



TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

OCTOBER, 2024

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



Total Immersion

In college, I took an American Sign Language class from a Deaf instructor who couldn't speak. On the first day, another staff member explained that we'd be experiencing total immersion. She left, and the classroom remained silently engaged for the rest of the semester.

Creatively, the instructor began by writing "same" and "different" on the whiteboard and demonstrating those signs. Then he took us through several examples where we were to use the signs to identify what was the same or different. That's how he taught ASL, graciously guiding us without audible voices. We embraced a brand-new approach to communicating.

The church can do that too. We can use "all that is within" us to praise God's holy name (Psalm 103:1). We can get creative and harness everything — all our senses — to worship.

This might mean removing distractions, learning a new style of music, using visual arts or engaging with a different culture — all while offering praise. Instead of feeling bound by what's familiar and comfortable, try to be immersed and all-in while worshipping the Lord!

—Janna Firestone

Common Ground

"Christianity was never intended to be a solo walk with God," says pastor Jeremy Basset. "A conversion to Christianity is also incorporation in the body of Christ, the church."

That's a fitting reminder as we observe World Communion Sunday in October. Christians don't take Holy Communion alone; the very name of this sacrament refers to unity with God and others. We don't baptize ourselves. We don't learn Scripture or Christian theology and history alone. We can't have Christian fellowship by ourselves.

The New Testament is clear that one cannot be a solitary Christian. We are members of Christ's body (Ephesians 5:30) and "belong to the family of believers" (Galatians 6:10, NIV). As you gather for worship and receive Holy Communion, thank God for "our common salvation" (Jude 3, ESV) granted to all followers of Jesus.

Upcoming Events



October

- Pastor Appreciation Month
- Oct 6 World Communion Day
- Food Drive for God's Meal Barrel

November

- Nov 2 Pot Pie Sale
- Nov 3 All Saints Sunday
- Nov 8-9 Granny's Second Chance Boutique

“And they were bringing Children to Jesus, that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it he was indignant, and said to them, ‘Let the children come to me and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.’ And then he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.”

(Mark 10:13-16 NRSV)

Greetings in Christ to All!

As we look forward to new days with cooler weather and comfort foods, we are reminded of the blessings of harvest season. While farmers bring in their crops we celebrate the bounty of a spiritual harvest here at Trinity. The congregation continues to grow in numbers and spirit. And now a long-held hope of many has come to fruition. On Sunday, September 8th we launched our Children’s Church program, blessing teachers and five students, who will embark on learning the faith that has sustained us as Christ’s followers. We are grateful for the teachers who stepped forward: Vic & Lorene Crooks, Barry & Kate Garland, Abby & Bill Reichart, Matthew Hutton and Sheila Wiest. These teams of teachers will rotate welcoming the children in the name and spirit of Christ each Sunday. They are answering Jesus’ call to welcome the little ones in faith. Let us all encourage children, grandchildren, and folks you know with children to come and be a part of this growing ministry of faith at Trinity.

Let the little children come to me ...
it is to such as these that the
kingdom of God belongs.

Mark 10:14, NRSV



The new worship format began on September 15th. We welcomed back our wonderful choir, with much thanks to those who provided special music during the summer. Back in the service is weekly confession and additional readings of scripture from the weekly lectionary (see article titled Worship Ways for additional information). The format may experience some fine-tuning to make room for special rites, sacraments and celebrations throughout the season, and to aid in the worship experience we seek to provide.

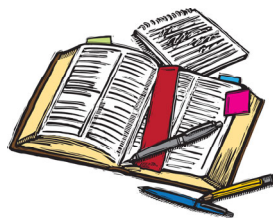
The congregation continues to experience a high degree of spiritual energy. We continue to serve the larger community and even the world, through special missions that are making a difference to veterans, the poor, the homeless, as well as adults and children through: the PAL Luncheon Program; Roots for Boots; The Toy Workshop; Hanover Area Council of Churches shelter; Jarrod Boxes; Shawl Ministry; Community Meals; Funeral Suppers. These are some of the mission programs that continued through-out the Summer and into the fall season. Thanks to all who serve as the hands of Christ in our midst to help make these missions a success. The new 1000Schools project fundraiser netted \$1,500 toward the construction of a new school in poor communities in Honduras. It will provide 1500 cinderblock bricks. Many thanks to all who supported this latest initiative of helping to provide schools in Honduras. We will look for an update next year to identify the school this community helped to build. (cont’d.)

We continue to see good attendance on Sunday. We also continue to add to the rolls of our congregation. We hope to have another new member Sunday in October. If there is anyone you know who is interested in joining, or reactivating their membership at Trinity, please have them speak to Pastor Steve for more information on the various ways of joining Trinity UCC.

Now let us be about the work of the church together. Let us grow our spiritual lives that bring us closer to Christ. Let us serve as we are called to serve the least of these and the little ones. And let us be the people that Christ has called us to be in our time.

