

This Is
Good

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 lobby. We would love to meet and learn more about you, and we are available to answer your questions. 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 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 people 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 aged 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 –



May 31, 2026

Trinity Sunday

10:30 AM

Graduate Sunday

The numbered hymns are from The New Century Hymnal
**All who are able may stand*
Bold text read in unison

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PRELUDE

***CONGREGATION CENTERING PRAYER**

Ave and Cliff Barr

As we walk together through this time of transition, we give thanks for the faith that has shaped us and look with hope toward what lies ahead. We covenant to proclaim and embody God's love and justice for all people, serving our neighbors both near and far. Through faithful living and active participation in our congregation, we commit to following in the way of Jesus to build a community of extravagant welcome and inclusivity for all people. May we continue to reflect God's light through our love and hope in all that we do. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CENTERING CANDLE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever. Let the congregation say, "God's steadfast love endures forever."

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the women of the church say, "God's steadfast love endures forever."

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the men of the church say, "God's steadfast love endures forever."

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let us worship our God of steadfast love.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Awe-inspiring God,

we come together this day because we need to be reminded to see through the lens of self-giving.

Too often, we think that life will be better if we just “get” more, but you show us just the opposite—the awe-filled experience of giving more.

Open us to perceive anew.

Inspire us to receive the opportunities to give with awe.

Forgive us when we turn our back on parades of justice, paths of grace, roads of mercy.

Be with us on this journey

as we seek again to marvel at your works.

***OPENING HYMN**

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

#7

***CALL TO TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

The apostle Paul tells us that we all fall short of the glory of God; that we all do what should not be done and do not do what should be done. Because of the grace and mercy of God, we can come before the Almighty and seek forgiveness. We have the promise of welcome and acceptance. Trusting in that promise, come humbly before our God in prayer for grace.

***PRAYER FOR GRACE**

Awe-Inspiring God, we experience your grace through beauty, wonder, meaning, curiosity, delight, and connection. We most fully experience your grace when we give of ourselves, just as Jesus humbled himself and came not to be served but to serve. It is hard, Giving One, to put other’s interests ahead of our own. We are tempted to ask what we can get rather than what we can give. We feel compelled to look out for ourselves at the expense of others instead of looking out for others at the expense of ourselves. Yet, it is in giving that we receive. It is in dying that we live. Give us the grace to be graceful in all things. Give us the mind that was in Christ Jesus who willingly gave himself for us. Make us your servants and the servants of our neighbors. We ask in the name of the one who gave himself for us, Christ Jesus. Amen.

***WORDS OF GRACE**

God is full of mercy and grace and hears our prayers. We are beloved children of God. As a parent receives a child, so God receives us. Accept the grace God pours over us. Believe the good news and walk anew in the ways of the Lord.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Children, youth, and all who wish to join them are invited to come forward for a special message.

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.**

*Except on the **first Sunday** of the month, children aged 5 through 5th grade who wish to participate in **Junior Church** may meet leaders at the back of the sanctuary. Children will return to their families in worship by 11:30 AM.*

***HYMN**

Jesus – The Very Thought to Me

#507

**Jesus, the very thought of thee
with sweetness fills the breast;
but sweeter far thy face to see,
and in thy presence rest.**

**O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
to those who fall, how kind thou art!
How good to those who seek!**

**But what to those who find? Ah, this
nor tongue nor pen can show;
the love of Jesus, what it is,**

none but his loved ones know.

**Jesus, our only joy be thou,
as thou our prize wilt be;
Jesus, be thou our glory now,
and through eternity.**

THE SCRIPTURES

Philippians 2: 1-8

NT Page Number 197

Matthew 20: 25-28

NT Page Number 22

Reader: May God bless the reading of this word.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. David S. Cooney, Ph.D.

“Unlike the Gentiles”

MORNING PRAYER

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

It is in giving that we receive. It is in giving that we experience awe. For giving puts us in communion with our awesome God. Our material offerings also represent the giving of ourselves in mind, body, and spirit and help spread the love of God throughout the community. Share with an open heart.

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, 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

Sim Shalom

Senior Choir, Colleen Hueting, soprano
- M. Janowski

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

O God, who gave yourself in the person of Jesus Christ, use our gifts for the well-being of your children, bringing hope to the hopeless, joy to the

grieving, healing to the sick, and welcome to the stranger. May these monetary gifts be signs of self-giving as we strive to follow the example of Christ. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant

#539

**Won't you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are travelers on the road;
We are here to help each other
go the mile and bear the load.**

**I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the shadow of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.**

**I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**

**Won't you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.**

*BENEDICTION

*SEVENFOLD AMEN

#814

During the postlude, please remain seated, letting the music flow over you as a closing blessing.

POSTLUDE



Worship Notes: Liturgy adapted from McFee, Marcia. Purveyors of Awe: Elements for Curating a Life of Spiritual Depth www.worshipdesignstudio.com/purveyors-of-awe.

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

Graduate Sunday Recognition

Please join us in celebrating our high school, college, and trade school graduates today with cake at Fellowship!

Max Zander (Thomas Johnson HS)

Lucy Adkins (St. Mary's College)

Alex Cumber (St. Mary's College)

Erin Gohegan (Wilson College)

Trevor Weakly (Gettysburg College)

Quinn Coffey (IEC Chesapeake Apprenticeship & Training Program)

Joey Cross (University of Vermont)

The flowers on the altar this morning are from Cathie & Will Duncan in honor of their grandsons, Duncan and Luca Broderick.

The yellow rose is presented by John and Rebecca Shillingburg in honor of all of our veterans.

Attendance Last Sunday: 15 at 8:30 AM, 145 at 10:30 AM, and 131 online.



Watch worship live every Sunday at 10:30 AM or on-demand:
<https://erucc.org/visit/sunday-live-stream>

Serving Today: May 31

Deacons: Mark Ulrich, Darryl Glick
Elder: Susan Kulp
Scripture Reader: Robin Cooney
Acolyte: Laurel Nguyen-Powell
Greeters: Susan Kulp, Barb Barry
Felecia Bishop, Rob Smith
Welcome Table: Molly Black
Audio/Visual: Jeff Schaeberle, Kelly Esslinger
David Howard
Nursery: Maria Lagrotteria, Kate Fromknecht
Fellowship:

Serving Next Week: June 7

Mark Ulrich, Darryl Glick
Matt Huetting
Eric Weakly
Kathleen and Niel Jefferson
Paul McGinley
Julie Clark, Jeanellen Kallevang
Ethan Kline, Kelly Esslinger
Jeff Schaeberle
Rena Kline, Jim Weitz
Glenn Wallace, Cathie Duncan
Kathleen and Niel Jefferson
Emily Kambic

Next Sunday: June 7 – Second Sunday after Pentecost – Pride Sunday

How do we seek the prophet Isaiah's "peaceable kingdom" in the midst of the wars, insurrection, and persecution Jesus foretold in the Gospel of Luke?

We will share in Holy Communion at the chancel rail this morning. The Rev. Shelley Weakly will be preaching and leading worship. The Senior Choir will sing.

BE THE 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.

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.

Mike Simms	Barbara Heverley	Bob Pinner
Adam Huegel	Todd Starr (nephew of Mary Staley)	Jim Baldree (father of Chuck Baldree)
Carroll Smith (friend of Sandra Trout)	Sharon DiDonato (aunt of Darryl Glick, friend of Mark Ulrich)	Lee Thomas
The family of Manny Greber	Ginny Peters	Marcia Eisenstein
The family of John Hane	Karen Stitely	Derek C. Hupp (grandson of Beanie & Gaylon Cornell)
The family of Doris Esslinger	Donna Baumgardner Smith (friend of Sandra Trout)	Wayne Kolb (friend of Stefan and Judi Mach and Tony and Linda LaFianza)
Tom Ford	Bill Cassell (brother of Ave Barr)	Jeannette Johnson
Ingrid Jacobsen after the death of her wife, Kitty Bradley	The Murray/Lennox/Cable Family	Jackie Keyser (sister-in-law of Betsy and Phil Selby)
Della Willmann (Shelley Weakly's mother)	Sandra Trout	Marcy Channell (daughter of Jo Ann Fritz)
Charlie Woodward	Family of Charlie Van Eman (son of friends of Kathleen and Niel Jefferson)	Paige Coffey
John Stush	Mary Staley	Fran Wenner
Izzie Sims (friend of Molly Black)	Pat Condo	Bonnie Devilbiss
Debbie Jennings (<i>friend of Kathleen Jefferson</i>)	Wells Condo	Tina Prescott (daughter-in-law of Barbara & Bill Prescott)
Robert Debonis (uncle of Sophia Carliss)	Tom Frazier	Heleen (sister of Karin Mens)
Sandy Maples (sister-in-law of Allen and Joan Maples)	Pauline Marendt	Kathy Blue Shores (friend of Jean Fish & Barb Biser)
Betsy Fisher	Kayla Merry (niece of Kim Sexton)	
	Carol Spera (mother of Mark Ulrich)	
	Emogene Wyand	

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 communion from our pastoral team. 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.

Activities, Events, and Announcements

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, June 21

Sanctuary / Zoom, ~11:30 AM

Please join us in the sanctuary on Sunday, June 21st, for a special congregation meeting. We will welcome the Rev. Joshua Privitt to ERUCC, and he will lead us in worship at both the 8:30 and 10:30 services. Immediately following the 10:30 service, at approximately 11:30, we will convene a congregational meeting in the sanctuary. The only item on the agenda will be to vote to call the Rev. Joshua Privitt as the next Settled Senior Pastor of ERUCC. The votes will be tallied immediately and the results announced. Lunch will be served immediately following the meeting. Members and friends of the congregation may also participate via Zoom.

To participate by Zoom, please register in advance: <https://tinyurl.com/SpecialMtg621>, or scan the QR code:



After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE WITH REV. JOHN SHILLINGBURG

Sunday morning, 9:15 – 10:15 AM, Zoom: bit.ly/ERSunstudy

Wednesday evening, 7:00 – 8:15 PM, Zoom: bit.ly/ERwedstudy

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.

THEOLOGY AMONG THE PEOPLE WITH REV. DR. REBECCA SHILLINGBURG

Tuesdays

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

Zoom: tinyurl.com/tuetap

Join us as we read and discuss *Genesis for Normal People* by Peter Enns and Jared Byas. If you are not a Bible scholar but want to be able to read Genesis and understand its big picture, this brief, witty book is the guide you've been waiting for. Clear summaries and thought-provoking questions provide direction for personal reflection and group discussion. Peter Enns, a Biblical Studies professor, and Jared Byas, an Old Testament professor, summarize the book's key themes and help us see Genesis as an ancient story, one with continued relevance for human experience today.

Please note: Theology Among the People will be taking a break for the summer beginning June 9th.

WEDNESDAY PRAYERS

Wednesdays

Sanctuary, 4:30 PM

On Wednesday afternoons, you are invited to enter the church (doors open at 4:15 PM) and proceed to the front of the sanctuary in silence. We will pray silently in our own personal traditions. We begin promptly at 4:30 PM and end at 5:00 PM. What you can expect: substance for your everyday journey. Led by Rev. Richard Leslie.

MISSIONS, EVANGELISM, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Invites us to partner in giving to **Beyond Shelter** this season.

We will be collecting **diaper wipes, diaper genie refills, hot**

drink mixes (tea, coffee, hot chocolate), **cases of individual water bottles, laundry detergent** (liquid or pods), **hand soap refills, deodorant, and individual microwave meals.**



Please bring items to the bin in the Sanctuary Lobby to the left of the Welcome Table through the end of **May**.



2026 PRIDE PARADE AND FESTIVAL

Come help us show others that ERUCC is an Open & Affirming community of faith.

Sign up to march in the Pride Parade on Friday, June 26, and/or help at our Frederick Pride table on Saturday, June 27!

<https://tinyurl.com/ERUCC-FrederickPride>

VIGIL FOR AMERICA

Every Saturday, 12:00-1:00 PM

Corner of Church and Court Streets

A "Vigil for America" is held weekly near City Hill, encouraging community members to gather to voice concerns about the state of the country and democracy. Attendees are encouraged to bring signs and gather for solidarity.

CHURCH PICNIC UPDATE

Based on the extended school year and other circumstances, we are postponing our church picnic to August/September, when we hope to use this gathering as a time to "Get to Know" our new Senior Pastor!

The **MISSIONS, EVANGELISM, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE** would like to encourage you to participate in the upcoming 2026 elections in the following ways:

First, check your voter registration:

<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/votersearch>

Then, register to serve as a poll watcher or election judge. Judges are always more difficult to find!

Poll watcher:

https://www.elections.maryland.gov/get_involved/challenger_watcher.html (information is for 2024 but will be updated soon)

Election Judge: https://www.elections.maryland.gov/get_involved/election_judges_form.html

AWESOME CLOTHESLINE SHARING

Our Eastertide theme has been “Pursuing Awe”. Tom Dorsz has wowed us with his photographs, still on display in the music suite hallway. We have explored the deeps of the ocean and the shells on the beach with an awesome sealife display in the lobby outside the Community Room.

Now, it is your turn to share what inspires awe (or awww) for you by posting photos, drawings, or easily hung 2D pieces on a lighted clothesline on the blue wall at the head of the stairs from the Kieffer Lobby. Starting this week, please show us the things that move you, amaze you, inspire you, or bring you overwhelming joy and gratitude. No explanation is needed other than the image itself, but please put enough information on the back of the piece that we can return it to you when the display is taken down. This will be an ongoing installation project of the Worship Design Team.

MOMS DEMAND ACTION FOR GUN SENSE IN AMERICA

June 5-7, Wear Orange Weekend

Please join Frederick’s Moms Demand Action group on Saturday, June 6 at 2:00 PM at the C. Burr Artz Library, Community Room as we gather for a viewing of the Academy Award Winning documentary short film *All the Empty Rooms*. Journalist Steve Hartman and photographer Lou Bopp travel the country documenting the untouched bedrooms of children killed in school shootings, revealing the profound grief and lasting impact of gun violence on families. We’re showing the film in observance of Wear Orange Weekend, which is an annual national observance led by Everytown for Gun Safety and Moms Demand Action to honor survivors of gun violence. A time of sharing and discussion will follow the viewing of the film. Survivors and those affected by gun violence will be invited to share, reflect, and connect. The Mental Health Association will provide resources and support for anyone seeking additional care or guidance. For more information, contact: maryland@momschapterleaders.org.

Children & Youth Activities, Events, and Announcements

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Sundays, 9:15 – 10:15 AM

We will have our last Sunday School for the school year on Sunday, May 31.

Children and youth will host a pancake breakfast on Sunday, June 7 for their volunteers in the Community Room.

All children check in at the reception desk in the Kieffer Lobby (main building).

Youth in Middle School/Confirmation or High School should check in at the self-service kiosk in the Kieffer Lobby before proceeding to your classroom.

Pickup: All families must check out children in 5th grade and younger with leaders in their classrooms at 10:15 AM.

JUNIOR CHURCH

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

The last day of Junior Church for the school year will be Sunday, May 31.

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.

Please enjoy the books and coloring pages in the back of the sanctuary, and special activities are provided in the children's worship space up front.

We are creating a plan for 4 weeks of Summer Christian Education that will be held for all ages of children and youth at this time in the service. Themes and dates will be posted before June 7th.



A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BRUNCH

Sunday, June 7

Community Room, 9:15 – 10:15 AM

To celebrate and thank our incredible Sunday School teachers for all they have done to pour into our students this past year, we are hosting a Waffle & Ice Cream Breakfast Bar! This special event will take place **June 7th during the Sunday School hour**. Our children and youth will be helping to serve the food.

We would love your help in making this Thank You a success! Please look at the Sign-Up Genius for slots to help with set-up, food prep, and clean-up and food donations. Food can be dropped off the week before and by 8:45 AM on June 7th.



Sign-Up Genius: visit <https://tinyurl.com/SunSchoolThankYou> or scan this QR code

Thank you for your generosity and for helping us honor those who serve our kids so faithfully.

TRIVIA AND SNACKS

Sunday, June 7

Community Room, 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Join confirmands, Cam, Emmie, Isaac, Laurel, and Vivi, for snacks and trivia in the Community Room, combining themes of being an Anti-Racist church with a Trivia experience and a service project that will support the RISE Coalition of Western Maryland, a grassroots coalition led by immigrant community members, advocating for immigrant rights, social justice, and community empowerment. We ask that you bring a non-perishable item for entry. Please RSVP for the event at: tinyurl.com/ERUCCTrivia.

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING

Thursday, **June 4**, 5:00 – 7:00 PM on Zoom

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/SafeChurchZoom0604> or scan this QR code:



Sunday, **June 14**, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Flora Room

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/SafeChurch0614> or scan this QR code:



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026: A THEATRE CAMP APPROACH!

