



Wherever You Go

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. We extend a special welcome to our guests.

For Children: We have trained nursery staff (paid nursery attendant as well as adult volunteers) for ages 0-4. The nursery is located on the first floor outside of the Community Room. (Accessible by the stairs from the Church Street Entrance or via the elevator). Children ages 5 and above are invited to stay and worship with their families. Children's programs, books, and crayons are located in the rear of the sanctuary near the welcome table.



Hymn selections can be found in the black hymnals in the pew racks or printed in the bulletin. If you are visiting and did not stop at the welcome desk in the downstairs lobby please stop by after the service they would love to meet you or, please feel free to reach out to someone sitting near you and ask them questions about the service or church. Many of our visitors ask us about the time of offering. This is a time in our service when we respond to God's gifts of love by offering the gifts of our lives. For many of us, this is when we make a financial gift towards the ministries and programs of our church. We also use this time to ask God how we might use the gifts of our hands and hearts in sharing God's love. If you are visiting, there is no obligation to give a financial gift. We are just glad you are worshipping with us. At this time we are taking offering at the end of the service. Plates for offering will be placed at the doors as you exit the sanctuary. Thank you.

We ask that you please silence your cell phones during our worship service. We also ask that you refrain from applause after our choirs sing and allow the music to resonate in the quiet of the sanctuary and in your hearts. Our musicians are playing and singing for the glory of God. They know you appreciate their efforts and their gift.

Rest rooms (equipped with changing stations) are located on the first floor of the church building and outside the Community Room and the Nursery.

There is much information about the church in this bulletin and our website: www.erucc.org.

Donate online by scanning this code:
or download the **GivePlus Church** application and
make your donation via the app. Thank you.



Ministers - All the People of Evangelical Reformed Church

Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel, Senior Pastor (bkdaniel@erucc.org)

Rev. Fred Wenner, Pastor Emeritus (faw500@msn.com)

Kim Sexton, Associate for Children's Ministry (ksexton@erucc.org)

Alison E. Shafer, Music Director • Tricia Coffey, Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director

Sherry Murray, Nursery • Jaci Clayton, Facilities Mgr.

Bonnie Hilton, Office Administrator (erucc@erucc.org) • Jenna Duranko, Social Media Coordinator

15 West Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-662-2762 • www.erucc.org

EVANGELICAL REFORMED CHURCH
United Church of Christ
- An Open and Affirming Congregation -

October 31, 2021 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 a.m.

Reformation and Homecoming Sunday

Chimes Concert at 10:00 a.m. from Trinity Chapel's steeple

Greetings and Announcements

Welcome to our Homecoming Guests

Prelude

Market Street Brass

***Call to Worship** (Jeremiah 31:7-9)

Sing aloud with gladness:

God is gathering the people!

From the farthest parts of the earth we come:

All who struggle; all who labor with new life!

Those who are weeping, God will console;

Those who get lost find a clear path home.

Let us worship the God who gathers us!

***Opening Prayer** (in unison)

Ever-calling God,

**we give thanks that you have gathered us into your church
and graced us with your faithful presence.**

**We ponder our history, ancient and still developing,
and marvel at the many expressions of your church.**

**Grant us the vision to be a part of a new reformation for the Church
that will bring even more joy and justice to the world.**

**Continue to gather us, the diverse lot of us,
into Jesus' vision and dream**

that your faithful people may be one in you. Amen

FANFARE AND CONCERTATO ON "A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD"

Words by
MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)
tr. by FREDERICK H. HEDGE (1805-1890)

Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG
by MARTIN LUTHER
Arranged by JON PAIGE (BMI)
and BRAD NIX (ASCAP)

CONGREGATION

(parts) 1. A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
(parts) 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
(unis.) 4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a

fail - ing; our help - er He, a - mid the flood of
los - ing; were not the right Man on our side; the
bid - eth; the Spir - it and the gifts are ours through

mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe doth
Man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
Him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, this

seek to work us woe; his craft and pow'r are great, and,
Je - sus, it is He; Lord Sab - a - oth His name, from
mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill: God's

armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his e - qual.
age to age the same, and He must win the bat - tle.
truth a - bid - eth still; His king - dom is for - ev - er.



***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession** *and Kyrie*

#750

When we want to be a church ever-reforming, yet cling to comfortable ways:

Lord, have mercy upon us, (sung)

When we want to honor your “still speaking voice”, but are fearful of insights which challenge old assumptions:

Christ, have mercy upon us, (sung)

When we want to live into Jesus’ dream of oneness, but fail to listen to voices of difference:

Lord, have mercy upon us, (sung)

***Assurance of Pardon**

Take heart, Jesus is calling to us!

We trust in the one who has guided the church for two millennia.

Through Christ, God forgives us our failings,

and continues to call us into a community of mutual love and forgiveness.

Anthem *Dona Nobis Pacem*

Traditional

*(Children’s Music and Movement;
Erin Gohegan, soloist)*

Thought for the Day for Children

The Lord’s Prayer

**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.

***Hymn** *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

- MELITA, arr. C. Courtney

Stanza 1 Choir

Stanza 2 Women

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;

In ev’ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

Stanza 3 Men

His oath, His covenant, His blood Sustain me in the raging flood;

*When all supports are washed away, He then is all my hope and stay.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.*

Stanza 4 All

*When He shall come with trumpet sound, O, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before the throne.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.*

The Scriptures

Ruth 1: 1-18

OT Page 241

Mark 12: 28-34

NT Page 49

Reader: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Gloria Patri**

#759

*Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit.
Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

Sermon

Pastoral Prayers

Prayer Response *Hear Our Prayer, O God*

#769

*Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God;
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.*

Offering of Tithes, Gifts and Lives to Christ's Service

Our ancestors in faith and church-building
show us the way to share the gifts God has given us with the whole community.
Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God
with heartfelt gratitude, commitment and praise.

Offertory *Lord, You Have Been Our Dwelling Place*

- L. Larson
(Senior Choir)

***Prayer of Dedication**

**Reform our lives, O God,
and let these gifts change the world into which we send them.
Take them and multiply them to be a blessing of justice and peace
in the world you love!**

***Closing Hymn** *"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"*

arr. R. A. Hobby

For choir, congregation, brass and organ

(printed on page 7)

***Benediction**

***Sevenfold Amen**

#814

Postlude *(remain seated)*

Market Street Brass



ERUCC is pleased to have Market Street Brass playing for today's worship.

Trumpet Daniel Cheston Trombone Scott Shelsta
Frank Gorecki Bass Trombone Brian Hinkley
Horn Daniel Richmond

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Joachim Neander, 1650-80
Tr: Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

LOBE DEN HERREN
from *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Stralsund, 1665



All: 1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
All: 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
Choir: 3. Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -
All: 4. Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for
reign - ing And, as on wings of an
fend you. Sure - ly his good - ness and
dore him! All that has life and breath,



he is your health and sal - va - tion!
ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear Now to his tem - ple draw
Have you not seen All that is need - ful has
Pon - der a - new What the Al - might - y can
Let the a - men Sound from his peo - ple a -



near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
been Sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
do If with his love he be - friend you.
gain. Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him.

The flowers on the altar are in memory of Dan Marshall by his family who love and miss him.

The yellow rose bud on the stand is placed by Jeanellen Kallevang in honor of her son, Lt. Jonathan Knight Kallevang (DO, US Navy).

If you are interested in sponsoring the yellow rose, please contact the church office.

Attendance Last Sunday: 14 at 8:30 a.m. and 67 online



Every Sunday at 10:30

<https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC>

Want to listen to the sermon again? Visit our Youtube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9_hGBb5tBHeZuvqBvSbX5w

You can get to the link on our homepage at www.erucc.org



Today: Oct. 31, 2021

Next Week: Nov. 7, 2021

Liturgists: Peter Brehm

Deacons: Andrew Beadle, Betsy Selby

Elders: Marc Kline

Greeters: David Howard, Susan Kulp, Felecia Bishop

Welcome: Jeanellen Kallevang

Sound: Amanda Spencer, Jeff Baker, Jack Day

Chimers: Saturday: Dick Williams

Sunday: Tricia Coffey

Tyler York

Cliff Barr, Randi Wallace, Sue Pinner

Betsy Selby

Tadd Clarkson, Amanda Spencer

Ethan Kline

Suzanne Morris

Kelly Esslinger

Worship Next Week: November 7, 2021 - All Saints Sunday

Throughout the book of Ruth, Naomi and Ruth are models of persistence and loyalty. As the narrative closes in Ruth 3: 1-5; 4: 13-17, we learn how their relationship expands into a larger community of women. In Mark 12: 38-44, Jesus speaks out against shows of religious devotion that mask mistreatment of the most vulnerable persons in that day, widows. The widow who placed her coins in the treasury takes a risk by entrusting all that she has a gift to God, trusting that God's providence will keep her. We will share in Holy Communion on this All Saints Sunday as we remember in prayer those members of the congregation and friends and family members who have died in the past year. The Senior Choir will be singing.



Thank you for your Acts of Love!

ERUCC is continuing to receive pledges! Thanks to all of you who have already made your pledge to ERUCC and thank you to those who are continuing to send them in. They provide the foundation for our ministries and mission - such as our music, children's programs, our pastor, and outreach in our community, to name a few.

The Stewardship and Generosity Committee is happy to report that as of Monday, October 24, ERUCC has received **83 pledges totaling \$363,269.00**.

You can still pledge on-line at www.erucc.org or by returning a pledge card to the church. *Every pledge is welcome - no pledge is too small.* And, you can always change your pledge amount, if your circumstances change, by contacting the Treasurer.

We are the church together!

All Saints Sunday – November 7

We will be remembering those in our congregation, as well as loved ones and friends, who died during the past year. During the prayers at both the 8:30 & 10:30 services, the names will be read, followed by the tolling of a bell. You are invited to bring a photo of whomever we will remember in prayer. These photos can be placed on a table in the front of the church. If you wish to include the name of someone who has passed away since last November 1, please contact Pastor Daniel at bkdaniel@erucc.org or 301-662-2762.

Hospital and Prayer List – Your pastor wants to be available when members of ERUCC are in the hospital. Please let us know so that we can visit with you and your family and provide support. We always ask permission before adding a name to be included in the prayer list or in the verbal announcements on a Sunday morning. There are many for whom we pray and visit whose names are not listed in the bulletin by their request.

Prayer List - Prayer List – Please remember the following people in your prayers: Terry Logee, Bob York (grandfather of Tyler York), Michael Rhoads (son of Barbara Rhoads), Katharine Alley, Westin (great nephew of Sandy Gray & Danielle Carbone) Jean Fish, Barb Biser, Pat Hanberry, Peggy Githerman, Tom Frazier, Jeannette Johnson, Emogene Wyand, Fran Wenner, Neremiah Castillo (niece of Andrew Beadle) Bonnie Devilbiss, Maria Csiba (mother of Tamara Tamas), Trish Carey, Betsy Fisher, James “Jimmy” Sutphin (friend of Dan Smith), Danielle Hankey (friend of Ben Mercier), The McCarty family, Nikki Keller, Barbara Lee (sister of Milt Crutchley), Alyce Schimd (sister of Dennie Schmid), Tina Prescott (daughter in law of Barbara and Bill Prescott), Mary Remsberg, Susan Matesa (friend of Dan Smith & Austin Byrd), Susan McCauley (niece of Jack Stush), Heleen (sister of Karin Mens), Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser), Terry Smiley (uncle of Scott Smiley), Shawn Smiley (cousin of Scott Smiley), Gretchen Manuel (niece of Audrey Rayfield), Ann and Cal Theiss (parents of Katharine Alley), Frank Tymczyszyn (brother in law of Nancy Jones), Debra Reedy (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser), Jess Pautz (friend of Sean Sexton)

Weekly Education Opportunities for Adults

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY with Pastor Daniel (North Room)

11:00 – Noon. *God's Promise: I Am with You* takes readers on a journey through scripture to consider circumstances in which God articulated God's promise of presence. This study does not delve deeply into manifestations of God's presence but rather on God's articulation of God's promise. We will see anew that God offered these words of profound comfort and commitment to individuals and communities from the time of the patriarchs to that of the prophets; from the judges to the kings; before, during, and after the exile; into the New Testament and beyond, to the end of the age.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY with Esther Ziegler (Trinity Chapel)

7:00 – 8:30 p.m. We will be using curriculum based on *The Greatest Controversies of Early Christian History and How Jesus Became God* both written and presented in lectures by Bart D. Ehrman, the James S. Gray Distinguished Professor of New Testament at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. The format of the sessions will include a recorded lecture by Prof. Ehrman, followed by discussion facilitated by Esther Ziegler. The sessions cover a variety of topics spanning approximately the first 325 years of the Christian era. They range from questions about what the Bible really says about Jesus' birth to how the discovery of the Gnostic Gospels cast light on diverse Christian theologies from the 1st and 2nd centuries to how the Council of Nicea in 325 BC was influenced by Emperor Constantine. Join us in learning how Christians from the earliest days struggled to understand who Jesus was, and who he is to us as a result of 2100+ years of evolving faith.

THURSDAY EVENING STUDY with Richard Leslie (North Room)

7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Text: Richard Horsley, *Covenant Economics* (no need to purchase unless you want to – it is a bit of a hard read).

Walking in interstellar space requires a tether. It's a lifeline that is attached from the walker to the mother ship. Among other things, it keeps the space walker from drifting away. It is a necessary connector. "Our hearts were made to find their rest in God, and they are restless until they do" (Augustine). Many of us try to go it alone, in effect cutting the tether that links us with the mothership that is our mother/father God. We are drifters. This course will patiently and deeply explore the concepts of Covenant Love, Liberation Theology, and Social Justice (2000BCE-2000AD), and how they connect. Ambitious journey? Sure! Come with me. Let's travel together.

Richard Leslie jalrl@comcast.net

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83234329329?pwd=MitIYXNQZTRVK0VmNkNUbzNka1VUUT09>

Meeting ID: 832 3432 9329

Passcode: 135141

Sunday Education Opportunities for Adults October 31st

LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE (Flora Room) 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

In this class, we will seek to draw out the major themes found in the lectionary scripture texts on which the sermon will be based. Exploring the lectionary scriptural texts before the Sunday morning worship (10:30am) service will help prepare participants to be more fully involved and more present in worship. Led by clergy members of the congregation. Rev. Rob Peters will be leading on October 24th.

LET'S TALK (Community Room) 9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

October 31 Homecoming – Conversations in the Community Room

November: ERUCC and UCC Connection

November 7 Saints of ERUCC

Come and learn about the impact of some of our church members. Offered by Rev. Fred Wenner

November 14 Conversation with Rev. Freeman Palmer

November 21 Conversation with Rev. John Dorhaeur

November 28, December 5, 12, 19 **Advent Study** with Pastor Daniel

GOD'S KIDS CLUB

God's Kids Club is designed for Children Kindergarten through 5th grade. Youth help for events is always welcome. Masks required for in-person events

Schedule for remainder of 2021

Nov. 12th Zoom Event 7 – 9 a.m. Thanksgiving Pictionary

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81033127723?pwd=N0MzSnVNZFJaSXo1SIVxSUduQ1NMdz09>

Meeting ID: 810 3312 7723

Passcode: 668761

Nov. 21st 5:00-6:30 p.m. Care packages for college students and those serving in the military.

A joint activity with the Youth Group.

Dec. 10th Zoom event 7 - 9 p.m. Decorate Christmas cookies

You will need to have your own cookies, sprinkles and frosting for this event.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81033127723?pwd=N0MzSnVNZFJaSXo1SIVxSUduQ1NMdz09>

Meeting ID: 810 3312 7723

Passcode: 668761

Dec. 19th White Gift Christmas pageant for the 275th Anniversary

Dec. 20th Breakfast with Santa for dinner 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. As we get closer to the date we will decide if this will be zoom, hybrid or in person

Questions for God's Kids Club send to Kim Sexton at ks Sexton@erucc.org

In search of addresses

We are looking for the current address for all of our young adults between the ages 18 to 25 years old. Addresses can be emailed to Kim Sexton at Ksexton@erucc.org

Donations Wanted for Care Packages The children and youth will be creating care packages to send to our college students and those serving in the military. We are in need of donations to put in those care packages. Items needed include prepackaged snacks, instant soup, popcorn, cocoa, tea, candy and raisins. Monetary donations welcome and will be used to defray the cost of postage. Donations can be put in the box in the entrances to both the chapel and main building. Questions contact Kim Sexton at ksexton@erucc.org.

ERUCC Youth Soup Fundraiser

For just \$5.00 a quart, you can purchase delicious, homemade soup lovingly made by our very own ERUCC youth (with just a little help from the adults). All proceeds will benefit the ERUCC youth and their service projects planned for the Summer of 2022. Look for an order form available in the next week. Soup will be available for pick up on Sunday, November 14th. We will have extra quarts available for purchase then as well. The youth thank you for your gracious support!

ERUCC History Book Available

To commemorate the 275th Anniversary of ERUCC, the history book *Unto Us* has been updated to reflect our church history through 2020. The 8x11 hard backed history book, with color photo sections is available for purchase. Thanks to a generous donor, the cost of the book for purchase is \$20 per book.

If you are interested in ordering a book, please call the church at (301) 662-2762 or email the church at erucc@erucc.org

TED TALK 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. with Pastor Daniel

Via Zoom

<https://bit.ly/3iWG1SJ>

Meeting ID: 923 9891 8264 • Passcode: 313735



November 9th MIRACLE JONES: The radical, revolutionary resilience of Black joy. In the face of trauma, happiness is resilience: a revolutionary act of thriving despite all odds, rather than wilting or surrendering. Community organizer and activist Miracle Jones offers a heart-to-heart meditation on the role of joy as a form of radical resistance, survival and protection for Black folks in the US and across the world. A warm reminder to embrace affairs curator Whitney Pennington Rodgers. Recorded March 23, 2020.

**ERUCC 275TH ANNIVERSARY
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

OCTOBER

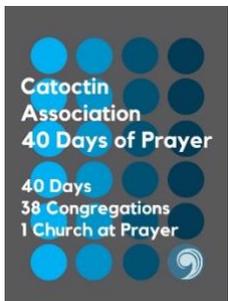
31 10:30 a.m. Worship - Homecoming Celebration, Followed by a turkey dinner

NOVEMBER

7 10:30 a.m. All Saints/Totenfest Service including the reading of the names of those ERUCC members who have died in the past year as well as highlighting “saints” of ERUCC since our founding

14 9:30 a.m. Conversation with Rev. Freeman Palmer
10:30 a.m. Worship: Rev. Freeman Palmer, Conference Minister, Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ

21 9:30 a.m. Conversation with Rev. John Dorhauer
10:30 a.m. Worship: Rev. John Dorhauer, General Minister and President, United Church of Christ



The Catoclin Association is 38 churches - a wide diversity of geography, faith, and practice, and yet one body. Separate and together, we labor side by side for a more just and generous world. That work is rooted in prayer - the prayers of our people, congregations, and the wider church.

On October 6, 2021 the Association launched 40 Days of Prayer, where we will pray for each congregation, by name. We want to kneel in prayer as one association in prayer for each other through 40 days, to practice our covenant

commitments to each other to love and support one another as siblings in Christ, to strengthen and encourage each other as a new chapter of faith emerges in our region.

This week we pray for the following churches:

- November 1 Grace Reformed UCC, Kearnesyville
- November 2 Glade UCC, Walkersville
- November 3 Mount Pleasant UCC, Frederick
- November 4 Benjamin Krider’s UCC, Westminster
- November 5 St. John’s UCC, Clear Springs
- November 6 Grace UCC, Keysville

Workcamp to Franklinton Center at Bricks

December 2-4, 2021

We are looking to take a small group of adults to Franklinton Center, December 2-4, to repair the floor in Hospitality 2, paint in that building, and some other work around the Center. This will also be a preparation trip for the MLK Weekend trip in January. If you are interested in going or want more information, please contact Keith Stickley or Pastor Daniel.

INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT ERUCC

Two opportunities to learn more about ERUCC, the United Church of Christ, and what it means to be a church member will be held on: **Sunday, November 7** following fellowship – in the Community Room. We will start at 12:15 and spend about an hour in conversation.

Sunday, November 14 at 4 pm via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87955512697?pwd=NIBHc0d2YWFnd1piWkMyOGJBTEFCUT09>

Meeting ID: 879 5551 2697 Passcode: 528796

Choose one or the other of the times available.

Thanks to our newer friends and guests for your participation in the life of ERUCC and for the joy you bring us.

Green Team News

Spiritual Walk Sunday November 21st 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

C & O Canal Lock 26 at Dickerson - Come enjoy the fall weather as we walk between the canal and the Potomac River. The terrain is flat and easily accessible.

Directions: Take Route 85 (Buckeystown Pike) southwest out of Frederick. In about 10 miles Buckeystown Pike becomes Dickerson Road (Route 28). After crossing the bridge over the Monocacy River, continue about another mile. At Mouth of Monocacy Road turn right and continue for about another mile (where it ends). You will be at the Monocacy Aqueduct with parking on the left. We will meet there.

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO WALKING THE WAY OF ST. JAMES

SEPTEMBER 6 - 19, 2022

Pastor Daniel is working with David Petrucci of Petrucci Productions, in planning a pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago.

David Petrucci has traveled over 1500 miles, walking 1200, on the Camino and will offer his expertise for the trip details as well as his experience of walking. So many of us were inspired by David Howards' presentation on his Camino experience as well as our Lenten Focus in 2019 focusing on the movie, *The Way*. This pilgrimage is in response to the interest following our Lenten season in 2019. For over a thousand years, pilgrims have walked the Camino de Santiago across northern Spain. Along the "Way" we will enjoy traditional cuisine, historic accommodations, but most of all experience the power of pilgrimage and tracing the steps of those who have gone before us. Throughout our journey, we will explore historic cities and towns that pilgrims entered hundreds of years ago. Enjoy tours of Burgos the 19th-century capital of Castille and Leon, with its many cathedrals and churches; and small villages in Galicia. We will begin our walk from St. Pied-de-Port in France and end in Santiago de Compostela. We will hike into this legendary city, arriving at the cathedral the same way as countless pilgrims before us.

ERUCC COLUMBARIUM AND MEMORIAL GARDEN

Situated in a cozy corner of the property is an opportunity to create a tranquil space for contemplation and a place to permanently memorialize members of our congregation. We have contracted with Bruce Zavos of ZA+D—whom we worked with on our new community building—to develop a columbarium and memorial garden for the placement of urns and scattering of ashes. Beautifully landscaped pathways lead to the cylindrical enclosure surrounded by standing partitions of niches and garden fences. Benches will be provided for extended visits around a small planting area where ashes may be scattered. As a tribute to the history of our church building, one of the stained glass windows will be incorporated into the design.

ZA+D quoted ERUCC \$1,500 for the conceptual design, which we shared with the congregation at the annual meeting in May. The congregation asked that church leadership to proceed with the plans. Subsequent steps call for design development, construction drawings, construction administration, City meetings (such as with HPC), a survey, a site design, and a site plan. The cost of all of these subsequent steps is \$29,620. Construction costs for the final plan are not known and will be additional.

Ashes will be able to be placed into wall niches or spread in a memorial garden. The columbarium niches will cost \$5000 each. Each niche can contain two urns and will include a cover identifying the names of those interred. Ashes spread in the garden section will be memorialized on a wall plaque, with this fee not yet finalized.

Those interested in pre-ordering their niche and being leaders for this project and/or making a donation to the project should send checks or online donations to ERUCC. For a prepaid niche, please note “Niche for Name/s” in the memo line. For donations, please note “columbarium donation” in the memo line. Those who have questions or who are interested in this being their final resting place should email to columbarium@erucc.org.

This is an exciting opportunity for our church congregation and downtown Frederick!



October 31, 2021

Ruth 1:1-18

Wherever You Go
UCC Higher Education Sunday
Reformation-Reconciliation Day

Today is Reformation Sunday when Protestants celebrate the ancestors in faith who created the first waves of Reformation that continue to be felt today.

A lesser-known reformer to many is Caspar Schwenckfeld von Ossig (1489-1561), a German Reformer. Church historians have generally ignored Schwenckfeld; maybe because of his many disagreements with Martin Luther. Luther, in one of his letters (December 6, 1543), spoke of Schwenckfeld as “the poor simpleton” who was “possessed of the devil.” Schwenckfeld refused to retaliate or to make public the feud between himself and the famous reformer. He just kept preaching his understanding of scripture as critical but not literal for understanding the Spirit’s work, his insistence on the oneness of all baptized believers, and his belief in the beautiful humanity of the service of communion.

Banished because of pressure from both Catholics and other Protestants, Schwenckfeld lived for many years in exile. He depended on friends, who circulated his writings and provided him refuge until his death on December 10, 1561. Schwenckfeld remained a bachelor and his followers were all “spiritual heirs” who were attracted to his reforming spirit of “The Middle Way,” between literal biblicism and blind sacramentalism.

Waves of persecution threatened the Schwenckfelders with extinction throughout the 1600s, and by the mid-1700’s only one alternative remained: leave everything and escape. On July 29, 1734, forty families began the journey to Pennsylvania and a new life. The descendants of those forty families still worship in Schwenckfelder UCC churches in Palm, Lansdale, Norristown, and Philadelphia, and proudly carry on the philosophy and thinking of Caspar Schwenckfeld.

This information adapted from Hidden Histories of the UCC which is searchable online at ucc.org.



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