



**GOD'S
ABUNDANT
PRESENCE**

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

If you are a guest, please visit the welcome desk. 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.

For Children: We have trained nursery staff for ages 0-4. A deacon or greeter can guide you to the nursery. 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 and a children's table is available for quiet activities at the front of the sanctuary.

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.

Restrooms (accessible and equipped with changing stations) are located on the second floor, below the sanctuary, and on the first floor, outside the Community Room.

There is more information about the church in this bulletin and our website: www.erucc.org.

Ministers and Staff of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

The Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan ~ *Intentional Interim Senior Pastor* ~ mmorgan@erucc.org
The Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads ~ *Associate Pastor 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

Ave Barr | Peter Brehm | Robin Cooney | Matt Huetting | Jeanellen Kallevang | Eric Weakly

Deacons of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

Quynn Adkins | Robin A. Brady-Slifer | Robin L. Brady-Slifer | Angela Brittain
Jim Brittain | Matt Davis | Harrison Fisher | Kyle Miller

Transition Team of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

Felecia Bishop | Tommie Bradshaw | Karen Justice | Terry Logee | Allen Maples
Thomasa Pomeroy | Bud Rossig | Eliza Stitely | Lucas Nguyen-Powell | Isaac Pomeroy



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



July 28, 2024

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 AM

The numbered hymns are from
The New Century Hymnal

*All who are able may stand

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PRELUDE

Blessed Assurance

Ann Thompson
– arr. John Ness Beck

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We come from different places, with different skills and abilities, and different occupations. We come to the same place, to share our skills and abilities and worship together.

Let us gather together to worship God.

***OPENING PRAYER**

God who brings us together and builds us together, be with us as we listen to your word and sing songs of praise and pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

#4

**Joyful, joyful, we adore you,
God of glory, God of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the storms of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.**

**All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you,
center of unbroken praise.**

**Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
teach us what our praise should be.**

**You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blessed,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother,
all who love belong to you;
Teach us how to love each other,
by that love our joy renew.**

**Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
Boundless love is reigning o'er us,
reconciling race and clan.
Ever singing, move we forward,
faithful in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us onward
in the triumph song of life.**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

We gather here before God and one another, despite our failures to be faithful. We come to confess our sin that separates us from God, and from each other. We come to confess our guilt by honestly mourning our failure to live as a true and full partner in a covenant relationship with God; and to live in harmony with our neighbors. God, in your great mercy and the abundance of your faithfulness and grace – hear our prayers today.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Psalm 51:1–2, 8, 10, 12*)

**Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out our transgressions.**

**Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity,
and cleanse us from our sin.
You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore, teach us wisdom.
Let us hear joy and gladness;
Create in us clean hearts, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in us a willing spirit.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, we are forgiven, restored, and sustained.

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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Children ages 5 through 8th grade may be dismissed for GLOW!
in the Thomas Room, during the singing of the hymn.*

***HYMN**

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

#403

**My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' love and righteousness;
I dare not trust this earthly frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

***Refrain:* On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**

**When shadows veil my Savior's face,
I rest upon unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil. [*Refrain*]**

**Christ's oath and covenant and blood
support me in the rising flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
Christ then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]**

**When Christ shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in Love be found,
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]**

THE SCRIPTURES

Glenn Wallace-Weitz

2 Samuel 11:1-15 OT page 284

John 6:1-21 NT page 97

Reader: May God bless the reading of this word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan

MORNING PRAYERS

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

All that we are, and all that we have comes from God. And so, in gratitude for all God's gifts, we offer to God ourselves and all that we have. By the Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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 to our church's ministries and programs. We also use this time to ask God how we might use the gifts of our hands and hearts to share God's love. If you are visiting, there is no obligation to give a financial gift. We are just glad you are worshiping with us.

If you wish to give, you can give online at www.erucc.org, by placing your gift in the offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary before or after the service, or by scanning the QR code to give from your phone.



ORGAN OFFERTORY

Andante

Ann Thompson

– John Worgan

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Giver of every good gift, accept the gifts we bring, this day.
May they help provide food and other resources to the hungry.
May they provide signs of your love and care to those in need,
and help to grow the Body of Christ.**

***CLOSING HYMN**

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

#543

**Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of clan and race,
Above the noise of selfish strife,
O Christ, we hear your voice of grace.**

**In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds fraught with fears,
From paths where hide the lures of greed,
we catch the vision of your tears.**

**From tender childhood's helplessness,
from human grief and burdened toil,
From famished souls, from sorrows' stress,
we know your heart does not recoil.**

**The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
Yet long these multitudes to view
the deep compassion of your face.**

***BENEDICTION**

Together we are the Body of Christ in this worship community.
We join others to become the Body of Christ in the wider world.
Christ, walk with us so that we grow, mature, and do your work. **Amen.**

***THREEFOLD AMEN**

#812

POSTLUDE *Please be seated.*
Hymn to Joy

Ann Thompson
– Wayne Wold

Worship Notes: Today's liturgy is from Seasons of the Spirit.

