Holy Welcome

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 ~ *Pastor Emerita* ~ bkdaniel59@gmail.com
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
Tricia Coffey ~ Head Chimer & Children & Youth Choir Director
Kelly Esslinger ~ Assistant Director for Bell Choirs & Children's Music
Jenna Duranko ~ Social Media Assistant | Ashley Murphy ~ Nursery Attendant



EVANGELICAL REFORMEDUnited Church of Christ

- An Open and Affirming Congregation -



July 2, 2023

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am

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

CHIMES CONCERT at 10:00 am from Trinity Chapel's steeple

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATION CENTERING PRAYER

Peter Brehm

As we journey through this time of transition, remembering our past and welcoming our future, 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;
- · Caring for one another as God cares for us; and
- 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 missions, remembering the work of our ancestors, actively participating in our congregation's life, and laying a foundation for our generations to follow. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CENTERING CANDLE

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come into God's love.

God's love stretches wide.

ready to embrace all with love.

Come thirsty for the presence of God, ready to satisfy every thirst.

Come together, full of welcome.

Ready to drink deeply in God's presence.

Come, let us worship God together.

*OPENING PRAYER

Faithful God,
your love stands firm from generation to generation,
your mercy is always abundant.
You call us to radical loyalty
beyond all earthly claim.
Grant us strength to offer ourselves to you
as people who have been raised from death to life
through Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN Be Still, My Soul

#488

see next page

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of Grace, we confess that sometimes we are unsure of our faith. We are weighed down with doubt and guilt, and do not have the courage to trust in you. Fill our hearts with the assurance of your love, strengthen our faith, and renew our courage through your Holy Spirit, that we may serve you with joyful abandon. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Almighty God, who is great in mercy and promises forgiveness of sin to all who truly repent and are sincere in faith, have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all sin, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven

hallowed be thy name.

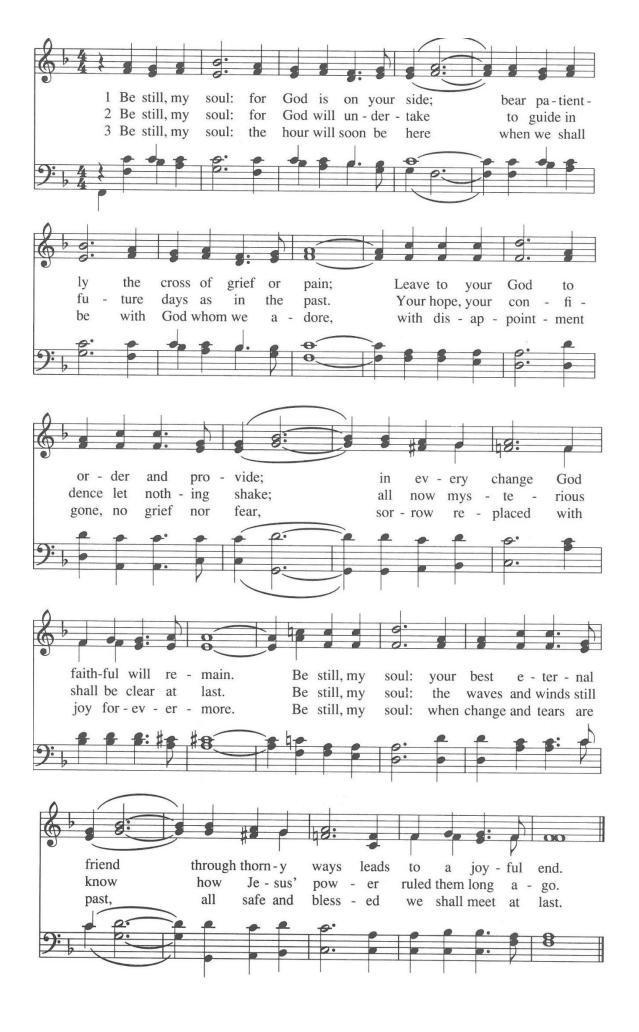
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done

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.



THE SCRIPTURE

Genesis 22:1-14 OT page 17
Psalm 89: 1-4, 15-18 OT page 545
Matthew 10: 40-42 NT page 11

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads

MORNING PRAYERS

A PRAYER FOR GENERAL SYNOD

God of small sanctuaries and large halls, We listen and look for your presence immediately surrounding us, energizing us to serve the world outside.