June 22-26, Monday – Friday, with a performance Friday morning.

Registration for both students and volunteers will go live on Monday, April 6.

Both volunteers and participants can choose a half-day (8:00am-12:30pm) or full-day camp (8:00am-3:00pm). The cost is \$20, and all students will receive a T-shirt.

Because it is a musical, and we need singers, high school students are invited to be volunteers and middle school students up to age 13 can choose to be a volunteer or to participate in the musical! We will be learning and performing the children's musical "*Moses and the Freedom Fanatics!*" while still having activities, crafts, and an afternoon at the pool.

All students will register through All Saints Episcopal Church, and all volunteers will register through ERUCC. To register students: visit <https://tinyurl.com/2026VBSRegister>, or use this QR Code:



Volunteers from both churches will need to have updated safe church background checks, trainings, and be cleared to help with children. We will have a training in the beginning of June for anyone who needs to be recertified or who has been within our community for at least 6 months and wants to help this week!

Sign up here to volunteer:

<https://tinyurl.com/ERUCCVBSVolunteer2026>, or use this QR code:

You will be signing up through ERUCC for this event.

Please direct any questions to Pastor Kirstin: ksrhoads@erucc.org



EAST GERMANY GROUP IS COMING THIS SUMMER

July 5-16, Confirmed Dates!

We will need help with host families and other hospitality for 13 people. Feel free to ask our planning team: Matt Pomeroy, Owen York, Barb Barry, Jeffrey Baker, or Pastor Kirstin, if you have any questions! Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/GermanYouthHost>



Youth parents: please sign up here for which activities your child(ren) will attend with our German youth. <https://tinyurl.com/GermanPartnerActivitiesSignUp> or use this QR code:



IMPORTANT "SAVE THE DATES" FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES

June 22-26 Full Day VBS in partnership with All Saints Episcopal
June 25 Interfaith Pride Service at Grace UCC
June 26 Pride Parade
June 27 Frederick Pride
July 5-16 East Germany Group is Coming!
July 24-25 Catoctin Association Youth Overnight
July 26-31 Gretna Glen Camp for Children and Youth, Lebanon PA



VBS 2026-
MUSIC & DRAMA CAMP
"MOSES and the Freedom Fanatics"

MON. 6/22 - Fri. 6/26

Half Day:
8:30am-12:30pm

Full Day:
8:30am-3:00pm

ERUCC and All Saints, Frederick



Registration \$20
Scholarships Available

Ministers, Staff, & Lay Leaders of Evangelical Reformed UCC

MINISTERS AND STAFF

Rev. Kirstin Shrom-Rhoads ~ *Associate Pastor for Faith Formation & Parish Life* ~ ksrhoads@erucc.org

Alison E. Shafer ~ *Director of Music*

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

Ann Watkins ~ *Office Administrator* ~ awatkins@erucc.org

Amanda Emily Smith ~ *Administrative Assistant* ~ aesmith@erucc.org

Ashley Murphy ~ *Nursery Attendant*

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

The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ *Pastor Emeritus*

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Robin L. Brady-Slifer ~ *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* | Keith Stickley ~ *Property Chair*

Kate Fromknecht ~ *Stewardship/Generosity Chair* | Holly Davis ~ *Christian Education Chair*

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

Darryl Glick ~ *Personnel Chair*

ELDERS

Ave Barr | Robin L. Brady-Slifer | 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	Early Worship , Sanctuary
9:00 AM	Coffee and Conversation , Kieffer Lobby
9:15 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</i> , Nursery <i>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/Confirmation</i> , Flora Room <i>High School Youth</i> , Alcove
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>
11:30 AM	Fellowship , 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



one time or recurring gifts

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Scan to give from your mobile device

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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.

PRESENTED BY:  Frederick Health

FREDERICK Pride



WEEKEND

JUNE **26-28** 2026

PARADE 6.26 | 7pm
DOWNTOWN FREDERICK

FESTIVAL 6.27 | 11am-6pm
CARROLL CREEK LINEAR PARK

BIKE RIDE 6.28 | 9am-11am
BAKER PARK

BRUNCH CRAWL 6.28 | 11am-4pm
DOWNTOWN FREDERICK

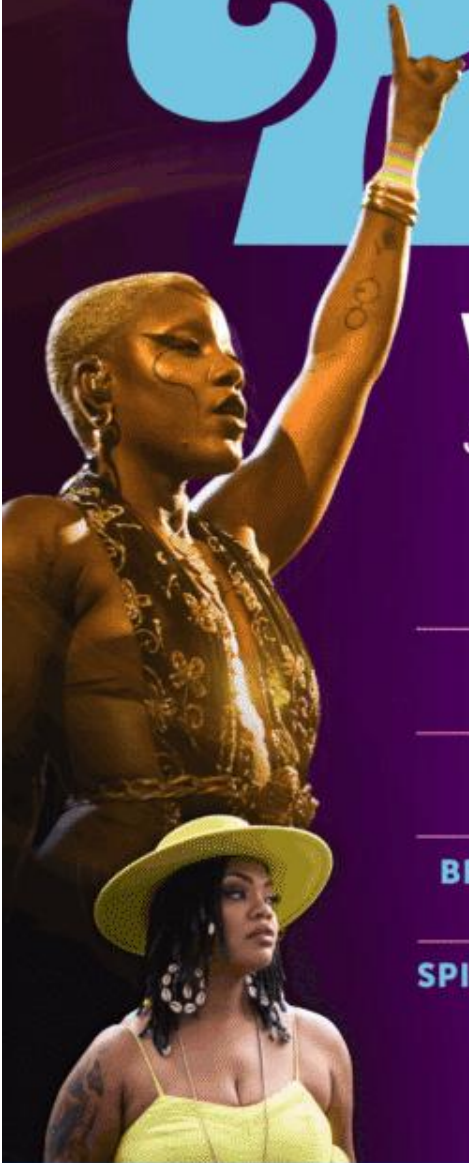
SPILL THE TEA with INIKO 6.28 | 4pm
MARYLAND ENSEMBLE THEATER

FrederickPride.org

HEADLINING PERFORMANCES

GUEST OF HONOR **INIKO**

AND LOOSEY LADUCA | VICTORIA BLACK | JOY+SOUL | EVOLUTION OF THE REVOLUTION



This Is Good

In the beginning, God created ... the heavens, the earth, the creatures of the land and sea, day and night, and then man and woman. After each phase of creation, we are told that God “saw that it was good.”

Repeating the phrase “it was good” isn’t some literary technique to make the story more poetic and profound. It is a theological statement of how carefully God thought through each phase of Creation, marking each finished phase as completed — and good. As God brought the ball of chaos into diverse, colorful life, God gave it a divine stamp of approval.

It’s no wonder the early saints held God’s act of creation in great reverence and awe — more so than we tend to do today.

St. Basil (329-379) wrote that he wanted “creation to penetrate you with so much admiration that wherever you go, the least plant may bring you clear remembrance of the Creator.” While St. John Chrysostom (347-470) said, “From the creation, learn to admire the Lord!” And St. John of Damascus (675-749) simply and powerfully stated what was completely obvious to him: “The whole earth is a living icon of the face of God.”

Let that last saintly observation linger in your heart for a bit. And as it does, ask yourself what your days would be like if you viewed all of Creation as a living icon of the face of God.

I can tell you that after lingering on St. John of Damascus’ words, I went for my daily walk into the Vermont woods with fresh eyes. Every budding leaf, swaying grass blade and buzzing bee seemed different when viewing them as “a living icon of the face of God.”

I began understanding more deeply God’s assessment of each little thing created as being “good.” But beyond the natural world, I continued my “it is good” quest to see all of Creation as the living icon of the face of God. And that meant looking into the eyes of each human I passed as I walked down the grocery store aisles getting my weekly shopping done. Rather than being focused on where I could find pinto beans, I focused on people. I noticed how some faces seemed tired, some seemed agitated, some seemed peaceful, others seemed radiant. Yet no matter what the expression, all the faces seen with my “it is good” lenses were all stunningly beautiful. It is amazing how different the world seems when seen as a living icon of the face of God.

In the beginning, God created ... you and me. May we remember that we each bear the imprint of the divine on our souls. And despite our flaws, God still deems that what has been made is indeed good.

Creating God, Your handiwork is perfection. Forgive us for all the times that we have taken Your beauty for granted. Forgive us for the times we might have marred Your pristine canvas with the blotches of sin. May this day we begin to see everything in this world as a living icon of Your face. 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.)



8 1/2" x 14" UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE