



# TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ  
www.trinityucchanover.org

SEPTEMBER, 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

### Website

trinityucchanover.org

### Facebook

"Trinity United Church of Christ"



## On Giving – from the July Penn Central Conference eNews:

### Greetings friends and members of Penn Central Conference,

*Luke 11:11 Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish?*

I love giving gifts. Whether it's someone's favorite baked good, the book they've been dying to read, a one-of-kind handcrafted item or something really practical that will make life easier – when I see something and go "oooh she's gonna love that!" it fills me with joy. And getting to use my extensive collection of wrapping paper and ribbons to wrap it perfectly is a nice bonus.

In the second letter to the Corinthians, it says that God loves a cheerful giver. Cheerfully is my favorite way to give. But sometimes, giving comes out of obligation. Sometimes I give of my time to clean the church or make my husband dinner out of a mix of love and obligation. Of course I love him, but part of marriage is making dinner even when you'd rather be doing literally anything else. (But I'll make him do the dishes in exchange.)

In this week's gospel text, Jesus speaks about how God gives. He gives some examples – like asking a friend for bread at midnight. The friend may not want to get up and give you anything out of friendship but will give in to your persistence. He also compares the gifts of God to human parents would never give our children something dangerous when they ask for food.

We may feel like we've been asking God repeatedly for something and it never comes. More than once in the Gospels, Jesus implies that God responds to persistence. I like to think part of that is because we humans have short attention spans and that "thing" that we desperately want today is long forgotten by tomorrow. But I also believe just as God loves a cheerful giver, God IS a cheerful giver. In all divine wisdom, God knows the right exact minute that a particular gift, wrapped with a cosmic bow, needs to appear in your life. And the face of the divine lights up with joy at seeing you unwrap it.

**Blessings,  
Paul**

C. Paul Keller

Office Manager Penn Central Conference



## Granny's Second Chance Boutique

Mark your calendars! Granny's Second Chance Boutique is coming up on November 14th and 15th. If you'd like to donate items, please remember no electronics, clothes, or magazines. Please call prior to dropping off any large items. Contact Lee Bartlett to make arrangements to donate or volunteer.



Dear Members and Friends of Trinity,

As I look over this past summer, I am filled with gratitude for: our successful VBS program, the confirmation of 8 young adults, the baptisms we witnessed for the Baker family as they joined the church, and the completion of the UCC General Synod which voted in favor of our new Keystone Conference. There have also been regular Sunday fellowship times, a church picnic, special ministry missions recognized, and guests leading us in worship and witness. It has been a full summer of church activity, one we can be proud of for our church. My prayer is that we may all recognize things to be grateful for in our church and in our personal lives when we are away from church. Witnessing the good things and giving thanks to God is a part of our biblical Christian faith. Even the Psalms tells to give thanks with a grateful heart. So, what things or events from this summer are you grateful for? Let's name those things in our prayers of thanksgiving to God. Then, let us focus on the good things we are witnessing or doing in anticipation of God's reign among us, that proper praise of God may result and our ministries flourish.

Peace and blessings to all!

Pastor Steve



### Children's Church Returns

Our Children's Church Program will be returning for the Fall 2025 Season. Our teachers have met and are planning lessons for our young ones that will include: songs, prayers, bible stories, an offering, arts and crafts, a snack and more. The program will begin on Rally Day "Welcome Back to Church Sunday", September 14<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 A.M. We welcome children of preschool age to elementary. The classroom is located on the lower-level in room 34 of our Pre-School wing. Children start-out in the sanctuary with their families and exit worship with the teachers at the end of the Children's Message. Please spread the word and bring the children for this wonderful Christian Education opportunity. Our classes are team-taught by back-ground checked adults.



We are pleased to announce we have four teams of returning teachers: Matthew Hutton & Sheila Wiest, Bill & Abby Reichart, Kate Conroy & Barry Garland, Lorene & Vic Crooks. Please take a moment to stop in and say hello.

## Congratulations to our Confirmands!

It is our joy to announce the confirmation of eight young people into the adult life of Christian faith and membership at Trinity UCC on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. These candidates completed a course of study over four day-long retreats held on Saturdays. In this program they learned about: The Old and New Testaments of the Bible; The life and ministry of Jesus; Church History; Worship and Missions. Each student was required to do a service project in the community as well as service to the church. They planned and led a special worship service for the congregation on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. The group is planning to meet for an outing in the fall to celebrate together. My thanks go out to the parents and families for getting their youth to the gatherings, providing us with wonderful breakfast and lunches, and being ready to help them with their work projects outside of our gatherings. We certainly feel blessed to be able to witness their growth of faith and journey into discipleship. Please congratulate and encourage these youngest members of faith when you see them.



**2025 Confirmands**

**Top Row from Left:** Zakkary Koontz, Michael Dodd, Madison Dodd, Alexis Potter.

**Front Row from Left:** Jacoby Koontz, Matthew Stevens, Elliott Hagan, Sarah Rhodes.



## First Aid at Trinity



Did you know there are three First Aid kits at Trinity? Do you know where they are located? Did you know there is also an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) at Trinity?

When we gather at church for services or fellowship most of us aren't concerned with where the nearest First Aid kit or AED is, but when someone has a medical event and needs help, seconds count and that is not the time to go in search of a First Aid kit or an AED.

We have two First Aid kits on the main floor of the church. One is in the kitchen on the wall by the large commercial dishwasher. The second one is on the main floor in the Narthex near the small bathroom between the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. 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 location of the injured person. The AED is accessed by opening the door of the cabinet and taking the unit out and to where the person in need is.

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.

## **A Big Thank-You to the VBS Staff!**

Each morning of VBS was busy with 34 staff and 38 students! It was a feast for the eyes from all the decorations Carol Wilson shared. Every windowsill, corner, wall, stage had something to look at. Our theme was "Road Trip—On the Go with God." She also was the photographer who took multiple photos of each student! Anita Rhodes and her team had snacks ready each morning for hungry kids. Alec Sivel (Emmanuel) took games to a new level of fun. Pastor Steve and Pastor Amy (Grace UCC) engaged the children with a new Bible story each morning. Roxie had the kids singing and moving with lively songs. Ellie Rebert and her crew brought out the artist and creative spirit in our students with a new craft each day.



Our offering that was donated from students and staff brought in nearly \$700! Mission & Outreach rounded up to \$1,000! This was donated to "The Least of These Ministries" out of Westminster, MD. They do work in the Dominican Republic to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ through feeding, housing, and clothing the needy. On Friday, at our closing program, Marty Hogan, the Executive Director, shared information about their mission.

Thank you also to Trinity's employees: Mike, who kept track of our daily offerings; Morgan, who took calls and helped gather registrations; Tony, who handled the sound system and lights, etc.; Larry and Tony, who took care of cleaning, chairs and table setups too.

### **Thank you Volunteers!**

*Pastor Steve Ostendorf, Roxie Schloyer, Ellie Rebert, Lee Bartlett, Deborah Dubs, Alec Sivel, Linda Bixler, Anita Rhodes, Joan Appler, Allison Loosli, Betsy Bristol, Tosha Dodd, Barbara Trimmer, Linda Funkhouser, Anita Kincaid, Mary Bair, Pastor Ken Peterkin*

VBS Organization Committee Members: *Pastor Amy Fawks, Abby Reichart, Ellie Rebert, Carol Wilson, Cheryl Fritz, Diane Betlyon.*

Student Helpers: *Madison Dodd, Michael Dodd, Leland Smith, Dutch Wacker, Zachary Koontz, Tatiana Wacker, Sarah Rhoads, Drew Cooper, Kelsey Rhodes, Liam Rudy, Evan Cooper, Alexis Potter*


## **Baptism and New Members**



**From Left:** *Megan and Sonny; Rev. Ken Heasley; Maxine, Lawrence and Jillian Baker.*

On Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> our congregation was blessed to offer baptism of water and spirit to three generations of the Baker family: Sonny Baker, Lawrence Baker, and Maxine Baker. As they were baptized Sonny and Lawrence became members of the church along with Sonny's wife Megan who joined, and Jillian who renewed her membership. We thank the Rev. Ken Heasley for leading that service and special sacrament of baptism while Pastor Steve was out sick. Blessings and welcome to the whole Baker family.



Day	Name	Yrs.		Day	Name	Yrs.
4	Patricia & Paul Troutman	60		22	Susan and Frank Seidenstricker	51
10	Kelly and Michael Blouse	37		25	Walter Maust & Donna McMaster	4
10	Deborah and Jerome Lynch	42		25	Betsy and Ronald Bristol	33
14	Susan and Gregory Erb	25		27	Katherine and Jason Mininger	17
18	Joyce and Kenneth Heasley	32		29	Elaine and Karl Albin	46
20	Tami and Douglas Cooper	22				

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



Connie Messinger 9/20  
Mary Rau 9/21  
Jean Storm 9/26



Ruth Brenner 2/1/1932 - 8/5/2025

## Join Consistory!

Anyone interested in being a member of Consistory please submit your name to John Dickert or Pastor Steve.

You must be at least 21 years of age and have been a member of Trinity for several years.

If you need more information as to what members do, please ask John Dickert or Pastor Steve.



## *September 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 Fleege, Secretary  
Sue Seidenstricker, Director of Music  
Tony Brallier, Larry Dubs, Ruth Weaver, Sextons  
Trinity Nursery School, Tina McCole, Director

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

[pastorsteve@trinityucchanover.org](mailto:pastorsteve@trinityucchanover.org)  
[mike@trinityucchanover.org](mailto:mike@trinityucchanover.org)  
[morgan@trinityucchanover.org](mailto:morgan@trinityucchanover.org)  
[trinitynurseryhanover@gmail.com](mailto:trinitynurseryhanover@gmail.com) (717) 637-2126



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