

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.



EVANGELICAL REFORMED United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation –



October 20, 2024

Twenty-Second 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 Jonas Dawson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come with your praises, O people of God.

We give God thanks and praise.

Come with thanksgiving, O people of God.

We give God thanks and praise.

Come with all the desires of your hearts, O people of God.

We give God thanks and praise.

Come, let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

O God, we gather in your greatness reflected in all creation. With humble hearts we open ourselves to the wisdom of your word, the tenderness of your compassion and the challenge of your gospel. Redirect our living with your cup of self-giving and your baptism of service. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

I Sing the Almighty Power of God

#12

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise, That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey. I sing the goodness of our God that filled the earth with food; God formed the creatures with a word, and then pronounced them good. Oh, how your wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye: If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glories known. The clouds arise and spread their showers by order from your throne. All life is but a gift from you and ever in your care; Wherever people gather, you, O God, are present there.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting in God's grace and mercy and in God's desire for wholeness and healing, let us make our confession, praying together:

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear God, we pray for forgiveness this day.

For choosing power over service, forgive us.

For seeking glory rather than humility, forgive us.

For pushing ourselves to the front,
when our presence is needed on the sidelines, forgive us.

Help us to know where we are needed
and how best to serve you and your people.

Guide us to your side,
that we might be your hands
of healing and compassion
for a world in need.

In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Christ guides us gently back to the path of walking with God and serving our neighbor. In the name of Christ, we are forgiven! **Amen.**

- SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM -

INVITATION

WELCOME

Pastor: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

People: "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it."

Pastor: And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

ADDRESS

Pastor: Jesus said: Unless we are born anew, we cannot see the reign of God; unless we are born of water and the Spirit, we cannot enter God's new order.

Paul the apostle said: All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into Christ's death. We are buried therefore with Christ by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, to the glory of God, we too might walk in newness of life.

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

People: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.

QUESTION ABOUT PARTICIPATION

Pastor: Do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Will you encourage this child to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Will you teach this child that he may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents: We will, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Parents: We do, with the help of God.

Pastor: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with this child in the Christian faith, to help this child to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that he may affirm his baptism?

Parents: We do, with the help of God.

A BLESSING

Pastor: Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water. By that same Divine Spirit save those who confess the name of Jesus Christ, that sin may have no power over them. Create new life in the one baptized this day that he may rise in Christ. Glory to you eternal God, who was, who is, and who shall always be, world without end. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

Pastor: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism.

Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as he lives and grows in Christ?

Parents: We promise our love, support, and care.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Pastor: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God?

People: I believe in God.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

The congregation may be seated.

PRAYER OF BAPTISM

Pastor: Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. We thank you, God, for the gift of creation called forth by your saving Word. Before the world had shape and form, your Spirit moved over the waters. Out of the waters of the deep, you formed the firmament and brought forth the earth to sustain all life.

In the time of Noah, you washed the earth with the waters of the flood, and your ark of salvation bore a new beginning.

In the time of Moses, your people Israel passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom and crossed the flowing Jordan to enter the promised land.

In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus Christ, who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb.

Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan, became living water to a woman at the Samaritan well, washed the feet of the disciples, and sent them forth to baptize all the nations by water and the Holy Spirit.

Now by your Holy Spirit, dear God, bless this sacred act of baptism, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ACT OF BAPTISM

Pastor: By what name will your child be called?

Parents: Mateo Calvert Fisher.

Pastor: Mateo Calvert Fisher, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and

of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRESENTATION OF THE BAPTIZED

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

Pastor: Let us pray for the one baptized today.

Gracious God, you have filled the world with joy by giving us the gift of Jesus. Bless this newly baptized child. May he be filled with joy; may he never be ashamed to confess a personal faith in you.

Bless the parents and sponsors of this child. May they always show their gratitude for the life you have given by loving and caring for Mateo.

Bless these, your faithful people. Unite them in the peace of Christ and the company of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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 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.

Youth who wish to participate in the **Young Spirit Choir** may dismiss at this time for rehearsal in the Marj Menchey Berkheimer Music Suite.

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

THE SCRIPTURES

Quynn Adkins

Job 38:1–7, (34–41) OT page 484 Mark 10:35-45 NT page 47

Reader: May God bless the reading of this word.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan

MORNING PRAYERS

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

This earth has been given to us by God, our creator. The gifts of our lives are blessings to be shared. Let us share our gifts as we reflect on the ways in which we can serve and care for others and for this 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.



Senior Choir – G. Gilpin

Instrument of Peace

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Thank you, God, for making us servants of your work in the world. Receive these gifts we offer, and multiply what we give, transforming it into an overflowing abundance to serve the needs of others. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

You Servants of God, Your Sovereign Proclaim

#305

You servants of God, your Sovereign proclaim, and publish abroad that wonderful name: The name, all victorious, of Jesus extol, Who, sovereign and glorious, now rules over all.

God rules from on high, almighty to save, and still God is nigh, whose presence we have. The great congregation God's triumphs shall praise, ascribing salvation to Jesus always.

Salvation to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry aloud for what God has done. The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, Still veiling their faces, they worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and render God's right, all glory and power, all wisdom and might, All honor and blessing with angels above, and thanks never ceasing and infinite love.

*BENEDICTION

Friends, go with courage and peace, and travel well with your desire to be all you can be in the service of the Gospel. Be prepared to be humbled; be open to great but needed change.

And so may the creative power of God, the redeeming power of Christ, and the sustaining power of the Spirit, be in you and uphold you on this day and into the days ahead. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE Jonas Dawson

Please be seated.

Worship Notes: Today's liturgy is from Seasons of the Spirit. The prayer of confession is adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009*, © 2008 Abingdon Press.

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 are in loving memory of Jo Ann (Nolder) Leslie, placed by her family on the anniversary of her death.

The yellow rose is presented by Tyler L. York in remembrance of Corporal Ray A. York, U.S. Army, Missing in Action in North Korea on October 20, 1950.

Attendance Last Sunday: 13 at 8:30 AM, 137 at 10:30 AM, and 47 online.



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

https://sundaystreams.com/go/ERUCC

Serving Today: October 20

Deacons: Harrison Fisher, Kyle Miller Jim Brittain, Angela Brittain

Elder: Eric Weakly Peter Brehm Scripture Reader: Quynn Adkins Peter Brehm

Greeters: Tom Ford, Rachel Ford Robert Manthey, Nancy Manthey

Felecia Bishop, Rob Peters Felecia Bishop, Kathleen Jefferson

Serving Next Week: October 27

Welcome Table: Molly Black, Jeanellen Kallevang Betsy Selby, Thi Nguyen

Lobby Attendant: Rob Smith Eric Weakly

Audio/Visual: Rodney Martin, Jeff Schaeberle Jeff Schaeberle, Larry Martin

Nelly Esslinger

Stephania Fisher

Nursery: Dawn Lagrotteria, Kim Sexton Stephanie Fisher
Fellowship: Karen Justice, Marj Berkheimer Linda Coyle, Tommie Bradshaw

Peter Brehm, Felecia Bishop
Rob McGuire, Alex Martinez

Einda Coyle, Tollinic Bradshav
Shelley Weakly, Eric Weakly
Colleen Baldree, Chuck Badree

Next Sunday: October 27 – Reformation Sunday

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 | Mark 10:46-52

The Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg will preach and lead worship. The Senior Choir will sing. Market Street Brass will be featured.

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 regular Sunday morning services will receive visits (and communion) from Rev. Dr. Morgan. Our Faithful Friends Team also makes visits, calls, and sends care cards.

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:

Veronica Beadle

Beanie Cornell

Sandra Trout

Raymond Slifer (father of

Robin A. Brady-Slifer)

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

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

This class will not meet on October 20 Passcode: 327128

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

with Rev. Rebecca Shillingburg

North Room / Zoom, 11:00 AM

Zoom: bit.ly/ERtuestudy

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

This class will not meet on October 23 Passcode: 848933

LET'S TALK

Let's Talk is an adult educational opportunity that focuses on how we can live out our faith and share our knowledge and expertise. Contact Linda Coyle, <u>lkcoyle@yahoo.com</u> with questions or ideas for a presentation.

COMPOSERS IN THEIR TIME

presented by David Howard Sundays, October 20, 27 and November 3 Flora Room, 9:30 AM – 10:15 AM

In this series, we will listen to musical excerpts and view slides as we explore what inspired composers to write certain works.

