

**SPIRIT-LED
LIVING**

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

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

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.



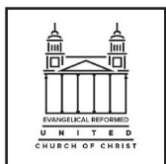
Ministers and Staff of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

The Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads ~ *Associate for Faith Formation & Parish Life* ~ ksrhoads@erucc.org
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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*

The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel ~ *Pastor Emerita*
The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ *Pastor Emeritus* ~ burschenherrlichkeit@gmail.com

Elders of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

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



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



September 3, 2023 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 am

The numbered hymns, from The New Century Hymnal, can be found at the back of this bulletin.

*All who are able may stand

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATION CENTERING PRAYER

Barb Biser and Jean Fish

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 *Memories of the Seashore*

– Keiko Abe

Jenna Duranko, marimba

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Now Moses led his flock to Horeb, the mountain of God.

Come, we who have been tending our flocks in Horeb.

There before him, a bush blazed, but was not consumed.

Come, we who have seen the burning.

Moses said, "I must turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush is not consumed."

Come, we who question: what can burn without consumption?

God called to Moses from the midst of the bush: "Moses, Moses!"

Come, we who hear a calling.

Moses said, “Here am I.”

Come, we who respond to that calling from within the burning.

God said, “Put off your shoes...for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.”

We come.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Sacred One, we come to Horeb, the holy mountain, the holy church, the holy home, the holy business. We come to this place of sanctuary, this place of vision, this place of calling, this place of truth-telling. May we recognize that our own need for sanctuary is not outweighed by that which burns without consumption. May we hear your voice and be enabled to respond to your vision. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** *When Israel Was in Egypt’s Land*

#572

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us come before God to confess our failure to live by the best we know. Let us confess our separation from God and one another, and our qualified response to God’s call.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION²**

Holy One, we know that in spite of the needs of many in our own communities and beyond, we seek sanctuary in our culture’s high-reward siren calls of abundance. We confess that our unprecedented access to high-dopamine enticements goes far beyond drugs, food, gambling, identity politics, shopping, gaming, and texting. We can’t even make a comprehensive list, but in every conceivable way, we not only are vulnerable to the pharaoh of compulsive overconsumption, but active participants in its growth and maintenance. Help us be honest with ourselves, to recognize our role in these patterns; help us hear your truth-telling of bondage to dopamine empires and the suffering of your people; help us hear and see your vision of freedom. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God hears the confession of our hearts as well as our lips. Through Jesus the Christ, we *are* forgiven; by the Holy Spirit, we *are* empowered for new life. **Thanks be to God!**

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** *O God of Earth and Altar*

#582

THE SCRIPTURE

Exodus 2:23 – 3:15 OT page 50

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Carolyn Roberts

MORNING PRAYERS

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

OFFERTORY *There is a Balm in Gilead*

– arr. J. Duranko
Jenna Duranko, marimba

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Fiery God, we give thanks that you call us to look beyond our places of sanctuary and ordinary tasks and our needed duties, that we may expand our vision to acknowledge your luminous presence. You bid us risk ourselves to your care and your calling, to serve you by hearing the truth of your vision of freedom from oppression, and responding to the needs of others. May our offerings of time, talent, and treasure serve as our grateful response. Amen.

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *Glorious Is Your Name, O Jesus*

#53

– SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION –

INVITATION

To this simple table, this table made ready in the wilderness places of our lives, Jesus calls us.

To tables of bottled water and packaged meals in shelters for fire-ravaged refugees, where sisters and brothers gather, Jesus welcomes us. To tables in nursing homes where two or three are gathered, Jesus nurtures us.

This is the table where the most ordinary grain and grape become a feast for multitudes. Come; this is an open table. All those seeking God's presence are welcome here. *You* are welcome here.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

All who desire the Sacrament, including children, are invited to come forward at the direction of the deacons to one of two locations at the front of the sanctuary, where you will be served the bread and the cup. Please partake of the elements as they are given to you, then give the empty cup to the nearby steward before returning to your seat by the side aisle. If you want to receive the elements in the pew for any reason, please notify a deacon.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Holy, still-speaking One, you gave us this day our daily bread, and nourished us with Christ's presence: thank you. Through our ancestors in faith and through the living faith community, you call us: thank you. Through your word and witness of the prophets in every age, you challenge us to do the risky work of building community, the on-going work of truth-telling and justice: thank you. Through your on-going presence, you fulfill your promise to be with us: thank you. May we leave this place with joy and thanksgiving, strengthened by your meal for the days ahead. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *Lead on Eternal Sovereign*

#573

***BENEDICTION**

***THREEFOLD AMEN**

#812

POSTLUDE *Wind in the Bamboo Grove*
(*please be seated*)

– Keiko Abe
Jenna Duranko, marimba



We appreciate the gifts shared by Tricia Coffey as our organist and Jenna Duranko on marimba today.

