



800 E. Michigan Street + Orlando, FL 32806 + 407.425.7771
 + FB: Reformation Lutheran Orlando +
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 + reformationlutheranorlando.org +
 Sunday worship services with communion: 9:30 a.m., 5 p.m.

for week of 1-17-2016

Greetings, Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As you know, this Sunday we will conduct our annual meeting. We will celebrate the many ministries of Reformation in the last year. It brings me great joy to reflect upon the many ways God is working at Reformation. It is truly a remarkable story!

After this brief meeting, we will host a spaghetti lunch. I understand that Bruno will make our sauce from scratch under the instruction of his dear father. This is at no cost to you. I hope that you will make your best efforts to join us.

In a bittersweet happenstance, we will also bid farewell and godspeed to Ralph and Ingrid Hellender during worship. They have found a wonderful home and community at Luther Haven in Oviedo. While travel to Reformation has become more difficult, we celebrate with them their newfound home. They have assured me that their hearts remain with their Reformation family. While their departure saddens me, I invite you to join me in giving a hearty thanksgiving for the years--the many, many, many years--of faithful service to our Lord at 800 E. Michigan Street. We certainly understand the vicissitudes of aging and send our prayers and hopes with them. We joyously thank God, celebrate their ministry among us and pray for safe lodging and happy relocation for them. The texts for Farewell and Godspeed are comforting and tender:

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. 2When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. 3For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
 Isaiah 43:1-3 (NRSV)

In holy baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his church. When you came to this community we rejoiced to welcome you into the mission we share as the people of God. In this community

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MINISTERS:
 + ALL THE BAPTIZED +

OUR STAFF

Rev. Robert L. Cosmas, pastor
 vacancy, music director
 Linda Greer, administrative assistant

CHURCH COUNCIL+

Shay Harold, president
 Pam Ridgeway, vice president
 Mary Reis, secretary
 Brenda Erwin
 Steve Hilgen
 Bill Parker

 + If you have an idea or concern, please contact Pr. Rob, Shay Harold, or another council member.

 Pastor Rob is available Sunday through Thursday. If you have an emergency on a Friday or Saturday, please call the church office at 407.425.7771.

 To submit articles for consideration in this weekly newsletter, send to ReformationLutheran@hotmail.com, subject line: to Herald editor, by **Tuesday noon** each week.

The purpose of this newsletter is to *inform*. All articles will be edited, but please check your spelling of proper nouns and verify your facts before submitting.

2nd Sunday of Epiphany
color of the day: white

Readings for 1-17-2016

Isaiah 62.1-5
Psalm 36.5-10
I Corinthians 12.1-11
John 2.1-11

Servers for 1-17-2016

Greeters - Linda Greer
Ushers - Dick Cosmas, Joan Cosmas
Acolyte/Crucifer - Kathy Keffer
Altar - Linda Greer
Lector - Donia Bessa
Server - Tom Bessa
Teller - Linda Greer
Refreshments - annual meeting/
lunch
Flowers - from Irene Weeks to
the Glory of God and from Nancy
Bergstresser in memory of Pastor
Paul Bergstresser

**Attendance last four Sundays
and Christmas Eve**

| | a.m. | + | p.m. | = | total |
|------------------------|------|---|------|---|-------|
| 12/20 | 73 | + | 10 | = | 83 |
| Christmas Eve services | | | | | |
| 4 p.m. | 43 | | | | |
| 10:30 p.m. | 67 | | | | 110 |
| 12/27 | 49 | + | 6 | = | 55 |
| 1/3 | 69 | + | 1 | = | 70 |
| 1/10 | 61 | + | 6 | = | 67 |

Offering for December:

\$55,373
income needed each month to
make budget: \$15,000

January birthdays

03 - Tom Brown
08 - Pr. Rob
09 - Christiane Makambo
10 - Nick Cupo, Matt Kaiser
15 - Irene Weeks
17 - Ralph Hellender
19 - Kristina Harold, Tim Kaiser
21 - Bruce Bogan
22 - Alicia Meyer Espinal
24 - Asher Cosmas
25 - Meggen Webber
27 - Evie Schildwachter

Official Notice of Congregational Meetings

The first congregational meeting was Sunday, November 15, immediately after the morning worship service. The purpose of this meeting was to elect council members and to be introduced to the proposed 2016 budget. If you have questions about the proposed budget, contact a member of the finance committee (Sandy Bonser, David Denholm, Bob Greer, Jr., Linda Greer) or leave a message on the church voice mail.

