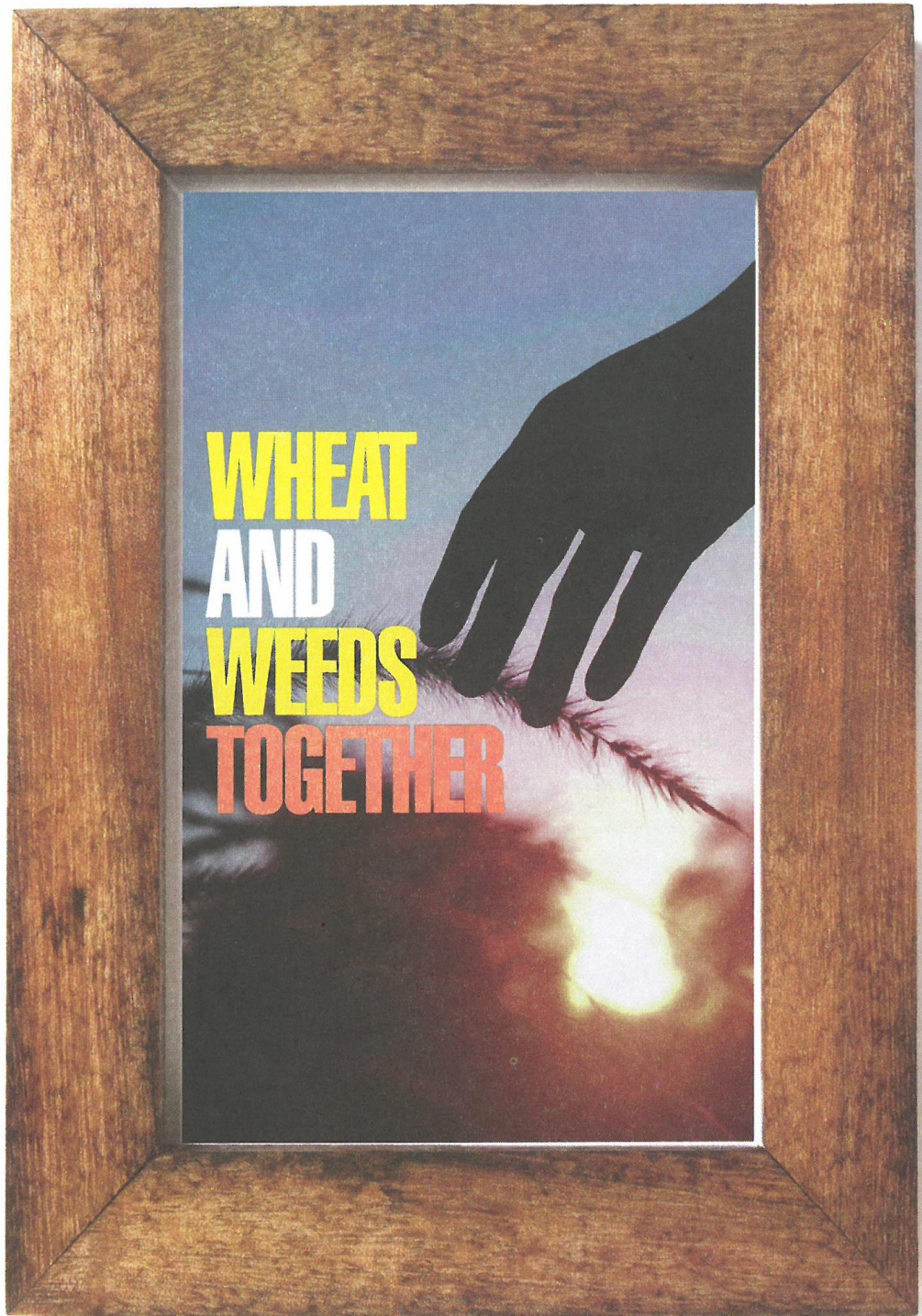


**WHEAT  
AND  
WEEDS  
TOGETHER**



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

**F**or 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 in the rear of the sanctuary near the welcome table.

**H**ymn 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, 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. Plates for offering are placed at the doors as you exit the sanctuary. Thank you.

