

“SON”SHINE
Newsletter



Thanksgiving
Advent-Christmas-Epiphany
2023 – 2024

Reformation Lutheran Church
633 S. New York Road,
Galloway, NJ 08205
609-652-8431

<https://www.rlc.church/>
8:30 & 10:00 am Church Service
Sunday School 10 am
Rev. Heidi Link, Pastor
Brian Conover, Music Director
Stacie Krouse, Church Secretary

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

“... but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your hearts to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to our God...”
(EPHESIANS 5:18-20 (NASB))

Greetings in the name of our Triune God, Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit.

It’s November, and soon we will be celebrating Thanksgiving, surrounding ourselves with family and friends, giving thanks to God for all that we have been blessed with. This year, I am most thankful for the new ministry work we have been doing as a congregation, especially with our young disciples. In mid-October, on the 15th, we had our first youth group that included a simple meal with a creative fruit snack, a time of faith formation with a bible story, music, and play. It was a time of building and deepening our relationship with our Triune God and each other. Many thanks to Ruth Bye for all her hard work getting the room ready and providing a creative and delicious lunch. Thanks to our kitchen helpers Laura and Peyton Widecrantz, Savannah, Brandon, and Jordyn Butler for all their hard work as well as for all parents and grandparents who stayed to help and play too. As you know we have been working on the room all summer and asking folks for name suggestions. We took your list and presented to our young disciples, and they chose ... drum roll please Acts 29! It’s an appropriate name as they are the next generation called to go out into the world sharing the Good News!

I am also thankful that we are celebrating Brian Conover’s 30 years of Music Ministry on November 12. We are all so blessed by his musical talents God gifted him as well as his love and dedication to his church family. As we look ahead to Advent and Christmas, preparing for and celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, let us continue to give thanks for all we have. As we gather around the table on Thanksgiving counting our blessings, let us not forget that in thanksgiving for all that God has done for us, God calls us to be... a blessing to those in need.

Happy Thanksgiving, Pastor Heidi

NOVEMBER CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS



Nov. 5 – All Saints Sunday

**DST ends.
Set clocks back.**

Nov. 12 – (10:00 only, NO 8:30 am service)
Brian's 30th Anniversary at RLC

Nov. 19 – **25th Sunday after Pentecost**
Youth Group 11:00-12:30

Nov. 26 – **Christ the King Sunday**

Thanks and Giving go together.

DECEMBER CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

ADVENT



Dec. 3 – First Sunday in Advent

Dec. 10 – Second Sunday in Advent
(Santa Lucia Celebration)

Dec. 17 – Third Sunday in Advent
Youth Group 11:00-12:30

Dec. 24 – Fourth Sunday in Advent
10am worship – NO 8:30

Reminders

Flower Chart for 2024 is posted in the Narthex. Sign up for your dates.

Prayer List sign-up sheet is posted monthly on the Narthex Bulletin Board. The list renews every month. To add or remove a name, put your prayer requests on the sheet, or contact Stacie or Pastor Heidi.

Joyful Noise Offerings (received on the last Sunday of the month) for November and December will be directed to **Wounded Warriors**.

Holy Grounds coffee fellowship sign-up sheet is posted monthly on the Narthex Bulletin Board. You can sign up to bring baked goods or fruit/veggies.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve

Candlelight Services

3:00pm and 9:30pm

Dec. 31 – First Sunday after Christmas

10:00 am only – NO 8:30 am service

**Service of Lessons and Carols,
and Youth Pageant**



The Christmas Crèche from Epiphany Lutheran is now a fixture at Reformation Lutheran.

Pictured here, after assembling the Nativity Scene, is Kirk Bye, Rich Hermansen, and Curtis Hinmon. (Henry Hermansen, Rich's father, and Kirk's father-in-law, engineered the structure many years ago.)

**O, COME,
ALL YE FAITHFUL**

JANUARY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 7, 2024, 8:30am & 10:00am
The Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 14, 2024, 8:30am & 10:00am
The Second Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 21, 2024, 8:30am & 10:00am
The Third Sunday after Epiphany
Youth Group 11:00-12:30

Sunday, January 28, 2024, 8:30am & 10:00am
The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sunday, February 4, 2024, 10:00am ONLY (No 8:30 service)

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Blanche Harffey Higher Education Fund APPLICATIONS

For Academic Year 2024 – 2025 are available in January.
Find them online at the church's website.

<https://www.rlc.church/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ReformationLutheranNJ>

Reformation Lutheran and Grace Lutheran churches are eligible to apply.
The Deadline for submitting these applications is March 31, 2024.