



# TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ  
www.trinityucchanover.org

JULY, 2020

## 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

### Email-

info@trinityucchanover.

org



## The desert shall blossom

Where there is need, God is always bringing new life, often working through the church but sometimes using Christians and others in the secular realm.

At England's University of Sheffield, scientists have learned to grow gardens from discarded mattresses in refugee camps. In Jordan and other dry regions, the foam "soil" soaked with a nutrient solution lets vegetables, fruits and herbs grow with far less water than usual. Syrian refugees who were already farmers "have made the project their own, growing things we never thought ... possible in the desert," says professor Tony Ryan.

But more than plants are flourishing! The greenery amid a barren landscape boosts mental health. The work experience will help people land jobs. Families learn new skills and eat more healthfully. And the gains go both ways, as scientists learn to apply research in the real world.

As God promises, "The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert ... shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing" (Isaiah 35:1-2, ESV).

## The weight of hate

Word lovers, delight! The lexicon has tongue-twisting terms that describe hatred for just about anything.

According to *Mental Floss*, if you're a misodotakleidist, for example, you hate practicing the piano. Misogelasts hate laughter, while misopogonists hate beards and misophonists hate certain irritating sounds. There's even a word for someone who hates hatred (in the form of war or strife): a misopolemist.

Some of these words may make us smile, yet hate is deadly serious. No matter the target, hatred weighs us down and distracts us from Godly living.

That's why Paul instructs followers of Jesus to "put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice" (Ephesians 4:31, NRSV). Once that hateful weight is gone, we'll be freed up to "be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you" (verse 32).

## Special dates

Canada Day, July 1, 2020

U.S. Independence Day, July 4, 2020



Dear Friends:

One of my favorite poems is Mary Oliver’s “Summer Day.” She captures the feeling of being outside on a perfect June day, surrounded by nature’s beauty and its marvelous diversity. In this poem, I hear a reminder to pay attention to what is happening around us, and recognize the ways in which God breathes new life into the world every day. At a time when our country seems ensnared in crisis after crisis, let’s take a moment to refresh and renew.

### **The Summer Day**

*Who made the world?*

*Who made the swan, and the black bear?*

*Who made the grasshopper?*

*This grasshopper, I mean-*

*the one who has flung herself out of the grass,*

*the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,*

*who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down-*

*who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.*

*Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.*

*Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.*

*I don't know exactly what a prayer is.*

*I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down*

*into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,*

*how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,*

*which is what I have been doing all day.*

*Tell me, what else should I have done?*

*Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?*

*Tell me, what is it you plan to do*

*with your one wild and precious life?*

**—Mary Oliver**

I have often pondered that final question. What is it I plan to do with my one wild and precious life? What do you plan to do with yours? Whether you are nine or ninety years old, we always have the capacity to re-create ourselves. Take a moment to “be idle and blessed” and consider what brings you joy. How can you bring more joy to the world around you? Through your music, your art, your

garden, your chat with a neighbor, your cooking, or any small act of kindness? Each of you knows something, does something, that when shared is a pebble tossed onto the water—creating concentric circles moving ever outward. Have you been surprised by the impact of kindness and sharing in your one wild and precious life?

As we move back into worship in July, we will offer an opportunity for you to share some “God moments.” Consider whether you would like to offer some testimony about a unique and wonderful moment when you were surprised by joy. In a time of being idle, have you felt blessed? Can you share that in words for us, in worship? Or maybe your testimony will be about the one thing that you missed the most, the one thing that you never knew was so important—until you did not have it anymore. Our church family will be strengthened by your insight and faith. Be brave! Maybe being a stronger witness for your faith is what you want to do with your one wild precious life!

As always, I thank God for each and every one of you.

*Pastor Kim*





| Day | Name                     | Yrs. | Day | Name                        | Yrs. |
|-----|--------------------------|------|-----|-----------------------------|------|
| 2   | Ruth Ann and Jack Leib   | 60   | 21  | Sarah & Stephen Weaver, Jr. | 17   |
| 8   | Katrica and Todd Hinkle  | 25   | 24  | Karrie & Jeffrey Shehan Jr. | 16   |
| 8   | Donna and Leo Donnan     | 48   | 25  | Deb and Larry Dubs          | 38   |
| 10  | Billie and Justin Hagan  | 10   | 25  | Brianna & Jacob Crooks      | 5    |
| 12  | Marie and Ryan Smith     | 17   | 26  | Tessa and Douglas Hilyard   | 17   |
| 14  | Gail and John Coulson    | 47   | 27  | Donna and Jeffrey Becker    | 52   |
| 14  | Judith and Bill Foreman  | 57   | 27  | Bethany and Jason Leckrone  | 18   |
| 14  | Patricia and Earl Markle | 57   | 29  | Lorene and Victor Crooks    | 33   |
| 18  | Amy and David Ehrhart    | 22   |     |                             |      |

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



We would like to thank our family at Trinity for the past 8 months of love & support for William & Phyllis Warner through your thoughts, prayers, and cards of kindness and compassion. This has been a difficult time giving up our home after 64 years when a terminal cancer diagnosis forced the move into Brookside. We were not expecting Bill's passing from stroke, but our faith in God's plan for us is insurmountable. We know He holds our future! Please accept our humble thanks & gratitude. . . we will meet again one day round the table with Jesus!

In Christian Love,  
Phyllis (Gobrecht) Warner

*Submitted through her daughter, Carol Wilson, as Phyllis continues her journey at Brookside under Hospice Care. Peace & Love to each of you.*



**Linda L. Gebhart**

**Born**

**January 31, 1945**

**Died**

**June 3, 2020**



David Ernst

July 7

Harold Bair

July 15

Dale Alwine

July 21

**Congratulations, Isabella!**

Isabella Kapusta, daughter of Cassie O'Leary and granddaughter of Dorothy O'Leary, graduated from Hanover H.S. and will be attending Ghent University in Belgium where she will be studying to become a veterinarian.

**Meeting Reminder**

As activities and meetings begin to once again take place at the church, it is more important than ever that your activity or meeting be posted on the church calendar maintained by the church office.

Social distancing and other virus mitigation mandates mean even the smallest groups will need to use larger meeting spaces than they have used in the past and that our sextons will need to be given time to clean those spaces in between uses. In addition, the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall air conditioning needs to be programmed to come on at the appropriate time so the meeting or activity can take place in comfort. This is a manual process that occurs on an "as needed" basis determined by entries on the church calendar in an effort to keep our utility bills as low as possible.

Please contact the church office to be sure there is space available for your meeting or activity to take place. Please understand that some meetings or activities may need to occur on a different day or at a different time, or in a different area of the church than they have in the past in order to accommodate as many groups as possible while doing our best to keep everyone safe.

## *July 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, Steve & Ruth Weaver, Sextons

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

Bill Spangler, Church Historian

Trinity Nursery School, Tina McCole, Director

#### **E-Mail Address:**

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**For August Newsletter Articles**

**July 15, 2020**