 2:18-28	31	Acts 5:12-16
16	Luke 18:31-34		

