



TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

SEPTEMBER, 2020

Information:

Worship Schedule

Sunday Service

9:00am

Fellowship Time

10:00am

Sunday School

10:30am

Office Hours

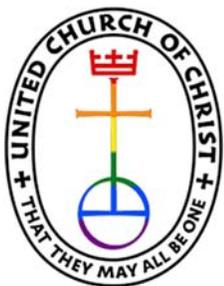
Mon.—Fri. 9am—1pm

Telephone

717 637-2233

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org



When God crosses our paths

Pastor and martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, “God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans by sending us people with claims and petitions.” Last spring, the whole world had plans canceled, first by Covid-19 and then by God “sending us people with claims and petitions.” Some needed prayers for healing or for coping with grief. Medical staff, teachers, pastors and others serving long hours needed support: meals, check-in calls, “thinking of you” cards. Parents working remotely while helping kids with distance-learning needed encouragement. Crucial non-profit work still required donations.

Pre-pandemic, you may not have realized that staying home or wearing a face mask could be a ministry. Or that sending a card expresses love in Jesus’ name. Or that buying takeout from a local restaurant can be a gift to the owners. When our calendars empty, God “crosses our paths” in new ways — both to be with us and to nudge us toward others (even if virtually, or 6 feet apart!).

Many parts, one body

Through the teaching, support, sacrifice, worship and commitment of the church, utterly ordinary people are enabled to do some rather extraordinary, even heroic acts, not on the basis of their own gifts and abilities, but rather by having a community capable of sustaining Christian virtue. The church enables us to be better people than we could have been if left to our own devices.



—Stanley Hauerwas and William Willimon,
Resident Aliens



A Message from Pastor Kim

Please note: I will be away on vacation August 27 to September 11. The church office has contact information for emergency coverage should it be needed.

Dear Friends:

I have always looked on September as a time of new beginnings. Whether in school or out of school, student or teacher, this time of year speaks to me of sharpened pencils, books that promise new knowledge, and of course—new shoes. How can one go forth into a new chapter of life with the same scuffed up shoes from last year? At least, that's how I justify it!



Of course, the problem this year is the great uncertainty with which we face so many things. Should we plan for, or how do we plan for, Advent and Christmas services? Can in-person worship safely continue if we have a second spike of corona virus infections? To what degree will the normal flu season complicate the pandemic and our community life? When will our groups, like Knit Wits or choir, be able to meet again? What about Sunday School? Weekday Bible study? How does the Nursery School function in this time?

Long range planning flies out the window when you have to continually adjust, postpone, or cancel so much of the church life we have always taken for granted. The wonder to me is that Trinity is managing to function at a pretty high level despite the uncertainty. We have an excellent group of lay leaders who are dedicated to keeping the church on task and moving forward with its ministries.

For instance, even as I write this, work has begun on a new parking lot behind the church. Our Property Committee stays on top of the myriad issues that confront the church. Sue Seidenstricker is planning a fall schedule of soloists and ensembles, so we can continue the wonderful program of special music that has spiritually fed us this summer. Tina McCole is moving heaven and earth to safely re-open Nursery School in September with new policies, class structure, and contingencies. Our coronavirus task force meets regularly to monitor both our own safety policies and the CDC and State guidelines. Our sextons have taken on additional duties to keep the church clean, and we have purchased special equipment for that purpose. Our faithful group of volunteers are once again serving a monthly meal at HACC. Our financial team has labored for the fiscal health of the church. And through it all, Consistory is at the helm, keeping the ship afloat!

In every age, the People of God have faced uncertain, challenging, even dangerous times. We should not feel singled out! The prophet Isaiah spoke to an anxious people when he reminded them to trust in God's inscrutable grace:

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. (Isaiah 55:8-9)

We face the living of these days with a cloud of witnesses about our shoulders. Ancestors in the faith who persevered and kept the faith no matter how difficult the circumstances. So, we take courage and recognize that there really is nothing new under the sun. There have always been challenges and ways to rise above them. Let this September be a time for spiritual renewal, a new beginning for your faith. And it's OK by me if you throw in a new pair of shoes in the bargain!

Peace, Pastor Kim



I would like to thank my many Trinity friends for the cards and other expressions of concern for me during my many months of illness. Also, thanks to Rev. Kim for her calls and visit, which were very much appreciated.

*Sincerely,
Yvonne Dickert*

To my Trinity friends:

I would like to thank everyone for the cards, prayers, and gifts in this difficult time since my cancer has returned. In the meantime, I am facing more surgery. Please do keep me in your prayers and I will keep you in my prayers.

Virginia Yost



Dorothy Hartlaub
Mary Louise Rau

September 8
September 21



Congratulations to Sharon Goldstein & Bob Dobrovolski on the occasion of their marriage Thursday, August 6. Best wishes for a beautiful life filled with wonderful memories!



Jordan King, son of Michelle Dickert and grandson of John & Yvonne Dickert, graduated from York College with a B.A. in Political Science.



SEPTEMBER

ANNIVERSARIES

Day	Name	Yrs.	Day	Name	Yrs.
3	Jennifer and Dwayne Sager	26	19	Beth and Adam Rabine	22
9	Renate and Craig Johnston	42	20	Tami and Douglas Cooper	17
10	Kelly and Michael Blouse	32	22	Susan and Frank Seidenstricker	46
14	Susan and Gregory Erb	20	25	Betsy and Ronald Bristol	28
15	Anna Mae and Dale Alwine	74	25	Lauren & Jacob Groft	5
17	Chris and Greg Gobrecht	32	25	Nicole and Shawn Miles	16
18	Joyce and Kenneth Heasley	27	27	Angela and Anthony Meoli	23
			29	Elaine and Karl Albin	41

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

With Sympathy

Drema L. Weaver

Born
April 9, 1950

Died
July 31, 2020

Volunteer Needed!

We are in need of a volunteer to work on a few bicycles in the Trinity Toy Workshop. If this is something that interests you or you would like more information, please call B.J. Rhodes at 717 637-5417.



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

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**For October Newsletter Articles
September 15, 2020**