



# TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ  
[www.trinityucchanover.org](http://www.trinityucchanover.org)

JULY/AUG, 2025

## 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](mailto:info@trinityucchanover.org)



## Echoing God's Goodness

Roald Dahl's 1988 novel *Matilda*, since adapted for stage and screen, tells of a young girl surrounded largely by abusive adults. With her exceptional intelligence, wit and courage, Matilda decries her father's lying and cheating, resists injustice against her classmates and kind teacher and, in the end, refuses to perpetuate a cycle of revenge. A community-theater director in Minnesota wrote in the musical's playbill, "Her story reminds us that strength isn't always loud, and power doesn't always look like we expect."



That also aptly describes Jesus, who came not with what society deems strength and power. Instead, the Messiah showed that true strength is kind, compassionate and sometimes quiet. True power is not bullying and domination, but giving of oneself in love. Refusing to curse his opponents or even his executioners, Jesus prayed for their forgiveness, demonstrating how to end cycles of violence and death.

Humans — no matter how brilliant! — can go only so far by themselves. That's why Jesus went farther, rising to new life and defeating death entirely. But in the world around us, particularly in books, plays and other works of art, we can catch echoes of God's goodness. Inspired by characters like *Matilda* and real-life neighbors who uplift others, we too can echo God's goodness. While we trust above all in our Savior Jesus, let's work courageously and creatively for kindness and care.

—Heidi Hyland Mann



## Church Picnic



Trinity will be holding their annual church picnic after service on Sunday July 27th. Service that day will be held at 10am with the picnic following after. Lunch will consist of hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage, and drinks. There will be a sign up sheet available in the church narthex; families with last names beginning A-K can bring a side dish, and families with last names beginning L-Z can bring dessert. We hope to see everyone there!

*“We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. <sup>12</sup> There is no restriction in our affections but only in yours. <sup>13</sup> In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.”*

*(2 Corinthians 6:11-13 NRSVue)*

*“In everything do to others as you would have them do to you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”*

*(Jesus in Matthew 7:12 NRSVue)*

Greetings Friends,

We are quickly moving into the summer holiday season. Memorial Day is behind us, July 4<sup>th</sup> is ahead. In-between, many of us will be taking trips with family or maybe to see dear friends. We all look for a summer filled with good experiences like years past. Yet our nation is more divided than ever. Some friendships have ended, and some families no longer speak. It has put many hearts in a bad place. Some folks have closed their hearts off to others who don't view things the same way. Others have lost touch or no longer speak. It is a tough time for sure. One in which I believe God mourns with us.



The Apostle Paul experienced some of the same things with the fledgling congregations he started. Though he felt close to them as a brother in faith who wished to shepherd them in the ways of Christ, others had sought to take control and direction and isolated the Apostle from the congregation in Corinth. His response to them is one of hope, for understanding and openness to his words and love. Perhaps we as a nation and people might follow his example and heed his call. For the summer months of July and August we could choose to practice opening our hearts wide to others, especially those we do not agree with. Perhaps we could give an open ear along with that heart so that we may all try to understand one another and find common ground in life, in faith and in being. It has become clear to me that we need more open-hearted listening on all sides in our nation, community, and families, if we ever expect to get back to the multitude of honorable, respecting, and loving relationships we once held dear. Those relationships based in mutual care and open-heartedness have been the backbone of healthy communities that grow and prosper.

Jesus calls all of his followers in every time and space to love others and *‘in everything do unto others as you would have them do to you, for this is the Law and the Prophets’*. These words bring us back to the ten commandments which were for reciprocal relationship with God and others, that all may live in peace and relationships may prosper. I pray for that model of Judeo-Christian living in our times that we may all live with a peaceable respect for one another, even those we have differences of opinion with.

In short, the ‘life worth living’ that we all seek requires the ‘open heart’ Paul speaks of, and the ‘actions of mutuality’ Jesus calls us to.

So, in this summer of giving, let us practice opening our ears and hearts to those around us. Especially those who we have lost relationship with due to differences. It may lead to healing and joy, restoring Summer gatherings to the events we loved most. Perhaps even bringing joy in Heaven that reconciliation is occurring on earth among God's people. May it be so.

Have a happy and meaningful summer filled with blessings and blessed events.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Steve

### Pastor's Summer Schedule

Pastor Steve will be at the General Synod National Gathering of the United Church of Christ from July 11-15 as a clergy delegate on behalf of the Gettysburg Association. He will be a part of the national setting group approving the merger of the four Pennsylvania Conferences into the "Keystone Conference".

The pastor will be on vacation July 23- August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

For pastoral emergencies while the Pastor is away, please call the church office who will connect you with the pastor on call.

### Trinity U.C.C.'s Sheely – Hicks Scholarship

This year's recipient of the Sheely-Hicks Scholarship Award goes to Luke Ostendorf-Snell. Luke is a graduate of the University of Maryland with a degree in Bioengineering. His current involvement since graduation is centered in giving back to the community by contributing to the world's knowledge of genetics through his ongoing research. As stated in his scholarship application, "My career path will be guided by what can make the largest impact, whether that is improving scientists' efficiency, or developing new genetic tools. My contributions won't end with my work, as I plan to be involved through continuing to volunteer at non-profits such as **1000Schools** and also getting involved with environmental groups... I am dedicated to a life of being a helper, and will give my all to making a difference in people's lives across the world."



The Sheely-Hicks Endowed Scholarship was created for young people affiliated with Trinity United Church of Christ in Hanover, PA with funds provided by the family of the late Dr. and Mrs. Howard Sheely. Rev. Howard Sheely was the minister at our church from 1940-1966. Luke will be the recipient of \$2,000.

-The Sheely-Hicks Scholarship Committee

Note from the Scholarship Committee: This scholarship is available annually with the monies coming from an endowment made by the Sheely-Hicks family. Only the earnings from the endowment will be used to provide the scholarship. Anyone affiliated with Trinity U.C.C. in Hanover is encouraged to apply.



*I want to thank everyone who was a part of the 2025 VBS program at Trinity. Special thanks to Pastor Amy Fawks and Pastor Ken Peterkin and the volunteers from Grace UCC and Emmanuel UCC who joined with us to make for such a wonderful event. My thanks to all our volunteers and planners who poured their hearts and souls into making a fun and meaningful week-long event for the children who attended. Well done good and faithful servants of the Lord!*

*Pastor Steve*

### Confirmation

The Confirmation Class will be meeting for its fourth and final retreat on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be learning about Christian Church History and reporting back on individual missional projects. The Confirmands will be leading Sunday Worship on June 29<sup>th</sup> and will be presented with the Study Bibles they used during the Confirmation process as gifts from the church during the service on marking completion of their program. Please join with us on that Sunday to show our support of our Confirmands in planning and presenting a service of worship representing the faith the wish to share.

Confirmation Sunday – TBA: We hope to schedule Confirmation Sunday near the end of Summer / beginning of Fall, when all our Confirmands can be present to Confirm their faith before the congregation and their families. Watch you Sunday Bulletin or the church calendar online for that important date.



David Ernst	July 7
Harold Bair	July 15
Ada May Koehler	July 23
Charlotte Hahn	July 31
Patsy Junga	August 12
Evelyn Raubenstine	August 17



*With Deepest Sympathy*

*Shirley Krepps      May 25, 1927 - May, 18 2025*

### Mission & Outreach

Mark your calendars - Mission & Outreach are planning a movie night for Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup>. More details will be announced closer to the date. Keep an eye on the weekly bulletins and the calendar on our website.

### Special Summer Worship Services

Starting **Sunday July 6<sup>th</sup>**, our worship services will be a bit more casual. We welcome you to come to church in your comfy summer attire and help facilitate the spirit of a family gathering. For the first Sunday on the 6<sup>th</sup> we encourage red, white, and blue attire!

**Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup>** we will have guest Erica Gonzales from HACC to offer information on their special mission during worship service.

On **Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>** we will have Baptism/New Member Sunday to welcome the Bakers into the congregation and Christian faith. Please plan to attend and show your support.

On **Sunday, July, 27<sup>th</sup>** worship service will begin at **10am** and we will have the CEO of Hoffman Homes for Youth, to give us updates and information on the special work they do with at-risk children. Hoffman Homes was started by the E&R Congregations of the area of which Trinity is one! We offer annual and special event support of their programs. So come and learn more about this special mission. This is also the date of the annual Church Picnic following worship.



Day	Name	Yrs.	Day	Name	Yrs.
2	Ruth Ann and Jack Leib	65	17	Tomi and Richard Diehl	57
7	Diane and Thomas McCollum	35	18	Amy and David Ehrhart	27
8	Katrica and Todd Hinkle	30	21	Sarah & Stephen Weaver, Jr.	22
8	Donna and Leo Donnan	53	25	Deb and Larry Dubs	43
10	Dona and Maynard Warner	65	25	Brianna & Jacob Crooks	10
10	Billie and Justin Hagan	15	25	Terry and Robert Lutman	16
12	Marie and Ryan Smith	22	26	Tessa and Douglas Hilyard	22
14	Gail and John Coulson	52	27	Bethany and Jason Leckrone	23
14	Judith and Bill Foreman	62	29	Lorene and Victor Crooks	38
14	Patricia and Earl Markle	62			



Day	Name	Yrs.	Day	Name	Yrs.
2	Mary and David Snyder	50	9	Henrietta and Richard Shue	56
2	Tricia and Steven Ostendorf	8	11	Debra and Randy Reichart	52
5	Jodi and Larry Unger	21	20	Cathy and Edward Lund	31
6	Sharon Goldstein and Robert Dobrovolski	5	22	Elsie Louise and Julian Hall	61
6	Mark & Katarina Hoffman	8			

*If your anniversary was omitted, please contact the office to update your records.*

## *July/August 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.***

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#### **Trinity Staff:**

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

#### **E-Mail Address:**

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***For September Newsletter Articles  
August 15, 2025***