



TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

FEBRUARY, 2026

Information:

Worship Schedule

Sunday Service

9:00am

Fellowship Time

10:00am

Sunday School

10:30am

Office Hours

Mon. - Fri. 9am - 1pm

Telephone

717 637-2233

Email

info@trinityucchanover.org

Website

trinityucchanover.org

Facebook

"Trinity United Church of Christ"



The Love God Desires

God's love is never meant to stop with us; it's meant to flow through us. When we love others, we reflect his very heart. As 1 John 4:12 (NIV) reminds us, "If we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us."

This is the true mark of a Christian — love that reaches beyond comfort zones, opinions and differences. Jesus said in John 13:35 (NIV), "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

The world is watching, not to see how loudly we profess our faith but how deeply we practice it. Every act of compassion, every gentle word and every moment of grace reveals something divine — God's love at work in us. The more we give that love away, the more it grows within us, mirroring the heart of Christ, who gave Himself for all.

So ask yourself: Does the world recognize you as his disciple by the way you love?

Spring Cleaning for the Soul

Ash Wednesday is February 18, 2026, and it marks the beginning of the 40 days of Lent. Lent hints of spring, a time when the earth begins to awaken from a winter's nap, and new growth bursts forth all about us.

More personally, it is an opportunity to enter into a springtime for our spirit. For centuries Christians have used the 40 days of Lent to seek spiritual growth. Sincere repentance, a changing of heart, casting off old sinful practices and seeking to commune with our creator help us go in the right direction. Spending serious time in silence and prayer focuses our attention. Reading spiritual literature, becoming more knowledgeable about the New Testament, meeting in small groups with other Christians to share personal stories of faith can all be immensely stimulating. Joining with others to serve the helpless and hopeless can strengthen our spiritual life.

Lent is a time to let God do "spring cleaning" within us. It's our opportunity to allow God to help us toss out the "stuff" that hinders us and then freshen up the "new creature" we are meant to be as followers of Christ.

February Special Dates

2: Groundhog Day
14: Valentine's Day
16: Presidents Day

18: Ash Wednesday
22: 1st Sunday in Lent
25: Neighborhood Meal





In the midst of the Epiphany and revelation of the Messiah we turn toward the life and ministry of Jesus entering the Season of Lent on February 18th. In Lent we walk with Jesus through the triumphs and travails of his ministry on earth. We hear his teaching, imagine in our mind's eye the miracles he performed, and notice the example he sets for his disciples to follow. The season continues the revelation of "God with us", as we proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God come near through scripture, song, and service.

We will gather for a special service of worship on Ash Wednesday at 7:00pm here at Trinity. The service will include the traditional scripture readings and imposition of ashes along with songs and prayers. Please mark your calendars and join with us as we focus our hearts and minds on Christ for this Holy Season.

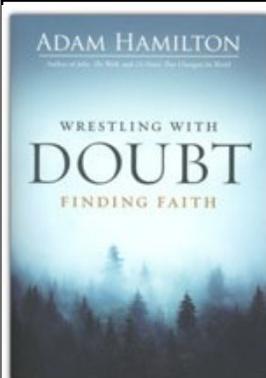
At Trinity we will be offering a Lenten Book/Video Study by Adam Hamilton, titled: "Wrestling With Doubt, Finding Faith" on Sunday mornings and Wednesday mornings with both programs beginning at 10:30 AM. Books are available in the church office. We invite you to join with us in these presentations and group discussion programs that add to our understanding and deepen our faith.

Peace and Blessings to All for a meaning-filled Lenten Season!

Pastor Steve

Ash Wednesday

There will be a special Ash Wednesday service at 7pm Feb. 18th. We invite all to gather to set our hearts aright for the journey of Lent.



Lenten Study

The Lenten Study for 2026 will begin Sunday February 22nd at 10:30am following worship. There will be an alternate option to meet during the week on Wednesdays at 10:30am. This is a book/video study in combination with the book "Wrestling With Doubt, Finding Faith" by Adam Hamilton. Books are available in the church office. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin boards in the narthex and outside of the office.

Century Trust Fund

Assistance from the Century Trust Fund is available to members of Trinity United Church of Christ who may be in need of financial aid to remain in their own homes, retirement homes, boarding homes, or nursing homes, provided certain conditions are met. Applicants must be members of Trinity Church for at least five (5) years, at least 62 years of age, and must show reasonable proof of financial need. All applications are strictly confidential. You can pick up an application in the plastic bin across from the church office, and if you need assistance in filling out the application, please let the church staff know.



