



TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

OCTOBER, 2025

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

Website

trinityucchanover.org

Facebook

"Trinity United Church of Christ"



Holy Interruptions

Most of us are pretty good at planning—schedules, to-do lists, calendars filled to the brim. But what happens when God steps in with an unexpected detour?

Throughout Scripture, God often moved in the interruptions.

Moses was tending sheep when he saw a burning bush. Mary was simply living her life when an angel appeared. Even Jesus was frequently "interrupted" by people seeking healing or hope—and He never turned them away.

"Interruptible faith" is a posture of openness. It's saying, "Lord, here's my plan—but I trust Yours more." It means slowing down, paying attention, and being willing to let God rearrange our day for His greater purpose.

Proverbs 16:9 (NIV) reminds us, *"In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."* May we have the courage to let Him.



The Sounds of Worship

Have you ever paused to listen — really listen — to the world around you?

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" (Psalm 98:4, ESV)

The hum of morning birdsong. The laughter of children. The comforting voice of a friend. Even the quiet moments of stillness. These aren't just background noise — they're invitations to worship.



God designed a world that sings. Worship isn't limited to Sunday mornings or formal songs; it's woven into the everyday moments that tune our hearts to Him. And when we pause to truly hear it, we are drawn into praise, right where we are.

What sound lifts your heart toward God today? Take a moment to listen. Let it remind you of His love and nearness.

World Communion Sunday will be held on Sunday, October 5th, with special prayers for unity and the sharing of Christ's table with Christians around the world. Please mark your calendars to be present for this special service of worship and prayer.



2025 A Season of Giving to God and Others

“Obedience to Christ as a form of Giving to God and Others”

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” John 14:15 NRSVue

Dear Friends,

As we enter the fall season of faith, we continue in dialogue about a ‘year of giving’ by focusing upon obedience to Christ. I believe that obedience to Christ’s commands is a form of giving to God. By being obedient to Christ’s teachings and commands we automatically structure our life and daily actions around God’s plan for humanity rather than our own. Our time becomes ‘time given to God’ as we look toward what Christ would have us to do in any particular situation.

For example: When preparing to leave the house, a friend calls and needs to talk over a problem or crisis you may have wisdom about. Staying on the phone means getting behind on your schedule for the day, but taking the call means helping someone in need. Christ would tell his disciples to help others first and then go on with the daily schedule. Choosing that path honors Christ’s teachings and is a giving of your time to God and to others, in this case the friend in need.

Jesus gives, all who follow him, the ways of life that we are intended to live. He teaches, preaches, and demonstrates all of these lessons in the gospels and then bids us to follow. He also lets us know that if we truly love him and God, we will keep his commandments. So following his teachings and examples in our daily process of living is how we show love for God and Christ. We give of ourselves. We give of our time. We give of our energy and material goods. All as a gift to God, and summarily...a gift to others.

The apostle Paul would even go so far as to say obedience to God in Christ is our worship. His letter to the Romans reads: *“I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God’s mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:1-2 NRSVue)*

Living in obedience to Christ is the ultimate form of giving because it not only includes the giving of ourselves to God through time, energy, focus and sacrifice, but ultimately includes others around us. Many times, it is those in some sort of need around us who benefit from our faithfulness to Christ and the actions we perform on Christ’s behalf. Through giving obedience to Christ, we fulfil the great command: *“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 10:27 NRSVue)*

May this type of giving guide us as followers of Christ each day.

Pastor Steve

Neighbor's In Need Special Offering will be collected on Sunday, October 5th.

Envelopes for the offering will be in the bulletins on the previous Sunday.



Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. -Galatians 6:2

Joining together in the struggle for justice and peace

Dear friends,

In 2025 congregations across the United Church of Christ will collect the Neighbors in Need offering. This thought gives me great hope. It is easy to think of ministry as a fractured enterprise, where every church is isolated on its own. Yet I know through the Special Mission Offerings of the UCC, we are stronger together. The money collected through the Neighbors in Need offering is shared, with two-thirds benefiting the justice and witness ministries of the UCC, including grants awarded for direct service and advocacy initiatives of local congregations and partners. One-third of the offering benefits the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). I encourage you to collect this offering in your congregation. Share stories of what the UCC's Office of Public Policy and Advocacy is doing in Washington, D.C., or highlight the long-term partnership and witness the whole of the United Church of Christ has with CAIM. If you have any questions about Neighbors in Need, or any of our Special Mission Offerings, I invite you to be in touch. You can reach me at mcdonaldr@ucc.org. May God bless our shared ministry!

Rev. Rachel McDonald

The Rev. Rachel McDonald works for the National Ministries of the UCC as Generosity Officer, OCWM and Special Mission Offerings. The four Special Mission Offerings of the United Church of Christ are One Great Hour of Sharing, Strengthen the Church, Neighbors in Need, and the Christmas Fund. Together, they demonstrate a commitment to building a just world for all.

Blessing of the Pets Service

On Sunday, October 19th there will be a special blessing of the pets service at 10:30 A.M. under the portico (weather permitting). The regular morning worship service will be slightly shortened to allow folks in attendance to retrieve their pets from home and return for this special short service of song, prayer, lesson, and blessing. Whatever pet you bring will be afforded a blessing and given a pet blessing token. In the event you have too many pets or one that doesn't do well in crowds, you may also bring a picture likeness of your pet for blessing. We do this in honor of God's gift of animal companions to be a blessing in our lives. This event is normally held in October in honor of the life of St. Francis of Assisi who was the patron saint of the animals in God's creation. We gather to celebrate the gift of these fellow creatures on earth who bring joy, love and purpose into our lives.



Granny's Second Chance Boutique

Mark your calendars! Granny's Second Chance Boutique is coming up on November 14th and 15th. If you'd like to donate items, please remember no electronics, clothes, or magazines. Please call prior to dropping off any large items. Contact Lee Bartlett to make arrangements to donate or volunteer.

Neighborhood Supper

Mission & Outreach will be hosting the next Neighborhood Supper on Wednesday, October 15th at 6:00pm. Bring your friends, your family, your barista, and the dog walker. All are welcome! To help give us an idea of how much food will be needed, sign up sheets are in the narthex. See you there!



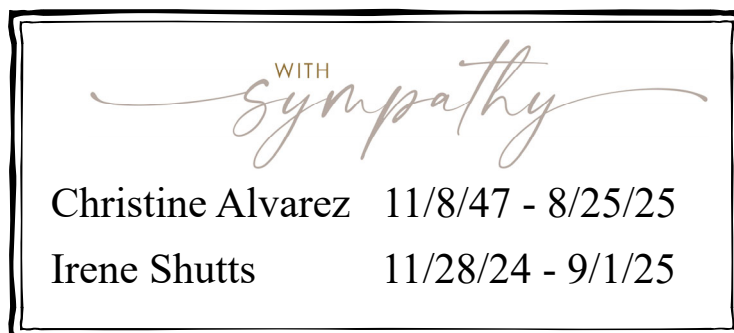
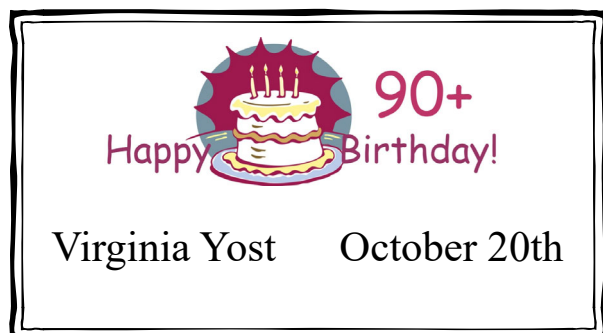
Highlights from Mission & Outreach September Meeting

- Neighborhood meal October 15 at 6:00 p.m. Taco menu.
- Movie Nite will be November 5 at 6:30 p.m.
- God's Meal Barrel food drive was a success. Goods delivered Friday, Sept. 5.
- Will discuss in October monetary donation for GMB for holiday meats. (Caring for 213 families)
- Voted to assist HACC in purchasing folding cots for the cold weather shelter. Will donate \$2,500.
- Texas Flood Relief Jar Summer Project totaled \$429.00. M&O will add funds to this balance to reach \$2,000. This money will be sent to Kerr County Relief in Texas. 98% of the donations reach the victims.
- Discussed aiding Mary Heath (HACC employee) with her and her husband's Thanksgiving Dinner for street people. Any decision will be made at October's meeting.
- Lorene will check with Lincoln Intermediate Unit concerning adding it to our guidance counselor assistance aid. We at present help Hanover and South Western.
- Will discuss contribution to Hoffman Homes Gala at October meeting.
- Betsy will check into procuring a bulletin board for the Narthex. This board will be at the foot of the balcony stairway and will be used for community events, named the "Community Corner."
- M&O will host Fellowship Time October 26.
- M&O will donate \$250 to Safe Home for purchasing cleaning items, etc.



Day	Name	Yrs.	Day	Name	Yrs.
1	Melinda and Don Craumer	42	16	Sally and Michael Hampton	55
6	Susan and Gregory Alwine	46	16	Judy and Steven Steinke	49
7	Diane and Richard Betlyon	53	17	Brad & Susan Eline	54
7	Deborah and Garry Unger	47	23	Doreen & Richard Bankert	43
7	Lisa and James Helt	36	24	Beverly and Ray Hahn	71
9	Jeannette and Larry Hart	59	26	Heather and Andrew Sabaka	23

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



Pastor Appreciation Month



The month of October is "Pastor and Clergy Appreciation Month". It is a time to say thanks and to show how much you care and appreciate what they do. Pastors work selflessly and tirelessly to give guidance and support both emotionally and spiritually. Let's show our love and gratitude for Pastor Steve, and our guest pastors, this month! Drop off a note of thanks, share a favorite memory or simply tell them how they've made a difference. We'll have a drop off container in the narthex all month long or feel free to drop it off in the office.



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, 2025***