1. Napier, B. Davie, *Time of Burning*, ©1970, Pilgrim Press, Philadelphia, Boston, adapted.
2. Lembke, Anna, MD, *Dopamine Nation: Finding Balance in the Age of Indulgence*, ©2021, Dutton, adapted.

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: 16 at 8:30 am, 90 at 10:30 am, and 44 online.



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

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

Today: September 3, 2023

Scripture Reader: Tyler L. York
Deacons: Mark Ulrich, Darryl Glick
Robin L. Brady-Slifer
Elder: Tyler L. York
Greeters: Danielle Carbone, Cliff Barr
Anne Hoffmann
Welcome: Marj Berkheimer
Audio/Visual: Jeff Schaeberle, Larry Martin
Fellowship: Starr Schaeberle, Peter Brehm
Shelley and Eric Weakly

Next Week: September 10, 2023

Linda Coyle
Robin A. Brady-Slifer

Eric Weakly

Kelly Esslinger, Jeff Baker
Pastor Kirstin, Julie Clark

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.

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Next Week: Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 12: 1-14 | Romans 13: 8-14

*The Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads will be preaching and leading worship. Spirit will be sharing in music leadership this morning. We will celebrate **Rejoice in Our Welcome Sunday** and bless those leading Christian education and formation for the coming year.*

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:

June Brehm, Jason Rhoads, Nathan Cable, Ginny Peters, Meg Gessert (stepdaughter of Susan Kulp), James Miller (brother of Angela Brittain), Rob Peters, Rich Stolz, Hillal Eastburn, Barbara Rhoads, Pat Condo, Cathy Crome (sister of Nancy Jones), Greg Rhoads, Luke Chappell, Holly Davis, Mike Roberston (friend of Kathleen and Niel Jefferson), 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.

Weekly Education Opportunities for Adults

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY with The Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg

Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence

Tuesdays, September 12 – October 24

North Room / Zoom

11:00 am

Zoom: bit.ly/3TdUnOy

Meeting ID: 875 1423 3398

Passcode: 973365

In *Freeing Jesus*, Diana Butler Bass offers a refreshing take on the comprehensive, multi-faceted nature of Jesus, keeping his teachings relevant and alive in our daily lives. She challenges the idea that Jesus can only be understood in static, one-dimensional ways and asks us to instead consider a life where Jesus grows with us and helps us through life's challenges in several capacities: as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence.

Books are available now for \$10 on Sundays or in the church office.

Reading Schedule

September 12: Chapter 1 - Friend

September 19: Chapter 2 - Teacher

September 26: Chapter 3 - Savior

October 3: Chapter 4 - Lord

October 10: Chapter 5 - Way

October 17: Chapter 6 - Presence

LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE - WEDNESDAY EVENING EDITION

with The Rev. John Shillingburg

Wednesdays, September 13 – October 25

North Room / Zoom

7:00 – 8:15 pm

Zoom: bit.ly/ERwedstudy

Meeting ID: 892 1764 4500

Passcode: 848933

Like the Sunday morning class, this new evening class offers an opportunity to read and discuss the scriptures, looking at them in their original context, considering when and by whom they were written, and how they have been interpreted through the centuries. All you need is a Bible; no prior knowledge is necessary.

We will begin where the Sunday morning group did, with a seven-week basic introduction to the Bible: how it came down to us in the form we have it, how it's organized, the types of literature in it and what they mean for how we understand it. After that, we will focus on the foundational stories of the Bible in order, as the Sunday morning class is doing.

BE A BLESSING PRACTICE PEACE.
LEAD WITH LOVE.
BE JOYFUL. PRAY OFTEN. BE KIND. GIVE THANKS.
DO GOOD. HAVE COURAGE. WORK FOR JUSTICE.
BE THE LIGHT. ENCOURAGE OTHERS.



Upcoming at ERUCC

ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR TO KICK OFF THE NEW YEAR

Sunday, September 10

Community Room

during Fellowship

Join us at Fellowship in the Community Room after worship on September 10 for an Ice Cream Sundae Bar as our official KICK OFF to the new year! Pastor Kirstin will be available to answer questions about curriculum and volunteering opportunities and will share a schedule of fall events for children's ministry, including Tiny Tots, God's Kids Club, and Kids' Creation Care.

INTERESTED IN KNOWING MORE ABOUT ERUCC?

Sunday, September 10

Community Room

11:45 am – 12:45 pm

If you are interested in learning more about ERUCC, the United Church of Christ, and what it means to be a church member, we hope you join us for a conversation led by Rev. Carolyn Roberts during fellowship in the Community Room. Questions? Contact erucc@erucc.org.

We will be receiving new members into the church on Sunday, September 24 at the 10:30 am service. Thanks to our newer friends and guests for your participation in the life of ERUCC and for the joy you bring us.

CHIMES SERVICE AND LEARNING GROUP

Thursday, September 14

IHOP, 2421 Osprey Way S, Frederick

10:00 am

The Chimes Service and Learning Group first meeting this fall is a 10:00 am breakfast meeting at IHOP, off Rt 26, on September 14. We welcome new faces! Please reserve your spot at the breakfast by emailing Sue Pinner at pinbenco@gmail.com.

GERMAN PARTNERSHIP 2024 HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES INFO MEETING

Sunday, September 17

Community Room

during Fellowship

Monday, September 18

Zoom

7:00 pm

Zoom: bit.ly/44sFKLO

Meeting ID: 834 3973 2166

Passcode: 002136

Have you ever wondered what's involved in hosting our German partners in your home when they come to Frederick? Whether you have hosted our partners before or you're curious about learning more about hosting responsibilities and the rewards, we encourage you to come to one of the informational sessions led by Renae and Marc Kline either during Fellowship on Sunday, September 17 or by Zoom on Monday, September 18. If hosting is not a good fit for you, there are also other opportunities to support this partnership. Come learn more!

We anticipate the summer 2024 exchange to start on or about June 23 and conclude around July 7, including some time when we bring the Germans away from Frederick to Bethany Beach and for other programming.

TUESDAY EVENING YOGA

Tuesdays, September 19 – October 24

Community Room

7:00 pm

Join your ERUCC friends for a new six-week cycle of Tuesday night yoga beginning September 19! You will need to bring yoga mats, blocks if used, and a water bottle. Space is limited to 20 participants. For more information or to sign up, contact Renae Kline, rdkline15@gmail.com. The 6-week session is just \$60! Payments should be marked “yoga.”

GREEN TEAM – POTOMAC RIVER CLEANUP AT C&O CANAL

Saturday, September 23

Canal Rd, Point of Rocks, MD, 21777

9:00 – 11:00 am



Join us for a Potomac Conservancy River Clean-up. We will pick up trash in the park and along the canal. Children and youth are invited to participate as well.

We suggest you wear long pants, sturdy shoes, and a hat. Bring gloves with you and maybe bug spray too! Trash bags will be provided.

Registration required: bit.ly/47N1Z1W

ERUCC BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, September 26

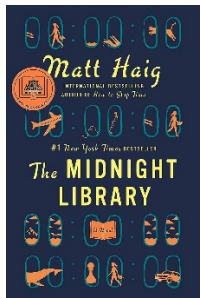
North Room / Zoom

7:00 pm

Zoom: bit.ly/ERUCCbooks

Meeting ID: 848 7056 7574

Passcode: 226669



The Midnight Library by Matt Haig. Somewhere out beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. While we all wonder how our lives might have been, what if you had the chance to go to the library and see for yourself? Would any of these other lives truly be better?

In *The Midnight Library*, Matt Haig’s enchanting new novel, Nora Seed finds herself faced with this decision. Faced with the possibility of changing her life for a new one, following a different career, undoing old breakups, realizing her dreams of becoming a glaciologist; she must search within herself as she travels through the Midnight Library to decide what is truly fulfilling in life, and what makes it worth living in the first place.

SCRIPTURE READING WORKSHOP

Sunday, October 1

Sanctuary

9:15 – 10:15 am

Interested in reading scripture in worship? Join us for a workshop to learn tips to make it come alive!

Children and Youth Ministry

SUNDAY SCHOOL and JUNIOR CHURCH RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER

starting Sunday, September 10 Main Building 9:30 – 10:10 am

Children's Sunday School with classrooms for kids Pre-K – 2nd Grade and 3rd – 5th Grade and a **Youth Sunday School** class for 6th – 12th Grade will resume September 10! We look forward to welcoming everyone back for another year of fun and faith formation.

Junior Church, a space to join in creative spiritual formation activities, will also resume on September 10! On all Sundays, except the first Sunday of each month when we observe Communion, children aged 5 – 5th grade may go to Junior Church in the Thomas Room after the Thought for the Day in the worship service. Parents should pick up children from Junior Church following service.

UPDATE ON CHILDREN'S SUMMER MUSICAL

Our children's musical will be postponed until spring 2024 as we look for more children and youth to take part. Please see Trish Coffey if you want to have a role. We will continue to have a children's Christmas pageant in December as well!

YOUTH GROUP

Saturday, September 9 depart/return at ERUCC 9:30 am – 2:00 pm

Our Youth Group will participate in the Out of the Darkness, Suicide Prevention Walk in Shepherdstown, WV. Look for more details from Pastor Kirstin.

TINY TOTS

Saturday, September 16 Location TBA Time TBD

Save the date and join us for a fruit-picking experience! In Tiny Tots, we want to share growth experiences for our children aged Pre-K and younger with their families. Contact Pastor Kirstin with interest or to learn more.

A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

KIDS' CREATION CARE CLUB – POTOMAC RIVER CLEANUP AT C&O CANAL
Saturday, September 23 Canal Rd, Point of Rocks, MD, 21777 9:00 – 11:00 am



Children's Ministry and Kids' Creation Care Club invite all children and families to join us on Saturday, September 23 for a Potomac River Cleanup in partnership with the Potomac Conservancy and St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Point of Rocks. We can help make a huge difference for the Potomac River as we turn to the water for a safe, healthy place to recreate outdoors.

We suggest you wear long pants, sturdy shoes, and a hat. Bring gloves with you too! Trash bags will be provided. Contact Pastor Kirstin or Linda Coyle to know more!

Registration required: bit.ly/47N1Z1W

YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, September 24

Tree Trekkers

Time TBD

Save the date! We will enjoy an adventure together at Tree Trekkers. More details soon!

GOD'S KIDS CLUB

Monday, September 25

Community Room

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Save the date for God's Kids Club when FCPS schools are closed on Monday, September 25. More details coming soon!



Additional Announcements

WATERCOLOR CLASSES WITH MARTI

Thursdays, September 7 – October 19 North Room 10:00 am – 12:00 pm



Fall is almost here and it's time to learn a new skill or polish up an old one. Come join the class starting September 7 through October 19 (no class October 12), Thursday mornings at 10:00 am in the North Room. Classes will include painting flowers, landscapes, trees, birds, oceans and many others. This is a great way to center yourself and let go of stress. The classes are \$35 each, with a minimum of four classes. You will receive lots of individual attention, and all skill levels are welcome.

For information & registration, call or text Marti Easton: (203) 249-9205.

CHURCH PARKING LOT REMINDERS

Please save spaces in our parking lot on Sunday mornings for people who have reduced mobility. City of Frederick public garage parking is free on Sunday from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm.

Kindly call the church office in advance at 301.662.2762 to confirm space is available before parking during the week.

DONATE TO FREDERICK FOOD BANK

The Department of Housing and Human Services (DHHS) Foodbank is requesting donations. The Foodbank recently expanded services and donations are needed to meet the growing need for services in our community. Donate through ERUCC by bringing items to the baskets located in the narthex of Main Sanctuary.

The Foodbank accepts the following donations:

- Non-perishable foods: canned fruits, canned peas, canned meats, pasta, peanut butter, rice, tomato sauce, and snack items.
 - Hygiene items: toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, shampoo, and shaving cream.
 - Baby food: baby cereal, baby food jars, and infant formula.
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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



**JOIN US AT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AND
LET THE BOARD KNOW THAT FREDERICK COUNTY IS
WELCOMING AND SUPPORTIVE OF ALL STUDENTS!**



RALLY FOR STUDENTS!

**September 13th from 5:30 to 7:30PM
FCPS BOE Building 191 East Street Frederick, MD**

COMMUNITY FOR FREDERICK is a volunteer group advocating for the safety, health, and wellbeing of Frederick County residents, students and families.

OUR MISSION: To ensure that ALL Frederick County residents, students, and families are given the opportunities, support and protection they need to thrive and that ALL feel welcome, respected, and affirmed for who they are. We believe that ALL people have a fundamental right to access institutions and live under laws that are just, inclusive, equitable, and effective.

OUR CALL TO ACTION: Groups Like Moms for Liberty, Transparency in Education, and Genspect have been attacking FCPS policies that protect Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students FOR MONTHS and FCPS Students families, staff and Board Members have endured their constant stream of misinformation and fear mongering! These groups and their supporters also continue to attack library books, and curriculum that they want banned from schools!

JOIN US IN STANDING UP FOR STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND SCHOOLS!

Follow us at: www.facebook.com/groups/communityforfrederick/

Email us at: communityfor443@gmail.com

Rejoice in Our Welcome Sunday – September 10 –

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

As a congregation, we strive to live by those words every day. Our daily welcome is a vital part of who we are. As we renew, restart, and re-imagine the year ahead, we also want to rejoice! On Sunday, September 10, ERUCC will join with churches throughout the Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ in celebrating a **REJOICE IN OUR WELCOME SUNDAY!**

For us, this day marks the return of children, youth, and adult faith formation opportunities, including Children's Sunday School with classrooms for kids Pre-K-2nd Grade and 3rd-5th Grade and a Youth Sunday School class for 6th-12th Grade, as well as a restart of the Sunday morning **Let's Study the Bible** class for adults. Our popular Junior Church has been re-imagined and will also begin again during worship for children aged 5-5th grade.

Pastor Kirstin will preach and lead us in worship, Spirit will lead us in song, we will commission Christian education and faith formation teachers, and the Stewardship/Generosity Committee will launch our annual Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program to help us each intentionally reflect on the ways God is calling us to give in support of our church's mission and ministry and to grow spiritually in our personal relationship with God.

Following the 10:30 a.m. worship service, all are encouraged to fellowship in the Community Room where there will be a celebratory ice cream sundae bar and an opportunity to join a conversation with Carolyn Roberts to learn more about ERUCC, the United Church of Christ, and what it means to be a church member.

Next Sunday, will certainly be a joy-filled day. If you have friends or family who are looking for a church community, next Sunday is a great opportunity to invite them to come and to learn more about us. We are excited to rejoice together in our welcome - in God's welcome!

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 – 9:15 am	Worship , Trinity Chapel
9:00 am	Coffee and Conversation , Main Building, Kieffer Lobby
9:30 am – 12:00 pm	Nursery Care , Main Building, 1 st Floor
10:30 – 11:30 am	Worship , Main Sanctuary and Online at www.erucc.org
11:30 am	Fellowship , Community Room, 1 st Floor

beginning September 10

8:30 – 9:15 am	Early Worship Service , Main Sanctuary
9:00 am	Coffee and Conversation , Main Building, Kieffer Lobby
9:00 – 10:15 am	Adult Education , Main Building, North Room, 2 nd Floor <i>Let's Study the Bible</i>
9:30 am – 12:00 pm	Nursery Care , Main Building, 1 st Floor
9:30 – 10:10 am	Sunday School , Main Building <i>Pre-K – 2nd Grade</i> , Liz Coffey Room, 2 nd Floor <i>3rd – 5th Grade</i> , Thomas Room, 2 nd Floor <i>Youth (6th – 12th Grade)</i> , Clapp Conference Room, Church Office
10:10 – 10:25 am	Children's Music and Movement , Liz Coffey Room, 2 nd Floor
10:30 – 11:30 am	Worship , Main Sanctuary and Online at www.erucc.org Junior Church , Thomas Room, 2 nd Floor <i>Children are dismissed from the sanctuary after Thought for the Day during Worship</i>
11:30 am	Fellowship , Community Room, 1 st Floor

Stay Informed

SEPTEMBER 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/sept23chimes.



WEEKLY THURSDAY THOUGHTS EMAIL

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



When Israel Was in Egypt's Land

572

African-American spiritual; alt.

Exod. 3:7-12; 7:16; 8:1, 20; 9:1, 13; 10:3

Unison

1 When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, Let my peo-ple go,
2 "Thus spoke our God," bold Mo - ses said, "Let my peo-ple go;
3 No more in bond - age shall they toil, Let my peo-ple go,
4 Oh, let us all from bond-age flee, Let my peo-ple go,

Op - pressed so hard they could not stand, Let my peo-ple go.
If not I'll smite your first-born dead, Let my peo-ple go."
Nor spill their blood on E - gypt's soil, Let my peo-ple go.
And let us all in Christ be free, Let my peo-ple go.

Refrain

Go down, Mo - ses, way down in E - gypt's land,

Tell old Pha - raoh to let my peo-ple go.

According to historian Jon Michael Spencer, this is the most famous of the spirituals to speak subtly of the desire the enslaved had for freedom, believing that God would set them free just as God had set the Hebrew people free from captivity in Egypt.

Tune: GO DOWN, MOSES 8.5.8.5. with refrain
African-American spiritual

O God of Earth and Altar

*St. 1-2, Gilbert K. Chesterton, 1906; alt.**St. 2, alt. Jane Parker Huber, 1985**St. 3, Jane Parker Huber, 1985*

1 O God of earth and al - tar, bow down and hear our cry;
 2 From all that ter - ror teach - es, from lies of pen and voice,
 3 A - wak - en us to ac - tion and forge us in - to one,

Our earth-ly rul - ers fal - ter, our peo - ple drift and die;
 From all the eas - y speech - es that make our hearts re - joice,
 de - fy - ing sect and fac - tion; O God, your will be done!

The walls of gold en - tomb us, the swords of scorn di - vide;
 From val - ue's pro - fan - a - tion, from hon - or sac - ri - ficed,
 Op - pres - sive sys - tems snare us; our ap - a - thies in - crease.

Take not your thun - der from us, but take a - way our pride.
 From sleep and from dam - na - tion, de - liv - er us, O Christ!
 Great God, in mer - cy spare us for jus - tice and for peace!

G. K. Chesterton of England was a prolific journalist, lecturer, and author of some one hundred literary works. This hymn has been updated by Jane Parker Huber to "incorporate

*Tune: LLANGLOFFAN 7.6.7.6.D.
 Traditional Welsh melody
 Harm. David Evans, 1927*

Glorious Is Your Name, O Jesus

53

Robert J. Fryson, 1982; alt.

Glo-rious is your name, O Je-sus, prais-es to your name. Oh, glo-ri-ous and

righ-teous and ho - ly is your name. Oh, glo - ri-ous is your name.

I feel your pres-ence in this place, your Spir - it makes me whole; I can

feel your warm em - brace and all the joy with-in my soul, Oh, glo-ri-ous

is your name, Oh, glo - ri-ous is your name.

Composer Robert J. Fryson served as minister of music for the Amistad United Church of Christ, as well as choral director for several other Washington, D.C., churches. Fryson also was active as a soloist and recording artist with his sacred music group, "The Voices-Supreme."

Tune: GLORIOUS IS YOUR NAME Irr.
Robert J. Fryson, 1982

Lead On Eternal Sovereign

Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1887; alt.

1 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low in your way;
 2 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low not with fear,
 3 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, till sin's fierce war shall cease,

loud rings your cry for jus - tice, your call for peace this day:
 for in each hu - man con - flict your words of strength we hear:
 and all your saints to - geth - er will sing a hymn of peace;

Through prayer-ful prep - a - ra - tion, your grace will make us strong,
 That when we serve with glad - ness, you will not let us fall,
 Then all in your do - min - ion will live with hearts set free,

to car - ry on the strug - gle to tri - umph o - ver wrong.
 our trust is in your prom - ise that love will con - quer all.
 to love and serve each oth - er for all e - ter - ni - ty.

At Andover Seminary, fellow students asked Ernest W. Shurtleff to write a hymn for their graduation. This is the result. Shurtleff

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
 Henry T. Smart, 1836

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 3, 2023

Romans 12:9-21

Spirit-Led Living

A Labor Day litany in the wake of pandemic, based on Romans 12:9-21

Holy God,

On this Labor Day, we give you thanks. We thank You, for those whose work brings them to the front lines of caring and curing. We thank you for doctors and hospital janitors, nurses and nursing assistants, office workers who keep hospitals running smoothly, scientists who continually quest for vaccines and cures that will keep us safe.

On this Labor Day, we recall Paul's urging in the letter to Romans, to "Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor." May we do so now.

On this Labor Day, we mourn. We weep with those who have lost loved ones who served on the pandemic's front lines. We recall other areas where safety is compromised and lives are lost, and we vow to continue to make work a place where no one needs fear for their health or safety.

On this Labor Day, we recall Paul's urging in the letter to Romans, to "Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor." May we do so now.

On this Labor Day, we remember. We remember those who have labored long and given much so that all workers may be safe and fairly compensated. We ask to be reminded that our faith's call to simplicity does not mean that working families should have to sacrifice basic needs like food, housing, and medical care. We pray for the wisdom and the courage needed to create your reign on earth, where all experience plenty, ease, and abundance.

On this Labor Day, we recall Paul's urging in the letter to Romans, to "Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor." May we do so now.

On this Labor Day, we pray that the love, affection, and honor that Paul impressed upon his friends may also fill our hearts and overflow into all places we live and work. In your holy name we pray, Amen.



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE