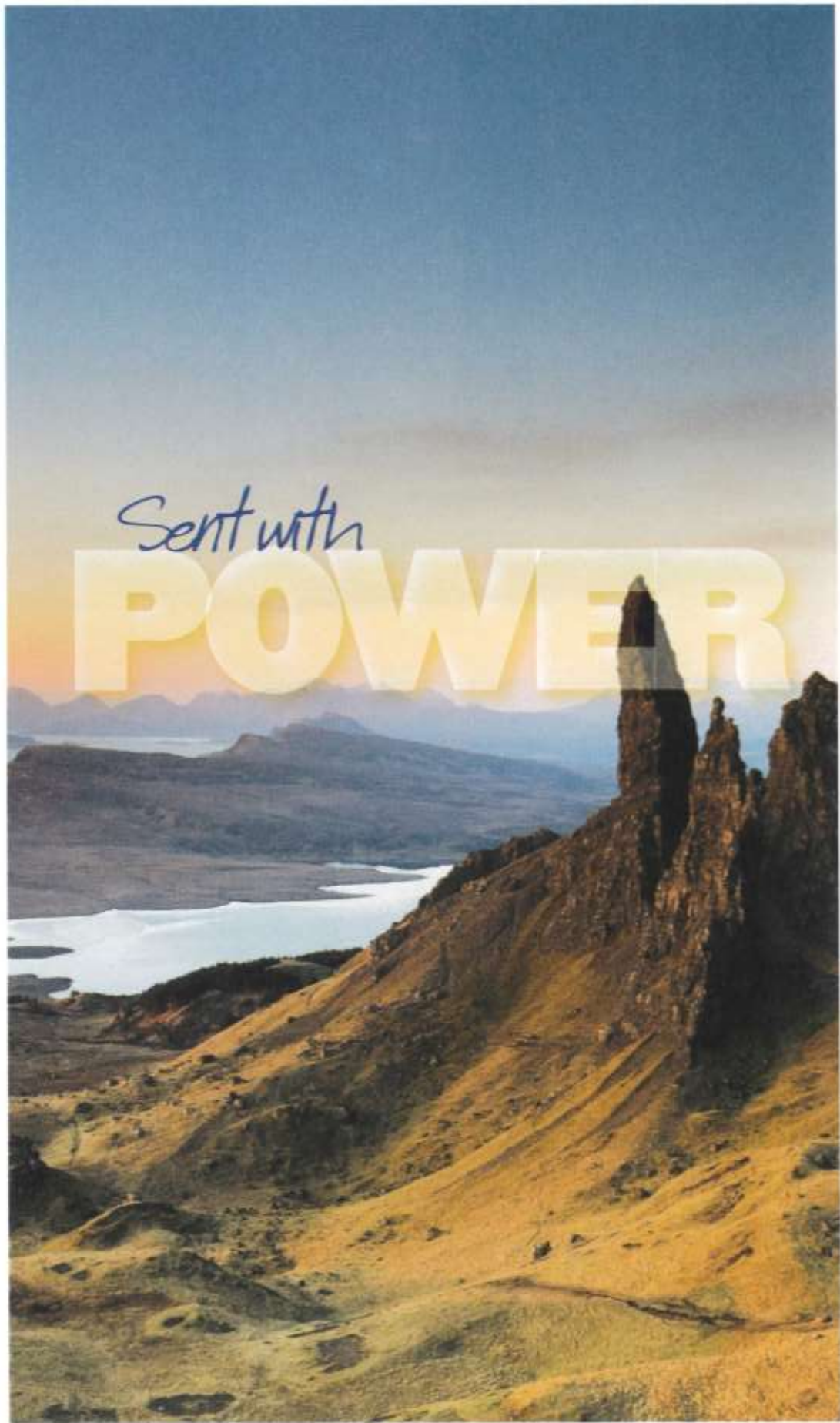


Sent with  
**POWER**



Thank you for worshipping 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](http://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*

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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 7, 2024

Seventh 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**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Based on Psalm 48*)

In our sanctuaries, in our hometowns, in the city, we say:

**God is great and so worthy of our praise!**

God's praise and reputation extend to the far corners of the Earth.

**Let the towns rejoice!**

Let our own community rejoice, saying:

**This is God, our God, forever and always!**

**God is the one who will lead us even to the very end.**

Come, let us worship.

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**Gather us together in this place today, Dear God.**

**Hear our prayers, receive our praise, equip us with your word,**

**and then, as you sent out the Twelve, send us out**

**to share your message of hope, healing, and redemption. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Come, We Who Love God's Name*

#379

**Come, we that love God's name, and let our joys be known;**

**Together God's great love proclaim, and thus surround the throne.**

**Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;**

**But we our thanks and praise will bring for love so deep and broad.**

**God's grace on earth is found, the seeds of glory sown;  
Celestial fruits on earthly ground from faith and hope have grown.**

**The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets  
Before we reach the heavenly fields, or walk the golden streets.**

**Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry;  
We're traveling through Emmanuel's ground, to greater worlds on high.**

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

Even on our best days, the worst of us often gets the better of us. Let us confess to God and each other our tendency to be disrespectful of both God and the people God has placed in our lives.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of relationships, you have given us communities filled with friends,  
family, colleagues, and neighbors, all created in your image.**

**Yet, too often, we find ourselves taking this gift of companionship for  
granted.**

**We criticize those closest to us, and even those we have not met.**

**We are envious of others' success.**

**We find ourselves stuck in an attitude of judgment rather than a posture  
of praise.**

**We excel at finding fault and are reluctant to seek common ground.**

**Forgive us for thinking the worst of others, of ourselves, and sometimes  
even of you.**

**Increase our faith, so that when we look upon the face of others, we see  
the face of Christ. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Our need to be right has been met by the one who was willing to be misunderstood, dishonored, criticized, and unfairly condemned.

**Christ emptied himself for our sake, opening to us the fullness of life with  
God – reconciled and redeemed. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Children of all ages are invited to participate in today's service. A book nook with children's programs, books, crayons, and activities is in the rear of the sanctuary near the welcome table, and a wiggle space is available at the front near the baptismal font.*

## THE SCRIPTURES

Zaydan

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10      OT page 279

Mark 6:1-13      NT page 40

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

In our attempt to follow Christ, we journey with so much more than a walking stick; we take money, bread, clothing, and other creature comforts we deem to be essential. But many of our neighbors lack these very things. Let us share our gifts with those in need, as a testimony to God's grace.

*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](http://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

*Meditation*

– J. Massenet

## **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Loving Christ, thank you for teaching us your healing ways, and for entrusting us with your message. Thank you for your generosity of bread and clothing and money of which you spoke so long ago. These are items we cannot imagine travelling without, and basics that many people struggle to attain. Receive our offering today; may it be used to ease the suffering of those you love in our hometowns and beyond. May our praise extend to the far corners of the Earth. Amen and amen.**

## **– SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION –**

### **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

### **PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

**God, we gather at this table representing all people in all places in our world. We bless and pass the bread and cup as Christ passed it to his friends. Please allow these elements to remind us of the good that you have done and inspire us to do the good that Christ calls us to do. May we leave this table revived and refreshed, having sipped from the cup of bold courage so that we may challenge all forms of injustice and pain. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

***Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, now and forever. Amen.***

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

On the night he was betrayed, the Light of the World took bread and blessed it. Then he thanked God for it and broke it, saying:

**“This is my body which is broken for you. Whenever you eat it, remember me.”**

And likewise at the end of the meal, Jesus took the cup, blessed it and thanked God for it. Pouring out the red wine, he said:

**“This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you. When you drink this cup ever after this night, remember me.”**

Now, let us come to receive the bread and the cup.

## **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. The cup contains grape juice (apple juice is provided in the center of each tray) and all bread is gluten-free. 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. You are welcome to kneel in prayer at the altar rail. If you want to receive the elements in the pew for any reason, please notify a deacon.*

*After all have received the bread and the cup:*

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died;**

**Christ is risen;**

**Christ will come again.**

## **A BLESSING OF THE PEOPLE**

May the presence of God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit, keep and preserve you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

## **\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**We have been fed, dear God, by your presence and led by your light.  
May we bask in this glow now and forevermore. Amen.**

## **\*CLOSING HYMN**

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

#76

**Send forth by God's blessing our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.**

**The service is ended, O now be extended  
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.**

**The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.**

**God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us  
to work for God's realm and to answer the call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,  
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.**

**Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.**

**With you grace you feed us, with your light now lead us,  
united us as one in this life that we share.**

**Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

Strap on your sandals and hit the road, my friends.

Shake off the dust of your complacency.

Walk with a friend and travel light. Go, proclaiming Christ's message of  
healing and hope.

Go, declaring that hearts and lives can change!

Keep going, because Christ gives you authority.

Go in the name of Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**\*THREEFOLD AMEN**

#812

**POSTLUDE**

*Please be seated.*



**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 (1<sup>st</sup> Floor).

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**The flowers on the altar** this morning are placed in memory of Marie Wallace.

**The yellow rose** is placed in honor of all military personnel who served past and present by Jeff and Starr Schaeberle.

*Please contact the church office at (301) 662-2762 or [erucc@erucc.org](mailto:erucc@erucc.org) if you would like to sponsor the altar flowers on July 14 or July 21.*

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**Attendance Last Sunday:** 14 at 8:30 AM, 123 at 10:30 AM, and 88 online.



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

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

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**Serving Today: July 7**

Deacons: Matt Davis, Quynn Adkins  
Elder: Tyler L. York  
Scripture Reader: Zaydan F.  
Greeters: Susan Kulp, David Howard  
Cathie Duncan  
Danielle Carbone  
Welcome Table: Julie Clark, Holly Davis  
Audio/Visual: Rodney Martin, Larry Martin  
Jeff Schaeberle  
Nursery: Meredith Neely  
Fellowship: Julie Clark, Joe Adkins, Quynn  
Hollie Mercier, Kyle Miller  
Pat Dorsz, Bobby Van Dyk

**Serving Next Week: July 14**

Robin A. Brady-Slifer  
Robin L. Brady-Slifer  
Marc Kline  
David Cooney  
Barb Barry, Anne Hofmann  
Bob and Nancy Manthey  
  
Robert Black, Thi Nguyen  
Kelly Esslinger, Larry Martin  
Jeff Schaeberle

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**Next Sunday: July 14 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 | Mark 6:14-29

Anyone who has moved to a new community will likely have felt like an outsider. An established community has shared stories, experiences, and more. Even if welcomed, a new person can feel like an outsider. Communities say they are open for newcomers, and even want newcomers, but often do not welcome them as they are. This week's scriptures help us explore the ways by which the church embodies God's grace of welcome for all people.

*Ann Thompson will be our guest organist 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.

ERUCC members who are in nursing homes and those who currently reside in their homes but are unable to come to regular Sunday morning services will continue to 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](mailto:erucc@erucc.org).

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## 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:**

Cliff Barr  
Haley Duff  
Bill Gourlie  
Charlie Woodward  
Sherry Murray  
Jack Mens  
Charlotte Blue and Family  
(friends of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)  
Mark Ulrich  
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.*

## Activities and Events at ERUCC

### SPECIAL GIVING OPPORTUNITY TODAY

**Mortgage Assistance:** On the first Sunday of each month, we have a special opportunity for giving towards Mortgage Assistance. Donations fund ERUCC's mortgages with the Fisher Fund and FCB Bank, a division of ACNB Bank, payments on which are about \$153,000/year.

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### ERUCC BOOK GROUP

**Tuesday, July 23**

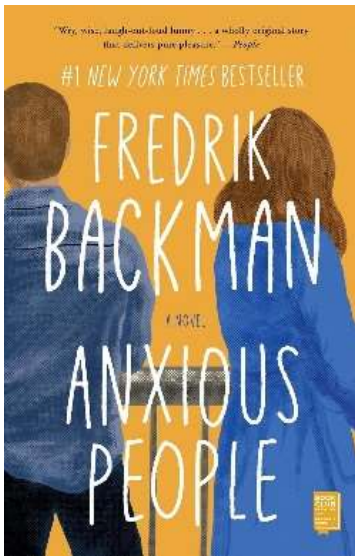
**North Room / Zoom**

**7:00 PM**

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

Meeting ID: 848 7056 7574

Passcode: 226669



*Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman. Looking at real estate isn't usually a life-or-death situation, but an apartment open house becomes just that when a failed bank robber bursts in and takes a group of strangers hostage. The captives include a recently retired couple who relentlessly hunt down fixer-uppers to avoid the painful truth that they can't fix their own marriage. There's a wealthy bank director who has been too busy to care about anyone else and a young couple who are about to have their first child but can't seem to agree on anything. Add to the mix an eighty-seven-year-old woman who has lived long enough not to be afraid of someone waving a gun in her face, a flustered but still-ready-to-make-a-deal real estate agent, and a mystery man who has locked himself in the apartment's only bathroom, and you've got the worst group of hostages in the world.

