

*The Call of Abram*

## **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 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 –



June 7, 2026

Second Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 AM

Pride 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**

Bud Rossig

**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**

Rejoice in the Holy One! God loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of God's steadfast love.

**The Voice created the heavens and the earth. Praise God with loud shouts!**

Rejoice in the Holy One! God loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of God's steadfast love.

**Let our voices ring and sing a new song. Let us turn toward the Creator in awe.**

Rejoice in the Holy One! God loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of God's steadfast love.

**Happy are the people who seek God's counsel, who seek God's heart, and who seek God's kindom. Rejoice in the Holy One!**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**Wonderful God, we delight in your presence. We find shelter in your abiding and enduring love. You humble us, Holy Love, by gathering us as a people. Thank you for being our Companion and Guide on this journey. Receive our songs, prayers, and openness. Nourish us from the fountain of your word and the hospitality of your table. May we find hope and inspiration, courage and direction, community and resolve as we worship you. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

#86

**When morning gilds the sky,  
our hearts awaking cry:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
in all our work and prayer  
we ask his loving care:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**To God, the Word on high,  
the hosts of angels cry:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let mortals too upraise  
their voice in hymns of praise:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Let earth's wide circle round  
in joyful notes resound:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let air and sea and sky  
from depth to height reply:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Be this, when day is past,  
of all our thoughts the last:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
The night becomes as day  
when from the heart we say:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Then let us join to sing  
to Christ, our loving King:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Be this the eternal song  
through all the ages long:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

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

Holy One, through the Prophet Hosea, you declared, “I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.” We confess that, at times, we offer the ritual and routine of religious practices rather than a discerning heart that breaks with compassion and beats for justice. Strengthen us to the tenderness of knowing you, O God, more deeply, loving our neighbors more justly, and embracing our lives more fully.

**\*PRAYER FOR GRACE**

**Healing God, When we are weary or distressed, we lose site of you. When we are deep-bone kind of tired, more than just tired after a long day, we may show up, and fail to seek you with our whole heart. And then we fail to love others with our whole hearts too. Speak to us and strengthen us today so that we are ready to meet you in that love and then to extend your love into our families and communities. Rejuvenate us with your voice, your healing words, and your presence. Let us not be led astray nor follow false voices. Let us be new again with you. Amen.**

**\*WORDS OF GRACE**

Community of Faith, rest assured that renewal and revival is possible and available to us. Let us embrace our rituals to sing even old songs as if they are new, pray routine prayers as if they have been written in our hearts, and join in worship as if this were the first or last time. The Holy One makes all things new, and that may be so in us this day and every day.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Children, youth, and all who wish to join them are invited to come forward for a special message. During the summer we do not have Junior Church on a regular basis. Children are welcome to spend time in the children's worship space or using books and supplies from there and the bookshelves while sitting with their families in the pews.*

## 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.**

## THE SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 65:17-25  
Luke 21:5-19

OT Page Number 696  
NT Page Number 85

Eric Weakly

Reader: May God bless the reading of this word.  
All: **Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

The Rev. Shelley Weakly

## MORNING PRAYER

## INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Let us share the gifts of life and love given to sustain us on the journey. Our generosity strengthens communities and witnesses to the love of God in the world. May our time, talent, and treasure testify to the goodness and abundance of God's creation.

*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

*Communion Hymn*

Senior Choir  
- D. Kellermeyer

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Holy One, as we worship you through our giving, we dedicate these gifts to the work of your kingdom come and our hope that your will be done in our community and world. Amen.**

## – SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION –

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The ancient prophet reminds us that we are called by name; we are precious and honored in God's sight. ...

Jesus Christ, manna of heaven, is the host of this table.

**Christ taught us that this is the table where abundant provision overwhelms our fears of scarcity.**

**This is the table where divine hospitality embraces the whole body and each of its members.**

This is Christ's table, open to all who come.

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Eternal God, who has created the universe, giving breath to every living thing, we thank you for the gifts of creation and for the gift of life itself. As we partake of this bread and wine, we honor you, everlasting God. We give thanks that you come to us and abide with us.

Come, Holy One, come. Bless this meal; bless this fellowship; bless our lives, that justice and love may be the measure of our common witness. Amen.

As we bless and share these gifts, we celebrate the hospitality of Christ's table. All are worthy, all are welcome! Receive the fruits of the Spirit, and celebrate the communion of all things. Creator, Christ, and Spirit dance as one. So may it always be.

**Be present with us as we share this meal and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who, with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives forever.**

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

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

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

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

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

## **SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

*All who desire the Sacrament, including children, are invited to come forward at the direction of the deacons to one of two locations at the front of the sanctuary, where you will be served the bread and the cup. The cup contains grape juice (apple juice is provided in the center of each tray) and all bread is gluten-free. Please partake of the elements as they are given to you, then give the empty cup to the nearby steward before returning to your seat by the side aisle. If you want to receive the elements in the pew for any reason, please notify a deacon.*

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

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died;**

**Christ is risen;**

**Christ will come again.**

## **\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Thanks be to you, O God, for your presence and your purpose,  
for your loving kindness and your steadfast Spirit.

May the blessings of this table strengthen our faith,  
increase our generosity and unify our hearts. **Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

tune- AURELIA

*O God of Earth and Altar*

**O God of earth and altar,  
bow down and hear our cry,  
our earthly rulers falter,  
our people drift and die;  
the walls of gold entomb us,  
the swords of scorn divide,  
take not thy thunder from us,  
but take away our pride.**

**From all that terror teaches,  
from lies of tongue and pen,  
from all the easy speeches  
that comfort cruel men,  
from sale and profanation  
of honour and the sword,  
from sleep and from damnation,  
deliver us, good Lord!**

**Tie in a living tether  
the prince and priest and thrall,  
bind all our lives together,  
smite us and save us all;  
in ire and exultation  
afame with faith, and free,  
lift up a living nation,  
a single sword to thee.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

As you go from this gathering,  
Find hope in the journey  
Cultivate joy in the journey  
Give love in the journey  
Share peace in the journey  
And trust that the God of the journey  
Will be with you now and always.

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

**POSTLUDE**



**Worship Notes: *Journeyed on by Stages: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday after Pentecost Year A*** was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

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

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**The flowers on the altar this morning** are placed in loving memory of Michael Rhoads by Barbara, Gregory, Lynn, and Belinda.

**The yellow rose is presented by** Felecia Bishop in honor of Leonard Bishop, Lenny Bishop, and Bill Bishop for their service.

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**Attendance Last Sunday:** 16 at 8:30 AM, 124 at 10:30 AM, and 62 online.



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

<https://erucc.org/visit/sunday-live-stream>

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**Serving Today: June 7**

Deacons: Mark Ulrich, Darryl Glick  
Elder: Matt Hueting  
Scripture Reader: Eric Weakly  
Acolyte: Vivi Bowman  
Greeters: Kathleen and Niel Jefferson  
Paul McGinley  
Welcome Table: Julie Clark, Jeanellen Kallevang  
Audio/Visual: Ethan Kline, Kelly Esslinger  
Jeff Schaeberle  
Nursery:  
Fellowship: Renae Kline, Jim Weitz  
Glenn Wallace, Cathie Duncan  
Kathleen and Niel Jefferson  
Emily Kambic  
Communion Prep:

**Serving Next Week: June 14**

Robin A. & Robin L. Brady-Slifer  
Marc Kline  
Dan Smith  
Felecia Bishop  
Rob Smith, Paul McGinley  
Rissah Watkins, Molly Black  
Jeff Schaeberle, Kelly Esslinger  
Ethan Kline  
Ave and Cliff Barr  
Joan and Allen Maples  
Jen Powell, Pat Condo  
Bud Rossig

Communion Clergy: Rev. Esther Ziegler  
Rev. Fred Rhines

**Next Sunday: June 14 – Third Sunday after Pentecost**

*The Rev. Sheresa Simpson-Rice will be preaching and leading worship. Spirit will sing.*

**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.*

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

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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 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](mailto:erucc@erucc.org).

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

### **SPECIAL GIVING OPPORTUNITY TODAY**

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

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### **SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Sunday, June 21

Sanctuary / Zoom, ~11:30 AM

Please join us in the sanctuary on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 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.

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### **WEARING NAMETAGS**

Please be sure to wear your nametags so that we have that gracious reminder as we get to know people who are new to us. If you do not have a nametag and want one, please request it at either the Welcome desk or Welcome table.

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

Sunday morning, 9:15 – 10:15 AM, Zoom: [bit.ly/ERSunstudy](https://bit.ly/ERSunstudy)

Wednesday evening, 7:00 – 8:15 PM, Zoom: [bit.ly/ERWedstudy](https://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](https://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 9<sup>th</sup>**.

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## **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.

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## **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>

## **GREEN TEAM GARDENING**

Monday, June 8

9:00 – 11:00 AM

Join us for a morning of weeding, whacking, planting and mulching. No gardening experience necessary. Bring gloves if you have them. Meet in the parking lot behind the church.

See Linda Coyle if you have any questions.

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## **BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK**

Monday, July 6

Downtown Community Room, 3:00 – 9:00 PM

Join ERUCC members and our German friends as we partner with Blessings in a Backpack to fill backpacks for hungry FCPS kids. We'll meet in the Downtown Community Room and share dinner afterwards. Look for further details and a Sign-Up Genius coming soon!

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## **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.

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

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

During the summer, our 9:15 AM Sunday School and Junior Church classes and teachers take a break. We welcome children to spend time during the service in the Children's Worship Area, where there are additional craft supplies, worship streamers, and fidgets. In addition, there are books and coloring supplies in the back corner of the sanctuary that can also be used in your seats.

