



TRINITY TIMES

VOLUME 11

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

NOVEMBER, 2021

General Information:

Sunday Service
9:00am

Fellowship Time
10:00am

Sunday School
10:30am

Office Hours
Mon-Fri 9am-1pm

Telephone
717 637-2233

Church e-mail
info@trinityucc
hanover.org



A blessing or a curse?

Holocaust survivor and devout Christian Corrie ten Boom recounts how her sister Betsie thanked God for the fleas infesting their packed barracks. When Corrie resisted the idea, Betsie pointed out that 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says to “give thanks in all circumstances.”

Still, Corrie wasn’t convinced — until the sisters realized the infestation kept the guards away, giving prisoners in those quarters freedom to worship and pray. The biting pests, which seemed like added misery, became a blessing.

Anger and bitterness sometimes cloud our vision, causing us to forget to thank God *in* all situations, though not necessarily for them. Other times we don’t wait long enough for blessings to be revealed. But faith is like waiting through a storm, knowing a rainbow is coming eventually. Meanwhile, the Lord holds an umbrella for us, and the closer with him we walk, the less wet we’ll get.

—Julie Lee

Second Chance Boutique

Second Chance Boutique will take place from 12-6pm on Friday, November 12th and 8am-1pm on Saturday, November 13th. If you have items to donate, please contact Lee Bartlett to make arrangements for drop-off or pickup. Lee can be reached at (410) 746-2945. Baked goods are also welcomed. Please, no clothes or electronics.



Special dates

All Saints’ Day, *November 1, 2021*
Daylight-Saving Time ends, *November 7, 2021*
Veterans Day, *November 11, 2021*
Thanksgiving Day, *November 25, 2021*
First Sunday of Advent, *November 28, 2021*



November 7

“And It Was Very Good”

The first chapter of Genesis, we read that God created all that there is, and proclaimed it “very good.” We are stewards of that creation, the heirs of its bounty and beauty. We should be overwhelmed at the awesome responsibility placed in our hands. We are charged by God with securing that beauty and bounty for future generations. In my opinion, we humans are doing a lousy job. We take more and more, and think less and less about the long-term consequences. The climate and environmental crises are real, and growing worse.

In a recent issue of *Christian Century*, there was a provocative piece written by Bethany Sollereeder. She suggests we must give up thinking of ourselves as the masters over creation and see ourselves as part of the community of all God’s creatures here on Earth. We must consider the question of how we understand our role and responsibility toward other life. “A thoroughly Christian position might maintain that it is our duty to take up a self-sacrificial stance toward other life—like Jesus, who laid down his life for others...The central importance of humans in the Bible does not mean that humans should live like kings on the back of the rest of creation, looking always and only toward their own flourishing. The Christian model of rulership is just the opposite: the greatest is the one who serves and gives themselves up for others.”

The 51 billion tons of carbon dioxide we pump yearly into the air is wrapping an atmospheric blanket around the earth. This is causing the polar sea ice to melt, oceans to rise, storms to intensify, and heat records to be broken annually. The *what to do* about the environmental and climate crisis in which we are ensnared is relatively simple. Plant more trees, eat less meat, use less stuff, create less carbon dioxide. Scientists suggest that these actions will slow the rate of climate change and give all creatures a chance to adapt to the new normal. It is too late to reverse the climate change. But those actions will give us time to invent or adopt new technologies that will help us all to live better, in a new climate.



The Church has a unique role to play in the healing of our planet. We are the Resurrected Body of Christ, so we should be used to seeing new possibilities and life rising from death! In the church we can cultivate and share new skills that will build healthy, sustainable communities. The church should be a place where difficult and contentious conversations can take place in a way that all points of view can be heard and considered. We are not all going to agree on the solutions to this crisis, who is responsible for the crisis, and how we will pay for solutions. **But we must all agree that there is a crisis and that we must act now.**

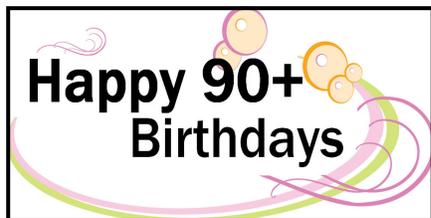
Trinity is bringing back the blue recycling barrel in the kitchen and looking for more eco-friendly paper products. I would like to suggest that we begin using coffee that is rain-forest certified...in other words the coffee is grown in shade rather than in a sunny plantation where the rain forest has been cut down. Maybe these are tiny changes, but we know that that gospel is all about first steps. The mustard seed that grows into the largest shrub, the yeast that pervades all the flour. A little at a time the kingdom comes, and a little at a time we can be part of God’s healing of our planet. And it can be very good again!

Pastor Kim



Day	Name	Yrs.	Day	Name	Yrs.
3	Beth and Rick Forry	36	19	Ann and Michael Farley	44
4	Linda and Bruce Markle	43	22	Sharon and Keith Raubenstine	41
4	Debra and Kenneth Wentz	43	22	Marcia and David Forsythe	34
4	Corrie and Jim Bankert	11	23	Barbara and Donald Rosenzweig	64
5	Denise and Bradley Geiman	27	23	Belinda and Steve Sabaka	52
9	Wendy and Ricky Cover	41	25	Patricia and William Still	54
11	Kimberly and Randy Kessler	44	28	Starlett and Eric Hood	34
13	Danielle and Larry Hagan	17			

Please contact the church office at 637-2233 if your name was omitted or you wish to make changes.



Carla Rohrbaugh	November 10
Nancy Shultz	November 17
Irene Shutts	November 28



Offering Envelopes 2022

Offering envelopes for 2022 will be available in the narthex extended beginning Sunday, December 5. The office staff would appreciate if you can pick up your envelopes and anyone else's that you might be able to deliver. The boxes are filed in alphabetical order.

From Acorn to Oak

“From little acorns mighty oaks do grow” is an enduring proverb that gives believers hope for their future in God’s Kingdom. We should all strive to become the uncommon acorn—the one that develops into a majestic oak with limbs reaching out to a hurting world.

It was a brilliant morning in late summer, and all was well across the woodsy preserve. The warmth of the rising sun was starting to get the upper hand. A cool, light fog was lifting. Dotting the sloping hillsides were oaks, their branches reaching up as though they were stretching after a good night’s sleep.

God the botanist blessed the earth with majestic beauty when He created oak trees. Rising and spreading like gigantic umbrellas, these trees offer shade, shelter and the gift of acorns for hungry animals.

Hanging from oak branches like tiny Christmas ornaments, average acorns aren’t even 2 inches from top to bottom. Experts say the trees generally start producing acorns after 10 to 20 years, although in a dense forest setting, an oak may not produce acorns for up to 50 years. A mature oak yields at most 2,000 acorns a year, but only one acorn in 10,000 develops into one of these iconic trees. This means that every oak tree is something of a miracle or, at least, a mathematical rarity.

What happens to all the leftover acorns? Most are eaten by wildlife, echoing Jesus’ words about how His Father feeds even the birds (Matthew 6:26). The treasure inside—about the size of a grape—contains a hefty supply of protein, fats and carbohydrates. This is daily bread to more than 100 species, including squirrels, wild turkeys, deer and black bears. For many of these creatures, acorns make the difference between winter survival and starvation.



An acorn begins as a collection of cells on a twig. Flowers form, some male and some female. When it’s time for pollination, the process is driven by the wind rather than by bees. Breezes cast the pollen of male flowers into the air.

When oaks release pollen, you’ll often see a yellow dust coating car windows and outdoor furniture. Other pollen grains land on the sticky opening of the female oak flower, and transformation begins. The base of the female bloom becomes the nutty base of the acorn; the blossom’s petals and sepals become the woody cap on top.

Some scientists are baffled by the unpredictable cycle of acorn production. There’s no consistent link between growing conditions and the number of acorns dropped. One year, oaks produce bumper crops; the next there may be few. Most of the time, drought diminishes crop size. But there are other times when conditions are perfect—yet few acorns form.

This mystery reveals the handiwork of God, who orchestrates the times and seasons to His purposes. He knows when the animal population needs an increase in food, and He also knows when it’s time to start new trees. The Lord has been tending oaks for a very long time.

(excerpt from *Life:Beautiful* magazine, written by Steve Cooper)

November Sundays	7	14	21	28
	Communion/ All Saints' Sunday	Recognition of Veterans/Christy Lucas-speaker	Reign of Christ	Adv 1
Lay Leader	Grant Reichart	Lorene Crooks	Lee Bartlett	Doug Cooper
Altar Flower Sponsor	Open	Open	Open	Open
Chancel Flower Sponsor	Rohrbaugh	Open	Sabaka	Open
Bulletin Sponsor	Sanders	Rhodes	Wilson	Rau

Please call the church office to schedule a flower or bulletin dedication for any available date. The cost is \$40 for altar flowers and \$25 for pedestal arrangements (plus tax), and \$20 for bulletins.

November 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.*

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**For December Newsletter Articles
November 15, 2021**