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### SHOWING OF THE MOVIE *ORIGIN*

**Thursday, July 25**

**Community Room**

**7:00 PM**



Earlier this year, a *Let's Talk* group read and discussed Isabel Wilkerson's powerful book *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*. The book examines the unspoken caste system that has shaped America and shows how our lives today are still defined by a hierarchy of human-created divisions.

During our discussions, group member Felecia Bishop suggested we view the movie *Origin*, which is based on this book. We are set to do so on Thursday, July 25, starting at 7:00 PM in the Community Room. We anticipate having a discussion after watching the movie. There is no fee to attend, registration is not required, and you do not need to have read the book prior to watching the movie. All are welcome!

## Children and Youth Ministry

**GLOW! - A FUN-FILLED SUMMER PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH! ✨**  
**Sundays, July 14, 21, and 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.

### Activities include:

✨ Glow-related crafts

✨ Fun games

✨ Theme-related short skits

✨ And much more!

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 the skits and games. It's a great opportunity for our youth to mentor and inspire younger ones.

For any questions, please reach out to Trish Coffey at (240) 815-9118 or [trishcoffey1195@gmail.com](mailto:trishcoffey1195@gmail.com). Let's make this summer a glowing success!

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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 5 – 9

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



ERUCC's Vacation Bible School will be August 5-9! This year's VBS program is **Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs**. 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?

Cost is \$25 per child. Questions? Contact Pastor Kirstin, [ksrhoads@erucc.org](mailto:ksrhoads@erucc.org).

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## Other Announcements

### 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.

---

### SOLES OF LOVE

Soles of Love is not about the shoes. It's about the person wearing them. Their mission is to provide children and teens in need with the right pair of shoes for their first day of school to instill the confidence to succeed. Your help is invited to donate new, sturdy shoes to children of all genders in grades K through 12. The group works with non-profit organizations in Frederick County and Washington County to distribute donated new shoes before the school year starts.

Here is how you can help **by July 24**:

- Bring new shoes to church, and place them in the collection box in the Sanctuary Lobby;
- Purchase shoes online and have them shipped to Betsy Selby (1204 Pinewood Drive, Frederick, MD 21701);
- Donate funds through ERUCC by check or online at [www.erucc.org/give](http://www.erucc.org/give) (use "Other" and note "Soles of Love" in the memo line) and Betsy will do the shopping.

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

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## Ways to Give to Evangelical Reformed UCC

### WEBSITE

[www.erucc.org/give](http://www.erucc.org/give)



*one time or recurring gifts*

### GIVE THE NEW WAY



*We're moving to a better way of giving. Scan to try it for yourself!*

### CASH OR CHECK

*made payable to  
Evangelical Reformed UCC  
15 W. Church St,  
Frederick MD 21701*



*offering plates  
are available in the  
rear of the sanctuary  
before and after worship*

## TOGETHER IN TEAL KICK-OFF CELEBRATION

Sunday, July 14

333 Bish's Frontage Rd, Annapolis

4:00 PM

Please join us for our Kick-Off Celebration for the Together in Teal Walk to End Ovarian Cancer featuring music by Jenna Duranko, an accomplished singer, songwriter, percussionist. Thank you Volvo Cars Annapolis for hosting! Donations go towards support for survivors and their caregivers as well as resources and education for research and prevention.

Learn more and donate at: <https://p2p.onecause.com/annapolis/jenna--27>

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## SUMMER FICTION BOOK CLUB SERIES – CREATION JUSTICE MINISTRIES

Join The BTS Center, Creation Justice Ministries, and Damascus Project for a Summer Fiction Book Club! Each month, the book club will read a novel with themes around climate change and then gather for a lively session with a guest conversationalist. Read the book ahead of time and then join for discussion. You can come to one, two, or all three sessions!

