



COURAGE *for*
COMMUNITY

Welcome to Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ

Thank you for worshiping with us at Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ (ERUCC) this morning. We extend a special welcome to our guests.

If you are a guest, please visit us at the Welcome Table in the rear of the sanctuary. We would love to meet and learn more about you and are available to answer your questions ERUCC. Please also feel free to reach out to someone sitting near you and ask them questions about the service or church. We encourage you to join us for in the Community Room for Fellowship after the worship service for casual conversation and connection over light refreshments.

ERUCC is an Open and Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ. We welcome into the full life and ministry persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

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 2nd floor, below the sanctuary, and on the 1st floor, outside the Community Room. Single-occupant, all-gender, accessible restrooms are located outside the North and Flora Rooms on the 2nd floor.

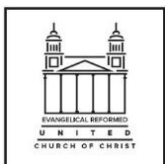
There is more information about our church in this bulletin and on our website: www.erucc.org.

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.

15 WEST CHURCH STREET, FREDERICK, MD 21701
(301) 662-2762 • erucc@erucc.org • www.erucc.org



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



September 29, 2024 Nineteenth 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** (*Inspired by Psalm 54*)

How might God be speaking to us today?

Let us listen and discern.

What might Jesus want us to learn about justice, peace, and possibility?

Let us be open to the Holy One's calling on our lives.

When the Holy Spirit empowers us to help build a world where all are cared for and none go hungry, how will we respond?

We invite the Spirit to inspire us in this hour of worship and move us to greater love and action for all of God's creation.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Gracious and compassionate Creator, we are gathered here to worship you. We quiet our hearts and minds so we may hear and respond to your voice. Be enlivened in and among us. Live through us and within us as we work towards the day when justice rolls down like an unstoppable river. Set within our minds a vision of abundance and goodness for all. Let us become the beloved community where all may live with dignity and in peace. You are great and worthy of all praise. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

#495

**Called as partners in Christ's service,
called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment**

**fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring
to fulfill God's chosen end.**

**Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering,
reconciling folk on earth.**

**Men and women, richer, poorer,
all God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together
gracious gifts from God unfold.**

**Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
in a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens,
breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care.
Bring new power and strength for action,
make us colleagues, free and fair.**

**So God grant us for tomorrow
ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow
with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope
and confidence and peace.**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

We are made in God's image. God wants us to flourish and grow. But there are times when our light becomes dim, our hopes start to die, and we turn from love. We do this as individuals, but we also do this as a collective. We struggle to live up to God's best intentions for us. So let us be honest about our struggles and failings so we can receive and absorb God's wondrous grace.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Dear God, we know you want us to choose love, but instead we choose greed. We know you ask us to care for creation, but instead we choose that which is cheap and easy. We know that you show us how to work for the flourishing of all our neighbors, but instead we allow division, judgment, and fear to get in the way. We hope for so much more for our communities, our nation, our world, and ourselves. Forgive us when we choose anything less than love, anything that doesn't lead to justice, and anything that turns us away from you or each other. Transform our indifference, apathy, and despair into action, gratitude, and a renewed commitment to do the work to which you call us. And if we falter, we know you will be there to pick us up, dust us off, and challenge us to live what we say we believe. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The everlasting mercy of God reminds us that we are worthy and we are loved. What a joy it is to know that God trusts us to do the work of ministry. That God empowers us to find joy in serving others. That God believes we are capable of amazing things. You are forgiven and set free to begin anew!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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 aged 5 through 5th grade who wish to participate in **Junior Church** may meet leaders at the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the Thomas Room.*

Children will return to their families in worship by 11:30 AM.

THE SCRIPTURES

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 NT page 166

Mark 9:38-50 NT page 45

Reader: May God bless the reading of this word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Will Duncan

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan

MORNING PRAYERS

CONSECRATION SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENT

Marj Berkheimer

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

Let us hear God's call to justice and hope anew today. Our democracy is at stake and more fragile than we know. As a community, we are called to do the harvest work of getting out the vote to ensure that all people have a voice. May we trust God to guide us in our work to create a just kingdom here on earth.

