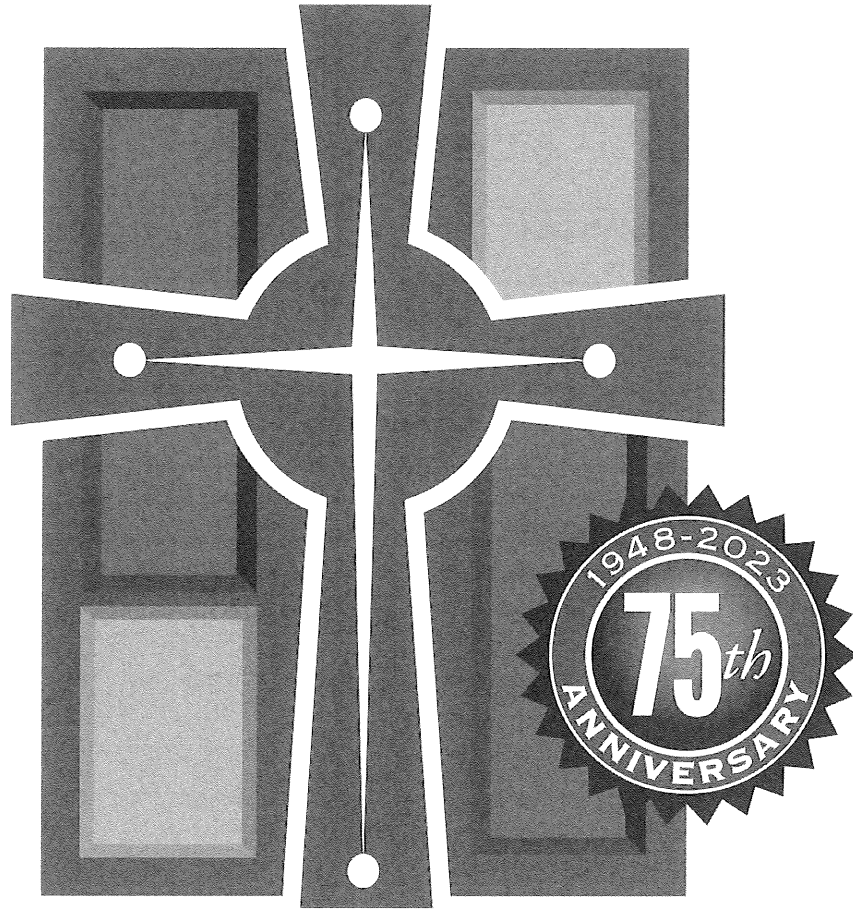


# Annual Report for 2025



*Reformation*  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**ANNUAL MEETING – 1/25/2026**

Opening Prayer  
Call to Order  
Approval of Agenda\*

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Treasurer's Report	See addendum
Endowment Funds Report	See addendum
2025 General Fund Budget	See addendum

Old/Unfinished Business

New Business

Discussion & Approval of Proposed Budget for 2026\*

Election of Congregation Council\*

Adjournment\*

***Note: Items marked with an asterisk require congregational approval.***

## **Minutes of the January 2025 Annual Meeting**

The Annual Congregation Meeting of Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church was held on January 28, 2025, following the 9:30 am worship service. Seventy-three voting members were present at the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Pat Austin, President. Since a quorum was present, the meeting proceeded.

The agenda was accepted as printed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the agenda as revised. MDMC\*

The minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting were reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the 2024 Annual Congregation Meeting held on January 28, 2024. MDMC.

Pat Austin referred to the Report of the Pastor, Pastoral Acts/Statistical Report, Report of the President, Director of Music and Report of the Congregation Council.

Pastor shared a video related to the Mental Health Ministry called 'r u OK Berks?'.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** The various committee and organizational reports were received as printed, except for additions and comments regarding the committee and organizational reports listed below.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The 2024 Treasurer's Report, 2024 General Budget and the Endowment Funds were reviewed by Larry Varone. Larry also shared the financials regarding the Windows Project. He reported a remaining cash balance of \$14,607.70. A motion was made and seconded to apply this balance to the outstanding mortgage balance of \$87,822.00. MDMC.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2025:** Pat Austin presented the 2025 budget. He was happy to say once again that Reformation had a much more successful year than anticipated in 2024. The 2024 total income was over the budgeted amount by \$1,919.00. The giving portion of the income was down by \$6,905.00. However, the interest earned in 2024 was higher than budgeted. This combined with a solar rebate allowed the us to finish the year in the black. The 2025 income is budgeted as \$275,880.00. This figure is lower than 2023 because the Finance Committee has taken into consideration that interest from the savings will be significantly reduced as Reformation makes payments from the savings to pay for the window replacement. He then reviewed the 2024 expenses which were \$16,560.00 below the budgeted figure. This was due to a number of committees expenses were lower than budgeted,

The 2025 budget is being presented with a projected loss of \$17,307.00. The Finance Committee took several variables into consideration as the budget was being developed. This includes the first full year of mortgage payments, less earned interest, no additional solar rebates and the increase in regular building expenses.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the 2025 budget as presented. MDMC.

Pastor provided an attendance update per the Parochial report he filed for the year. In-person attendance increased by 4 going from 118 to 122 per week. The on-line attendance increased by 295 going from 180 to 475.

Pat Austin thanked the outgoing council members, Richter Bogust, Chris Karasek, Carl Kerchner, Tony Lambert and Sherwood Robbins. Pat Austin is also completing his service. He also thanked Pastor Metzloff, Lydia Strobel, Larry Varone, Melanie Bechtel, Deb Wieland and Tony Barrasso.

ELECTION OF CONGREGATION COUNCIL: The Nominating Committee presented the following nominees to serve on the congregation council: Dan Bergey (1 year – completing Sherwood Robbins term), Rich Hawk (2 years – completing Richter Bogust term), Steven Barnett, Melanie Bechtel, Charles Miller and Teri Stoddard (all serving 3 years). A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations and have the Secretary of the Congregation Council cast a unanimous ballot for the election of council members nominated. MDMC.

Secretary Melanie Bechtel cast the unanimous ballot as instructed and declared the nominees duly elected to the terms as presented.

Alan Blackburn provided an update on the Solar Project. The congregation raised \$25,000.00 and Reformation received a grant of \$50,000.00. A solar array panel was installed for a total cost of \$75,000.00.

Through the Inflation Reduction Act, the church received a refund of \$37,269.99. A cost of \$2,500.00 was incurred with the completion of the paperwork to apply for the refund. This leaves a remaining balance of \$35,000.00. Council has broken this figure into two buckets and would like feedback from the congregation.

The first bucket contains the original \$25,000.00 raised by the congregation. Options for this money are as follows:

1. Pay down the mortgage
2. Install more solar panels
3. Look at other energy saving projects

The second bucket contains \$10,000.00. Council suggested using this money in a pay-it-forward manner possibly allocated as follows:

1. Provide grants to local churches towards installation of solar panels. This grant would be given at the end of the installation process
2. Provide grants to local churches for general energy reduction projects of their choice
3. Provide a donation to a non-profit which deploys solar systems to places hit by natural disasters

Council is also asking the congregation for any suggestions on use of this money. Please speak to Pastor and any council member.

Dave Shirey suggested upgrading lighting; Elisha Barnett suggested hosting education programs for the community.

Michelle Karask inquired if any congregations expressed interest in the grants. Pastor stated that his will be speaking about this at the annual Synod meeting.

Dennis Little suggested using this money for future repairs. Alan explained that the panels are guaranteed for 30 years and require little maintenance.

There is no urgency for determining how best to allocate this money, Council just wanted to make the congregation aware of this situation.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn. MDMC.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melanie Bechtel, Council Secretary

\*Motion Delivered Motion Carried

## **Pastor's Report**

In place of a look back at the last year and a look forward at the next, since I will be leaving the congregation for a new call by the time of the annual meeting, I'd like to simply use this space to thank you, the people of Reformation, for the last five years. It's been a busy time – moving out of the COVID pandemic, celebrating the congregation's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, installing the solar array and the sanctuary windows, and simply going through the annual cycle of the church year have been the high points. I've learned a lot here, will miss many of you very much, and wish all of you all the best in the future.

God's grace and peace be with you,

Pastor Paul Metzloff

## **Pastoral Acts 2025**

*Baptisms:* Lilian Lee Kohler (Cindy & Mack Koller)  
Wren Marie Bouchard (Jared & Karley Bouchard)  
Alicia Readinger Cantu (John & Amanda Cantu)

*Confirmations:* Melanie Karasek

*Funerals/Deaths:* Langston White (nonmember)  
Jane Farrell  
LaJune McDonough  
Henry Oisieki (nonmember)  
David Leidel  
Joanne Reinhart

*Weddings:* Joshua and Olivia Osborne (nonmembers)  
Kevin and Lauren Blackburn

## **Report of the President**

In all the years I have been a member at Reformation, I am always amazed at how blessed we are and 2025 was no different. To name a few of our blessings from 2025:

We continue to reap the benefits of the solar panel installation not only through lower electrical expenses but also in helping to provide for a sustainable energy future for the community at large.

We installed LED lighting in the social hall and the narthex. In addition to the improved lighting in these areas, this also has a positive impact on our electrical energy usage and building maintenance costs.

The window installation was completed which will help in maintaining the integrity of the church building and reducing our cooling/heating needs – again positive impacts to energy usage that also look great.

Through a very generous anonymous donor, the loan we had taken out with the Synod, for the window replacement, was paid off completely, several years ahead of time. This will positively impact the church's financial future.

Three youth attended a mission trip to Nashville and presented their experiences to the congregation. I am sure this trip will continue to impact their lives going forward.

We participated in the "SunDay" event which showcased our positive experience with installing solar panels.

We continue to grow our ministries helping the community which includes the Clothing Bank, quilting ministry, food pantry, Thanksgiving baskets, and Opportunity House.

All of these could not have been accomplished without the dedication of many people in the congregation that are typically behind the scenes not seeking recognition. Larry Varone, Dale Miller, Bob Rutherford, members of the window replacement committee, the Property Committee led by Tim Dewalt, the Hospitality Committee led by Joanne Scattergood and Shirley Harner, the Education/Youth Committee led by Alicia Bergey, Terry Trumbauer, plus the members of council. I also thank our Pastor and staff who keep the church functioning smoothly from our worship experience through maintenance of the building/grounds. Without a smooth running, cohesive staff this would not be possible. I am sure I missed someone and for that I am sorry but your work is greatly appreciated. I would encourage everyone to get involved in a committee, small group, or activity. These do not require a huge time commitment but they can provide ways to help the church and community while developing lasting friendships.

As we move forward into 2026 and with the pastoral call process, I want us to remember what Jesus said in John 13:34, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." Just as Jesus loved those who believed, looked, acted, and spoke differently than him, so must we. He commands it and we must embrace his command. We are all different – economically, socially, politically, we are from different nationalities, we have different educations, our jobs are different and everything else about us is different, yet we come to the same church to learn about and worship the same God – that is the common element. Let us all focus on coming together in Christ during 2026 and beyond.

Alan Blackburn  
Council President

## **Report of the Director of Music**

The music ministry at Reformation Lutheran Church continues to be an active and vibrant part of congregational life. At present, the ministry includes a Senior Choir, an Adult Handbell Choir, and Sunday School music time, which helps prepare children and youth for special services throughout the church year, as well as the newly formed ReFOURmation youth wind ensemble! It is my intention to continue offering and strengthening all of these musical ensembles in the coming year.

Current ensemble participation and rehearsal schedules are as follows:

### **Senior Choir**

12 regular members

Rehearses Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

### **Adult Handbell Choir**

10-11 regular members (depending on the season)

Rehearses Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

### **Sunday School Choir / Music Time**

Open to all children and youth who attend Sunday School

Meets Sundays during the 9:30 a.m. Sunday School hour

### **ReFOURmation Ensemble**

4 youth members

Provides music for special services and occasions and rehearsals are scheduled as necessary.

