



Remember, **Restore, Renew**

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
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*

The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel ~ *Pastor Emerita*
The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ *Pastor Emeritus*

Elders of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

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



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



September 10, 2023

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am

The numbered hymns are from The New Century Hymnal

*All who are able may stand

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING OF THE TEACHERS

As we celebrate the ministry of discipleship and the ministry of those who help us make disciples, let us celebrate our commitment to the educational ministry of our church.

LITANY OF COMMITMENT

(To the Teachers) Sisters and brothers, you have been called by our church to fulfill the responsibilities of teachers of the faith. Will you commit yourselves by giving of your time to fulfill this ministry?

We will, with the help of God.

Do you understand that by accepting this ministry you are becoming agents of transformation in people's lives?

We do understand.

Will you share your love, peace and Christian joy with everyone so people could see in you the life of Christ?

We will with the help of God.

(To the Congregation) Will you brothers and sisters promise to support and care for these you have called to this ministry?

We promise with the help of God.

We offer our support and prayer:

Bless, O God, the teachers and leaders of this ministry of formation and nurture. Give them your strength and your peace, that they may teach and lead with conviction, imagination, love, and patience. Strengthen their faith and their commitment by the gifts of your Spirit. Ground their lives in your life; center their wills in your will; and focus their spirits on your Spirit, that they may teach and lead for the common good. Amen.

CONGREGATION CENTERING PRAYER

Mark Ulrich and Darryl Glick

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**

Children of God: welcome!

Welcome to this place of love and grace,

Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,

God invites all of us to share in the good news:

We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

Welcome.

***OPENING PRAYER**

God, When we think of Your presence in the world, we are grateful:

Grateful for the presence of hope; grateful for the gift of life.

And when we think of Your presence in our lives, we are humbled:

Humbled by the gift of grace; humbled by the invitation to begin again.

And when we think of Your presence in this community, we are glad:

Glad to be surrounded by holy people worshipping our Holy God.

Glad to be surrounded by God's love

Thank you, thank you, God.

We rejoice in Your welcome. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** *Welcome*

– M. Miller

**Let's walk together for a while and ask where we begin
To build a world where love can grow and hope can enter in, To be the
hands of healing and to plant the seed of peace,**

Refrain:

**Singing welcome, welcome to this place
You're invited to come and know God's grace
All are welcome the love of God to share
'cause all of us are welcome here; All are welcome in this place.**

**Let's talk together of a time when we will share a feast,
Where pride and power kneel to serve the lonely and the least, And joy
will set the table as we join our hands to pray,**

Refrain:

**Singing welcome, welcome to this place
You're invited to come and know God's grace
All are welcome the love of God to share
'cause all of us are welcome here; All are welcome in this place.**

**Let's dream together of the day when earth and heaven are one,
A city built of love and light, the new Jerusalem,
Where our mourning turns to dancing, every creature lifts its voice**

Refrain:

**Crying welcome! Welcome to this place
You're invited to come and know God's grace
All are welcome the love of God to share
'cause all of us are welcome here; All are welcome in this place.**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us come before God as a community that strives to do our best, and yet fails, time and time again. As we lean on God's goodness, may we feel peace and hope. We are thankful for you, God, today and every day!

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Lord, we confess we have not loved you with our whole hearts.
We have not loved our neighbor fully. We have not shown love and
care to your created world, and this includes ourselves. Where we have
failed, give us grace.**

Give us an assurance that life goes on and is good, and the knowledge that our fellowship in you can never be broken, regardless of how far we roam or what we do. Help us learn to follow your commandments as we strive to live honorably.

Let the spirit of Christ reign in our hearts today, and make us glad together. And let your name be glorified in the renewal we experience. For you are our God, and we have never forgotten it!

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

We receive the blessing of God's forgiveness, each and every day. Know that you are forgiven and you are loved. In God's grace and mercy we are all forgiven, we are all loved.

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.

*Children ages 5 through 5th grade may be dismissed for Junior Church,
located in the Thomas Room, during the singing of the hymn.*

***HYMN** *Savior God Above*

#602

Refrain:

**Savior God above, God almighty, God of love,
please look down and see my people through.**

I believe that God put sun and moon up in the sky.

I don't mind the gray skies, 'cause they're just clouds passing by.

Refrain

Heaven is a goodness time, a brighter light on high.

Love your neighbor as yourself, and have a brighter by and by.

Refrain

**I believe God is now, was then, and always will be.
With God's blessing we can make it through eternity.**

Refrain

THE SCRIPTURE

Exodus 12:1-14 OT page 58
Romans 13:8-14 NT page 162

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads

MORNING PRAYERS

IT'S COMING: CONSECRATION SUNDAY

Holly Davis

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

OFFERTORY *I Could Sing of Your Love Forever*

– M. Smith
Spirit

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Spirit of God,

When we share from our souls, we open our hearts to your works in this world. When we tend to our neighbors who struggle, we care for the Christ in our midst. When we welcome the prophet who shares your love through their advocacy, we care for the Spirit moving throughout our world. When we share with a stranger, we experience Divine joy as our reward for giving. When we express thankfulness, we give thanks for those who have leaned on and learned from you to bring vision and life to this community of welcoming, loving ministry at ERUCC in Frederick Maryland. Bless all our gifts as they build your Realm here on earth. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *This Is A Day of New Beginnings*

#417
see next page

Unison

1 This is a day of new be - gin - nings, time to re -
2 For by the life and death of Je - sus, God's might - y
3 Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing, step from the
4 Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us to show and
* In faith we'll gath - er 'round the ta - ble to taste and

mem - ber and move on, time to be - lieve what love is
Spir - it, now as then, can make for us a world of
past and leave be - hind our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and
share what love can do. This is a day of new be -
share what love can do. This is a day of new be -

bring - ing, lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.
dif - ference, as faith and hope are born a - gain.
griev - ing, seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.
gin - nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.
gin - nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.

***BENEDICTION**

With one mind, one heart, one will, may we go from here today being thankful for the ways God calls us to live in harmony with others and with creation. May we show God's loving welcome to others in the way we show up, and in the things we show up for.

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *(We will) Be the Church* – Scott Siciliano

This hymn was a winner of the 2019 Hymn Competition of the United Church of Christ Musicians Association.

Refrain

We will be the Church alive again in Christ. We will spread Good News, invite all those inside who've been broken down, made lesser than, so God can make all whole again. We will be a light for everyone to see. We will be the Church our God calls us to be.

POSTLUDE *(please be seated)*

The flowers on the altar are in loving memory of grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy V. Gaver and Mrs. Phoebe Crum, and Great-grandfather William J. Seward, by Martha J. Kline.

The yellow rose bud is presented in remembrance of those who were prisoners of war (POW) and those who are missing in action (MIA), as well as their families.

Attendance Last Sunday: 16 at 8:30 am, 104 at 10:30 am, and 52 online.

Watch
Worship
Live



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

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

Today: September 10, 2023

Scripture Reader: Linda Coyle
Deacons: Mark Ulrich, Darryl Glick
Elder: Eric Weakly
Greeters: Kathy and Niel Jefferson
Felecia Bishop and Barbara Barry
Welcome: Pat Condo
Audio/Visual: Kelly Esslinger, Jeff Baker
Nursery: Emily Spear, Abby, Ben
Fellowship: Pastor Kirstin, Julie Clark

Next Week: September 17, 2023

Matt Davis, Harrison Fisher
Gerry Blessing
Bob and Nancy Manthey
Rob Smith
Holly Davis
Jeff Baker, Rodney Martin
Emily Spear, Abby, Ben
Renae Kline

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: Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 150 | Ephesians 5:15-20

Today we will sing the liturgy, letting the words and music of hymns over the centuries help us to praise God, pray, confess, and hear the gospel. We will also hear some behind the scenes stories of some hymns. Be prepared to follow the advice of the apostle Paul who counsels us to speak in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.

