



# THE REPORTER

## Reformation Lutheran Church

### May 2016

# Welcome!

Reformation is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation. We welcome everyone to join with us in a journey of faith. We are committed to providing worship, programs, ministries and pastoral care to all, regardless of age, ability, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, religious background, color, economic status, or national origin. Everyone is welcome in this place, where the love of God is the foundation of all that we say and do.

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus—Galatians 3:28

#### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00am - Informal Worship

9:45am - Coffee/Fellowship

10:00am - Sunday School

11:00am - Classic Worship



#### THE PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

There are times, as a pastor that a visit with someone who is hospitalized turns into an amazing encounter with Christ. I consider all visits God sightings, but there are occasions when there is a sense of presence that rivals the Eucharist, as if you are experiencing Christ. I've experienced this on several occasions. I want to share one with you. I'll use a fictitious name to protect the privacy of this individual and family.

I received a text on a Monday morning that Fran had coded a few times during the weekend, and they weren't sure what was next. So, I headed over to the hospital, expecting to see her attached to all the tubes and electronics needed for life support, but what I found shocked me. When I arrived at her door in ICU I was greeted with the garb hanging on the door to protect her from further infection, so I dressed myself, and opened the door. I was surprised not with a near comatose woman, hooked to life support, but a busy woman on the phone, who signaled me to enter, as she informed the person on the phone, "My pastor, you know 'Tim Bupp Two' is here to visit..." and then she went on instructing the person on the phone what needed to be done for her to get home. After she hung up the phone, she asked me to sit down.

As I sat down, she informed me she got some bad news when she finally got through all the episodes over the weekend. She had a few heart attacks and a stroke that left her heart damaged, and the prognosis, when coupled with the cancer was a bit grim. She was in a terminal stage that could be six days, six weeks, six months, or maybe even a year, but that was about it. I sunk into the chair, speechless, not wanting to give a glib, automatic response that our brains seem to drift toward when language has no words worthy to articulate. Then Fran came to the rescue. She reached out and touched my arm and said, "You know pastor, I'm at peace with it. I have to be. I want my boys and me to make the best of these days I have. I don't want us to sit around and pout, because that won't change anything other than wasting the time we have." I sat there and was in awe as she shared what she was planning for these final days.

After the emotional dust had settled, I realized how much Fran ministered to me that day. I went there to do my "pastoral thing", but she did her "real presence thing". We didn't share the elements of the Eucharist – bread and wine – but I believe I experienced the presence of Jesus as he knelt before the disciples and washed their feet. Even though Fran didn't literally kneel before me, she served me in the same way when she revealed her care for her family and friends, to help them experience the fullness of life together as she faced her certain death. Times like these remind me again and again, the blessings and abundant life we all share in "when the true worshipers seek to worship the Father in Spirit and truth." The elements we shared were the Spirit and truth, in the shadow of her death, and there we tasted the abundant life, together. Thanks be to God! For this gathering of souls known as the church!

Peace,

Pastor Tim

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH are requested for our senior members and homebound:**

Tetia Garren Frances Barefoot, Elizabeth Davis, Tracy Hamiter, Louise Meetze, Katie Westbrook, Dorothy Stucke, Dorothy & Landis Perry, Frances Starr, Cope & Evelyn Veronee, Christine White

**Members & friends who are hospitalized or have special needs: Members & friends who are hospitalized or have special needs:** Landon Derrick & Grace Weed (friends of Gloria Preslar); Cale Peake's family; Justin Shorter (Anthony Porter's cousin); Frances Barefoot; Jeff Porter (friend of Gloria Preslar); Howard Simmons (husband of the best friend to Gloria Preslar); Mary Dickman's uncle (Lee Briggs); Katy Eargle (Colleen Clark's sister); Cale Peake's brother (Richard Peake) & Cale Peake's friend; Jan Swing Quick & Dorothy Swing

WHEN WE PUT  
OUR PROBLEMS IN  
GOD'S HANDS,  
HE PUTS HIS PEACE IN  
OUR HEARTS.