This past year was another very successful and joyful year of music-making at Reformation. The music program supported and enhanced worship throughout the year, including triumphant Easter morning, Reformation Sunday, and Christmas Eve services. In addition, the church hosted a wide variety of concerts and special musical events, including a Jazz worship service, several livestream Jazz concerts, the Reading Junior Strings, a Black History Month concert, the Reading Pops Big Band, and The Ringgold Band Christmas Concert.

During the lenten season, we once again offered mid-week Holden Evening Prayer services, which provided meaningful opportunities for fellowship, reflection, and contemplative music. The Christmas Pageant, "On Christmas Night," along with our music-making through the ReFOURmation ensemble were engaging and memorable experiences for participants of all ages.

The continued growth and vitality of the music ministry at Reformation is deeply encouraging, and I am grateful for the dedication of all who participate. We have recently welcomed 2 new handbell members and 2 additional senior choir members!

I will continue to take part in regularly scheduled Music and Worship Committee meetings to support planning and collaboration.

Looking ahead, I hope the coming year will bring expanded concert and performance offerings, increased involvement of children and youth in the music program, and continued growth in participation in both the Senior Choir and Adult Handbell Choir.

Respectfully submitted, Dr. Heidi A. Rochlin, Director of Music

## **Report of the Congregational Council**

Congregational Council Members and Officers during 2025 were:

Steve Barnett, Vice President	Karen Montag
Melanie Bechtel, Secretary	Howard Quaintance
Dan Bergey	Teri Stoddard
Alan Blackburn, President	Dee Dee Werner
Rich Hawk	
Rich Matijasich	
Carole Miller	
Charles Miller	Larry Varone, Accountant*

\*Not a council member

Melanie Bechtel was elected as Financial Secretary.

Teri Stoddard was elected as Treasurer.

A pancake dinner was held on Shrove Tuesday.

Mid-weekly Lenten suppers were held.

The annual Easter breakfast and egg hunt was held on April 20, 2025.

College care packages were mailed in the spring and fall of 2025.

The WBMD Spring Assembly was held at Good Sheperd Lutheran Church on May 8 2025. Pastor Metzloff and Howard Quaintance attended.

The NEPS Assembly was held at Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church from May 30-31, 2025. Charles and Kathy Miller were Reformation's delegates along with Pastor Metzloff.

Small group ministries were created in June. A gardening small group ministry led by Rich Hawk began meeting in October 2025.

A youth Mission Trip to Nashville took place in June.

The church picnic was held on June 1, 2025, at Rustic Park in Birdsboro.

Summer Together time continued in 2025.

Reformation supported Family Promise in August.

Our Work God's Hands was held on September 7, 2025. This day consisted of a variety of service projects.

A spaghetti dinner youth fundraiser was held on October 18, 2025.



Thanksgiving Baskets were put together and distributed.

An Advent Workshop was held on November 30, 2025.

A Ringgold Band concert was held December 7, 2025.

Re-usable Christmas greens were purchased and were used to decorate the church on December 6, 2025.

Reformation supported Schwarzwald Lutheran with their annual toy drive.

Eric's Angels giving tree was in the Narthex in December. Gifts for the families were distributed in time for Christmas.

Council wishes to thank Pastor Metzloff for his spiritual guidance and leadership.

The following have completed their terms on the Congregation Council: Alan Blackburn, Dan Bergey, Carole Miller and Karen Montag (resigned her position in November).

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Bechtel  
Council Secretary

## **Reports of Council Committees**

### **Nominating Committee**

This year's nominating committee consisted of Pat Austin, Karen Montag and Dee Dee Werner. The new council nominees are Michelle Karasek and Cynthia Smoker-Johnston. We thank the outgoing council members (Alan Blackburn, Dan Bergey, Carole Miller and Karen Montag) for their service!

### **Christian Education and Youth Ministry**

In 2025, our Sunday School classes consist of a pre-school class (led by Wendy Richards), 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade (led by Sally Metzloff), 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation class (led by Pastor Metzoff), and 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade Senior High class (led by Rich Hawk). We purchased curriculum for the pre-school through 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes from Augsburg Fortress, which offers fun activities and colorful pamphlets for the Sunday School kids.

