

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

JOHN 13:34



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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light-through the lens of love.

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.

Prayer As You Enter: *O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

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



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.**

As the sun rises in the morning, let all creation worship God!

From the highest mountains to the deepest seas, let all creation lift high the name of the Lord, for God alone is worthy to be praised.

You alone are worthy of our praise, Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End.

You alone make all things new. All praise, glory, and honor be yours, forever!

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 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Let us pray the collect together.

Gracious and loving God, you meet us where we are. As we gather in this place, may our hearts be open to hear your voice, may our eyes be open to see your glory, and may our minds be open to perceive the word you have for each one of us. We gather together from many walks of life, but we are unified as one heart in the body of Christ. Holy Spirit, speak to us, guide us, and fall gently upon us, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

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

PSALTER

Psalms 148

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!
Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.
He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!
Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.
He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

THE SECOND LESSON

Revelation 21:1-6

John's vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

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

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. John 13:31-35

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON

Pastor Rankin

"The Community of the Risen Christ Has Love for One Another"

(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

Thank you, gracious God, for making your home with us and claiming us as your own people. We dedicate ourselves and our gifts toward the new world you are creating among us—a world where peace emerges from mutual respect and honest encounters. May your love be reflected in our attitudes and actions when we are together and when we are scattered. We pray in the name of the risen 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.

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.

Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those often overlooked in our communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit us to preservation of wild places. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Instruct all world leaders to protect the most vulnerable among us. Guide those in power toward equitable and just economic policies, so that all might have sufficient resources to live safely and with dignity. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abide with all who are marginalized by society. Destroy all forms of systemic oppression, and renew our commitment to healing the wounds of our collective body in this community and beyond. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness. Wipe away every tear. 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 **Beth, Hillary, Logan, Lee, and Bodhi** in memory **Lee Bossert’s (PapPap’s) 89th birthday**. Even though you are celebrating in heaven, we are thinking of you and miss you!

The Worship Aids are given by **Parry Miller** in memory of my brother **Fred (1955-2017)**.

Ministering Today

Preacher	Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin
Lector	Diane Rice
Money Counters	Ron & Donna Denlinger, Denise Pfeiffer, Steve Shenk, Sue Bowman
Altar Guild	Anita Rohrer, Charlene Cristy, Hedwig Hunsicker, Nancy Enders
Building Trustee	Dave Connor
Ministries	Card SOT Choir (Anita Rohrer) Called to Care Betty Tyndall Visitation Marlyn Wible

This Week at Trinity Church

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

Monday-Friday – 9-11:30 AM - Preschool Summer Camp

Tuesday Election Day in Isenberg Hall
 1:00 PM – Prayer Shawl in Choir Room
 6:30 PM—Deacons Meeting in Library
 7:00 PM – Consistory in Choir Room

Wednesday 1:30 PM—Grief Group
 3:00 PM—Memorial Garden Committee
 7:00 PM—Grief Group

Thursday 1:30 PM – Pinochle
 6:00 PM – Cub Scouts
 7:00 PM – Executive Meeting

Saturday 8:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA

Happy Birthday!

Today – Leo Daly, Alexa Garrett, Denise Gobrecht, David Krantz

Monday – Pat Sensenig, Jeremy Eberly

Wednesday – Brody Daly

Thursday – Nolan Daly

Attendance for Sun., May 11	7:45–19	10:30–68	TOTAL – 87
Sunday School	17		

PRAYERS FOR GOD’S HEALING PRESENCE

MEMBERS

Rick Mowrer	Pat Seachrist	Himelwright Family
Ron & Donna Denlinger	Rev. Dr. Carrie Call	John Shelsky
Janice Jenkins	Mid Gockley	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	Lainie Christensen
Sam Minder III	Betsy Bailey	Hank Fox
Rev. Bob Musser	Donna Zirkel	Danielle Huggins Holbein
Betty Fogle	Betty Tyndall & family	Michael McDonough
Denise Huggins	Erika Otthofer	Rev. Ken & Marilyn Trauger
Ron Becker	Joann & Dawn Garvin	Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman
Arlene Hoxworth	Mary Lou Sturgis	Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline
Don Miller	Autumn Shenk	Bob & Marlyn Wible
Kathleen Sensenig Adams		

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of Rev. Bill Swisher (friend of Trinity members)

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)

Jessica Clawser (daughter of Betty Tyndall)

Sharon Brown (sister of Sandy DeLong)

Tom Riley (friend of Bud McCarty)

Ryan Dennes (son of Paula Dennes)

Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)

John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr)

Nancy Scholl (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner)

David Haverstick (friend of Mike & Shelley Wagner)

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 MAY PARISH POST is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building. **The deadline for the June Parish Post is tomorrow!**

PENTECOST GERANIUM ORDER FORMS are available on the table across from the church office or in the May Parish Post. **The deadline to order geraniums is TODAY!** Pentecost will be on June 8!

PRAYER SHAWL: The Knit in God's Love Prayer Shawl Group will be meeting on May 20 at 1:00 p.m. (in the choir room due to Isenberg Hall being used for the election. This is the last meeting until fall. Come and bring a friend. Hope to see many of you there! Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.



Thursday, May 22, 1:30 PM
Sign-up sheet on table outside office!

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 the end of May!

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!

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

OPEN DATE FOR KOINONIA: We need a volunteer for June 1! If you could volunteer, please use the sign-up sheet on the kitchen counter or call the church office.

THE APRIL-JUNE VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES are available on the table in the Narthex.



ATTENTION ALL GRADUATES:

If someone is graduating in your family, please submit their name, school, and future plans with the church office ASAP!