May God bless us in these endeavors.

Pastor Steve



Worship Ways: A Column on Aspects of Sunday Worship

Did you know the weekly scripture lessons are part of a three-year cycle of selected lessons?

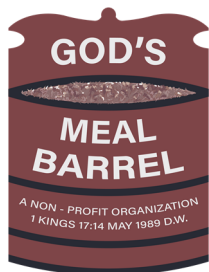
The Revised Common Lectionary, established in 1992, is a three-year cycle of lessons which touches upon all the major themes and teachings of Holy Scripture. The lessons were settled upon by a forum of theologians, scholars, and ministers (called the Consultation on Common Texts). The group met across multiple years moved by the Spirit to focus upon church renewal and spiritual growth together as the larger church. The outcome was the Revised Common Lectionary launched at the start of Advent 1992. The three-year cycle, Years A, B, and C, repeat once completed. We are currently in year B. While the readings of the Revised Common Lectionary were set 32 years ago, it is evident that the Holy Spirit was present with the gathered forum. On occasion the lessons seem to be speaking directly to our current situation as if selected just days before our Sunday service. And while pastors do sometimes use other lessons to fit themes or Special Sermon Series, most main-line protestant churches use this lectionary series in the USA and Canada.

So when it seem that the lessons were picked just for our time and circumstance, listen closely. God may be speaking to us with special purpose, for only God can see the past, present, and future, all at once and speak to our current needs and situations through the Holy Written Word. I call these intersections of lessons and current events – God winks, and God’s Words of Wisdom to his people for our time. I believe these intersections often point us to the way of Christ and salvation: being ‘awakened to’ the situation at hand and offering guidance; and keeping us on the heavenly path of salvation.



Highlights from September Mission & Outreach Meeting

- We assembled 23 Jared Boxes. These boxes will be given to Hanover's UPMC Pediatric Unit to benefit hospitalized preschool boys and girls.
- A \$500 donation for the Hoffman Home Gala on November 1st was approved.
- A food drive will be held for God's Meal Barrel during the month of October.
- A donation of \$500 for God's Meal Barrel to purchase hams/turkeys for the upcoming holiday season was approved.
- The 1000 Schools project raised \$1,500. A check will be presented to Luke Ostendorf-Snell and M&O will also help with his airfare to Honduras.



October Food Drive

During the month of October, Mission & Outreach will be holding a food drive for God's Meal Barrel. Any donations can be placed in a bag in the rear of Fellowship Hall. Please remember non-perishable items only and no institutional-sized canned goods. Some items currently in need are canned vegetables, pasta & sauce, mac-n-cheese, cereal, canned fruit, and tuna.

Pot Pie Take Out

Mark the date on your calendar! On Saturday, November 2, the Men of Trinity are sponsoring a take-out only chicken pot pie dinner at 10:00 am. Come early to be sure you get yours!

Granny's Second Chance Boutique

The next Granny's Second Chance Boutique will be November 8th from 12-6, and November 9th from 8-12. There will be a bake sale and food available for purchase on both days. If you'd like to donate items, please remember no electronics, clothing, or magazines. Please call prior to dropping off any large items.

Contact Lee Bartlett to make arrangements to donate or volunteer.





All Saints/Remembrance Sunday

We will celebrate All Saints/Remembrance Sunday November 3rd, as we explore the transience of life and God’s compassion. As in the past you are invited to bring a photo of a departed loved one for display. We will seek to be surrounded by a ‘cloud of witnesses’ from the past as we worship. The sacrament of Holy Communion will also be celebrated that day.

Trinity,

I would like to thank everyone for listening to the 1000Schools’ story and their contributions to the cause. \$1500 is equivalent to around 1,500 bricks which will go to the next school we are assigned. The school I helped build last winter (School 69) was completed which is why our school chapter is fundraising for the next one. I will update the church when we find out our school.



*Thanks!
Luke*



Day	Name	Yrs.	Day	Name	Yrs.
1	Melinda and Don Craumer	41	16	Judy and Steven Steinke	48
6	Susan and Gregory Alwine	45	17	Brad & Susan Eline	53
7	Diane and Richard Betlyon	52	23	Doreen & Richard Bankert	42
7	Deborah and Garry Unger	46	24	Beverly and Ray Hahn	70
7	Lisa and James Helt	35	26	Heather and Andrew Sabaka	22
9	Jeannette and Larry Hart	58	27	Mandi and David Smith	39
16	Sally and Michael Hampton	54			

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

October 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
Morgan Fleeger, Secretary
Sue Seidenstricker, Director of Music
Tony Brallier, Larry Dubs, Ruth Weaver, Sextons
Trinity Nursery School, Tina McCole, Director

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***For November Newsletter Articles
October 15, 2024***