

The image is a full-page portrait of Jesus Christ. The face is the central focus, rendered with a golden, almost metallic texture. The eyes are large and expressive, looking directly at the viewer. The background is a deep, dark brown with intricate, swirling patterns that suggest a rich, aged material like parchment or leather. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the contours of the face and the texture of the background.

WHO DO YOU SAY  
THAT I AM?

MARK 8:29



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

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The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor

The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus

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

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

Dr. Robert T. Adams, Interim Organist

Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist

Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Michael Querry, Sexton

Mrs. Amy Grube, Preschool Director

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**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**7:45 A.M. SERVICE**

**Today's Theme:** Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

**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:** *O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

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★ 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*
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**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, let us gather in the awareness of God's love.

**God's love has brought us to this place; it has made of us a church.**

We can live with confidence and hope, in the assurance that we are forgiven and accepted by a power greater than ourselves.

**Because we are forgiven, we too can forgive.**

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 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

God of wisdom and truth, speak to us now. Inspire us with your word. Speak clearly to our hearts, that we may walk in your ways and live in your love. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

# **THE WORD OF GOD**

## **THE FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 50:4-9a

*The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

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

## **THE PSALTER**

Psalm 116:1-9

**I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.  
Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.**

**The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came over me;  
I was overcome by distress and sorrow.**

**Then I called on the name of the Lord: "Lord, save me!"  
The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.**

**The Lord protects the unwary; when I was brought low, he saved me.  
Return to your rest, my soul, for the Lord has been good to you.**

**For you, Lord, have delivered me from death, my eyes from tears, my feet  
from stumbling,  
That I may walk before the Lord in the land of the living.**

## **THE SECOND LESSON**

James 13:1-12

*This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.*

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

*(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)*

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL**

St. Mark 8:27-38

*This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.*

***Glory be to You, O Lord.***

## **THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD**

***Praise be to You, O Christ.***

*(PLEASE BE SEATED)*

SERMON

What Are We Saying?

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

Gracious God, by Christ's death on the cross you have given new life to us. Receive these gifts as tokens of our love for you, that we might give thanks for the fullness of your salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. 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, 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 church throughout the world. Form us into communities of forgiveness and grace. Help us to notice where you are calling us into new relationships, and give us courage to embrace the uncomfortable and unfamiliar. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the earth and all its inhabitants. Protect lands at risk of wildfire and heal dying forests. Where fire brings destruction, raise up new growth. Guide us in tending precarious ecosystems. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who govern nations, tribes, and cities. Open them to the cries of people in need. Direct them in shaping policies that prioritize the health and well-being of all who struggle with hunger and housing insecurity. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for teachers, professors, librarians, school administrators, staff, and all who support the education of young people. Sustain them as they shape learning communities, rooted in equity and authenticity. We pray for children of all ages in their learning. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who are ill, all who are lonely or anxious, and all who grieve. Draw them close to you and soothe them with the promise of your enduring love. 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**

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### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Chancel Flowers** are given by **Jerry & Carmen Richards** in honor of our 69<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**The Worship Aids** are given by **Pastor Rankin** in memory of his grandmother, Jean Meisky, on her birthday.

### **Ministering Today**

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin
<b>Lector</b>	Diane Rice
<b>Money Counters</b>	Bud & Kathy McCarty, Jeff Hackenberger, John Shelsky
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Karen Olley, Nancy Enders
<b>Building Trustee</b>	Dave Connor
<b>Koinonia</b>	Rankin/Kopp
<b>Ministries</b>	<b>Card</b> Children's Sunday School Class <b>Called to Care</b> Nancy Enders <b>Visitation</b> Dave Connor

<b>Worship Attendance, September 8</b>	<b>7:45-17</b>	<b>9:30-75</b>	<b>TOTAL – 92</b>
<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>31</b>		

### **Happy Birthday!**

Today – Scott DeLong

Tuesday – Beth Bossert, Christine Eyer, Jill Otthofer

Wednesday – Lon Wible

## **This Week at Trinity Church**

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

Monday	6:00 PM – Music Committee 7:00 PM – Grief Group 7:00 PM – SOT Choir/8:15 PM - Bells
Tuesday	1:00 PM – Prayer Shawl 7:00 PM - Consistory
Wednesday	6:30 PM – Preschool Parent’s Night 7:00 PM – Pastor/Parish
Thursday	1:00 PM – CROP Walk Meeting 6:00 PM – Scouts
Saturday	8:00 AM – Men’s Breakfast 11 AM-6 PM – Isenberg in use 8:00 PM – Alanon/AA
Sunday	7:45 AM – Eucharist 9:00 AM – Sunday School 10:00 AM – Koinonia 10:30 AM – Eucharist 12:30 PM – Lunch Bunch at Loxley’s

