

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

**AUGUST 2018**



# 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: Pr. Tom Schaeffer

Secretary: Jan Weatherly

Organist: Patrick Finnegan

Worship Services: Saturday – 4:00 pm

Sunday – 9:00 am

Sunday School – 10:15am

Office Hours: Mon and Wed. 9:00-2:45 and 3:30-4:30, Fri. 9:00 – 2:45.

*In case of an emergency, you may reach Corinne Olinger at 419-460-1679 or Pastor Tom at 419-481-3891*

### 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.”

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### A Message from our Pastor

On Wednesday nights at the pre-meal worship at Bethany, we are reading from John 15. In verse 3 speaking of His Father, the Vine Grower, Jesus says, “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.” This is an important teaching for us to consider.

In John 15, we, Jesus’ disciples, are called the branches, Jesus is the vine, and, His Father, the Vine Grower. The purpose of the branches is to bear much fruit. We are to be fruitful for the Kingdom. But, being fruitful requires pruning. What is pruning?

If you have ever seen what pruned grapevines look like in the winter, they don’t look very vine-like. That’s because they have been pruned back to a tree like form that will best produce the growth of fruit in the spring. There are some branches that are completely cut away. These are usually non-fruit bearing branches that are taking nutrients from the vine that could be used by fruit bearing branches to bear more fruit. Fruitful branches are also trimmed, so the branch doesn’t become unwieldy and bulky, which will also lead to less fruit.

In short, what this seems to tell us is that sometimes there needs to be a cutting away in our lives that leads us to more fruitfulness. Sometimes God cuts back at things that may distract us or prevent us from being as fruitful as we can be.

I see a lot of pruning going on in my life right now. God is cutting back at things in my life and I can see that His goal is increased fruitfulness for me and the ministries He has called me to lead. Now here is the thing with pruning. It can be painful, but the outcome is plentiful. Knowing that is what makes it not just bearable, but exciting. If I can but trust, abide, in Jesus the Vine, then I can embrace the needed change in my life to see growth.

There is pruning coming in the months ahead for our ministry. It will challenge us. It will hurt sometimes. It will be difficult sometimes. But I truly believe God is trying to position us for growth. God’s desire is for us to be fruitful. That we would grow spiritually and, yes, numerically. That will involve a cutting away. It will involve some loss. But in the springtime will come growth, new life!

Change never comes easy. But there is a biological term for a living thing that ceases to change—dead. We are the living Church of Jesus Christ. He is the vine and we are the branches, and I can’t wait to see the fruit that awaits us.

Walking with you in Christ,  
Pastor Tom

## From our President...

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer! I have tried to take in as much as I can with the schedule I keep.

That statement doesn't always invoke much thought from me but today it did. I found myself on my deck with a laptop in front of me and a cell phone next to me. I suddenly decided no, not today, not now. I turned off the computer and set a timer on my phone for a short time. Then in an unusual moment for me, I put it all down. Now it wasn't for much time as the dishes needed to be done, the fish tank cleaned and who knows what else before heading back to work tomorrow. In this minute however I did something rare, I took time for nothing!

I let the dogs run the yard while I just enjoyed looking at all God had created. I enjoyed the song of birds instead of the radio, and just sat. While this seems like no big deal to some, many of us don't often get these chances, or when we do, we fill them with more activity. For just a moment I felt guilty, as I knew there were things I could be doing, but I let that go quickly as I know my Lord wants me to rest! He wants me to enjoy the sounds of his creatures and to look at the amazing picture he painted for me.

My alarm has gone off and I'm obliviously back at it. The first thing I wanted to do was write this in hopes to inspire others to just stop. Stop for 20 minutes or a day, whatever your schedule allows. Sit in God's work and just breathe. Don't think, don't plan, and don't make that shopping list in your head. Just let it all go.

Sending you peaceful love  
Donna

## 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. We are currently asking members to indicate their approval and authorization for photos that may include them on the Facebook Page. These forms have been in the weekly bulletins. If you haven't already filled this out, please do so at your earliest convenience.

### **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), is a great source for information for you and you can tell friends to check out the site to find out what is happening at Reformation!

**Church Office Hours** – as of 11/01/2017, the new office hours are:

Monday and Wednesday	9:00-2:45, 3:30-4:30
Friday	9:00-2:45

There are now doorbells at both entrances to the church office. If the doors are locked during regular business hours, please ring the buzzer. Just a personal note, the secretary has bad knees, so it takes a couple of minutes to get to the Luther Hall door, so please be patient.

