If salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it?

MARK 9:50

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. Carolyne Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director Dr. Robert T. Adams, Interim Organist Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant Mr. Michael Querry, Sexton Mrs. Amy Grube, Preschool Director

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

Today's Theme: Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

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. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. 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.*

Prayer As You Enter: Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of 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

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

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.

Come one and all to meet God here. Let all who are suffering find hope in this place.

We have come that God might raise us up. Our only hope is in the Maker of heaven and earth.

Come together to sing songs of praise to God. Give thanks for God's wondrous deeds.

God's glory abides in this place of worship. God's presence and help are real.

As we come to the table of God's heavenly feast, let us prepare our hearts anew to be in communion with one another and the risen Christ.

We come, ready to partake of bread and cup; ready to commune with one another and with the living God.

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is our God.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing in this time of silent prayer. *(SEATED OR KNEELING)*

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins together.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first, we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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)

ADORATION AND PRAISE

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 THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Let us pray the collect together.

Almighty God, whose dominion is over all worlds, and whose witnesses come from many places and points of view, expand our knowledge of your truth and our appreciation of diversity so we may find common ground with others rather than being stumbling blocks in their way. Show us how to be at peace with one another and faithful to you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Numbers 11:4-6,10-16,24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

THE PSALTER

Psalm 19:7-14

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

But who can detect one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

THE SECOND LESSON

James 5:13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Mark 9:38-50

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD *Praise be to You, O Christ.*

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON "A Prescription for the Community of Faith" Pastor Rankin (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, we are made glad by the good news of your love for us and for all people. We thank you for creating us and giving us all that is necessary for life. We thank you for your action in Christ by which our lives are measured, found wanting and renewed. Help us to remember your gifts that we may praise you with lives of joy and service; through 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.

Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our voices with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere.

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

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!

(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 need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements in the narthex and commune in your 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 together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

We pray for the people of God in all places. Shape our witness to the good news of Jesus that we joyfully share your transforming love with all whom we encounter. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the healing of the earth. Renew oceans and seas, marshes and estuaries. Uphold the work of conservationists, oceanographers, and all who care for fragile ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for peace and cooperation among local and global communities. Bless the efforts of community organizers, international aid workers, and all those who work for justice and peace around the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**. We pray for caregivers: doctors and nurses, home health aides and counselors, and those who care for loved ones. Sustain them in their work and help us to build a health care system that supports all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who are in any need. To all who grieve, bring consolation; to all who are weary or lonely, bring solace. By your grace, make your presence known among all who call to you for healing. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by the **SOT Choir** in honor of Dr. Robert Adams. Thank you to Dr. Adams for sharing your exceptional musical talent with all of us at Trinity!

The Worship Aids are given by the Latsha family in celebration of George Latsha's 97^{th} birthday on October 5^{th} .

Ministering Today

Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin
Jeff Hackenberger
Ron & Donna Denlinger, Steve Shenk, Denise Pfeiffer
Anita Rohrer, Charlene Cristy, Hedwig Hunsicker
Dave Connor
Jodi Keller, Sandy DeLong
Charlene Cristy
Paula Dennes
Card Children's Sunday School Class
Called to Care Nancy Enders
Visitation Anita Rohrer

Happy Birthday!

Today – Aaron Shenk Friday – Landis Knoll Saturday – George Latsha, Andrew Brennan

Worship Attendance, September 22	7:45-14	9:30-62
Sunday School	19	

This Week at Trinity Church

THIS WEEK at		
(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m2 p.m.)		
Today	Following 10:30 AM Service – Farewell Celebration for Dr.	
	Adams	
Monday	7:00 PM – SOT Choir/8:15 PM – Bells	
Tuesday	10:00 AM—Nominating Committee (choir room)	
Wednesday	11:30-2 PM – Preschool first day Enrichment	
Thursday	6:00 PM – Scouts	
-	6:30 PM – Executive Committee (choir room)	
Saturday	8:00 PM – Alanon/AA	
Sunday	7:45 AM – Eucharist	
·	9:00 AM – Sunday School	
	10:00 AM – Koinonia	
	10:30 AM – Eucharist	

TOTAL - 76

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

MEMBERS

Rhonda Hartenstine **Betsy Bailey Janice Jenkins Betty Fogle Bob & Marlyn Wible** Jack Ollev Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman Harry Himelwright Don & Pat Miller Dr. Janet Harriger Joann Peck Scott & Jane Owens **Carmen & Jerry Richards** The Lehman family Mary Lou Shaab George & Ellie Latsha Lainie Christensen Donna Wolf & Family Sam Minder III Hank Fox Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser Donna Zirkel **Rev. Ken Trauger** Kathleen Sensenig Adams Betty Tyndall and family Michael McDonough Danielle Huggins Holbein Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline Joann & Dawn Garvin **Denise Huggins** Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman Erika Otthofer Kelsey Minnich Burgo Ron Becker

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of Jane Curran (aunt of Michael Slechta) Deb Olley (daughter of Jack & Karen Olley)

Alice Palmer (friend of Rhonda Hartenstine) **Carmen Sweigert** (friend of Rhonda Hartenstine) Glenn Wible (nephew of Bob & Marlyn Wible/cousin of Lon Wible) Diana Landefeld (niece of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christesen) & Joppatowne School Joe Harriger (brother of Janet Harriger) Marianne Gibble (friend of Trinity) Shari Jones (co-worker of Rich Weeber) **Tracy McLaughlin** (co-worker of Rich Weeber) Carol Hooper (sister of Rev. Dr. Rich Christensen) Marlene Harlow (friend of Gail Kogut) Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel) Kaitlyn, Ben, and Lucy Miller (family of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen) Barbie, Jon, and Will Bundy (family of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen) **Rev. Jim Martin** (Rev. Dr. Rich & Lanie Christensen's former pastor) **Ken Hoshauer** (husband of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer) Kurt Kalbach (brother of Dr. Cathy Houshauer) Mary Call (mother of Rev. Dr. Carrie Call) **The Herr Family** (Trinity Preschool Family) Sharon Brown (sister of Sandy DeLong) Chris Rice (nephew of Diane Rice & Karen Olley) **David Brown** (nephew of Shelley & Mike Wagner) Annette Stork (niece of Pat Sensenig) Logan Davis (husband of Hillary Bossert-Davis) Jean Weglarz (neighbor of Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline) Melby Bush (friend of Joan Sensenig) Harvey & Dianne Sick (friends of Judy Chapman) **Rev. Loy Garber** (former seminarian) Roland Anderson and family (friends of John & Kayla Brennan) John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr) James Malone & family **Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner** (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner) Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig) **Robert Richards** (brother of Jerry Richards) **Ronald Himelwright** (grandson of Brenda & Harry Himelwright) **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)

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

FAREWELL CELEBRATION FOR DR. BOB ADAMS: Today is Dr. Adams' final service as our interim organist. The Music Committee is having a reception following the 10:30 service in Isenberg Hall. The Consistory has approved the hiring of Karen Karosas as our new organist and she will begin in November. We will have supply organists during October.

KOINONIA/SUNDAYMORNING FELLOWSHIP: We have resumed koinonia (community fellowship)at 10 a.m. in Isenberg Hall. Volunteers are asked to provide light refreshments. The drinks/coffee will be taken care of for you! The sign-up sheet is on the kitchen counter. If you have any questions, contact Paula Dennes. Coffee is always available between 7:45 service and Sunday School.



"I PROMISE" FORMS will be received at both services on Sunday, October 6. We hope that you will submit the forms to help us plan for our ministry in 2025. Extra forms are available on the table across from the church office!

UPDATED INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C. The Christian Education Committee is planning to sponsor a trip to Washington D.C. on October 26. We will be visiting the National Cathedral and the Holocaust Museum. The tentative cost of the trip (Cathedral and bus) is \$50 for adults and \$45 for children (5-12 years old). The sign-up sheet is on the table across from the church office. For more information, speak to Sue Bowman or Pastor Rankin. **DEVOTIONALS:** The October-December edition of These Days are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

CUB SCOUT PACK 133 FUNDRAISERS: The scouts that meet at Trinity are **selling peanuts and popcorn**. **Orders are due October 10 and they will be delivered on November 9**. They also had a Sub Fundraiser which will be delivered to the church October 1. There are order forms on the table across from the church office. Speak to Pastor Chris for more information!

GRIEF GROUP: Since the first grief group ended last week, Pastor Rankin would like to form another group(s) beginning in October. If you are interested in this small group, look for the sign-up sheet across from the church office. Contact Pastor Rankin if you have any questions.

FALL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR: The Pastor Parish Committee is sponsoring another leadership seminar for all members of the Consistory and committees on Saturday, October 12 from 9 a.m.-noon. The Rev. Dr. Carrie Call, Conference Minister & President of the Penn Central Conference and member of Trinity, will talk about emotional intelligence. Dr. Call will be preaching at both services on October 13. Look for a sign-up sheet in the near future.

COMMUNITY MEAL AT FIRST REFORMED U.C.C.: Trinity Church will be providing the meal at First Reformed on Tuesday, October 15. Volunteers are needed at 3:00 p.m. for food preparation. The meal is served from 5-6:00 p.m. There are sign-up sheets on the table across from the church office. The church is located at 40 E. Orange St. in Lancaster. Contact Kathy Cooley, meal coordinator, if you have any questions.

PRAYER SHAWL: The Prayer Shawl will meet on October 15 at 1:00 p.m. and will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month! Come and bring a friend. Hope to see many of you there! Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.

WELCOME LUNCHEON: The Evangelism Committee was planning a welcome luncheon after the 10:30 service on October 13 for new members or recent visitors to Trinity Church. However, many of our new members or visitors were unable to join us. We will plan a luncheon for next spring.



People are needed to volunteer to decorate their trunk in Halloween themed décor and pass out candy or other goodies to the children as they come by. We also need donations of candy. The sign-up sheet will soon be available on the table across from the church office. Contact Cherie Cataldi for more information!!

SERVERS NEEDED: We are in need of greeters, ushers, and nursery care volunteers for the 10:30 worship service. Please contact the church office if you are interested in serving as an usher or greeter. Please contact Betty Fogle if you are interested in serving as a nursery attendant (717-471-1026 or bettsfog@comcast.net).

THE MEN OF TRINITY BREAKFAST will meet for breakfast on September 21 at 8:00 AM at Family Fare Restaurant. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office! This is open to all men of the congregation!



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1:30 PM Sign-up sheet on table outside office





QuintEssentially Brass

Sun., Oct. 27, 2024 Concert 4:00 PM

Trinity UCC

2340 State St. East Petersburg, PA (717) 569-1632

www.TrinityEastPete.org

Public Welcome Freewill Offering Benefits Music For Everyone And Trinity's Ministry of Music

Also join us for:

Thanksgiving Eve Service Nov. 27th 7:00 PM

Christmas Concert Dec. 8th 2:00 PM Followed By Desserts





THE 2024 CONCERT SPONSOR FORMS are available on the table across from the church office.

2024 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for worship aids are: November 3, 17 & 24. Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are December 22, 24 & 29. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts on the bulletin board in the narthex or call Carol in the church office.

LUTHERAN CAMPING EVENT DATES



Check out all event details at LutheranCamping.org

Dinner church at the Wittel Farm: Oct. 6, Nov. 3 – starting at 5 PM.

Adult Study Retreat at Nawakwa October 1-3

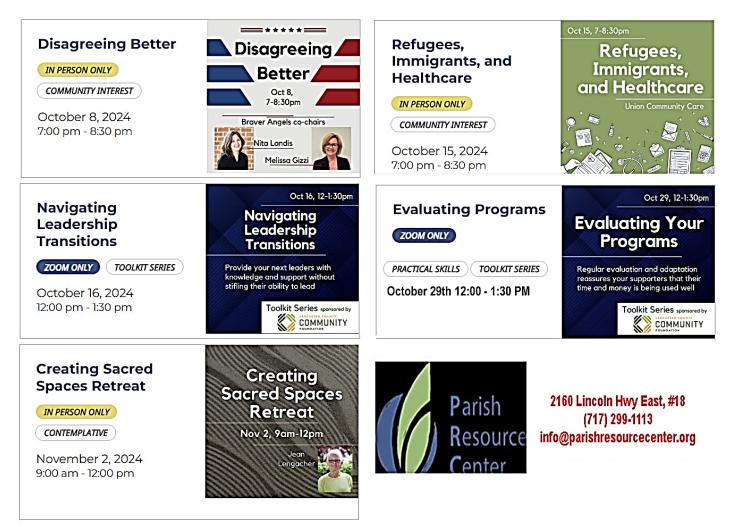
Party with a Purpose Fundraiser at Kirchenwald October 5 - 5pm

