The Main Thing

October 2026 MSPC



The Women of the Reformation

When we think about the Protestant Reformation, certain names naturally come to mind. Martin Luther. John Calvin. John Knox. William Tyndale. We remember the preachers who filled pulpits, the theologians who wrote books, and the martyrs who gave their lives for the recovery of the gospel.

And rightly so.

But the Reformation was never simply the story of a few famous men.

Behind and alongside those familiar names were countless Christians whose faithfulness rarely receives the same attention. Some wrote and taught. Some exercised considerable political influence. Some suffered for their faith. Others opened their homes, raised their children, cared for the sick, showed hospitality, supported ministry, and quietly served Christ in ways that would never earn them a place on a list of famous Reformers.

October gives us a good opportunity to remember some of these women of the Reformation.

Katharina von Bora may be the best known. A former nun, she eventually married Martin Luther. Their home became one of the centers of Reformation life. Students, pastors, refugees, and guests regularly passed through their doors. While Luther preached, taught, wrote, and debated, Katharina managed an enormous household, cared for their family, oversaw property, practiced hospitality, and somehow kept the whole thing running.

Her story reminds us of something easily forgotten: **great movements in the church still depend upon ordinary faithfulness.**

The Reformation needed pulpits. But it also needed dinner tables.

It needed theologians. But it also needed Christians willing to cook meals, raise children, welcome strangers, manage homes, care for neighbors, and serve wherever the Lord had placed them.

Then there was Argula von Grumbach, a Bavarian noblewoman who used an entirely different gift. When she believed biblical truth was being opposed, she wrote. She appealed repeatedly to Scripture and challenged those in authority to demonstrate their position from the Word of God. At a time when women rarely entered public theological controversies, Argula's letters circulated widely.

Her life reminds us that courage and conviction must ultimately be rooted in God's Word. Christians are not called merely to have strong opinions. We are called to know the Scriptures well enough that our convictions are shaped by what God has actually said.

Other women served Christ through remarkable learning. Olympia Morata was a gifted Italian scholar who studied languages, literature, and theology. Her life was short, and eventually she and her husband were forced into exile, but she used the intellectual gifts God had given her in the service of Christian truth.

Still others occupied positions of enormous influence. Jeanne d'Albret, Queen of Navarre, embraced the Reformed faith and used her position to support Protestant believers during an extraordinarily dangerous period in France.

And then there is Lady Jane Grey.

Jane's name is often remembered because for nine days she was proclaimed Queen of England. But the more important part of her story is her faith. She was remarkably well educated and deeply influenced by the Protestant Reformation. Political circumstances eventually led to her imprisonment and execution while she was still a teenager.

Earthly power disappeared almost as quickly as it had come to her.

Christ did not.

Her story reminds us of a truth Christians in every generation need to remember: Christ is worth trusting when obedience becomes costly.

Of course, most Christians will never be queens. Most will never write theological works that circulate through a nation. Most will never have their names remembered five hundred years after their deaths.

That may be precisely why some of the lesser-known women of the Reformation are so encouraging.

Idelette Calvin, the wife of John Calvin, left behind far fewer details for historians. She lived through the ordinary difficulties of marriage, family, sickness, loss, and ministry alongside her husband. History simply does not tell us as much about her as it does about Calvin.

But perhaps there is a lesson even there.

The kingdom of Christ contains an enormous amount of faithfulness that history will never record.

There have been generations of Christian women—and men—whose names will never appear in a history book. They taught children to pray. They opened their homes. They cared for aging parents. They encouraged weary pastors. They endured suffering without abandoning Christ. They studied their Bibles. They served their churches. They raised children in the faith. They prayed for neighbors and missionaries. They quietly did the work God placed before them.

The world barely noticed.

Christ did.

That may be one of the most important lessons these women of the Reformation can teach us.

The Reformation was certainly about great doctrines. Scripture alone. Grace alone. Faith alone. Christ alone. To God alone be the glory. Those truths were proclaimed from pulpits, defended in books, and sometimes sealed with blood.

But those same truths also entered homes.

They shaped marriages and families. They produced hospitality and courage. They encouraged learning and service. They strengthened Christians to endure suffering. And they led ordinary believers to recognize that every part of life could be lived before the face of God.

Five hundred years later, that part of the Reformation still matters.



You may never preach before thousands. You may never write a book. Your name may never appear in anyone's history.

But you can be faithful.

