

Raiders News

December 18, 2020



REFORMATION
— LUTHERAN SCHOOL —



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Heroes of Christmas: Mary

Zechariah and Thomas were doubters in the gospel stories. Mary was not. She is a hero not so much because of what she *achieved*, but because she *believed*. Her faith in God's clear Word enabled her to serve God's agenda in the way he designed for her.

When Gabriel appeared to her with the extraordinary message that she was going to bear a child as a virgin, she didn't argue, "Sir, what you just described is biologically impossible, you know. Do I have to explain human biology to you?" When she heard the importance of her child, she didn't shirk the burden, as if to say, "I don't want that for my life."

Here's what she did say: **"I am the Lord's servant. . . . May your word to me be fulfilled"** (Luke 1:38). Her faith enabled her to walk a hard road. She and Joseph were poor; now they would be poor with a needy baby. In her ninth month she had to make the hard journey from her home in Nazareth all the way to the town of Bethlehem. And one day Mary would have to witness the torture and execution of her precious Son. The prophet Simeon had told her what being the mother of the Savior would cost her: "A sword will pierce your own soul." Not literally, of course. But she was going to hurt as though it had.

Mary believed the unbelievable. This Christmas, God invites you to do it too.



Christmas 2020 – The Greatest Gift

Anna, from Luke 2:38, was awesome. She was in awe of what God had done by revealing His plan of salvation. Other people around her were looking to understand God's plan ... and Anna's response was to speak about the child.

We have a wonderful opportunity next week to invite the people around us to hear about God's salvation plan. Hope Has Arrived from our God and we have the privilege to share it. What a wonderful thing to share hope in a year that many are feeling frustrated or fearful.

Who are the people you can invite to join you in hearing about God's Hope? Anna had her network, her contacts. Whom can you be intentional about inviting? What school families or neighbors or friends from the area can you reach out to?

Pray that all of us have at least one meaningful conversation before/after worship this weekend concerning God's Hope. Pray that God gives all of us chances next week to be an example of God's love.

God is with you. Immanuel is as true today as it was so many years ago.

Pastor Neil Birkholz

Current Plans for Christmas Worship

At the present, we are planning to have one special Christmas worship service that will be held two times, both outdoors. We also plan to livestream the first Christmas service. The times for those Christmas services will be as follows:

- * December 24 at 4:00PM (outdoor)
- * December 25 at 10:30AM (outdoor)

Whether you choose to join us in-person or via livestreaming, we look forward to joining with you and all God's people around the world and throughout the ages in celebrating the certain hope we have because God kept his promise — a Savior has been born; he is Christ the Lord! Please also invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us in-person or online!

Signup to attend here!



**Cruz and Lincoln
working at their
desks**



**1st grade girls
dressed up for the
virtual program**



**Cara painting
baby Jesus in the
manger**



1st grade recording their part for the virtual program

Mrs. Mangini's Classroom Update

"Maybe Christmas he thought...doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps...means a little bit more!". This line is from Dr. Seuss's "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and has been a topic of discussion in the first grade classroom. A week ago our class spent the morning reading the book about the Grinch and his efforts to destroy Christmas. We discussed what the true meaning of Christmas is for us as believers in Jesus. Although presents, Christmas trees and cookies are fun, the first graders understood that the true meaning of Christmas was born in a lowly stable. This year more than ever may feel like a year where the Grinch did steal Christmas as we live through the pandemic but knowing that Jesus is the reason for the season gives us true joy and peace.

The first graders have stayed busy as we have been studying long vowels, prepositional phrases and comparing life in the past to life in the present. Each morning in December we took time to learn about the Advent wreath and the meaning behind each candle. We have been greatly blessed this year by donations given to our classroom. We just received a new set of whiteboards for all the students. On Monday our class recorded their part for our virtual Christmas program. The students recited a few Bible passages and sang one stanza of "Joy to the World". The students of Reformation look forward to sharing the message of Jesus' birth with you. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone on behalf of the first grade classroom!



Join the Reformation Team!

We are looking to add a Shepherd's Care staff member to our team. This position serves as an on-site supervisor in our before and after school K-8 child care program.

Primary Responsibilities:

Provide a Christ-centered, safe and loving environment for a small group of students in grades K-8. On a daily basis, this includes supervising homework, answering homework questions, supervising play and providing other appropriate activities.

Hours:

Monday through Friday, 7:00 am - 8:15 am AND 3:30 pm - 5:15 pm (Work days follow the Grade School calendar, available online. Shepherd's Care is open most days of the school year.)

The ideal candidate enjoys being around children. They should also be reliable, punctual, flexible, comfortable communicating with children and adults, and have a willingness to learn and grow. High school diploma is required.

If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please contact Brennan Butth at bailesb@refsd.org.

Preschool Offers Safe Space to Learn, Play and Grow

Reformation Lutheran Preschool has space available to care for little ones age 2.5-3 and potty trained. We provide a safe and caring environment for your child to play, learn and grow as they make friends and prepare for school success. Visit us online or in person today to learn more, and share this information with families who may be in need of care for their children.

<http://reformationpreschoolsd.org/>





Lost & Found Items

Along with current COVID-19 prevention efforts to reduce the number of additional people on campus comes a difficulty for parents trying to locate misplaced student belongings. We encourage all families to label all your student's items (sweatshirts/sweaters, lunch bags, water bottles, etc.) so they can be easily returned to your student when found on campus. If your student is missing an item, please contact his or her teacher for assistance in locating it.

Jewelry and other Items of substantial value will be in the office. Please check there as well. We have had odd items fall out of cars and backpacks in the morning. Thank you.



Wednesday Chapel available on YouTube

Parents and families are invited to join us for our weekly chapel worship service, Wednesday mornings at 8:30am, using videos through YouTube. Chapel services, along with Reformation's weekly worship services, are available on our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM0y6DBdor8AryGfhd2cfYA>.

Wednesday chapel services are streamed live at 8:30am and also posted online for viewing at your convenience. Please join your Reformation family for these worship opportunities. For more details about weekend worship at Reformation Lutheran Church (Saturdays at 6pm and Sundays at 8am), go to <http://www.reformationsandiego.org/worship-services/>

Reformation Family Calendar

Wednesdays at 8:30am - Live-Streamed Chapel Service - everyone is welcome!



December 18 - 11:50 am Early Dismissal for Grade School

December 21 to January 1 - No Grade School - Christmas Break

December 24 - 25 - Campus closed - No preschool or Shepherd's Care.

December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship Service - Outdoors at 4:00pm

December 25 - Christmas Day Worship Service - Outdoors at 10:30am

December 31 - January 1 - Campus closed - No preschool or Shepherd's Care.

January 4 - School and Preschool Campus open

A monthly calendar is updated on our website, and a full school year calendar is available also. Click here to review these calendars. (<http://reformationschoolsd.org/calendar/>)

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

ON SATURDAYS AT 3:00 PM & SUNDAYS AT 10:30 AM



About Us



The eternal truths of God's Word are the foundation of our school, its curriculum, and all its activities. Our goal in Christian education is to provide each child with the maximum development of God-given spiritual, physical, and mental abilities. We offer Christian education in our Preschool (ages 2.5-5) and Grade School (K-8).

Follow us on Instagram @reformation_school

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