For more information on the books and sessions and to register, visit:

<https://thebtscenter.org/summer-fiction-book-club-2024/>

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## SUMMER READS – CREATION JUSTICE MINISTRIES

Creation Justice Ministries  
**SUMMER READS**  
*Birth, Death, and Resurrection in a Climate-Changed World*

July 18: *The Quickenings*, Elizabeth Rush  
August 15: *Our Last Best Act*, Mallory McDuff  
September 19: *Life After Doom*, Brian McLaren

Creation Justice Ministries invites you to join a webinar series, **Summer Reads: Birth, Death, and Resurrection in a Climate-Changed World**, that weaves together the themes of birth, death, and resurrection.

Through engaging conversations between authors of pivotal books, each session will offer a spiritual lens to view the profound challenges and opportunities presented by climate change.

Learn more and register:

[www.creationjustice.org/summerreads](http://www.creationjustice.org/summerreads)

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## HISTORIC CLOCK TOWER PRESERVATION CAMPAIGN



It is time to repair and restore the historic and iconic clock tower, complete with the belfry, lantern, and spire of Trinity Chapel. Dry rot and decay, both natural byproducts of age, along with water damage and weathering over the years, require restoration. The estimate for repair is \$1,000,000.

Why make such an investment? The most important reason is the message it gives. We display a large banner declaring that God is still speaking. The tower declares a companion message: God is still here – and God is not going anywhere – and neither are we. Our belfry, clock tower, lantern, and spire still remind people of God's presence and reassure all passersby that God is still here.

Together we can meet this challenge. You received letters and a commitment card in the mail. The cards are slowly returning, and people are being generous. We need more responses, however. Please return your card using the self-addressed, stamped envelope, or bring it to church with you and place it in a designated collection basket.

We launched our community campaign earlier this month. The Community Foundation stands ready to collect donations. Check out our website: [saveourspires.org](http://saveourspires.org). You will see a wonderful video telling about the project. Show it to your friends and encourage them to donate. Get the word out in every way you can. Our belfry, clock, lantern, and spire belong to the heart and soul of Frederick. We are the stewards. Let's get the job done. Send in your card today.

# LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

No matter their mental health challenge.

No matter their immigration status.

No matter their sexual orientation.

No matter their economic status.

No matter their gender identity.

No matter their disability.

No matter their religion.

No matter their race.

**Love your neighbor. No exceptions.**



## **Sunday Morning Schedule**

*subject to change*

8:30 – 9:15 AM	<b>Early Worship Service</b> , Sanctuary
9:00 AM	<b>Coffee and Conversation</b> , Kieffer Lobby, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Nursery Care</b> , 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor
10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>Worship</b> , Sanctuary and Online at
11:30 AM	<b>Fellowship</b> , Community Room, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor

## **Stay Informed**

### **TRINITY CHIMES**

Read the ERUCC monthly newsletter, *Trinity Chimes*! Find printed copies in the back of the sanctuary or read online at <https://erucc.org/category/news/monthly-newsletter/>.

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### **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.



### “Sent with Power”

Mark 6:7-9 tells us that *(Jesus) called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. (from the NRSV)*

Some folks in the United Church of Christ jokingly refer to evangelism as “the e-word.” Evangelist simply means “messenger of good news.” And yet, the word has become associated with the most damaging aspects of Christian experience. Even the the idea of evangelism can call to mind uncomfortable or even traumatizing past experiences. And yet, as Jesus called those early disciples to a life of evangelism, he calls followers today.

Take some time today to consider the word evangelist.

Do you think the idea of United Church of Christ evangelism can be refreshed and renewed for a new generation? How might that be accomplished?

How do you feel when you hear the word evangelism? Pay attention to where the word settles in your body. Do you feel quite comfortable? Very uncomfortable? Why do you think you have that response?

What do you think the role of an evangelist is? How does the role in modern times echo the call that Jesus made to his original disciples?

What are some ways that your faith community engages in evangelism now? What are some ways that your community could evangelize that it does not yet?

