

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

**MARCH 2017**



# REFORMATION

## News and Views

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

reformationluth@gmail.com Email

website: [reformationlutherantoledo.org](http://reformationlutherantoledo.org)

Pastor: In call process  
Secretary: Jan Weatherly  
Organist: Martin Britsch

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 Corinne Olinger at 419-460-1679.*

### 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.”

---

## Commemorating the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation

### Ghostly Faces, Screeching Owls and a Lightning Bolt

You could knock me over with a feather. You could hit me with a ton of bricks. You could have smacked me upside the head with a two by four. These are three clichés you may have heard or used yourselves. What does it take to made a change in your life?

Let me tell you a story. One dark night when the skies seemed unsettled and turbulent, our hero was riding his horse following the winding road back to the University of Erfurt where he was studying law. His father had made great sacrifices so that he could go to University. It was not every day that the son of a copper miner could attend law school. After a brief respite at home, the long days of hard study and the pressures of law school were starting to prey on his mind again. His stomach was churning having left his friends back at the tavern; too much of a good thing was not sitting well with the rocking of the horse’s gait. The horse slowly plodded over the old oaken bridge as the wind started to bluster through the trees. The shadow of the trees and the rain splashing on his face made it clear that this was not the type of night to be out on the road. Our hero jumped when an owl sharply screeched as they rounded the curve near the old Rubenstein mill. The mill had been deserted for many years and was being reclaimed by the forest, adding to the eeriness of the night. Our hero gently patted the neck of his horse and said, “We’ll be back to the university soon, old friend. Just dash across this meadow and we’ll be there.” Sinister black clouds rolled across the western sky making ghostly faces, which filled our hero with an unsettling fear. Suddenly a clap of thunder shattered the night as it rose from the valley below. The horse bolted and sped out onto the open meadow. “Just get us there safely, my friend, and there will be fresh oats and a dry barn waiting for you.” Without warning a blinding lightning bolt pierce through the stormy sky, striking the ground right in front of him, followed by the deafening whip crack of thunder, which shook then both. The horse reared up, throwing his master to the ground and in terror raced off to the safety of the barn. The rain pelted the face of our hero as he tried to stumble to his feet. “Blessed Saint Anne” he cried out, “help me, help me get home safely and I will dedicate my life to God. I will become a monk!”

Sounds like a story out of Sleepy Hollow, but our hero was not Icabod Crane, but rather Martin Luther. Luther could not go back on the promise he made to God, so he dedicated his life to God’s service. Have you ever had a lightning bolt crash to the ground in front of you? Or have you ever skidded on an icy highway? Or had a near fall going up the back steps to your kitchen? Not quite as dramatic as Luther’s, but something to make you examine your life and

force you to make a rededication to God. Just like Luther God calls to us every hour every day every year, for every lifetime. Be awake, realize that call and answer it, simple though it may be. This Lenten season, pray, listen and devote your lives to Him. Follow through and be as tenacious on your quest as a cat after a mouse. Don't be afraid of a little old lightning bolt. It might just be a call from God. Don't run away. After all, Jonah ran and God delivered him to Nineveh in the belly of a whale who spat him out on to the shore..... This author would prefer the lightning!

Note: this is the first in a series of articles about Luther I hope to write to you during this celebration of the 599<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. Rick Hagg

**TICKETS NOW ON SALE:** Mark your Calendars for Tuesday May 2, 2017 for a very special night out. Reformation Lutheran Church will be hosting a special screening of a brand new Martin Luther film. This new film “**Martin Luther: An Idea That Changed The World**” is a feature length documentary/drama narrated by Hugh Bonneville of *Downton Abbey* fame. The screening will be at 6:30 pm at the Rave Franklin Park 16 Cinemas. Tickets are \$9.00 each and can be purchased by credit/debit card on the event page at:

<https://www.tugg.com/events/martin-luther-the-idea-that-changed-the-world-220894-mla>. You will want to scroll down on the events page and you can see a trailer for this great film. We need to sell 86 tickets by the deadline of April 25<sup>th</sup> in order for this screening to happen. We will be inviting other Congregations in the area so make sure you get your tickets early. See You there. PS: If you have any questions just ask me, Julie Ann Boesenhofer.

**Wanted: Fire Eaters, Tumblers, Jugglers, and You** all to be involved in the great Reformation Fair where we will celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation on the lawn of our very own Reformation Lutheran Church. It will be a fun festive day filled with a pig roast, a church service, games, entertainments and the royal flush harkening back to the time of Luther. We need you, your time, your talent, your support. We know you might not be a Fire Eater, but you might know someone who is. We don't have a date finalized, but we are looking at September 10, 2017. Please mark your calendar and become part of this celebration!

## 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.

**Web Site** – The church's Web site, [www.reformationlutherantoledo.org](http://www.reformationlutherantoledo.org), has undergone some major changes lately. It will, hopefully, be kept up-to-date with all the news and information that concerns the church and congregation. Please take a moment to look it over. If you have any suggestions, please let the church office know.

### **Soup Supper/Game Night**

Mark your calendar for Friday, March 10, 6:00 to enjoy a Simmering Soup Supper in Luther Hall! You know we Lutherans have a reputation of being good cooks. Come sample a variety of good soups. This will be advertised to the neighbors as a Free Community Meal, as a mission of the church. After supper we'll enjoy a game night - euchre challenge, Mexican Train, other board games. The youth will again make root beer floats for game time. Come for food and fellowship with your Reformation Family!

**March Mission Trip** Tom and Janet Titkemeier will be serving again with Christian Medical and Dental -Global Health Outreach in El Salvador March 4-12 2017. Jan and Chuck Ellenberger will also be serving at this mission. Please pray for them as they go out into the world to serve others.

## **Habitat for Humanity**

Habitat for Humanity has contacted Reformation to participate in rehabilitating a neighborhood home (for a couple of days) again this summer. Some will hammer, lay floors, etc., whatever their skill comfort is. Some of us will provide lunch for the workers. We welcome this opportunity to work in this mission as one way to show and share God's love!! Roger Stygles will be our contact person with Habitat for Humanity and will let us know when this project will take place.

### **Social Ministry Collection to Benefit Sparrows Nest**

The Social Ministry Committee requests toiletry donations to benefit the Sparrows Nest. The women there appreciate receiving lotions, shampoo, fragrances, soap, toothpaste, etc. as they usually leave their residences in a hurry, not taking anything with them. We will collect donations throughout February until March 26th. These will be delivered on March 27th. A box for these items will be in the Narthex. Thank you in advance for your support.

### **Four Churches**

The council executive committees of four area Lutheran churches met recently to "chat." We talked about how we can work together to support each other's mission and programs. Over the last 10 years we have cooperated with Bethany in a growing number of programs - community meals, Lenten and Advent mid-week worship, combined summer worship for holiday weekend Sundays. The people of Augsburg, Bethany, Our Savior, and Reformation can be strong together in a variety of activities. Programs that are in place at these churches include: Outdoor Worship/picnic, youth events, catechism, Bible Study, VBS, Men's dinners, bowling, water for Flint, youth softball, Reformation Festival, seminars, etc. Watch for more information as we cooperate and support our brothers and sisters in Christ with these West Toledo Churches.

#### **Bethany Lutheran Church**

"You are cordially invited to the Bethany Lutheran Church 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration." A Celebration Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. at Reformation Lutheran Church. Anniversary Worship will be held Sunday, April 23, 2017, at 10:45 a.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church, 3274 Upton Avenue. Tickets for the Banquet are \$10.00/person or \$20.00/family. Reservations must be made for the Banquet by April 10, 2017. You can contact Bethany at (419)472-4191 or Pattie Webber at (419)464-1097 to make reservations or for any questions you might have. *Checks should be made payable to Bethany Lutheran Church.*

There will be **NO** worship service at Reformation on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please join us in helping Bethany celebrate 100 years of service to our Lord and the community of West Toledo.

#### **ELCA World Hunger**

Nearly 800 million people – 1 in 9 people in our world today – are hungry. As member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we are called to respond. Working with our neighbors in the United States and in nearly 60 countries around the world, we start by listening and learning how we can accompany them to help break the cycle of hunger and poverty – for good. From water wells to animal husbandry, microloans to health clinics, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that get at the root of hunger. And they don't stop there. We engage Lutherans in advocacy and hunger education to act and speak in ways that can make a difference.

In 2017, our goal is to raise \$24.5 million to support the work of our worldwide network of companion churches and partners in the fight to end hunger. We rely on your gifts. ELCA World Hunger is funded solely by gifts from ELCA members and congregations like yours.. Thank you for making this work possible through learning, action, prayer and giving.

#### **New Member**

Reformation welcomes Stephanie Peterson as a returning member by affirmation. Stephanie attended Reformation for many years with her parents, Ken and Debbie Peterson, and has moved back to Toledo. Please welcome Stephanie as part of the Reformation family.