In June 2025, we had three youth (Paige Bergey, Peyton Shirey, and Melanie Karasek) attend a mission trip to Nashville, TN. This mission trip was combined with Schwartzwald and St. Mark's Lutheran Churches. During the mission trip, the youth worked in a community garden, served meals to those in need, and helped organize at a local food bank.

In October 2025, Reformation hosted a spaghetti dinner to raise money towards future mission trips and youth gatherings. The youth help set-up, serve the food, and clean-up after the dinner. In total, this event raised \$958. Thanks to everyone for your continued support!

Youth Ministry assembled and mailed a total of 11 care packages in the Spring and 8 care packages in the Fall. These care packages are filled with snacks and treats for those in college and in the military. We will continue to mail these packages in the Spring and Fall 2026.

We look forward to many great things in 2026!

Many Blessings,  
Alicia Bergey



## Scholarship Committee/Scholarship Fund

The Scholarship Fund Committee is responsible for the management and distribution of funds from the Reformation Evangelical Lutheran Church Scholarship Fund. The Committee selects the recipients and sets the dollar value of scholarship award money for its yearly educational scholarship award(s). Those eligible are Reformation members attending an institution of higher learning who have been actively involved in the life and ministry of the Reformation congregation and have demonstrated a need for financial aid. Applications include a written essay from each applicant specifically describing how the applicant meets the eligibility requirements. The investment income of the fund is available for distribution at the discretion of the Committee.

Reformation is blessed to have, as members of its congregation, faithful and active young adults consistently working to further their spiritual and professional education. Through our scholarship awards, we are privileged to help offset expenses and ease the financial burden of higher education as these young adults move forward in developing their God-given gifts and abilities and continue growth in faith and leadership as Christians. Because of the continued national economic growth and success and the corresponding growth of the Fund income, the Committee was fortunate to have the resources to provide scholarship awards to these well-deserving applicants this year:

Jack Sahaida  
Abigail Rochlin  
Rebecca Cherry  
Richter Bogust  
Faith Constein  
Mimi Sahaida  
Andrea Morales-Kerchner  
Matthew Kerchner  
Lauren Robbins

Committee Members: Dan Bergey (Committee Chair and Council Liaison), Pastor Paul Metzloff, Karen Montag, Theresa Adams, Tina Little, Pam Schneeberger

## Finance

A 2024 Treasurer's Report was presented to the Congregation Council in January of 2025.

The finance committee met every month in 2025 to review the monthly income, expenses, and cash flow. The committee also monitored and reviewed the endowment fund investment performance each month.

The active members of our finance committee during 2024 were Larry Varone; Business Manager, Steve Barnett; Financial Secretary, Pat Austin Chairman and council liaison, Teri Stodard; Treasurer, Carole Miller, Alan Blackburn and Charles Miller. I would like to thank all the committee members for their contributions and commitment to this committee.

If you have any questions you would like to have addressed, please feel free to contact any member of the finance committee.

Pat Austin, Chairman

## Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee's responsibilities include scheduling and/or coordinating receptions, meals, special events, funeral luncheons, etc. The duties of this committee also include the stocking and organization of all kitchen supplies. Between the months of January 2025 and December 2025, members of the Hospitality Committee, with the help of members of the congregation, have been in charge of coordinating food and/or hosting:

- Undecorators' Lunch
- 6 Together Times
- 5 Lenten Soup Suppers
- Palm Sunday Experience
- Church Picnic
- Advent Sunday School Event
- Ringgold Band Reception
- 1 Funeral Lunch
- 1 Funeral Refreshments

We are always in need of new members for the Hospitality Committee. Also, if you would be willing to help by baking for or assisting at a specific function, please contact Shirley Harner, Joanne Scattergood or the church office. We will put you to work as soon as we can.

Thank you to the many members of the congregation who have helped whenever called upon to bake, serve, clean up, or help in any way.

## Property Committee

Members: Bob Rutherford, Bruce Seiz, Dave Shirey, Dale Miller, Dennis Little, Ryan Klinikowski, Rich Hawk, Howard Quaintance - council liaison, Tim Dewalt-chairman, Tony Barraso, sexton, Larry Varone - accountant, Pastor Paul Metzloff

***Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the Lord. Haggai 1:8***

The committee met 3 times throughout the year. The following activities were initiated and/or completed:

- Sanctuary cleanup (pencils, envelopes, hymnals) on weekly basis
- Annual Spring Clean-Up held on May 17th. 15 yards of mulch were spread.
- Yard - geraniums planted, weeds treated, mowing, edging, landscape maintained throughout spring, summer and fall months, yard debris removed to Trout Run
- Outdoor signage, banners - secured, placed and removed as needed throughout year
- Arranged for snow plowing - Diebolt Landscape Co. Salting to be handled in-house.
- Parking lot sealed and striped, Hometown Seal Coating
- New (used) zero-turn riding mower was purchased
- Miscellaneous: ballasts in light fixtures repair ongoing, lamp post painted, women's room toilet repairs, narthex kiosk repaired, kitchen cabinet doors repaired, drywall patching and repainting, landscape lighting bulb replacement, cleaning cart purchased
- New LED Light fixtures installed in parish hall and narthex as well as some fixtures in music room and hallways. Met Ed. rebate secured and labor to install provided in-house. Will result in significant savings.
- Parish Hall rear (outside) door repaired, B&G Glass
- Window replacement project was finalized with completion of outstanding items.
- Quint-Essential Rug Cleaning - spot cleaned as needed
- New trash hauler secured - Whitetail Disposal
- Fall yard clean-up was held on November 8th
- New visitor parking signs secured & installed on lot
- Repair and replacement of select outdoor signage in progress - Quality Awnings and Signs

## Social Ministry

**Burger-A-Month:** A small but dedicated group of Reformation members have participated in 2025, skipping their favorite fast-food sandwich or meal once a month, and donating their savings. Through their efforts \$3410 has been sent to ELCA World Hunger Relief this year. Since we began the program in 2008 our donations have totaled over \$50,000. If you are not participating right now, please consider reading the information on the table in the narthex, picking up a pack of envelopes, and joining with us in the coming months. January is a great time for a new beginning!

**Care Team:** The care team continues to support church family members, community families and school children in their time of need. We provide gift cards for families struggling financially and recovering from fires. We provide gift cards for families to purchase clothing and food for their children in need.

In 2025 we provided \$600 of gift cards to families in the Family Promise program. We gave \$250 of gift cards to a fire victim in Exeter Township. We also gave \$250 of gift cards to a family who were displaced by a fallen tree.

If you know of a family in need please speak to the Pastor, Karen Hawk or someone on Church Council.

**Children's Clothing Bank:** In 2025 we averaged 51 families per month. This is similar to the average of last year although we had an uptick in clients in the last 4 months of 2025. The people who attend are very appreciative and we continue to meet a need in the community.

In August we collected book bags and the supplies to fill them. We distributed 211 book bags at the clothing bank give and gave 28 to the Exeter School District. We joined with Pam's Promise, a clothing and food pantry at Pennside Presbyterian Church and contributed 60 book bags to their clothing bank. We had 9 remaining book bags for a total of 308 book bags collected. We are grateful to Reinecker Dental, North Star Methodist Church, Schwarzwald Lutheran Church, Pennside Presbyterian Church and the members of Reformation Lutheran Church for their support of our book bag project.

We are very appreciative of the many volunteers who monthly give of their time to keep the clothing bank in order and running smoothly, especially Joanne Scattergood and Shirley Harner who organize volunteers and go each month to the clothing bank to keep it neat and tidy, and to all those who continue to donate clothing, money and time to this project.

In 2026 we have plans, with the support of the Food Pantry, to expand the outreach of the clothing bank to include adult clothing. The food pantry will be providing clothing racks and additional shelves, along with additional volunteer support to sort and organize clothing in the clothing bank. We look forward to the possibilities of this growing ministry.

**Eric's Angels:** no report received; a distribution of gifts was done in early December.

**Exeter Area Food Pantry:** The food pantry, operating from the Exeter School Administration building, continues to serve the community by helping over 200 families each month. Reformation continues to provide volunteers, financial support, and financial management for the EAFP. Steve Barrett again deserves special thanks for working with the pantry bookkeeper and for serving as our primary point of contact with them.

**Family Promise:** Family Promise is staying in homes three homes throughout the Reading area. We are asked to prepare meals for the families, one night a week (on Mondays). Having the three homes provides us the opportunity to have our people prepare a meal for only one home, or more if they wish. Plus, it is a more manageable amount of food for our people to prepare, cook and deliver.

The week of February 26<sup>h</sup>, July 29<sup>th</sup> and August 5<sup>th</sup>, we provided meals for one night (Monday Nights). We also provided gift cards to the families to help with their budget. In all, we provided 9 meals and gift cards to the families of Family Promise.

Information from Pam Schneeberger

**GriefShare:** as this year draws to a close, I am once again grateful that two cycles, #'s 47 and 48, were completed in GriefShare. In addition to the 13-week DVD's we use with different topics people experience in bereavement, "stand-alone" session on Loss of Spouse and Surviving the Holidays were also offered.

My co-facilitator, Cheryl Schwartz, and I are preparing and looking forward to cycles 49 and 50 in the new year. Your care for this ministry through your prayers is a blessing to us as well as our group members. I humbly thank you all.

Beautiful Blue Christmas was held in December once again. I'm grateful for Pastor Metzloff's support and participation over his years with us. In his absence this year, Rev. Greg Stoddard joined me. Our time of reflection and remembering was enhanced by the beautiful harp music provided by our guest musician, Linda Umstead.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Plica

**Health Care and Mental Wellness Ministry:** the main focus for the year was the weekly Yoga classes on Wednesdays led by Jane Quaintence – thanks to Jane!

**Local Benevolence distributions:** As in previous years, 1½% of giving is designated for Local Benevolence. A primary use of these funds this year was food for our monthly Opportunity House meals. We also use these funds to keep a selection of gift cards available for immediate needs and to support the Care Team.

We remain open to new ways to reach out to our community, so if you see a good local cause, please let us know! In 2026 we plan on meeting quarterly to evaluate possibilities for local benevolence.

**Opportunity House:** as noted above, we continued to provide a monthly meal for Opportunity House, with many volunteers involved in preparing and serving the meal or baking a cake for dessert. The new signup system for coordinating these volunteers is generally working well, and several new individuals have stepped up to assist with the delivery and serving. Many thanks to the Trumbauers who continue to take the lead on cooking!



**Thanksgiving Baskets:** Over 20 Total baskets were collected and distribute to local families in need. Thanks to Terry Trumbauer for heading up the basket effort!

## **Stewardship Committee**

The main focus of the stewardship committee this year was working on servicing and paying down the load from the synod for the recent windows project. Due to the generosity of the congregation and in particular one large donor, the window mortgage has been completely retired.

## Technology Committee

Committee Members: Chris Richards, Jared Preston, Stu Johnston, Andy Dobroskey, Tom Sahaida and Richter Bogust, Teri Stoddard (*Council Liaison*).

I would like to thank our Technology Committee members and all the people who helped, donated or were involved in supporting our technology efforts in any capacity here at Reformation this year!

We are grateful for the continued support that enabled us to deliver online worship services effectively. Worship services are streamed live on Facebook as well as on YouTube and are subsequently also available in the "Videos" section of the Reformation Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ReformationELC/> as well as on the main church website at <https://reformationlutheran.org/>. For people who do not have access to a PC audio CD's are available. If anyone is interested in obtaining an audio or video copy of a worship service please contact the church office.

### Accomplishments This Year

Some of the major projects included:

- Purchased new Windows 11 workstations for streaming and music director.
- Acquired a new laptop for counters and installed Microsoft Office.
- Managed weekly streaming and provided video copies upon request.

Thanks to Jared Preston who remotely connects to the streaming PC and gets the presentation ready for all services throughout the year. Also, thanks to Andy Dobroskey, Richter Bogust, Stu Johnston and Bret Montag for running the streaming presentation every week. Again, thanks to Chris Richards who is always eager to help out and all the others who have volunteered, donated or helped in any way throughout the year. Thank you all!

