



3RD IN A SERIES ON 'AMERICAN REFORMERS'

During 2017, a group of pastors and lay persons, the *Cincinnati Reformation Team*, introduced readers to The Great Protestant Reformation. 500 years ago in the 15th and 16th C, God chose Martin Luther and men and women from England to the Czech

Republic to the shores of the New World to "turn the world upside down." They were referred to as Reformers.

These Reformers were 'flesh and blood' people like us. What set them apart was God's re-forming and empowering of them from the inside out. Times change but the God of the Reformation does not. The Age of God's Reformation is far from over.

To emphasize this, during 2018 readers will meet Christian men and women who profoundly formed and reformed America. Some are simple folks who covenanted together. Others were genteel women who affected morals and rights with a pen, a ballot and a hatchet. Still others were great preachers and teachers whose work formed the spirits and minds of generations to come.

NEXT MONTH: Reformers of the early 1800's

Can you list the Founding Fathers of the United States? George Washington, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson are easy. Add James Madison and Alexander Hamilton for their role in framing the *Constitution*. Here's one you may have missed — a Reformer.

GEORGE WHITEFIELD George Who?

BY REV STEPHEN EYRE — ASSOC PASTOR
MADEIRA SILVERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN

Billy Graham recently stepped into the other side of eternity. He was referred to as "America's Preacher." His widespread ministry followed a pattern of *national spiritual leadership* first exhibited in America 250 years ago by George Whitefield.

The spiritual energies unleashed by the Reformation in the 16th century began to cool in the 17th. In Europe, both the Reformed and Lutheran traditions were fading into rigid doctrines which appealed to reason more than revelation. Likewise, the passions unleashed by the Puritans in England, which brought many to the American Colonies, were fading. The American children of the founding mothers and fathers did not share their parents' enthusiasm for God.

The spiritual decline of the American nation was addressed in a series of widespread local revivals that sprung up in the colonies known as the *First Great Awakening*. The two main leaders of the revivals were George Whitefield (1714-1770) and Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758). Edwards was a 'born American' pastor whose accounts of the movement of God's Spirit in his congregation of North Hampton Massachusetts were widely read on both sides of the Atlantic.

Unlike Edwards, Whitefield (or Whitfield) was a traveling preacher. A slender, cross-eyed, handsome English Anglican cleric, he was one of the founders of Methodism and the *evangelical* movement. He was also Oxford educated and theologically brilliant. He crossed the Atlantic 13 times and was warmly

received by people in England and America.

His impact was charismatic and expressed in an innovative style of preaching. He used no notes and was dramatic in his delivery. He mostly preached in the open air and drew crowds of 5 thousand and above. In his lifetime, he preached at least 18,000 times to perhaps 10 million hearers."

Benjamin Franklin, a lifelong friend of Whitefield, calculated that Whitefield could be heard by up to 30,000 people at one time. He possessed a powerful speaking voice that was melodious and captivating. People raced to hear him preach. Nathan Cole a 29-year-old Connecticut farmer and his wife rode double on their horse 12 miles in little over an hour to hear Whitefield preach in 1740. He wrote in his diary, "By God's blessing, my old foundation was broken up, and I saw that my righteousness would not save me."

After one of Whitefield's sermons, Benjamin Franklin noted the "wonderful... change soon made in the manners of our inhabitants. From being thoughtless or indifferent about religion, it seem'd as if all the world were growing religious, so that one could not walk thro' the town in an evening without hearing psalms sung in different families of every street."



WHITEFIELD PREACHED OUTSIDE IN RESPONSE TO A BAN BY THE CHURCH AND REACHED THE 'COMMON PEOPLE' WITH GOD'S WORD.

George Whitefield was the first "America's preacher." He is responsible, not only for setting the stage for Billy Graham, but for much of the unique shape of American Christianity — crusades, emphasis on being "born again," an appeal to the conversion of the heart and inter-denominational ministry.

He was not only America's preacher, he was America's first celebrity. So much so that when George Whitefield died in the year

1770, there were people who knew about Whitefield who had never heard of George Washington or Benjamin Franklin.

Mulch Madness!

Young people serving those in need in the College Hill Community and beyond.

To Mulch or Not to Mulch?

Mulch makes your flower beds look great – but it also retains moisture, slows down weed growth, provides nutrients, controls erosion and insulates the soil, protecting plants from extreme temperature variations. Our mulch is professional-grade recycled wood products that last longer than budget brands. For nominal fees have the mulch delivered and even spread.

How Much Mulch?

Landscapers recommend a minimum of 2 inches of mulch. Mulch 'chunk size' or shredding does affect coverage. To estimate the number of BAGS of our mulch to order, measure the length and width of the area you are covering. Multiply the length (ft) by the width (ft) to get the square feet. A 3 cubic foot bag covers a 18 sq ft (6ft x 3ft area); a 2 cu ft bag does 12 sq ft (4ft x 3ft area).

Black or Brown Mulch?

Color is a personal preference. Both mulches work well to keep down weeds and reduce soil erosion year around. They form an interlocking mat of protection around plants and trees. The Black mulch's color is enhanced. It typically is shredded to a fine texture. Pine-bark mulch come in various forms. 1-2" brown Mini-Nuggets are best for both flower beds and walkways, including *pet high-ways* throughout the yard. Nuggets also have a better than average longevity and cost less per cubic foot.



Mulch Pick-Up for 2018

At College Hill Presbyterian Church (5742 Hamilton Ave)

• **Sat, April 14 and 28** — 9:00 am-4:00 pm

• **Sun, April 15 and 29** — 10:00 am-1:00 pm

• **Sat, May 5** — CH Gardeners' Plant Sale — 9 am-2 pm in the lot at the corner of Hamilton Ave and North Bend Rd. Possibly at CH Gardeners Outdoor Farmers' Market 3:00-6:30 pm in late May. We'll even load your car or truck for you at no extra charge!

No Strain Options...Delivery is within a 7 mile radius of College Hill - see order

form. **Delivery** includes stacking bags of mulch in one area of a driveway/yard. **Delivery & Bag Placement** includes placing bags of mulch in several locations in your garden. **Spreading the mulch,** weeding, gardening, or planting is an additional charge of \$10 per hour, per person.

Robyn Hubbuch

Director of Children, Youth & Families
College Hill PC 513-505-3041



YOUR ORDER IS A DOUBLE BLESSING

The 9th annual CHPC Youth Mulch Madness Sale is a fundraiser for junior high and high school students going on service-learning trips to focus on others and become more united as a group. Students gain a new perspective on life by spending time with people from different cultural and economic backgrounds. June 10- 15, one group will go to Tuskegee, Alabama to work with Alabama Rural Ministry. Students will show love to families and kids through home repair and day camp ministries. July 2-8, another group of students will be at Camp Cotubic in Bellefontaine, Ohio. They will do work projects and support the week-long camping experience of children from Christ's Community in College Hill.



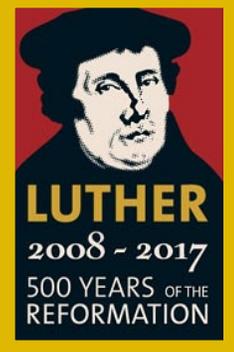
NEW for 2018: Order and pay online at CHPC.org/register or use a form available in the church Atrium desk.

Supper Club

open to singles and couples of all ages

**MONDAY,
APRIL 23**

6pm dinner,
7pm presentation



FROM BERLIN TO GENEVA

Reformation Tour Highlights

Reserve Dinner (\$12)

Call Sally Auble 741-3125

A surprise guest introduces the evening of pictures and memories by Drew & Cathy Smith, Barry & Sam Stare, Donn & Traci Brookes and Beth & Tom Dryer who shared a unique tour in 2017. It was "AN OPPORTUNITY 500 YEARS IN THE MAKING" — a travel and spiritual experience where they encountered the men and women of the Reformation." Come *celebrate* God for the mighty works that He did and is still doing to form and transform His Church.

GET HIGH ON THE HILL!

Happenings in College Hill and how you can be involved.

2 new restaurants and perhaps the District 5 police station are coming.

The 'Avenue' of College Hill is a designated Entertainment Zone.

House of Joy is moving & entrusted its 6 properties to CHCURC.

• **CHCURC** is a volunteer organization with oversight for the Hamilton Ave corridor development. For details go to chcurc.org. Next fun fundraiser/volunteer op is **DERBY DAY May 5** at Laurel Court mansion. Order tickets.

• **College Hill Forum** keeps residents up to date on changes in the community, relations with police/fire and public safety, new businesses, upcoming fun event, etc. Meetings are well-attended. On the 4th Tuesday of each month at the CH Recreation Center on 5545 Belmont Rd.

• **CH Gardeners** plant sale Sat May 5.