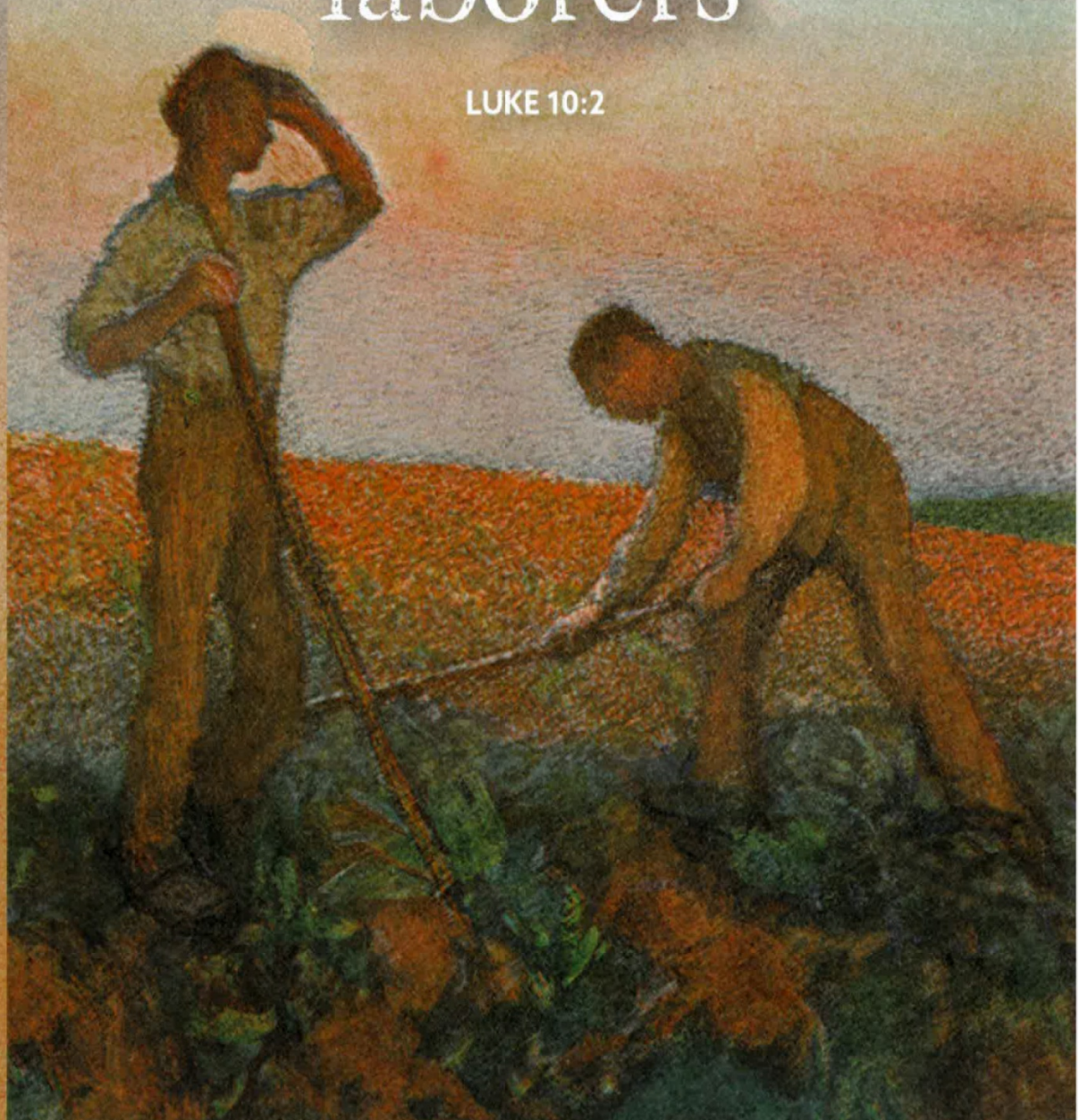


Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers

LUKE 10:2



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520
717-569-1632

Website: www.trinityeastpete.org E-Mail: secretary@trinityeastpete.org

The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor

The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission

Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director

Dr. Robert T. Adams, Summer Supply Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Michael Querry, Sexton

Mrs. Amy Grube, Preschool Director

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.

Welcome all visitors! We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. **Activity bags for children can be found in the Narthex.** Please sign our guest book in the Narthex and receive a gift of Trinity Bread from our greeters. If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin.

Welcome to the Eucharist! All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion.

Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.

HEARING ASSISTED DEVICES –If you have trouble with hearing, please check with one of the ushers for a Hearing Assist Sound Receiver.

BY YOUR SILENCE OTHERS MAY HEAR THE STILL SMALL VOICE OF GOD!

Prayer As You Enter: *O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*



CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



TRINITY U.C.C. VISION STATEMENT:

All will know the love of God through the teachings of Jesus!!

Trinity U.C.C. is called by God to:

- Share God's love with our community*
 - Serve God's children*
 - Bring healing and wholeness to those in need*
 - Share the Gospel in liturgy, music, and study*
-

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The realm of God has come near. Enter this time of worship with joyous expectation.

We will extol you, O God, for you have drawn us up. You rescued us from the pit and restored us to life.

Rejoice in the work you are given to do. Give thanks that your names are known to God.

We will praise you, O God, and not be silent. We will give thanks to you forever.

In the Acts of the Apostles, we read that as the church was gathered, often in the homes of believers, Christians devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and community, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers.

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, we gather at your table to know you in the breaking of the bread.

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said: You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, but we fear the Spirit's power.

Let us confess our slowness to embrace the new life of the Spirit.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Baptized in Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. We confess all of this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

ACT OF PRAISE

O God, open my lips.

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

COLLECT FOR FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

Gracious God, our helper, we greet you this morning with joy and thanksgiving. We welcome and anticipate your teaching. Show us this day what you would have us do. Whether it be great or small, we want to do what you command. Let our ears be attentive to your Word, and our hearts be responsive to the opportunities you grant us to bear one another's burdens in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 66:10-14

Those who returned from the exile found that the hopes for the glorious restoration of Judah were not completely fulfilled. For these disappointed people, the prophet envisions salvation in the image of a nursing woman. Mother Jerusalem and a mothering God remind the community how they are sustained and supported.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALTER

Psalms 66:1-9

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.

All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name."
Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.
There we rejoiced in him, who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch
on the nations—let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard,
Who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

THE SECOND LESSON

Galatians 6:1-16

In the close of his letter to the Galatians, Paul encourages them to live as people made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Here Paul offers practical advice about how believers exercise common concern for one other in "the family of faith."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Jesus commissions harvesters and laborers to go where he would go and do what he would do. Risking hardship and danger in exchange for the experience of great joy, they offer peace and healing as signs that the reign of God is near.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, and has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PEOPLE’S OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

With gratitude for your gracious favor, O God, we dedicate these gifts. May they help others as we have been helped. May they reach out in a spirit of gentleness to restore to the community those who are alienated. May they announce to the world that the realm of God is among us, waiting to be claimed. By these resources, may your name be praised here and in other places. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal and triune God, whom we worship as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In Jesus Christ you spoke the word that brought the world into being. By the Holy Spirit you brought order out of chaos and breathed life into your creatures. In your great love, you stood by us in spite of our disobedience, correcting us with gracious reproof, and welcoming us again into your loving embrace. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sings to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God, Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Born of Mary, he came to dwell among us, full of grace and truth. To all who believed, he gave power to become your children. In ministry among your own Jesus cared for all, forgiving their failures, healing their hurts, and nurturing their faith, giving himself in utter sacrifice for those he loved. He inspired ordinary people to Spirit-filled living and displayed in his life, death, and rising again to the power of your Spirit.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

The Bread of Life, broken for us.

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.

RESURRECTION ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is offered for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

RECEIVING THE GIFTS OF GOD

(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen." Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements at the back of the sanctuary and commune in your pew or ask someone near you to have the pastor and assistant come to you in the pew. The pastor will offer a blessing everyone has communed. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.)

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

You send your church into the world with a message of peace. Center the whole church in this peace, and strengthen our faith by the example of all those who creatively and faithfully proclaim your good news. Bless all who will be participating in church camp. May this be a time of renewal for them. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

All the earth sings out your name. Inspire your people to drink deeply from the beauty of all your creation. When ecosystems are wounded, bring your healing. When our actions endanger the survival of other species, curb our greed and waste. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You call us to work for the good of all. Give resolve to those who lead, that they do not grow weary in doing what is right. Guide them to seek peace between nations and freedom for all people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your harvest is plentiful, O God. Make us laborers and companions with one another in this assembly. Send your peace to rest upon us, heal divisions among us, and open our hearts to receive one another as gifts from you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

As a mother comforts her child, so you comfort us. Bring this comfort to those in any pain. Carry your people when grief is heavy, and lift burdens of shame and self-doubt. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Gracious God, may we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by **Sue Bowman** in honor of the members of Trinity.

The Baptismal Font Flowers are given by the **Fern Ashby estate** “*in honor of the men and women serving in the armed forces and in memory of those who have served.*”

The Worship Aids are given by **Dottie Schadt** in honor of the freedom we celebrate on July 4th.

Attendance for Sun., June 29	7:45–19	9:30–64	TOTAL – 83
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Ministering Today

Preacher	Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin
Lector	Jeff Hackenberger
Money Counters	Diane Rice, Karen Olley, George DeLong, Jodi Keller
Altar Guild	Anita Rohrer, Charlene Cristy, Hedwig Hunsicker, Nancy Enders
Building Trustee	Pat Sensenig
Ministries	Card Church Staff (Carol/Pastor) Called to Care Nancy Enders Visitation Janice Jenkins

Happy Birthday!

Today – David Connor, Matthew Wagner
Wednesday – Norma Lucabaugh, Rev. Sandy Morris, Janet Sweigart, Lexi Weeber, Evelyn DeLong
Friday – Michael Slechta, Mary Lou Sturgis

This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)

Monday	7:00 PM – Music Committee
Tuesday	1:30 PM – Grief Group 7:00 PM – Grief Group
Wednesday	9:30 AM – Stewardship Committee – Owens' home 11:00 AM – Evangelism Committee 7:00 PM – Executive Committee
Friday	4:00 PM – Lichtenwalner Wedding Carol Off
Saturday	8: 00 PM – Alanon/AA
Sunday	7:45 AM – Eucharist 9:30 AM – Worship 4:00 PM – Friendship Fest

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

MEMBERS

Rick Mowrer	Rev. Ken Trauger	Donna Zirkel
Ron & Donna Denlinger	Rev. Dr. Carrie Call	John Shelsky
Janice Jenkins	Marge Burger	Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman
Rhonda Hartenstine	Joann Peck	Scott & Jane Owens
The Lehman family	Mary Lou Shaab	Carmen & Jerry Richards
Donna Wolf & Family	George & Ellie Latsha	Himelwright Family
Sam Minder III	Betsy Bailey	Hank Fox
Rev. Bob Musser	Pat Seachrist	Danielle Huggins Holbein
Betty Fogle	Betty Tyndall & family	Michael McDonough
Denise Huggins	Erika Otthofer	Don Miller
Ron Becker	Joann & Dawn Garvin	Bob & Marlyn Wible
Arlene Hoxworth	Mary Lou Sturgis	Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline
Pastor Harry Royer	Mid Gockley	Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman
Kathleen Sensenig Adams	Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen	

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of Sue Blumenschein (cousin of Bud McCarty)
Rev. Pam Illick & family (pastor of Zion Lutheran, East Petersburg)
Janet Latsha (sister-in-law of George & Ellie Latsha)
Claudia Esbenshade (cousin of George DeLong, Jodi Keller, & Denise Gobrecht)
Sherry Kline (former substitute organist at Trinity)
Dennis Amour (father of John & Kayla Brennan's friend)
Lynnette Fritz (cousin of Betty Tyndall)

Deb Wealand (sister-in-law of Denise Pfeiffer)
Betty Cox (Trinity Preschool Teacher)
Art & Priscilla Hoffman (uncle & aunt of Anne Rankin)
Andrew Hicks (husband of Katie Weeber)
Marjorie Derck (sister of George Latsha)
Billy Schoffstall (uncle of Kayla Brennan)
Matthew Davis (brother-in-law of Hillary Bossert-Davis)
Zach Pfeiffer (son of Denise Pfeiffer)
John Zittel (brother-in-law of Denise Pfeiffer)
Carol Rogers (mother of Jamy Shelly)
Ryan Dennes (son of Paula Dennes)
Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)
John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr)
Dan Congelton (friend of Nancy Enders)
Audria Husted (granddaughter of Chuck & Sue Husted)
Cindy Greiman (friend of Betty Fogle)
Carmen Sweigert (friend of Rhonda Hartenstine)
Marianne Gibble (friend of Trinity)
Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel)
Ken Hoshauer (husband of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)
Kurt Kalbach (brother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)
Mary Call (mother of Rev. Dr. Carrie Call)
The Herr Family (Former Trinity Preschool Family)
Chris Rice (nephew of Diane Rice & Karen Olley)
David Brown (nephew of Shelley & Mike Wagner)
Harvey Sick (friend of Judy Chapman)
James Malone & family
Barry Richards (son of Jerry & Carmen Richards)
Tyler Miller (grandson of Iris DeMaio)
Joan Kalbach (mother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)
Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards)
John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law)
Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)

OTHER CONCERNS

Victims of Disasters

World Peace

Church World Service & Other Faith-Based Relief Organizations

CAROL KRATZ will be out of the office on Friday. If you can't reach Pastor Chris at the church office, please contact him on his cell phone (717-575-0286).

THE JULY/AUGUST PARISH POST is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building.

DEVOTIONALS: The July-September edition of These Days are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

THE JULY-SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES are available on the table in the Narthex.

2025 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts and the forms on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please submit the forms to Carol!

SUMMER CHURCH CAMP: The warmer days of the Summer Camp season are right around the corner! Camp registration is open and ready for you to start planning your summer around weeks at **Kirchenwald & Nawakwa!** There are a wide range of camps this summer for all ages — kindergarteners through high schoolers, families, adults, and older folks. **There is also the annual Hartman Center Homecoming Camp Look for more information in the Parish Post or on the table across from the church office. Contact Anne Rankin, Camp Liaison Person, for more information!**

As you know, Penn Central Conference pays 50% of camp registration fees. **You can help send campers from Trinity by contribution to our Camp Scholarship Fund.** Place your contribution in your weekly offering envelope and mark the special designation box with “Camp Scholarship”.

THIS WEEK’S CAMPERS: The following youth will be attending church camp this week. Please keep all the campers and staff in prayer. You can send notes to them at the following addresses:

Rachel Baynard
Classic Camp
Nawakwa
P.O. Box 459
Arendtsville, PA 17303

BOOK STUDY: Pastor Chris is planning to do book study in the coming months via Google Meet. We will be reading Henri Nouwen’s book *With Open Hands: Bring Prayer Into Your Life*. Contact the church office or Pastor Chris if you are interested in participating.

GRIEF GROUPS: The next sessions will be on July 8 (1:30 and 7:00 p.m.). We continue to read Francis Weller's *The Wild Edge of Sorrow: Rituals of Renewal and the Sacred work of Grief*. If you would like to participate in one or both of the sessions, contact Pastor Chris or the Church office.

COMMUNITY MEAL MINISTRY on Tuesday, July 22 at First Reformed U.C.C. (40 E. Orange St. in Lancaster City).

Three ways you can help:

1. Sign up sheets to donate dessert and other items for the meal on table outside office.
2. Help cook and assemble 12 cheeseburger casseroles in the church kitchen on Sunday July 20 starting at 11 am.
3. On Tuesday July 22 starting at 3:00 help se-tup and serve the meal at First Reformed.

Sign up sheets on table outside office.

Questions? Please contact Kathy Cooley at 717-371-0346 or ksharkitt@gmail.com.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES AT THE MT. GRETNA TABERNACLE: We have brochures available on the table across from the church office with information about the worship services, concerts, and other events at the Mt. Gretna Tabernacle this summer!

July 6 Sunday 7 p.m.
Concert

National Christian Choir

Founded in 1984, the choir is called to glorify God through a unique ministry of music. This is a patriotic themed concert "God and Country." Directed by Kathy

Bowman, Gettysburg, Pa. Sponsored by Rhoda Long, Realtor, Berkshire-Hathaway Homeservices.



July 13 Sunday 7 p.m. Concert
Cumberland Flutes

Cumberland Flutes is a community flute choir comprised of many talented musicians from the Southcentral PA area. Formed in 2017, they started performing in August 2022. Conductor Jocelyn Goranson is an award-winning soloist and adjunct instructor of applied flute at Messiah University and Dickinson College.



SAVE THE DATES

FRIENDSHIP FEST 2025

PRESENTING SPECIAL
MUSICAL GUESTS



Sunday, July 13

Friendship Fest 4-7 PM

FOOD TRUCKS - CRAFT VENDORS

Magician - Face Painter - Bounce House - Games

Concert - Keystone Fiddlers 5-6 PM

2340 State St., East Petersburg



Confirmed Food Trucks For This Year Are:

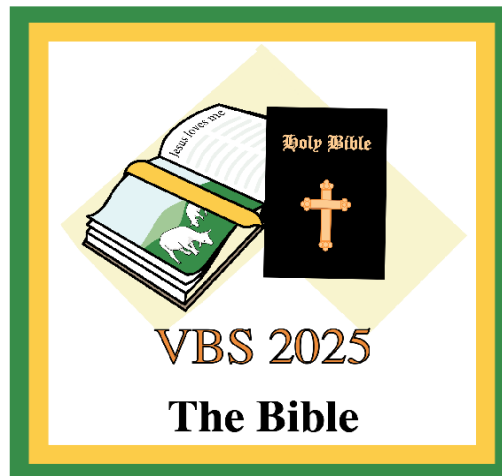
Stoney Burgers & Fries - *Smash burgers, French Fries, soda & Loaded French Fries*

Penny's Ice Cream – *local made ice cream*

Joe's Fish Sandwich - *a variety of seafood options, including their signature fish sandwich, as well as other seafood items like shrimp, crab, and hushpuppies. Other potential menu items mentioned include french fries, calamari, Chicken Strips & fries, Kids Meal(chicken & fries) and various beverages.*

Nil's Funnel Cakes & More - *a variety of funnel cake options, including classic powdered sugar and customizable toppings like strawberries, chocolate, and various ice cream flavors. Additionally, they provide savory options like hot dogs and corn dogs.*

PROCEEDS FROM THE FRIENDSHIP FEST SUPPORTS THE TRINITY PRESCHOOL!!!



Trinity UCC, 2340 State St., East Petersburg
www.trinityeastpete.org
717-569-1632

July 14 - 17 6:30-8:30 PM
July 18 6:30 PM Closing Program

Caretaker And Me Class - Under Five With Caretaker

Children's Classes - Five Through Finished Sixth Grade

Youth Volunteers - Contact Mrs. Slechta

Through stories, crafts, games, and music, "*The Bible*" takes a look at what the Bible is, where it came from, and how to use it. We will be looking at some of the characters whose lives and actions are depicted in its pages, in addition to Jesus' life, and what it means for us today.

A class for adults, led by Rev. Jack Esbenshade, will be looking at excerpts from the book, "Heroes, Rogues and the Rest," by J. Ellsworth Kalas.

Over four sessions we will look at Abraham and Sarah, along with David in the Old Testament, and then turn to the New Testament to look at Peter, James and John, as well as Paul.

Offerings support Wycliffe Bible Translators.



Register through the VBS/Rally Day Page at www.trinityeastpete.org

VBS INFORMATION: Volunteer forms are on the table across from the church office. The VBS volunteers will be meeting today after the 9:30 a.m. service.

The books for the adult class led by Rev. Jack Esbenshade are now available. Contact the church office if you would like a copy. If you have any questions, speak to Dina Slechta or Diane Rice.



VBS CRAFT DONATIONS NEEDED: We are now collecting donations for crafts for this year's VBS. The craft donation box will be downstairs in Isenberg Hall on the stage. Here is the list of needed items.

Tissue Paper - various colors, open pkgs and partial sheets fine
Ribbon - satin, 3/8, 1/2, 3/4, 5/8, and 7/8 inch widths all welcome, various colors
1 pkgs Stickers - Christian - Bible preferred, but child appropriate fine. About 1/2 inch to 1 1/2 inch in size.

There is a sign-up sheet in the hall outside of office.



VBS SNACK DONATIONS NEEDED: We are now collecting snacks for VBS. There is a list of snacks needed on the table outside the office. Please donate by Sunday July 13. Collection boxes are in Narthex and Kitchen. Thank you!



CHURCH PICNIC: The Parish Life Committee is planning to hold the annual church picnic at the Rapho Township Park on Saturday, September 6 from 4-6:30 p.m. Watch for more information in the coming weeks!!



Trinity Preschool Fundraiser

Monday, August 25th

6 – 9 PM

1991 Miller Road
East Petersburg, PA 17520



PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FORMS are available on both floors of the church building. If you have any questions, contact Amy Grube (Trinity Preschool Director) at preschool@trinityeastpete.org.

2025 CONCERT SPONSORS: Forms are available on the table across from the church office for you to sponsor this year's concert series.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES are available on both floors of the building.

"GOD MEND THINE EVERY FLAW"

By Rev. Dr. Charlie Hambrick-Stowe (Anne Rankin's father)

Our best national hymn, I believe, is "America the Beautiful" ("O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"). Written in 1893 by Wellesley College professor Katherine Lee Bates during a trip to the Chicago World's Fair and a summer teaching engagement in Colorado, it was published in a Boston newspaper in 1894. The words were sung to various tunes until World War I, when the hymn was forever joined to MATERNA, music originally composed for "O Mother Dear, Jerusalem."

The imagery of spacious skies, amber waves of grain, majestic mountains, and heroes proved through liberating strife always inspires. But what makes the hymn great is that it goes beyond patriotic emotion. It is a clear-minded prayer for God to take what is good about our country and make it better, to take what is wrong and make it right, to take what is hopeful and fulfill it, to take our national sins and "mend [our] every flaw."

In the 1890s the notion of "brotherhood" was a sham. Anti-Catholic sentiment was strong, new immigrants faced discrimination, native peoples were reduced to living on reservations, and blacks existed under the harsh reality of Jim Crow restrictions. Still, we pray for God to "shed his grace" on America "and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea."

We have always prized individual liberty, but this easily becomes an excuse for selfishness. Singing, we pray for God to "confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law." This has always been a land of opportunity, but it so easily becomes just about the money. Thus: "May God thy gold refine, till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine." American cities in the 1890s were squalid, violent, and disease-ridden, but we pray the "patriot dream" that somehow "beyond the years" our cities will "gleam, undimmed by human tears." We still sing the hymn. We must still pray the prayer.

U.C.C. DESK CALENDARS:It is that time of the year to order the U.C.C. desk calendars. This popular, 18-month (July 2025 - December 2026) planning calendar for the UCC is 8.5" x 11" and spiral-bound. The calendar includes complete lectionary readings for every Sunday, special mission offering dates, special observances and a directory of national staff.

The cost is \$20. Speak to Carol Kratz if you are interested in purchasing a calendar.

SPECIAL COMMORATIONS IN THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

JULY 6—JAN HUS, MARTYR, DIED IN 1415

Jan Hus was a Bohemian priest who spoke against abuses in the church of his day in many of the same ways Luther would a century later. He spoke against the withholding of the cup at the eucharist and because of his stance was excommunicated, not for heresy but for insubordination toward his archbishop. He preached against the selling of indulgences and was particularly mortified by the indulgence trade of two rival claimants to the papacy who were raising money for war against each other. He was found guilty of heresy by the Council of Constance and burned at the stake. The followers of Hus became known as the Czech Brethren and eventually continued as the Moravian Church.

JULY 11---BENEDICT OF NURSIA, ABBOT OF MONTE CASSINO, DIED AROUND 540

Benedict is known as the father of Western monasticism. He was educated in Rome but was appalled by the decline of life around him. He went to live as a hermit, and a community of monks came to gather around him. In the prologue of his rule for monasteries, he wrote that his intent in drawing up his regulations was "to set down nothing harsh, nothing burdensome." It is that moderate spirit that characterizes his rule and the monastic communities that are formed by it. Benedict still encourages a generous spirit of hospitality in that visitors to Benedictine communities are to be welcomed as Christ himself.

JULY 12---NATHAN SÖDERBLOM, BISHOP OF UPPSALA, DIED IN 1931

In 1930, this Swedish theologian, ecumenist, and social activist received the Nobel Prize for peace. Söderblom (pronounced Zay-der-blom) saw the value of the ancient worship of the church catholic and encouraged the liturgical movement. He also valued the work of liberal Protestant scholars and believed social action was a first step toward a united Christianity. He organized the Universal Christian Council on Life and Work, one of the organizations that in 1948 came together to form the World Council of Churches.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 66:10-14

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,

all you who love her;

rejoice with her in joy,

all you who mourn over her—

¹¹that you may nurse and be satisfied

from her consoling breast;

that you may drink deeply with delight

from her glorious bosom.

¹²For thus says the LORD:

I will extend prosperity to her like a river,

and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;

and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,

and dandled on her knees.

¹³As a mother comforts her child,

so I will comfort you;

you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

¹⁴You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;

your bodies shall flourish like the grass;

and it shall be known that the hand of the LORD is

with his servants,

and his indignation is against

his enemies.

Psalms 66:1-9

SECOND READING: Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16

[My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. ²Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. ⁴All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. ⁵For all must carry their own loads.

⁶Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.]

⁷Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

¹¹See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! ¹²It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

GOSPEL: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ²He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

¹⁶"Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" ¹⁸He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Next Sunday's Readings: Deuteronomy 30:9-14; Psalm 25:1-10; Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37.

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