## **PRAYERS FOR GOD’S HEALING PRESENCE**

### **MEMBERS**

Kelsey Minnich Burgo	Janice Jenkins	Betsy Bailey
Betty Fogle	Jack Olley	Bob & Marlyn Wible
Don & Pat Miller	Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman	Harry Himelwright
Dr. Janet Harriger	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	Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley	Hank Fox
Rev. Ken Trauger	Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser	Donna Zirkel
Kathleen Sensenig Adams	Betty Tyndall and family	Michael McDonough
Danielle Huggins Holbein	Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline	Joann & Dawn Garvin
Erika Otthofer	Denise Huggins	Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman
Ron Becker		

### **FAMILY & FRIENDS**

**Diana Landefeld** (niece of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christesen) & Joppatowne School  
**Joe Harriger** (brother of Janet Harriger)  
**Marianne Gible** (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 SEPTEMBER PARISH POST** is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building.

**2024 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS:** Upcoming dates for worship aids are: **September 22, October 6 & 27**. Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are **September 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.

**KOINONIA/SUNDAYMORNING FELLOWSHIP:** Beginning today, we will resume 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.**

**TRINITY LUNCH BUNCH:** The Parish Life Committee is sponsoring another lunch gathering for church members and friends on September 22 at Loxley's (500 Centerville Rd). The luncheon will begin around 12:30 p.m. Look for the sign-up sheet across from the church office. **The deadline to sign-up is September 15!!!** Contact Denise Pfeifer for more information.

**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!

**PRAYER SHAWL:** The Prayer Shawl will resume meeting on September 17 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.

**Calling all Singers and Ringers  
2024-2025 Season Starts**

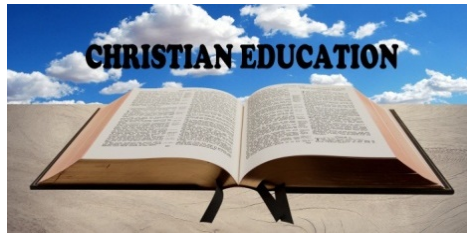
September 9, 7:00 - 8:00 PM SOT Choir  
September 16, 8:15 - 8:45 PM Canticle Ringers

**\*New Singers and Ringers Welcome  
Contact Michael or Dina Slechta**

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



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASS INFORMATION!!!