And today we know that many of our neighbors and friends, including Reverend Barbara Kershner Daniel, Ben Mercier, Reverend Rob Peters, and Ginny Peters are gathering in Indianapolis for General Synod as they celebrate faith, reflect on your calling, seek justice and kindness, and inhale the invigorating breath of the Spirit.

We pray for their wisdom, Holy One. May your wisdom carry them from one moment to the next as they search for the depths of your love. We pray for their endurance, Loving Spirit. Throughout the long days of Synod, may they find rest and renewal, moments of hopeful silence and joyous laughter.

We pray for their strength, Divine Redeemer. May your courage permeate their hearts as they speak and vote, and may your Holy Curiosity open their souls to new stories. May each of us be willing to open our souls to new words, new sounds, new stories, and new songs.

Your Kin-dom can be found from the conversation between two people drinking coffee to the most distant of galaxies across the universe. May we see how to serve the Church and your children within the walls of our individual sanctuaries to the streets surrounding us to the farthest spaces in our world. Amen.

OFFERING OF TITHES, GIFTS AND LIVES TO CHRIST'S SERVICE

ORGAN OFFERTORY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Great and awesome God, we give our tithes and offerings to you today, joyously, and not begrudgingly. We give to you today as a response to your goodness to us. You give us everything we need, so we may abound in every good work. You enrich us in every way to be generous on every occasion. We ask that you receive our offerings so that they might go to strengthen your church, share your love, and care for your world. May your peace be in our hearts, your grace be in our words, your love be in our hands, and your joy be in our souls. In your mighty name, Amen.

*COMMUNION HYMN As We Gather at Your Table

#332

see next page

- SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION -

COMMUNION PRAYER

God who calls us by name

Today and throughout all generations

God who sees us as we are and provides for us

Today and throughout all generations

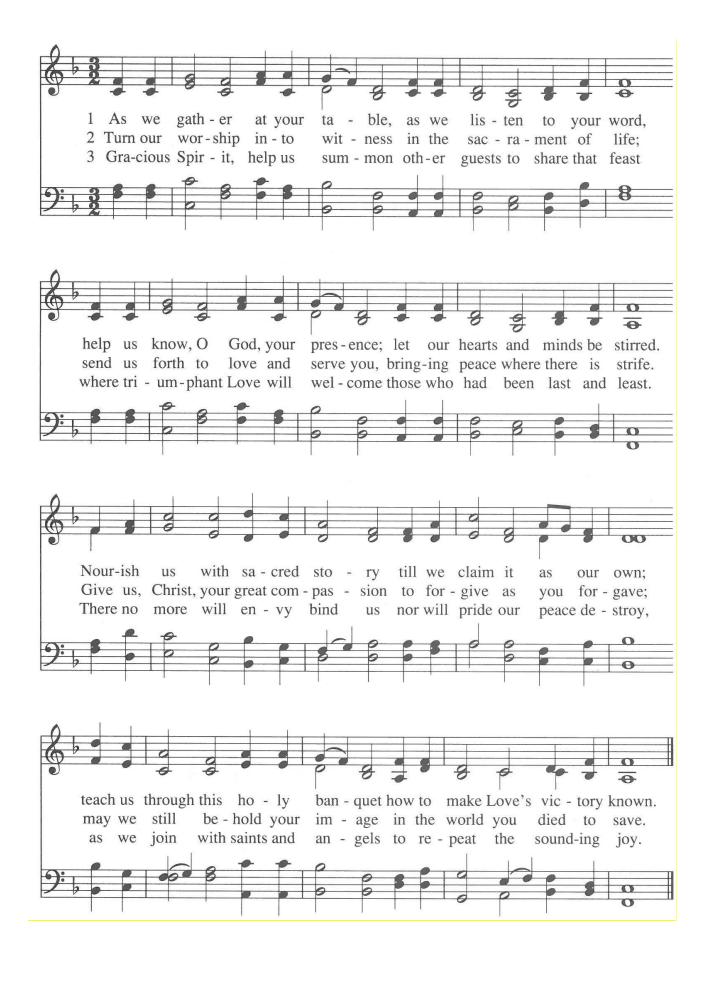
God who calls us to be attentive and faithful

Today and throughout all generations

God who is present through difficult situations and bold questions

Today and throughout all generations

It is a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You created us, formed us in the womb, full of promise, and you seek to nurture and guide us for a lifetime. You call us to be faithful. You invite us into relationship with you and with one another. Here I am, Lord, Hineni, Here I am. We thank you for all that you provide for us, every moment and every day. We are thankful God that you see us, you endear us as your own children. Regardless of the things we have done, you love us. You offer us unconditional and everlasting love and forgiveness. Strengthen us today at your table. Amen.



INVITATION

We bring to Christ's table, with our offerings, the bread and wine for the supper. Christ invites to this table all who profess the Christian faith, who endeavor to be at peace with their neighbors, and who seek the mercy of God. Come to this sacred table not because you must, but because you may. Come not because you are fulfilled but because in your emptiness you stand in need of God's mercy and assurance.

We take courage from the abiding presence of God's Holy Spirit in our midst. We offer to God our praise as women and men of faith in every age who stand as witnesses to your love and justice. With all the prophets, martyrs, and saints and all the company of heaven, we glorify you, Lord.

Holy, holy, God of love and majesty. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this is remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples and said: "Drink from this all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

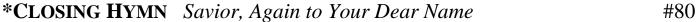
Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

All who desire the Sacrament, including children, are invited to come forward at the direction of the deacons. You may kneel or stand to receive the elements. Consume the bread and drink from the cup as it is given to you, and hand your empty cup to one of the ushers.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.





*BENEDICTION

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness, to be of good courage; to hold fast to that which is good; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak, help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, may we be ready to respond when and however God calls.

*THREEFOLD AMEN

#812

POSTLUDE (please be seated)



Today's liturgy is adapted from Seasons of the Spirit, Bread for the Journey (edited by Ruth C. Duck), and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers.

The flowers on the altar this morning are placed in loving memory of my mother, Barbara D. Kreh, by Susan E. Kreh.

The yellow rose bud is presented in honor of veterans by Peter Brehm and Jack Day.

Attendance Last Sunday: 19 at 8:30 am, 94 at 10:30 am and 46 online.



Watch worship live every Sunday at 10:30 am or on-demand:

https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC

Today: July 2, 2023

Scripture Reader: Jack Day

Deacons: Mark Ulrich, Darryl Glick

Elder: Cliff Barr

Greeters: Ave and Cliff Barr

Danielle Carbonne

Welcome: Marj Berkheimer

Audio/Visual: Jeff Schaeberle, Larry Martin

Nursery:

Fellowship: Starr Schaeberle, Betsy Fisher

Cliff and Ave Barr

Saturday Chimer: Dick Williams Sunday Chimer: Tricia Coffey

Next Week: July 9, 2023

Peg Stahler

Robin A. Brady-Slifer

Robin L. Brady-Slifer

Ave Barr

Cathie Duncan, Anne Hoffmann

Sue Pinner Pat Condo

Rodney Martin, Jeff Baker

Matthew Mercier Kate Fromknecht

Kathie Gourlie, Julie Ebersole

FELLOWSHIP

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Next Week: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 24: 24-38, 42-49, 58-67 | Romans 7:15-25a | Matthew 10: 40-42

We clearly affirm that God is still speaking today at ERUCC, in Frederick, and in God's whole creation. But how does what God speaks become a positive force for love, justice, and peace? That question is raised in the lectionary readings for July 9. Genesis 24 is a curious story of how God directs Abraham to secure a wife for his son, Isaac. Rebecca was at the right place at the right time, heard and heeded God speaking and said "Yes" to the proposal. In Romans 7:15-25a Paul recognizes our struggle within to hear and heed God speaking. In our Gospel lesson from Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 Jesus describes how hearers oppose what God has to say. They find fault and are not satisfied no matter what. Yet the good news is that God still speaks, ready to forgive, welcome, and receive all. Through our faith we hear and heed.

The Rev. Bob Manthey will be preaching and leading worship.

HOSPITAL AND PRAYER LIST

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.

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

William Day (brother of Jack Day), Pat Condo, Matt Pomeroy, Cathy Crome (sister of Nancy Jones), Sue Pinner, Greg Rhoads, Luke Chappell, Holly Davis, Mike Roberston (friend of Kathleen and Niel Jefferson), Bob Pinner, Stacie Carey (niece of Darlene Brunner and Jeannette Johnson), Marcia Eisenstein, Joyce Kallevang (sister-in-law of Jeanellen Kallevang), Derek C. Hupp (grandson of Beanie and Gaylon Cornell), Wayne Kolb (friends of Stefan and Judi Mach and Tony and Linda LaFianza), Conway Barnes (brother-in-law of George and Linda Kline), Pat Hevner, Jeannette Johnson, 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, Emogene Wyand, Fran Wenner, Bonnie Devilbiss, 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).

