

Whoever
welcomes
one such
child in
my name
welcomes
me

MARK 9:37

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. Amy Grube, Preschool Director

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

Today's Theme: Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

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: *O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, 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*

BY YOUR SILENCE OTHERS MAY HEAR THE STILL SMALL VOICE OF GOD!

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.**

Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you. Happy are those who find delight in God's law.

God is always nearer than our next breath. We gather to become more aware of that presence.

Put your trust in God as you prepare to serve. Learn to be peaceable, gentle, and merciful.

We seek to do good and not harm all our days. We would open our hands to the poor and needy.

As we come to the table of God's heavenly feast, let us prepare our hearts anew to be in communion with one another and the risen Christ.

We come, ready to partake of bread and cup; ready to commune with one another and with the living God.

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is our God.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing in this time of silent prayer.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins together.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first, we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

Gracious God, revealed to us as we welcome children in the name of Jesus, grant us childlike openness and honesty to explore your word. Teach us as Jesus taught the disciples that we may not so much aspire to greatness as to faithfulness, counting service in Christ's name as a joyous privilege. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 11:18-20

Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.

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

THE PSALTER

Psalm 54

Save me, O God, by your name, and vindicate me by your might.
Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

For the insolent have risen against me; the ruthless seek my life; they do not set God before them.

But surely, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life.

He will repay my enemies for their evil. In your faithfulness, put an end to them.

With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;

I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good.

For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

THE SECOND LESSON

James 3:13-4:3,7-8a

The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.

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

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Mark 9:30-37

Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

"What Kind of Harvest?"

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

Loving God, we who have spent much on our own pleasures are pleased to share that others may obtain the necessities of body and spirit. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to support the ministry and mission of this congregation. May there be a harvest of righteousness among us, shown in the peaceful handling of disputes, in mutual love and support, and in courageous outreach to people near and far who need the help we can give. Bless each gift and giver; 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.

Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our voices with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere.

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!

(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.

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God’s good creation, and all who are in need.

Loving God, you welcome all at your table of grace. Instill in your church a spirit of humility and curiosity, that we embrace all who seek you. We pray especially for ministries of hospitality and faith formation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you shape the world so there is more than enough for all. Curb our habits of overuse, and guide us toward more sustainable sources of energy, food, and water. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, your peace brings justice and solidarity. Encourage peace among peoples, tribes, and nations; heal divisions in our country and local communities, that together we might cooperate for the good of all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Faithful God, you draw near to you all who are in need. Bring healing and wholeness to all who suffer. Transform economic, political, and social systems that oppress vulnerable people, especially systems of structural racism and generational poverty. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Transforming God, you accompany all through changes and transitions. Help us to see where you are calling this community to new ways of living the gospel promise; assure us that even as change brings loss, it also brings hope and life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by **Janice Jenkins** in memory of Ken Jenkins.

The Worship Aids are given by the **Hunsickers** with gratitude to the Slechtas and for Trinity's Music Ministry.

Happy Birthday!

Today – Audria Husted, Sawyer, Eisenhour

Monday – Christopher Schwankl

Wednesday – Pastor Emeritus Harry Royer, Dr. Randall Zachman,
Carol Kratz

Friday – Marcia Eisenhour, Dr. Bruce Rodenberger

Saturday – Sarah Miller

Ministering Today

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin
Lector	Rev. Jack Esbenshade
Money Counters	Bud & Kathy McCarty, Jeff Hackenberger, John Shelsky
Altar Guild	Anita Rohrer, Charlene Cristy, Hedwig Hunsicker
Building Trustee	Dave Connor
Koinonia	Paula Dennes
Ministries	Card Children's Sunday School Class
	Called to Care Nancy Enders
	Visitation Anita Rohrer

Happy Birthday!

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Saturday – Sarah Miller

Worship Attendance, September 15	7:45-15	9:30-77	TOTAL –92
Sunday School	18		

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

Today 12:30 PM – Lunch Bunch @ Loxley's

Monday 7:00 PM – Choir/8:15 PM – Bells

Wednesday 7:00 PM – Christian Ed. Committee

Thursday 1:30 PM – Pinochle

6:00 PM - Scouts

Saturday 8:00 PM – Alanon/AA

Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist

9:00 AM – Sunday School

10:00 AM - Koinonia

10:30 AM – Worship

After 10:30 Worship—Celebration for Dr. Adams

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

MEMBERS

Kelsey Minnich Burgo

Betty Fogle

Don & Pat Miller

Dr. Janet Harriger

The Lehman family

Donna Wolf & Family

Sam Minder III

Rev. Ken Trauger

Kathleen Sensenig Adams

Danielle Huggins Holbein

Erika Otthofer

Ron Becker

Janice Jenkins

Jack Olley

Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman

Joann Peck

Mary Lou Shaab

George & Ellie Latsha

Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley

Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser

Betty Tyndall and family

Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline

Denise Huggins

Betsy Bailey

Bob & Marlyn Wible

Harry Himelwright

Scott & Jane Owens

Carmen & Jerry Richards

Lainie Christensen

Hank Fox

Donna Zirkel

Michael McDonough

Joann & Dawn Garvin

Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Glenn Wible (nephew of Bob & Marlyn Wible/cousin of Lon Wible)

Diana Landefeld (niece of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christesen) & **Joppatowne School**

Joe Harriger (brother of Janet Harriger)

Marianne Gibble (friend of Trinity)

Shari Jones (co-worker of Rich Weeber)

Tracy McLaughlin (co-worker of Rich Weeber)

Carol Hooper (sister of Rev. Dr. Rich Christensen)

Marlene Harlow (friend of Gail Kogut)

Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel)

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

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

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

Ken Hoshauer (husband of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)

Kurt Kalbach (brother of Dr. Cathy Houshauer)

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

The Herr Family (Trinity Preschool Family)

Sharon Brown (sister of Sandy DeLong)

Chris Rice (nephew of Diane Rice & Karen Olley)

David Brown (nephew of Shelley & Mike Wagner)

Annette Stork (niece of Pat Sensenig)

Logan Davis (husband of Hillary Bossert-Davis)

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)

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

James Malone & family

Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)

Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig)

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 SEPTEMBER PARISH POST is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building. **Deadline for the October Parish Post is tomorrow!**

2024 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for worship aids are: **October 6 & 27**. Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are **November 24**. 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.

KOINONIA/SUNDAYMORNING FELLOWSHIP: We have resumed koinonia (community fellowship) at 10 a.m. in Isenberg Hall. Volunteers are asked to provide light refreshments. The drinks/coffee will be taken care of for you! The sign-up sheet is on the kitchen counter. If you have any questions, contact Paula Dennes. **Coffee is always available between 7:45 service and Sunday School.**



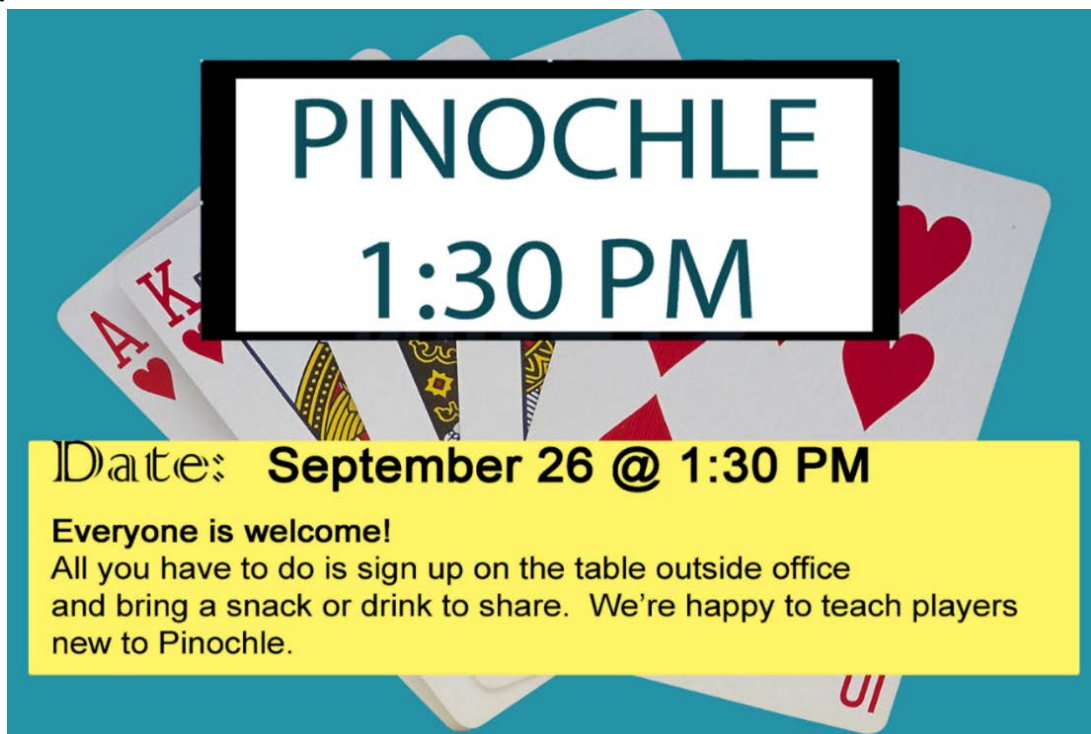
FAREWELL CELEBRATION FOR DR. BOB ADAMS: Next Sunday will be Dr. Adams' final service as our interim organist. The Music Committee is planning a reception following the 10:30 service in Isenberg Hall. The Consistory has approved the hiring of Karen Karosas as our new organist and she will begin in November. We will have supply organists during October.

"I PROMISE" FORMS will be received at both services on Sunday, October 6. We hope that you will submit the forms to help us plan for our ministry in 2025. Extra forms are available on the table across from the church office!

UPDATED INFORMATION ABOUT THE 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 Holocaust Museum. The tentative cost for the Cathedral is \$15 (adult) and \$10 (children 5-12 years old). There will also be a cost for the bus (this information is forthcoming). The sign-up sheet is on the table across from the church office. **For more information, speak to Sue Bowman or Pastor Rankin.**

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.

A promotional poster for a Pinochle event. The background is a teal color with several playing cards (Ace of Hearts, King of Hearts, Queen of Hearts, Jack of Hearts) fanned out. A white rectangular box with a black border is centered, containing the text "PINOCHLE" and "1:30 PM" in a teal, sans-serif font. Below this box is a yellow rectangular box with black text. The text in the yellow box reads: "Date: September 26 @ 1:30 PM", "Everyone is welcome!", and "All you have to do is sign up on the table outside office and bring a snack or drink to share. We're happy to teach players new to Pinochle."/>

PINOCHLE
1:30 PM

Date: September 26 @ 1:30 PM

Everyone is welcome!
All you have to do is sign up on the table outside office and bring a snack or drink to share. We're happy to teach players new to Pinochle.

CUB SCOUT PACK 133 FUNDRAISERS: The scouts that meet at Trinity are selling peanuts and popcorn. **Orders are due October 10 and they will be delivered on November 9.** They also had a Sub Fundraiser which will be delivered to the church October 1. There are order forms on the table across from the church office. **Speak to Pastor Chris for more information!**

GRIEF GROUP: Since the first grief group ended last week, Pastor Rankin would like to form another group(s) beginning in October. If you are interested in this small group, look for the sign-up sheet across from the church office. **Contact Pastor Rankin if you have any questions.**

FALL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR: The Pastor Parish Committee is sponsoring another leadership seminar for all members of the Consistory and committees on Saturday, October 12 from 9 a.m.-noon. The Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, Conference Minister & President of the Penn Central Conference and member of Trinity, will talk about emotional intelligence. Dr. Call will be preaching at both services on October 13. Look for a sign-up sheet in the near future.

COMMUNITY MEAL AT FIRST REFORMED U.C.C.: Trinity Church will be providing the meal at First Reformed on Tuesday, October 15. Volunteers are needed at 3:00 p.m. for food preparation. The meal is served from 5-6:00 p.m. There are sign-up sheets on the table across from the church office. The church is located at 40 E. Orange St. in Lancaster. Contact Kathy Cooley, meal coordinator, if you have any questions.

PRAYER SHAWL: The Prayer Shawl will meet on October 15 at 1:00 p.m. and will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month! Come and bring a friend. Hope to see many of you there! Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.

Sponsored by the Parish Life Committee

A graphic for a 'Trunk or Treat & Crafts' event. It features a blue car trunk filled with Halloween-themed items: two yellow bowls of colorful candy, two orange pumpkins, and a small sign on the trunk that says 'TRUNK or TREAT & CRAFTS'. The text 'TRUNK or TREAT' is written in large, bold, white letters with a blue outline, and '& CRAFTS' is written in smaller white letters below it. The background is orange with a string of orange and white lights draped over the top of the trunk.

**TRUNK
or TREAT
& CRAFTS**

October 19
4:00-6:00 PM
Trinity United Church of Christ
2340 State St.
East Petersburg, PA

People are needed to volunteer to decorate their trunk in Halloween themed décor and pass out candy or other goodies to the children as they come by. We also need donations of candy. The sign-up sheet will soon be available on the table across from the church office.

SERVERS NEEDED: We are in need of greeters, ushers, and nursery care volunteers for the 10:30 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).

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



QuintEssentially Brass

Sun., Oct. 27, 2024
Concert 4:00 PM



Trinity UCC
2340 State St.
East Petersburg, PA
(717) 569-1632

www.TrinityEastPete.org

Public Welcome
Freewill Offering Benefits
Music For Everyone
And
Trinity's Ministry of Music



LUTHERAN CAMPING EVENT DATES



Check out all event details at
LutheranCamping.org

Dinner church at the Wittel Farm:
 Oct. 6, Nov. 3 – starting at 5 PM.

Adult Study Retreat at Nawakwa
 October 1-3

Party with a Purpose Fundraiser at Kirchenwald
 October 5 - 5pm

Capture the Flag Spectacular at Kirchenwald
 October 6 - 3pm

A Night for Nawakwa Fundraiser at Nawakwa
 October 19

Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa
 October 27 - 1pm

Lutheran Camping Quilt Auction at Nawakwa
 November 3 - 2pm

Disagreeing Better

IN PERSON ONLY

COMMUNITY INTEREST

October 8, 2024
 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

★★★★★

Disagreeing Better

Oct 8,
7-8:30pm

Braver Angels co-chairs

Nita Landis

Melissa Gizzi

Refugees, Immigrants, and Healthcare

IN PERSON ONLY

COMMUNITY INTEREST

October 15, 2024
 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Oct 15, 7-8:30pm

Refugees, Immigrants, and Healthcare

Union Community Care

Navigating Leadership Transitions

ZOOM ONLY **TOOLKIT SERIES**

October 16, 2024
 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Oct 16, 12-1:30pm

Navigating Leadership Transitions

Provide your next leaders with knowledge and support without stifling their ability to lead

Toolkit Series sponsored by

Evaluating Programs

ZOOM ONLY

PRACTICAL SKILLS **TOOLKIT SERIES**

October 29th 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Oct 29, 12-1:30pm

Evaluating Your Programs

Regular evaluation and adaptation reassures your supporters that their time and money is being used well

Toolkit Series sponsored by

Creating Sacred Spaces Retreat

IN PERSON ONLY

CONTEMPLATIVE

November 2, 2024
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Creating Sacred Spaces Retreat

Nov 2, 9am-12pm

Jean Lengacher



2160 Lincoln Hwy East, #18
 (717) 299-1113
info@parishresourcecenter.org

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE LANCASTER CROP WALK: Trinity Church was recently recognized as being 34th in the U.S. to raise funds for the 2023 CROP Walk!! Also, the Lancaster CROP Walk was recognized for being ranked 16th in the U.S. and 2nd in Pennsylvania for the 2023 CROP Walk! Pastor Rankin continues to serve as the Lancaster CROP Walk Coordinator!



There are two important dates to remember:

1. **Saturday, September 29**---CROP Walk Rally at the Church World Service office in Lancaster (10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.)
2. **Sunday, October 20**---CROP Walk at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church. Registration begins at 1 p.m. and a program follows at 1:30 p.m. The walk will begin at 2 p.m.



Church World Service
Certificate of Appreciation
 to
Trinity United Ch of Christ

A national 2023 Cream of the CROP top fundraising team with the Lancaster CROP Hunger Walk to end hunger and poverty around the world.

Presented by

 National Community Engagement Manager
 April 5, 2024

Mark & Chris Eyer are once again serving as the coordinators for Trinity Church. The following people from Trinity have already signed up for the walk: Mark & Chris Eyer, Diane Rice, Karen Olley, Nancy Enders, and the Rankin family. **You can also give our walkers money. Checks should be made out to CWS/CROP! The Consistory has approved to donate \$3,000 from our Hunger Ministries fund to support the CROP Walk!**

You can register for the walk on the table across from the church office or at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/team/trinity-east-pete>

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SUPPORT: We recently heard a presentation by Donna Geisler and Dr. Bill Lovett about their medical mission work in the Dominican Republic. The Board of Deacons decided that the Undesignated Funds from the upcoming Our Gifts to Others offering (October 6) will support this mission project.

“Together We Are Stronger” Staffing a New Conference

When the four Conference Ministers started meeting to explore options for sharing resources, the topic of staffing was forefront in their discussions. Staffing has been one of the key components of discussion during the Keystone Working Group (KWG) meetings. The staffing subcommittee, previously comprised of the four Conference Ministers, kept the KWG updated every month on their progress. At the time of our joint annual meeting in June the KWG had a tentative staffing model for a Keystone Conference.

The subcommittee is now being expanded to include the personnel chairs from all four conferences so we can begin to look at transitional staffing needs and position descriptions should the November vote be approved by all four conferences. Having a transitional staffing plan in place is key to starting any merger process for the four conferences.



It is important to note that this is a staff model and may be altered as we move forward in the implementation of the merger. Succession planning, especially when it comes to staffing, will have a positive effect on the overall success of every aspect of a new Keystone Conference.

“While the working group initially considered several different forms for sharing resources, they overwhelmingly opted for fully combining the conferences as the best way to serve congregations, conferences, and pastors.”

~ Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, PNEC Conference Minister

Next Town Hall Sessions

The conversations around the timeline, staffing model and finances are available for registration. Please use the QR code, on all conferences websites or contact your conference office.



QR code.

In each townhall conversation, the timeline will be reviewed for possible action toward our vote, the motion to the General Synod and next steps.

Merger Motion Vote by 4 Conferences Nov. 9, 2024

Each congregation is allowed their usual number of delegates to vote on the merger motion. See each conference for details to register, participate and make your vote count! The full motion is available on the website.

For more information: <https://psec.org/keystone/>

Motion to General Synod, July 11-15, 2025

If approved by all 4 conferences, the motion is presented to General Synod for UCC delegates' approval.



“We face the unknown, but God is known!”

-- Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson

President and General Minister of the UCC to the delegates at the gathered PA area conferences.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

It was the LORD who made it known to me,
and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.
¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.
And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,
“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the
living,
so that his name will no longer be
remembered!”
²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge
righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

or Wisdom 1:16—2:1, 12-22 [not printed]

Psalm 54

SECOND READING: James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest

of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

^{4:1}Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”