

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.

here 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 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

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



EVANGELICAL REFORMED United Church of Christ

- An Open and Affirming Congregation -

CCCURRENCE STORES

June 4, 2023

Trinity Sunday



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

BRASS PRELUDE

Market Street Brass

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice, for God is among us. Give thanks, for in Christ we are a new people. Sing praise, for we come to worship God.

***OPENING PRAYER**

*OPENING HYMN God of Grace and God of Glory #436 ¹God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power; crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour. ²From the evils that surround us and assail the Savior's ways,

from the fears that long have bound us and assan the Savior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us – free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

³Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to your control. Shame our reckless, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, make our broken spirits whole, make our broken spirits whole. ⁴Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be armored with all Christlike graces, in the fight to set us free. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, in the quest for liberty, in the quest for liberty.

⁵Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the search for your salvation be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, gentle in your power and strong in your tenderness, you have brought us forth from the womb of your being and breathed into us the breath of life. We know that we do not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from you. Feed our deep hungers with the living bread that you give us in Jesus Christ. May Jesus' promise, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them," be fulfilled in us. Make us a joyful company of your people so that with the faithful in every place and time we may praise and honor you, God Most High. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In Jesus Christ, God knows and receives us as we are. Listen, give thanks, and live.

*ACT OF PRAISE From All That Dwell Below the Skies

tune – LASST UNS ERFREUEN

¹From all that dwell below the skies Let the Creator's praise arise; Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Redeemer's name be sung. Let God the spirit free each tongue! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! ²Eternal is your glory, God. Eternal Word we give you laud; Alleluia! Alleluia! Eternal Spirit we adore, Your praise shall sound from shore to shore! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CHILDREN'S MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

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.

*HYMN Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped Me

tune – LOBE DEN HERREN

#22

Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sustains all creation! Sing praise, my soul, in profound and complete adoration! Gladsome rejoice - organ and trumpet and voice – joining God's great congregation!

Praise God, our guardian, who lovingly offers correction, Who, as on eagle's wings, saves us from sinful dejection. Have you observed, how we are always preserved by God's parental affection?

Sing praise to God, with sincere thanks for all your successes. Merciful God ever loves to encourage and bless us. Only conceive, what godly strength can achieve: Strength that would touch and caress us.

Sing praise, my soul, the great name of your high God commending. All that have life and breath join you, their notes sweetly blending. God is your light! Soul, ever keep this in sight: amen, amen never ending.

THE SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 13: 11-13	NT page 186
Matthew 28: 16-20	NT page 34

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 O God, Beyond All Praising

D. ForrestSenior Choir

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Receive these gifts, even our very lives for your service. Multiply them and our effort to meet the need. We are yours God, use us we pray, Amen.

- LITURGY OF FAREWELL -

GREETING

Mr. Peter Brehm

President of the Consistory, Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

Our church family is constantly changing.

People come and go. Babies are born. Children grow up.

People commit themselves to one another.

Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives.

Individuals move into our community and church life.

Others leave us, moving away to new places, new experiences, and new opportunities.

It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of endings and beginnings.

Today we share the time of farewell with our pastor, Barbara Kershner Daniel, who is retiring.

REMEMBRANCE AND RECOGNITION

GIVING AND SHARING SYMBOLS

RECOGNITION OF THE END

Mr. Peter Brehm

On July 1, 2006 this local church called Barbara Kershner Daniel to serve as Senior Pastor.

The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel

I thank Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ, its members and friends, for the love, kindness, and support shown me these last seventeen years.

I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made.

I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted.

As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

People

We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you are now retiring. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel

I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

VOWS OF RELEASE

The Rev. Freeman Palmer Conference Minister, Central Atlantic Conference

Do you, the members and friends of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ release Barbara from the duties of Senior Pastor?

People

We do with the help of God.

The Rev. Freeman Palmer

Do you offer your encouragement for her ministry as it unfolds in new ways?

People

We do with the help of God.

The Rev. Jeff Dull Catoctin Association Committee on Ministry

Do you, Barbara, release this local church from turning to you and depending on you?

Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel

I do with the help of God.

WITNESS OF THE CONFERENCE

Consistory and Elders of ERUCC please come forward at this time.

The Rev. Freeman Palmer

On behalf of the Central Atlantic Conference and the United Church of Christ, I witness to the words spoken: words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release. The member churches of our Association and Conference hold each of you in prayer. We pledge our support in the transitions signified in this service.

Consistory and Elders of ERUCC

Thanks be to God.

***PRAYER**

The Rev. Freeman Palmer

Let us pray.

All

God, whose everlasting love for all is trustworthy, help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care.

The time we were together in your name saw our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments.

Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other, in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING Now Thank We All Our God #419 verse 1 in German, verses 2 and 3 in English

¹Nun danket alle Gott, Mit Herzen, Mund und Händen, Der grosse Dinge tut an uns und allen Enden; der uns von Mutterleib und Kindesbeinen an unzählig viel zu gut bis heirher hat getan.

2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us, And keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed, And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God Our Maker now be given, To Christ, and Spirit, too, our help in highest heaven The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore; For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, Who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices; Who from our parents' arms has blessed us on our way With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

PROGRAM

LIGHTING OF THE CENTERING CANDLE

***CONGREGATION CENTERING PRAYER**

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.

***BENEDICTION**

Go now, surrounded by our love and led by the promises of God, the presence of Jesus Christ, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

POSTLUDE (please be seated)

Market Street Brass



Today's liturgy is from the UCC Book of Worship.

We thank Market Street Brass for joining us in worship!

Trumpet:	Daniel Cheston
	Frank Gorecki
Horn:	Oscar Cabello
Trombone:	Daniel Twentey
Bass Trombone:	Brian Hinkley

The flowers on the altar this morning are in honor of Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel and her 17 years of dedication and ministry at ERUCC.

The yellow rose bud is presented in honor of veterans by Bob and Sue Pinner.

Attendance Last Sunday: 18 at 8:30 am, 167 at 10:30 am and 112 online.

Watch Worship Live Watch worship live every Sunday at 10:30 am or on-demand: https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC

Today: June 4, 2023

Next Week: June 11, 2023

Scripture Reader:	Will Duncan	Robin Cooney
Deacons:	Mark Ulrich, Darryl Glick	Robin A. Brady-Slifer
		Robin L. Brady Slifer
Elder:	Eric Weakly	Robin Cooney
Greeters:	Anne Hoffmann, Danielle Carbone,	Cathie Duncan, Eliza Stitely
	Bob Manthey	Kathleen Jefferson
Welcome:	Julie Clark, Holly Davis	Thi Nguyen
Audio/Visual:	Kelly Esslinger, Jeff Schaeberle	Kelly Esslinger, Jeff Baker
	Larry Martin	Matthew Mercier
Fellowship:	Celebration of Pastor Daniel	Marj Berkheimer, Kelly Esslinger
Saturday Chimer:	Nancy Doll	Nancy Doll
Sunday Chimer:	Suzanne Morris	

FELLOWSHIP

Please join us for fellowship in the Community Room after worship.

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

Worship Next Week: Second Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 12:1-9 | Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

In Genesis 12, Abraham is called at an old age to leave his home and settle in a new land. The call comes with a promise that God will make of him a great nation. Abraham obeys and, along with an entourage of family members and servants, leaves Haran and travels south to Canaan. What would motivate you to leave your home well-past retirement age and move to an unknown location? Abraham stands as the first of the patriarchs - Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – and is the first participant in the covenant between God and Israel. The sermon is about change being scary good.

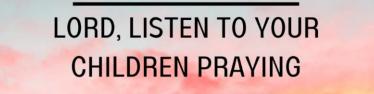
The Rev. David Cooney will be preaching and leading worship. We will be sharing communion at the chancel rail this morning. Spirit will be singing.

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.

Please remember the following people in your prayers:

Matt Pomeroy, Cathy Crome (sister of Nancy Jones), Richard Alley (brother of David Alley), Sue Pinner, Joann Miller (mother of Angela Brittain), 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 (sisterin-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), Mary Ellen Baker, 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).



Sunday Education Opportunities for Adults

LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE with The Reverends John & Rebecca ShillingburgSundaysNorth Room / Zoom9:00 – 10:15 am

Zoom: bit.ly/ERsunstudy Meeting ID: 893 8670 5888 Passcode: 327128

This class will not be held on Sunday, June 4. It will meet June 11, 18, and 25 before enjoying a summer hiatus.

Foundational Stories of the Old Testament ... in Order! The Exile ... and the Exodus ... is that one event with two names ... or two? And if they are different, which came first? Was Daniel in the lion's den Joseph put him there?

If you have ever pondered questions like these, join the *Let's Study the Bible* class as we survey of the big stories of the Old Testament in the order they occurred. No prior experience needed.

This Week at ERUCC

PERIOD PACKS (MENSTRUAL HYGIENE KITS) SERVICE PROJECT May 14 – June 18

Beginning Mother's Day, ERUCC began a campaign to create period packs to help people in period poverty. These kits promote cleanliness and health during the menstrual cycle. In

partnership with Church World Service, the UCC is working provide as many period packs as possible as a General Synod service project. We will assemble packs at ERUCC on June 25.

"Period poverty" is defined as a lack of access to menstrual products, hygiene facilities, waste management, and related education. This can result in missed days at school and work, discrimination, and social isolation.

Needed donation items include the following:

- Regular and super-absorbency tampons
- Sanitary pads (unscented, long, super, ultra-thin)
- Bath-size soaps (3oz. bar or larger, no Ivory or Jergen's soap. Do not remove packaging)
- Packs of flushable wipes (unscented 42-count)

Drop-off bins are located outside the sanctuary and Trinity Chapel. Financial donations directed to ERUCC should note that they are for the "Period Packs Project."

For more information, contact your M&SA committee members: Michelle Beadle, Kelly Esslinger, Colleen Baldree, Angela Brittain, Kathleen Jefferson, Shelley Weakly.



Upcoming at ERUCC

ERUCC at FREDERICK PRIDE Saturday, June 24

Carroll Creek Linear Park 10:00 am – 6:00 pm



ERUCC is an Open and Affirming congregation that proudly supports The Frederick Center and our LGBTQ+ community. The Frederick Center has organized Frederick Pride on Saturday June 24, 2023 on Carroll Creek. ERUCC will have a table at this event announcing its mission and programs to Frederick Pride visitors. Shifts are in two-hour increments. Bring your own water and a chair. All are welcome to volunteer.

Contact Julie Clark, jclarkad@yahoo.com or (301) 305-8181 with questions.

Sign up to help with outreach: bit.ly/41xOCP9

2023 INTERFAITH PRIDE WORSHIP SERVICESaturday, June 24Grace UCC, 25 E. 2nd St

11:00 am

An interfaith Pride worship service will be held at Grace United Church of Christ with The Reverend Freeman Palmer, Conference Minister for the Central Atlantic Conference UCC as its guest speaker. For more information, contact The Rev. Dr. Gerry Hanberry at pastorgerrygrace@gmail.com.

GARDEN WALK Sunday, June 25

meet on ERUCC's back patio 2:00 – 3:00 pm



What could be better than a garden walk? How about a walk in a friend's garden? And when that friend is Carolyn Roberts, you know it will be special. She will share her experiences in creating a beautiful garden during COVID then learning about the importance of native plants and rethinking everything. Many of us want to move from lawn and designer flowers toward more native plant landscaping but need some guidance to get there. Join us for the garden tour and conversation. We will meet at the church at 2:00 pm, walk to Carolyn's house for the garden walk and end

up at the Pop Shop on N Market Street! We'll support a local business that is committed to composting and waste reduction while also enjoying a treat together.



Children and Family Ministry

SUNDAY SCHOOL

On June 4, Children's Music and Movement will meet at 9:30 am in Trinity Chapel to rehearse and prepare for Pastor Daniel's final Sunday and Service of Farewell at 10:30 am.

Starting Sunday, June 25, rehearsals for the summer musical will begin during the Sunday School hour (see below for more details).

ZIPLINE

Saturday, June 17

July 31 – August 4

Youth and children are invited to a zipline activity, campfire, and hiking at Camp Manidokan on Saturday, June 17. Please respond to Pastor Kirstin ASAP by text or email to reserve your spot! \$15 per person. Time to be determined by your availability.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year's VBS theme is "Food Truck Party: On a Roll With God!" Read more details in the May *Trinity Chimes*.

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. We will open registration to campers outside our church June 5 - 12. Pastor Kirstin is looking for youth and adult volunteers for a variety of tasks: snack makers, craft leaders, game leaders, scientists/teachers, storybook readers, and musicians. We are seeking volunteers to work any number of mornings and one extended afternoon.

NEEDED: 2 refrigerator boxes to make into food trucks

Safe Church Training

If you are planning to help at VBS and did not complete training after December 2022, then you will need to attend Safe Church training on Sunday, June 25 at 1:30 pm or make arrangements with Pastor Kirstin for an alternative training time.

BE JOYFUL. PRAY OFTEN. BE KIND. GIVE THANKS. DO 600D. HAVE COURAGE. WORK FOR JUSTICE. BE THE LIGHT. ENCOURAGE OTHERS. OFTER SHURCH



SUMMER MUSICAL – IN THE IMAGE

rehearsals begin June 25



The ERUCC summer musical is back! During the summer months, ERUCC children and youth may participate in a musical. 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 begin Sunday, June 25 from 9:30 - 10:15 am in Trinity Chapel. Read more details in the May *Trinity Chimes*.

If you have any questions, or if you are an adult and are interested in helping with this effort, please contact Tricia Coffey, <u>trishcoffey1195@gmail.com</u> or (240) 815-9118.

<u>Youth</u>

ZIPLINE

Saturday, June 17

Youth and children are invited to a zipline activity, campfire, and hiking at Camp Manidokan on Saturday, June 17. Please respond to Pastor Kirstin ASAP by text or email to reserve your spot! \$15 per person. Time to be determined by your availability.

Opportunities to Serve

VOLUNTEER FOR SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP



Sign up to help with this fellowship ministry to help set up, serve, or clean up at <u>bit.ly/ERUCC_fellowship</u> or talk with Starr Schaeberle or Laura Rhoderick for more details.



NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY - WEAR ORANGE



Friday, June 2 was National Gun Violence Awareness Day. Frederick's Mom's Demand team decorated our church building orange for Wear Orange Weekend, June 2-4, as we remember.

CLIMATE HOPE SUNDAYS

Last fall there was a 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. Out of all the



contestants, the judges picked an overall winner. Her drawing is now being made into postcards that will be used in a postcard campaign to persuade the EPA to finalize rules to reduce pollution.

During June and July, the Green Team will be setting up an Advocacy Table during

Fellowship. Stop by our table to learn more and sign a Climate Hope postcard!

If you want a sneak peek into what it's all about, check out this link: https://bit.ly/3qbJrH0

PASTORAL CARE

We will continue to experience personal joys and challenges following Pastor Daniel's retirement on June 4. A team of clergy members active in the congregation will be available for 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 <u>erucc@erucc.org</u>. Outside of office hours, you may contact Nancy Manthey, pastoral care coordinator, at (240) 629-8030.

ERUCC has an active care team, Faithful Friends, coordinated by Pat Hevner. Faithful Friends is responsible for visiting ERUCC members that are in nursing homes and those that currently reside in their homes but are unable to come to regular Sunday morning services. In addition, these members will receive visits (and communion) from our clergy members who are providing pastoral care.

Members of the church may also be able to offer you meal support, coordinated by Kelly Esslinger, <u>kellbell.erucc@gmail.com</u>.



we are the **CHURCH TOGETHER**

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 – 9:15 am	Worship, Trinity Chapel
9:30 – 10:25 am	Coffee and Conversation, Community Room
9:30 am – 12:00 pm	Nursery Care, Main Building
9:30 – 10:10 am	Children's Music & Movement, Trinity Chapel Pre-K through high school
10:30 – 11:30 am	Worship, Main Sanctuary and Online
11:30 am	Fellowship, Community Room

Stay Informed

JUNE 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 <u>bit.ly/june23chimes</u>.

WEEKLY THURSDAY THOUGHTS EMAIL

Subscribe to receive our weekly email newsletter at <u>http://eepurl.com/gDNCu5</u> 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



TRINITY SUNDAY

June 4, 2023

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

This Is Good

Today's scripture reading begins with the words, "In the beginning when God created..." Following each act of creation, God blesses and calls "good" what God has made. One amazing and joyful aspect of our faith is that our story begins with the creativity of God. With creativity comes change. The creativity of the Holy One did not end with the first act of creation, the creativity continued and continues today.

Once a year, we pull the word *triune* out of the cupboard, dust it off and remember that our God is both three and one. On Holy Trinity Sunday we remember that God is both one and three. God is One and also in relationship with God's very self.

According to the United Church of Christ website, in the UCC, We believe in the triune God: Creator, resurrected Christ, the sole Head of the church, and the Holy Spirit, who guides and brings about the creative and redemptive work of God in the world. On this day, we remember how those three parts work together in harmony, unity and joy to be continually creating, redeeming, and guiding the world.

This week, as you go about your daily life, notice the triune (that dusty old and still shiny new word) Divine One, and give thanks. You might try this prayer at the beginning or end of each day.

Holy One, Blessed Three - I'm grateful for all that you have created in my life, in my church community and in the world. Today, I'm especially grateful for the creation of ______. I'm grateful for the salvation that comes in your name, for your willingness to save us all from that which burdens us. Today, I'm especially grateful to be saved from ______. I'm grateful, too, for all the ways you nurture and guide me. Today, I'm especially grateful to be guided in the direction of ______.

After you speak, listen. Do you hear the blessing? Do you hear how God has called all that is created "good?" Ask yourself how the three parts of the trinity speak to you and each other.



 $$_{12}'' \ x \ 14'' \ UCC \ SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE$ Bulletin artwork and backpage stories copyright © 2023 United Church of Christ