



TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

MARCH, 2021

General Information:

Worship Schedule:

Sunday Service

9:00am

Fellowship Time

10:00am

Sunday School

10:30am

Office Hours:

Mon—Fri 9am—1pm

Telephone:

717 637-2233

Church e-mail

info@trinityucchanover.org



The comfort connection

Amid suffering, we might feel alone and wonder what good can come of it. But later we may discover ourselves equipped to serve precisely because of what we experienced.

Writer and civil rights activist James Baldwin stated: “You think your pain and heartbreak are unprecedented ... but then you read. [Books] taught me that the things that tormented me the most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive or who had ever been alive.” Whether through books or direct human interaction, we often learn that our suffering connects us to other people and that our pain gains meaning by moving us to support someone else who’s hurting.

Paul writes of such connection: “Praise be to ... the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God” (2 Corinthians 1:3-4, NIV). May you share the comfort you have received from God with others in pain. As a bonus, along the way you’ll realize you’re not — and never have been — alone.

That’s the point!

If prayer stands as the place where God and human beings meet, then I must learn about prayer. Most of my struggles in the Christian life circle around the same two themes: why God doesn’t act the way we want God to, and why I don’t act the way God wants me to. Prayer is the precise point where those themes converge.

—Philip Yancey

Special dates

World Day of Prayer, March 5, 2021
Daylight-Saving Time begins, March 14, 2021
First day of spring, March 20, 2021
Holy Week, March 28 – April 4, 2021
Palm/Passion Sunday, March 28, 2021



Dear Friends:

On February 21st, we begin our Lenten journey in worship. We worship so that we can become the disciples that God wants us to be. We worship so that we can keep our eyes on God, and not on every shiny object the world places in front of us. We worship, frankly, so the devil can't get a grip on us and turn us away from our true vocation as children of God.



In the Temptation story, which we read every Lenten season, it is clear the devil wants to turn Jesus away from his true vocation. He dangles in front of Jesus mouth-watering possibilities: satisfy his hunger by magically producing bread in the wilderness, test God to save him from a foolhardy action, take control of the world in a power grab. And at each test, Jesus answers with scripture and the Word of God. He is committed to living off God's word, trusting God completely, committed to loving and serving God alone.

The devil was trying to distract him, turn him aside from the path of servanthood to which Jesus had been commissioned at his baptism. Jesus uses as his weapons of defense the key stories of his faith. The quotes of scripture are from the time of the wilderness wandering of the Jewish people. But where they failed time and time again in keeping faith with their God, Jesus succeeds in resisting the temptation to turn aside from the path set before him.

And as God's children, we are entitled to use the same defense as the Son of God did himself. We store scripture in our hearts and we set forth patterns of worship that help us keep our eyes on God; based on Holy Scripture. As the Jewish people marched behind the Ark of the Covenant, they were following God. We are also marching in the light of God, following our ancestors in the Church on whose shoulders we stand. Our worship does not just belong to us, it belongs to the entire age of Christianity. Worship is the blueprint for our encounter with God. We return to worship week after week to remember our calling, to remember whose we are, and to say no to the voices that call us back into the darkness.

We begin Lent by observing Holy Communion, because this is the central rite of our faith. The way in which we obey Christ's command: "Do this in remembrance of me." St. Paul said, "we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread." There is so much division in Christianity, so much on which we disagree, that the act of Communion becomes the central point of unity. All churches may not conduct communion in the same way, but it is at the Table that we are closest to the risen Christ. That is our point of unity, and the way in which we have confidence that we are following Christ, not those shiny objects that tempt us.

As I return to work, we have much to do! Our Search Committee is interviewing a candidate and we pray for that process. Regardless of how much longer I serve Trinity, I am committed to helping you achieve your goals. Some of the things to which we must turn our attention are: reviewing the church's committee structure to see if it is practical for the current membership, developing a system for staff and pastoral evaluation, and renewing our Called to Care committee work. So after a long, uncertain year of many changes, let us enthusiastically continue our journey as a People of God, hopeful that we march into a bright future.

Peace,

Pastor Kim

Thank you, Bill Spangler!

For the last two years Trinity member Bill Spangler has worked on a special project for our church. He has taken on the task of sorting through, organizing, and archiving the history of Trinity UCC. The volumes of completed notebooks are now on display in the church library on the right side as you are looking at the shelves. Consistory has placed a plaque in the library in recognition of his time and effort to finish such a huge undertaking. Many thanks to Bill for a job well done!