You can know God's Word. You can teach it to your children and grandchildren. You can welcome someone into your home. You can use whatever influence God has given you for the good of His church. You can speak truth with courage. You can serve when no one is watching. You can trust Christ when doing so is costly.

And perhaps, when the history of Christ's church is finally told from heaven's perspective, we will discover just how much of His kingdom was built through saints whose names the history books forgot.

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men." — Colossians 3:23

Thank you from Russ Russell family.....



" Thank you so much for your kind words, prayers, and support during this difficult time. Your thoughtfulness and compassion have meant more to us than words can express. Our hearts are hurting but we are all comforted in knowing John Mark is healed and with our Heavenly Father. We are truly grateful for your kindness and for being there for our family."

Russ and Pat Russell

thirdmill

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Thank you for your continued support and partnership. It's a joy to watch God's plan unfold. As you read the stories below, take a moment to celebrate all the Lord is doing through Thirdmill—and what's yet to come!

Thirdmill was incorporated in 1997 as Third Millennium Ministries, Inc. Christianity was about to enter its third millennium in 2001 (the third thousand-year period after Christ). Realizing that the third millennium was set to bring new and exciting challenges for advancing Christ's kingdom, we chose this name as a way to shine light on a growing problem facing Christians in the new millennium: the lack of training for church leaders as the church continues to grow throughout the world. In response to this enormous need, Thirdmill brings a radical solution: **Biblical Education. For the World. For Free.**



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The Foundations Certificate is the first certificate in Thirdmill Institute's training program. It aims to help students develop a deeper understanding of God's Word and the essential truths of the Christian faith. It equips them not only with biblical knowledge but also with practical ministry skills to share the gospel, disciple believers, teach Scripture, and strengthen the church in their own communities.



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Peru Mission

August 2026

From Stronger Churches to New Fields of Mission

The past few months have been unusually full around Peru Mission. We have welcomed six short-term teams, hosted a theological conference on marriage and mission, celebrated the ordination of a new pastor, continued developing the campus of Geneva School, received and installed a new X-ray system at Bethesda Clinic, and returned for a third consecutive year of medical and children's ministry in Nuevo Chimbote.

These may look like separate activities, but they really belong to one story. Our desire has never been simply to conduct events or complete projects. We want to help establish strong Peruvian churches and institutions that can serve families, form children, train leaders, show mercy to their neighbors, and carry the gospel into new communities for generations to come.

A New Pastor for Iglesia Cristo Rey in Nuevo Chimbote

In May, our presbytery ordained Gonzalo Salazar and installed him as minister of Iglesia Cristo Rey, our church plant in Nuevo Chimbote. Gonzalo had already been serving the congregation provisionally as a licensed pastor, so the service was both the culmination of years of preparation and the beginning of a new stage in the life of the church.

Right: Members of Trujillo Presbytery praying over Gonzalo Salazar during his ordination and installation.



Please Pray With Us:

- For Gonzalo Salazar, his family, and Iglesia Cristo Rey, our church plant in Nuevo Chimbote, as he begins his ministry as their ordained minister.
- For Geneva School as it grows and prepares additional classroom space.
- For the remaining regulatory steps needed to place Bethesda Clinic's new X-ray system fully into service.
- For the churches and volunteers who served alongside us this summer.
- For the children and families reached through the medical and VBS outreach.
- For wisdom, personnel, and provision to begin a Christ Kids site in Nuevo Chimbote and, through it, establish another local church.

Thank you for praying, giving, and serving with us. We are grateful to see the Lord using many people and ministries—Peruvian and North American, pastoral and educational, theological and practical—to build something deep and enduring in northern Peru.

In Christ,
Peru Mission Team

View in browser **to read more details about their news**

Website • Facebook • Instagram • X

Peru Mission PO Box 25912 Greenville, SC 29616-0912 USA

PreSchool News



Dear Parents,

We are a month into the school year and our classroom is already filled with excitement and smiles!

October is about continuing making friends, learning routines, and exploring colors, shapes, and songs together. Most of all we are building a happy space where every child feels welcome and is ready to learn. This month we have a lot of engaging activities for your children involving themes on Community Helpers and Fire Safety.



As we step into October, let's continue to nurture the growth of each child together. A reminder of the important dates throughout the month of October:

October 9- Closed for Staff Development

October 12- Closed for Fall Break

October 30- Special Fall snack

Once again, thank you for sharing your children with us!
Sincerely, Mrs. Tara







MONTHLY CHURCH LUNCHEON

The weather was VERY hot, but we enjoyed a wonderfully COOL room with our family and friends to start the year off. There were things to share and updates on previous items. I really enjoyed greeting new visitors to our meals, and there were several. We also had volunteers added this year. Marianne Field and Riley Sullivan along with Carolyn Sullivan have accepted the "call to action"!

We will now turn our attention to October and our next meal. Mark your calendar for **Sunday, October 25th following the worship service.**

The main entrée will be **HAM,** and the congregation will provide the sides. If your last name begins with:

A-H Hot Vegetable

I-R Fruit or Fruit Salad

S Dessert

T-Z Cold Vegetable or Salad

We look forward to seeing you at our next luncheon. There's always a seat at our table for you and plenty of food to enjoy. See you **Sunday, October 25th** with our 4 F's…Fellowship, Family, Fun…without the Fuss!

Lynda



October 7 Pizza
October 14 Pot Providence
October 21 Breakfast for Dinner
October 28 St. Paul's Rice

Join us for good food, fun fellowship, and great biblical teaching on Wednesday Nights!

5:30 - Supper
6:00 - Children's Choir OR Children's/Youth Activities
Adult Bible Study *** Nursery Provided**

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 **Church Office closed**	2 Joseph Crandall **Church Office closed**	3 Lauren Zarandona
4 **Communion**	5	6 **WIC 10:30**	7 **Pizza**	8 **Ladies Night Out 6:00pm Davey Jay's BBQ**	9 *Marcus & Diane Stone*	10
11	12	13 Ethan Senn	14 **Pot Providence**	15 Charles Russell Berry	16	17 *Ian & Ashlyn Marble*
18 Aaron Suber	19	20 *Kelly & Katie Weber*	21 **Breakfast for Dinner**	22	23	24 Millie Marble
25 Janie Williams **Congregational Luncheon**	26 Whitt Harris	27	28 **St. Paul's Rice**	29	30 Ben Chilcutt	31 

Usher Schedule for October 2026:

Oct 4: Brinton Fisackerly, Joseph Crandall, Jon Zarandona, Mike Meharg, Phillip Goodwin

Oct 11: Bryant Bean, Russ Russell, Nick Hairston, Allan Brewer

Oct 18: Trip Hairston, Doug Bateman, Carson Miller, Bertram Jenkins, John Bean

Oct 25: Henry Pilkinton, JB Dyer, Marcus Stone, Tyler Cofield, Larry Burleson

Nursery Volunteers



October	10/4/2026 Communion Team 3	10/11/2026 Team 4	10/18/2026 Team 5	10/25/2026 Team 1
Coordinator	Lisa Suber	Hannah Nail	Brittany Cofield	Janie Williams
Nursery Volunteer	Volunteer Needed	Camille Pittman	Meryl Fisackerly	Robin/Katie Tait
Nursery worker	Tara White	Tara White	Tara White	OFF
Nursery Worker	Destiny Spraggins	Destiny Spraggins	OFF	Destiny Spraggins
Toddler Sunday School	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley	Alice Talley
Sunday School Monitor	Dan Williams	Jay Nail	Brinton Fisackerly	Dan Williams

October Counter



Ian Marble

Budget Report

August 2026

$37,873

(All tithing including online)

Please be Praying for...

- MSPC Elders, Deacons, and Pastors
- Karen Livingston, Nicki Leggett, Oop Swoope, Jane Berry, Abigail Beard, Rachel Lucas, Debbie Jenkins, John Rogowski, Kathy Forester, Diane Stone, Martha Turner, Rebecca Mancill Buswell, Bob Wilbur, Family of Frank Webb, and Christ Presbyterian Church Misson
- Expectant Moms: Riley Sullivan and Sierra Kilpatrick
- Washington Officials, President Donald Trump
- State, City, and County Officials
- Governor Tate Reeves, Mayor Stephen Jones, Police Chief Garland Ward, Sheriff Eddie Hawkins
- Helping Hands, Life Choices Pregnancy Center, Palmer Home, all Columbus Churches and Pastors

Main Street Presbyterian Church
701 Main Street
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Main Street Presbyterian Church

(A Presbyterian Church in America Congregation)

Sunday Schedule
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Morning Worship
5:00 p.m. Evening Study: Psalms
Wednesday Schedule
5:30 p.m. Supper
6:00 p.m. Children Activities and Adult Bible Study