### Projects for the New Year

- Even though the PCs for streaming and the music director have been purchased they still need to be put in place. That is planned for the Jan/Feb time frame.
- Most of our PC/Network equipment is now up to date! If anyone knows of any updates that should be made or have additional technology needs please let one of the tech committee members know.

Thanks to everyone for your kindness and support throughout the year!

*Respectfully submitted by Tom Sahaida*

## **Worship and Music Committee**

The current members of the Worship and Music Committee include Kathy Austin, Tim Dewalt, Sarah Dobroskey, Karen Hawk, Michelle Karasak, Pastor Metzloff, Jane Quaintance, Heidi Rochlin, Joanne Scattergood, and Dee Dee Werner.

### **Highlights of 2025**

- Switched the service order with announcements first then prelude starting in January
- Switched from plastic to glass communion cups
- Held Lenten suppers and midweek Holden evening prayer services.
- Reading Junior Strings played in April and November
- Jazz worship service held in April
- Used daffodils instead of lilies at Easter
- Hosted the church picnic in June at Rustic Park in Birdsboro.
- Our summer worship at 9:30 started on June 14th
- Returned to two services at 8:30 and 10:30 on September 14th
- Held a Harvest Home service in November
- Held an Advent workshop for families between the services in December
- Ringgold band presented a concert on December 7th
- Switched to all artificial greens to decorate the sanctuary at Christmas
- The children's Christmas pageant was held on December 21st at 9:30
- There were 2 services on Christmas Eve at 4:30 and 8:30 PM and one service on Christmas morning at 9:30.

The committee would like to thank Pastor Metzloff, Heidi Rochlin and her family for providing excellent leadership. We would also like to thank all those who serve on the altar guild, those who serve as eucharistic ministers, those who sing in the choir, those who ring in the bell choir, and all those who help in any way big or small throughout the year to enrich our worship and music program.

## **Altar Guild**

Many thanks to the members of this committee who prepare the sanctuary for worship services each week. Our sincere thanks to Pastor Metzloff and Tim Dewalt for changing the large, heavy paraments when needed.

**MEMBERS:** Steve & Elisha Barnett, Melanie Bechtel, Maddie & Ryan Klinikowski, Kathy & Charles Miller, Heather McHale, Jackie & Brion Morrissey, Lisa Philippi, Pam Schneeberger, Cindy & Dave Shirey, Cynthia Smoker-Johnston, DeeDee Werner and Kathy Austin.

To make our communion bread accessible to all, we continue to use a gluten-free, nut-free and dairy-free recipe for our communion bread.

Our appreciation to the bakers: Melanie Bechtel, Jeanne Gochnauer, Michelle Karasek, Jackie Morrissey, Pastor Metzloff, Teri Stoddard, Kathy Austin.

~ Respectfully submitted by Kathy Austin, Chairperson

## **Women of the ELCA (WELCA)**

Our Bible Studies are held the last Tuesday of the month, after the quilters. We would eat lunch together, quilters and Study ladies, and at Noon the Bible Study would start. We had 9 regular Bible Studies, using the Gather Magazine as a guide.

Sarah Dobroskey and Karen Hawk worked very hard on the Lent and Advent devotionals. We appreciate all their time and work. The dove on the front cover of the Advent devotional was a clever idea. These devotionals are well read devotionals among our congregation and friends.

This year we participated in Berks County scarf Bombing by making crocheted or knitted scarves for people in need of some warmth. About 80 scarves were donated.

Our Links of Love Quilting Ministry met twice a month, with the exception of the summer months. Blessings for the year include the following:

- a record 181 quilts for LWR were completed.
- a quilt blessing was held in September for over 150 quilts.
- 27 boxes of quilts were taken to a LWR Ingathering at Bergstrasse Lutheran Church near Ephrata in October.
- and several Thrivent grants and monetary donations helped to cover our costs.

Many thanks to our 20 plus volunteers who made 2025 a record year!

Shelby Rutherford, Coordinator

WELCA Report, submitted by Pam Schneeberger