PASTORAL CARE

Evangelical Reformed UCC wants to be there for you when you're experiencing an illness, hospitalization, or other life-event for which you, or someone you love, may need a visit.

If emergency pastoral care is needed in the case of crisis, death, or severe illness, please first contact the church office at (301) 662-2762 or erucc@erucc.org. Outside of office hours, you may contact Nancy Manthey, pastoral care coordinator, at (240) 629-8030.

This Week at ERUCC

CLIMATE HOPE POSTCARD SUNDAYS



Last fall there was an UCC Climate Hope art contest for kids. Many of our children participated and drew wonderful pictures of what caring for the earth means to them, including Laszlo, who was a finalist in the contest! Out of all the contestants, the judges picked an overall winner whose drawing was made into postcards that will be

used in a campaign to persuade the EPA to finalize rules to reduce pollution.

During July, the Green Team will host an Advocacy Table during Fellowship after worship. Stop by our table in the Community Room to learn more and sign a Climate Hope postcard!

ERUCC TRAVELLERS IN GERMANY

Please keep in prayer those from ERUCC who are traveling to Klein Schwechten in Germany through July 20:

Lucy Adkins	Alex Cumber	Alyssa Kline
Quynn Adkins	Liam Cumber	Hollie Mercier
Joe Adkins	Colleen Hueting	Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads
Paige Coffey	Jared Hueting	Trevor Weakly



In celebration of Independence Day the ERUCC offices will be closed July 3 - 4.

The office will operate on a reduced schedule July 5 - 10 while our Office Administrator is away.

Call ahead to (301) 662-2762 before coming to the church office.

Thank you for your patience!

Upcoming at ERUCC

SPECIAL GIVING OPPORTUNITY UPCOMING

On July 16, we will gratefully receive **Extra Mile Gifts for Debt Reduction.** Donations are used to pay down the principal of the mortgages we have with FCB Bank, a division of ACNB Bank and the Fisher Fund, an endowment funded by former member Mary Starr Fisher for purposes to be decided by the pastor. To cover an unexpected building cost over-run, the congregation borrowed money from the endowment's principal and is now paying that back with interest.

AUDIO VISUAL (LIVE STREAM) TEAM OPEN HOUSE Sunday, July 16 Main Sanctuary Balcony

9:45 am

Interested in seeing how the AV Team produces the live stream broadcast every week? The AV Team will be hosting an open house in the balcony on Sunday, July 16 before and after the service. We will start before the service at 9:45 am and continue for as long as necessary after the service. Everyone is welcome. We also encourage anyone with any interest in joining the team to stop by and check out what we do.

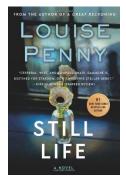
ERUCC BOOK GROUP Tuesday, July 25

Vacanta hit lay/EDLICChaples Masting ID, 949 7056 757

7:00 pm

Zoom: <u>bit.ly/ERUCCbooks</u> Meeting ID: 848 7056 7574 Passcode: 226669

Liz Coffey Room / Zoom



Still Life by Louise Penny Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Surêté du Québec and his team of investigators are called in to the scene of a suspicious death in a rural village south of Montreal. Jane Neal, a local fixture in the tiny hamlet of Three Pines, just north of the U.S. border, has been found dead in the woods. The locals are certain it's a tragic hunting accident and nothing more, but Gamache smells something foul in these remote woods, and is soon certain that Jane Neal died at the hands of someone much more sinister than a careless bowhunter.

Still Life introduces not only an engaging series hero in Inspector Gamache, who commands his forces---and this series---with integrity and quiet courage, but also a winning and talented new writer of traditional mysteries in the person of Louise Penny.



Children and Youth Ministry

SUMMER MUSICAL – IN THE IMAGE

Sundays Trinity Chapel, upstairs

9:30 – 10:15 am

The ERUCC summer musical is back! This year's show is *In the Image*, a story that explores what it really means to be created in the image of God. Through humor and exploration, the characters realize that being created in the image of God isn't just about how you look but about the attributes of God that show forth in your life.

Rehearsals will take place from 9:30 - 10:15 am in Trinity Chapel. Attend rehearsals as often as possible. If you have any questions, or if you are an adult and are interested in helping with this effort, please contact Tricia Coffey, trishcoffey1195@gmail.com or (240) 815-9118.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 31 – August 4



This year's VBS theme is "Food Truck Party: On a Roll with God!"

VBS will be Monday – Friday from 8:30 am - 12:00 noon. We will stay until 3:00 pm on Thursday for those who are interested. During that day we will do some extended missional activities and water play! Families

who want to request early drop off should do that through Pastor Kirstin. For more information or to register, email Pastor Kirstin at ksrhoads@erucc.org.

As our VBS week draws closer, we encourage the congregation to pray for our students and leaders and to help by donating from our Sign-up Genius. Financial donations are also welcome!



Donation list: bit.ly/er23vbs

Consider checking this list weekly for updates as our teachers continue to plan.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

No matter their mental health challenge.
No matter their immigration status.
No matter their sexual orientation.
No matter their economic status.
No matter their gender identity.
No matter their disability.
No matter their religion.
No matter their race.

Love your neighbor. No exceptions.



Additional Announcements



The theme for the 34th General Synod is based on Isaiah 43:18-19, "Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way

in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

We lift up our beloved United Church of Christ as it prepares to gather in for our General Synod from June 30 – July 4. We especially hold those ERUCC members attending in our prayers.

Holy Welcome

[Jesus said:] "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."

These are the very last words in the stirring and challenging set of instructions that Jesus gives to the disciples before he sends them forth to heal and to drive out evil. Their task is daunting, to go from town to town, carrying nothing with them. As they go, they are to speak to anyone who will listen, of Christ's healing and saving power. Jesus warns them this task will be difficult and at times even feel divisive. If anyone does not listen to the disciples, they are to shake the dust of that place from their feet and move on, preaching and teaching to new people. Jesus ends his instructions by reminding his followers that those who welcome them welcome Christ among them, and those who welcome Christ among them will find their way to God.

These words continue to ring out for our denomination as delegates gather in person this weekend for the 34th United Church of Christ General Synod in Indianapolis, Indiana, under the theme, **Making All Things New**. During this time, attendees and delegates have the opportunity to fully live Jesus' welcoming vision. Like the disciples, they are encouraged to speak the truth of Christ's healing and life-giving presence. Like those who encountered the first disciples, sometimes that truth can feel challenging or even divisive. But Christ calls General Synod attendees to both speak and listen anyway.

This speaking and listening happens at General Synod this week over committees with clear agendas, in less formal conversations in hallways and parking lots, in worship and workshops, over vendor tables and, of course, in the main assembly, where all delegates gather to pray, deliberate, listen and speak. We do all this because Christ continues to assure us that where our words are welcomed, God is present. And when we can discern God's presence, we can better sense what God is calling us towards.

As the 34th General Synod draws to a close, we thank God for the opportunity to follow these old instructions as we Create A New Thing!

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 – 9:15 am	Worship, Trinity Chapel	
9:30 am	Coffee and Conversation, Main Building, Kieffer Lobby	
	The Parents' Place, Trinity Chapel, West Classroom	
9:30 am – 12:00 pm	Nursery Care, Main Building	
9:30 – 10:10 am	Summer Musical Rehearsal , Trinity Chapel, upstairs <i>Pre-K through high school</i>	
10:30 – 11:30 am	Worship, Main Sanctuary and Online at www.erucc.org	
11:30 am	Fellowship, Community Room	

Stay Informed

JULY TRINITY CHIMES

Read the ERUCC monthly newsletter, *Trinity Chimes*, in the back of the sanctuary or online by scanning the QR code or going to bit.ly/july23chimes.



WEEKLY THURSDAY THOUGHTS EMAIL

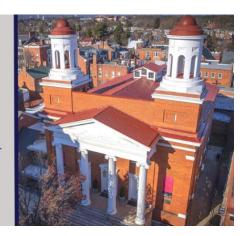
Subscribe to receive our weekly email newsletter at http://eepurl.com/gDNCu5 or by scanning the QR code!



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.





EVANGELICAL REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 2, 2023

Matthew 10:40-42

Holy Welcome

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