

Summer at Reformation: Rooted in Love, Growing in Faith

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens."

Ecclesiastes 3:1

As I look back on this summer at Reformation, I'm reminded that every season God gives us is full of unique blessings. This summer was no exception it overflowed with worship, laughter, meals, memories, and the joy of being the church together.

Under the bright sun, we gathered for Youth Sunday, where our young people led, preached, and shared their voices in worship. In their leadership, we caught a glimpse of God's promise that the Church is alive and in good hands for generations to come. We surrounded Micah Hobart with blessings and Godspeed as he set out on his year-long journey with Young Adults in Global Mission to Mexico. Just as Paul wrote to the Philippians, *"I thank my God every time I remember you... because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now"* (Philippians 1:3–5), we give thanks for Micah's call to serve and represent Christ's love in a new place. We washed in the summer rains with the celebration of baptisms, rejoicing as God claimed baby Brooks as His own and welcomed him into the body of Christ. We opened our arms to eleven new members, each bringing their own gifts, stories, and faith to our community.

In the sway of the warmth, I joined you at family BBQs and under the sparkle of fireworks. I sat at tables breaking bread with our college young adults before they returned to their campuses, sending them off with prayer. I gathered with colleagues and siblings in Christ at Synod Assembly, where together we discerned and voted to call a new bishop a reminder that the Holy Spirit still moves and leads in the wider Church.



WELCOME *New Members*

Have you met our newest members?

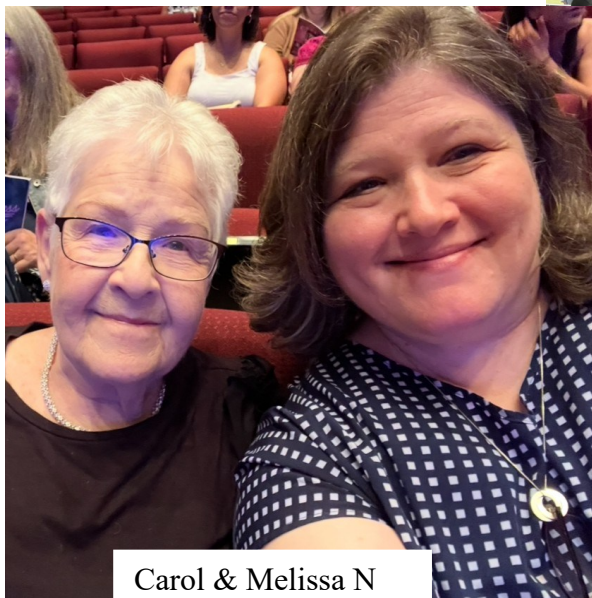
Welcome to the Family! At Reformation Lutheran Church, we believe the church is more than a building; it's a family. Today, our family just got bigger and brighter! We are overjoyed to welcome our newest members into a community where faith is lived out, laughter is shared, and love runs deep. May you find in this place a home where you are known, cherished, and encouraged to follow Jesus with joy. Welcome to the family, you are a gift to us!



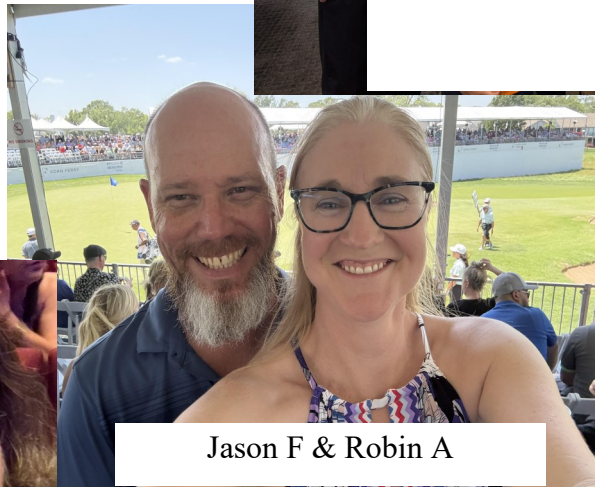
Bosch Family



Cross Family



Carol & Melissa N



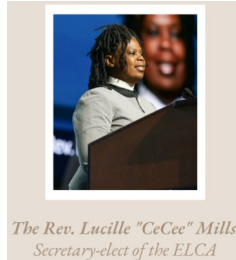
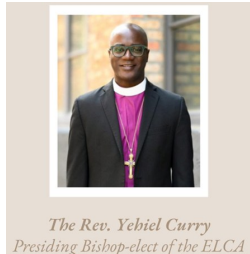
Jason F & Robin A



upcoming events

Synodical and Churchwide Events

Historic ELCA Election



At the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix, Rev. Yehiel Curry was elected Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, becoming the first Black person and first of African descent to hold the denomination's highest office. Shortly after, Rev. Lucille "CeCee" Mills was elected ELCA Secretary, also making history as the first Black person to serve in that role. Both leaders begin six-year terms, marking a significant milestone in the church.

You're Invited: Installation of the Central States Bishop

The Reverend Donna J. Simon

Sunday September 28th, 2025
5:00 p.m.

Atonement Lutheran Church
9948 Metcalf Ave

Overland Park, KS 66212

The installation service of
The Reverend Donna J. Simon
as the fifth Bishop of the Central States
Synod,
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rostered and Lay Ministers of all
traditions are invited to vest; the color
of the day is red.

A reception will follow the service.

Notable Church Events

Sept. 1	Labor Day	Office Closed
Sept. 3	Noon/6 p.m.	Wednesday in the Word
Sept. 7	9:30 a.m.	Rally Day/God's Work, Our Hands
Sept. 9	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	Fall Kick-off Bell Choir Practice all Kick-off Singers Practice
Sept. 10	Noon/6 p.m.	Wednesday In the Word
Sept. 15		RefLife deadline
Sept. 16	7 p.m.	Church Council
Sept. 17	Noon/6 p.m.	Wednesday In the Word
Sept. 20	7 a.m. 4 p.m.	St. Paul's Community Breakfast Private Event
Sept. 24	Noon/6 p.m.	Wednesday In the Word
Sept. 29	5:30 p.m.	Assistance League



Rally Day & God's Work, Our Hands One Last Combined Service September 7th

Join us on Sunday for a special day of worship and service! This will be our final combined service of the season as we launch into our fall ministries.

As part of God's Work, Our Hands, we will continue our worship through service by assembling school supplies for Coleman Middle School, living out God's love by serving our neighbors in need. What better way to close our combined worship season than by coming together in unity, praising God, serving others, and living out our shared calling? Come worship. Come serve. Come be the



In September, let's gather in the food cart all items related to breakfast food hot cereal, cold cereal, granola bars, toaster pastries, and anything else you think would be yummy for breakfast. We will take all your donations to the United Methodist Urban Ministry Food Bank at the end of the month. All those who benefit from the Food Bank will greatly appreciate your generosity.

Endowment Fund

The Reformation Mission Endowment Fund was established in 2000 and the earnings on the fund provide grants. Requests for funding may come from programs that further the mission of Reformation Lutheran Church, the Synod or the broader ELCA.

Any individual or group interested in requesting funds for Fall 2025 should pick up an application in the Reformation office, complete it, and return it to the office by OCTOBER 15.

Soon after that, the Endowment Committee will meet to consider the applications and award grants based on the amount of money available this year in the fund.

Submitted,

Judy W, Endowment Committee Chair

Applications for Fall 2025 Grants are in the office.

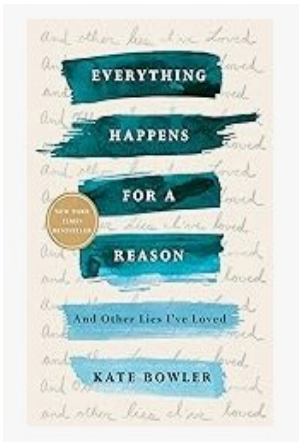
Pancakes, patterns, and plenty of yarn talk!

Our Blanket Makers Breakfast this month was a beautiful gathering stitched together with delicious food, warm conversation, and the shared joy of serving others. This special time celebrated the heart of our Blanket Makers Ministry, whose mission is to bring comfort and warmth to those in need through handmade blankets.