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.



OFFERTORY

Justice!

Senior Choir
– R. Dilworth

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of Justice, accept these offerings of our time and treasure. You call us to be repairers of the breach and to be the beloved community for all people. Use our hands and feet to create your beloved community of love and compassion. Use our donations to further your care for the most vulnerable. We offer our best for the healing of the world. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

#593

**Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the harsh past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.**

**Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,
come to the place for which our people sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.**

**God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
God who has brought us thus far on the way;
God, who by your might, led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met you,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, forget you;
Shadowed beneath your hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.**

***BENEDICTION**

This work of Justice begins here, but it is not finished here. What we do here, what we declare in this sacred space, cannot remain here. We must take it with us.

We are called to be the light of the world, to be a people who make good trouble, to be midwives to a Kingdom that is trying desperately to be born. So let us now must live into what we believe. Go in peace! **Amen.**

***SEVENFOLD AMEN**

#814

POSTLUDE *Please be seated.*



Worship Notes: Today's liturgy is written by Rev. Holly Jackson, Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg, and John Kasander for the Justice & Witness Action Network of the Central Atlantic Conference, UCC.

Please join us for **Fellowship**, light refreshments, and casual conversation after worship in our Community Room (1st Floor). Today, we will celebrate Myranda and Brendon Page's recent marriage!

The flowers on the altar this morning are in honor of Sherry Hoover on her birthday from the Coen family.

The yellow rose is presented in honor of veterans by Peter Brehm and Jack Day.

Attendance Last Sunday: 13 at 8:30 AM, 107 at 10:30 AM, and 45 online.



Watch worship live every Sunday at 10:30 AM or on-demand:
<https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC>

Serving Today: September 29

Deacons: Robin A. Brady-Slifer
Robin L. Brady-Slifer
Elder: Peter Brehm
Scripture Reader: Will Duncan
Greeters: Nancy and Rob Manthey
Kathleen and Niel Jefferson
Welcome Table: Jeanellen Kallevang, Sue Pinner
Lobby Attendant: Rob Smith
Audio/Visual: Kelly Esslinger, Larry Martin
Jeff Baker
Nursery:
Fellowship: Susan Kulp, David Howard
Starr Schaeberle
Jeanellen Kallevang

Serving Next Week: October 6

Matt Davis, Quynn Adkins
Marc Kline
Zaydan
Ave Barr, Cliff Barr
Barb Barry
Cliff Barr
Rodney Martin, Jeff Baker
Kelly Esslinger
Dawn Lagrotteria
Rena Kline, Cathie Duncan
Jim Weitz, Glenn Wallace-Weitz
Kathleen Jefferson, Niel Jefferson
Emily Button Kambic

Next Sunday: October 6 – World Communion Sunday | Consecration Sunday

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 | Mark 10:2-16

We will celebrate communion with Christians around the world, symbolically gathered at a common table, and give God thanks by consecrating our gifts to God's work in the coming year. The Rev. Sam Chamelin, pastor of St. Mary's United Church of Christ in Silver Run, Maryland, will preach and lead worship. Children's Music and Movement and the Senior Choir will sing.

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:

The Black Family
Susan Bonhag (friend of the Mercier family)
Milt Crutchley
Asher (Vida Penn's infant grandchild)
Father of Sherry Murray
Craig, Carrie, Aaron, Chase and Maddy Percopo (friends of Lois Gaul)
Kat Weedon (friend of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)
Tom Frazier
Kayla Merry (niece of Kim Sexton)
Carol Spera (mother of Mark Ulrich)
Pauline Marendt
Cliff Barr
Haley Duff
Sherry Murray
Charlotte Blue and Family (friends of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)

Emogene Wyand
Richard Leslie
Bob Pinner
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 Jo Ann 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.

Adult Christian Education Opportunities

BIBLE STUDIES for ADULTS

SUNDAY MORNING LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE

with Revs. John and Rebecca Shillingburg
North Room / Zoom, 9:00 – 10:15 AM

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

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

with Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg
North Room / Zoom, 11:00 AM

Zoom: bit.ly/ERTuesday
Meeting ID: 875 1423 3398
Passcode: 973365

WEDNESDAY EVENING LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE

with Rev. John Shillingburg
North Room / Zoom, 7:00 PM

Zoom: bit.ly/ERWedstudy
Meeting ID: 892 1764 4500
Passcode: 848933

LET'S TALK: AN EXPLORATION OF PRAYER

led by Rev. Richard Leslie
Sundays, September 15 – October 6
Flora Room, 9:30 AM – 10:15 AM

Jesus was a man of prayer. What does this mean for you and me? Can we have hope in this time? What is the relationship between our prayers, our hope, and contemporary physics? We will talk about, and all participate in the experience of centering prayer.

LET'S TALK: NATURAL GREEN BURIALS

Sunday, October 13
Flora Room, 9:30 AM – 10:15 AM

Join Linda Coyle for a video presentation and discussion on natural burials as an alternative to traditional burials or cremation. Green burial has been defined as a way of caring for the dead with minimal environmental impact that aids in the conservation of natural resources, reduction of carbon emissions, protection of worker health, and the restoration or preservation of habitat. Learn about the options available in Maryland and explore if a green burial is right for you.

Let's Talk is an adult educational opportunity that focuses on how we can live out our faith and share our knowledge and expertise. If you have any questions or have ideas for a presentation or topic, contact Linda Coyle, lkcoyle@yahoo.com.

Activities and Events at ERUCC

GENTLE YOGA

Tuesdays, starting October 1
Trinity Chapel, 7:00 PM

Experience tranquility and wellness in this Gentle Yoga Class. Led by experienced Yogamour instructors, this nurturing practice focuses on gentle postures, mindful breathing, and deep relaxation techniques. Join us in this spiritual journey to strengthen the body, soothe the mind, and connect with your inner self. Participants of all levels are welcome.

Each drop-in class is \$10. Questions? Contact Renae, rdkline15@gmail.com.

To access the yoga classroom in Trinity Chapel, walk through the gate to the left of the building, down the walkway to the side door, and into the hallway leading to the classroom.

PRAYER GROUP FOR CONSECRATION SUNDAY

Please join our virtual prayer groups for Consecration Sunday, led by Tommie Bradshaw, our Consecration Sunday Prayer Team leader. We will pray for the Consecration Sunday program, its leadership team, and guest leader, and that all congregation members will seek God's will when coming to a faithful decision on what God is calling each to give.

Thursday, October 3, 9:00 AM

Zoom: bit.ly/prayCS24

Meeting ID: 851 2023 3251

Passcode: 554121

CAMBRIDGE HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL

Thursdays
Sanctuary, 6:15 PM

Our Cambridge Handbell Choir for adults rehearses on Thursday evenings. This choir provides music once a month during the 10:30 AM worship service.

Questions? Please contact Trish Coffey, trishcoffey1195@gmail.com or (240) 815-9118.

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

CONSECRATION SUNDAY – A SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP AND REFLECTION

This year's Season of Stewardship will conclude on Consecration Sunday, October 6, when we formally offer our Estimates of Giving to the church for the coming year and joyfully join together after the 8:30 AM worship service for a Celebration Breakfast or after the 10:30 AM service for a catered Celebration Luncheon. We are again using the spiritually focused stewardship program this year, and we hope you find it 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 and 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 6!

COMMUNION ON THE CREEK

Tuesdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22

Carroll Creek Trellis, 10:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 1:00 PM

At the Lord's Table, everyone is welcome, and at that table, we rejoice together as we celebrate that all are already loved by our Creator, just as we are. On each of the first four Tuesdays in October (1, 8, 15, and 22), Rev. Michelle Beadle will celebrate Communion on the hour from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM in the Trellis area of Carroll Creek Linear Park (NE corner where Market Street intersects park). These celebrations will last 15 minutes and will lift up one of the following themes:

- Celebrating the Open Table
- Remembering What "Remembering" Means
- The Mystery of the Cross
- The Anatomy of Communion

All four themes will be lifted once each week. The rotation will stagger so that if anyone comes at the same time on different weeks, they will be able to enjoy a new celebration.



No RSVP is required, just come as you are when you feel so moved. But it's always great to know if we might see you! Drop us a note: <https://forms.gle/sAKTJbXFabUGMrE36>.

Please pray for those who gather, that the Spirit of God illuminates our time, that any who would seek to disrupt our time has a change of heart, and that the spirit of abundance reigns among us.



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



HERITAGE PRESENTATION and CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 DURING FELLOWSHIP

T TEAM: HERITAGE PRESENTATION AND CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, October 13

Community Room / Zoom, ~11:45 AM

Lunch will be provided at Fellowship as a panel of T Team members first present on the Heritage focus point; a special Congregational Meeting will immediately follow.

As part of its understanding of our congregation's heritage, the Transition Team has identified four foundational topics that we could study in order to discern as a congregation whether we should make any changes. The first one we are studying is whether we should change the name of our congregation from "Evangelical Reformed."

At the Congregational Meeting on October 13, after a presentation from the study group and discussion, we will decide whether to consider changing our name.

We encourage you to review the information sheet prepared by the study group before the meeting: bit.ly/ERname.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

Mental Health Justice for All: Mental Health is a Universal Human Right

Sunday, October 6

The Neighbors in Need offering, which we will receive on October 6, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Love of Church Unit (learn more at <https://tinyurl.com/2bfytatb>) to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), the Love of Church Unit continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice.

Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hockak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

With your assistance, we can help our Neighbors in Need. Please give generously.

Children, Youth, & Families

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's **Sunday School** takes place in ERUCC's main building. Children should be checked in by one of their grown-ups at the Check-In Station in the Kieffer Lobby before class.

Pre-K – 2nd Grade

Liz Coffey Room, 9:15 – 10:00 AM

3rd – 5th Grade

Thomas Room, 9:15 – 10:00 AM

Immediately following Sunday School, children will be transitioned by their teachers to Children's Music and Movement. Participating children should be checked out by their grown-ups from the Liz Coffey Room at 10:20 AM. If not participating in Children's Music and Movement, children should be checked out from their Sunday School classroom at 10:00 AM.

CHILDREN'S MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Liz Coffey Room, 10:00 – 10:20 AM

This music group for children in Pre-K through 5th Grade are invited to participate in rehearsals each Sunday morning following Sunday School from 10:00–10:20 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.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Trinity Chapel, 9:15 – 10:15 AM

Youth Sunday School, with Middle and High School classes, meets in ERUCC's Trinity Chapel, 10 W. Church Street. Enter through the side door behind the iron gate on the left side of the building. Always use the crosswalk. Teachers in their classrooms will check in youth upon arrival. When class ends at 10:15 AM, Youth will return as a group to the Kieffer Lobby in the main building.

JUNIOR CHURCH

2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays

dismisses from 10:30 AM worship service

Junior Church, a space to join in creative spiritual formation activities, meets most Sundays during the school year. Children ages five through 5th grade begin 10:30 AM worship in the sanctuary with their families, then dismiss after the Thought for the Day for well-supervised instruction and activities held in the Thomas Room, one floor below the sanctuary. On the first Sunday of each month, children participate in worship and communion with their families.

YOUNG SPIRIT CHOIR REHEARSAL

rehearses the 1st and 3rd Sundays
dismisses from 10:30 AM worship service

Calling all middle and high school students! We would love to have you join ERUCC's Young Spirit Choir! After the Thought for the Day, you'll head to the choir room for rehearsal, and we'll finish up by 11:30 AM so you can rejoin your family in the sanctuary.

No singing experience? No problem! All you need is enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. We sing once a month during the 10:30 AM worship service, and we'd love to have you with us!

Questions? Please contact Trish Coffey, trishcoffey1195@gmail.com or (240) 815-9118.

CHANCEL HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSAL

begins Sunday, September 29
Sanctuary, following worship

Our Chancel Handbell Choir, open to elementary, middle, and high school students, rehearses on Sunday mornings following the 10:30 AM worship service. This choir provides music once a month during the 10:30 AM worship service.

Questions? Please contact Trish Coffey, trishcoffey1195@gmail.com or (240) 815-9118.

GOD'S KIDS CLUB

Thursday, October 3
Community Room, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Save the date for our first God's Kids Club of the school year! More details coming soon.

In God's Kids Club, children in elementary grades participate in creative, faith-filled fun through various activities, including art projects, creation care, and service projects. During God's Kids Clubs events, middle and high school youth are welcome to help with the leadership of activities.

YOUTH GROUP – CYBER SECURITY

Monday, October 7
Community Room, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

We will hear from Assistant State Attorney Tammy Leache on Preventing the Online Sexual Exploitation of Children: Trends in child pornography, sextortion, sexual solicitation of minors, and human trafficking.

ASA Leache will describe warning signs of trafficking and tips around how to be cautious/when to be suspicious about online communications. Other youth groups will also be invited to attend.

Other Announcements

RACE TO THE POLLS: PREPARING THE UCC FOR THE 2024 ELECTION

Tuesday, October 1

Zoom, 3:30 – 4:30 PM



Almost every ballot measure and candidate policy platform have implications for racial justice because racial disparities are woven into every part of our political system and common life.

No matter what your political views are, in the 2024 election, we all will be making choices that either maintain the status quo of racism or create greater equity and justice.

In the UCC, we have the resources of our faith and the covenants we share in our General Synod Resolutions to help guide us, but with all the information swirling around us, it can be hard to discern what and who will help us build a more just world for all.

Join this webinar, where we will prayerfully engage in a care-full conversation to discover the ways our faithful commitments to intersectional justice and collective liberation can guide our voting and campaigning in this vital moment for democracy in the United States. A special offering from the Racial Justice Ministries and Join the Movement.

Register: <https://ow.ly/KUfl50TpCgw>

SONGS FOR THE EARTH: A MULTI-FAITH MUSICAL SERVICE

Sunday, October 20

Coffman Chapel, Hood College, 3:00 – 4:15 PM

The Multi-Faith Alliance of Climate Stewards (MACS) of Frederick County and Hood College jointly host a spiritual service, *Songs for the Earth*, at Hood College's Coffman Chapel to remind people of faith of our shared mission to care for the Earth and all its inhabitants and find ways to work together. Various local groups will share musical gifts related to caring about and for the Earth. Representing diverse spiritual groundings, readings, and prayers focus on the dual themes of grief and hope through action.



Contact Linda Coyle with questions.

Free registration: bit.ly/songsforearth

CENTRAL ATLANTIC CONFERENCE UCC 60TH ANNUAL MEETING

Miracles, Signs & Wonders

Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5

St. John's Grace United Church of Christ, 1000 South Rolling Road, Catonsville MD, 21228

**CENTRAL
ATLANTIC
CONFERENCE**



UNITED
CHURCH OF
CHRIST

The 60th Annual Meeting of the Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ will convene beginning on Friday, October 4, and will be in session until the conclusion of the Closing Service on Saturday, October 5.

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson, General Minister and President, United Church of Christ will be a special guest and will deliver the Annual Meeting's Keynote Sermon on Saturday.

ERUCC is entitled to representation at this annual meeting by Consistory President Peter Brehm, who will attend, along with two additional lay delegates. If you want to serve as a lay delegate, please contact Peter, pbrehm@comcast.net.

All persons holding ministerial standing in the Conference shall be considered voting delegates. Members of the Conference Board and moderators and registrars of the Associations, during their respective terms, shall also be considered voting delegates.

More information: <https://www.cacucc.org/am60>

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.



FALL 2024 *Trinity Chimes*

*A Newsletter of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ
Frederick, Maryland*

The Fall edition of ERUCC newsletter, *Trinity Chimes*, is available to read now! Copies can be found in the Kieffer Lobby, at the back of the Sanctuary, and online at <https://erucc.org/category/news/monthly-newsletter/>.