Please join us for **Fellowship** with light refreshments and time for casual conversation after worship in our Community Room (1st Floor).

The flowers on the altar this morning are in loving memory of Jack Patterson by Patti and family.

The yellow rose 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.

Attendance Last Sunday: 16 at 8:30 AM, 101 at 10:30 AM, and 49 online.



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

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

Serving Today: July 28

Deacons: Jim and Angela Brittain
Elder: Peter Brehm
Scripture Reader: Glenn Wallace-Weitz
Greeters: Niel and Kathleen Jefferson
Sue Pinner
Welcome Table: Jeanellen Kallevang
Betsy Selby
Audio/Visual: Jeff Schaeberle, Larry Martin
Kelly Esslinger
Nursery: Kate Fromknecht
Fellowship: Susan Kulp, David Howard
Carolyn Roberts, Colin Neely
Jake and Rhea Stein
Robert Morris

Serving Next Week: August 4

Matt Davis, Quynn Adkins
Robin Cooney
Linda Coyle
Anne Hoffmann, Sue Pinner
Cliff and Ave Barr
Julie Clark, Holly Davis
Jeff Schaeberle, Jeff Baker
Renae Kline, Cathie Duncan
Jim Weitz, Glenn Wallace Weitz
Kathleen and Niel Jefferson
Emily Button Kambic

Next Sunday: August 4 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:13a | John 6:24-35

God calls us to live a connected life, to come together in community, and to grow together in truth and love. What we do matters – to ourselves personally, to our community, to the world, to God. The way we respond to the circumstances that we find ourselves in will influence everything around us. The reading from Samuel doesn't gloss over criticism of David's behavior. However, David's recognition of wrongdoing and desire for forgiveness and mercy in this reading are met with forgiveness. Similarly, Jesus meets the crowd's superficial understanding of him and his message with grace and promise.

We will share in communion this morning.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Members who are in nursing homes and those who currently reside in their homes but are unable to come to Sunday morning services receive visits and communion from Rev. Bob Manthey.

If emergency pastoral care is needed in the case of crisis, death, or severe illness, please contact the church office at (301) 662-2762 or erucc@erucc.org.

PRAYER LIST

We always ask permission before adding a name to 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:

Tom Frazier
Kayla Merry (niece of Kim Sexton)
Carol Spera (mother of Mark Ulrich)
Tyler Schaeberle
Pauline Marendt
Cliff Barr
Haley Duff
Bill Gourlie
Sherry Murray
Jack Mens
Charlotte Blue and Family (friends of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)
Emogene Wyand
Richard Leslie
Bob Pinner
Betsy Fisher
Delmar Speak

Donna Hill (mother of Collen Baldree)
Philip Hill (father of Colleen Baldree)
Tanya Pearre (sister of Colleen Baldree)
Jim Baldree (father of Chuck Baldree)
Anne Gallagher (friend of Milt and Bettie Joe Crutchley)
Lee Thomas
Joan Thomas (mother of Dan Smith's friend)
Autumn Crutchley
Jason Rhoads
Nathan Cable
Greg Rhoads
Marcia Eisenstein
Derek C. Hupp (grandson of Beanie & Gaylon Cornell)

Wayne Kolb (friend of Stefan and Judi Mach and Tony and Linda LaFianza)
Jeannette Johnson
Jackie Keyser (sister-in-law of Betsy and Phil Selby)
Barbara Lee Crutchley (sister of Milt Crutchley)
Marcy Channell (daughter of JoAnn Fritz)
Paige Coffey
Fran Wenner
Bonnie Devilbiss
Tina Prescott (daughter-in-law of Barbara & Bill Prescott)
Heleen (sister of Karin Mens)
Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)
Gretchen Manuel (niece of Audrey Rayfield)

Please notify the church office when you want your request removed from the prayer list.

Cards and visits welcome:

Pauline Marendt
c/o Village Crossing
2480 Waterside Dr, Room 210
Frederick MD 21701

Activities and Events at ERUCC

ERUCC SUPPORTS THE UNITED WAY STUFF THE BUS CAMPAIGN



ERUCC will be collecting NEW, UNUSED school supplies through July 30 for The United Way's Stuff the Bus Campaign to benefit local schoolchildren. Supplies may be placed in the big yellow bins in the Sanctuary Lobby. The supplies most needed include markers, earbuds with microphones, composition notebooks, pencil boxes, and crayons. Complete lists of supplies may be found above the yellow bins.

FOREST BATHING EXPERIENCE

Sunday, July 28

Walkersville Watershed

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Forest Bathing is a therapeutic practice that involves spending time in nature to connect with it through your senses. It is associated with many health benefits and is prescribed as medicine in Japan. This will be a calm, peaceful time together. There are opportunities to participate at different levels. The main trail is relatively flat. It is a short walking distance from the parking area to a small pond. If you do not want to walk very far, you may decide to spend your time at the pond area. We will bring some folding chairs for anyone who chooses this option. Others will continue on an easy loop with several reflection points along the way.

For your comfort, we suggest you wear long pants or socks and possibly a hat, use bug spray, and bring a water bottle.

From Frederick, travel east on Rt. 26 past Mt. Pleasant, Liberty Road Seafood and a golf/putting range. Turn left on Chestnut Grove Rd. Continue past the homes then steeply downhill. At the bottom of the hill, meet in the small parking area on the right.

RSVP to Linda Coyle, lkcoyle@yahoo.com or Pastor Kirstin, ksrhoads@erucc.org.

SACRED CONVERSATION ABOUT LIFE TRANSITIONS

Tuesday, July 30

Flora Room

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Join us in sharing stories and challenges about the changes that life brings related to body limitations and changes in dependency when you just can't do as much yourself. We will gather to listen, pray, and connect with each other. Pastor Kirstin and Ave Barr will facilitate. Please let us know if you can attend by contacting Ave Barr or Linda Coyle.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Saturday, September 28

Worman's Mill Clubhouse

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Save the date! We will discover and practice rest based on the book *Sacred Rest* by Sandra Dalton Smith, MD, and explore further which kind of rest each individual is in need of and offer choices to practice rest in a number of ways. Lunch will be provided from Prospect Pantry. Cost for the event is \$20 per person. Registration will begin in August.

Children and Youth Ministry

GLOW! - A FUN-FILLED SUMMER PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH! ✨

Sundays, July 28

following Thought for the Day in worship

We are thrilled to invite all children and youth from Pre-K through middle school to our summer program **GLOW!** This special program will take place during the "Junior Church" time (following Thought for the Day in worship) in the Thomas Room.

GLOW! is a vibrant, engaging program where children will have a blast with glow stick crafts and activities while learning how they can shine brightly for Jesus. Just like a light brightens a dark room, we will discover how Jesus can illuminate their lives and the lives of others.

Our program will culminate in a fantastic end-of-summer party with glowsticks and surprises galore! We would love for our youth to join in the fun, help with activities, and participate in skits and games. It's a great opportunity for our youth to mentor and inspire younger ones.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 5 – 9

Mon-Thur, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM; Friday, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM



Our VBS program, **Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs** will be August 5-9! We look forward to welcoming your children and their friends for a week of fun and learning. With daily themes like Shelter Protects Life, Food Energizes Life, Water Hydrates Life, Air Sustains Life, and Community Produces Life and activities including yoga, music, creative play, and compassion in action, who could ask for more?

Sign up to attend VBS by picking up a registration form in the Sanctuary Lobby or download the form at bit.ly/ER24vbs.

Cost is \$25 per child. Pay by cash/check (note: VBS) or pay online by scanning the QR code or go to at ppay.co/uNLbG8dRRac.



Questions? Contact Pastor Kirstin, ksrhoads@erucc.org.

DONATE ITEMS FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is just around the corner, and our Snack and Crafts Team is looking for your help.

Please consider donating needed items by Sunday, August 4. Known allergies include sesame; please review ingredients before purchasing.

Donate: bit.ly/ER24vbsHELP

MISSION TRIP TO BERKS COUNTY, PA

October 6 - 11

Exciting news from the Mission, Evangelism, and Social Justice Team! We've been given the green light for a mission trip in Berks County, Pennsylvania, from October 6-11, 2024.

In June of 2023, a devastating flash flood wreaked havoc on Alsace Township and the surrounding areas in Berks County. The aftermath left homes, businesses, schools, and roads severely damaged. Despite the damages, they were denied state and federal aid, leaving many without the resources to rebuild. Local churches and civic organizations have stepped up to meet the needs of this community.