October 20 "Judas Maccabaeus" by Handel

October 27 "Mass in Time of War", Haydn,

November 3 The finale to "Beethoven's 9th Symphony"

BETHE CHURCH Protect the environment. Care for the poor. Forgive often. Reject racism. Fight for the powerless. Share earthly and spiritual resources. Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.

Activities and Events at ERUCC

HURRICANES 2024 RELIEF EFFORTS

On October 9, Hurricane Milton landed on Florida's west coast, less than two weeks after Hurricane Helene devastated the region.

The United Church of Christ has a long history of supporting communities as they recover from disaster and their plight fades from the headlines. Your support of this appeal will ensure that communities are supported and accompanied for years as they rebuild.

As we continue to pray for and support those who have experienced unimaginable loss, we invite you to support recovery efforts with a direct donation to the UCC Hurricane Helene relief efforts: https://support.ucc.org/hurricane-helene-relief

Or, give via ERUCC to Hurricane Helene relief efforts: https://ppay.co/J2phiV4dZok



COMMUNION ON THE CREEK

Tuesdays, October 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 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, 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 one of the following themes:

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



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.

GENTLE YOGA

Tuesdays

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. 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.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Sunday, November 3

We will be remembering those in our congregation, as well as loved ones and friends, who died during the past year. During the prayers at both the 8:30 & 10:30 AM services, the names will be read, followed by the tolling of a bell. You are invited to bring a photo of whomever we will remember in prayer. These photos can be placed on a table in the front of the church. If you wish to include the name of someone who has passed away since last November 1, please contact the church office at erucc.@erucc.org or (301) 662-2762.

ERUCC MINISTRY FAIR

Sunday, November 3 Community Room, during Fellowship

During Fellowship, we will hear from leaders to 1) inspire & expand volunteerism in our congregation, 2) help new members navigate the "wilderness of service opportunities" at ERUCC, and 3) help tenured members get up-to-speed on emerging developments. You'll also be able to visit directly with those active in various ministries and programs.

WINTER COAT DRIVE

November 3 – November 24

We are collecting NEW coats for babies, children, and adults for our first winter giving opportunity! These coats, collected in partnership with Asbury United Methodist Church, will be distributed to community members by the following local non-profit organizations:

- I Believe in Me (IBM)
- Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership (COIPP)
- Steadfast: Standing Firm Against Youth Homelessness
- Olsen House
- Andrea's House
- Living Well Youth Works
- The Judy Center—Lincoln Elementary
- Frederick Rescue Mission

Bring NEW winter coats to the collection box in the Sanctuary Lobby beginning November 3!



ERUCC Youth Group ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, November 3, 8 - 10:30 AM Community Room



Proceeds will benefit the ERUCC Youth for their German Partnership trip in 2025!

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, teachers will transition children 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 Trinity Chapel, 10 West Church Street. Enter through the side door behind the iron gate on the left side of the building. <u>Always use the crosswalk</u>. 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.

TRUNK OR TREAT and PUMPKIN DECORATING

Sunday, October 27

ERUCC Parking Lot and Patio, 5:00 – 6:00 PM



The ERUCC Youth Group is inviting the whole church to a spooktacular Trunk-or-Treat event!

This is an ideal event for families with elementary children, but all are invited! Trunks will be decorated to impress, as you make

your way from car to car to fill your bag with treats. We will also enjoy yard games and snacks.

Sign up to decorate a car or donate treats: bit.ly/ERtreat24

Everyone is invited to show their crafty side by competing in a pumpkin decorating competition. Take a pumpkin home on Sunday, October 20, from the Sanctuary Lobby and return it on Sunday, October 27, after you make it a masterpiece! During Trunk or Treat, each attendee will get to vote for the prettiest, scariest, and most creative.

GOD'S KIDS CLUB

Monday, October 28 Community Room, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

We will make crafts and toys from fall items, clean up sticks and leaves around the ERUCC grounds, cook snacks on the campfire, and take an exploration walk around town to see what fall brings! As part of our time together, we will create thankfulness gifts to give away. Bring a packed lunch and water bottle.

In God's Kids Club, elementary-grade children participate in creative, faith-filled fun through various activities, including art projects, creation care, and service projects. During God's Kids Club events, middle and high school youth are welcome to help lead activities. Youth helpers should let Pastor Kirstin know they are attending.

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.

Other Announcements

OUTCOME OF 13 OCTOBER 2024 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday, October 13, the congregation voted on a motion "to consider changing its name from 'Evangelical Reformed' to another name, to be voted on at a later date. The new name will retain 'United Church of Christ,' with the understanding that the congregation may also choose to retain 'Evangelical Reformed' as the name." After discussion, the motion was passed with an anonymous ballot vote by congregation members, with 58 in favor and 13 opposed.

Discussion and listening sessions will be scheduled in the months ahead. A special congregational meeting to vote on a name is anticipated in 2025.

You can submit names you wish to be considered for the congregation in a digital suggestion box at bit.ly/3Y7nPcd or the designated suggestion box in the Sanctuary Lobby.

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

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION FOR THE REV. CATHERINE THOMPSON

Wednesday, October 30 106 W Church St, Frederick, 3:00 PM

All Saints Episcopal Church cordially invites your presence and prayers to the Service of Installation for Rev. Catherine Thompson as rector of the congregation.

If clergy would like to participate in the processional, they are invited to wear their preferred clergy attire and a white stole. Please arrive by 6:15 PM and meet at the church steps.

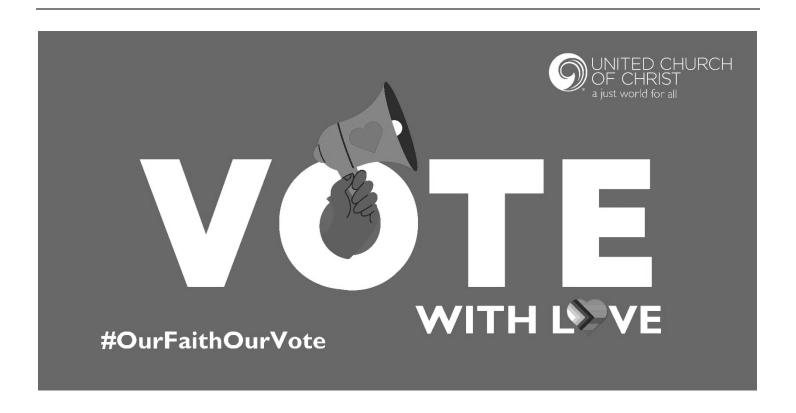
CENTRAL ATLANTIC CONFERENCE UCC ELECTION EVE PRAYER VIGIL

Monday, November 4 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Zoom: bit.ly/3C0dwza
Meeting ID: 882 8350 7457

Passcode: 348674

Please join us on Monday, November 4 for a Conference-wide online Election Eve Prayer Vigil. You will hear prayers from faith leaders from across the Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ for the well-being of our nation on the eve of the Presidential, Congressional, State, and Local elections. Please join us as we seek God's presence and blessing upon our country in this important moment.



SERVICE OF INSTALLATION FOR THE REV. CHANCE MARTINEZ-COLON

Sunday, November 10

Grace UCC, 25 East 2nd Street, Frederick, 3:00 PM

The Catoctin Association, Central Atlantic Conference, United Church of Christ and Grace United Church of Christ in Frederick cordially invite your presence and prayers to the Service of Installation for Rev. Chance Martinez-Colon as pastor to the congregation. There will be a reception of light refreshments following the service.

Clergy are invited to wear robes and red stoles for the processional. Clergy who wish to process are asked to arrive by 2:45 PM. Clergy are invited to RSVP by emailing Chance at pastorchance.graceucc@gmail.com

FREDERICK INTERFAITH DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE HUNGRY & HOMELESS

Sunday, November 17 100 South Street, 4:30-8:15 PM

Join Frederick Interfaith for the Community Day of Prayer for the Hungry and Homeless. The event will begin and end at the Community Table, located at the Frederick Community Action Agency, 100 South Street. An Interfaith Dinner for the Hungry will be prepared and served from 4:30-6:30 PM.

To sign up to volunteer to help with the dinner: bit.ly/3Ue1HMp

At 6:30 PM, we will begin the Annual Interfaith Candlelight Prayer Walk outside the Community Table. The prayer walk will visit some nearby places that address the needs of the hungry and the homeless, including a visit to ERUCC. After our prayer walk, we will return to the Community Table around 7:30 PM for hot drinks and consultation. The Frederick Housing Solutions Task Force will share a presentation about the progress being made to address the urgent need for affordable housing in Frederick County, and we look forward to hearing your suggestions.

We hope you and your families and friends will join us for this special event. You do not have to contribute to the dinner to join us in the presentation or prayer walk.

For more information, contact **frederickinterfaith@gmail.com**.

Dear ER congregation:

I was deeply touched by the way the ER congregation honored me Sunday, October 6 for the pastoral care ministry I have provided to members. It has been my joy and privilege to visit church members with the sacrament of Holy Communion in homes and care facilities. I went as a representative of ER as well as an ordained minister of Jesus Christ fulfilling God's call to serve.

May ERUCC continue to grow strong spiritually and witness to the Good News of God's Kingdom in all that it does.

Grace and peace, Bob Manthey

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/.





BEWARE IMPOSTER SCAMS

Be suspicious of oddly phrased, overly pushy, and out-of-the-blue requests (including requests that are initially vague and suggest secrecy).

Imposter scams often begin with a call, text message, or email. The scams may vary, but work the same way ... a scammer pretends to be someone you trust (like a pastor!) to convince you to send them money or share personal information.



PROTECT YOURSELF

Be suspicious of any call, text, or email asking for money or information.

Never pay with a gift card, wire transfer, or cryptocurrency. If someone tells you to pay this way ... its a scam.

Check with the real person, organization, agency, or company. Don't use the phone number or email they give you. Look it up yourself. Then call to find. out if they're trying to reach you - and why.

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 | Katie Zander

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

Pre-K – 2nd *Grade*, Liz Coffey Room

 $3^{rd} - 5^{th}$ *Grade*, Thomas Room

9:15 – 10:15 AM **Youth Sunday School**

Middle School Youth, Trinity Chapel High School Youth, Trinity Chapel

9:30 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

Participating children are dismissed from Worship (2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays)

Young Spirit Rehearsal, Marj Menchey Berkheimer Music Suite

Participating Youth are dismissed from Worship (1st and 3rd Sundays)

11:30 AM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Children and Youth

Thursday Rehearsal Schedule

subject to change

6:15 PM Cambridge Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Contact: Trish Coffey and Kelly Esslinger

7:00 PM Senior Choir Rehearsal, Marj Menchey Berkheimer Music Suite

Contact: Alison E. Shafer

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.

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 20, 2024

Mark 10:35-45

Great Service

The committee tasked with updating the church's mission statement gathered in the fellowship hall. They had been sitting in rickety wooden chairs much longer than they had wanted, getting nowhere with a statement that would miraculously guide them towards a future full of hope. Back and forth the suggestions went.

A church for worshipping God and loving others.

Good, but what about ...

We seek to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Scratch it. The church down the block says that. How about ...

Empowered by God to reach others for God.

Some heads nodded "yay"; others nodded "nay." Silence ensued. Finally, a teen invited to the group to share their youthful viewpoint, spoke softly, suggesting:

We have come to serve, not to be served.

Eyes lit up. Smiles smoothed wrinkled frowns. A new mission statement — echoing Jesus' words in Mark that the "Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve" — was adopted.

Sometimes we forget that the church was not established to serve us nor cater to our whims — singing hymns we love or keeping those antique pews rather than replacing them with folding chairs.

Even before the church became an institution, James and John, followers of Jesus, found themselves caught up in the "What's in it for me?" mentality.

The brothers of Zebedee pulled Jesus aside requesting positions of influence in Jesus' new order. One wanted to sit at Jesus' right side, the other on his left.

They didn't understand yet that the kingdom Jesus' was proclaiming was one built on a foundation of selfless love, with bricks and mortar of sacrifice and suffering.

Are you willing to drink the cup I will drink? Or be baptized in the baptism I will be baptized in? Jesus' questions of the brothers were referring to his death on the cross.

Jesus still asks the question today: Are we willing? Can we sacrifice our own gain or comfort for the betterment of others?

There once was a church which replaced the exit sign over the main door with one that read, "Servant's Entry." The congregation was perplexed until the pastor explained that when worship ended, they were all to exit the church building as servants now entering the world as the hands and feet of Christ.

Loving God, may today we leave Your house of worship remembering that we are called to continue the work of our Suffering Servant — selflessly caring for all we encounter on our paths. Amen.