Capture the Flag Spectacular at Kirchenwald October 6 - 3pm

A Night for Nawakwa Fundraiser at Nawakwa October 19

Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald & Nawakwa October 27 - 1pm

Lutheran Camping Quilt Auction at Nawakwa November 3 - 2pm

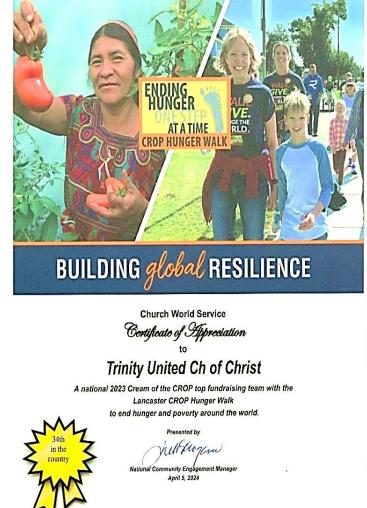


SAVE THE DATE FOR THE LANCASTER CROP WALK: Trinity Church was recently recognized as being 34th in the U.S. to raise funds for the 2023 CROP Walk!! Also, the Lancaster CROP Walk was recognized for being ranked 16th in the U.S. and 2nd in Pennsylvania for the 2023 CROP Walk! Pastor Rankin continues to serve as the Lancaster CROP Walk Coordinator!

There is an important date to remember:

 Sunday, October 20---CROP Walk at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church. Registration begins at 1 p.m. and a program follows at 1:30 p.m. The walk will begin at 2 p.m.

Mark & Chris Eyer are once again serving as the coordinators for Trinity Church. The following people from Trinity have already signed up for the



walk: Mark & Chris Eyer, Diane Rice, Karen Olley, Nancy Enders, and the Rankin family.

You can register for the walk on the table across from the church office or at <u>https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/team/trinity-east-pete.</u> You can donate online or give money to our walkers. Checks should be made out to CWS/CROP! The Consistory has approved to donate \$3,000 from our Hunger Ministries fund to support the CROP Walk!

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SUPPORT: We recently heard a presentation by Donna Geisler and Dr. Bill Lovett about their medical mission work in the Dominican Republic. The Board of Deacons decided that the Undesignated Funds from the upcoming Our Gifts to Others offering (October 6) will support this mission project.

Our Gifts to Others 2024 from the Board of Deacons

Each year Trinity UCC considers donations titled "*Our Gifts to Others*." These annual gifts serve to support various outreaches that are important to our friends who are in need throughout the area.

In addition to the local missions and undesignated mission, there are a number of outreach options from which we may choose. Here is a brief summary of those seeking your consideration and support.

• **Milagro House** is committed to providing education, counseling and housing for women and children experiencing homelessness here in Lancaster County.

• **Bethany Children's Home** started its *Helping Hands* program to provide unaccompanied children and youth the opportunity to be reunited with their families in the U.S. Youths stay an average of 10-12 days and receive basic medical care, food clothing shelter more development and basic education while their families are located.

• **Hoffman Homes Inc.** is a nonprofit that provides comprehensive psychiatric care, treatment, support, and education to youth and young adults and their families from across Pennsylvania. We inspire hope and brighter futures.

• Love, Inc. is a national agency that seeks to provide a conduit through which people in need can seek out much needed support efforts by local churches. This agency is geared for those among us in chronic need and seeks to transform lives in the community.

• Lancaster Theological Seminary – educates men & women for here for a variety of ministry settings. Donations to LTS help to support students in need with tuition, housing, etc.

• **Phoebe Devitt** – operates nursing home facilities here in central Pennsylvania. The ministries seek donations to help cover the cost of residents stay, regardless of their ability to pay.

• UCC Homes– provides benevolent care, and uncompensated care for needful seniors. This organization seeks our help to meet this need. There are homes in Ephrata, Annville, Carlisle, and Harrisburg.

• **Hunger Ministries**– You can designate to support the Hempfield Power Packs, the Lancaster Food Hub, or the Trinity Community Meal ministry.

NOTE: All gifts given to the Undesignated Fund will support the Dominican Republic Medical Mission Project. The Board of Deacons will soon make a decision about the local missions.

Through August 2024, we received **\$10,646** for the Our Gifts to Others Fund. Please consider these worthy ministries as you think about your possible financial offerings for the rest of 2024. In addition, you can donate online, designate as "Our Gift to Others", and specify which one(s) you are donating towards.



Sponsored by the Lancaster Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and hosted by Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Lancaster

Community

Hymn Sing

<image>

Sunday, Sept. 29, 7:00 PM Holy Spirit Lutheran Church 3131 Columbia Avenue Lancaster, PA

Join us for the first public event of our program year! Come, sing, and enjoy creative hymn tune arrangements by members of the Lancaster Organist Guild!

Free admission!

Go to www.lancasterago.org for more information.

Dr. Bob Adams will be one of the organists performing this evening!

"Together We Are Stronger"

A Keystone Conference Mission

Conference Choir Anthem, "We All Are One," by Joel Raney



A proposal for a mission focus for the Keystone Conference ... People of the Table: Celebrating and Energizing Ministries that End Hunger

What do we mean by a "mission focus"?

Our faith calls us into action. We see a need for the newly-formed Conference to unite around a specific direction for our outreach in the coming years. A new Keystone Conference UCC mission focus offers us a way to concentrate our efforts in this initial season, amplifying our voice and helping to bring us together.

We propose that this initial mission focus, **People of the Table**, will be a Conference priority in our founding years (2026-2028).

Why choose ending hunger as a mission focus?

Ending hunger is a goal that unites our diverse Local Churches and Associations. Across the proposed Keystone Conference, settings of the United Church of Christ area already engage in many ministries to feed our neighbors.

We do this work because the Gospel mandate is clear: "feed my sheep," said Jesus: "I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."

We are **People of the Table**, uniting around our Eucharistic tables and then welcoming our neighbors around our social hall tables. This identity is particularly strong in Pennsylvania, a commonwealth containing over seven million acres of farmland, where many Local Churches take pride in our agricultural heritage. While our members may vary in their perspectives on many social issues, we believe that ending hunger is a priority that brings us all together.

Next Town Hall Sessions



The conversations around the timeline and a unified Keystone Conference Mission are available for registration. Please use the QR code, on all conferences websites or conference office.

In each townhall conversation, the timeline

will be reviewed for possible action toward our vote, the motion to the General Synod and next steps.

Merger Motion Vote by 4 Conferences Nov. 9, 2024

Each congregation is allowed their usual number of delegates to vote on the merger motion. See each conference for details to register, participate and make your vote count! The full motion is available on the website.

For more information: <u>https://psec.org/keystone/</u>

Motion to General Synod, July 11-15, 2025 If approved by all 4 conferences, the motion is presented to

General Synod for UCC delegates' approval.

"We all are one in mission, we all are one in call, Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all. A single, great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love." "We All Are One," by Joel Raney





Mental health is a Universal Human Right!

This year's Neighbors in Need theme "Mental Health Justice for All: Mental Health is a Universal Human Right" highlights our Godgiven right to mental health.

Everyone is created in God's image, and everybody should receive quality mental health care.

In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health.

A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life's mental health journey.

Here are 12 key messages that are important to know:

- Good mental health is a key part of overall health and wellbeing.
- Good mental health helps us cope with challenges, connect with others, with God, and thrive throughout our lives.
- Mental health is vital and deserves to be recognized and respected.
- Everyone has the right to access quality treatment that meets our unique needs and respects our human rights throughout our lifetime.
- 5. Mental health challenges are a significant threat to the wellbeing of young people.
- Depression is the leading cause of disability in the world.

- 7. We must break the silence about mental health challenges.
- We must dismantle the stigma, shame, and discrimination surrounding mental health challenges.
- **1**. We all have the right to live our lives free from the stigma and discrimination in church, school, and in the workplace.
- 10. Good, quality, affordable, and accessible community mental health services and supports are crucial for a just world for all.
- **11.** Mental health is fundamental to enjoying a good and meaningful life.
- **12**. Everyone's mind is beautiful, complex, unique, and made in God's image.



In a Just World, Mental Health is a Universal Human Right!

Please join us in supporting the 2024 Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering.



Two-thirds of your donations to NIN support advocacy, programming, and grants. One-third of your generous gifts directly support CAIM. www.ucc.org/nin.





FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me?¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,' to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once-if I have found favor in your sight-and do not let me see my misery."

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you."

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"

SECOND READING: James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

GOSPEL: Mark 9:38-50

John said to [Jesus], "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹"For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Psalm 19:7-14

Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 8; Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16.

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