

The image features three sparrows perched on a vertical, light-colored branch. The background is dark and textured. A vertical gold bar is on the left side. The text is on the right side, in a white serif font.

You are
of more
value
than
many
sparrows

MATTHEW 10:31

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520
717-569-1632

Website: www.trinityeastpete.org E-Mail: secretary@trinityeastpete.org

The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor

The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission

Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director

Mrs. Christine Oetama, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Sean McKelvey, Preschool Director

Celebrating 175 Years: Honoring Our Heritage, Moving Forward in Faith!

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

Welcome all visitors! We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. **If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin.**

Welcome to the Eucharist! All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion.

Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.

Prayer As You Enter: *Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us call on God with our prayers of thanks.

Let us celebrate the wondrous things God provides.

God cares for us, even when others reject us.

We gather to glorify God's name.

In the Acts of the Apostles we read that as the church was gathered, often in the homes of believers, Christians devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and community, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers.

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, we gather at your table to know you in the breaking of the bread.

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said: You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, but we fear the Spirit's power.

Let us confess our slowness to embrace the new life of the Spirit.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear now the comforting assurance of the grace of God, promised in the Gospel to all that repent and believe. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, I declare to you that our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

ADORATION AND PRAISE

ACT OF PRAISE

O God, open my lips.

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

Gracious God, in whose eyes every sparrow has value, and in whose love even the hairs of our heads are counted, lead us to the light, that we might proclaim your love from the housetops and put you first in our lives. May our discipleship reflect the witness of our teacher, Jesus Christ, that all people may bow down before you and glorify your name. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that only brings him contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

THE PSALTER

Psalms 69:7-18

It is for your sake that I have borne reproach, that shame has covered my face. **I have become a stranger to my kindred, an alien to my mother's children.**

It is zeal for your house that has consumed me; the insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.

When I humbled my soul with fasting, they insulted me for doing so.

When I made sackcloth my clothing, I became a byword to them.

I am the subject of gossip for those who sit in the gate, and the drunkards make songs about me.

But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD. At an acceptable time, O God, in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me.

With your faithful help rescue me from sinking in the mire; let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep waters.

Do not let the flood sweep over me, or the deep swallow me up, or the Pit close its mouth over me.

Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good; according to your abundant

Do not hide your face from your servant, for I am in distress—make haste to answer me.

Draw near to me, redeem me, set me free because of my enemies.

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death resurrection to live freed from sin.

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

“His Eye is on the Sparrow”

Rev. Esbenshade

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

U.C.C. STATEMENT OF FAITH *(adapted by Robert V. Moss, 1976. We use this today in celebration of the formation of the U.C.C. on June 25, 1957.)*

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, who is made known to us in Jesus our brother, and to whose deeds we testify:

God calls the worlds into being, creates humankind in the divine image, and sets before us the ways of life and death.

God seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

God judges all humanity and all nations by that will of righteousness declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, God has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the whole creation to its Creator.

God bestows upon us the Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

God calls us into the church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be servants in the service of the whole human family, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

God promises to all who trust in the gospel forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, the presence of the Holy Spirit in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in that kingdom which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto God. Amen.

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

For all the great and wondrous things you have done for us, O God, we are grateful. You give us strength to go on where we are troubled and discouraged. You grant newness of life as we share in Christ's resurrection. We want to pass on the good news through this offering and by the way we live each day. Lead us and guide us in your steadfast love, that we might channel your gift to all we meet; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

God of fire and wind, we praise you for your continuing work of creation, renewal, and blessing. In the beginning of time, as you called the world into being, you sent the breath of your spirit across the formless void and darkness, calling creation into being. To your servants, you sent gifts of your Spirit: to Moses, a spirit of courage; to Joshua, a spirit of wisdom; to David, a spirit of power. You sent your Spirit upon your prophet Isaiah, who prophesied that you would call forth a leader with a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and might, a spirit of knowledge and reverence. You sent your Spirit upon your prophet Joel, who proclaimed that you would send your Spirit upon all people: young and old, women and men. With all those Spirit-filled people, we join in giving praise to you, Almighty God.

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God, Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are you and blessed is your holy name. In the fullness of time, you sent your son, Jesus Christ to reveal your powerful love for the world. Healing and teaching, proclaiming and prophesying, welcoming any and all, Christ continues to reveal your presence, renewing our souls even now. Through Christ's powerful love and endless grace, we are invited into your presence, rescued from our sins, and led onto your path of justice and righteousness. In Christ's grace, you renew and reclaim us as your holy people, children of

mercy and truth. As children of your covenant of love, sealed by water and the Spirit, welcome now with joy and gratitude, remembering how Jesus shared bread and wine, renewing and reviving the lives of his closest friends, his most faithful disciples, even as they faced their deepest fears and their greatest sins.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

The Bread of Life, broken for us.

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.

*(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements in the narthex and commune in your pew. The pastor will offer a blessing everyone has communed. **Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.**)*

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

You entice your church to speak truth that challenges false notions of peace. Prevail upon us with the good news of Christ's death and resurrection, that we are compelled to share the gospel with all the world. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Under your watch not even a sparrow goes unnoticed. Safeguard plant and animal habitats threatened by melting glaciers, rising oceans, and receding coastlines. Amplify the voices of those calling for responsible stewardship of the earth's resources. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Our world is enduring violence and destruction. Rescue your people in nations experiencing conflict or crisis. Thwart the efforts of those who sow chaos and terror, and guide those working to bring about peace and reconciliation. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You have counted even the hairs of our heads. Reassure anyone experiencing poverty, homelessness, unemployment, or exploitation that every life has value. Look favorable upon all who struggle. Answer us, for your steadfast love is good. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Even when we experience rejection your love invites us to new life. Lift up anyone who feels shunned or excluded. Make your people one. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION



CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by **Cherie Cataldi** in honor of the birthdays of my daughter, Katlin & my son, Jimmy.

The Worship Aids are given by **John & Dolly Barr** in honor of our church family.

The Baptismal Font Flowers are given by **Dolly Barr** in honor of John's 92nd birthday.

Ministering Today

Pastor/Celebrant Rev. Jack Esbenshade

Lector/Assistant Diane Rice

Money Counters Bud & Kathy McCarty, Scott Owens, Jeff Hackenberger, John Shelsky

Greeters Pat Seachrist, Shelley Wagner, Betty Fogle

Monetary Ushers **Mike Wagner**, Shelley Wagner, George DeLong, Anne Rankin, Rachel Baynard, Stan Seachrist, Andrew Rankin, Lee Bossert

Altar Guild Karen Olley, Hedwig Hunsicker, Sally Rodenberger, Nancy Enders

Building Trustee Nevin Cooley

Ministries **Card** Confirmands & Spiritual Friends

Called to Care Sally Rodenberger

Visitation Ken Trauger

Today we welcome the **Rev. Jack Esbenshade**, a member of Trinity Church, as our guest preacher. Rev. Esbenshade, a graduate of Lancaster Theological Seminary, was ordained on June 6, 1971. He currently chairs our Stewardship Committee and leads our adult VBS Class. Rev. Esbenshade served the following ministries:

2017 Interim Visitation Pastor, Trinity U.C.C., East Petersburg

2010-12 Interim Associate Pastor, Hamilton Park U.C.C., Lancaster

1991-10 Administrator/Executive Director, Ephrata Manor

1990-91 Assistant Administrator, The Lebanon Valley Home, Annville

1978-90 Pastor, Church of the Redeemer U.C.C., Hershey

1973-78 Pastor, St. Luke's U.C.C., Lancaster

1971-73 Pastor, Tri-U.C.C. Parish, Penn Northeast Conference

Happy Birthday!

Monday – John Barr

Tuesday – James Cataldi

Wednesday – Katie Weeber

Friday – Kristopher Hillegas

Saturday – Bud McCarty, Matthew Minder

Attendance for Sun., June 11 7:45–17 9:30–70 **TOTAL – 87**
Attendance for Sun., June 18 7:45–12 9:30–50 **TOTAL – 62**

This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)

Today VBS Staff meeting after 9:30 service

Monday-Friday 9 AM-12 Noon Preschool Summer Camp

Pastor Chris Returns on Tuesday

Monday-Friday 9 AM-12 Noon Preschool Summer Camp

Saturday 7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA

Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist

9:30 AM – Eucharist

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

MEMBERS

Don & Pat Miller	Joann Garvin	Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman
Scott & Jane Owens	Dave Trostle	Dorothy Fasnacht
Dr. Becky Wagner	Dawn Garvin	Dr. Janet Harriger
The Lehman family	Donna Wolf	Deb Lichtenwalner
Mike Wagner	Joann Peck	Eugene Hartenstine
Mary Lou Shaab	Ron Becker	Stan & Pat Seachrist
Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley	Donna Zirkel	Carmen & Jerry Richards
Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser	Sam Minder III	Lainie Christensen
Betty Tyndall and family	Hank Fox	Charles & Betty Booraem
Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline	Nancy Patton	Bob & Marlyn Wible
Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman	Mary Witmer	Kathleen Sensenig Adams
Erika Otthofer	Danielle Huggins	Holbein

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of Bryan Raines (brother-in-law of Rev. Sandy Morris)

Tom Brooks (friend of Charlene & Jack Cristy)

Gina McCarty (daughter-in-law of Bud & Kathy McCarty)

The Bruno family (friends of Blaine Connor)

Jessica Brown (niece of Mike & Shelley Wagner)

Janice Zimmerman (sister of Ken Zimmerman)
Jack & Sandy Neal (friends of Trinity members)
Joan Nevins (friend of John and Sarah Paulukow)
Janet Grebinger (friend of John and Sarah Paulukow)
Larry Gerlach (brother of Dolly Barr)
James Michaud (Sevi Keares' teacher)
John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr)
Kelly Quick (friend of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen)
Marianne Gibble (friend of Trinity)
James Malone & family
Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)
Janet Owens (sister-in-law of Scott & Jane Owens)
Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel)
Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig),
Robin McComsey (neighbor of Himelwrights)
Don Pfeifer (husband of Denise Pfeifer)
Rev. Phyllis Baum (former member of Trinity Church)
Jake & Jean Otthofer (parents of Dan Otthofer)
The Martin family
Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards)
Ronald Himelwright (grandson of Brenda & Harry Himelwright)
Barry Richards (son of Jerry & Carmen Richards)
Tyler Miller (grandson of Iris DeMaio)
Joan Kalbach (mother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)
Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards)
John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law)
Carl Roth (Gretchen Leinbach's brother)
Sandra Englert (niece of Betty Tyndall)
Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)
The Bonilla-Rodriguez family (friends of Trinity Church)

THE JULY AUGUST PARISH POST is available on both floors of the church building.

PASTOR RANKIN ON VACATION: Pastor Rankin will return from vacation on Tuesday. **The Rev. Margaret Rohnacher** will be covering pastoral emergencies during this time. You can reach Rev. Rohnacher at (717) 575-9311.

DEVOTIONALS: The July-September edition of These Days are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

THIS WEEK'S CAMPERS: Zach, Rachel, and Andrew will be attending church camp this week. Please keep all the campers and staff in prayer. You can send notes to them at the following addresses:

Rachel Baynard
Arts & Craft Camp
Nawakwa
P.O. Box 459
Arendtsville, PA 17303

Zach Baynard
Classic Camp
Nawakwa
P.O. Box 459
Arendtsville, PA 17303

Andrew Rankin
Day Camp
Kirchenwald
1 Cut Off Rd.
Lebanon, PA 17042

CALLED TO CARE MINISTRY: The Evangelism Committee has revitalized the Called to Care ministry. Meals will be provided for members after they have returned home from the hospital or during other critical moments. Transportation to medical appointments is also available. Sally Rodenberger is the coordinator for June.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES are available on both floors of the church building.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Greeter /Ushers Needed



If you would like to volunteer as a Greeter/Usher for the 10:30 a.m. service please contact the church office. We recently had some vacancies as ushers, so we are in need of help!!!



Assist with the worship service or to just read the scripture lessons at the 7:45 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. services. Please contact Pastor Chris or Carol Kratz if you are willing to volunteer!

2023 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for chancel flowers are: July 16, 23 & 30. Upcoming dates for worship aids are: July 16, 23 & 30. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts on the bulletin board in the narthex or call Carol in the church office.

FLOWER DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Would you like to be on the rotation to pick up the weekly chancel flowers from the florist on Friday mornings? If so, contact Lee Bossert. Would you like to deliver the chancel flowers after worship to members of the congregation? If so, contact Pastor Chris or Carol Kratz.

2023 CONCERT SPONSORS: Forms are available on the table across from the church office for you to sponsor this year's concert series.

TRINITY PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER: It is not too late to buy S. Clyde Weaver sub coupons to support the Trinity Preschool. The cost is \$8 per coupon. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office.



MT. GRETNA BIBLE FESTIVAL 2023

Summer at the Tabernacle | *Worship, Speakers and Concerts*

All Programs are in the Historic Tabernacle • 3rd St. & Glossbrenner Ave. Parking GPS Address: 41 Boulevard St, Mt. Gretna PA 17064

Please visit MtGretnaTabernacle.org for any program cancellations. A freewill offering will be received at each program.

June 25 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

New Holland Band Patriotic and spiritual concert, directed by Dr. Kenneth Laudermilch. Formed in 1829, the New Holland Band is the second oldest municipal band in the nation. Sponsored by Cornwall Manor.



July 9 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

National Christian Choir Founded in 1984, the choir glorifies God through music ministry which draws people into a new and deeper relationship with Him. Directed by Kathy Bowman, Gettysburg, Pa.



June 30 Friday 7 p.m.

Ecumenical Service

Why God[™] SEVEN Messiah University, Mechanicsburg, Pa. A group of college-aged musicians share Jesus through musical worship, directed by Dr. Doug Curry. Sponsored by Esther Mefferd, in memory of Pastor Ted Mefferd, Class of '66 from Messiah University.

July 16 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

Rizzetta's Tones Celtic & folk band with songs that are both poignant and humorous.



July 2 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert

Silver, Wood and Ivory Two women, 19 flutes and recorders, piano, Celtic harp & keyboard.



Summer Organ Programs at the Mt. Gretna UMC

June 28 Wednesday 7 p.m.

Daniel Ficarri, Associate Organist, Cathedral of St. John the Divine, NYC.



Save the Date
FRIENDSHIP FEST
FOOD TRUCK
EVENT
July 16
4:00-7:00 PM

FOOD TRUCKS
 Stoney's Burgers & Fries
 Tri-County Barbeque
 TJs Ice Cream
 Dutch Country Hand Rolled Soft Pretzels

Magician
Eric Vera

FACE PAINTING

BOUNCE HOUSE
 no charge

AUSCULTATION BRASS CONCERT
 5:00-6:00 PM

Peace of Mind Protection Fire House

We are in need of volunteers to help with set-up, clean-up, and stand at the Trinity Table during the Friendship Fest. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office!

CHURCH PICNIC

3:00-7:00 PM

August 27

Clothing Bank



The Lancaster Food Hub Clothing Bank has a need for new sleeping bags, coats, underwear, and toiletry items.

Items can be dropped at our clothing bank container at church. The container is in the stairwell by the kitchen entrance.

God's Garden

VBS 2023



Trinity UCC, 2340 State St., East Petersburg

www.trinityeastpete.org

717-569-1632

July 10 - 13 6:30-8:30 PM

Caretaker And Me Class - Under Five With Caretaker
Children's Classes - Five Through Finished Sixth Grade

Youth Volunteers - Contact Mrs. Slechta

Through stories, crafts, games, and music, "God's Garden" explores how Jesus grew, how we grow, and how we spread seeds for others to grow.

As the cycle continues, the "Mustard Plant" grows.

Adults and Teens - Join Rev. Esbenshade. Using the text, *Earthwise: A Guide to Hopeful Creation Care*, the class will spend four evening sessions examining ways in which attendees might examine and embrace ways to enhance creation. Author of *Earthwise*, Calvin B. DeWitt, is a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he serves on the graduate faculties of Environmental and Resources, Water Resource Management, Conservation Biology and Sustainable Development. This book reflects how he integrates his faith and his work in the science and educational communities.

**July 14 6:30 PM Closing Program - Including
Lancaster County Parks Naturalist Program - Seed Dispersal**

Register through the VBS/Rally Day Page at www.trinityeastpete.org



Sign-up sheet for snacks & craft materials for VBS are in hallway outside office.

Volunteers are still needed for VBS:

Through stories, crafts, games, and music, “God’s Garden” explores how Jesus grew, how we grow, and how we spread seeds for others to grow. As the cycle continues, the “Mustard Plant” grows.

We need you to volunteer to help plant these seeds of faith at VBS, July 10-13, from 6:30 - 8:30 PM, with the closing program on July 14 starting at 6:30 PM. Here are some of the volunteer positions that were recently listed as still being available.

Games Leader(s)

Games Assistant(s)

Greeters

Assistant Group Leaders For Grades 3-6, and Caretaker and Me Classes

Possibly could use more:

Craft Assistants

May need story station person/people

Is God calling you to volunteer in one of these roles? If so, please contact Dina Slechta or Diane Rice.

Registration is open, and we already have some children and a Caretaker registered. You can help by spreading the word to your friends and neighbors. Postcards are available on the table across from the church office for you to share with your friends and family.

Please spread the word that VBS is not only for children. Rev. Esbenshade’s class will be studying the book *Earthwise: A Guide to Hopeful Creation Care*. The books are available in the church office at a cost of \$15.

You can register yourself and your children, online, or call the church secretary who can help you with registration. Check out the ads in the bulletins, Parish Post and the postcards.

Want to volunteer some nights and join the adult class on others? We can work with you on that.

SUMMER CHURCH CAMP

Camp registration is open and ready for you to start planning your summer around weeks at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa! There are a wide range of camps this summer for all ages — kindergarteners through high schoolers, families, adults, and older folks. Below is a list of the camps this year! **Contact Pastor Chris or Anne Rankin for more information!**

As you know, Penn Central Conference paid for 50% of camp registration fees last year. It is wonderful to be able to announce that that same generous offer stands again this year! **You can help send campers from Trinity by contribution to our Camp Scholarship Fund. Place your contribution in your weekly offering envelope and mark the special designation box with “Camp Scholarship”.**

CAMP WEEK	EXPLORERS Grades K-2	JUNIORS Grades 3-6	INTERMEDIATES Grades 6-9	SENIOR HIGH & ADVENTURE TRIPS
JUNE 25- JULY 1	Day Camp (M-F)	Classic Tree Toppers	Classic Kayak	Beach (Grades 6-8)
JULY 2-8	Pioneers	Classic Jr Quest (Grades 4-6)	Classic Arts & Crafts S.U.R.E.	Sr. High Super Adventure (Grades 9-11)
JULY 9-15	Kids at Heart			
	Mini Camp	Day Camp Plus (M-S, Grades 2-5) Guppies	High Adventure Ten Day	Adirondack Backpack (Grades 7-11)
JULY 16-22		Arts & Crafts Back-Country Outpost S.U.R.E. TURTLES	Water Adventure	Beach (Grades 9-11)
JULY 23-29	Pioneers	Classic Arts & Crafts NightHawks S.U.R.E.	SUB Adventure	Adirondack Canoe (Grades 7-11)
JULY 30- AUG 5	Day Camp (M-F)	Classic Bikes & Boulders	Back-Country Outpost High Adventure	KirchenQuest (Grades 7-11)
AUG 6-12	Family Camp-K-tion (Family Camp)			
	Mini Camp	Ultimate Sports	Fishing Ultimate Sports	

Kirchenwald is located on 340 acres of scenic forest, adjacent to 4,000 acres of State Game Lands, in Lebanon, PA.

CAMP WEEK	EXPLORERS Grades K-2	JUNIORS Grades 3-6	INTERMEDIATES Grades 6-9	SENIOR HIGH Grades 9-11
JUNE 25- JULY 1	Classic Day Camp (M-F)	Classic Equestrian Team Sports	Classic Arts & Crafts EXTRAvangaza	Classic
JULY 2-8	Mini Camp	Classic Day Camp Plus (M-S, Grades 2-5) Holy Smoke!	Classic Full STEAM Ahead!	Adventure Sampler
JULY 9-15	Elder Camp			
	Classic Day Camp (M-F)	Classic Arts, Crafts, & Photography Beginner Guitar and Music	Classic Camp Musical Rock and Roll Adventure	
JULY 16-22	Family Camp			
JULY 23-29	Nature Detectives Mini Camp	Classic Night Owls O.W.L.S. Wild Things	Classic Ten Day	Ten Day
JULY 30- AUG 5	Classic Day Camp (M-F)	Classic Team Sports	Classic Blaze and Paddle Adventure Team Sports	
AUG 6-12	Family Camp			

Nawakwa is located on 336 acres outside of Arendtsville, in Adams County, Pennsylvania.

HARTMAN CENTER HOMECOMING CAMP (July 31-August 5)
 There will be several camps happening that week at the Hartman Center Campground in Milroy (the former Penn Central Conference Camp). Look for more details in the upcoming bulletins and the March Parish Post.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

O LORD, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughingstock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
For the word of the LORD has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
⁹If I say, "I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name,"
then within me there is something
like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
¹⁰For I hear many whispering:
"Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
"Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him."
¹¹But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.
They will be greatly shamed,
for they will not succeed.
Their eternal dishonor
will never be forgotten.
¹²O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous,
you see the heart and the mind;
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.
¹³Sing to the LORD;
praise the LORD!
For he has delivered the life of the needy
from the hands of evildoers.

Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11

[not printed]

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵For I have come to set a man
against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

³⁶and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

Next Sunday's Readings: Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42.

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