**Christian Sympathy:** To RLC nursery attendant Briana Isaac, at the death of her best friend (Brittany Oswell). To Michael Reames, at the death of his friend and co-worker (Hope Aurea).

---

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BIG THANKS!** - SARAH TRANI WOULD LIKE TO SEND A BIG SHOUT OUT TO CHARLES JOYE AND HIS CREW FOR COOKING SHRIMP AND GRITS ON APRIL 6!!! The brunch was a huge success. Thanks to all for supporting Sarah's Mission Trip to Tanzania.

**SPECIAL TRAINING SESSION** - Planning to help with Vacation Bible School this year? Teaching Sunday School? Or maybe just interested in learning more about protecting the rights of children? Please mark your calendars for May 7th from 10am-12pm to attend the special training session for all of those who minister to our children.

Sarah Nevarez, a colleague and friend of Alexis Stratton, will be joining us for a training session called Stewards of Children. Stewards of Children is an award-winning, evidence-based program that works to prevent child sexual abuse by educating adults to be aware of the issue, identify red flags of abuse, and act to prevent sexual abuse of children in their community. It was developed by Darkness to Light out of Charleston, SC. Sarah Nevarez, Adult Education Coordinator of Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands, is an authorized facilitator of the program.

This training will bring us into the 21st century with our child safety and security protocol. It is a way all of us can make sure we are protecting the safety of our most precious members. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Light refreshments and lunch will be served. Please make every effort to join us for this important training. Please call the church office at 803.252.1507 or email [jilltruett@gmail.com](mailto:jilltruett@gmail.com) to reserve your spot now!

**RESERVING SPACE AT REFORMATION** - If you are planning to have a meeting or special event at RLC during 2016, you are encouraged to contact the church office to reserve space. Call the church office and reserve your space at 803.252.1507 or by email—[officeofreform@gmail.com](mailto:officeofreform@gmail.com).

**VBS** - Mark your calendars now for Reformation's Vacation Bible School, July 13-15 from 6:00-8:00. Dinner will be served each night at 6:00 and the fun will begin in the sanctuary at 6:45. Once again we will have an adult class and this year special activities will be provided for the youth! Plan to come and bring a friend!

## **2016 South Carolina Synod Assembly - June 9-11, 2016**

This year's Synod Assembly will be held for June 9-11 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln Street Columbia, SC. A Reforming Church: Living out Reconciliation and Renewal. Pastor Tim will lead the Friday night worship service for everyone. Make plans to attend.

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE ADAGE? SUNDAY SCHOOL JUNE—SEPTEMBER 11

Join us for Sunday School this month as we discuss Adages. In June, beginning about 10:10 am we will introduce adages as preparation for the Summer Sunday School panel to begin July—September 11.

An adage is a short, pointed and memorable saying based on facts, and is considered a veritable truth by the majority of people. Famous adages become popular due to their usage over a long period of time. In fact, an adage expresses a general fact or truth about life. As it becomes popular, it is then accepted as a universal truth. For instance, "God helps those who help themselves" is now considered a universal truth because of its usage throughout the human history. Often repeated sayings and quotes become adages that pass on to many generations. However, some adages are metaphoric, having hidden meanings, and embody common observations. Sometimes, proverbs are also referred as adages, but there is a slight difference. (literarydevices.net). King Solomon is reported to have composed 3,000 of them. Daily we see them in instagram posts, coffee cups, t-shirts, bumper stickers, etc.

The June sessions will help us get ready for the July—September 11 sessions which are back by popular demand. Our panel Sunday School class is returning this summer as we share who we are including a favorite adage.. The Adages sessions in June are a lead-in for the Panel discussions. Anyone interested in being on a panel, contact Sarah Trani atstrani@sc.rr.com or the church office (252-1507)

## FROM: THE SERVICE TEAM

Operation In As Much was held at the church on Saturday, April 16. We divided our talents and completed three service projects -- preparing meals for the homebound, making, coloring and addressing cards for the homebound or sick and cleaning up the side parking lot. We were able to make enough food for several families! Thank you to those who cooked food ahead of time and brought them to the church for those in need! Our team was also able to make 33 cards for the sick and homebound. Jill Allowos worked with our "Little Lutherans" during Sunday school on April 17th and they completed the rest of the cards, which will be mailed out as needed. Several members of the congregation helped clean and clear the parking lot at the corner of Union and Columbia Avenue. We hope that the community members who have been filling the parking spots will also find it in their heart to fill our pews, right Pastor Tim? We did not have enough volunteers to clean up the yard of a family located in West Columbia; however, we plan to organize a group in the up coming weeks to complete this project. Be on the look out for this announcement in the Weekly Reporter!

WANT TO SHARE YOUR  
#FAITHFULLYLGBT STORY?

BECOME A PART OF THE  
**#faithfullyLGBT**  
PHOTO SERIES

GET YOUR PHOTO TAKEN  
5 - 7 P.M. • MONDAY, MAY 16  
FINDLAY PARK • 901 TAYLOR ST, COLUMBIA, SC

QUESTIONS/INFO  
FAITHFULLYLGBT@GMAIL.COM • @FAITHFULLYLGBT



## HARVEST HOPE SUNDAY



**Sunday, May 1st**

Every 1st Sunday is Harvest Hope Sunday. Make an extra offering to help the food bank ministry. Mark your gift - Harvest Hope  
Your generosity will help South Carolina residents in need.

## FROM: COUNCIL PRESIDENT, GLORIA PRESLAR

**Endowment Committee:** Thank you to Wendell Gullede for volunteering to chair the RLC Endowment Committee.

**Event:** May 5th - Beer and Hymns at Michael's Cafe on Main Street. Plan to attend. We usually have a group of Reformation and last month our own, David Prosser, helped to make the music!!!

**Council Meeting:** The next Council Meeting is May 17 at 6:30 in the parlor.

**Camp Kinard:** South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers will hold their annual "friend-raiser" event at Camp Kinard on May 6. Enjoy delicious food, entertainment and much more! Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available from the office located at Camp Kinard or from any board member. The cost of the tickets are \$35.

Annual Senior Day at Camp Kinard will be Thursday, May 26. It will be a fun day! Rev. Wade Roof presenting the devotions and Rev. Wayne Kennedy will present the program on inclusiveness and racial reconciliation. There will be lunch, crafts, a hymn sing and S'mores to enjoy with other seniors. The costs is \$20. See Gloria Preslar if you are interested. Let's have a great crowd from Reformation.

## REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

A neighborhood flea market destination location of  
ECCO's 2016 Flea Market



JOIN US ON THE

**14<sup>TH</sup>** **OF** **MAY**

1118 Union St. Columbia, SC 29203

**SIGN UP &  
RESERVE YOUR  
TABLE AT RLC  
FOR \$10.**

**8:00AM -  
1:00PM**

**SEE SIGN UP SHEET IN FELLOWSHIP HALL (KITCHEN).**

We need donations! Donate gently used items to the church flea market table. Price and drop off your donated items on the table under the large RLC banner in fellowship hall.

**All proceeds go to benefit Sarah Trani's mission trip and to the RLC Organ Fund.**

## THE BIG FLEA: Help Yourself! Help RLC!

Attached is a flyer announcing Reformation's participation with the Earlewood Community in the Big Flea on Saturday, May 14, from 8 am - 1 p.m.

Reformation will be the starting point for maps for all of the sites in the community. AND Reformation will be one of the sites. You can participate by reserving a table/space for the cost of \$10 and sell your own stuff. Reformation will also have a table and sell items (good condition and pre-priced by you) on its table. A bake sale will be part of our site. All proceeds made by Reformation will help support the mission trip to Tanzania this summer by Sarah Trani and the organ repair fund. Consider a percentage donation from what you make on your own sales, in addition to the \$10 paid for the table.

Reserve your table by contacting the church office with your name, phone, and email and by paying \$10. Now is a good time for your spring cleaning!!!! An additional sign up sheet will be posted in the fellowship hall

Current table reservations include: Daisy Ritchie and Mikey Ritchie, Gloria Preslar, Sarah Trani, Dot Jeffcoat, Tim and Kathy Bupp.

### Contacts include:

*Coordinator:* Dot Jeffcoat

*Set up and Clean up:* Cale Peake and Sam McNutt

*Bake Sale:* Meg Hazel with Charles Joye and Judy Jolly

*Reformation Table:* Outreach Team (Sam McNutt, Wendell Gullede, Libbie Poole, Cale Peake) with Chuck Archie (pending).

## MAY CHURCH CALENDAR

| Sun  | Mon                   | Tue                  | Wed   | Thu  | Fri | Sat  |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|---|--|-----|--|
| 1 Weekly Schedule<br>Conveners & Council Meet & Greet          | 2 Conveners<br>6:30PM | 3                    | 4 11AM Group Bible Study<br>6:00PM - Choir<br>NAAC                | 5 Ascension Day<br>Beer & Hymns at Michaels Cafe | 6   | 7 Stewards of Children Training - Poetry Night           |
| 8 Weekly Schedule<br>Mother's Day                              | 9 Thrivent (FH)       | 10 PFLAG - 6pm       | 11 11AM Group Bible Study<br>6:00PM - Choir<br>NAAC               | 12   | 13  | 14 The BIG FLEA - Flea Market (Outside/ weather pending) |
| 15 Weekly Schedule<br>Pentecost Sunday                         | 16                    | 17 Council<br>6:30pm | 18 11AM Group Bible Study<br>6:00PM - Choir<br>NAAC<br>- LSC (FH) | 19   | 20  | 21 Wedding (S & F)                                       |
| 22 Weekly Schedule<br>Ministry Planning Day<br>Primetimers (P) | 23                    | 24                   | 25 11AM Group Bible Study<br>6:00PM - Choir<br>NAAC               | 26   | 27  | 28 Wedding (S)   |
| 29 Weekly Schedule<br>5th Sunday - Combined Worship<br>10am    | 30 Memorial Day       | 31 Book Club         |   |  |     |  |

### May Birthday Celebrations

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 5/1 - Tracey Hamiter   | 5/20 - Marilyn Potts  |
| 5/8 - Travis Jackson   | 5/26 - Sara Rosebrock |
| 5/12 - Ashley Byrd     | 5/27 - Sam Ruff       |
| 5/17 - Alex Brown      | 5/31 - Jim Potts      |
| 5/17 - Kathia Valverde |                       |

### May Anniversary Celebrations

- 5/5 - Russ & Judy Jolly  
 5/8 - William & Valerie Sligh  
 5/25 - Rev. Bill & Ginny Eiwien  
 5/28 - Greg & Mary Ann Sansonetti-Wood



### What a bargain!

Wonder about what Lutherans believe?  
 Want to nurture your faith and relationship with God?  
 Wonder what the ELCA bishop has to say on a variety of issues?  
 Interested in faith stories of other people?

Living Lutheran is the magazine of the ELCA (the national churchbody to which RLC belongs) is published 12 times a year with about 50 pages of readable stories of faith and action of disciples today as well as church news and various other topics.

Sign up for a one year subscription through our congregational plan at a cost of \$10 a year for the twelve issues, each mailed to your home address. (Regular subscriptions are \$19.95.)

Contact the church office with your name and put \$10 in the offering plate marked *Living Lutheran*.

## TREASURERS UPDATE — REPORT

Treasurers Quarterly Update for March 31, 2016

Dear Reformation family and friends,

This is the first report of a new year. We have had a lot going on these first few months of 2016.

Our relationship with LFS (now referred to as Lutheran Services Carolinas) has evolved into a partnership that includes the SC Synod. The synod provides Reformation with a grant for our community outreach and support of community services such as LFS/LSC.

The parsonage has been rented as of May 1, 2016 and should start producing an income stream after the first month.

We continue to work with the Richland County tax assessor's office in our attempt to correct some errors in property tax charges that occurred as a result of adding the parsonage and the annex (First Steps building) to the tax rolls. On the positive side, contributions have continued the improvement that started last fall and we are so grateful to everyone who made this personal commitment and continues to follow up with a regular pattern of giving.

If you recall, the budget for 2016, as approved last November, included an annual deficit of \$45,715.00 or \$3,810.00 per month and was presented to the congregation as a challenge amount for increased giving. This first quarter shows an actual deficit of \$2,932.00 per month so we are headed in the right direction. With the continued growth in giving and as we start receiving rental income on the parsonage, we can end the year with no monthly deficit.

Soon, you will be receiving your first quarterly courtesy contributions statement. Please let us know if you have any questions. Dot Jeffcoat is our Financial Secretary and will be happy to help you. If you did not receive a contributions statement, it is most likely that you did not identify your gifts by using envelopes for cash gifts. Please use either the envelopes mailed to you or the blue envelopes in the pews for cash gifts so we can provide you with a statement at the end of the year. Be sure to put your name on the envelope. Identifying your gifts also documents your eligibility to serve on church council, committees, ect. and also documents your status as a voting member.

Thank you again,  
Sam Ruff, Treasurer

## ELCA'S COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN FINISHES SECOND YEAR WITH \$80 MILLION RAISED

CHICAGO (ELCA) – The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's (ELCA) first comprehensive campaign, Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA, is celebrating the completion of its second year with \$80 million in cash gifts and gift commitments, representing 40 percent of the five-year, \$198 million goal by Jan. 31, 2019. In addition, the ELCA has received another \$17 million in planned gifts commitments to the priorities of the campaign.

"This is exciting news about the campaign. At a time when people are concerned about contracting resources, we see the generosity of our members expanding," said the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, ELCA presiding bishop. "At a time when some wonder if the church has the capacity to be engaged in the world, we are actually extending our work. Truly, together we can do more."

Reformation Church is part of the ELCA. Members can contribute to the Campaign through the ELCA web site: [ELCA.org](http://ELCA.org).

## **THE PASTOR'S LAMENT:**

I was honored to have been asked by SC Equality, the Harriet Hancock Center, and Youth Outloud to testify at the SC Senate Hearings on Bill S1203, the infamous Bathroom Bill. It was a bill that mirrored the disastrous NC bill that called for Transgender individuals to use bathrooms that match the gender on their birth certificate, not the gender they identify with. I sat there and listened to people who cloaked themselves with the religious moniker of Christianity as they attacked the trans community with venomous statements and accusations. They would turn from the mic and look towards the audience as they spoke of predators, pedophiles, deviants, and abominations, it didn't sound like the voice of Jesus. I do believe all have a right to their opinions, but when it becomes venomous and hateful, I don't know where that comes from, it doesn't sound like the voice I hear from the gospels.

In my statement I reminded them that some of the most despicable predators they referred to come from the political and pastoral group, but I would not lump all politicians and pastors in with them, nor would I refuse all pastors and politicians to their basic public rights to use public facilities.

There is an obvious attempt to use religion to organize everyone's public life to certain religious conceived parameters, and it has created this fear factor of LGBTQ community with misinformation. I'm proud to be the pastor of a congregation where we are willing to discuss the issues that so many people see as uncomfortable grey areas with no black or white discernment. Life is a diversity of issues and color, and it isn't black or white, and discussions in those very grey areas are healthy for the relationships that were defined as well as the relationships created. I informed them that Reformation has held Youth Outloud events, and they have been wonderful. At those events we have children that represent the spectrum of the LGBTQ community, as well as straight teens, and the bathrooms have never been an issue. The youth have been very respectful of each other – except when it comes to the last piece of pizza – so maybe we can learn from them.

I'm also was at the hearings because as a Pastor, I believe I'm called to speak out on behalf of those perceived as the lowest in society. I'm called to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable. The Gospel can push us to hard truths, which are contrary to society at large. Society teaches us to fear the "other" yet Jesus teaches us love and welcome for the other. I implored them to see Jesus in the face of the person they see as a threat, real or perceived, and to know that those individuals are children of God, loved, named, cared for and as deserving of safety they and their children have. If someone or some group is marginalized, that's where I see Jesus, and I believe we as Christians must go and stand with them. With certain religious and political organizations taking aim on trans individuals, I truly believe Jesus' teachings call all of us to stand with them. I lament the anger some relate to the name of Christ.

Peace,

Pastor Tim

---

## **RECONCILING WORKS:**

Since 1974, ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation has advocated for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their Church, congregations, and community. The Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Program of ReconcilingWorks is for congregations, synods, colleges, seminaries, and other Lutheran organizations that publicly welcome LGBTQ people.

At its January 2015 meeting, the Board of Directors adopted a new two-year strategic plan. The plan is derived from ReconcilingWorks' ongoing mission: to embody, inspire, advocate, and organize for the acceptance and full participation of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities within the Lutheran communion and its ecumenical and global partners, striving to dismantl injustice and oppression.

Reformation embraces the vision of Reconciling Works. Let's keep this faithful endeavor in our continued prayer. To give to Reconciling Works, mark your envelope - RECONCILING WORKS. Thanks for your support.

# Reformation Lutheran Church

1118 Union Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

## **Address Service Requested**

Ph: 803.252.1507

Fax: 803.252.1508

Email: officeofreform@gmail.com

Web: ReformationLutheranColumbiaSc.com

## **Pastor Tim Bupp**

*A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*

**NON-PROFIT ORG.**

**US POSTAGE**

**P-A-I-D**

**PERMIT NO. 4**

**COLUMBIA, SC**

## **MAY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

|   | <b>May 1</b>  | <b>May 8</b>  | <b>May 15</b>  | <b>May 22</b>   | <b>May 29 - 1 service</b>                       |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Open (Close)</b>                                       | Cale Peake<br>(Ben Bullock)                             | Cale Peake<br>(Cale Peake)                                  | Cale Peake<br>(Jim Prater)                                   | Cale Peake<br>(Sam Ruff )                                 | Cale Peake<br>(Jim Prater)                      |
| <b>Altar Guild with Ben Bullock</b>                       | Sharon Baldwin<br>(Michael Shirley)                     | Cale Peake<br>(Julia Prater)                                | Jill Allawos<br>(Rev. Karin Culp)                            | Lisa Leopard<br>(Ben Bullock)                             | Ben Bullock<br>(Julia Prater)                   |
| <b>9AM Acolyte/Crucifer</b>                               | Kyra Ritchie  | Denise & Jane Derriso                                       | Kathia & Sebi Valverde                                       | Danyelle Ritchie  | n/a   |
| <b>9AM Ushers and (assistants)</b>                        | Bill & Sharon Baldwin<br>(Donny & Matthew Peter-Fritts) | Sam Ruff & Raymond Cook<br>(Caroline Kearns/<br>Cale Peake) | Michael & Carol Kuhrau<br>(Marie Pearson/<br>Gloria Preslar) | Andy Miles & Cale Peake<br>(Sarah Trani & Gloria Preslar) | n/a   |
| <b>9AM Asst. Minister/lector</b>                          | Mary Dickman  | Ginny Eiwien  | Michael Reames   | Caroline Kearns   | n/a   |
| <b>- 11am (or 10) Acolyte/ Crucifer</b>                   | Meg Hazel   | Rhett Culclasure  | Michael Shirley  | Mary Dickman  | Kathia & Sebi Valverde                          |
| <b>11:00AM (or 10) Ushers &amp; Offering (assistants)</b> | Ross Jolly & Luis Guzman                                | Sam McNutt & Michael Shirley                                | Jim Prater & George Black                                    | Sam Ruff<br>Raymond Cook                                  | Sam McNutt, Ross Jolly<br>Sharon & Bill Baldwin |
| <b>Lector 11 (or 10)</b>                                  | Colleen Clark   | Anthony Porter  | Jim Prater   | Rev. Jenn Casey   | Eve Ross  |
| <b>11:00AM (or 10) Asst. Minister</b>                     | Paula Prosser   | Mary Dickman  | Colleen Clark  | Meg Hazel   | Jim Prater                                      |