### **Crossroads Financial Opportunity Center**

Crossroads, located in the education wing at Reformation, is again offering the Ohio Benefit Bank Free Tax Preparation Clinic. The income guidelines are: annual gross income of less than \$65,000 for individual filers; \$95,000 for joint filers. Please call Crossroads at (419)475-3258 to make an appointment.

**Pat Finnegan** has announced his official retirement from St. Paul's Lutheran Church as organist and choir director. As most of you know, Pat served 30+ years at Reformation in that capacity and as Lay Program Director, office secretary and custodian. His last Sunday with St. Paul's is Feb. 26. Many of Reformation's choir members will be travelling to St. Paul's immediately following our worship to sing in his choir on his last Sunday. If anyone wants to recognize his retirement by sending a card, I'm sure he would appreciate hearing from you. His address is: Pat Finnegan 118 Rosedale, Rossford, Oh 43460.

### **Reformation Family Shut-Ins**

Please take a moment to call, visit or write a note to one, or all, of the members of Reformation unable to attend regular weekly worship. Knowing that they are still a part of our family can mean an awful lot to them.

Shirley Kennedy  
2727 N Holland-Sylvania Rd  
Suite E  
Toledo OH 43615

Alice Notheis  
Swan Creek Retirement Village  
5916 Cresthaven Lane  
Toledo OH 43614

Lois Rywalski  
Sunset Village Room 37  
4121 King Road  
Sylvania OH 43560

Michael Morrin  
c/o CCI  
PO Box 5500  
Chillicothe OH 45601

Linda Stirn  
Spring Meadows Senior Comm  
1125 Clarion Ave Rm 306B  
Holland OH 43528

Jan Leonard  
5240 Oakridge Dr Apt 1  
Toledo OH 43623

Donnie Veit  
Arbors of Waterville #128  
55 Anthony Wayne Trail  
Waterville OH 43566

Miriam Rude  
Franciscan Care Center  
4111 N Holland Sylvania Rd  
Toledo, OH 43623

### **Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – March 1**

The annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on Tuesday, Mar. 1 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! This is a community free meal so invite your friends and neighbors!

### **Lenten Schedule**

In addition to our regular Sunday worship at Reformation there will be Wednesday evening Lenten worship at Bethany Lutheran Church beginning at 7:00. from March 1<sup>st</sup>, Ash Wednesday, to April 5<sup>th</sup>. Bethany also has a soup and sandwich dinner every Wednesday evening at 6:00 to which everyone is invited to join prior to worship.

### **Holy Week**

Palm Sunday	04/09/2017	9:00	@ Reformation
Maundy Thursday	04/13/2017	7:00	@Reformation
Good Friday	04/14/2017	7:00	@ Bethany
Easter Vigil	04/15/2017	7:00	@ Reformation (see note)
Easter Festival Worship	04/16/2017	9:00	@ Reformation

Note: There will be no Saturday 4:00 worship on 04/15/2017. Please plan to attend the Easter Vigil. Also, if you would be willing to be a reader during the Easter Vigil, please let Jan, in the office, know.

## **Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 16 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. 26 and April 2 and ask them to be brought back by Sunday, April 9 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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!

### **Thank You Thank You Thank You!**

Thank you to Fred Olinger for stripping and refinishing the floors - in the narthex, classrooms, halls, and Luther Hall!! They look beautiful!

Thank You note received:

THANK YOU

We would like to thank everyone in our Reformation Family for your help and support of our New Year’s Eve Wedding. From tender engagement wishes to blowing up balloons and whoopee cushions, from setting up tables and chairs to sharing in our joy at our beautiful wedding, we can’t thank you enough. A special thanks to our choir who out did themselves with their angelic Blessing. We would like to add our personal recognition to our dear friend Sharon Taylor Ansted for all her love and encouragement. If this can be said, Reformation Lutheran Church made itself proud. The love and joy that was shared that night can truly make us one family blessed by the love of Christ. A thousand words cannot completely express how we feel so two simple ones will have to do, Thank You! Rick & Julie

### **In Our Prayers**

**HOME:** Phyllis Neeley, Judy Schaarschmidt, Rick Hagg, Char Bowlus, Shirley Kennedy, Jan Leonard, Lydia Latsch, Sandy Matzinger, Betty Heiny, Elsie Johnson, Sandy Drake, Larry Matzinger, Justin Beaverson, John Kusz.

**HOSPITALS/CARE CENTERS:** Miriam Rude (Franciscan Care Center); Alice Notheis (Swan Creek); Lois Rywalski (Kingston); Michael Morrin; Linda Stirn (Spring Meadows Senior Community); Donnie Veit (Arbors at Waterville).

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Julie Hipple, niece of Roger & Ruth Stygles ; Nicole Erdman, granddaughter of John & Sue Kusz ; Ida Engler, Chris, Paula Sanner & Gina Glover, Tom Schonter, Jack Schonter, friends and family of Fran Oliver; Barb Nicely, Jerry Mitchel, Dwight Henry & Tom Bailiff, Nancy Borsani, Dan Dunderman, friends and family of Linda Bailiff; Violet Liest, friend of M. Ware; Kathie Myers, sister of Peg Hinds; Jeff Snow, nephew of Terry Belcik; David Britsch, Tammy Fobert, family and friends of Martin Britsch; Connie Sondergeld & Katie Holtgrieve, daughter and niece of Larry & Sandy Matzinger; Clay Wilson, son-in-law of Grace Anton; Shirley & Holly Durst, Richard, requested by Diane Hitchens; Mark P., Lisa, Sandy, friends of Chad Bailiff; Eli Titkemeier; Cyndy Cunningham, by Julie & Rick; Kelly, friend of Leslee Pryor; Shirley Hoye, by Lucy Young; Frankie Edinger, by Sharon Taylor-Ansted; Mateo, by Linda Bailiff; Ray Brown, cousin of Corinne Olinger; Julia, in the Dominican Republic, by Corinne Olinger; Thurman, the church’s mail carrier.

### **Reformation Family Members in the Military**

As our world becomes more and more troubled, please keep these children, grandchildren and other Reformation family members in your prayers always:

Bill, Jason & Ashley, Josh, Jared, Kyle, Kayla, Kyle & Sean

**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.**

**Building Usage Schedule for March 2017**

**Regular Scheduled Activities**

Monday	12:30	Women’s Bible Study
	7:00	Volleyball – Luther Hall
Tuesday	5:30	TOPS – Lounge
	8:00	Tuesday Nite Serenity Group – Education wing
Wednesday	8:30	12 Step West – Education wing
Thursday	6:00	Basketball – Luther Hall
	7:00	Basketball – Luther Hall
	7:30	Chancel Choir – Sanctuary
Sunday	12:00	Basketball – Luther Hall
Mon-Sat	12:00-1:00	Open-Minded AA Group

**Additional Usage**

Sunday	03/05/2017	1:00-6:00	Private Party – Luther Hall
Saturday	03/25/2017	1:00-6:00	Private Party – Luther Hall
Sunday	03/26/2017	2:00-6:00	Private Party – Luther Hall
March 13-31	Weekdays	9:00-2:00	ECOT Testing – Luther Hall

**Acolyte / Crucifer Schedule for 3/5 – 3/26**

Mar. 5	S. Wilson / C. Hennessey
12	L. Pryor
19	C. Hennessey
26	G. Anton

**Ushers Schedule for 3/5 – 3/26**

March 5 – 26 \*D. Baker, B. Brechbill, M. Link, M. Hillesheim

**Offering Tellers Schedule for 3/5 – 3/26**

Mar. 5	J. Boesenhofer / J. Weatherly
12	J. Weatherly / M. Jaramillo
19	M. Jaramillo / R. Stygles
26	R. Stygles / J. Boesenhofer

**March Birthdays**

**Happy Birthday to:**

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

**March Anniversaries**

**Happy Anniversary to:**

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

**Bible Readings for March**

1	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21	17	Ephesians 2:11-22
2	Romans 1:1-7	18	John 4:1-6
3	Romans 1:8-17	19	John 4:5-42
4	Matthew 18:1-7	20	2 John 1-13
5	Matthew 4:1-11	21	1 Corinthians 10:1-4
6	Hebrews 2:10-18	22	John 7:14-31, 37-39
7	Hebrews 4:14-5:10	23	Ephesians 4:25-32
8	Matthew 18:10-14	24	Ephesians 5:1-9
9	2 Timothy 1:3-7	25	John 1:1-9
10	Romans 3:21-31	26	John 9:1-41
11	Luke 7:1-10	27	Acts 9:1-20
12	John 3:1-17	28	Colossians 1:9-14
13	Hebrews 3:1-6	29	Matthew 9:27-34
14	Romans 4:6-13	30	Revelation 10:1-11
15	John 7:53-8:11	31	Revelation 11:15-19
16	Colossians 1:15-23		