**W**e 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.

**T**here is much information about the church in this bulletin and our website: [www.erucc.org](http://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. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads ~ *Associate for Faith Formation & Parish Life* ~ [ksrhoads@erucc.org](mailto:ksrhoads@erucc.org)  
Alison E. Shafer ~ *Director of Music* | Tyler L. York ~ *Office Administrator* ~ [tyork@erucc.org](mailto:tyork@erucc.org)  
Jaci Clayton ~ *Facilities Manager* ~ [jclayton@erucc.org](mailto: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*

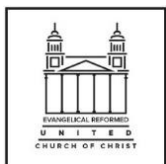
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The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel ~ *Pastor Emerita*  
The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ *Pastor Emeritus* ~ [burschenherrlichkeit@gmail.com](mailto:burschenherrlichkeit@gmail.com)

**Elders of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ**

Marc Kline | Peter Brehm | Robin Cooney | Eric Weakly | Ave Barr | Matt Huetting

15 West Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-662-2762 • [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org)



**EVANGELICAL REFORMED**  
**United Church of Christ**  
– An Open and Affirming Congregation –



July 23, 2023

Eighth 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**

Julie Clark, Joe Adkins  
Lucy, Quynn

**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**

Too often we look at this world, focusing on the pain and confusion, the fears and hatred which seem to abound.

**For what can we hope?**

We wait breathlessly for the goodness of creation to be made manifest in all the world, for this is the promise of God.

**God is always with us, guiding, rescuing, healing, restoring us.**

Get ready, dear friends, the promises of God are true.

**Lord, quiet our spirits and open our hearts. Bring us hope and peace.**

## \*OPENING PRAYER

God of surprises, we come here from the weariness of the week, from various triumphs, from fears and doubts. Open our hearts to receive your surprising message of hope for all people, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

## \*OPENING HYMN *Nearer, My God, to You*

#606

1 Near - er, my God, to you, near - er to you. I'll bear the  
2 When I am wan - der - ing as Ja - cob did, and in the  
3 Let Ja - cob's lad - der fill the sky a - bove, and an - gels  
4 Then, wak - ing from the night to morn - ing air by Beth - el's

cross as Christ calls me to do and pray each day a - new:  
deep - est night the path is hid, my dreams will bring me, too,  
car - ry down the faith and love to keep this goal in view:  
stone, I'll know you heard my prayer, and how my yearn - ing grew:

1-4 Near - er my God, to you, near - er my God, to you, near - er to you.

## \*CALL TO CONFESSION

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

It is said that confession is good for the soul, but there are times, O Lord, when we just don't want to confess, we don't want to own up to the many ways in which we have failed to be your faithful disciples. We have turned our backs on those in need. We have sought after power and riches, believing that these things bring true happiness. But you know us far too well. You know what is within our hearts and our spirits. You seek the very best for us that we might grow to be fruitful

plants in your garden. Be with us. Forgive us when we have failed to love and treat others with respect and compassion. Turn our hearts back toward you, who always reaches out to us offering healing and love. These things we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Great news has come to us. God, who is faithful and just, who cherishes us as we are, seeks restoration and healing for those broken places in our lives, forgives and loves us unconditionally. Receive that good news! Amen.

### 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 *We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder*

#500

1 We are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, we are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der,  
2 Ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er, ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er,  
3 Rise, shine, give God glo-ry, rise, shine, give God glo-ry,

we are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, bear-ers of the cross.  
ev-ery round goes high-er, high-er, bear-ers of the cross.  
rise, shine, give God glo-ry, bear-ers of the cross.

**THE SCRIPTURE** (The Message translation)

Romans 8:12-21

Genesis 28:10-19

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *I Didn't Even Know It!*

Rev. Mark Wakefield

**MORNING PRAYERS**

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

**OFFERTORY**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**God of Grace,**

**We give these offerings in gratitude,  
rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us.**

**We give these offerings in faith,  
trusting that you will provide for our needs.**

**We give these offerings in hope,  
knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world.**

**And with these offerings, we give ourselves. May we live with generous  
hearts, with open hands. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** *For the Fruit of All Creation*

#425

see next page

**\*BENEDICTION**

May God, whose forgiveness is boundless, Christ, whose charge is freedom,  
the Holy Spirit, which grants us peace keep our minds and hearts in grateful  
communion as we seek to serve. **Amen.**

**\*THREEFOLD AMEN**

#812

**POSTLUDE** *(please be seated)*



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.  
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For God's gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.  
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.  
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
 Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

**The flowers on the altar** this morning are placed in memory of Sally Day by Jack Day and Peter Brehm.

**The yellow rose bud** is presented in remembrance of Corporal Ray A. York, U.S. Army, who was taken Prisoner of War in South Korea on July 25, 1950.

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**Attendance Last Sunday:** 18 at 8:30 am, 88 at 10:30 am and 41 online.

Watch  
Worship  
Live



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

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

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### **Today: July 23, 2023**

Scripture Reader: Quynn Adkins  
Deacons: Betsy Selby, Jim Brittain  
Elder: Eric Weakly  
Greeters: Bob and Nancy Manthey  
Rob Smith  
Welcome: Thi Nguyen  
Audio/Visual: Jeff Schaeberle, Jeff Baker  
Matthew Mercier  
Nursery:  
Fellowship: Marj Berkheimer, Kelly Esslinger  
Emily Kambic, Karen Justice  
Saturday Chimer: Nancy Doll  
Sunday Chimer: Tricia Coffey

### **Next Week: July 30, 2023**

Rebecca Shillingburg  
Mark Ulrich, Darryl Glick  
Peter Brehm  
Susan Kulp, David Howard,  
Sue Pinner  
Jeanellen Kallevang  
Kelly Esslinger, Larry Martin  
Jeff Schaeberle  
Linda Coyle, Peter Brehm,  
Cliff and Ave Barr  
Dick Williams

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## **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 1<sup>st</sup> floor, is accessible by stairs or elevator.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Worship Next Week: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

Genesis 29:15-28 | Psalm 105:1-11, 45b | Romans 8:26-39 | Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

“We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose”—Romans 8:28. This is one of those verses of scripture that are often offered to people experiencing crisis or tragedy ... by people who aren't. It can be comforting ... but it may not always be so. In Genesis 29, for instance, Jacob might not have found it comforting when he awoke on the first morning of his married life *with the wrong woman!* In Matthew 13, we find Jesus teaching by means of parables. Again, they may be comforting ... or maybe not. But the psalmist knows what to focus on: “Remember the wonderful works the Lord has done, the miracles, and the judgments uttered by the Lord”—Psalm 105:5. Let us come together in worship to remember and rejoice.

*The Rev. John Shillingburg will be preaching this morning.*

### **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:**

Hillal Eastburn, June Brehm, Barbara Rhoads, Pat Condo, Matt Pomeroy, Cathy Crome (sister of Nancy Jones), Greg Rhoads, Luke Chappell, Holly Davis, Mike Roberston (friend of Kathleen and Niel Jefferson), 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).

#### **Hillal Eastburn**

120 Burgess Hill Way, #216  
Frederick MD 21702

#### **Barbara Rhoads**

7431 Willow Rd, #29  
Frederick MD 21702

#### **Bonnie Devilbiss**

10 West 14<sup>th</sup> St  
Frederick MD 21701

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### **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](mailto:erucc@erucc.org). Outside of office hours, you may contact Nancy Manthey, pastoral care coordinator, at (240) 629-8030.

## This Week at ERUCC

### ERUCC BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, July 25

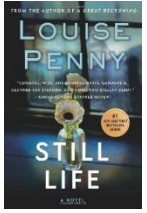
Liz Coffey Room / Zoom

7:00 pm

Zoom: [bit.ly/ERUCCbooks](https://bit.ly/ERUCCbooks)

Meeting ID: 848 7056 7574

Passcode: 226669



*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.

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### CLIMATE HOPE POSTCARD SUNDAYS



Last fall there was an UCC Climate Hope art contest for kids. 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!

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### JULY MISSION PROJECT: SOLES OF LOVE

For the past 13 years Soles of Love has donated new, sturdy shoes to children of all genders in grades K through 12. The group works with ten non-profit organizations in Frederick County and Washington County to distribute donated new shoes to children in need before the school year starts. A positive note is also tucked into each pair of shoes. Last year, Soles of Love collected 5,000 pairs of shoes. The goal this year is 5,500 pairs of shoes.

Here is how you can help out:

- Bring new shoes to church and place them into the plastic bin in the narthex just outside the 1848 church sanctuary;
- Purchase shoes online and have them shipped to Betsy Selby (1204 Pinewood Drive, Frederick, MD 21701);
- Donate funds by check or online (note “Soles of Love” in the memo line) and Betsy will do the shopping.

Questions? Please email Betsy at [theselbys@comcast.net](mailto:theselbys@comcast.net).

## Upcoming at ERUCC

### **BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS**

**Sunday, August 13**

**10:30 am Worship**

Calling all students, teachers, bus drivers, school employees and administrators! Bring the tools of your trade for Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, August 13 during the 10:30 a.m. service.

### Gratitude

Thank you, Church Community,

Bob and I are grateful for your prayers during our hospital stays and therapies. Your cards, calls, flowers, and meals helped lift our spirits.

Bob and Sue Pinner



**A JUST WORLD FOR ALL**

## Children and Youth Ministry

### 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!

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!



SCAN ME

**Donation list:** [bit.ly/er23vbs](http://bit.ly/er23vbs)

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

### POOL PARTY

**Sunday, August 6**

**Dan Smith & Austin Byrd's Home**

**1:00 – 4:00 pm**

ERUCC Children and Youth (and parents) are invited to a POOL PARTY!!

Parents and all kids can come to a private ERUCC pool party on Sunday, August 6. at Dan Smith and Austin Byrd have graciously opened their pool for a parent supervised pool party. Contact Dan for address and directions at (301) 514-8615. Bring your own dishes, cups, silverware, and a dish to share. Questions? Contact Julie Clark, [Jclarkad@yahoo.com](mailto:Jclarkad@yahoo.com) or Kirstin Shrom Rhoads, [ksrhoads@erucc.org](mailto:ksrhoads@erucc.org).

### SUMMER MUSICAL – IN THE IMAGE

**Sundays**

**Trinity Chapel, upstairs**

**9:30 – 10:15 am**

The ERUCC summer musical is back with *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](mailto:trishcoffey1195@gmail.com) or (240) 815-9118.

## Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 – 9:15 am	<b>Worship</b> , Trinity Chapel
9:30 am	<b>Coffee and Conversation</b> , Main Building, Kieffer Lobby <b>The Parents' Place</b> , Trinity Chapel, West Classroom
9:30 am – 12:00 pm	<b>Nursery Care</b> , Main Building
9:30 – 10:10 am	<b>Children's Summer Musical Rehearsal</b> , Trinity Chapel, upstairs
10:30 – 11:30 am	<b>Worship</b> , Main Sanctuary and Online at <a href="http://www.erucc.org">www.erucc.org</a>
11:30 am	<b>Fellowship</b> , 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](http://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!

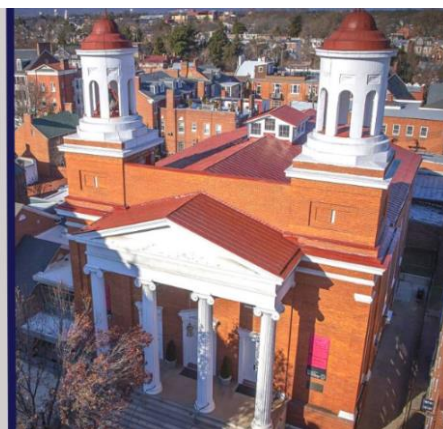


## **MISSION STATEMENT**

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**



## Wheat and Weeds Together

When St. John's United Church of Christ, in the southern Illinois town of Belvidere, decided to plant a community garden that would be open to all, they did not go small. In a video on the church's website, the large garden occupies a whole swath of the church's side yard. The plot also has some raised boxes, for folks who don't feel like kneeling when they harvest, and other pots for plants that are important to the garden, but not good for spreading. A share table holds free produce from the church garden, as well as other local gardens throughout the community. And anyone who would like to is invited to come at any time and gather the food that's ready for harvest, so that all might enjoy fresh produce during the harvest season.

Church pastor Rev. Muriel Morley Jahn explains in a video filmed in 2021 and available on the church's Facebook page, "This year, we're working to do a number of partner plantings, so we have the three sisters system with the corn stalk, and the beans growing up it and the gourds covering the root...Another way we're doing partner planting is with our blueberry bushes...in between each blueberry bush we have some herbs growing. Here is some thyme growing between these bushes and down here we have some basil that'll be growing up between the berries. We're trying to get as much food out of our garden as possible and one of the ways we do that is through our partner planting. Thyme especially likes the soil that blueberries like, so we're hoping they pair well together and appreciate each other's company."

By their intentional growing methods, the church is not just feeding the community. It's modeling a system of interdependence and mutual cooperation that helps not just thyme and blueberries but people to flourish.

You can see the whole video tour of the St. John's UCC community garden here:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=235969421622372> <https://stjohns401.org/>