I want to sincerely thank everyone for their cards, phone calls, and words of caring for my beloved, Steve. I can't tell you how much they all helped in my sorrow.

Many blessings to all of my church friends,

Ruth Weaver

A note of sincere gratitude for all the support I received during my recovery from knee surgery. It was harder than I thought it would be, but made so much easier because of the lovely cards that arrived almost daily. During low moments I would re-read them, and marvel at the kindness included within them. I know that you prayed for me as well, which along with my prayer shawl and quilt, were a source of great comfort. You're a gracious and lovely group of people, and I am so glad that our paths have crossed in this crazy profession of interim ministry!

Pastor Kim



| | <u>Born</u> | <u>Died</u> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Shirley S. Kemp | April 6, 1939 | January 16, 2021 |
| Stephen F. Weaver, Sr. | September 27, 1941 | January 29, 2021 |
| Richard E. Sanders | August 16, 1933 | February 4, 2021 |



| Day | Name | Yrs. | Day | Name | Yrs. |
|-----|----------------------------------|------|-----|-------------------------------|------|
| 5 | Karen and Joel Weaver | 44 | 23 | Sherry and Lonny Smith | 36 |
| 12 | Tina and Trevis Becker | 33 | 24 | Peggy and Anthony Brallier | 37 |
| 20 | Kimberly and William Spangler | 11 | 30 | Dolores and James Zinneman | 70 |
| 21 | Barbara and Robert Williams, Jr. | 50 | 30 | Rebecca and Andrew Blumenthal | 47 |

Note: *If your anniversary was omitted, please contact the office to update your records.*

2021-22 CONSISTORY

The new year for Consistory is beginning and we are looking forward to a productive time of growth and continued renewal for Trinity Church. If you have any concerns or issues, ideas for outreach or a desire to serve your church in some capacity, please talk with any member. We pray for God's guidance to uphold the mission of Trinity Church within our church family and the broader community outside our doors.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Diane Betlyon - President | Karl Albin |
| Lorene Crooks - Vice President | Lee Bartlett |
| John Coulson - Treasurer | Debra Rhodes |
| Brittany Breighner - Secretary | Mike Sabaka |
| Kay Altland | Steve Hutton |
| Neil Kessel Jr. | Belinda Sabaka |



Dorcas Transeau March 18
Madge Mitchell March 24

****Inclement Weather****

Please remember in the event of inclement weather on a Sunday morning, you may call the church at 717 637-2233 to get a recorded message regarding cancellation. That same information will be sent out via an email blast as well. You may also tune in to either WHP-CBS or WHTM-ABC and watch for the scrolling information regarding church cancellations.

| March | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---|-------------|-------------------|
| | Lent 3 | Lent 4/ Daylight Savings Time Begins | Lent 5 | Palm Sunday |
| | | | | |
| Consistory Team | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 |
| | | | | |
| Worship Leader | Lorene Crooks | Lee Bartlett | Doug Cooper | Caleb Leckrone |
| | | | | |
| Altar Flower Sponsor | Erb | G. Ronald Albright | Lobach | Bristol |
| Chancel Flower Sponsor | Forry | Dolores Albright | Foreman | Open |
| Bulletin Sponsor | Wilson | Open | Open | Stauffer |

Please call the church office to schedule a flower or bulletin dedication for any available date. The cost is \$40 for altar flowers and \$25 for pedestal arrangements (plus tax), and \$20 for bulletins.

March Trinity Times

Trinity United Church of Christ

116 York Street
Hanover, PA 17331

Change Service Requested



Trinity's Mission Statement: Trinity United Church of Christ strives to be a warm, caring family of Christian believers. Our calling is to witness and strengthen the Christian faith through meaningful worship, Christian education, and Christian living in the home, the community, and the world.

Trinity Staff:

Rev. Dr. Kim Blocher, Interim
Cell: 717 422-2075 (or text)

Mike Blottenberger, Admin. Assistant
Betsy Bristol, Secretary

Sue Seidenstricker, Director of Music

Tony Brallier & Ruth Weaver, Sextons

Dawn Magee & Aimee Bohn, Childcare/Children's Sunday School

Trinity Nursery School, Tina McCole, Director

E-Mail Address:

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Home: 717 486-7847 or call the church office to leave a message

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betsy@trinityucchanover.org

trinitynurseryhanover@gmail.com (717) 637-2126



For April Newsletter Articles

March 15, 2021