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

A major event is a concert on **June 1 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 (graduate of Lancaster Seminary), and members of the Lancaster Theological Seminary family. Contact Pastor Chris for more information.

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!

A Message from Christian Education for May-June

“.. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’” (Acts 17: 23-28, NRSVUE)

The apostle Paul uses this unknown god as a stand-in for the true God, that although He is unknown to the Greeks, He desires to be known by them. Paul explains that the true God is the real power behind all life.

During the Sundays in May Christian Education Classes will be meeting at 9:00 am through Sunday, June 1st.

The Children’s Class will be continuing work with SPARK! in the downstairs Sunday School room as we explore additional opportunities in which to engage our children. Youth and adults are invited to join The Wired Word studies with Diane Rice meeting in the Choir Room, or in a study of Adam Hamilton’s The Call – The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul led by Pastor Chris, Sue Bowman and others in Isenberg Hall. Hamilton’s study invites us to hear Paul’s story and message, and to reflect on God’s call in our lives to become the people we are meant to be. Chapter 5, “Called to Give” will be starting May 11th. Please contact Pastor Chris for a class session link if you will be joining us online.

Looking ahead in June and July: Celebration Sunday is June 8th when at 9:00am we will join classes in Isenberg Hall to observe the learning and the friendship we have enjoyed during classes this year. We will usher in the 2025 Vacation Bible School theme and partake of some tasty treats!

Vacation Bible School 2025 “The Bible” will be held from July 14-17, 6:30 - 8:30 pm! The Closing Program begins July 18th at 6:30 pm. Through stories, crafts, games, and music, “The Bible” looks 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 will be led by the Rev. Jack Esbenshade. Please find more VBS information in the May Parish Post. Volunteer forms are on the table across from the church office. If you have any questions, please speak with Dina Slechta or Diane Rice.

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.

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".

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
717.569.0009

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Lancaster **CROP HUNGER WALK**

OCTOBER 19, 2025

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Lancaster CROP Hunger Walk registration is open

No one in this world should be hungry. That's why the CROP Hunger Walk is more than just a gathering of people in a place. We're part of a movement, taking steps and raising funds together to provide meals for those in our own community who need them - and supporting programs that create greater food security in communities all around the world.

1:00 p.m. Registration

1:30 p.m. Program

2:00 p.m. Walk begins

(Location: Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church)

Please join us in the fight against hunger. The steps we take and funds we raise will make a difference in the lives of others through the Lancaster Food Hub and Church World Service! You can register to walk or support one of our walkers at:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/team/trinity-east-pete>

The members of Trinity who have already registered to walk are: Mark & Chris Eyer, Hedwig Hunsicker, and the Rankin Family.

Pastor Rankin is once again serving as the coordinator of the Lancaster CROP Walk. Thanks to Mark & Chris Eyer for serving as Trinity's coordinators again this year!



You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

Where: Trinity United Church of Christ

When: Saturday, June 7, 2025

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk** Screenings.

Trusted by over 10 million customers.

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

Who should attend:

Anyone over the age of 40

Special Member Pricing for \$159

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Plus a **FREE** Hypertension Screening

4 ways to book your appointment...

Call 888-814-0466 and use
promo code HSCA001

Visit  [LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA](https://llsa.social/hscatx)



Text the word "circle"
to 216-279-1607

SAVE THE DATES

MINI GOLF AT SCOOPS IN MOUNTVILLE

(Sponsored by the Parish Life Committee)

June 1 at 12:30 PM (Lunch first and then mini-golf)

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

May 18, 2025/ Fifth Sunday of Easter

Imagine (Revelation 21:1-6)

There's a magical place in New Jersey where children have been letting their imaginations run wild since 1954. It's called the Land of Make Believe and, just as its name says, it invites children to literally step into the nursery rhymes read to them at bedtime. There are the homes of the three little pigs to run through and the old lady's shoe — the one with so many children she didn't know what to do — to slide down from.

For years it was thought that as we grew older, we no longer visited these lands of make believe. It was thought our ability to imagine faded with each passing year. Researchers from Kent University in England proved otherwise as a recent study among 470 people between 4 and 81, showed that adult imagination was not only as vivid as a child's but became more vivid with age.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could right now play in our own lands of make believe? Wouldn't it be even better to enter God's land of belief that John is inviting us to do this day?

The beloved friend of Jesus writes to us from his seclusion on the Greek island of Patmos. It is there in a dank cave where he penned the visions, he received that would later become The Book of Revelation. And one such revelation calls for us to revisit the promise that God will indeed make all things new — a promise echoed all throughout scripture.

Today, we are being called to imagine a new heaven and a new earth for the former ones have passed away. This new heaven and earth don't necessarily mean that the current ones have been destroyed and something different has emerged. Rather the ancient Greek word for "new" — *kaine* — means "new in character" or "fresh." John is talking not about the *next* heaven and earth, but rather a *better* heaven and earth.

Let's now imagine together what this "better" might look like, especially for our earth today? Close your eyes. What do you see? How would you characterize this better earth? And more importantly, how is God asking you to be a pivotal player in making this better earth a reality rather than make believe?

Imagination is a wonderful thing for all ages — and it can be a powerful spiritual practice to engage in daily. For who wouldn't want to step into a place where God is making all things new, where death and crying and pain are no more? Let our imagining become the prayer portal for making this possible.

God of new beginnings, help us to look beyond the realities of this world and toward a better heaven and a better earth, where all Your children are fed, loved and safe. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

Psalm 148**SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

GOSPEL: John 13:31-35

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22–22:5; John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9.

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