Now, we have a chance to make a real difference. With leadership from the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference UCC's Disaster Ministries, we have been called to the area to lend a hand. Our base will be at The Bridge Fellowship Church in Reading, PA, where comfortable accommodations await us in men's and women's bunk rooms. Plus, there's full access to kitchen facilities and bathrooms with showers.

Our work will be coordinated through Lutheran Disaster Ministries and focuses on home restoration tasks like drywalling, woodworking, flooring, and painting. Don't worry if you're not a pro—every skill level is welcome! We'll have a construction coordinator onsite to guide us and a tool trailer stocked with everything we need.

This is an opportunity to do meaningful work and connect with a community in need. The registration deadline is September 8, 2024, so if you're interested or want more details, reach out to Sedonia Martin at 410-596-5419 or smartin@towson.edu.

Let's come together and make a difference where it truly matters.

Ways to Give to Evangelical Reformed UCC

<p>WEBSITE www.erucc.org/give</p>  <p><i>one time or recurring gifts</i></p>	<p>GIVE THE NEW WAY</p>  <p><i>We're moving to a better way of giving. Scan to try it for yourself!</i></p>	<p>CASH OR CHECK <i>made payable to Evangelical Reformed UCC 15 W. Church St, Frederick MD 21701</i></p>  <p><i>offering plates are available in the rear of the sanctuary before and after worship</i></p>
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Sunday Morning Schedule

subject to change

8:30 – 9:15 AM	Early Worship Service , Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Coffee and Conversation , Kieffer Lobby, 2 nd Floor
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Nursery Care , 1 st Floor
10:30 AM	Worship , Sanctuary and Online at www.erucc.org GLOW! , Thomas Room, 2 nd Floor <i>Children & Youth are dismissed from worship after Thought for the Day</i>
11:30 AM	Fellowship , Community Room, 1 st Floor

Stay Informed

TRINITY CHIMES

Changes are coming to our *Trinity Chimes* newsletter! We want to provide a high-quality publication full of meaningful information and content that fosters community, inspires you to engage with our mission, and nourishes your spirit. We are evaluating formats, content, and publication schedules and will share our plans with you soon. We plan to publish our next issue of *Trinity Chimes* by Sunday, September 8 – Rejoice in Our Welcome Sunday!

WEEKLY THURSDAY THOUGHTS EMAIL

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



Mission Statement of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

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.

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 obtain permission prior to sharing images and videos that include minors on your personal social media.

“God’s Abundant Presence”

Ecumenical means promoting or relating to unity among the world’s Christian Churches. The United Church of Christ, which was founded just under seventy years ago out of an ecumenical impulse following the second world war, is founded on the principle that working together, people of many faith traditions can achieve more justice than any one organization working alone.

Inspired by today’s story, in which one gift multiplies to feed an entire crowd, many UCC churches have gathered **ecumenically** with other organizations to create feeding programs inspired by the story of the loaves and fishes.

One of those is Pilgrim Church in Fond du Lac, WI. Founded in 1982, Loaves and Fishes in Fond du Lac provides meals to approximately 150-200 local people twice a week. Pilgrim church provides volunteers for quarterly meal preparation that include donating and preparing food, set-up, serve, clean-up and distributing leftovers. The number of families served continues to grow and the program’s websites emphasizes its open and welcoming nature. “Sometimes they may not be hungry for food but for companionship. The lonely people are hungry too; we never judge. This is everyone’s program. It is **ecumenical** and covers all faiths.”

Another is St. Luke’s UCC in Jeffersonville IN. Loaves and Fishes in Jeffersonville is a weekly community meal in partnership with other local congregations and housed at St. Luke’s. Every Saturday, groups volunteer to plan, prepare, serve and clean up a meal for individuals who might not otherwise have a hot meal that day. Much more than a soup kitchen, Loaves and Fishes provides a sense of community and welcome to those who might not find welcome elsewhere.

Another Loaves and Fishes (this one called Fish and Loaves) program in Taylor, MI counts St. Paul UCC in Taylor among its charter members. Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry, a cooperative, non-sectarian, non-profit, faith based initiative seeking to insure adequate food and nutrition for all residents within seven local communities: “client choice” pantry that allows individuals and families to “shop” on a monthly or bi-monthly basis for items they need, providing not only food but dignity to all they serve.

How will the story of the loaves and fishes inspire YOUR congregation?

