September 2026
Reformation
Lutheran Church

Ref Life

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

September 6 Only	**9:30 a.m.**	**Summer Service**
Sundays in September	**8:30 a.m.**	**RISE Service**
	11:00 a.m.	**Traditional Service**
Tuesdays in September	9:00 a.m.	Blanket Makers
Tuesdays starting Sept 15	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir

September 3	6:00 p.m.	Worship Board
September 7		Church Office Closed
September 9	10:30 a.m.	In Reach
September 10	10:00 a.m.	Rebecca Circle
September 13		**Rally Day**
September 14	6:30 p.m.	Ladies Night Out
September 15		RefLife Deadline
September 15	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Meeting
September 15	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
September 16	1:00 p.m.	Dorcas Circle
September 20	9:45 a.m.	Learning Hour (Youth) Starts
September 27	9:45 a.m.	Learning Hour (Adult) Starts
September 28	11:00 a.m.	Assistance League

Get on the Calendar! If your group has upcoming meeting dates, please let the Church office know so we can include them on the church calendar. Thank you!

Although we are excited to have Pastor Ralen back with us, we'd like to thank our pastors for taking the time to minister to our congregation and lead us in worship throughout the summer. We are grateful for their time, care, and faithful service!

PMA Dorf
Pastor Vana
Pastor Hoops
Pastor Woeppel
PMA Rakestraw

Urge Congress to Protect and Strengthen Vital Nutrition Programs on September 13th.

Hunger is rising in the U.S. and around the world, leaving children, the elderly, and families at risk. Cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and international assistance have already affected millions of people. But hunger is not inevitable. It's a reflection of our priorities and policy choices as individuals and as a nation. We can and must do better.

On **September 13th**, the Service Board is holding an **Offering of Letters** between the services. You will have an opportunity to ask your senators and representative to make ending hunger a priority by strengthening SNAP and WIC, fully funding global food, health and development programs, and passing a strong, bipartisan Farm Bill that supports families, farmers, and communities. We hope you will participate in this life-saving work.

breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

Visit **Bread for the World's** website at https://www.bread.org/act to learn more.

Ladies Night Out

Join us at Fuzzy's Taco Shop for good food and great fellowship! Enjoy a delicious meal as we gather together for relaxed conversation and wonderful company.
Everyone is welcome—we hope you'll join us!

Monday, September 14th at 6:30pm at Fuzzy's Taco Shop (306 N Rock Rd). RSVP to Carol N or text Melissa

Rally Day - Faith Train

Rally Day, our kickoff to a new year of learning, will be **Sunday, September 13**! We invite all youth to help us start the school year with our "Faith Train." We'll begin the first service with a special procession of our youth, celebrating the journey of faith and learning ahead.

We ask each child to **bring one or more items to donate** to the Suzanne Koch Memorial School Supply Drive. Between services, we'll partner with the Service Board to:

- Pack school supplies for delivery to Coleman
- Create cards for teachers
- Make a delicious snack together

Let's come together to celebrate a new year of learning, serving, and growing in faith!

Food Cart

Food Cart collection for September is breakfast food: hot cereal, cold cereal, granola bars, toaster pastries - the list goes on and on of good breakfast items. When you fill an empty Wichita pantry with your donation, you'll help start someone's day off right! Drop off a box or two of your favorite breakfast items near the Parish Hall doors.

Stephen Ministry

September brings memories and hope. Sometimes you need to talk about memories with someone who listens with care. Your opportunity to find that someone at Reformation is always there. Stephen Ministry is confidential and provides a caring listener to be with you when you need to talk or when you need to just be. Let us know how we can support you. You may contact Anita. Thank you for letting us be with you.

Mission 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 2026 should obtain an application from 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. -Judy Winters, Endowment Committee Chair

Service Board

It is nearly school time! Our partners at Coleman Middle School have requested that parents supply basic materials for each child. We know that not all parents can afford the school supplies needed, so to support the students, we are doing a Coleman School Supply Drive. This school supply drive was a tradition that our dear friend Suzanne Koch faithfully championed each year. To honor her dedication to supporting local students, we are proud to continue that tradition as The Suzanne Koch School Supply Drive for Coleman Middle School.

We have provided a bright yellow box in the Narthex in which you may place your donations. We will sort your donations on **Rally Day/God's Work, Our Hands Day Sunday September 13** in between services. Following are the supplies that Coleman has specifically requested:

- Loose leaf notebook paper
- Pencils
- Blue or black ink pens
- Pack of assorted highlighters
- Erasers
- Pack of colored pencils

Please donate what you can until **September 13**. Collected donations will be organized and delivered to the school. Thank you so much for your donations that will help our area Middle School provide a great year for some terrific kids!

The **Service Board** is also **collecting money to purchase uniforms for Coleman Middle School**. There is a basket for donations on the table as you enter the worship room. Suggested donation is $25 (the cost of each uniform). Thanks for your contribution and for caring for our neighbors at Coleman!

Temporary Change in Donations

We have collected over the years to support several area agencies. Due to these agencies' limitation of space currently, they have asked that we hold on donations for now. Therefore, we have removed collection containers for Family Promise and Saturday Breakfast. As these projects become available for donations we will advise you and return the collection containers to the Narthex. Thank you for your support.

BTOL: Micah's YAGM Experience

Micah shared about his experience with YAGM (Young Adults in Global Mission) in Mexico City. He reflected on his time serving in the community, the people he met along the way, and the relationships and experiences that made his time there meaningful.

Micah also shared how his experience deepened and challenged his faith, broadened his perspective, and influenced the way he sees God, community, and the world around him.

Bell Choir

Our first Bell Choir meeting of the fall will be **Tuesday, September 15, at 6:00 p.m.** We expect to continue meeting on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. as we prepare music for upcoming worship services.

If you currently play handbells or have always wanted to learn, we'd love to have you join us! Whether you're an experienced ringer or completely new to handbells, come to our first meeting on September 15 and see what Bell Choir is all about. **No experience necessary—just bring your enthusiasm and a willingness to make a joyful noise!**

Nursery Update

Our nursery is getting a refresh! We're making some updates to create a fresh, welcoming, and engaging space where our littlest members can learn, play, and feel at home. As part of the refresh, some toys will be retired, while others will be thoroughly cleaned and remain in the nursery. We're also making a few updates to the space to make it more inviting and enjoyable for children and families. We're excited about the changes ahead and can't wait to share the refreshed nursery with you!

Dress for Success is Back This Fall- Business Attire Donations Needed!

Help us provide professional clothing for women in our community! We are accepting **clean, gently used business attire in good condition**, including:

- Women's suits, skirts, and slacks
- Shoes and purses
- Professional coats
- Jewelry and other accessories
- **New** undergarments, hosiery, makeup, and personal hygiene products.

Donations will be **sorted and delivered on October 19.** Volunteers to help with sorting and delivery are greatly appreciated! Thank you for helping women feel confident and prepared for the workplace!

Church Council

We are looking forward to Pastor Ralen's return this month!

Financial Snapshot:
Our expenses continue to be managed well and are being kept in line with our budget. We've had some issues arise like replacing the fire extinguishers around the building for $1,200 and the carpets cleaned and refreshed. We were able to cover these expenses because of your generosity. After much research and consultation, we decided to change providers or our insurance coverage, this allowed us to minimize the financial impact while still keeping coverage at our prior levels.

Giving continues to be strong and keeps us just above our budget needs for this point in the year. Your support is greatly appreciated! We are staying strong even during the typical lull of the year and will have some great opportunities available to us if we can exceed last years giving. We ask members to prayerfully consider their financial support as we continue to carry out the mission of Reformation Lutheran Church.

Learning Hour
For Youth, starts September 20th
For Adults, starts September 27th

Youth Spotlight
Hey – Now that school is back in session, let us know what you're up to! Tell us about events, successes, projects, sports, and any other fun things you've been up to! Send an article and photos so we can share the good news!

Randy and Rhonda will be taking over the role of **Youth Group Directors** here at RLC! We are all very excited about having them guide our youth.

