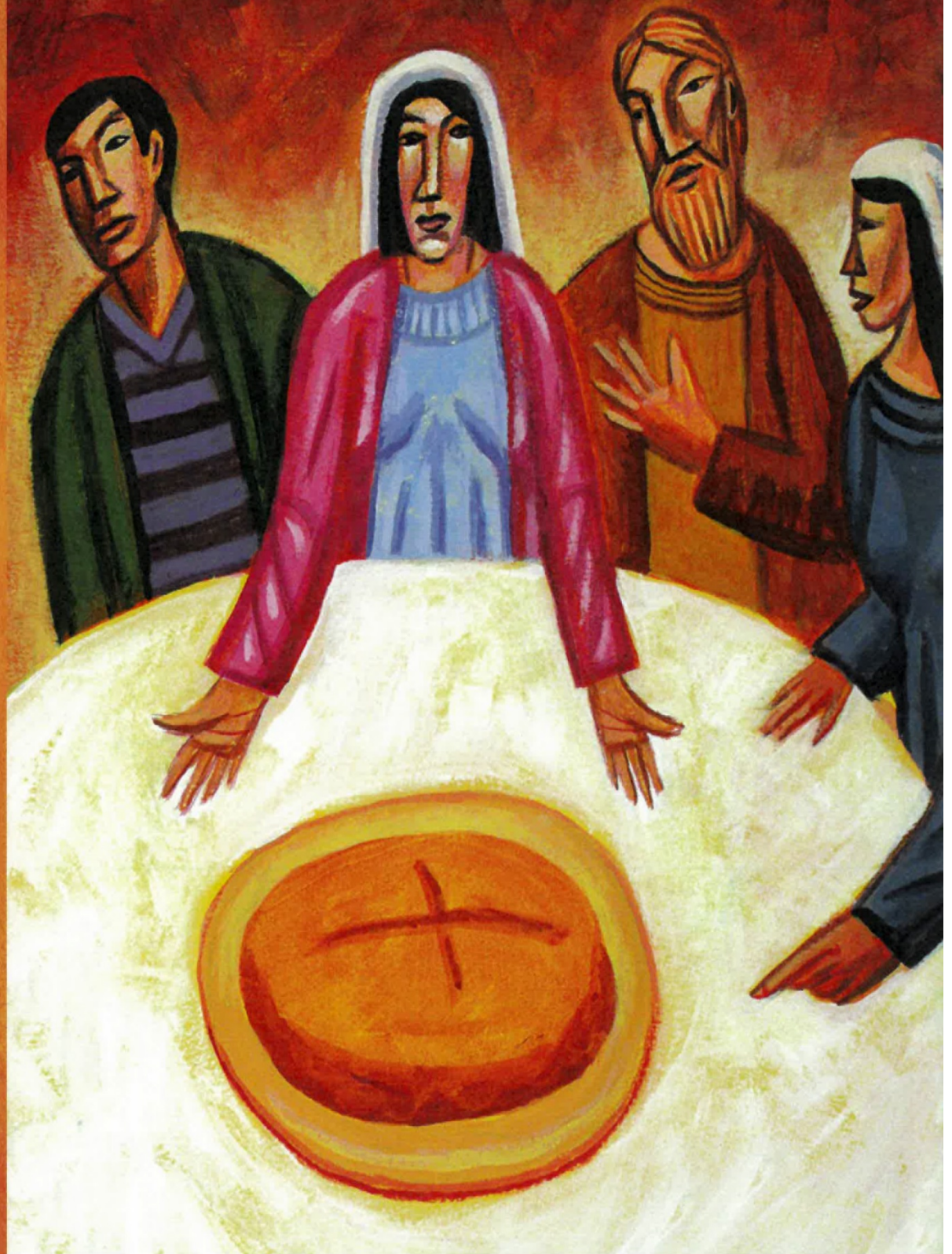


MAY THEY BE ONE,
AS WE ARE ONE

JOHN 17:22



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

Ms. Karen Karosas, Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Michael Querry, Sexton

Mrs. Amy Grube, Preschool Director

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history-to our day-and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints. As Jesus prayed "that they may all be one", we celebrate the tenth anniversary of the union between Trinity & St. Luke's!

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, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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

A READING

The Little Brick Church on the Avenue

Rev. Esbenshade

By Frank A. Suter

(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 grace of Jesus Christ be with all the saints! We have gathered in that grace to worship God.

Rejoice in God and give thanks to God's holy name. Let all heaven and earth behold God's glory.

Come, all who hunger, all who thirst; be nourished and renewed in this time of worship.

We bring joys and sorrows, fullness and needs. We come with successes and failures; we come to worship God.

Luke, the evangelist, wrote of our risen Savior, who at the table with two of the disciples took bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread.

In company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread.

Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, gives everyone a place at the welcome table. Alleluia! Come to the feast!

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

By our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ, God has raised us to new life.

Let us confess to God our sins and all that waits for resurrection in our lives.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us repent of our sin and claim the promise of God.

God of grace and glory, you have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. 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 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Let us pray the collect together.

As Christ prayed that believers might be one, we ask, O God, that our church may know a unity of spirit amid our diversity. Make your ways known to us, fill us with your love, and send us out in your name. We seek to bring others to the tree of life and to salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 16:16-34

Those who had enslaved a girl and used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and consequently ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.

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

PSALTER

Psalms 97

The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

Fire goes before him, and consumes his adversaries on every side.
His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.
The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory.

All worshipers of images are put to shame, those who make their boast in worthless idols; all gods bow down before him.
Zion hears and is glad, and the towns of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O God.

For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
The Lord loves those who hate evil; he guards the lives of his faithful;
he rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," with all who respond to this invitation.

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

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. John 17:20-26

Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

Pastor Rankin

"A Prayer for the Community of the Risen Christ"

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

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

O God, teach us the discipline of Christian stewardship, that we may come to know its joys. Grant that the offerings we bring now may represent disciplined and joyful giving, instead of a momentary pressure to part with our money. This we ask in the name of Jesus, whose life reflected both discipline and joy. 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.

Holy God, we praise and bless you for creation and the gift of life and for abiding love which brings us close to you, the source of all blessing. We give you thanks that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share in our suffering, and to accept the pain of death at the hands of those whom Jesus loved. We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave you raised Christ with power to become sovereign in your realm. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather your church by which your work may be done in the world and through which we share the gift of eternal life. With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy 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!

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

We boldly proclaim: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Welcoming God, you invite all people to come and encounter your love. Give your church open hearts and minds to embrace all who seek your presence. Increase the capacity for cooperation between denominations and congregations. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, your might is seen in storms and in silence. Where drought threatens, bring rain. Where waters flood, ease them back. Where fire, earthquake, hurricane, or tornado destroy, shelter your people and restore your land.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Discerning God, fill the hearts of leaders with your passion for justice and mercy. Call the nations of this world to tables of peace and collaboration. Encourage governments to seek avenues of collective benefit and joy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abiding God, all people are held in your care. Accompany survivors of abuse, trauma, and exploitation. Strengthen our resolve to listen and advocate on behalf of all who are unnoticed. Hear our prayers for those close to our heart. Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing God, be with this congregation as summer begins in the northern hemisphere. Keep travelers safe. Keep the vulnerable cool. Invigorate summer ministry efforts in our community, and support the well-being of children and young people. Give wisdom and courage to those who are graduating this year. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.
Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by **Kayla & John Brennan** in memory of those who passed while serving this country and in honor of those who are on active duty.

The Worship Aids are given by **Rev. Bob & Hedwig Hunsicker** in memory of their parents.

Ministering Today

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin
Lector	Rev. Jack Esbenshade
Money Counters	Diane Rice, Karen Olley, George DeLong, Jodi Keller
Altar Guild	Karen Olley, Beth Bossert, Nancy Enders
Koinonia	Sarah & John Paulukow
Building Trustee	Nevin Cooley
Ministries	Elders (Pastor Rankin, George DeLong) Called to Care Betty Tyndall Visitation Dave Connor

Attendance for Sun., May 25	7:45–12	10:30–66	TOTAL – 78
Sunday School	21		

Happy Birthday!

Today – Khom Trusz

Monday – Rich Weeber

Tuesday – Janice Jenkins

Wednesday – Piper Miller

Friday – Rev. Bob Hunsicker

Saturday – Bob Kilgore

This Week at Trinity Church

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

Monday 10:30 AM – Community Meal, Zion Lutheran-East Pete.

Thursday 6:00 PM – Parish Life

7:30 PM – Technology Committee

Saturday 8:00AM-4:00PM – Lifeline

8:00 PM – Alanon/AA

Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist

9:00 AM – Sunday School-Celebration Sunday

10:00 AM - Koinonia

10:30 AM – Eucharist

12:30 PM—Lunch/Mini-Golf at Scoops

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

MEMBERS

Rick Mowrer

Ron & Donna Denlinger

Janice Jenkins

Rhonda Hartenstine

The Lehman family

Donna Wolf & Family

Sam Minder III

Rev. Bob Musser

Betty Fogle

Denise Huggins

Ron Becker

Arlene Hoxworth

Pastor Harry Royer

Kathleen Sensenig Adams

Woerner Family

Rev. Dr. Carrie Call

Mid Gockley

Joann Peck

Mary Lou Shaab

George & Ellie Latsha

Betsy Bailey

Pat Seachrist

Betty Tyndall & family

Erika Otthofer

Joann & Dawn Garvin

Mary Lou Sturgis

Autumn Shenk

Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen

Donna Zirkel

John Shelsky

Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman

Scott & Jane Owens

Carmen & Jerry Richards

Himelwright Family

Hank Fox

Danielle Huggins Holbein

Michael McDonough

Don Miller

Bob & Marlyn Wible

Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline

Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of Miguel Serrano

The family of Tom Riley (friend of Bud McCarty)

Betty Cox (Trinity Preschool Teacher)

Art & Priscilla Hoffman (uncle & aunt of Anne Rankin)

Andrew Hicks (fiancé 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

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

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

NEW DIRECTORY: Look for a draft of a church directory across from the church office and make any necessary changes by **TODAY!**

PASTOR AT MERCERSBURG CONVOCATION: Pastor Rankin will be at Lancaster Seminary on Monday and Tuesday for the annual Mercersburg Convocation. If you need him, call his cell phone (717-575-0286).

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

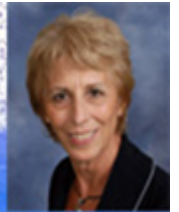
There will be a concert on **TODAY from 4-5:30 p.m.** to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Santee Chapel.

The free concert will include the Lititz Trombone Choir, Rev. Liz Fullmer (local singer-songwriter & class of 2020), Rev. Scott Siciliano (organist/pianist and class of 2017), Jenna Duranko (marimbaist and class of 2025), Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel (flautist and class of 1983 & 1996), and the Lancaster Theological Seminary Gospel Ensemble. Contact Pastor Chris for more information.

LIFE LINE SCREENING IS ON JUNE 7. Look for information sheets on the table across from the church office!

PENTECOST SUNDAY: Don't forget to wear red, orange, or yellow **next Sunday** as we celebrate Pentecost.

GERANIUM PLANTING: If you are willing to help plant the Pentecost geraniums after next Sunday's worship services, contact Kathy Cooley (717-371-0346 or ksharkitt@gmail.com).



Celebration SUNDAY

**There will be a special Celebration Day Sunday
on June 8 at 9:00 AM in Isenberg Hall.
Donna Geisler & her brother-in-law, Dr. Bill Lovett,
will speak about their recent mission trip
to the Dominican Republic.**



SUMMER SCHEDULE begins on June 15. Worship will be at 7:45 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday School during the summer.

VBS INFORMATION: This year's Vacation Bible School will be held from July 14-18. You can find more information about VBS in the May Parish Post. Volunteer forms are on the table across from the church office. If you have any questions, speak to Dina Slechta or Diane Rice.

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 June 11 (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.

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”.

MISSIONARY TO SPEAK AT TRINITY CHURCH: On June 15, we will welcome Dr. Paul Chimhungwe, a missionary & professor at the Kgolagano College of Theological Education in Botswana, as our guest preacher at both services. Trinity has several connections to Botswana & the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa:

--The Men of Trinity sponsored a child in Botswana a few years ago!

--Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen were missionaries in Botswana from 1980-83.

--Pastor Chris has visited Namibia (Namibia and Botswana are part of the United Congregational Churches of Southern Africa) and is trying to create a partnership between Trinity and a church in Namibia.



THE MEN OF TRINITY (M.O.T.) BREAKFAST will be meeting at the Family Fare Restaurant for breakfast June 21 at 8:00 AM. This is open to all men of the congregation! You are encouraged to invite other men to the breakfast. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office!

THE APRIL-JUNE 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!

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.



Trinity Preschool Fundraiser

Monday, August 25th

6 – 9 PM

**1991 Miller Road
East Petersburg, PA 17520**

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

SUMMER ACTIVITIES AT THE MT. GREтна 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!

SAVE THE DATES

MINI GOLF AT SCOOPS IN MOUNTVILLE

(Sponsored by the Parish Life Committee)

June 8 at 12:30 PM (Lunch first and then mini-golf)—CHANGE IN DATE!

Participants will pay for their own lunch, but the church will pay for the mini-golf!
The sign-up sheet is on the table across from the church office!



Lancaster Stormers Game

June 25th

Penn Medicine Park

Stormers vs. York Revolution



The cost is \$35 (ticket, suite rental, endless buffet for 90 minutes, gratuity).

Children from ages 4-18 will be covered by our Youth Ministry account
and those under 4 are free.

You can sign-up by contacting Carol in the church office.

We will need a \$15 deposit when you sign-up!

Gates open at 5:30 PM – Buffet served. Game – 6:45 PM.

Deadline to sign up is June 9

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

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!!

U.C.C. Mission Moment

Strengthen the Church Offering (Part Two)

The Holy Spirit gathers us together. From across the country and the spectrums of human experience, we become united in Christ. And, united, the Spirit commissions us to work for a more just world for all.

The Strengthen the Church Offering supports congregations and leader across the United Church of Christ as they respond to the Spirit's call to be united in Christ for a more just world for all. The challenges our congregations face vary:

- Some seek ways to strengthen youth ministry
- Some hope to start new congregations
- Some look for innovative ways to renew existing congregations
- Some need help developing leaders

The giving in your congregation can ensure congregations get the help they need from their conference and the national ministries of the U.C.C.. Together we can answer the Spirit's call to be united in Christ for a just world for all.

Trinity received \$35 for Strengthen the Church in our recent Our Gifts to Others offering and the Board of Deacons added \$100 from the undesignated funds for a total of \$135. You can always use the Our Gifts to Others envelope to contribute to Strengthen the Church. Congregations throughout the U.C.C. will be receiving this offering on June 8 (Pentecost Sunday).



THE LANCASTER AGO SUMMER ORGAN RECITAL

Thursday, June 12 from 7-9:00 p.m.

First Reformed U.C.C.

40 E. Orange St., Lancaster

The following organists will be participating on the new pipe organ at First Reformed U.C.C.:

**Deborah Berdos, Dr. Robert Horton, Gary Garletts
Jonathan Humbert, Jaden Espenshade
Larry Hershey (host organist), Peter Omundsen
Christopher Prestia, & Dr. Ross Ellison**

UPDATES FROM THE CHURCH WORLD SERVICE OFFICE IN LANCASTER

CWS Lancaster Mutual Aid: We are so grateful for this community's support of 67 CWS Lancaster staff who were furloughed in February. Your care, encouragement, and contributions to our mutual aid fund have made a huge difference for our colleagues, many of whom are refugees and immigrants themselves. With two waves of layoffs since February, many colleagues are still experiencing precarity while they seek work, since many have still not received unemployment benefits. We are so grateful that Blossom Hill Mennonite Church has agreed to process donations for our mutual aid fund going forward. We invite you to contribute by:

- visiting Blossom Hill's website: <https://blossomhillmennonite.org/cws-furloughed-staff-mutual-fund/>
- mailing a check with "CWS Mutual Aid" in the memo line to Blossom Hill Mennonite Church, 333 Delp Rd., Lancaster, PA 17601, or
- texting BHMC CWS to 73256

Thank you so much for your ongoing support as we navigate this difficult time.
- CWS Furloughed/Terminated Staff Mutual Aid Organizing Team (Rachel Helwig, Matt Johnson, and Ruth Parrish Sauder)

Urgent Request to Help Afghan Family Escape: Farida Mohammadi worked with the US in Afghanistan and was evacuated in 2021 to escape Taliban reprisals. Her parents, brother, and husband were able to flee temporarily to Pakistan, where they are unable to work because of visa restrictions. They now face deportation as the Pakistani government is exiling all Afghan refugees. If they are forced to return to Afghanistan, they will be in grave danger from the Taliban because of her work with the US. All avenues of bringing them to the US have been exhausted because of this administration's refugee and immigration restrictions, even for Afghan allies now facing threats. As a result, she is hoping to raise enough money for visas for her four family members to relocate to Malaysia, where they can live without fear for their lives.

- For more information: <https://cwsglobal.org/blog/afghan-allies-in-limbo-faridas-struggle-to-reunite-with-her-family/>
- To contribute: https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-faridas-family-escape-taliban-threats?lang=en_US&v=amp14_t1

A vibrant poster for 'Podcast Power Summer Camp' by Muse Studios. The background is a dark teal with wavy lines. At the top center is an orange rounded rectangle with 'MUSE STUDIOS' in white. To the left is an orange speech bubble with three dots and a soundwave. To the right is a large blue and orange microphone. The title 'PODCAST POWER' is in large, bold, orange letters, with 'SUMMER CAMP' in white below it. A yellow play button icon is to the right of the title. Below the title is a large orange headphones icon on the left and a blue and orange microphone on the right. The dates 'JUNE 16-19' and time '9AM-2PM' are in orange. The address '1987 STATE ST, EAST PETERSBURG, PA' is in orange. The website 'www.francoisbyers.com' and email 'francoisbyers@gmail.com' are in white. At the bottom are various audio equipment icons: a microphone, a speaker, a mixer, and another microphone, all in blue and orange.

MUSE
STUDIOS

PODCAST POWER

SUMMER CAMP

JUNE 16-19
9AM-2PM

**1987 STATE ST,
EAST PETERSBURG, PA**

www.francoisbyers.com
francoisbyers@gmail.com

This camp will take place at a music studio in East Petersburg (former Haydn Zug restaurant) and at Trinity Church!

FIRST READING: Acts 16:16-34

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." ¹⁸She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews ²¹and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." ²²The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. ²⁷When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³²They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Psalm 97**SECOND READING: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21**

"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁶"It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."

And let everyone who hears say, "Come."

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

²⁰The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

GOSPEL: John 17:20-26

[Jesus prayed:] "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me.

²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21; John 14:8-17 [25-27].

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