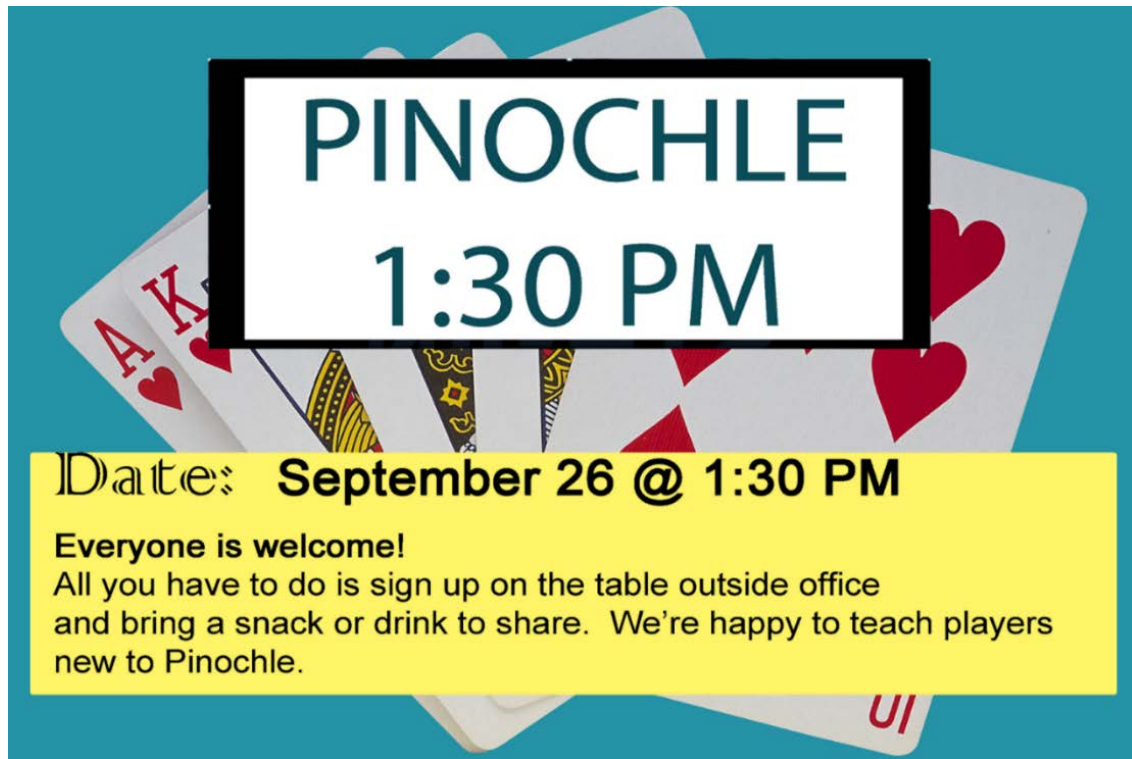
1. The Children's Class will meet in the lower classroom and will be using the Spark lectionary based curriculum. These Sunday school lessons connect kids with Bible stories heard in worship. The Bible story have lessons that are packed with activities, interactive games, and creative crafts.
2. Adult/Youth Bible Class will be studying *Christianity and World Religions* by Adam Hamilton. In examining Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity, Hamilton urges us as Christians to build bridges with others so that we might grow in our faith, seek peace in our world, love our neighbors, and find positive ways to share the gospel. The class will meet in Isenberg Hall and will be led by Sue Bowman and Pastor Rankin. There will be opportunities for the youth to have breakout sessions during the class.
3. The Wired Word (Christian Issues Today) Adult Class will meet in the Choir Room. Each week they will have a Bible study lesson linked to the latest headlines and current events using appropriate scriptures. Students can opt in or out of receiving the lesson by email before Sunday. To opt in before the first session, contact Diane Rice with your email address.

### 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 are hoping to visit the National Cathedral and the Holocaust Museum. The tentative cost for the Cathedral is \$15 (adult) and \$10 (children 5-12 years old). There will also be a cost for the bus (this information is forthcoming). The sign-up sheet is on the table across from the church office. **For more information, speak to Sue Bowman or Pastor Rankin.**

**VBS MISSION PROJECT REPORT:** Thank you to all who supported this year's VBS mission offering. We raised \$2,045 for Habitat for Humanity!!!

**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 are also having a Sub Fundraiser. Orders are due September 23 and they 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!



**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](mailto:bettsfog@comcast.net)).

**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.

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

**GRIEF GROUP:** Since the first grief group will be ending this month, 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.

**WELCOME LUNCHEON:** The Evangelism Committee is sponsoring a welcome luncheon after the 10:30 service on October 13 to welcome new members or recent visitors to Trinity Church. This is a way for us to share with our guests about Trinity's story through the DVD and conversations around the tables. We hope that Trinity members will attend the luncheon, so look for the upcoming sign-up sheet.



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.

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SUPPORT:** Last week we heard a presentation by Donna Geisler and Dr. Bill Lovett about their medical mission work in the Dominican Republic. Stay tuned for information about how you can donate money towards this project!!!



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

There are two important dates to remember:

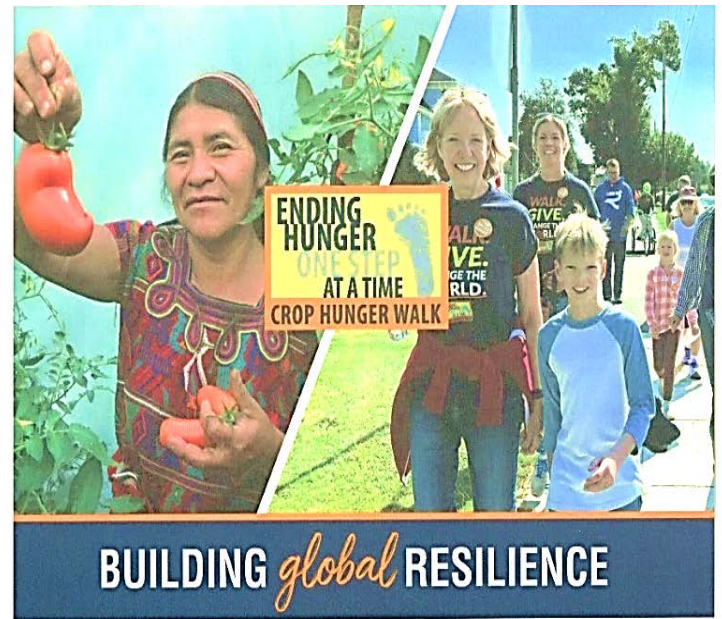
1. **Saturday, September 29---**  
CROP Walk Rally at the Church World Service office in Lancaster (10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.)
2. **Sunday, October 20---**CROP Walk at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church.

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 also give our walkers money. Checks should be made out to CWS/CROP!**

You can register for the walk on the table across from the church office or at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/team/trinity-east-pete>



Church World Service  
*Certificate of Appreciation*  
to

**Trinity United Ch of Christ**

A national 2023 Cream of the CROP top fundraising team with the  
Lancaster CROP Hunger Walk  
to end hunger and poverty around the world.

Presented by

*Jeff Krogan*  
National Community Engagement Manager  
April 5, 2024





Check out all event details at  
[LutheranCamping.org](http://LutheranCamping.org)

## LUTHERAN CAMPING EVENT DATES

Dinner church at the Wittel Farm

Sept. 8, 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



2160 Lincoln Hwy East, #18

(717) 299-1113

[info@parishresourcecenter.org](mailto:info@parishresourcecenter.org)

### Navigating Leadership Transitions

ZOOM ONLY

TOOLKIT SERIES

October 16, 2024

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Oct 16, 12-1:30pm

### Navigating Leadership Transitions

Provide your next leaders with  
knowledge and support without  
stifling their ability to lead



### Evaluating Programs

ZOOM ONLY

PRACTICAL SKILLS

TOOLKIT SERIES

October 29, 2024

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Oct 29, 12-1:30pm

### Evaluating Your Programs

Regular evaluation and adaptation  
reassures your supporters that their  
time and money is being used well



## Keystone Working Group – Bulletin Insert 1

**“Together We Are Stronger”** echoed throughout the



visual displays and collective worship at the June 7-9 joint gathering in State College, PA. ***“It was one the most amazing experiences I’ve had in the course of my life in ministry,”*** said the Rev. David Ackerman, Penn West Conference minister. ***“It was a tremendous experience – the energy, the Spirit was present. Whether the Keystone vote in November is affirmative or not, we’ll always have that.”***

Join the excitement and learning through these opportunities!

### Town Hall Sessions

There will be 3 topic conversations, hosted by each of the conferences for all to participate.

Town Hall Schedule	Topics I: Timeline, Staffing, Finance	Topics II: Timeline, PA UCC Mission Focus	Topics III: Timeline, Associations
PSEC	Sat. Sept 14 10:00 am	Tues. Sept 24 2:00 pm	Tues. Oct 15 6:30 pm
PCC	Mon. Sept 23 6:30 pm	Tues. Oct 1 6:30 pm	Wed. Oct 23 3:00 pm
PNEC	Tues. Sept 17 10:30 am	Thur. Sept 19 10:30 am	Thur. Oct 10 6:30 pm
PWC	Mon. Sept 16 10:00 am	Tues. Oct 22 1:00 pm	Thur. Oct 24 6:30 pm





Registration links for the townhall events are available on all conference websites and by using the QR code.

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: <https://psec.org/keystone/>

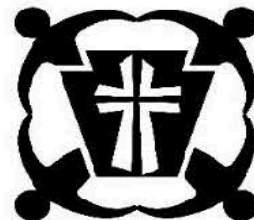
### **Motion to General Synod, July 11-15, 2025**

If approved by all 4 conferences, the motion is presented to General Synod for UCC delegates' approval.

***“We face the unknown, but God is known!”***

-- Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson

President and General Minister of the UCC to the delegates at the gathered PA area conferences.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO DIANE RICE, GEORGE DELONG, OR PASTOR RANKIN!**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a**

The Lord God has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he awakens—  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.  
<sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.  
<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.  
<sup>7</sup>The Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
<sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
<sup>9</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

**Psalms 116:1-9**

**SECOND READING: James 3:1-12**

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole

body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

**GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38**

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Jeremiah 11:18-20 or Wisdom 1:16—2:1, 12-22; Psalm 54; James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37.

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