The Senior Choir will be singing.

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, 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.

Coffee Hour

FRIENDS AND FELLOWSHIP Kieffer Lobby 9:00 – 10:15 am

Come to the Kieffer Lobby (Church Street level) to enjoy some coffee or tea and to chat and relax with new and old friends!

Sunday Education Opportunities for Adults

LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE with The Revs. John and Rebecca Shillingburg

Sundays North Room / Zoom 9:00 – 10:15 am

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

We are currently studying the foundational stories of the Old Testament, the big stories in the order they occurred. 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 because Joseph put him there? If you've ever had questions like these, join us! No prior experience needed; just bring your Bible.

In September we begin the story of how the loose confederation of tribes that entered the Promised Land became a kingdom that reached its zenith under Solomon.

Sunday Education Opportunities for Children and Youth

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays Main Building 9:30 – 10:10 am

Sunday School is back for another year of fun and faith formation!

We have two classrooms for **Children's Sunday School**. Our Pre-K – 2nd Grade class meets in the Liz Coffey Room and our 3rd – 5th Grade class meets in the Thomas Room.

Our **Youth Sunday School** class for 6th – 12th Grade meets in the Clapp Conference Room in the Parish House Church Offices. Students should enter through the door in the Kieffer Lobby that leads to the North and Flora Rooms. Follow the signs up the stairs to the church offices.

This Week 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, KidVentures, and Kids' Creation Care Club.

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.



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: Introduction	October 3: Chapter 3 - Savior
September 19: Chapter 1 - Friend	October 10: Chapter 4 - Lord
September 26: Chapter 2 – Teacher	October 17: Chapter 5 - Way
	October 24: 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.  UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Upcoming at ERUCC

LET'S TALK - DISCUSSION OF FCPS POLICY 443

Sunday, September 17

Community Room

9:30 – 10:15 am

What is Policy 443 and Why Should We Care? God IS Still Speaking

We will discuss the work of Community FOR Frederick, an all-volunteer group of Frederick neighbors who, prompted by our former Senior Pastor Barbara Kershner Daniel, came together last year to push back against efforts to remove Frederick County Public School's Policy 443. Congregation member Colleen Baldree is the group's coordinator, and she will lead us in a discussion of what Policy 443 seeks to accomplish, the push back against the policy, and the efforts of the Community FOR Frederick group to uphold Policy 443.

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."

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

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.

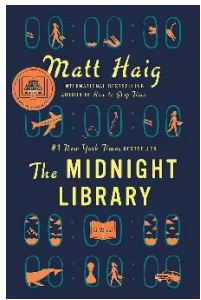
We suggest you wear long pants, sturdy shoes, and a hat. Bring gloves with you and maybe bug spray too! Trash bags will be provided.

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!

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

Children and Youth Ministry

JUNIOR CHURCH RETURNS

Junior Church, a space to join in creative spiritual formation activities, starts September 10! On most 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.

CHILDREN AND MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH MUSIC

Children ages 4 through 8th grade are invited to participate in **Children's Music and Movement**. The group rehearses each Sunday morning following Sunday School from 10:10–10:25 am in the Liz Coffey Room. Children will explore a variety of musical styles including the use of rhythm instruments, hand chimes, expression through movement, and vocal choirs.

Our **Chancel Handbell Choir**, open to elementary and middle school students, rehearses Sunday morning from 11:30 am – 12:00 pm in the Flora Room starting September 17. This choir provides music once a month during the 10:30 am worship service.

If you have any questions, please contact Trish Coffey, 301-455-8720 or trishcoffey1195@gmail.com.

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.

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

1:30 / 2:00 pm

We will enjoy an adventure together at Tree Trekkers! Either meet at ERUCC at 1:30 pm for a ride or meet us at Tree Trekkers, 9560 Old National Pike, at 2:00 pm.