"Randy and I have been involved in youth ministry for more than 30 years; during that time, Randy also served as a paid youth director at two different ELCA churches for a total of six years. We look forward to bringing some of that experience with us as we begin this new chapter at Reformation."

PRAYER list

Those facing ongoing health challenges, difficult circumstances, and for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Larry
Marilyn
Sheila
Annette
Barbara
Tom
Robert
Marcia
Ed
Kenn

Healing, strength, comfort, and safe recovery for those who are sick, suffering, or recuperating.

Alice
Richard
Sammy
Brad
Marlen
Marilyn
Nancy
Lynn
Bodil

SEPTEMBER birthdays

Chris	2nd
Marianne	2nd
Warren	3rd
John	4th
Dallas	7th
Karen	9th
Terry	10th
Rodd	10th
Heidi	12th
David	15th
Melisa	16th
Mark	20th
Jane	21st
Mark	22nd
Paul	23rd
Derek	24th
Allison	24th
Thatcher	25th

Thank you for Serving!

Each week, our Sunday worship services are made possible through the time, talents, and dedication of many members of our congregation. We are so grateful to everyone who faithfully steps forward to help, whether by welcoming others, assisting with worship, preparing the sanctuary, serving in a ministry role, or helping behind the scenes.

We are truly grateful for all of our Sunday Worship Volunteers and the many ways you serve our church community. Thank you for being such an important part of our worship each week!

Christ in Your Home

The newest issue, covering July–September 2026,is located in the narthex.

Many Ways to Connect, Serve, and Grow

Our church family is blessed by those who share their time and talents to help us worship, learn, serve, and grow together. Whether you enjoy planning, teaching, music, fellowship, service, or helping behind the scenes, there's a place for you—reach out to the church office to get connected!

Boards

Church Council Provides leadership and coordination for our congregation's ministry and mission.
Worship Board Plans and supports weekly and special worship services.
In-Reach Board Cares for our congregation and strengthens connections within our church family.
Outreach Board Connects with the wider community through social media, community involvement, and other opportunities.
Fellowship Board Creates opportunities for fellowship, including coffee hour and special events.
Learning Board Supports faith formation for all ages through Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth Group, and Adult Learning.
Property Board Cares for our church building and property, keeping our facilities welcoming and useful.
Finance Board Provides oversight and stewardship of our congregation's financial resources.
Service Board Coordinates opportunities to serve others and make a difference in our community.

Other Ministries That Serve Our Congregation

Homebound Communion Brings Holy Communion to members unable to attend worship.
Stephen Ministry Provides trained caregivers offering listening, prayer, encouragement, and confidential support.
B.T.O.L. Offers fellowship, learning, and conversation for adults age 55 and older.
Dorcas Circle Meets monthly for Bible discussion, learning, and fellowship.
Rebecca Circle Offers monthly Bible study and opportunities to grow in faith together.
Blanket Makers Provides weekly opportunities for sewing, quilting, fellowship, and service.
RISE Band Leads worship through music during our RISE service.
Bell Choir Shares music during our worship service.
Reformation Singers Shares music during worship.

It is with conflicting emotions that we announce the end of the tenure of Cypress our Health & Wellness advocate. Cypress is leaving us to pursue a more full-time position, we wish him the best in his future endeavors.

”This has been a blast, and I will remember you all fondly. I only hope that I will have left the same impression you have left on me.”

By having filled the Healthcare Advocate or Health & Wellness Advocate position we now have a better feel for how to move forward as we realign our job description for future candidates.

September 6th is Labor Day

“Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters.”
Colossians 3:23–24

REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Wichita, KS 67206-1278
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Find us @ RefLuthKS.org

Sunday Worship
September 6 Only: 9:30 a.m. Summer Service
RISE 8:30a.m.
Traditional 11:00a.m.

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m.-1p.m.
Office Closed Monday, September 7

How to Reach Us
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Do You Have an Article for the October *Ref Life*?

Please e-mail to: info@refluthks.org

The deadline for the *Ref Life*
is on **September 15th**