If you feel called to join this ministry of compassion and creativity, the Blanket Makers meet every Tuesday at 9 a.m. in the Parish Hall. All are welcome! No sewing experience needed, just a willing heart and hands ready to serve.

September Book Recommendation



“Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I’ve Loved”
by Kate Bowler

In this deeply moving memoir, Kate Bowler, a young professor, wife, and mother, shares her story of being suddenly diagnosed with stage IV cancer. With honesty, wit, and grace, she reflects on the myths we tell ourselves about why suffering happens and where God is in the midst of it. This book is both heart-wrenching and hopeful, inviting readers to live more fully in the face of life’s uncertainties.



Bye-bye, boxwoods



It’s time for a glow-up! We’re giving our church grounds a fresh new look with some beautiful new shrubbery, and things are already looking leaf-tastic! Stay tuned as we continue to grow in beauty and faith!





Fall
Worship
Times

WORSHIP SCHEDULE UPDATE

Sept. 7th Last 9:30 a.m. Summer Worship
(Rally Day-God's Work, Our Hands)

Sept. 14th - Return to Fall Schedule:
RISE Contemporary Worship - 8:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship - 11 a.m.



Looking Ahead

October 4

October 12

October 26

November 9

Blessing of the animals

Stewardship Sunday

Reformation Sunday,

Trunk or Treat

Semi—Annual Meeting



Melodies and Messages

A Note from the Music Coordinator, Marcia H

Psalm 150 says and I paraphrase: LET EVERYTHING THAT RINGS
AND SINGS, PRAISE THE LORD!!!!

We want you to sing in our new choir:

Reformation Singers and/or ring in our Bell choir: **Reformation Ringers.**

We rehearse on Tuesday nights in the sanctuary. Bells at 6 p.m. and Choir
at 7 p.m. The Bells play once a month and for special ser-

vices. Reformation Singers will sing once a month to begin with!

Hope you will plan to join in one group or both!! We would love to have you join in the fun as
we praise our Lord through music. EVERYBODY COME !!



NEW
VOICES
NEEDED

CANTORS for Traditional Services. We are wanting to expand our
list of available cantors for the 11a.m. service. You only need to be
in the loft for the first part of the service, then can join your family
in the pews. If you would like to offer your voice, contact Marcia .



A Stephen Minister is one of
your fellow congregants who
is specifically trained to provide support.
Your relationship remains confidential, and
everything you discuss is kept private. You
can trust this special relationship that has
helped many at Reformation over the many
years we have had Stephen Ministers. If
you would like more information, please
get in touch with Anita D.



In last month's newsletter, the names of the new
Central States Synod leaders were listed
incorrectly. The Bishop of the Central States
Synod is **Bishop Donna Simon**, and her
associate is **Rev. Chad Langdon**. We apologize
for the error and appreciate their leadership.



IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Prayer Ministry at Reformation Lutheran Church

At Reformation, we believe in the power of prayer and the comfort of lifting one another before God. Our congregation offers two ways to share prayer needs:

Monthly Prayer List

This list is updated regularly and shared with the congregation. It's a place for ongoing or long-term concerns. To add a name or ensure a prayer continues beyond one month, please contact the church office or Pastor Ralen.

Prayer Circle

Our Prayer Circle is a dedicated group of people committed to praying faithfully for those in need. Requests may be for yourself, a loved one, or a friend, whether it involves illness, surgery, grief, or any personal hardship. Updates and prayer requests are shared with the congregation through Mailchimp. We also celebrate answered prayers, giving thanks and praise to God together.

□ **Please remember in your prayers:**

Kourtney F	Robert P
Sheila C	Annette C
Kenn W	Shirley M
Marcia W	Tom M
Ed W	Larry A
Mark H	Waldo G
Carole L-O	
Marilyn A	Carl K

Additional prayer requests may be written in the book at the back of the sanctuary before each worship service.

Marianne B	9/2
Christine S	9/2
Jacob C	9/3
Mark C	9/3
Warren P	9/3
John P	9/4
Scott Y	9/4
Dallas R	9/7
Blake H	9/8
Troy L	9/8
Connor M	9/8
Callan S	9/9
Karen V	9/9
Terry E	9/10
Rodd F	9/10
William B	9/12
Heidi J	9/12
Janics Y	9/12
Shawn S	9/14
Dustan S	9/14
David J	9/15
Melisa N	9/16
Nathan S	9/18
Mark M	9/20
Jane C	9/21
Barbara W	9/21
Mark S	9/22
Paul R	9/23
Allison M	9/24
Derek R	9/24
Thatcher R	9/25
Ryan C	9/27
Ted V	9/28



CHURCH COUNCIL REPORT—August

The council enthusiastically approved the requests for new members over the past two months. It is great to see our congregation growing. Kudos to the Learning Board members for their help in making Youth Sunday a wonderfully successful event.

Financial Snapshot:

Our expenses continue to be well-managed and are now in line with our budget. Despite strong giving so far this year (slightly ahead of last year), we continue to lag behind our conservatively developed budget by \$18,525. We had hoped to make up a little more ground by this point in the year; however, we realize that some of the variance is due to the timing of annual giving. We continue to ask members to prayerfully consider their financial support as we carry out the mission of Reformation Lutheran Church.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Marianne B

- She joined Reformation in the fall of 2020.
 - Marianne was born and raised in Southern California.
 - She moved to Washington State in 1987 where she was employed as an inspector at Boeing for over thirty years.
 - Marianne moved to Wichita after she retired. She visited many times to see family and friends and always enjoyed going to Sedgwick County Zoo, the Art Museum, Botanica and Reformation.
 - Her daughter, Nicole, lives in Oklahoma City and she's enjoyed getting to see the sights there also.
 - She has two cats, Sonja and Glinda. They're sisters with very different personalities, and they definitely keep her entertained!
 - She loves to travel, garden and read. There is so much history in Kansas and she's interested in seeing and learning more about her new home state. She also enjoys the wide variety of food options that the Midwest has to offer.
 - She doesn't like mushrooms or beets.
 - Marianne's favorite service is the 11:00 because of the liturgy and the traditional hymns, it reminds her of the services she attended as a child and young adult.
 - In 2022 she joined Allison Bruntz as co-chair for Altar Guild.
-



Interested in becoming a member, or know someone who is?

If you want more information about membership at Reformation, contact Rev. Ralen Robinson at revralen@gmail.com or

Celebrating New Life in Christ



This past month, we joyfully celebrated the baptism of Brooks B, as he was washed in the waters of new life through Christ.

We are delighted to officially welcome the Bosch's into our church family. May God continue to bless them as they grow in faith and love within our community.



Greetings, Reformation family!

I want to thank you for the many ways you all have supported me during my time of preparation for my coming year in Mexico as part of the Young Adults in Global Mission program. I have so appreciated all of the ways y'all have supported me, including through financial donations, prayers, and by simply being interested in my journey and being excited about it with me. I look forward to starting this year of service, and to being able to share more about how things are going as my year progresses. Thank you again for your support, and be sure to keep an eye out for future updates throughout my year in Mexico!

Submitted,
Micah H.

Community Breakfast

Thank You & Upcoming Gathering

Thank you to everyone who came out early last Saturday morning to join our **Community Breakfast** and help feed **300 of our neighbors in need**. We are so grateful for your willingness to serve. Your compassion and dedication make a real difference in the lives of so many.

We will gather again this month on **Saturday, Sept. 20th, at 7:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (925 N Waco Ave)**. Every volunteer and helping hand is needed to make this ministry possible whether you're a long-time helper or coming for the first time, we would love to have you join us.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Warmly,
Suzanne K

REFORMATION YOUTH IN THE Spotlight

Welcome to our Youth Page, where we celebrate the incredible journeys of our young people this summer!

Raising Up Faithful Leaders for Today and Tomorrow

Our congregation was truly blessed to celebrate Youth Sunday, a joyful reminder that the Spirit of God is alive and at work in every generation. From the very beginning, the sanctuary radiated with energy, hope, and a sense of expectation. Cora opened worship with a beautiful piano prelude that set the tone for the morning. With smiles, laughter, and the courage of



faith, our young people processed down the aisle, joyfully welcoming the presence of the Holy Spirit into our gathering.