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

ADVOCACY: ALL-ELECTRIC BUILDING CODES IN FREDERICK COUNTY

Frederick County may soon join our neighbors in Montgomery County, Howard County, and DC by introducing all-electric building codes for new construction! Please join the Multi-faith Alliance of Climate Stewards of Frederick County (MACS) and Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA) in advocating for safer and healthier homes and buildings by filling out the petition to Frederick County councilmembers.

Find the petition online at <https://tinyurl.com/ElectrifyFrederick> or by pointing your smartphone camera at the QR code on the right and following the link.



WATERCOLOR CLASSES WITH MARTI

Thursdays, September 14 – November 2

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 14 through November 2 (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.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY – A SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP AND REFLECTION

This year's Season of Stewardship will conclude on Consecration Sunday, October 8, when we formally offer our Estimates of Giving to the church for the coming year and joyfully join together after the 8:30 am service for a Celebration Pastry Breakfast and after the 10:30 am service for a catered Celebration Luncheon. We are using a spiritually-focused education program for the second time this year that we hope you are finding meaningful.

The Consecration Sunday program is grounded in Biblical teaching that financial stewardship is part of our faithful response to and worship of God. It provides us with a structure in which we can, together, examine our values, our patterns of giving, and think consciously about what percentage of our income God is calling us to give.

We are grateful to be on this spiritual journey with you and look forward to celebrating with you on October 8!

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

\$10,000 Top-tier Leadership niche (12"x12")

\$5,000 Standard niche (8"x8")

Each niche accommodates two urns.



**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

Sunday Morning Schedule

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!

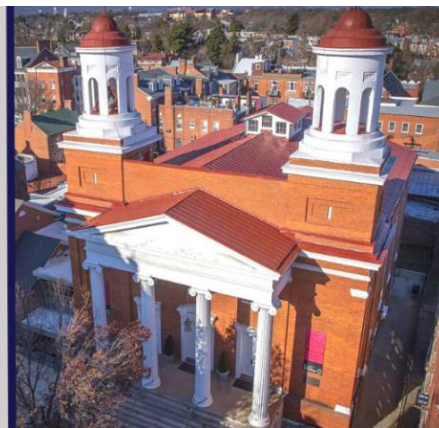


MISSION STATEMENT

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



Worship services and events at Evangelical Reformed UCC are sometimes photographed and videotaped to document the vibrant life of our church. If you do not wish to be included in these recordings, please notify a deacon or the church office.

Always seek permission prior to personally sharing media that includes minors.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 10, 2023

Exodus 12:1-14

Remember, Restore, Renew *Faith Formation Sunday*

God's people have been through so much. After generations of slavery, they too have undergone the plagues that tormented all of Egypt. Now, God's people are given an opportunity to mark themselves as God's own ones by placing a sign, a mark on the door. The mark they place means not only that they belong to God. It also means that they are prepared to move on, out of the place they and their ancestors have lived for so long. By placing the mark on the door, they indicate that they are ready to move forward into freedom, and a new relationship with God.

Doorways are not a place to linger. On the threshold, the invitation is to pass from one space to another. On this Faith Formation Sunday, what mark are you placing on the doorways of your heart and mind? What sign are you giving to God that you are ready to move forward into a new life?

Faith Formation, the willingness to be educated and grow into our faith, is often focused on children. Many adults seem to believe that they already know everything they need to know in order to live out their faith. But the invitation of Faith Formation Sunday is for everyone who is willing to make a step forward and out, and a step into the freedom and new life which comes from knowing and following God.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, Faith Formation is a door available for you to walk through. Are you a person who never learned the stories of the Bible and your ancestors of faith, or never wrestled with how you might bring the practices of our faith into your daily lives? Or, are you someone who has many years of Sunday School under your belt?

If you are either of those, or somewhere in between, listen to God's call and invitation. Today, put a mark on the door of your heart, a sign to God that you are ready. And then, open the door and step through. Whether teaching a class or taking one, whether studying with a couple of companions or a couple dozen, take the opportunity of this day to step out, into the adventure of learning, growth, and freedom in God that awaits.



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

Bulletin artwork and backpage stories copyright © 2023 United Church of Christ