

#### 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
Mrs. Christine Oetama, Supply Organist
Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist
Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Michael Querry, Sexton
Mrs. Amy Grube, Preschool Director

# SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 7:45 A.M. SERVICE

The Sundays after Pentecost, also called "common or ordinary time," constitute a season of growth in Christian faith, life, and ministry. Nearly half of the Christian year is reserved for this season, which spans the Sundays between Pentecost (50 days after Easter) and Advent (around Thanksgiving.)

Traditionally, the liturgical color of ordinary time is green. Green is the color of nature and growth. It symbolizes the need of Christians to be disciples, persons who live out the values of the gospel and share them joyfully with others. During this time, the scriptural texts, sermons, and hymns are usually directed toward the task of helping us grow as faithful followers of Jesus Christ and bear good fruit in our witness.

**Today's Theme:** Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those "at our gate," visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold-who comes to us risen from the dead-who can free us from the death grip of greed.

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** are located in the Narthex!

**Prayer As You Enter:** O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through 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.

We trust our God, who alone gives us life.

We trust our God, who gives us life in Jesus Christ.

We trust our God, who gives us life in the Spirit.

Let us give blessing and praise to our God, who alone deserves every honor! 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.

Take hold of the life that really is life. Come, take your place at the table.

# **CONFESSION OF SINS**

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

We are called to examine our faithfulness to God's covenant with us.

God, in whose presence we gather, promises us grace and pardon when we acknowledge our weakness and shame.

Let us silently confess our sin before God.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

#### SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

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

God our helper, we confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **KYRIE**

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, 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 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Let us pray the collect together.

Eternal God, whose will for humankind is that we live within your rule of love, call us out of our preoccupation with riches to sense our common plight with all who suffer. Help us to identify with rich and poor alike as your children, that through mutual care and compassion we might grow toward your eternal realm. May we hear and heed your life-changing warnings and promises. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

# THE WORD OF GOD

#### THE FIRST LESSON

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

**PSALTER** 

Psalm146

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,

Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

#### THE SECOND LESSON

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

#### THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Luke 16:19-31

Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is "lifted up" and the rich one is "sent away empty." Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

#### THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

**SERMON** 

"We Have a Responsibility"

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

Beloved God, who richly provides for our needs and enjoyment, thank you for your many gifts. You have trusted us with our lives, with this world, and with your love. May these gifts we offer you today be used for your service and your glory. Help us store up for ourselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, that we may take hold of the life that really is life. We offer these gifts, trusting in Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

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

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

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

#### THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

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

#### BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

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

# The Bread of Life, broken for us.

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

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

#### RESURRECTION ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is offered for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

#### RECEIVING THE GIFTS OF GOD

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

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

#### POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. As we receive the I Promise forms today, we commit ourselves to the ministry you are calling us to in the coming year. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace, **receive our prayer**.

We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace, **receive our prayer**.

We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies, and guide us in building a community of mutual support. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

We pray for people in any need. Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.** 

#### SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

We come again to you, O God, giving you thanks that in this feast of mercy you have embraced us and healed us, making us one in the body of Christ. Go with us on our way. Equip us for every good work, that we may continue to give you thanks by embracing others with mercy and healing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

# **CLOSE OF WORSHIP**

#### BENEDICTION

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chancel Flowers and the Worship Aids are given by Greg Gruber in memory of Ethel & Leon Gruber.

# Happy Birthday!

Today – Sarah Miller

Monday – Aaron Shenk

Saturday – Eugene Kopp, Landis Knoll

**Ministering Today** 

Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin Pastor

Lector Rev. Sandy Morris

Nevin Cooley, Steve Gold, Pat Sensenig, Jeff Hackenberger **Money Counters** 

Karen Olley, Beth Bossert Altar Guild

Gretchen Leinbach Koinonia

**Building Trustee** Dave Connor

**Ministries** Card Children's Sunday School Class

Called to Care Nancy Enders

Visitation Donna Geisler

TOTAL - 81Attendance for Sun., September 21 7:45–15 9:30-66

Sunday School **17** 

This Week at Trinity Church

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

7:00 PM - SOT Choir/8:15 PM Bells Monday Tuesday 1:30 PM—Grief Group (Choir Room) Wednesday Preschool – First Day Enrichment

Saturday Isenberg Hall in use

8:00 AM – Men's Breakfast

8:00 PM – Alanon/AA

7:45 AM – Eucharist—World Communion Sunday Sunday

9:00 AM – Sunday School

10:00 AM - Koinonia

10:30 AM – Eucharist—World Communion Sunday

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

**MEMBERS** 

Donna Zirkel Walt & Betty Tyndall Lori Dalv

Rev. Dr. Carrie Call Ron & Donna Denlinger Dawn Stauffer

Janice Jenkins Mid Gockley Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman

Rhonda Hartenstine Joann Peck Scott & Jane Owens

Carmen & Jerry Richards Mary Lou Shaab The Lehman family

George & Ellie Latsha Donna Wolf & Family Himelwright Family Sam Minder III Rev. Ken Trauger Rev. Bob Musser

Pat Seachrist Erika Otthofer

Danielle Huggins Holbein Michael McDonough

**Betty Fogle** Betty Tyndall & family **Denise Huggins** Bob & Marlyn Wible Don Miller

Ron Becker Joann & Dawn Garvin Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline

Arlene Hoxworth Mary Lou Sturgis Pastor Harry Royer John Shelsky Hank Fox Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen Kathleen Sensenig Adams Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman

#### FAMILY & FRIENDS

The Reed Family

The family of Rosalla Hollenbach (mother of Dr. Rob Hollenbach)

Greg Gable (husband of Rev. Sandy Morris)

Darlene Zerbe (friend of Dave Connor)

Carol Feyock (friend of Carmen & Jerry Richards)

Janet Latsha (sister-in-law of George & Ellie Latsha)

Sherry Kline (former substitute organist at Trinity)

Lynnette Fritz (cousin of Betty Tyndall)

Andrew Hicks (husband of Katie Weeber)

Matthew Davis (brother-in-law of Hillary Bossert-Davis)

Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)

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)

David Brown (nephew of Shelley & Mike Wagner)

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)

Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)

Terry Kratz (Carol Kratz's husband)

# **OTHER CONCERNS**

Victims of Disasters

World Peace

Church World Service & Other Faith-Based Relief Organizations

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

MEN OF TRINITY (M.O.T.) BREAKFAST MEETING: The men will be meeting at the Family Fare Restaurant for breakfast on October 4. This is open to all men of the congregation! You are encouraged to invite other men to the breakfast.

"I PROMISE" FORMS will be received at both services TODAY. We hope that you will submit the forms to help us plan for our ministry in 2026. Extra forms are available on the table across from the church office! If you have any questions, contact a member of the Stewardship Committee (Rev. Jack Esbenshade, Ron Denlinger, or Scott Owens).

UPCOMING LEADERSHP SEMINAR: The Pastor-Parish Committee will be sponsoring another leadership seminar in Isenberg Hall on Saturday, October 11 from 9-11:00 a.m. Myka Kennedy Stephens will be returning to do a seminar on leadership strengths. This seminar is for all members of the Consistory and the committees/boards of Trinity Church. If you did not sign-up before the deadline, speak with Pastor Chris because he ordered extra materials.

THE OCTOBER-DECEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES are available on the table in the Narthex.

**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.

2025 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. We have openings for worship aids (October 12) and chancel flowers (October 19). Look for the charts and the forms on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please submit the forms to Carol!

**GRIEF GROUP:** The next session will be September 30 at 1:30 p.m. We continue to read Francis Weller's *The Wild Edge of Sorrow: Rituals of Renewal and the Sacred work of Grief.* If you would like to participate in the grief group, contact Pastor Chris or the Church office.

COMMUNITY MEAL AT FIRST REFORMED U.C.C. Trinity's next community meal will be at First Reformed UCC (40 East Orange St., Lancaster) on October 14. Please check out sign-up sheet for dessert donations, meal prep and serving help the day of the meal. Thank you for supporting this important mission.

#### LUNCH BUNCH

Where: Hinkle's Restaurant 261 Locust St, Columbia, PA 17512
When: Tuesday October 14, 2025
Time: 12:00 noon
Selections will be taken off the menu and we are able to have separate checks.
Look for the sign-up sheet across from the church office. Contact Denise Pfeifer for more information

**KOINONIA HAS RETURNED:** Koinonia (community fellowship) has resumed 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. We hope you will join us for this time of fellowship between our Sunday School classes and worship!

Pastor Chris will brew a pot of coffee when he arrives in the morning for people to enjoy between the 7:45 service and Sunday School.

# The Sunday School classes HAVE BEGUN. Here's information about the different classes:

- 1. The Children's Class will meet in the downstairs classroom and will be using the Spark lectionary-based curriculum.
- 2. The Youth Class will meet in the side room by the kitchen in Isenberg Hall and use resources from the Bible Project website for their curriculum through November.
- 3. The Wired Word class will be 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. Participants 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.
- 4. The Adult Bible Class will meet in the front of Isenberg Hall and will be studying the Gospel of Luke through the Kerygma study series.



# 2025 Our Gifts to Others from the Board of Deacons

Each year Trinity U.C.C. considers donations titled "*Our Gifts to Others*" (OGTO). These annual gifts serve to support various missions of the U.C.C. and the wider community!

$\Box$ hous	brief summary of the missions you can support:  Milagro House is committed to providing education, counseling and ing for women and children experiencing homelessness here in easter County.
with recei	Bethany Children's Home started its <i>Helping Hands</i> program to ide unaccompanied children and youth the opportunity to be reunited their families in the U.S. Youth will stay an average of 10-12 days and we basic medical care, food, clothing, shelter, and basic education while families are located.
adult	Hoffman Homes Inc. is a nonprofit that provides comprehensive hiatric care, treatment, support, and education to youth and young ts and their families from across Pennsylvania. We inspire hope and nter futures.
chur	<b>Love, Inc.</b> is a national agency that seeks to provide a conduit through h people in need can seek out much needed support efforts by local ches. This agency is geared for those among us in chronic need and s to transform lives in the community.
	Lancaster Theological Seminary – educates men & women for here for riety of ministry settings. Donations to LTS help to support students in with tuition, housing, etc.
	Phoebe Devitt – operates nursing home facilities here in central asylvania. A ministry of the U.C.C., they seek donations to help cover ost of residents stay, regardless of their ability to pay.
	<b>U.C.C. Homes</b> — provides benevolent care, and uncompensated care for ful seniors. This organization seeks our help to meet this need. There nomes in Ephrata, Annville, Carlisle, and Harrisburg.
$\Box$ Powe	<b>Hunger Ministries</b> — You can designate to support the Hempfield er Packs, the Lancaster Food Hub, or the Trinity Community Meal

ministry.

Local Mission—The Reard of Descens chose the Help Thy Neighbor

Through September 22, 2025, we received \$18,984 for these mission partners. Please consider these worthy ministries as you think about your possible financial offerings for the rest of 2025. In addition you can donate online, designate as "Our Gift to Others", and specify which one(s) you are donating towards.



# Lancaster CROP Hunger Walk registration is open

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, Karen Olley, Diane Rice, Hedwig Hunsicker, and the Rankin Family. We have already raised \$3,365...help us reach our goal of \$5,000!

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!

# 300th Anniversary Celebration of the First Communion of the German Reformed Church in America

October 12th
@ 1:30 pm
Falkner Swamp UCC
2077 Swamp Pike,
Gilbertsville

w/ Guest Preacher The Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson



October 15th

@ 6:30 pm
each PA UCC
Conference

will hold a communion service within its boundaries see website link below

For more information and registration links go to: psec.org and click on the 300th Anniversary Celebrations slider

October 28—Gifts of the Reformed Church Going Forward w/ Dr. Randall Zachman

Coming this fall...

A commemorative book with essays tracing the development of the German Reformed Church from its European origins through present day.

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO <a href="https://psec.org/300TH-anniversary-">https://psec.org/300TH-anniversary-</a> OF-THE-GERMAN-REFORMED-CHURCH-IN-THE-US/

NOTE---The October 12 service is a hybrid event. You do need to register at the website above to indicate if you will attend in-person or virtually (there is limited space in the church to attend in-person).



Dear Friends of Penn Central Conference,

Please mark your calendars to join with your Conference Staff on Wednesday October 15th at 6:30 PM at Colonial Park Church to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of the first communion of the German Reformed Church in America. Our own Rev. Dietmar Plajer (St. Paul's, Selinsgrove) will be preaching. The service is designed to honor and celebrate our Reformed heritage and will include

prayers, readings, communion, and joyful music including a specially commissioned original hymn by Rev. Scott Siciliano (Colonial Park, Harrisburg).

Clergy are invited to wear red stoles (no robes) to add to the celebratory spirit. Refreshments will follow.

October 15, 1725 was first time a group of German Reformed believers shared in a communion meal together at Falkner Swamp Church (in PA Southeast). Three hundred years later most of our UCC churches in PA have roots in that heritage.

Come and join us (in person or on-line) to celebrate!

To register you can contact Pastor Rankin!

Hope to see you on the 15th! Let's fill the sanctuary with praise and thanksgiving!

Peace,
Carrie
Rev. Carrie Call, PhD
Conference Minister
Penn Central Conference

You are invited to enjoy the following activities sponsored by the Lutheran Camping Corporation. Speak with Anne Rankin for more information!

#### 2025 Lutheran Camping Corporation Events

Capture the Flag Spectacular at Kirchenwald - October 5, 2025
Dinner Church at The Wittel Farm - October 5, 2025
Tuesday Morning Work Day at Nawakwa! at Nawakwa - October 7, 2025
October Harvest Festival at The Wittel Farm - October 18, 2025
Fall Foliage Day at Nawakwa at Nawakwa - October 19, 2025
Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald at Kirchenwald - October 26, 2025
Annual Quilt Auction at Nawakwa - November 2, 2025
Dinner Church at The Wittel Farm - November 2, 2025
Tuesday Morning Work Day at Nawakwa! at Nawakwa - November 4, 2025
Women's Craft Retreat at Nawakwa - November 7 - 9, 2025
Tuesday Morning Work Day at Nawakwa! at Nawakwa - December 2, 2025
Advent Day Apart at The Wittel Farm - December 6, 2025
Advent/Christmas in the Barn at The Wittel Farm - December 21, 2025
Winter Youth Retreat at Kirchenwald - January 2 - 4, 2026

Always check LutheranCamping.org for the most updated calendar!



The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and The Wittel Farm
PO Box 459, Arendtsville, PA 17303
717-677-8211 • www.LutheranCamping.org





It's time to have fun and play Pinochle! Everyone is invited to come on Thursdays, October 23 & November 20 at 1:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet for the October 23 gathering on the table across from the church office. Bring a snack to share. We're happy to teach if you are new to this card game.

**BOOK STUDY:** Pastor Chris is planning to do a 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.

#### SPECIAL COMMEMORATIONS IN THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

# Monday, September 29-- Michael and All Angels

On this festival day the church ponders the richness and variety of God's created order and the limits of human knowledge of it. The scriptures speak of angels (the word means "messengers") who worship God in heaven, and in both testaments angels speak for God on earth. They are remembered most vividly as they appear to the shepherds and announce the birth of the Savior. Michael is an angel whose name appears in Daniel as the heavenly being who leads the faithful dead to God's throne on the day of resurrection. In Revelation, Michael fights in a cosmic battle against Satan.

#### Tuesday, September 30--Jerome, translator, teacher, died in 420

Jerome is remembered as a biblical scholar and translator. Rather than choosing classical Latin as the basis of his work, he translated the scriptures into the Latin that was spoken and written by the majority of the persons in his day. His translation is known as the Vulgate, from the Latin word for common. While Jerome is remembered as a saint, he could be anything but saintly. He was well known for his short temper and his arrogance, although he was also quick to admit to his personal faults. Thanks to the work of Jerome, many people received the word in their own language and lived a life of faith and service to those in need.

# Saturday, October 4--Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, died in 1226

Francis was the son of a wealthy cloth merchant. In a public confrontation with his father, he renounced his wealth and future inheritance and devoted himself to serving the poor. Francis described this act as being "wedded to Lady Poverty." Under his leadership the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans) was formed, and they took literally Jesus' words to his disciples that they should take nothing on their journey and receive no payment for their work. Their task in preaching was to "use words if necessary." Francis had a spirit of gladness and gratitude for all of God's creation. This commemoration has been a traditional time to bless pets and animals, creatures Francis called his brothers and sisters.

# Saturday, October 4--Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, died in 1864

Fliedner's (FLEED-ner) work was instrumental in the revival of the ministry of deaconesses among Lutherans. While a pastor in Kaiserswerth, Germany, he also ministered to prisoners in Düsseldorf. Through his ministry to prisoners, he came in contact with Moravian deaconesses, and it was through this Moravian influence that he was convinced that the ministry of deaconesses had a place among Lutherans. His work and writing encouraged women to care for those who were sick, poor, or imprisoned. Fliedner's deaconess motherhouse in Kaiserswerth inspired Lutherans all over the world to commission deaconesses to serve in parishes, schools, prisons, and hospitals.



Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office!!!!



We have great news! Trinity United Church of Christ will be hosting a Life Line Screening event on 10/25/25! Life Line Screening is the premier provider of stroke and cardiovascular disease risk screenings since 1993. Life Line Screening is extending a discounted offer to all Trinity U.C.C. members which will identify your risk level for the following diseases:

- 1. Carotid Artery Disease
- 2. Peripheral Arterial Disease
- 3. Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm
- 4. Atrial Fibrillation

Call 800-324-9458 to schedule your appointment



The QuintEssentially Brass have announced that they will be disbanding at the end of 2025! Their concert at Trinity will be one of their final concerts, so you won't want to miss it!

#### FIRST READING: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.

<sup>4</sup>Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall; <sup>5</sup>who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music; <sup>6</sup>who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! <sup>7</sup>Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

#### Psalm 146

#### SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; <sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; 8but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup>But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

11 But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. <sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 13In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you 14 to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

<sup>16</sup>It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

<sup>17</sup>As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup>They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, <sup>19</sup>thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

#### GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31

[Jesus said:] "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, 21 who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. 23 In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. 24He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' 25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. 26 Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' 27He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—28 for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' 29Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' 30He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' 31He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead."