

Jesus
began to
send them out
two *by*
two

MARK 6:7

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

Dr. Robert T. Adams, Interim Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Michael Querry, Sexton

Mrs. Beth Ressler, Summer Interim Preschool Director

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

Today's Theme: Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The spirit always operates in the "between": between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

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: *God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

★ **CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY** ★

TRINITY U.C.C. VISION STATEMENT:

All will know the love of God through the teachings of Jesus!!

Trinity U.C.C. is called by God to:

- *Share God's love with our community*
 - *Serve God's children*
 - *Bring healing and wholeness to those in need*
 - *Share the Gospel in liturgy, music and study*
-
-

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.

We are here to be equipped for the journey of life. We have gathered that our daily witness might be empowered.

Sometimes we are not strong enough to love. We pray that God will use our weakness for good.

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.

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 one another.

Almighty God, who sent the promised power of the Holy Spirit to fill disciples with willing faith: We confess that we resist the force of your Spirit among us; that we are slow to serve you, and reluctant to spread the good news of your love. God, have mercy on us. Forgive our divisions, and by your Spirit draw us together. Enflame us with a desire to do your will and be your faithful people; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(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 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

Be with us, O God, as your word unfolds before us in ancient words, made new by personal encounter. May we sense your faithfulness through the generations, surrounding and upholding us. Meet us in our weakness with your strength, in our denials with your affirmation, and in our failures with your renewed vision. By your grace we are being reached even now by your salvation; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 2:1-5

In 597 BC, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 123

To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!
As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt.

Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

THE SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Christians do not boast in their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us.

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

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Mark 6:1-13

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

"Rejection"

Pastor Rankin

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, and has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

Thank you, God, for your steadfast love. We offer our praise; may it reach to the ends of the earth. We ask that our gifts empower ministry in this place and wherever our influence can reach. Let unbelief be turned to faith, ignorance to knowledge, sickness to health, brokenness to wholeness, both in us and in our neighbors near and far. Guide us, as we seek to invest our best for the sake of Christ. 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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. From everlasting to everlasting, you have revealed your mighty presence to us. Have we not heard? Have we not known? In the beginning, you swept across the earth

with your Spirit of life and renewal. When we forgot or neglected your truth, you redeemed us and renewed us. From the earth's first gardens to the mountaintop storms, you have spoken to us, and entrusted us to be your people. From laws on tablets to warnings from prophets, you have spoken your truth and renewed your covenant with us, reviving us and reclaiming us through your grace and love. And so, with your people on earth, with all of creation, and with all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn of praise, saying:

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.

RESURRECTION ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is offered for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

*(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.

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

Glorious God, you bend down to wash the feet of your disciples. Let the servant church arise in our teaching, our praying, our healing, and our doing. Make all your faithful people powerful in weakness and strong in grace. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Life-giving God, your fingers trace the heavens and your hands mold the earth. Where there is drought, bring nourishing rain. Where there is devastation from fire or flood, bring relief. Sustain the well-being of every living thing. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, you speak and the nations listen. Open those who govern to the cries of all who journey with no food or shelter, particularly people fleeing violence, those seeking freedom, and those in search of community. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Welcoming God, in your presence strangers become companions and enemies become neighbors. Open our doors to those we have so easily shut out, particularly people who are different from us or who are marginalized by church or society. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, your embrace brings wholeness to those who are troubled. Anoint all who suffer in any way with the oil of healing and grant them renewal. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Jesus, Bread of Life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by the family of Nancy Crawford in honor of her 70th birthday on July 4!!!

The Baptismal Font Flowers are given by the Fern Ashby estate “*in honor of the men and women serving in the armed forces and in memory of those who have served.*”

The Worship Aids are given by Charlene Cristy in memory of William M. Lenker, in honor of his 79th birthday, July 8.

Happy Birthday!

Tuesday – Rev. Sandy Morris, Norma Lucabaugh, Janet Sweigart

Thursday – Michael Slechta, Mary Lou Sturgis

Worship Attendance, June 30

7:45-13 9:30-86

TOTAL - 99

Ministering Today

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Pastor/Celebrant | Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin |
| Lector/Assistant | Jeff Hackenberger |
| Money Counters | Nevin Cooley, Steve Gold, Steve Shenk, Cherie Cataldi |
| Altar Guild | Charlene Cristy, Hedwig Hunsicker, Nancy Enders |
| Building Trustee | Dave Connor |
| Ministries | Card Deacons |
| | Called to Care Nancy Enders |
| | Visitation Janice Jenkins |

This Week at Trinity Church

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

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Monday-Tuesday | Secretary on vacation |
| Wednesday | 9:30 AM – Stewardship Committee—Choir Room 7:00 PM – Finance Committee---Isenberg Hall |
| Thursday | 10:00 AM – Evangelism Committee---Choir Room 6:00 PM - Parish Life---Isenberg Hall |
| Saturday | 8:00 PM – Alanon/AA |
| Sunday | 7:45 AM – Eucharist 9:30 AM – Eucharist 4-7 PM – Friendship Fest 5-6 PM – Auscultation Brass Concert |

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

MEMBERS

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ken & Janice Jenkins | Rick Mowrer | Bud McCarty |
| Betty Fogle | Jack Olley | Denise Huggins |
| Kelsey Minnich Burgo | Bob & Marlyn Wible | Don & Pat Miller |
| Harry Himelwright | Dr. Janet Harriger | Joann Peck |
| Scott & Jane Owens | The Lehman family | Mary Lou Shaab |
| Carmen & Jerry Richards | Donna Wolf & Family | George & Ellie Latsha |
| Lainie Christensen | Stan & Pat Seachrist | Sam Minder III |
| Pastor Harry Royer | Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley | Hank Fox |
| Rev. Ken Trauger | Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser | Donna Zirkel |
| Kathleen Sensenig Adams | Betty Tyndall and family | Michael McDonough |
| Danielle Huggins Holbein | Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline | Ron Becker |
| Joann & Dawn Garvin | Hedwig Hunsicker | Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman |
| Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman | Erika Otthofer | Nancy Patton |
| Dr. Parry & Claire Miller | | |

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of John Bailey

Kaitlyn, Logan, and Lucy Miller (family of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen)

Rev. Pam Illick (pastor of Zion Lutheran, East Petersburg)

Brian Latsha (son of George & Ellie Latsha)

Barbie, Jon, and Will Bundy (family of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen)

Rev. Jim Martin (Rev. Dr. Rich & Lanie Christensen's former pastor)

Quinn McCarty (grandson of Bud & Kathy McCarty)

Ken Hoshauer (husband of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)

Kurt Kalbach (brother of Dr. Cathy Houshauer)

Tuyet Nguyen (husband of Pat & Stan Seachrist's granddaughter)

Mary Call (mother of Rev. Dr. Carrie Call)

Art Cobb (nephew of John & Dolly Barr)

The Herr Family (A Trinity Preschool Family)

Sharon Brown (sister of Sandy DeLong)

Chris Rice (nephew of Diane Rice & Karen Olley)

Sally & Joe Carrol (friend of Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman)

Kurt McElhemmey (relative of Betty Tyndall)

David Brown (nephew of Shelley & Mike Wagner)

Annette Stork (niece of Pat Sensenig)

Logan Davis (husband of Hillary Bossert-Davis)

Brian & Liz Culp (son and daughter-in-law of Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman)

Jean Weglarz (neighbor of Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline)

Melby Bush (friend of Joan Sensenig)

Harvey & Dianne Sick (friends of Judy Chapman)

Rev. Loy Garber (former seminarian)

Roland Anderson and family (friends of John & Kayla Brennan)

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

John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr)

James Malone & family

Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)

Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel)

Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig)

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)

Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)

THE JULY/AUGUST PARISH POST is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building.

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

CAROL KRATZ WILL BE ON VACATION THROUGH TUESDAY! You can either reach Pastor Chris in the church office or on his cell phone (717-575-0286). Carol will return to the church office on Wednesday.

THE 2024 CONCERT SPONSOR FORMS are available on the table across from the church office.

THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES are available in the information racks on both floors of the church building!

SERVERS NEEDED: We are in need of greeters, ushers, and nursery care volunteers for the 9:30 worship service. Please contact the church office if you are interested in serving as an usher or greeter. Please contact Betty Fogle if you are interested in serving as a nursery attendant (717-471-1026 or bettsfog@comcast.net).

TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C.: The Christian Education Committee is planning to sponsor a trip to Washington D.C. on October 26. We are hoping to visit the National Cathedral and the other museums. We don't have any details yet on the cost, but we are asking you to sign-up if you are interested at this point. The sign-up sheet is on the table across from the church office. **For more information, speak to Sue Bowman or Pastor Rankin.**

TRINITY PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER: We have 16 coupons left! The cost is \$8 per coupon. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office. **Make checks payable to Trinity Preschool and put in the white box outside the church office.**

2024 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for worship aids are: **July 21 & 28**. Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are **August 11**. 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.

UPCOMING CLASSES AT THE PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF MINISTRY

<https://www.lancasterseminary.edu/programs/pennsylvania-academy-of-ministry/>

PAM is a Regional Theological Education Program of the UCC and serves church leaders in the PC(USA), ELCA, UMC, and other denominations. It is housed at Lancaster Theological Seminary.

Innovation and New Models of Leadership. July 9–Aug 13, 2024. Tuesdays, 7–8:30pm EST via Zoom. Instructor: the Rev. Dale Davis.

This challenging class engages an array of exciting leadership models and is supported by a podcast series produced especially for the Pennsylvania Academy of Ministry, featuring Gil Rendle, Karen Georgia Thompson, Doug Powe Jr., Lovett Weems Jr., John Schol, and Sarah Drummond. 2.5 CEUs. \$325. **Speak to Pastor Chris for more information!!!**

INVITATION TO THE ADULT VBS CLASS

You are invited to attend an adult educational experience – July 15th – 18th (6:30 – 8:00 p.m.). We will gather in the narthex to discuss the book *Tradition in Crisis* by Peter Schmiechen. Dr. Schmiechen will be present for two of our sessions.

In his own words, “The original purpose [of this book] was to arouse passions and commitments to do something to save the tradition. The five chapters lay out topics which point to some essential part of the tradition – grace, community, the dynamic of sin and grace, a new principle of authority and a distinctive form of worship.”

If you wonder about the future of the church or how we might save the tradition, consider becoming a member of the class.

If you are interested in joining the class, you may pick up a copy of the book in the church office. I look forward to seeing you.

Jack Esbenshade

Books for the adult class are available in the church office!!



VBS 2024

Trinity UCC, 2340 State St., East Petersburg

www.trinityeastpete.org

717-569-1632

July 15 - 18 6:30-8:30 PM

July 19 6:30 PM Closing Program

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, *"Reach For The Stars"* reminds us that things that seem impossible to us, are possible with God.

Rev. Esbenshade will facilitate the teen/adult class. Studying the book, *"Tradition In Crisis"* by Peter Schmiechen, the class will examine how "Now is the time to reclaim the church based on the grace and community of Christ."

Offerings and Projects To Be Donated To Habitat For Humanity

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



Look for the yellow VBS Volunteer Sign-Up Sheets on the table outside office.

Sign-up for donations on the sheet across from the church office!!

Friendship Fest----July 14, 2024 – 4-7 PM

Food Trucks(Stoney's Barbecue, The Taco RV(cash only), Tri-County BBQ, Cool Summers Ice Cream, What's For Supper), Craft Tables, Magician,

Face Painter, Games, Fun Activities,
Auscultation Brass Concert (5-6 PM)

Proceeds from the Friendship Fest will support the Trinity Preschool!

Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office to volunteer with the Friendship Fest!



Fellowship, food & fun

CHURCH

Picnic

**19 Main St.
Landisville
(park in rear of
fire station)**



AUGUST 25, 4:00-6:30 PM

Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office!

SUMMER CHURCH CAMP

There are a wide range of camps this summer for all ages at **Kirchenwald & Nawakwa!** — kindergarteners through high schoolers, families, adults, and older folks. Look for more information in the Parish Post or on the table across from the church office. Contact Anne Rankin for more information!

As you know, Penn Central Conference pays 50% of camp registration fees. **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”.



2160 Lincoln Highway East #18, Lancaster, PA 17602

717-299-1113

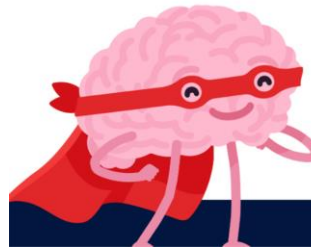
info@parishresourcecenter.org

www.parishresourcecenter.org

Mental Health First Aid

For Youth

- Help youth ages 12-18
- Earn certification and CEUs



August 12,
9am-2pm



East Petersburg Parade

The annual East Petersburg Day Parade will follow the 5K at 10AM and lead families, friends and neighbors to East Petersburg Community Park for an amazing day filled with live music, jugglers, rides, games, and food!

The Parish Life Committee will be organizing a float for this year's parade. Watch for more information in the worship bulletins and the September Parish Post!!!

Mt. Gretna Bible Festival 2024 Season

ALL PROGRAMS ARE IN THE HISTORIC TABERNACLE

THIRD ST & GLOSSBRENNER AVE

Parking at Mt. Gretna Fire Co.

Handicapped Parking at Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church Parking Lot

PARKING AT THE MT. GRETNA ROLLER RINK - in DEFINED AREAS ONLY!!!!

Roller Rink Parking on the following dates: July 7, 14, 21, 28; August 3, 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024

*******Sunday, July 7, 2024 - Phredd Ukulele One Man Band (Fred McNaughton) - *SPECIAL***

PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN* - 3 p.m.** Ukulele Flailing, Harmonica Wailing, Suitcase Drumming, Kazoo Humming, Ukulele Bundle of Joy! Freewill Offering will be received. ******

COME EARLY for a "Community Arts Party" and help paint the entrance for this year's Mt. Gretna Art Show and play instruments provided by Gretna Music. Sponsored by Mt. Gretna Outdoor Art Show.

Sunday, July 7, 2024 - Amy Yovanovich and Brenten Megee - 7 p.m. A program of spirituals and music by American composers plus an audience sing-along. Accompanied by Dr. Ross Ellison and Sue Fry-Wickard. Freewill Offering will be received.

Sunday, July 14, 2024 - Dr. Chris Walker is the Sr. Pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, Pa., and the preacher on the weekly radio broadcast 'The Westminster Pulpit' on WDAC radio. His degrees are from Hillsdale College and Westminster Theological Seminary. Musicians from Westminster Church will provide special music for the service - 7 p.m. Freewill Offering will be received.

Sunday, July 21, 2024 - Knotwork Band - 7 p.m. The Knotwork Band is a trio that performs Celtic folk music from Ireland, Scotland, England, and Brittany, as well as American and World music with ties to Celtic folk music, either musically or historically. Freewill Offering will be received.

Sunday, July 28, 2024 - Choir Festival - 7 p.m. Composer Craig Courtney will direct 100 voices in a joyous Sunday Concert. Accompanist Dan Dorty will be joined by flute and brass. Freewill Offering will be received. **Sponsored by Loser's Music. Concert made possible by the Estate of Douglas Troutman.** Singers can register online this year by clicking on this link: [Zeffy](https://www.zeffy.com) To request a printable file contact: office@mtgretnatabernacle.org

Wednesday, July 31, 2024 - Hymn Sing - 7 p.m. Congregational favorites from the Celebration Hymnal led by Bob Kettering and Dr. Rod Shearer. Freewill Offering will be received.

Saturday, August 3, 2024 - Handbell Festival - 7 p.m. Under the direction of Dr. Shawn Gingrich, Hershey, Pa., ringers from the area will ring the praise and glory of God. Freewill Offering will be received. **Sponsored by Home Instead.**

Sunday, August 4, 2024 - Daniel Dorty - 7 p.m. Pianist and Organist for the acclaimed Susquehanna Chorale, and Director of Music and Organist for the Derry Presbyterian Church, Dan Dorty joined by musicians from Derry Church, their Sanctuary Choir and Derry Ringers for an evening of sacred music celebrating the Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs of our Faith. Freewill Offering will be received.



Wednesday, August 7, 2024 - Summit Hill Bluegrass Band - 7 p.m. From southeastern Pa., Summit Hill Bluegrass Band plays bluegrass, gospel and a wide variety of other music. Freewill Offering will be received. [Sponsored by JoAnn Thomas Show.](#)

Sunday, August 11, 2024 - Dr. Peter W. Teague, Pres. Emeritus & Ambassador, Lancaster Bible College - 7 p.m. Dr. Teague and his wife Paulette are founders of Jessica and Friends Community, a non-profit organization offering residential services, training in daily living skills, and social services to adults with developmental disabilities. Freewill Offering will be received.

SUMMER PROGRAMS AT MT. GREтна CHAUTAQUA

For more information go to: www.pachautauqua.info



Decades That Transformed #4

Thu Jul 11th 10:00am

1910s - 1920s: Collapse of the Old Order. The political and social reforms of the Progressive Movement. Dr. Lee Barrett & Dr. Randall Zachman.



Decades That Transformed #5

Thu Jul 18th 10:00am

1960s: The Cultural Revolution. 'The Times They Are a-Changin' Today's crossroads require a look back at historical events. Dr. Lee Barrett & Dr. Randall Zachman. **Hall of Philosophy**



The Religion of Race

Tue Jul 23rd 7:00pm

Explore the true history of race in America and how the promotion of race differs from its biblical account. With the Rev. Dr. Joseph Green. **Hall of Philosophy**



Where's the Ark of the Covenant?

Thu Aug 1st 10:00am

Dr. Herb Smith explores the tradition of the affair of Solomon & Sheba and this holy object in the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. **Hall of Philosophy**

"GOD MEND THINE EVERY FLAW"

by The Rev. Dr. Charles Hambrick-Stowe (Anne Rankin's father)

Our best national hymn, I believe, is "America the Beautiful" ("O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"). Written in 1893 by Wellesley College professor Katherine Lee Bates during a trip to the Chicago World's Fair and a summer teaching engagement in Colorado, it was published in a Boston newspaper in 1894. The words were sung to various tunes until World War I, when the hymn was forever joined to MATERNA, music originally composed for "O Mother Dear, Jerusalem."

The imagery of spacious skies, amber waves of grain, majestic mountains, and heroes proved through liberating strife always inspires. But what makes the hymn great is that it goes beyond patriotic emotion. It is a clear-minded prayer for God to take what is good about our country and make it better, to take what is wrong and make it right, to take what is hopeful and fulfill it, to take our national sins and "mend [our] every flaw."

In the 1890s the notion of "brotherhood" was a sham. Anti-Catholic sentiment was strong, new immigrants faced discrimination, native peoples were reduced to living on reservations, and blacks existed under the harsh reality of Jim Crow restrictions. Still, we pray for God to "shed his grace" on America "and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea."

We have always prized individual liberty, but this easily becomes an excuse for selfishness. Singing, we pray for God to "confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law." This has always been a land of opportunity, but it so easily becomes just about the money. Thus: "May God thy gold refine, till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine." American cities in the 1890s were squalid, violent, and disease-ridden, but we pray the "patriot dream" that somehow "beyond the years" our cities will "gleam, undimmed by human tears." We still sing the hymn. We must still pray the prayer.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:1-5

[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. ²And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord GOD.” ⁵Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

Psalm 123**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10**

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect

in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

GOSPEL: Mark 6:1-13

[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Next Sunday's Readings: Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 85:8-13; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29.

Cover: Two pedestrians on sidewalk by Doug Plummer. Copyright © 2022 Getty Images Plus via Getty Images. Used by permission.

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at www.augsburgfortress.org. Tracks 1 and 2

Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.

ELCA-R