Winter Offerings

Winter can be a tricky time for churches. Dangerous weather conditions sometimes mean having to cancel services last minute. It's a big inconvenience to everyone having to adjust schedules; but it also means the church misses out on the offerings that would have been collected that day. Those offerings are a major part of our budget and help fund many of our services. So just remember if you had an offering you didn't get to give, it can be dropped off during the week or added to the next service's collection. We truly appreciate all your generosity; thank you for helping to keep God's love flowing.

First Aid at Trinity

The safety and wellness of our members is of our utmost concern. We want you to feel not only welcome here, but comfortable and safe. As a reminder: we have two First Aid kits on the main floor of the church: one in the kitchen on the wall by the large dishwasher, and one in the Narthex near the single bathroom. This same location is where the AED is located in its own cabinet just below the First Aid kit. Our third First Aid kit is located at the entrance to the Choir Room in the basement of the church.

All three First Aid kits are mounted to the wall in such a way that they can be taken to the injured person. The AED is accessed by opening the door of the cabinet and taking the unit out and to the person in need.

Trinity is fortunate to have a number of individuals who have taken training and are certified to administer CPR and use our AED if needed. The names of these individuals are posted on lists on the Narthex bulletin board and on the bulletin board outside of the Church Office.

While medical emergencies don't happen very often at Trinity, knowing where life saving equipment is located when needed can make all the difference.





Christmas Eve

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for attending our Christmas Eve Candlelight service. Thank you to our musicians: Valerie Wentz and Sue Seidenstricker; and our Sanctuary Choir with director Bonnie Raubenstine. Also a big thank you to our Sextons for getting the sanctuary set up beautifully; and the crew in the sound room making sure everyone could hear. It was wonderful to see everyone come together to celebrate the birth of the Messiah.

Neighborhood Meal

The next Neighborhood Meal will be held Wednesday February 25th at 6pm. These meals are free and open to the public so feel free to bring your friends and neighbors! Thank you to Mission & Outreach for continuing to bring the community together in such a delicious manner!

Trinity Nursery School Registration and Book Fair

Registration for Trinity Nursery School's 2026-2027 school year will begin Feb. 1st for current students, their siblings, and members of the congregation. Registration will begin for the general public on February 15th. They will hold an open house, on February 4th from 6:30pm-8pm. For information about Trinity's preschool programs, contact Tina McCole at trinitynurseryhanover@gmail.com or call 717-637-2126.



The nursery school will also be having their book fair the first week of February. Ms. Tina has made arrangements to have the fair open to everyone for one night only during the open house on February 4th from 6:30pm-8pm. If you would like to do some shopping; please call Ms. Tina upon arrival so she can let you in the door. 717-637-2126.

Easter Flower Sale



It's almost time for our Easter Flower sale again! We are hoping to get the prices for the flowers ASAP. At that time we will announce the prices and then start collecting orders and payment. Flowers will be in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday on April 5th. We ask that you take home your flowers that day following fellowship. Keep an eye out for updates!



Shirley Bankert February 10

If your birthday or anniversary was omitted, please contact the office to help update our records.



Day	Anniversaries	Yrs.
9	Kirk & Bonnie Raubenstine	47
16	Leroy and Patricia Markle	64
16	Ted and Allison Orman	18
17	Donald and Peggy Jamison	48
24	Donald & Carolyn Harman	19
27	Carol and Neil Kessel Jr.	56

Email Directory

We utilize email for newsletters, special announcements, and schedule changes. Sometimes emails change or get written down wrong. If you would like to start receiving emails, changed emails, or think we might have written it down wrong; or would like to stop receiving emails - please contact the church office: 717-637-2233 or info@trinityucchanover.org



Trinity’s Cancellation Policy for Inclement Weather

Whenever there is a need to cancel or change existing church schedules, the following stations will be notified of the changes.

WHP/CBS-----television

WHTM/ABC----television

Closures or changes in time can also be found on the Trinity website at www.trinityucchanover.org, by calling 717 637-2233, or our Facebook page “Trinity United Church of Christ”

February Trinity Times

Trinity United Church of Christ

116 York Street
Hanover, PA 17331

Change Service Requested



Trinity's Mission Statement: Trinity United Church of Christ strives to be a warm, caring family of Christian believers. Our calling is to witness and strengthen the Christian faith through meaningful worship, Christian education, and Christian living in the home, the community, and the world.

Trinity Staff:

Rev. Steven Ostendorf, Pastor
Mike Blottenberger, Admin. Assistant
Morgan Fleeger, Secretary
Sue Seidenstricker, Director of Music
Tony Brallier, Larry Dubs, Ruth Weaver, Sextons
Trinity Nursery School, Tina McCole, Director

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***For March Newsletter Articles
February 15, 2026***