

Thank you for worshiping 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 worshiping 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 and Staff of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel ~ Senior Pastor ~ bkdaniel@erucc.org The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ Pastor Emeritus ~ burschenherrlichkeit@gmail.com The Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads ~ Associate for Faith Formation & Parish Life ~ ksrhoads@erucc.org Alison E. Shafer ~ Director of Music • Tyler L. York, Office Administrator ~ tyork@erucc.org Jaci Clayton, Facilities Manager ~ jclayton@erucc.org • Sherry Murray, Nursery Tricia Coffey, Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director Kelly Esslinger ~ Bell Choir & Events Coordinator • Jenna Duranko, Social Media Coordinator





September 4, 2022

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am

The numbered hymns are from The New Century Hymnal *All who are able may stand

Creation Justice Sunday

Chimes Concert at 10:00 am from Trinity Chapel's steeple

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude Prelude No. 3

- Michael Burritt Jenna Duranko, marimba

*Call to Worship (Based on Jeremiah 18)

To take the clay of our lives, and shape disciples: **God calls us to the Potter's House** To receive and mend those who are broken: **God calls us to the Potter's House** To love and heal those who are wounded: **God calls us to the Potter's House** To shelter all who are outcast and heavily burdened: **God calls us to the Potter's House** Let us enter this place of transformation: **And worship our God!**

***Opening Prayer**

Oh Great Potter, we come into your house to worship you. We are here to lay the clay of our lives on your wheel so that we might be shaped into vessels for your Spirit who will mend those who suffer, heal the sick, and offer the outcast loving shelter. Create in us the spirit to serve those who are broken from laboring under the burdens of life. Bless us with a new attitude to serve you and your people. Amen. *Opening Hymn O God, as with a Potter's Hand - tune - FOREST GREEN

O God, as with a potter's hand, when earth was morning bright, you shaped from clay a human form that gave your eye delight; You breathed in love your Spirit's breath: a living creature stirred and stood within the garden green, awake to hear your Word.

Can clay defy the potter's touch, alone its form define, or spoil with wild, rebellious will the artist's true design? Yet we, in whom your hand has formed an image good and fair, Disfigure what you meant to be a work beyond compare.

But once you shaped from human clay a life whose truth and grace revealed an image pure and whole that sun could not deface. And when we seized your choicest work and broke its fragile clay, your hands restored the shattered shards on earth's first Easter day.

O God, you hold our earthen lives within your shaping hand and turn our forming clay to show the image you have planned. Forgive the sin that mars your work and strives against your will. Conform our lives to Jesus Christ with wisdom, love, and skill.

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (based on Psalm 139) Holy God, you know us inside and out.
You know our ups and our downs, our strengths and our shortcomings. You know the best roads for us to take.
And you know that we don't always take them. You created us for your glory,
But we live as though things are all about us. Forgive us, Lord.
Help us to see ourselves as you created us to be; and guide us to live more faithfully, we pray.

*Assurance of Pardon

Thought for the Day

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.

#351

*Hymn I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry was there 1 T to hear vour born ing I'll be cry, 2 When you found the won der of the Word, I was 3 In the mid dle a ges of your life, not too 4 Ι was there to hear your born ing cry, I'll be 0. there when you old. are Ι re - joiced the day you there to cheer you on; You were raised to praise the old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you there when you are old. Ι re - joiced the day you υ G D7 G C 0 0. were bap - tized, fold. to see your life un liv ing God, to whom you now be long. through the night, com-plete I've what be gun. were bap - tized, to see your life un _ fold. St. 4, end U 9: was there Ι when you were but a child, with a Should you find some-one to share your time and you When the eve ning gent-ly clos - es in and you 9: . faith well; to suit you I'll be there in case you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your shut your wea - ry I'll be there have eyes, as Ι A U to beginning -0 and find wan - der off where de - mons dwell. rhyme vers - es from dusk till ris - ing sun. al - ways been with just one more sur prise.

The Scripture

Psalm 139: 1-6, Luke 14:25-33	13-18	OT page 577 NT page 78
Reader:	The Word	of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Morning Prayers

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

Offertory How Great Thou Art	- Swedish folk melody, arr. Jenna Duranko
	Jenna Duranko, Cindy Smith

***Prayer of Dedication**

O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer, the cost of discipleship seems just and reasonable as we bow our heads in prayer. We want to be shaped by our relationship with you. Yet, when we think about the economic pressures in our lives – the mortgage, car payments, school supplies, health care, college tuition, and credit card debt – giving money is a challenge. Strengthen the connection between your call to discipleship and our giving habits. We strive to grow in generosity so that our giving is a reflection of our desire to be wholly committed to you. In your name, we pray. Amen.

- SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION -

Communion Prayer

Spirit of life, of love, of grace, of God, out of nothing you created us, heaven and earth, night and day, land and sea and all creation, and called your creation good.

Spirit of life, of love, of grace, of God, out of love you claimed your people, promised love and guidance, heard the cries of suffering children, sustained them in the wilderness.

Spirit of life, of love, of grace, of God, you raised up prophets to declare your passionate love for humankind and the worship you desire: a humble walk with you, our God.

Spirit of life, Spirit of love, Spirit of grace, Spirit of God, you came to earth and travelled with us, you healed and taught and fed and loved and died for us, that we might know the greatness of your love.

Spirit of life, of love, of grace, of God, death could not hold you. Hate could not bind you. Fear could not quench your love. Alive again, you call us to feast once more with you.

Spirit of life, of love, of grace, of God, thank you for your good creation, thank you for your faithfulness, thank you for the table you set. thank you for your love and grace, thank you for your words of welcome, thank you for your warm embrace, thank you for the winds that blow us to this sacred time and place.

Words of Consecration

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

This morning we will bring communion to the congregation as you are seated in the pews. Please hold the bread until all have been served and the pastors extend the invitation for all to eat. Please hold the cup of grape juice until all have been served and the pastors extend the invitation for all to drink. In this way, we can commune together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Spirit of life, of love, of grace, of God, you have ushered us in, fed us, blessed us, and renewed us. Guide us now as we go forth that our lives may bear witness to your gracious, miraculous, and everlasting love. Amen. *Closing Hymn When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



*Benediction

As you have feasted at the table at God's invitation, go into the world renewed and restored. Go into the world to share the Good News that there is a place for everyone at God's banquet table. Go into the world to share God's bounty. Amen. **Amen.** *Threefold Amen

Postlude *Prelude No. 5* (please be seated)

- Michael Burritt Jenna Duranko, marimba

The call to worship and the opening prayer are from Worship Ways of the United Church of Christ, other material was written by David S. Bell. Prayers for Communion are from Seasons of the Spirit.

The flowers on the altar are in loving memory of my mother, Isabell A. Boone, whose birthday was September 7, by Jo Ann Fritz.

The yellow rose bud is presented in honor of Senior Master Sergeant Brian L. York, USAF, Ret. by his son and son-in-law, Tyler and Owen York.

Attendance Last Sunday: 14 at 8:30 am, 99 at 10:30 am, and 62 online.



Watch worship live every Sunday at 10:30 am https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC



Next Week: September 11, 2022

You Tube

Want to listen to the sermon again? Visit our YouTube channel: **bit.ly/erucc_youtube**

Today: September 4, 2022

Liturgist:	Carolyn Roberts	Robin Cooney
Deacons:	Mark Ulrich	Chuck Baldree, Matt Pomeroy
Elder:	Tyler L. York	Tyler L. York
Greeters:	Sue Pinner, Abby Spear	Eliza Stitely, Cathie Duncan,
	Bob and Nancy Manthey	Jo Ann Fritz
Welcome:	Ave Barr, Marj Berkheimer	Jeanellen Kallevang
Audio/Visual:	Kelly Esslinger, Larry Martin	Jeff Baker, Jeff Schaeberle
	Jeff Schaeberle	Kelly Esslinger
Fellowship:	Sedonia and Larry Martin	Julie Clark
Chimers: Sature	<i>day:</i> Dick Williams	Trish Coffey
Sunda	<i>ny:</i> Kelly Esslinger	Trish Coffey

FELLOWSHIP

Please join us for fellowship in the Community Room after worship to chat with friends, welcome our visitors, and enjoy a time of refreshment.

The Community Room, located on the 1st floor, is accessible by stairs or elevator.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Next Week

There are 12 minor prophets in the Hebrew Bible, dubbed minor, not because they lack significance, but simply because the texts are considerably shorter than the major prophets such as Isaiah and Jeremiah. Most of the prophets conveyed a message or messages from God to the people concerning their behavior, most often idolatry. Two in particular, however, were unhappy with God – Habakkuk and Jonah. On September 11 and 18, we will hear about what they had to say in two sermons entitled Major Minor Messages. Come hear their complaints and God's responses. Today we will hear from the prophet Habakkuk 1: 2-4, 13-14. The Gospel lesson is Luke 12: 4-7.

The Rev. David Cooney will be preaching. Spirit will be singing. This morning we will also bless those leading Christian education and formation for the coming year.

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 - Please remember the following people in your prayers: Darryl Glick, John Ewing (grandfather of Tyler York), Conway Barnes (brother-in-law of George and Linda Kline), The Family of Heather Krystofiak (friend of Laura Rhoderick), Mary Jean Thiele (friend of Mary Boswell), Mary Ellen Baker, Pat Hevner, David Cooney, Jeannette Johnson, Barbara Rhoads, Starr Schaeberle, Nancy Tordoff (mother of Kim Sexton), Jackie Keyser (sister-in-law of Betsy and Phil Selby), Tamara Tamas, Barbara Lee Crutchley (sister of Milt Crutchley), Marcy Channell (daughter of JoAnn Fritz), Paige Coffey, Jane Doll, Westin (great nephew of Sandy Gray & Danielle Carbone), Peggy Githerman, Emogene Wyand, Fran Wenner, Neremiah Castillo (niece of Andrew Beadle), Bonnie Devilbiss, Maria Csiba (mother of Tamara Tamas), The McCarty family, Tina Prescott (daughter in law of Barbara and Bill Prescott), Mary Remsberg, Heleen (sister of Karin Mens), Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser), Gretchen Manuel (niece of Audrey Rayfield), Ann and Cal Theiss (parents of Katharine Alley), Debra Reedy (friend of Jean Fish and Barb Biser).

Peggy Githerman	Mary Ellen Baker
208 Center St	634 Schley Ave
Frederick MD 21701	Frederick MD 21702

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Blaine Hoffmann, who died Friday, August 19.

Sunday Education Opportunities for Adults

LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE with The Reverends John & Rebecca Shillingburg The Church Gets Organized: A Brief history of Christianity from the 1st Century to the Middle Ages Resumes September 11 North Room / Zoom 9:00 – 10:20 am

Zoom: bit.ly/3QSB77N

Meeting ID: 833 1890 5798

Passcode: 891524

This class will resume meeting on September 11, both online and in the North Room, with an overview discussion of the history of the church from the 1st century into the Middle Ages. On September 18 and 25, *Let's Talk* and *Let's Study the Bible* will combine for a discussion about Mary Magdalene led by Rev. Richard Leslie at 9:30 am. Then, a series on the parables of Jesus will begin on October 2 with more details to come.

LET'S TALK

Community Room

9:30 – 10:15 am

Today: Creation Justice: In these days of unrelenting bad news about the climate and supercharged partisan politics, we need some hope! Using *Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World* by Katharine Hayhoe, we will explore how to stay hopeful, engage others and take action. Even if you don't have time to read the book, join us for the discussion **led by members of the Green Team.**

Next Week: Generosity: If there is one act that constantly surprises people, it's the act of generosity. When we are generous, both the recipient and the giver experience transformation. How have you been transformed by generosity? Come ready to hear and share stories of generosity and transformation in a discussion led by members of the Stewardship/ Generosity Committee.



This Week at ERUCC

SPECIAL GIVING OPPORTUNITY TODAY

Mortgage Assistance: On the first Sunday of each month, we have a special opportunity for giving towards Mortgage Assistance. Donations fund ERUCC's mortgages with the Fisher Fund and FCB Bank, a division of ACNB Bank, payments on which are about \$153,000/year.

TODAY IS CREATION JUSTICE SUNDAY



Devastating news about climate change bombards us daily. It is very easy to become overwhelmed and depressed about the future of our beautiful planet. But when we become hopeless, we see no reason to act. Hope is the antidote for despair and we need more of it! Hope is empowering and gives us the

courage to act and advocate. But where do we find hope amidst all the news of wildfires, melting glaciers and droughts?

During Let's Talk, we will discuss Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World. We are hosting the knitted Tempestry, which shows the rise in temperatures in Maryland from the years 1900 to 2018. Our own Nancy Jones helped create this beautiful and informative piece of scientific artwork. David Howard is giving a special musical performance representing climate change on cello.

GREEN TEAM: IN THE STREETS Saturday, September 10

Community Room

11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Visit members of the Green Team as we pair up with the Multifaith Alliance of Climate Stewards (MACS) and Interfaith Power and Light (IPL) at the In the Streets festival. We will be between 4th and 5th streets in the Going Green Block.



A Prayer for Workers

Creator God, help us to build a new world in the midst of the old.

A world where all workers are valued.

A world where those who clean houses are also able to buy houses to live in.

A world where those who grow food can also afford to eat their fill.

A world where those who serve and care for others are, themselves, served and cared for.



Upcoming at ERUCC

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MUSIC

On September 11, we will kick off the year for children and youth music activities. Children's Music and Movement will rehearse each Sunday morning from 10:10–10:25 am in Trinity Chapel. Children will explore a variety of musical styles including the use of rhythm instruments, hand chimes, expression through movement, and vocal choirs. We will also hold Cambridge handbell choir rehearsals each Sunday morning from 11:30 am - 12:00 pm in the Flora Room. Both groups are open to participants in Pre-K through high school. We will sing or play in the 10:30 am worship service at least monthly, and children of all ages are invited to join us in singing a quick song verse following the Thought for the Day each Sunday.

We look forward to these new, exciting opportunities and hope you will join us! If you have any questions, please contact Trish Coffey, 301-455-8720 or trishcoffey1195@gmail.com or Kelly Esslinger, 484-707-3233 or kellbell.erucc@gmail.com.

YOUTH GROUP OLYMPICS Sunday, September 11

Fun and games as we get to know each other and build community in our youth group for the

coming year. Thanks to Trish Coffey for organizing!

GREEN TEAM: NATIVE PLANT PLANTING DAY Wednesday, September 14

Come help us turn the plot of grass at the back of the parking lot into a native plant garden. Native plants help bring back biodiversity by providing flowers for pollinators, host plants for insects and seeds and berries for birds. Bring work gloves and water. We can really use some help!

GREEN TEAM: SUNDAY SPIRITUAL WALK Sunday, September 18 **Catoctin Furnace**

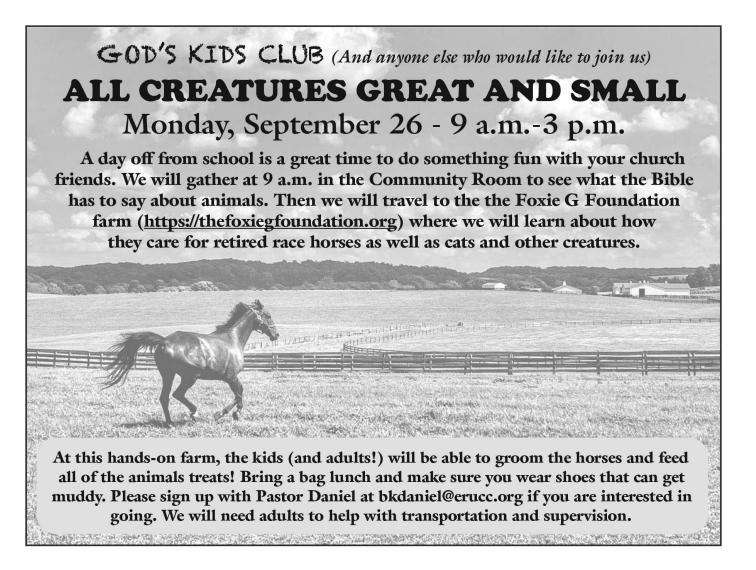
Enjoy the beauty of the Catoctin Mountains and reflect on the lives of the people who lived and worked at Catoctin Furnace. We will visit the furnace and follow the trail to the slave cemetery. Meet in the Cunningham Falls Manor parking lot to walk across the iron bridge to the Catoctin Furnace area. Or if you prefer not to do the steps on the bridge, you can park at the Catoctin Furnace parking lot and meet up with us around 2:30 pm. Take 15 N from Frederick towards Thurmont.

8:00 - 11:00 am

6:00 pm

2:00 – 3:30 pm

Community Room



ERUCC BOOK GROUP Tuesday, September 27

 Liz Coffey Room / Zoom
 7:00 pm

Zoom: bit.ly/ER0821

Meeting ID: 824 9521 1145 Passco

Passcode: 343455

We Are Not Like Them by Christine Pride. Read a book synopsis in the September Trinity Chimes at **bit.ly/Sep22Chimes**.

GERMAN VISITORS FROM INDEN AND LANGERWEHE October 14 – 23

The Rev. Daniel Mueller-Thor will be leading a group of 20 youth and adults to Frederick October 14-23. We are still working on the program and will have details soon. If you are interested in hosting for this event and available to participate in activities, please let Pastor Daniel know.

WOMEN'S RETREATPerfect Rough Edges: Per'-fect or Per-fect' led by Pastor Daniel and Karen JusticeSaturday, October 29Community Room8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Although we often think otherwise, sometimes our rough edges are perfect. After all, the rough edges of diamonds cut through hard objects. Sometimes, however, we need God's help to perfect our rough edges. As we tumble through life and we glue our broken pieces back together, we are constantly transforming our rough edges.

Join us for a day of discussions about our expectations, acceptance and artistic adaptations for transforming the rough edges of our lives. While we won't achieve perfect, we'll learn to perfect the lives God has given us.

Light breakfast to be served at 8:30 am. Program will begin promptly at 9 am. Lunch from Firestones will be provided. A \$10 donation for meals is requested.

RSVP to erucc@erucc.org by October 24.

KENTUCKY MISSION TRIP OPPORTUNITY November 12-19



ERUCC members and friends will travel to Kentucky to work with Fuller Center Disaster ReBuilders, a 501(c)(3)Christian organization dedicated to serving the victims of major disasters in the United States. The group was formed in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and has supported rebuilding after all the major hurricanes since.

Their client homeowners, are low-income and underinsured. The Fuller Center uses volunteers to make rebuilding more affordable and are financed from donations and grants.

On December 10, 2021, Kentucky was hit by record-setting, catastrophic tornadoes. A "long-track" twister was on the ground for almost 200 miles and hit 11 counties, including the small towns of Dawson Springs and Bremen. The Fuller Center is partnering with First Christian Church of Madisonville, centrally located between Dawson Springs and Bremen, to house volunteers and begin rebuilding these communities.

We will be leaving on Saturday, November 12 to drive to Kentucky to enjoy a free evening and Sunday prior to starting work on Monday, November 14. Please contact Keith Stickley, keith.stickley@montgomerycountymd.gov, or Pastor Daniel, bkdaniel@erucc.org, for more information or if you are interested in going. While construction related skills are welcome, we need all kinds of skills to make the trip work so do not hesitate to consider this opportunity.

Weekly Education Opportunities for Adults

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY with Rev. Richard LeslieEmbracing Spiritual Awakening Guide: Diana Butler Bass on the Dynamics of Experiential FaithTuesdays, September 6 – October 4North Room / ZoomZoom: bit.ly/3TdUnOyMeeting ID: 875 1423 3398Passcode: 973365

Zoom: bit.ly/3TdUnOy

Best-selling author, speaker, scholar, and "cultural observer" Diana Butler Bass explores what Christianity may look like "beyond religion and beyond the church." In this engaging and provocative study, Diana leads a fascinating discussion of how, both culturally and spiritually, we are in the midst of another of history's "great awakenings."

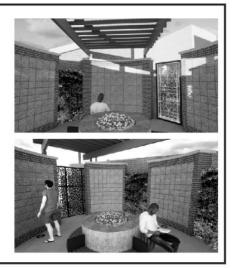
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY with Rev. Esther Ziegler Faithful and True: A Study Guide to the Book of Revelation Wednesdays, September 7 – October 26 North Room

2:00 – 3:00 pm

What should contemporary Christians make of the last book in the New Testament? Greg Carey, Professor of New Testament at Lancaster Theological Seminary, offers an accessible guide to the Book of Revelation in his new book *Faithful and True: A Study Guide to the Book of Revelation*. Rather than translating the fantastic and metaphorical language of the first century, he invites us to learn what those first Christians were facing in their time and culture and to use it to engage the urgent questions of power and loyalty we face as Christians today. Books are available through the church office and the reading for each session will be about 10 pages long plus assigned passages in scripture.

Those interested in securing their final resting place here at ERUCC should contact the committee by email at columbarium@erucc.org or calling the office at 301-662-2762.

> \$10,000 Top-tier Leadership niche (12"x12") \$5,000 Standard niche (8"x8") Each niche accommodates two urns.



Additional Announcements

ADVOCATES FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES GOLF TOURNAMENT Saturday, September 19 Clustered Spires Golf Club

All proceeds will benefit Frederick County homeless individuals and families with children. All golfers receive a light breakfast, lunch, use of practice facilities, and 18 holes of golf. Lunch will be served after the tournament, followed by raffle drawing, door prize drawings, and individual and team prizes. \$125 per golfer. Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

To register, please go to **www.ahfgolf.com** before August 19, 2022. For questions, please contact: Ken Allread, Executive Director, 301-662-2003 or kallread@afhf88.org.

TOGETHER IN TEAL: ENDING OVARIAN CANCER



This year marks 10 years since my diagnosis of late-stage ovarian cancer. While I am incredibly grateful to be healthy, I can't help but think of all the women who have not been as fortunate, who struggle with or have lost their life to this terrible disease. My passion for the cause

remains strong. The Frederick teal community has now merged with the Annapolis Chapter to form the Central Maryland Market, and we will be walking on Sunday October 9 at the Annapolis Mall. This year my team, Cathie's Warriors, will walk in memory of all the women we have lost, particularly my dear friend Debra Sapcariu, who was the co-chair of the Frederick Chapter.

Please help support Cathie's Warriors for 2022 Together in TEAL® to raise awareness and funds for the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition and support our mission. Together we can imagine a world where no woman ever loses her life to ovarian cancer.

To donate go to: https://togetherinteal.donordrive.com/participant/23786

Thank you for your support, Cathie Duncan

BE A BLESSING PRACTICE PEACE. BE JOYFUL. PRAY OFTEN. BE KIND. GIVE THANKS. DO 600D. HAVE COURAGE. WORK FOR JUSTICE. BE THE LIGHT. ENCOURAGE OTHERS. ON STREET

ERUCC FINANCE REPORT JULY 2022

Our church is blessed with members and friends with tremendous generosity, THANK YOU! As stated at the annual congregational meeting the Finance Committee committed to keeping you informed of the financial state of our church. The following information is based on financial reports through July 31, 2022.

ERUCC Finances as of 31-July 2022							
	Ja	n - Jul 2022		Budget	(Over(Under)	% of Budget
Envelopes & Offering	\$	268,196.00	\$	316,513.00	\$	(48,317.00)	84.7%
Plate	\$	894.00	\$	864.00	\$	30.00	103.5%
Building Use	\$	29,112.00	\$	11,666.00	\$	17,446.00	249.5%
Miscellaneous Income	\$	1,000.00					
Property Donations	\$	45.00	\$	38,000.00	\$	(37,955.00)	0.1%
Mortgage Assistance	\$	39,629.00	\$	33,250.00	\$	6,379.00	119.2%
Investment Income	\$	141,470.00	\$	139,096.00	\$	2,374.00	101.7%
Total Income	\$	480,346.00	\$	539,389.00	\$	(59,043.00)	89.1%
Total Expenses	\$	532,549.00	\$	726,041.00	\$	(193,492.00)	73.3%
Net Ordinary Income	\$	(52,203.00)	\$	(186,652.00)	\$	134,449.00	28.0%

As you can see our direct donations through envelopes and offering is behind our projected/budgeted amount. However, building use and mortgage assistance are both ahead. On the expense side we are under what we projected to have incurred so that is good news as we work to keep expenses under control.

We apologize for the delay in sending the mid-year individual giving statements, which were emailed or mailed on Wednesday, August 24th. Please consider completing your financial commitment to the work and ministry of ERUCC.

If you have questions or concerns, contact the Treasurer at treasurer@erucc.org or Finance Chair at financeChair@erucc.org.

Your Finance team: Will Duncan (Chair), Rodney Martin (Treasurer), Allen Flora, RaeAnn Butler, Robert Morris, Bob Ziegler, Peter Brehm, and Barbra Kershner Daniel

Opportunities to Use Your Gifts at ERUCC

ERUCC RINGERS

Do you enjoy music and have an interest in ringing handbells with us? ERUCC has traditionally had several handbell choirs and would love to keep that tradition alive. We will begin handbell rehearsals for the upcoming year on Thursday, September 15 (adults and experienced middle/high school-aged youth). We will rehearse each Thursday evening in the Flora Conference Room from 6:15-7:00 pm. NO MUSICAL EXPERIENCE is necessary. We will teach you, if you are willing to learn! Our goal is to play in church at least once a month. Please join us! We would love to have you.

Please let Trish Coffey know via text, 301-455-8720, or email, trishcoffey1195@gmail.com, if you are interested in joining us.

FELLOWSHIP

Consider helping with Fellowship! Helping with fellowship can be as easy as helping set up before worship, helping to serve during Fellowship after service, or bringing a special treat to share.

Contact Laura Rhoderick or Starr Schaeberle, or sign up to share your gifts of hospitality at **bit.ly/ERUCC_fellowship**.

EVENT HOSPITALITY AND SUPPORT



Please consider giving your time as we extend ERUCC's hospitality to the community of people using our spaces for their milestone life events, business meetings, and community gatherings. In supporting at these events, you are helping to fulfill our mission to do good work in Frederick and

beyond. Many opportunities to serve in this ministry may only involve a few hours of your time and are often very fulfilling to support.

To help with upcoming events, contact Pastor Daniel or the church office, 301.662.2762, events@erucc.org, or sign up online: **bit.ly/ERUCC_events_help**.

AUDIO/VISUAL TEAM

We are looking for volunteers to join our AV team. No special skills or experience is required. We rotate duty Sundays so you don't need to be there every Sunday. We each typically work about 2 Sundays each month. Schedules are set 3 months at a time, and we work together to cover shifts when someone's plans change. There are three people there each Sunday so you will always be with someone experienced. We will provide training on both audio and video consoles. If you are interested, please contact Jeff Schaeberle, jeff@erucc.org. You are also welcome to come up to the balcony on any Sunday to observe and learn more.

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

beginning September 11

8:30 – 9:15 am	Worship, Trinity Chapel
9:30 am – 12:00 pm	Nursery Care, Main Building
9:30 – 10:15 am	Adult Education, Main Building Let's Talk (9:30 am) and Let's Study the Bible (9:00 am)
9:30 – 10:10 am	Children's Sunday School , Trinity Chapel $K - 6^{th}$ Grade
10:10 – 10:25 am	Children's Music & Movement, Trinity Chapel Pre-K through high school
10:30 – 11:30 am	Worship, Main Sanctuary
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Children/Youth Hand Chimes Rehearsal, Flora Room <i>Pre-K through high school</i>
11:30 am	Fellowship, Community Room

STAY INFORMED

Read our Trinity Chimes monthly newsletter for more information about ERUCC activities, opportunities, and updates. You can find the Trinity Chimes in the back of the sanctuary and online at **bit.ly/Sep22Chimes**.

If you have an announcement for the bulletin, Thursday Thoughts, or Trinity Chimes, please send to erucc@erucc.org.



MISSION STATEMENT

We, the members of this congregation, seek to celebrate in word and deed the gospel of Jesus Christ, by nurturing spiritual growth through worship, study and prayer; by caring for one another as God cares for us; and by proclaiming God's love for all people as we work to help our neighbors near and far. We commit ourselves to develop and implement specific programs to fulfill our mission.

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 4, 2022

Philemon 1:1-21

A New Identity

As the letter to Philemon begins, the apostle Paul and his friend Timothy are writing a letter to their friends - two men, Philemon and Archippus, and a woman Apphia. Paul invites them to read the letter to the church community that they have gathered in their home. The letter they write is being carried by a freed slave named Onesimus. That's a lot of characters for such a short book!

In fact, this letter is the shortest book in the Bible. If you have never read the whole thing, why not try it now? As you do, try to put yourselves into the shoes of the characters. Imagine what they are thinking, feeling, seeing and hearing as they write, carry, or read this letter. As you imagine, consider if feeling empathy for these or other characters in the Bible can help you feel close to them, or understand them better.

You don't have to limit your imagination to characters on the page. What about people in your family, your region, your congregation, or your nation? How might your life, or your congregation's life, be changed for the better by using this practice of holy empathy?

Imagine yourself as Paul or Timothy, in prison. As you look around the cell, what can you see, touch, hear, feel? How do you feel about being imprisoned? What are your emotions as you say goodbye to Onesimus? How do you experience God's presence in this place? What is God calling you to do next?

Imagine yourself as Onesimus, traveling toward Philemon and his family. As you travel, what can you see, touch, hear, feel? How do you feel about being on the road? What are your emotions as you prepare to deliver this letter? How do you experience God's presence now? What is God calling you to do next?

Imagine yourself as Philemon, Archippus, Apphia or a member of the church community gathered in their home. As Onesimus delivers his letter, what can you see, touch, hear, feel? How do you feel about those you are gathered with right now? What are your emotions as you hear the words of your friends Paul and Timothy? How do you experience God's presence in this gathered community? What is God calling your community to do next?



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