



TRINITY TIMES

Trinity United Church of Christ
www.trinityucchanover.org

NOVEMBER, 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"



Take Me to the River

God often works in unexpected ways. Just ask Naaman, the army commander in 2 Kings 5:1-14. Stricken with leprosy, he traveled to Israel seeking healing from the prophet Elisha. Instead of an impressive display or a grand ceremony, Elisha sent word for him to simply wash seven times in the Jordan River.

Naaman was not impressed. "Aren't the rivers of Damascus better than all the waters of Israel?" he asked. Why bathe in a foreign, muddy river when the clean, sparkling rivers of home were far more appealing? It didn't make sense. Yet what seemed absurd became the very path to his healing.

We may not be told to wade into an actual river, but we all face "Jordan moments" in life — times when God calls us to take a step that feels uncomfortable, humbling or completely illogical. It is in those moments that trust and obedience matter most.

Naaman's story reminds us that God's power is not limited by appearances or human reasoning. Sometimes the action that feels least likely to work is the one that opens the door to blessing. When God invites you to take the plunge, step into the water. You may find healing and hope waiting there.

—adapted from *Homiletics.com*

A Thanksgiving Prayer

Gracious God,
thank you for every good gift—
for the food before us,
the people around us,
and the love that surrounds us.
Help us to pause, reflect, and rejoice
in Your constant goodness and grace.
May our hearts overflow with gratitude,
not just today, but every day.
Amen.



Joint Thanksgiving Service

We invite you to join us for a special joint Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 26th. We will join together with Trinity UCC Gettysburg and Grace UCC at Grace United Church of Christ, 100 Fourth Street, Hanover. Let us raise grateful voices of prayer and praise for the many blessings God has bestowed upon us. Hope to see you there!



2025: A Year of Giving

*Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? Won't he rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? **So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'**" (Luke 17:7-10 NIV)*

*"Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But **when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.**"*

(Matthew 6:1-6 NIV)

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we enter the Season of Thanksgiving, we celebrate a harvest of good fortune and good works. Our congregation continues to enjoy growth in numbers and in faith this year. Our children's church program is ongoing, a Teen Youth Group is launching, and new people are joining us as more former members return. Church Committees are doing wonderful work for the church as well as outreach missions. God has truly been generous to us and we have much to be thankful for.

We began the year with a "Call to Giving". This giving has taken the part of generous giving of ourselves to others and to God in the work of Christ's mission among us. This is a primary calling of Jesus to all who will follow him. He spoke frequently about giving: love, compassion and mercy, as well as food, clothing, and time to those in need around us. This month we look to quotes from Jesus to his disciples that center on the idea that we should be giving without the prospect of reward or praise from others. In the Luke text above, Jesus makes plain to us that when we give of ourselves through service to others we are simply doing our duty as he has instructed. In Matthew's gospel, he calls us to give so freely that one hand doesn't know what the other is doing. This doesn't mean to be irresponsible with our resources or time, but that our giving would be so commonplace that we do it instinctually as our duty. Jesus goes further to instruct his followers to give in secret so as to avoid praise and reward of others so that we can instead be rewarded by God. Truly Jesus understands the human condition that we like to be recognized for doing good works and serving others, but he wants his disciples to serve instinctively and not be serving for our own purpose of being praised by others. I believe Jesus calls us to give to others as part of our service to God, who will ultimately reward us.

May we go into this Season of Thanksgiving with grateful hearts recognizing what God has done for us in Christ, and how Christ calls his followers to respond in kind with generous and humble hearts.

Happy Thanksgiving! May God bless us one and all!

Pastor Steve

All Saints Service, Sunday, November 2nd @ 9:00 A.M.



Our special All Saints Service will be held on Sunday, November 2 at 9:00am. During the service there will be a time of remembering by name those who have entered the Heavenly Kingdom since the previous All Saints Service last year. We invite you to bring pictures of your departed loved ones to place in the window sills around the sanctuary so we may be surrounded by those who have joined the cloud of witnesses. A procession of light will take place at the start of the service. So we invite a family member to carry a votive to place on the remembrance table during the procession. Names of departed church members will be read from the chancel. Additional names for remembrance may be raised from the gathered congregation by microphone. Please plan to come and be a part of this special sacred service of communion and remembrance.

Called to Care Committee



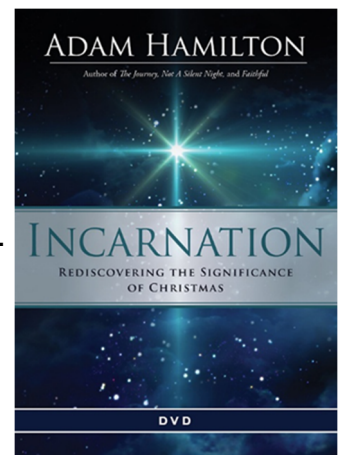
We are seeking volunteers to re-launch the Called to Care Committee, which sends cards, makes phone calls, and occasional visits to our sick, institutionalized or shut-in members of the congregation. This committee will work closely with Pr. Steve to assist in maintaining connection with our members who are unable to attend regular weekly worship. The goal is to spread God's love and care to our membership as they traverse changes in their lives, so they may experience the full fellowship of Trinity UCC where they are. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Pr. Steve.

Training will be provided.

"Love one another as I have loved you". Jesus

Advent Study 2025

Our Advent Study will begin near the end of November as the first Sunday of Advent is November 30th. Last season we offered two sessions and it was well received. So we will be offering a Sunday morning and midweek option again. The Weekday gathering will begin on Wednesday, November 26th at 10:30 A.M. and meet in the social hall. The Sunday gathering will meet after worship at 10:30 A.M. and meet in the Adult Sunday School Room #45 located in the basement. Sign up sheets will be available in the narthex each week. It will be a book & video study titled: "Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas" by Adam Hamilton. Books have been ordered and should be available in the church office by mid to late November. Hope you can join with us in this exploration of the Incarnation of Christ in the world.



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.



Offering Envelopes 2026

Offering envelopes for 2026 will be available in the narthex extended beginning Sunday, December 7. The office staff would appreciate if you can pick up your envelopes and anyone else's that you might be able to deliver. The boxes are filed in alphabetical order.



Movie Nite

Mission & Outreach will be hosting their next Movie Nite on Wednesday November 5th at 6:30pm. Come join us in fellowship hall for this fun, free, event for the whole family. They will be showing "Miracles from Heaven".



Christmas Poinsettias

The time has come to place your order for poinsettias to be placed in the sanctuary during the December 21st service. Plants are 6in and cost \$12. Orders are due to the office by November 24th and can be paid with cash or check. Note - plants must be taken home after service.

Nursery Volunteers Needed

We are in the process of creating a nursery service for during Sunday worship. Volunteers are needed to help watch our youngest members while their parents are attending worship. There will be a rotating schedule and volunteers will need background clearances. If you are interested in assisting please reach out to Pastor Steve.

Calling All Teenage Youth!

Trinity UCC is forming a teen Youth Group for monthly gatherings beginning Sunday, October 26th. The group will be meeting after church to plan future gatherings and events, meet leadership, and offer their ideas for: fun, fellowship, service and mission. After the brief meeting the group will be enjoying an outing to Hickory Falls Family Entertainment Center of Hanover. For more information contact Pr. Steve.





Day	Name	Yrs.	Day	Name	Yrs.
4	Jim and Corrie Bankert	15	16	Robert and Joan Murray	57
9	Ricky and Wendy Cover	45	23	Steven and Belinda Sabaka	56
11	Randy and Kimberly Kessler	48			

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

November Dates to Remember

- 2nd - DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
- 2nd - All Saints Sunday
- 3rd - Property Committee (6pm)
M & O (6:30pm)
Cool Kids Choir (6:30pm)
- 5th - Finance Committee (6pm)
M & O Movie (6:30pm)
- 6th - Handbell (6pm)
Sanctuary Choir (7pm)
- 10th - Cool Kids Choir (6:30pm)
- 11th - Executive Cmte (6:30pm)
Consistory (7pm)
- 13th - Handbell (6pm)
Sanctuary Choir (7pm)
- 14th - Granny's Boutique (12pm)
- 15th - Granny's Boutique (8am)
- 17th - Knit Wits (1pm)
Cool Kids Choir (6:30pm)
- 19th - Nursery School Brd Mtg (7pm)
- 20th - Handbell (6pm)
Sanctuary Choir (7pm)
- 24th - Cool Kids Choir (6:30pm)
- 26th - Thanksgiving Service (7pm)



HAPPY 90+ BIRTHDAY!

Barbara Forry	11/07
Leroy Markle	11/08
Nancy Shultz	11/17
Betty Schaeberle	11/26



With Deepest Sympathy

Robert Reichart	6/20/42 - 9/15/25
Mary McMaster	4/20/31 - 9/26/25
Edith Menchey	5/31/31 - 10/10/25
Frederick Bolinger	6/11/37 - 10/12/25

November 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

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***For December Newsletter Articles
November 15, 2025***