Our littlest disciples led us in an interactive Confession and Forgiveness, reminding us in a tender and powerful way that, in Christ, we are both worthy and forgiven. Brynn, who wrote the Prayer of the Day, guided us with grace and confidence, while Emma and Greyson narrated it. Greyson also proclaimed the words of Revelation, grounding us in God's promise of new creation. Thatcher shared a powerful message that resonated deeply



with our hearts. During communion, Graham offered a moving piano performance that wrapped the moment in peace and reverence. To close, Ben and his Classmates blessed us with a heartfelt cappella song that sent us out into the week renewed, uplifted, and filled with joy.



It was a day of celebration, music, and faith, led entirely by our youth—a glimpse of God's Spirit shining through them in ways that bless and inspire our whole community. Thanks be to God for these amazing



young people who remind us of the joy of worship, the strength of faith, and the unending power of God's love!



Breaking Bread

This summer, Pastor got to break bread with some of our young people during their break. She caught up on what they've been up to, heard some fun college stories, and shared plenty of laughs and faith moments. It was a great reminder of how vital these connections are between us and with God.



Exciting News: Welcoming a Youth and Family Director Candidate!

This summer, we are thrilled to announce a new chapter in our ministry at Reformation! We are expanding our team to include a **Youth and Family Director** a new role dedicated to walking alongside our young people on their faith journey.

Working in partnership with Pastor, the Learning Board, and members of the Youth Group, we are seeking a caring, energetic, and faithful individual who will help nurture the spiritual lives of our youth.

We are excited to welcome **Katelyn N**, our candidate for this position, as she joins us for worship on **Sunday, September 7**. This will be a wonderful opportunity for her to get to know our community and for us to get to know her as we prayerfully discern this new call together.

Please join us in worship and offer a warm Reformation welcome to Katelyn!

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Office Closed 7 p.m. Back to Basics Labor Day	2 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 9 a.m. Blanket Makers 9 a.m. Pastor Office Hours	3 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 10 a.m. Pastor Office Hours	4 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 6 p.m. Worship Bd. 7 p.m. Fellowship	5 Church Office Closed	6
7 8:30 a.m. Summer Worship Rally Days/God's Work, Our Hands	8 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 7 p.m. Back to Basics	9 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 9 a.m. Blanket Makers 9 a.m. Pastor Office Hours 6 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Ladies Night Out	10 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 10 a.m. Pastor Office Hours	11 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 10 a.m. Rebecca Circle Pastor Out Patriot's Day	12 Church Office Closed Pastor Out	13 Pastor out
14 8:30 a.m. Rise Worship 9:45 a.m. Learning for All Ages 11 a.m. Traditional Worship	15 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. <i>Ref Life Deadline</i> 7 p.m. Back to Basics	16 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 9 a.m. Blanket Makers 9 a.m. Pastor Office Hours 6 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 7 p.m. Church Council	17 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 10 a.m. Pastor Office Hours 1 p.m. Dorcas Circle	18 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	19 Church Office Closed	20 7 a.m. St. Paul's Community Breakfast 4 p.m. Private Event
21 8:30 a.m. Rise Worship 9:45 a.m. Learning for All Ages 11 a.m. Traditional Worship	22 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 11 a.m. Assistance League 7 p.m. Back to Basics 1 st Day of Autumn	23 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 9 a.m. Blanket Makers 9 a.m. Pastor Office Hours 6 p.m. Bell Choir Practice	24 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 10 a.m. Pastor Office Hour	25 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.	26 Church Office Closed	27 Pastor out
28 8:30 a.m. Rise Worship 9:45 a.m. Learning for All Ages 11 a.m. Traditional Worship ELCA Bishop Installation	29 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 5:30 p.m. Asst. League 7 p.m. Back to Basics	30 Office Open 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. 9 a.m. Blanket Makers 9 a.m. Pastor Office Hours 6 p.m. Bell Choir Practice				