Ways to Give to Evangelical Reformed UCC

WEBSITE

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*



Ministers, Staff, & Lay Leaders of Evangelical Reformed UCC

MINISTERS AND STAFF

Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan ~ *Intentional Interim Senior Pastor* ~ mmorgan@erucc.org

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*

CONSISTORY

Peter Brehm ~ *President* | Matt Hueting ~ *Vice President*

David Kehne ~ *Secretary* | Robert Morris ~ *Treasurer*

Rebecca Shillingburg ~ *Worship Chair* | Will Duncan ~ *Finance Chair*

Shelley Weakly ~ *Mission, Evangelism, and Social Justice Chair*

Julie Clark ~ *Stewardship/Generosity Chair* | Dan Ebersole ~ *Property Chair*

Vacant ~ *Christian Education Chair* / Matt Davis ~ *Head Deacon* / Larry Martin ~ *Member-at-Large*

ELDERS

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

DEACONS

Quynn Adkins | Robin A. Brady-Slifer | Robin L. Brady-Slifer | Angela Brittain

Jim Brittain | Matt Davis | Harrison Fisher | Kyle Miller

TRANSITION TEAM

Felecia Bishop | Tommie Bradshaw | Karen Justice | Terry Logee | Allen Maples

Thomasa Pomeroy | Bud Rossig | Eliza Stitely | Lucas Nguyen-Powell | Isaac Pomeroy

Sunday Morning Schedule

subject to change

8:30 – 9:15 AM	Early Worship , Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Coffee and Conversation , Kieffer Lobby
9:00 AM	Let's Study the Bible , North Room
9:15 AM – 12:00 PM	Nursery Care
9:15 – 10:00 AM	Children's Sunday School <i>Pre-K – 2nd Grade</i> , Liz Coffey Room <i>3rd – 5th Grade</i> , Thomas Room
9:15 – 10:15 AM	Youth Sunday School <i>Middle School Youth</i> , Trinity Chapel <i>High School Youth</i> , Trinity Chapel
9:00 AM	Let's Talk , Flora Room
10:00 – 10:20 AM	Children's Music and Movement , Liz Coffey Room
10:30 – 11:30 AM	Worship , Sanctuary and Online at www.erucc.org Junior Church , Thomas Room <i>Participating children are dismissed from Worship (2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays)</i> Young Spirit Rehearsal , Marj Menchey Berkheimer Music Suite <i>Participating Youth are dismissed from Worship (1st and 3rd Sundays)</i>
11:30 AM	Fellowship , Community Room Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal , Sanctuary <i>Begins Sunday, September 29</i>

Stay Informed

Subscribe to receive e-news from ERUCC at <http://eepurl.com/gDNCu5> or by scanning the QR code!



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.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 29, 2024

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Courage for Community

An ad sponsored by the Foundation to Combat Antisemitism, which ran during last winter's Super Bowl, reminded viewers that silence isn't golden when others are being persecuted.

It featured Clarence B. Jones, a civil rights activist and draft speechwriter for Martin Luther King Jr., who, as images of hate flashed on the screen, spoke these words, "All hate thrives on one thing: silence."

A Jewish woman named Esther, who would become Queen of Persia, knew all about speaking up for the good of a community. Her story, recorded in the Book of Esther, tells of the Jewish people living in exile in Persia after the destruction of the First Temple. Under the reign of King Achashverosh, a royal advisor named Haman concocted a plot to wipe out the Persian Jewish community. Esther, along with her guardian, Mordechai, were able to foil Haman's plot and save the Jewish people.

At the climax of this story, Mordechai calls on Esther to speak up. Esther hesitates at first for she fears her own safety, being a Jew herself in the inner court. Mordechai reminds her that her voice needs to be heard.

In the end, Esther finds her courage — and voice. To this day, Esther is remembered and celebrated as a hero and an advocate on the Jewish celebration known as Purim.

The need to speak is great, yet still so very scary for many of us as we fear our own safety and security. Throughout history, though, God calls for voices like Esther's, like Clarence B. Jones' — like yours — to speak for those whose voices are not being heard.

Ask God for the courage to do so and trust the words to come.

Loving God, give us the courage of Esther to speak up when we see communities hurting. May our words not be confrontational or hateful. Rather, may they be filled with a love that points to Your glory. Amen.