**Church Supplies** – the church is always in need of paper towels, toilet paper, and hand soap. You can bring supplies to the church office or drop off on Sunday.

## Outdoor Worship and Picnic with Bethany, Augsburg, Our Savior and Reformation Sunday, Aug. 5 at Ottawa Park Open Air Shelter House 10:00 Worship, Picnic following.

Mark your calendar now for this very special worship event. We will have our fifth annual outdoor worship service with a picnic to follow at Ottawa Park Open Air Shelter (across from Toledo Hospital.) This opportunity to worship out in God's beautiful creation is sure to be especially meaningful. Come in your play clothes and plan to enjoy the fellowship with others from Reformation, Bethany, Augsburg and Our Savior during worship and at the picnic afterwards.

**Here are the details: (see next page)**

Please bring a **dish to pass**. We will provide hot dogs and the condiments, water and lemonade, and paper plates, napkins and plastic silverware. **Due to limited seating during worship, it is strongly suggested that you bring lawn chairs.** There is a nice playground for small children, but we also suggest bringing lawn games and lawn chairs if you want to move out of the shelter. There is a parking lot just steps from the shelter, so don't let that hold you back. We'd love to have a large gathering, so make plans to attend!!

**Directions to the shelter:** Take Upton to North Cove, go right on North Cove and the shelter is on the left, next to the Police Museum. You can also get there by taking ProMedica Parkway. There is parking on both sides of the shelter, but the one just past the shelter is the closest for walking to the shelter.

## Rummage Sale

Please start saving household items, clothing, shoes, furniture, etc. for the annual Rummage Sale, to be held on August 9-11 this year. Do not bring your items to the church until during the week of August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Here are the dates and times goods may be brought in:

Friday	08/03	1:00-5:00
Saturday	08/04	9:00-12:00
Sunday	08/05	10:15-12:00
Monday	08/06	9:00-5:00
Tuesday	08/07	9:00-7:00
Wednesday	08/08	9:00-5:00

The Rummage Sale will have the following schedule:

Thursday	08/09	9:00-6:00
Friday	08/10	9:00-5:00
Saturday	08/11	9:00-2:00

We are in need of many volunteer workers for any and/or all days. Accept our calls for help please. Thank you in advance. ☺

## Notice about the Newsletter

Beginning with the June issue, in an effort to conserve our resources, we are now only mailing newsletters to those who are deemed shut-ins or who live out of town. We will continue to print the newsletter for those who want paper copies, but these will be available at worship instead of being mailed. **We encourage all who have an email address to consider receiving your newsletter by email.** If you are not currently receiving your newsletter by email but would like to do so in the future, please send an email note to Peg Hinds – [pdhinds@gmail.com](mailto:pdhinds@gmail.com) so she can add your name to the email list. If you plan to pick up your copy at worship, either email Peg or contact Jan in the church office so we can put you on the paper copy list. If you have a special request concerning this, please call the church office so we can address that.

## Blessing Bags

We have assembled and distributed our blessing bags to members and we are now hoping to make a difference by giving them to those in need. If you would like one, there are some left over, waiting for you to get one. When you see a needy person on a street corner, be a blessing and give them some treats! Included in the bag is a list of the Toledo area food pantries. This is a special mission project of our Social Ministry Committee.

## Summer (and fall) Joint Worship and Special Services

As in the past, we are planning to worship with our sister congregations of Bethany, Augsburg, and Our Savior. These are perfect opportunities to worship in a larger group and spend time with our friends from these churches. The dates and times are as follows:

Sunday, Aug. 5 10:00	at Ottawa Park. Picnic to follow.
Sunday, Sept. 2 10:00	at Our Saviour
Sunday Oct. 28 10:00	at Reformation. (Reformation Sunday)

**In Our Prayers**

**Home:** Pat Finnegan, Lucy Young, Corinne Olinger, Rob Berger, Phyllis Neeley, Judy & Al Schaarschmidt, Rick Hagg, Jan Leonard, Sandy Matzinger, Betty Heiny, Sandy & Steve Drake, Larry & Sandy Matzinger, Judy Rife, Terry Belcik, Shirley Kennedy, Gloria DeMerritt.

**Hospitals/Care Centers:** Michael Morrin; Donnie Veit (Arbors at Waterville); Elsie Johnson (The Waterford at Levis Commons)

**Family and Friends:** Julie Hipple, niece of Roger & Ruth Stygles ; Nicole Erdman, granddaughter of John & Sue Kusz ; Chris, Paula Sanner, Gina Glover, Tom Schonter, Jack Schonter, Reed Francis, friends and family of Fran Oliver; Barb Nicely, Jerry Mitchel, Tom Bailiff, George Bailiff, Nancy Borsani, Dan Dunderman, friends and family of Linda Bailiff; Violet Liest, friend of M. Ware; Jeff Snow, nephew of Terry Belcik; Connie & Brandon Sondergeld & Katie Holtgrieve, daughter and niece of Larry & Sandy Matzinger; Clay Wilson, son-in-law of Grace Anton; Mark P., Lisa, Matt, friends of Chad Bailiff; Eli Titkemeier; Kelly, friend of Leslee Pryor; Shirley Hoye, by Lucy Young; Frankie Edinger, Jim Ansted by Sharon Taylor-Ansted; Mateo, by Linda Bailiff; Cara, Bob & son of Jennifer Pruefer; Mike Jorris, friend of Shari Gorski; Laura Brock, niece of Chuck & Jan Ellenberger; Regina, Kim, by Karen Schaeffer; Kayla, friend of Leslee Pryor; Michael Manning, by Lois Manning; Sharon, by Joanne Kraus.

**In the military:** Bill Myers, Ashley and Jason Weatherly, Kyle Dietrich, Kyle Mikolajczyk, Kayla Fowler, Sean Ray, Sean Ray, Logan Hillesheim.

**REGULAR BUILDING USE AS OF 04/15/2018**

MONDAY	12:00-1:00 7:00-9:00	OPEN-MINDED AA GROUP – EDUCATION WING VOLLEYBALL – LUTHER HALL
TUESDAY	12:00-1:00 5:30-7:30 8:00-9:00	OPEN-MINDED AA GROUP – EDUCATION WING TOPS – LOUNGE TUES NITE SERENITY GROUP – EDUCATION WING
WEDNESDAY	12:00-1:00 6:00-8:00 8:30-9:30	OPEN-MINDED AA GROUP – EDUCATION WING STEWART BASKETBALL – LUTHER HALL 12 STEP WEST – EDUCATION WING
THURSDAY	12:00-1:00 7:30-9:00 6:00-7:00 7:00-9:00	OPEN-MINDED AA GROUP – EDUCATION WING CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL - SANCTUARY MEASLES BASKETBALL – LUTHER HALL SMOLENSKI BASKETBALL – LUTHER HALL
FRIDAY	12:00-1:00	OPEN-MINDED AA GROUP – EDUCATION WING
SATURDAY	12:00-1:00 4:00-4:30	OPEN-MINDED AA GROUP – EDUCATION WING SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP – FAITH CHAPEL

**SPECIAL BUILDING USE FOR AUGUST 2018**

WEDNESDAY	AUGUST 1	9:30-8:00	LUCAS COUNTY AUDITOR TOWN HALL
SUNDAY	AUGUST 5	10:45	WORSHIP IN OTTAWA PARK
FRIDAY,08/03 TO SUNDAY, 08/12		ALL DAY	RUMMAGE SALE
SATURDAY	AUGUST 18	10:00-7:00	PRIVATE PARTY – LUTHER HALL
SATURDAY	AUGUST 2	TBA	PRIVATE PARTY – SANCTUARY
SATURDAY	AUGUST 25	3:00-10:00	PRIVATE PARTY – LUTHER HALL

**Acolyte/Crucifer Schedule for 8/12 – 8/26**

Aug. 12 Skye Wilson / D. Morrin  
19 L. Pryor  
26 G. Anton

**Offering Tellers – 8/12 – 8/26**

Aug. 12 G. Anton / J. Kraus  
19 J. Kraus / R. Stygles  
26 R. Stygles / J. Weatherly

**Ushers Schedule for 8/12 – 8/26**

Aug. 12 & 19 \*F. Oliger / C. Bailiff / B. Brechbill / T. Belcik  
26 \*D. Baker / M. Link / I. Precht / M. Hillesheim

**July Birthday**

July 31 Stephanie Peterson

**August Birthdays**

Aug. 10 Betty Heiny  
12 Chuck Ellenberger  
17 Jan Leonard

**August Anniversaries**

Aug. 17 Chuck & Jan Ellenberger – Happy 50<sup>th</sup>!  
25 Rob & Lucy Young – Happy 40<sup>th</sup>!  
29 John & Sue Kusz

**If you haven't seen your birthday or anniversary in this list, please contact Peg Hinds at [pdhinds@gmail.com](mailto:pdhinds@gmail.com) to let her know so you can be recognized on that special day!**