The second congregational meeting will be this Sunday, January 17, immediately after the morning worship service. Because another congregation meets in our sanctuary after we do, the meeting will be held in the social hall. The purpose of this meeting is to vote on the 2016 budget and to listen to brief reports from committees on accomplishments of the 2015 year. A spaghetti lunch, made by our own Bruno, will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

This newsletter serves as another written notification of the January meeting.

Anyone can attend the meetings but in order to vote, you must be a Reformation member in good standing. This is defined by the constitution (C8.02c) as being a confirmed member who has "communed and given an offering of record in the current or preceding year."

Please be advised that the constitution prohibits voting by proxy or by absentee ballots (C10.05).

Notes from Hospitality

1. Last Sunday a lovely celebration was presented in honor of all those who have birthdays in January. Would you like to have this each month? If so, please contact Linda Greer at the church office or sign up on the refreshment chart. We will announce the birthday celebration dates each month.
 2. Remember the luncheon right after the congregational meeting this Sunday. This is NOT a pot luck. All are welcome. Bruno will make spaghetti.
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NOTE FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE

The new offering envelopes are out and several members have new numbers. This is ok. Each year as new folks join us or are unable to continue to worship with us all names are put in alphabetical order. Then numbers are assigned accordingly.

The numbers are changed in our software program so everything is tracked correctly. We are sorry if this has caused any confusion. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact any member of the Finance Committee. Members are Bob Greer, Jr., David Denholm, Sandy Bonser and Linda Greer.

calendar events

Jan. 17, after 9:30 worship service-congregational meeting #2 including lunch in the social hall, contacts: Shay Harold, Pr. Rob
Jan. 18, 6:30 p.m.- council meeting, contacts: Shay Harold, Pr. Rob
Jan. 20, noon- "Life Together" study with Pr. Rob
Jan. 27, 8:45-11:45 a.m.- quilting, contact: Joan Brown Williams;
noon- "Life Together" study with Pr. Rob
Jan. 31, 9:30 a.m.- Together in Mission Sunday, including quilt displays

Offering Envelopes Available

Offering Envelopes for 2016 are on the back table in the Sanctuary. If you haven't picked up yours, please do so as soon as possible. If you are unable to pick up, please let us know and they can be mailed to you.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for everyone at Reformation Lutheran Church. The cards, e-mails, phone calls, meals and love that you have shown to our families in our time of loss is so touching. It has meant the world to us. Who could ask for a better church family than the folks of Reformation! Thank you again for your thoughtfulness.
--the Greer family and the Lange family

(from page one)

you have come to know and to share in God's loving purpose for you and for all creation. God has blessed you in this community, AND God has blessed us through you!
Occasional Services p. 355

I encourage all among us to share your best wishes with Ingrid and Ralph. I also strongly suggest that you join us on Sunday to make known your love for them and your support of Reformation's many ministries moving forward. What a privilege it is to serve and shepherd among you. See you in church!

Blessings along the way,
Pastor Rob+

FIRST ELECTION OF 2016

The first of three elections for 2016 is quickly approaching. As many of you know, Reformation Lutheran Church is an Adopt-A-Precinct. What this means is money for the church. The Elections Office pays us for using our facility and the wages of church members who work the polls are given to the church. (Only non-church members who work the polls receive a separate check.) When more church members work the polls, the church receives more money.

Please consider helping us with the election on March 15. We have a GREAT group of folks who have worked several elections and we feel we have this down to a science. We have a lot of fun, enjoy each other's company and have the opportunity to make money for the church. This is a win-win situation all the way around.

First, a training class before the election is required. Then on election day, we set up at 6 a.m. and the polls open at 7 a.m. We work until 7 p.m. when the polls close. We pack up everything and the Clerk takes our results and some machinery to the drop-off spot. Normally we are done by 7:30 p.m. at the latest.

If you are interested, please see Linda Greer in the church as soon as possible. She can be reached either by e-mail: reformationlutheran@hotmail.com or by phone: 407-425-7771.

