

Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck Lunch Today

Please join us even if you are unprepared with a dish to share.



Summer 2018 Short Term Mission Opportunities

Please prayerfully consider joining a team this summer!

1. **LEAP** (London Evangelism and Prayer) short term missions trip led by Tammy Bernarduci: **July 2—9, 2018. Register by Feb 25.** We'll partner with Serge's church planting work in London's South Asian communities in prayer and ministry to London's Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs with opportunities to spend time with and encourage our two missionary families in London: Matt & Jenn Irvine and Stephen & Charity Jones.
2. **Houston Texas Short Term Missions trip** to help with Hurricane Relief work through Samaritan's Purse: **June 16 thru June 23, 2018.** Must be at least 14 years old to participate. **Register by Feb 25.**

Reformed Presbyterian Church
21 East Locust Street, Ephrata PA 17522; 717-733-0462
Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas, Sr. Minister

REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Love & Hate

Life & Death

Reformed Presbyterian Church

9:30 AM Worship Service

January 28, 2018

Reformed Presbyterian Church exists to be a stream of God's refreshing grace for people from all walks of life. We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. Please leave your name and address in the attendance register so we may thank you for your visit.

Welcome visitors! We are happy you are here today. Welcome packets are available in the narthex. If you have questions about any of our programs or what we offer, would like a tour of the facility, or any special accommodations to help you or your family member worship with us, please contact Debi in the church office at 733-0462. Hearing devices are available at the sound booth and a large print version of our worship songs each week are available upon request.

Loving Nursery, located on the first floor, is available during the service for children ages newborn through three years. A Family Room, just off the sanctuary, is available to see and hear the service. Our ushers will be happy to direct you if you would like to make use of either ministry.

Sunday Schedule: Worship Service at 9:30 AM. Our speaker today: **Mr. Kevin Sheahan** is now on staff, as Assistant Pastor, has office hours if you wish to call the church to contact him or you can email him through his new RPC email address: KevinS@ephratarpc.com. Worship leader today: Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas. The elders of RPC are available after each worship service to pray with you regarding any needs or issues in your life. Sermons are available on our website: www.ephratarpc.com. CDs of the service are available upon request.

There will be no Sunday school classes today, but please join us for a potluck lunch following the service. Sunday school will resume next week: Children's classes begin at 11:00 am. Adult elective classes: Ephesians, on the 3rd floor and Heidelberg Catechism and the Westminster Shorter Catechism class in Room 212.

◇ The prelude is presented as worship music. You are encouraged, during this time, to quietly prepare yourself for worship. Please consider your fellow worshippers as they also prepare.

Please turn off all cell phones during the service.

Calendar:

Visit our website www.ephratarpc.com for a detailed listing and complete schedule 

Today	9:30 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Congregational Meeting & Potluck lunch
Tues.	7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study
Wed.	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study
Thurs.	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Next Sun.	9:30 am	Worship Service
	11:00 am	Children & Youth Sunday school on the 3rd floor today
	11:15 am	Adult classes: Ephesians in the sanctuary today, Catechism class Rm 212

Family Matters for Prayer and Praise

Russ Osborn, his melanoma has metastasized to his liver. Please be in prayer as further treatments are determined.

Morris & Shirley Lapi: *"Morris is recuperating from back surgery (neck brace, no bending, twisting, lifting, driving). Words cannot express our appreciation to all of you for the "extra" love and encouragement you poured out on us throughout 2017. It was a tough year, but God's plan is sovereign. (Look up Jeremiah 29:11) I quote Sara Beth Noll, "Our hope and comfort is in knowing WHO has laid these plans, WHO has led us even onto these dark paths, because His plans are GOOD! Our hope and our future are certain!"* from Shirley Lapi

Lizzy Rudy was hospitalized last weekend, released on Monday and is doing well.

Rick Bernardi is scheduled for major surgery on Wednesday, February 7.

Kristen Sauder's grandmother died recently. Prayers appreciated.

Alison Carzola wishes to express her gratitude for the cards and expressions of condolence following the recent death of her father.

Claire Brenner is recovering from back surgery at Landis Homes. Pray for the family over the recent loss of Fred and their son Steve. Cards can be sent to Claire at: Claire Brenner, c/o Amy Auker, 8 Star Lite Drive, Lititz, PA 17543.

Elizabeth McFarland is under Hospice Care at Evergreen Estates.

Shirley Weigand wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and concerns. She is doing well following her recent wrist surgery.

Ken Riehl is suffering from several chronic health issues.

2017 Giving Statements are available from the counting team in the narthex before and after the service today. Please do not file your 2017 tax returns before receiving your recorded giving statement for 2017.



College Care Packages: Tags with needed donations are in the narthex. Please consider donating some homemade cookies, and other snacks to our college students. They love receiving these treats in the mail. **Donations need to be here on or before Feb. 4** so our children and youth can put the packages together during Sunday School. Thank you! Contact Amy Weaver with questions. See the photos of our college students on the bulletin board across from the elevator!

Baby bottles are available in the narthex. Return bottle with loose change or a check and completed form by March 11. Donations benefit Susquehanna Valley Pregnancy Services. Also: Place donated gently used or new bed sheets for Guatemalan orphanages project in the designated bin near the elevator by February 18.



PRELUDE
◇ A time of quiet preparation

Jesus, Lead Thou On/ arr. R. Wilson
Renew Thy Church/ arr. M. Kellner

WORDS OF GREETING

Rev. Tom Nicholas

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Psalm 100 (NIV)

Leader: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

People: **Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

Leader: Know that the LORD is God.

People: **It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

People: **Give thanks to him and praise his name.**

Leader: For the LORD is good and his love endures forever.

People: **His faithfulness continues through all generations.**

IN PRAYER

***WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

HYMN OF PRAISE 455

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 105-107

Leader: What is God's will for you in the sixth commandment?

People: **I am not to belittle, insult, hate, or kill my neighbor—not by my thought, my words, my look or gesture, and certainly not by actual deeds—and I am not to be party to this in others; rather, I am to put away all desire for revenge.**

Leader: Does this commandment refer only to killing?

People: **By forbidding murder, God teaches us that he hates the root of murder: envy, hatred, anger, vindictiveness.**

Leader: Is it enough then that we do not kill our neighbor in any such way?

People: **No. By condemning envy, hatred, and anger, God tells us to love our neighbors as ourselves, to be patient, peace-loving, gentle, merciful, and friendly to them, to protect them from harm as much as we can, and to do good even to our enemies.**

***WE EXALT OUR LORD**

WORSHIP SONGS

Leader: Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.
Colossians 3:12-15 (ESV)

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (4 years old to 1st grade)

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD'S FACE

Prayers of God's People

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ CHORAL OFFERTORY

Worship the Lord/ B. Poorman and S. Poorman

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

1 John 3:11-23 (ESV)

¹¹For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹²We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹³Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. ¹⁴We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. ¹⁵Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.

SERMON

Love & Hate, Life & Death
Mr. Kevin Sheahan

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE 358

*WORDS OF PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

For All the Saints

Laudation/ G. Martin

SERMON NOTES: