



**Yearning**

by Hannah Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)  
Paper lace with graphite & watercolor

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

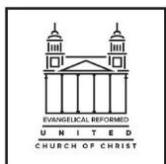
There is more information about our church in this bulletin and on our website: [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org).

## **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](mailto:erucc@erucc.org) • [www.erucc.org](http://www.erucc.org)**



**EVANGELICAL REFORMED**  
**United Church of Christ**  
— An Open and Affirming Congregation —



November 2, 2025      Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost      10:30 AM

*The numbered hymns are from The New Century Hymnal*

*\*All who are able may stand*

***Bold text read in unison***

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Today, we celebrate All Saints Day.

We come to worship God, who connects us through the ages:

**to the saints of old who felt unworthy,**

**to the seekers eager to know God,**

**to the teenagers who wonders what it's all about,**

**to the children who eat with unburdened faith.**

Woven into this time of worship are the hopes and tears of generations.

**There is great joy here.**

**No one is turned away for God is the host!**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**God of every age and time, as we gather in the name of Jesus,**

**inspire us today with memories of saints whose energy still lingers,**

**hovering around and within as encouragement and strength.**

**Wrap us anew with your persistent presence, granting us new energy to**

**offer you our whole hearts, minds and souls. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*For All the Saints*

#299, stanzas 1, 2, 3

**For all the saints who from their labors rest,**

**who to the world their steadfast faith confessed,**

**your name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**You were their rock, their refuge, and their might;  
you, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight;  
'mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold,  
live as the saints who nobly fought of old.  
and share with them a glorious crown of gold.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### **\*CALL TO TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

When we remember the saints, we do so with rose-colored glasses. We watch the highlight reels of their lives in our minds, leaving their missteps and mistakes on the cutting room floor. We want to hold on to the very best of them, but in doing so, we forget the complexities that made them human—that make us human. God wants every part of us, not just the highlight reel. So let us come before God with honesty and authenticity. Let us pray:

#### **\*PRAYER FOR GRACE**

Holy God, we want to make you proud. We want to hide away our faults so no one can see. We want to be considered worthy of sainthood. But you know our faults anyway. You know every detail of our lives.

**Forgive us for trying to pretend we're perfect.**

Holy God, we confess that we dance along the line between self-improvement and vanity. We read self-help books, listen to sages who tell us how we can achieve perfection, and try to eliminate all the mess from our lives so we can feel in control.

**Forgive us for striving to be godlike when all you've ever asked of us is to be human.**

Holy God, we forget that even the saints are human. Even the saints are messy and complicated. Our heroes are flawed, our loved ones make mistakes, and our idols aren't really made of solid gold. We confess that we are quick to judge the faults of others we have placed on a pedestal, as though they aren't human too.

**Forgive us for expecting too much of one another.**

**Forgive us, we pray. Give us grace to trade the illusion of perfection for the real life you have gifted us and hold us secure in the promise of future glory. Amen.**

## **\* WORDS OF GRACE**

Family of faith, hear the good news: you do not have to be perfect to be a saint. You just have to be the person God created you to be. God's grace is abundant, and it is for you. There is nothing that can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Thanks be to God for a love like that! **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 the service today. A book nook with children's programs, books, crayons, and activities is in the rear of the sanctuary and a wiggle space is available in the front of the sanctuary near the baptismal font.*

*Junior Church for children ages 5 through 5th grade will resume next Sunday.*

## **THE SCRIPTURES**

Robin Cooney

Psalm 139      OT page 577

Luke 19:1-10      NT page 82

Reader:      May God bless the reading of this word.

All:      **Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

The Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan

## **MORNING PRAYERS**

## **INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

Part of All Saints Day is recognizing that we are not building God's kingdom alone. We continue the work that our ancestors started, and the generations after us will continue to build on what we are doing right now in this place. It is with generous hearts that we bring our offerings before God, trusting that though we did not begin this work and will not see it finished, God will bring it to completion.

*This is a time during worship 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 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.*



## **OFFERTORY**

*We Remember Them*

Senior Choir

– S. LaBatt

## **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Reform our lives, O God, and let these gifts change the world.  
Take them and multiply them to be a blessing of justice and peace in the world you love!**

## **– LITANY FOR ALL SAINTS DAY –**

On All Saints Day, we take time to remember and honor those who have gone before us. While they were with us, we saw them face to face. Their voice, their touch, their smile. And now, beyond the veil that separates this world and the next, all we see is the glow of their Christ-light, flickering as part of the great cloud of witnesses.

We remember those who died in the past year:  
*(a bell will chime for each one mentioned)*

Though we don't see them face to face any longer, these saints are not gone. Their memory lives on in us as their soul lives on in their Creator. Their Christ-light shines just as brightly as before, unbound by the physical limitations of their earthly bodies. They are now part of the glory that awaits beyond this life. Thanks be to God.

**For all their gifts, great and small, we give thanks. Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen!**

We invite you now to light a candle at home if you are worshipping online or to come forward in the sanctuary to light a candle in memory of the saints in your own life.

*You are invited to come forward and light a candle as you remember loved ones. Candles can be lit from the Christ candle in the middle of the table. It has been said that it is better to light one candle than it is to curse the darkness. Yet a candle burning in the night can bring us comfort, peace and even hope. May the light of the candles remind us that even though our loved ones are no longer present with us in body, the life of their spirit has not been extinguished.*

## **– SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION –**

### **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

The Rev. Dr. Marvin L. Morgan

### **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. You may kneel or stand to receive the elements. The cup contains grape juice, and all bread is gluten-free. Consume the bread and drink from the cup as it is given to you, and hand your empty cup to one of the ushers.*

*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**

*For All the Saints*

#299, stanzas 4, 5

**Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine,  
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
yet in your love our faithful lives entwine.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,  
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
then hearts are brave again, and faith grows strong.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **\*BENEDICTION**

Children of God, as you leave this place, know that you are not alone.  
You are surrounded by the company of the saints,  
held by the God who made you,  
and led by the Spirit who binds us all together.  
Now go forth to love and serve the risen Christ. Go in peace. **Amen.**

**POSTLUDE** *Please remain seated*



## **WE REMEMBER ERUCC MEMBERS**

Jane Dertzbaugh  
Charlotte “Charlie” Perry  
Mary Ann Simmons

Delmar Speak  
Tamara Maria Tamas

**... and family and friends who have passed away during the last year.**

**Worship Notes:** Today’s liturgy is from *Church, New Each Moment: Service Prayers for the 21st Sunday after Pentecost*, written by the Rev. Bonnie Tarwater of San Diego, CA.

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** are in loving memory of our parents and siblings by Tom and Rachel Ford.

**The yellow rose** is presented by Audrey Rayfield in honor of her nephew, Dylan Rayfield, US Air Force.

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**Attendance Last Sunday:** 9 at 8:30 AM, 110 at 10:30 AM, and 45 online.



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

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

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**Serving Today: November 2**

Deacons:	Mark Ulrich, Quynn Adkins
Elder:	Susan Kulp
Scripture Reader:	Robin Cooney
Acolyte:	Emmie
Greeters:	Danielle Carbone
Welcome Table:	Julie Clark, Elizabeth Slade
Audio/Visual:	Ethan Kline, Jeff Baker Jack Day
Nursery:	<i>Trained volunteer needed</i>
Fellowship:	Julie Clark, Joe Adkins Quynn Adkins, Kyle Miller Pat Dorsz, Hollie Mercier
Communion Prep:	Darryl Glick, Mark Ulrich
Communion Clergy:	Rev. Richard Leslie Rev. David Cooney

**Serving Next Week: November 9**

Robin A. Brady-Slifer
Robin L. Brady-Slifer
Eric Weakly
Jack Day
Cathie Duncan
Rissah Watkins
Ethan Kline, Jeff Baker
Jeff Schaeberle
<i>Trained volunteer needed</i>
Emily Spear, Chris Spear, Abby Spear
Ben Spear, Joceyln Vara, Chris Vara
Rachael Bowman, Josh Bowman

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**Next Sunday: November 9 – Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost**

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 | Luke 20:27-38

Today's scriptures anchor us in eternal hope while addressing our deepest questions about the future. Paul steadies an anxious community with reminders of their calling and God's faithfulness, while Jesus transforms a trick question about marriage into profound teaching about the nature of resurrection life. When uncertainty about tomorrow threatens to overwhelm us, where do we find our footing? These passages point beyond our limited understanding to the God who holds all time and promises a future beyond our imagining.

*Spirit will share in music leadership this morning.*

## **PRAYER LIST**

*We invite you to hold the following people in your prayers this week. Though we may not know the specifics of their needs, God does, and our prayers are a meaningful way to surround them with love and support.*

*ERUCC seeks permission before adding a name to this list or in worship announcements. There are many for whom we pray and visit whose names are not listed in the bulletin by their request.*

Sandy Maples (sister-in-law of Allen and Joan Maples)	The Murray/Lennox/Cable Family	Jim Baldree (father of Chuck Baldree)
Confirmands and Mentors	Rhea Stein	Anne Gallagher (friend of Milt and Bettie Joe Crutchley)
Betsy Fisher	Doris Esslinger	Lee Thomas
Laura Duncan Broderick (Cathie and Will's daughter)	Sandra Trout	Marcia Eisenstein
Barbara Heverley	Charlie Van Eman (son of friends of Kathleen and Niel Jefferson)	Derek C. Hupp (grandson of Beanie & Gaylon Cornell)
Todd Starr (nephew of Mary Staley)	Mary Staley	Wayne Kolb (friend of Stefan and Judi Mach and Tony and Linda LaFianza)
David Young (friend of Janice Staley)	Pat Condo	Jeannette Johnson
Sharon DiDonato (aunt of Darryl Glick, friend of Mark Ulrich)	Wells Condo	Jackie Keyser (sister-in-law of Betsy and Phil Selby)
Isa Baxter (granddaughter of Kathy Gelles-baxter)	Kitty Bradley	Barbara Lee Crutchley (sister of Milt Crutchley)
Ginny Peters	Beanie Cornell	Marcy Channell (daughter of Jo Ann Fritz)
Tom Ford	Milt Crutchley	Paige Coffey
Karen Stitley	Raymond Slifer (father of Robin A. Brady-Slifer)	Fran Wenner
Donna Baumgardner Smith (friend of Sandra Trout)	Tom Frazier	Bonnie Devilbiss
Amber Khan (friend of Maria and Dawn Lagrotteria)	Pauline Marendt	Tina Prescott (daughter-in-law of Barbara & Bill Prescott)
Bill Cassell (brother of Ave Barr)	Kayla Merry (niece of Kim Sexton)	Heleen (sister of Karin Mens)
Hayden Jessop (friend of Sophia Carliss)	Carol Spera (mother of Mark Ulrich)	Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)
	Emogene Wyand	
	Bob Pinner	

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## **PASTORAL CARE**

ERUCC 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 the 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](mailto:erucc@erucc.org).

## **Activities, Events, and Announcements**

### **ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Sunday, November 2

Community Room, 8:30 – 10:15 AM

The ERUCC Youth Group invites you to an All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast with pancakes, meat, fruit, yogurt, and breakfast beverages all included. Suggested donation is \$10/person, \$5/child (11 and under)! Fundraising will benefit ERUCC German hosting in Summer 2026.

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### **WINTER COAT DRIVE**

Collection: October 12 – November 23

We are collecting NEW coats and winter gloves, hats, and scarves for babies, children, and adults for our first giving opportunity of the season! These coats, collected in partnership with Asbury United Methodist Church, will be distributed to community members by ten local non-profit organizations in our community. Last year we collected 45 coats, 5 hats, and 5 pairs of gloves... how many items can we collect this year?

Bring NEW winter items to the collection box in the Sanctuary Lobby!

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### **LET'S TALK: CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM—WHAT'S THAT?**

Sundays, October 26 – November 23

North Room / Zoom, 9:15 – 10:15 AM

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

Led by Rev. Dr. Rebecca Shillingburg and Dr. Matt Davis. Have you heard the term '*Christian Nationalism*' and wondered exactly what it means, how Christians should approach it, and why Christians in other traditions adhere to aspects of it? In this class, we will be reading Brian Kaylor's book *The Bible According to Christian Nationalists: Exploiting Scripture for Political Power* and using that as a launching point to discuss the history, intellectual foundations, composition, and objectives of the movement. We will examine and critically analyze Scripture passages that have been oft-cited as proof texts by Christian Nationalist thought leaders, as well as additional amplifying passages that present counterpoints. Our goal is to equip you to understand this important movement that is reshaping the country in which we live, as well as the age-old question of what our position as Christians should be towards political power.

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### **LANTERNS NEEDED FOR ADVENT WORSHIP DESIGN**

Once again, we are using the Sanctified Art program for our Advent journey. The theme this year is *What Do You Fear? Insisting on Hope This Advent*. The guiding image is a lantern. The Worship Design team is looking for lanterns for an installation. If you have a lantern(s) that you would be willing to lend for the entire Advent/Christmas season, please contact Ave Barr, [avebarr9200@gmail.com](mailto:avebarr9200@gmail.com).

## CARE PACKAGES FOR CAREGIVERS

Collection: November 2 – 16

Our Faithful Friends volunteer team is collecting small items to put together “Care packages for Caregivers” of our Faithful Friends and others. Donations will be collected on November 2, both on Sunday morning and during Trunk-or-Treat. We will continue to collect them through November 16th. Our youth will pack them up along with other packages on December 7.

- |   |                        |  |
|---|------------------------|--|
| ▪ Prayer cards                              | ▪ Lip balm             | ▪ Tea bags   |
| ▪ Playing cards                             | ▪ Socks                | ▪ Small stuffed animals  |
| ▪ Cards to send to other people with stamps | ▪ Gloves               | ▪ Low-maintenance plant with a small pot for the youth to decorate |
| ▪ Shelf-stable food (protein bars, nuts)    | ▪ Lotion               |  |
|   | ▪ Question books/cards |  |
|   | ▪ Pet treats/toys      |  |

Bring donations to the Sanctuary Lobby and place them in the designated donation box. Thanks!

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## ITEMS NEEDED FOR CARE PACKAGES TO THOSE IN COLLEGE & MILITARY

Collection: November 2 - December 7

We’re sending care packages to our young adults in college, job training, or military service—just a little reminder that ERUCC’s care extends to them no matter where they are on life’s journey! As a church, we are collecting individual snacks and small office or household items to include in these care packages. Donations could include hot chocolate packets, chips/crackers, fruit pouches, popcorn, granola bars, cookies, soup packs, candy, sticky notes, silly pens, reusable straws, decks of cards, hand-sized word search or game books, stress balls, and lip balm. Think: what can be useful and fun?!

Bring donations to the Sanctuary Lobby and place them in the designated donation box. Thanks!

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## HELP PACK THE PANTRY

Sunday, November 9, during both worship services

Let’s continue to BE the Church by supporting our neighbors in need. Once a month, we work together to fill the Frederick Community Fridge pantry in our parking lot.

***Thanksgiving in a Bag for Two*** – Create a complete Thanksgiving meal in a gallon Ziploc bag: box of instant stuffing, bag of instant mashed potatoes, can of green beans (or vegetable of choice), 2 cans of chicken, chicken gravy packet, and can of cranberry sauce. Feel free to add a dessert treat!

You are invited to bring any shelf-stable, unopened, and unexpired items to worship. You can place them on the table at the chancel as you arrive. We will offer a prayer of dedication over the items before sending them out to bless our neighbors. If you’re unable to bring donations on Sunday, you can place them in the pantry at any time.

**Contact:** Kim Sexton, [mkessexton@comcast.net](mailto:mkessexton@comcast.net).

## LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE WITH REV. JOHN SHILLINGBURG

Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings

North Room / Zoom

Led by Rev. John Shillingburg, this is an ongoing class, with new members welcome at any time. No prior Bible knowledge is required. The class explores scripture in its original context, considering who wrote it and how it has been interpreted over time. This multi-faceted approach leads to deep learning and engaging conversations. Currently the Sunday morning class is studying the Gospel of Mark and the Wednesday evening class is focusing on the prophets; we will begin Isaiah—The Greatest Hits on Wednesday, November 5.

The course is offered twice each week:

- Sunday morning, 9:15 – 10:15 AM, Zoom: [bit.ly/ERSunstudy](https://bit.ly/ERSunstudy)
    - **The Sunday morning class will participate in the Let's Talk series on Christian Nationalism from October 26 – November 23.**
  - Wednesday evening, 7:00 – 8:15 PM, Zoom: [bit.ly/ERwedstudy](https://bit.ly/ERwedstudy)
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## THEOLOGY AMONG THE PEOPLE WITH REV. DR. REBECCA SHILLINGBURG

Tuesdays (*note: class will not meet on November 4*)

North Room / Zoom, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Zoom: [tinyurl.com/tuetap](https://tinyurl.com/tuetap)

We are reading ***Unclobber: Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality*** by Colby Martin. Conservative Christians have used a handful of passages in the Bible—the "Clobber Passages"—to stand against the full inclusion of our LGBTQ siblings. In *Unclobber*, Martin guides readers in examining what the Bible says, and doesn't say, about homosexuality to help readers understand these inaccurate interpretations. Join TAP as we explore these passages on our journey to know God and learn how to live as Christians in today's world.

We will begin reading Brian Kaylor's book ***The Bible According to Christian Nationalists: Exploiting Scripture for Political Power*** on November 16. Have you heard the term Christian Nationalism and wondered exactly what was meant by that and how we as Christians should approach it and Christians in other traditions who adhere to aspects of it?

The Tuesday class will be slightly different than the Sunday class, but will cover similar topics.

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## 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](mailto: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.*

## WEEKLY PRAYER GATHERING

Wednesdays

Sanctuary, 4:30 PM

When the world outside is disintegrating, there is a place of respite. Look how Jesus approached it with his disciples: “Come away by yourselves to a lonely place and rest awhile”.

On Wednesday afternoons, you are invited to enter the church (the far left front door into the Kieffer Lobby and the elevator vestibule door will be unlocked at 4:15 PM) and proceed quietly to the front of the sanctuary. We will meet promptly at 4:30 PM, have a few moments of “wisdom,” perhaps chant together, and then fall into 20 minutes of silence (centering prayer/meditation). We will dismiss in silence at 5:00 PM. Led by Rev. Richard Leslie.

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## REGISTER NOW – WOMEN’S RETREAT

Friday, November 7 – Saturday, November 8\*

Manidokan Camp and Retreat Center

Mark your calendars for a time of rest, renewal, and connection at our annual Women’s Retreat! We’ll gather off-site at beautiful Camp Manidokan for a weekend of fellowship, reflection, and fun. Overnight and day-only options are available. \*A second night’s stay, departing on Sunday, November 9, will also be available.

- *Friday overnight + Saturday (4 meals) - \$75*
- *Saturday only (3 meals) - \$50*



Register now: [tinyurl.com/ERwmn25](https://tinyurl.com/ERwmn25)

We celebrate and honor the diverse identities and expressions embodied in the feminine spirit. Regardless of how you were defined by doctors at birth, you define yourself. All who connect with any aspect of the feminine are warmly invited to join us.

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## HANGING OF THE GREENS

Sunday, November 23

Immediately following 10:30 AM Worship

Help us deck the halls and prepare our sacred spaces for the Advent and Christmas season! Hanging of the Greens is a joyful ERUCC tradition—a time to work side by side, laugh together, and transform our church with the beauty and hope of the season.



Sign up using the link below to choose a task (or two!) and join in this festive community effort. Many hands truly make light—and joy-filled—work!

Sign up: [tinyurl.com/ERgrns25](https://tinyurl.com/ERgrns25)

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## ORDER POINSETTIAS FOR OUR ALTAR THIS CHRISTMAS

Now – Sunday, December 14

Please find details and an order form on the inside back cover of this bulletin.

## 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL COOKIE SWAP

Sunday, December 7

North Room, 12:00 PM

Celebrate the sweet treats of the season at ERUCC's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookie Swap! Bring five dozen cookies and an extra container to take your cookies home. Children and their cookie creations are welcome. We will also be taking cookies to our members who are homebound. There will be a designated place to bring your cookies before attending worship or a Christian Education class.

If you have questions, contact Starr Schaeberle, [starr.schaeberle@comcast.net](mailto:starr.schaeberle@comcast.net) or (301) 662-6902.

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## DALE CARNEGIE TRAINING AT ERUCC (FOR A HIGH DISCOUNTED RATE!)

As part of my role at Dale Carnegie Training, I'm focused on developing new Facilitators and strengthening our team. To support this, we need a live audience for a hands-on experience. I'm currently mentoring three certified Facilitators who are expanding their expertise into the "Leadership" competency.

To help them grow, we're offering the two-day *Management Program for Leaders*—usually priced at \$2,195—for just \$199. This reduced rate is available because these Facilitators need to deliver the program under supervision to complete their certification in this competency area. Rest assured, the agenda, materials, and outcomes remain unchanged. This is also not a commercial for us; I am simply asking for live participants to take part in an interactive training program.

Topics we will cover include characteristics of effective leadership; creating an engaged team environment; leading others to achieve agreed-upon results; increasing self-awareness; delegation; teamwork; motivation; organization; planning; outside-of-the-box thinking; and the people side of change.

Details:

- Group size is limited to 15 participants (Registration is first-come, first-served)
- Attendees must be in a leadership role and must have direct reports
- Payment is required at registration
- This is open to anyone who meets the requirements, so pass this along to family, friends or colleagues
- If you have any questions, please reach out to Darryl Glick ([darryl.glick@dalecarnegie.com](mailto:darryl.glick@dalecarnegie.com)) or 240-505-1682 for details or enrollment

The program will take place in the Community Room on Friday and Saturday, November 21 and 22, from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM. A commitment must be made to fully attend both days.

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## 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.

**Give:** <https://ppay.co/2pnCegjeZnI>

## **Children & Youth Activities, Events, and Announcements**

### **FALL FEST & TRUNK-OR-TREAT**

Sunday, November 2

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



The ERUCC Youth Group is inviting the whole church to a Fall Fest & Trunk-or-Treat! There will be Fall-themed crafts, games, and yummy snacks. This is an ideal event for families with little ones and elementary-aged children, but all are invited! Families welcome. Trunks will be dressed up and decorated for you to enjoy as you make your way from car to car to fill your bag with treats. Costumes are optional and encouraged!

**Sign up to decorate a car or donate treats:** [tinyurl.com/ER1102ff](https://tinyurl.com/ER1102ff)

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### **SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH**

Sundays, 9:15 – 10:15 AM

Join us for a joyful hour of learning, connection, and faith formation with classes for all ages.

**Children in Pre-K; K – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 5** please check-in at the reception desk in the Kieffer Lobby (main building).

**Music & Movement** takes place from 10:00 – 10:15 AM. Students who wish to participate in Music & Movement will transition under the direction of their teachers to the Liz Coffey Room at 10:00 AM.

**Pickup:** All families must check out children with leaders in their classrooms at 10:00 AM OR in the Liz Coffey Room at 10:20 AM if staying for Music & Movement.

**Youth in Middle School/Confirmation or High School** should enter Trinity Chapel through the side door, located behind the iron gate on the left side of the building. Please check in at the self-service kiosk before proceeding to your classroom. Always cross the street at the crosswalk.

**Dismissal:** Youth, escorted by a teacher, will return as a group to the main building at 10:15 AM.

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### **JUNIOR CHURCH**

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays

Children in K – Grade 5 are invited to Junior Church most Sundays during the school year. Children begin worship at 10:30 AM in the sanctuary with their families and, after the Thought for the Day, are dismissed for creative, well-supervised spiritual formation activities. On the first Sunday of each month, children remain in worship to participate in worship and receive communion with their families.

# **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

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Alison E. Shafer ~ *Director of Music*

Tyler L. York ~ *Executive Church Administrator* ~ tyork@erucc.org

Jaci Clayton ~ *Facilities Manager* ~ jclayton@erucc.org

Ann Watkins ~ *Administrative Assistant/Receptionist* ~ awatkins@erucc.org

Ashley Murphy ~ *Nursery Attendant*

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The Rev. Dr. Barbara Kershner Daniel ~ *Pastor Emerita*

The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ *Pastor Emeritus*

## **CONSISTORY**

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

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

Rebecca Shillingburg ~ *Worship Chair* | Peter Brehm ~ *Finance Chair*

Shelley Weakly ~ *Mission, Evangelism, and Social Justice Chair* | Vacant ~ *Property Chair*

Julie Clark ~ *Stewardship/Generosity Chair* | Holly Davis ~ *Christian Education Chair*

Mark Ulrich ~ *Head Deacon* | Larry Martin ~ *Member-at-Large*

## **ELDERS**

Ave Barr | Peter Brehm | Matt Hueting | Jeanellen Kallevang | Susan Kulp | Eric Weakly

## **DEACONS**

Quynn Adkins | Tommie Bradshaw | Robin A. Brady-Slifer | Robin L. Brady-Slifer

Angela Brittain | Jim Brittain | Kyle Miller | Mark Ulrich

## **SETTLED PASTOR SEARCH AND CALL COMMITTEE**

Rachael Bowman | Tommie Bradshaw | Karl Cooper | Linda Coyle | Matt Hueting

Terry Logee | Jen Powell | Bud Rossig | Eliza Stitely

## **Sunday Morning Schedule**

*subject to change*

8:30 – 9:15 AM	<b>Early Worship</b> , Sanctuary
9:00 AM	<b>Coffee and Conversation</b> , Kieffer Lobby
9:15 AM	<b>Let's Talk</b> , North Room
9:15 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Nursery Care</b>
9:15 – 10:00 AM	<b>Children's Sunday School</b> <i>Pre-K, Nursery</i> <i>K – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, Liz Coffey Room</i> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Thomas Room</i>
9:15 – 10:15 AM	<b>Youth Sunday School</b> <i>Middle School Youth/Confirmation, Trinity Chapel</i> <i>High School Youth, Trinity Chapel</i>
10:00 – 10:20 AM	<b>Children's Music and Movement</b> , Liz Coffey Room
10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>Worship</b> , Sanctuary and Online at <a href="http://www.erucc.org">www.erucc.org</a> <b>Junior Church</b> , Thomas Room <i>Participating children are dismissed from Worship (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)</i>
11:30 AM	<b>Fellowship</b> , Downtown Community Room

## **Stay Informed**



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

### 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**  
  
*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*

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.

# Poinsettias



We will be ordering poinsettias from Frederick High School this year. All funds will benefit the horticultural program and Frederick High FFA Chapter. Each plant will have 4-6 blooms and will cost \$10. Plants will be placed on the chancel in the Sanctuary.

**Order by December 14!**

**Complete the form and return it with payment to the church office, offering plate, or pay online at [bit.ly/eruccflowers](https://bit.ly/eruccflowers) by December 14.**



Scan to  
Pay Online

Plants may be picked up after the Christmas Eve Services; however, we would appreciate having some left for the Candlelight Historic Houses of Worship Tour on December 26.

**Donor Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to place \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettias in the church for Christmas.

☐ I/we have **enclosed** a payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$10 per plant).

☐ I/we made an **online** payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$10 per plant).

If you wish for your poinsettias to be listed in memory of, in honor of, or placed by the donor, please indicate which and PRINT the names below.

**In memory of:**

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**In honor of:**

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**Placed by:**

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 2, 2025

Luke 19:1-10

### Transforming Love

There's a church school song sung throughout the generations teaching children about Zacchaeus, "a wee little man" who wanted to see Jesus amid the crowds towering over him that he climbed a tree to catch a glimpse.

As the song goes, while in the tree, Jesus spots the tax collector and shouts, "Zacchaeus, you come down. For I'm going to your house today."

And Jesus did just that. He dined with Zacchaeus. It was a transformative meal because Zacchaeus, honored to host such a great guest, opened his heart — and coin bag — and vowed to share his wealth with others.

While Jesus was pleased, others were not.

We have all been where Zacchaeus was. No, not precariously straddling tree limbs to see Jesus. We have been in the place where others might not think we deserve redemption, forgiveness, or even that holy second chance.

Why is it that we often begrudge others of God's grace?

While I can't think of who might not have been happy with my second chances in life, I can vividly remember the times I have been in the crowd wondering why the Lord noticed someone like Zacchaeus.

Did my eyes roll with the others? Did I join in the disparaging whispers? I should have been rejoicing that if Zacchaeus could change, so could I. For the Lord sees me — and you.

That day, Jesus saw into the heart of Zacchaeus when others couldn't. He knew this "wee little man" wanted to grow spiritually, as witnessed in the tree he scurried into — a sycamore.

In Israel, the sycamore tree symbolizes spiritual elevation. It represents the willingness to change. Zacchaeus was willing to change that day.

What about us? How badly do we want to see the Lord? Would we be willing to climb the branches of change, hoist ourselves up on the limbs of spiritual elevation, and feel the bark of renewal?

The good news is we don't have to find a tree to climb. Jesus has already spotted us, and he knows the goodness that is in our hearts.

*God of grace and mercy, how reassuring it is to know that we are never lost in the crowd. You see our hearts and know our struggles. You never withhold your healing love. And for that, we thank you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today's Sunday Bulletin.)

