



TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

JULY/AUG 2024

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



Lessons from hiking

Whether I'm hiking an easier stroll or a 20-mile trek, I've noticed parallels to my journey with Christ.

- This is my journey. Too often I waste time comparing my stride, pace or equipment to that of fellow hikers.
- I don't know what's around each bend, but God does. I can't let anxiety steal my joy.
- It's best to balance hiking in silence with sharing the trail with friends.
- I'll be sore tomorrow, and that's okay. Engaging new muscles leaves a reminder that growth is uncomfortable.
- Being prepared is good; being *too* prepared makes for a heavy backpack. I need to do my due diligence and let God handle the rest.
- It's not a race, so finishing quickly offers no reward. When I'm not in a hurry, I tend to notice more of God's blessings.
- I need to look up, enjoying God's creation as I let him determine my steps.

—Janna Firestone

Instruments of connection

Following Jesus involves much more than attending worship, as Pastor Stan Purdum points out in a sermon titled "The Hug": "The spiritual life, in addition to some outwardly religious and inwardly devotional acts, also includes such mundane activities as sending thank-you notes for gifts received, returning phone calls, greeting fellow worshipers Sunday after Sunday, surprising our spouse with a spontaneous act of appreciation, helping out at funeral dinners, seeking common ground during disagreements, listening to our children, working at not being a grouch, visiting friends and relatives and, perhaps, even sending an electronic hug. All those things are instruments of connection. The spiritual aspect is the intentionality behind them."

Please note:

The church office will be closed Friday, July 5th.
The office will re-open at 9am Monday, July 8th. Thank you!

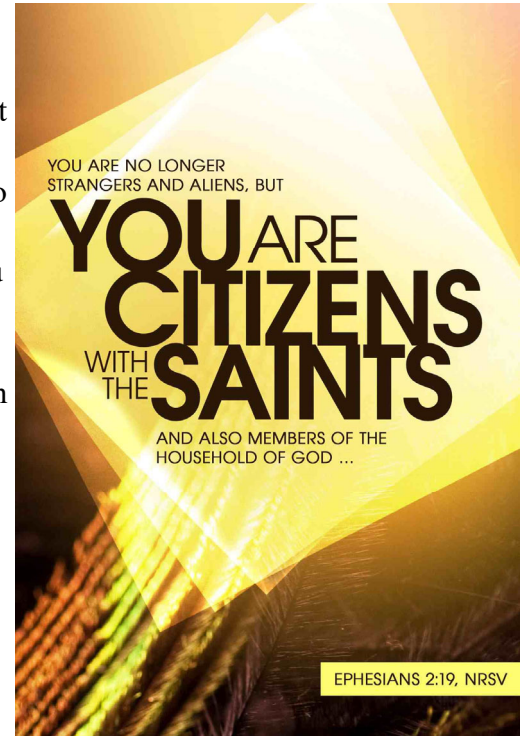


“... you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God...with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone, in him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the lord, whom you are also built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.”

(Ephesians 2:19, 20b-22 NRSV)

Greetings in Christ,

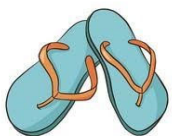
We have spent the Easter and Pentecost Seasons remembering that God has written his law upon our hearts through the love of Christ so that all people can know God. That continuous presence of the Word inside is the Spirit gifted to us by Christ after he left this earth to our charge. We have Jesus’ teachings and the call to witness that to others and the world as part of our covenant with Christ. But have you ever considered yourself as being constructed as a dwelling place for God? This is the proclamation of the author of Ephesians. He is reminding the church of his time and ours that we don’t simply rely on the Spirit and choose to listen or ignore it to our personal or corporate benefit or peril. Instead we are being built into a dwelling place for God. It is a process of the Holy One being intertwined in our lives as we live and grow in faith and connection. That proclamation sure puts things into a new perspective for all who may be wondering where to find God. Do we find God in church worship, mission, fellowship and activities? Yes, we do. Do we find God in serving, sharing and helping others? Yes, we do. Do we find God in using our gifts and abilities for the good of others and God’s world? Yes, we do. Do we find God in nature, in the breeze, the water, the trees, the sunset and creatures? Yes, we do. God is a part of all things. And in this proclamation, God is also becoming an integral part of us. The bigger question is are we making enough space for God to dwell within us? Are we regularly opening our hearts and minds to what God-in-us may be saying to us or urging us to do? That is a good theme for us to ponder this summer as life slows down a bit. Perhaps some time in deliberate prayer and reflection may lead us right to the heart of a deeper connection to God, which is perhaps... much closer than we ever imagined.



Blessings to all in their search for an amazing relationship with God.

Pastor Steve

Summer Worship Casual Sunday Schedule



For the Summer season our worship services will be a bit shorter and more casual. In that spirit we are declaring the month of July “*Casual Sunday Month*”. We welcome you to come to church in summer attire in the spirit of a family gathering or picnic. Let our hearts reflect the desire to be with God and in Christian fellowship together as we recognize the relaxed season of summer.



Dear Congregation,

My heart overflows with gratitude for your presence and participation in my Service of Installation. I definitely felt the welcome and the joy of the official ceremony of being called as Pastor of Trinity. There was a wonderful turn-out in both morning worship and the installation service. There was also a large presence of Pastors and Officials from the Association and Conference to take part in the event. It is a day I will remember as one of those highlights of ministry. I also deeply appreciate the cards and gifts and welcome. I feel blessed to be part of such a loving congregation.

Sincerely,

Pastor Steve



A big THANK YOU to all of our volunteers and children who took part in our annual VBS themed “**Deep Bible Adventure**”. Much fun and faith-building took place thanks to all who stepped-up to give the children a foundation of faith while having fun and building fellowship. It was wonderful to see the group in action using all of their gifts and abilities to foster a fledgling group of young Christian Children. Well done good and faithful servants of Christ!

Truly, Pr. Steve

Children's Church/Sunday School in the Fall

We are hoping to launch a children's Christian Education time during worship beginning this fall. The vision is to utilize a table or two in the social hall to teach the children who come to worship some basic Bible lessons, reinforced with a craft, project or game. We are looking for folks who would like to be part of leading, teaching, or assisting in this endeavor that would serve children of all ages. Rebuilding a children's program starts with a first step. This would be our first step in the goal of building a vital and vibrant program for years to come. If God is placing this on your heart, please see Pr. Steve for more information on how to help.

Penn Central Conference

The Penn Central Conference gathered in State College, PA from June 6-9. This gathering was in combination with the other three UCC Conferences of Pennsylvania. The focus was upon the possible merger of our four conferences to become the *Keystone Conference*. Many presentations and round-table discussions were held about the benefits and challenges in making this move. The combining of the conferences would alleviate some redundant expenses and allow the different regions to streamline areas of ministry, mission and service on our behalf and to our churches. With this new model the Associations will become more empowered with localized ministries serving to respond quickly to congregational needs within their purview, so conference officials may use their expertise to increase focus on the needs of the congregations and conference. A vote will be held by each Association on November 9th, to ratify the request to become one conference. A positive vote by all associations and conferences would lead to the resolution being sent to the General Synod of the United Church of Christ for vote in 2025. Trinity is part of the Penn Central Conference through the Gettysburg Association of the United Church of Christ. Who is the Association? You and me, the members of Trinity, and the members of all member churches in our Association. We associate as a group to increase our ministry reach and might when it comes to joint missions and witness, congregational health through training of pastors and lay leaders, youth ministries, and more. Association meetings are generally held twice a year in the spring and fall. Most recently, we have experienced the work of the Association through the installation of our pastor. The Association Committee on Ministry works with pastors and churches to determine pastoral fitness for ministry, boundary training, and continuing education. Associations also have been the place of workshops for churches wishing to revitalize or offering other programs of ministry interest. If you would like to attend a future Gettysburg Association meeting to learn more, please consider being one of our two delegates to represent Trinity along with Pr. Steve. Just speak to the pastor or a member of Consistory. We welcome your interest.



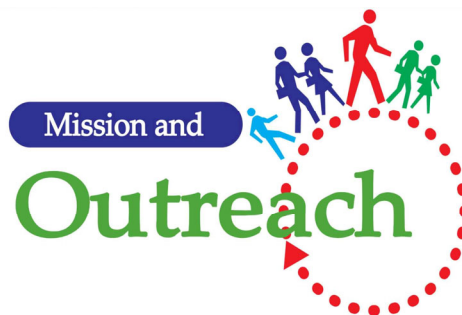
1000 Schools Mission project collection

On Sunday, June 15th, the Mission and Outreach Committee announced an initiative to support “1000 Schools” a project to build 1000 schools in Honduras to alleviate the cycle of poverty and improve communities. Luke Ostendorf-Snell, son of Pr. Steve, made a brief appeal for the program which has a chapter at University of Maryland. Luke belongs to the chapter and spent 12 days in Honduras in January of 2024, helping to build school #69 in Mangandi El Progreso. The idea is that it is students volunteering to help students to obtain a better life. He was so moved by the poverty he witnessed and the difference made by the program, that he felt compelled to increase his efforts to raise funds for the program because it is giving the children in rural Honduras a hand-up in improving their future, community by community as schools are built and children receive an education. Moneys collected at Trinity will go to the UMD chapter of 1000 Schools to help build more schools and send more volunteers. Every dollar helps as one dollar buys a cinderblock brick. For more information on the project or Luke’s experience, please pick up a copy of Luke’s presentation of the program outside the sanctuary, or visit online: [One Thousand Schools at UMD \(1000schoolsumd.org\)](https://www.1000schoolsumd.org). A donation jar can also be found in the narthex should you choose to contribute. Thank you for your consideration and support of missions that help the least of these in our society that Jesus spoke of so frequently in his teachings.

Highlights from Mission & Outreach meeting - June 3

- Discussed the last neighborhood supper on May 15 and decided to have another one September 18th. Will make sure there is no conflict with anyone else using Fellowship Hall.
- Thirty duffel bags for Hoffman Home procured by Steve Hutton were brought into the church and will be delivered to them. These bags will assist Hoffman residents who are in transition with moving their personal effects.
- Team will sponsor *Roots for Boots* luncheon June 11. Lee and volunteers will do the cooking and there is a donor willing to donate \$400 to cover the costs. M&O will sponsor two of these events per year.
- Team is planning a summer social “Sundae on a Wednesday” to be held July 17. Young entertainer Derek Reed will provide a show for the guests. We will put a donation basket out for this event. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.
- A summer M&O endeavor called “The Jared Box Project” will start soon. More specific details will be available shortly. This project provides boxed activity items for hospitalized children to help them through their stay. All completed boxes will go to UPMC Hanover.
- Discussed a fall project for *Church World Service* involving feminine hygiene kits for women who are suddenly displaced due to catastrophic events or turmoil and are having to live as refugees.
- The team met with Luke Ostendorf-Snell, Pastor Steve’s son, and learned about a project that he is passionate about called “One Thousand Schools.” This involves building 1000 schools across rural Honduras and training teachers. We will put the “jar” out for the entire summer to gather donations for his effort. This project will begin when Luke comes to Trinity on a Sunday morning to share more details with us. The date has yet to be determined at this time so stay tuned.

The next meeting will be brief and after worship on July 7.





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|--------------------|-----------|
| David Ernst | July 7 |
| Harold Bair | July 15 |
| Ada May Koehler | July 23 |
| Charlotte Hahn | July 31 |
| Evelyn Raubenstine | August 17 |



| Day | Name | Yrs. | Day | Name | Yrs. |
|-----|---------------------------|------|-----|-----------------------------|------|
| 2 | Ruth Ann and Jack Leib | 64 | 17 | Tomi and Richard Diehl | 56 |
| 7 | Diane and Thomas McCollum | 34 | 18 | Amy and David Ehrhart | 26 |
| 8 | Katrice and Todd Hinkle | 29 | 21 | Sarah & Stephen Weaver, Jr. | 21 |
| 8 | Donna and Leo Donnan | 52 | 24 | Karrie & Jeffrey Shehan Jr. | 20 |
| 10 | Dona and Maynard Warner | 64 | 25 | Deb and Larry Dubs | 42 |
| 10 | Billie and Justin Hagan | 14 | 25 | Brianna & Jacob Crooks | 9 |
| 12 | Marie and Ryan Smith | 21 | 25 | Terry and Robert Lutman | 15 |
| 14 | Gail and John Coulson | 51 | 26 | Tessa and Douglas Hilyard | 21 |
| 14 | Judith and Bill Foreman | 61 | 27 | Bethany and Jason Leckrone | 22 |
| 14 | Patricia and Earl Markle | 61 | 29 | Lorene and Victor Crooks | 37 |

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



| Day | Name | Yrs. | Day | Name | Yrs. |
|-----|---|------|-----|------------------------------|------|
| 2 | Mary and David Snyder | 49 | 11 | Debra and Randy Reichart | 51 |
| 2 | Tricia and Steven Ostendorf | 7 | 12 | Ann and R. James Rinker | 62 |
| 5 | Jodi and Larry Unger | 20 | 20 | Cathy and Edward Lund | 30 |
| 6 | Sharon Goldstein and Robert Dobrovolski | 4 | 22 | Elsie Louise and Julian Hall | 60 |
| 6 | Mark & Katarina Hoffman | 7 | 28 | Mary and Bill Braden | 58 |
| 9 | Henrietta and Richard Shue | 55 | | | |

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

Trinity's Pictorial Directory – It's Time for an Update!

What Can You Do to Help?

- Provide a recent photo of you and your family. You may take a photo and send it electronically by email to info@trinityucchanover.org or dbetlyon@gmail.com. If you would like, we can take your photo after church. (Diane Betlyon, Carol Wilson, & Lorene Crooks)
- Also, provide the information you wish to share in addition to your name such as your address, phone numbers, email addresses.
- Also needed are photos of Trinity organizations, committees, groups, events, etc.



July/August 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. Steven Ostendorf, Pastor
Mike Blottenberger, Admin. Assistant
Betsy Bristol, Secretary
Sue Seidenstricker, Director of Music
Tony Brallier, Larry Dubs, Ruth Weaver, Sextons
Trinity Nursery School, Tina McCole, Director

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**For September Newsletter Articles
August 15, 2024**