We welcome our children to make joyful noises during worship and believe that they grow from participating in the service, by listening to things as they sit with us, and by learning the patterns of worship, including prayers and hymns, as well as participating in sacred moments like baptisms, communion, and other worship rituals and traditions.

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### **TRIVIA AND SNACKS**

Sunday, June 7

Community Room, 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Tonight is the night! Join us from 4-6pm to test your knowledge of culture and history with some competitive fun, combining themes of being an Anti-Racist church with a Trivia experience. Test your taste buds with snacks from different cultures. Prizes were handmade by our youth. We want to support the RISE Coalition of Western Maryland, a grassroots coalition led by immigrant community members, advocating for immigrant rights, social justice, and community empowerment, by asking everyone to bring a non-perishable item as your "entry ticket" for the night!

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### **SAFE CHURCH TRAINING**

Sunday, June 14

Flora Room, 1:00 – 3:00 PM



Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/SafeChurch0614>, or scan this QR code so that Pastor Kirstin can prepare for the correct number of people. New volunteers and returning volunteers are welcome! We are so thankful for everyone who helps with these ministries! This is needed for any new helpers for Vacation Bible School.

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## **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

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### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026: A THEATRE CAMP APPROACH!**

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

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.

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](mailto:ksrhoads@erucc.org)

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### ***“Moses and the Freedom Fanatics!”***

Friday, June 26

ERUCC Sanctuary, 11:30 AM

Come enjoy this live musical presented by our Vacation Bible School Children and Youth. No tickets or RSVP needed.

## **INVITATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN GERMANY HOSPITALITY**

### **EAST GERMANY GROUP IS COMING THIS SUMMER**

**July 5-16, Confirmed Dates!**

**Save these dates to gather as a church family with our guests as we participate in hospitality together.**

-July 6, Dinner and Service Project, Project late afternoon time TBD, Dinner at 6:00pm

-July 12, We welcome our guests in worship and extended visiting at fellowship

-July 14, Goodbye dinner at ERUCC, 6:30pm

#### **Donations**

-Donations of Food for church and camping trip meals will be helpful! Look for a sign-up genius by Sunday, June 21.

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:



# **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

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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*

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

The Rev. Fred Wenner ~ *Pastor Emeritus*

## **LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

Robin L. Brady-Slifer ~ *President* | Matt Huetting ~ *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 Huetting | 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 Huetting

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 Study the Bible</b> , North Room
9:15 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Nursery Care</b>
10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>Worship</b> , Sanctuary and Online at <a href="http://www.erucc.org">www.erucc.org</a>
11:30 AM	<b>Fellowship</b> , Downtown Community Room

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Edward Hicks, Peaceable Kingdom, c. 1834, NGA 59908

PRESENTED BY:  Frederick Health

F R E D E R I C K  
**Pride**



**W E E K E N D**

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](https://FrederickPride.org)

**HEADLINING PERFORMANCES**

GUEST OF HONOR **INIKO**

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



## The Call of Abram

Corrie Ten Boom once said, “Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.” It was that belief in God’s protection that gave her the courage to hide Jewish families during the World War II German occupation.

It’s amazing what we can do when we trust our next steps to God. Sadly, many of us never get the chance to be awed by this great God because we prefer the safety of what we are familiar with rather than risk any new beginning.

Yet throughout the generations the stories overflow of those who dared to say “yes” to God’s invitation to step off the beaten path. Abram is one of those who can tell such a tale. Although Abram was beyond the dreaming big stage, as we often believe we enter as we age, God told him to leave kindred behind. It was time to go to a land where God would make Abram’s name great. It would be a place Abram’s offspring would inhabit and keep multiplying in.

Abram couldn’t pass up this offer. It was too enticing, especially since he and his wife, Sarai, were childless. Could there still be a chance to leave a legacy?

They packed their belongings and set forth. And God did not disappoint. Abram, whose name was changed to Abraham, signifying the new thing God was doing in his life, had descendants as numerous as the stars in heaven. Sarai’s name was also changed to Sarah.

I’ve always been enamored by Abram’s call story, as it has bolstered my fainting heart when daring to step into an unknown future. But before you applaud my faith, let me point out that my Abram moments happened when I was filled with youthful ignorance.

Now that I’m older, I find myself hesitant to go in any direction without first asking God, “Does the journey come with a pension and health care?” I had always hoped my faith, not my fear, would grow stronger as I aged.

It’s one thing to heed God’s call in our youth, but who among the AARP card carriers would be excited for such a journey? Our golden years should be ones of rest and comfort, not unknown adventures. Yet God doesn’t worry about the fire hazard those numerous candles on our birthday cakes have turned into. God still wants to blaze a glorious future for us.

Who will dare to have the faith of old Abram? I pray I will. I pray you will. For we all have a call story still waiting to be told.

*God of amazing adventures and divine protection, may this day we tell our fears to be gone. May faith overflow in our hearts, helping us to trust our unknown futures to a God who we do know: the God of love who never lets us down. 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.)*

