I have always admired the painting in our church's downstairs parlor. It depicts Christ, and the two companions as they travel from Jerusalem to Emmaus. The serenity of the foliage against the dirt path has always given me a sense of mystery and peace. I often say, it is one of the reasons I choose to enter seminary. Since childhood, I have wondered why these two followers did not recognize their friend and teacher they had followed so closely. Our 21st century commission, in this chaotic world we live in, is to recognize Christ in everyone we encounter. Through us, Jesus' ministry, love and peace continue.

I am reminded of a time from Kara and I ventured to the local grocery store. At one point while traversing the aisles, I noticed a frail middle-aged woman pushing an almost empty cart. I encountered her again before we headed to check out. As I began placing our groceries on the conveyor belt, I noticed the same woman was standing in front of us at the register. Quietly I gave my credit card to the cashier who smiled, swiped it and handed it back to me without the woman noticing. She repeatedly swiped her own card to pay and it would not work. She apologized to the cashier and said she could not get her card to work. The young woman behind the register told that her bill was already paid. The woman argued that she did not complete the transaction, "How could it be paid?" The cashier looked at me and said that I had paid her bill. The woman asked if she could hug me, and cried on my jacket a bit, and left in tears. I'd love to say I do this regularly, but in truth, there was just something that moved me that day.

Food is an important way Jesus connected with others throughout the Gospel of Luke. In the Emmaus encounter it is two disciples who pay it forward and invite an interesting stranger to share their table. The point of the story at this juncture is that Jesus, although crucified, is alive and continues to show up

and share life. Extravagant hospitality is limitless, it does not need to take place around the table. Life transforming realities can happen anywhere at any time. I encourage every one of us to find a way to be Christ for another and then keep doing that as many times and in as many ways as possible. How will you share the resurrected Christ?

Blessings, Pastor Fred

Prayer: Gracious God, give us the ability to see your Son and Savior in others. Amen.



April 27, 2025

10AM

2nd Sunday of Easter

Gathering Music

Welcome/Announcements

Westminster Chimes

Prelude "He Lives" (Arrangement)

**Song: "What A Friend We In Jesus" #

** Call to Worship

Travelers on the Way, what shall we do?

We shall praise God who hears our prayers, who draws near to us, and brings new life out of death.

Dear ones, how shall we live?

With the confidence of God's beloved children, with security and joy of God's saving grace.

Friends old and new, what is the promise?

New life, forgiveness of sin, the Spirit as gift!

Beloved siblings, how shall we praise?

We lift our voices and our hearts in lo

We lift our voices and our hearts in love, thanks, and praise! We will praise the Lord as long as we live!

** Hymn: "Crown Him with Many Crowns" #2

** Passing the Peace of Christ

**PRAYER

Loving God, we welcome your living presence in our midst. Share in our joy and our thanks for the life you give us. Sing with us! Dance among us! Pray with us! Shower us with your love! Amen!

Joys and Concerns
Praying for Others/Lord's Prayer
Silent Prayer of Confession
Assurance of Grace

Scripture Readings:

l John 3:1-7

Luke 24:13-35

Time for the Young at Heart

Sermon: "Recognizing Love"

**Hymn: "He Lives"

**Easter Affirmation of Faith

Celebration of our Gifts

* Offertory Response: "Doxology"

** Prayer of Dedication

Jesus, God has made you both Sovereign and Christ.
Therefore we pray your blessing upon these gifts, upon us, and those whose lives will benefit from them. May your victory over death empower all whom you call to trust in God. In faith and hope we pray. Amen.

**Song: "May The People Praise You" #50

** Final Blessing

"A Choral Benediction" (circle around sanctuary)

**Postlude: "That Easter Day with Joy was Bright" --Harris

*On the screen

** Please stand, if you are able.

Upcoming Events

- Visit of Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Dr. Nora Foust, May 4th
- Gettysburg Association Spring Meeting May 4th 2:30PM -Cashtown UCC
- Pastor Amy at Trinity, Gettysburg May 11th
- Pastor Fred's Last Sunday, May 25th

Financial Information

General pledge April 2025: \$3,611.00

General pledge April 2024: \$55,674.45

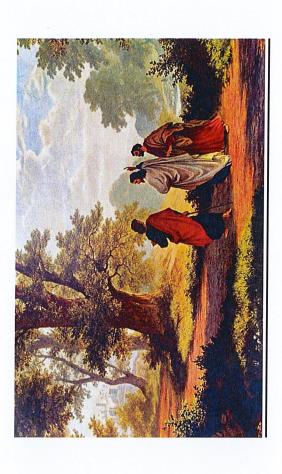
YTD income: \$52,794.46

YTD expenses: \$83,345.53

YTD deficit: \$30,551.07

Upcoming Meetings

- Employee Meeting April 28th @ 4:30PM
- Worship & Music Meeting April 28th @ 6:30PM
 - Pastoral Relations April 30th @ 6:00PM
- Transition Team May 5 @6PM
- Consistory Meeting May 12th @ 6:00 PM
- Worship and Music May TBA @ 6:30PM



Grace United Church of Christ

100 Fourth Street

Hanover, Pennsylvania 17331

717-632-1146

Thank you for today's worship leaders:

Fred Young - Pastor Amy Fawks – Associate Pastor Christian Keller – Organist

Joleen Fennell & Vickie Arnold – Head Usher

Prayer Requests

- Sue Caler
- Sue Little Nancy Bankert's Request
- Mike & Linda Gouker Nancy Bankert's Request
- Marie Welt Nancy Bankert's Request
- Bruce Bouchard with recovery after surgery
- Tina Hagarman
- Barbara Hitchen with medical concerns
- The Family of Bret Motter
- Mike Mummert
- The Family of Faye Myers
- Brenda Rummel, Ron and Judy Rummel's Sister-In-Law
- Silvia, Martha Channel's friend diagnosed with cancer
- Joanne Smith, Tom Craig's friend
- Gloria Werner
- Irelyn Sprenkle: 11 yrs. Old, diagnosed with Kidney Cancer
- Ronald Klunk, recent diagnosis of cancer
- Harold Hartlaub
- Mary Jane Furhman
- Nancy Fiscus, Friend of Glendon Ruhlman
- Cherie Haugh, Tom Craigs friend
- Emily Moul
- Darlene Reed, Friend of Nancy Bankert
- Dorothy Smith, Tom Craig's Sister-In-Law
- Rick Boyer
- Brad Arnold
- Dave, Amy Fawks & Family on the death of his mother Cindy
- Scott Martin Nancy Bankert's Request
- Leone Mussleman
- Rodney Swartz, Rick Boyers Friend with health concerns
- Brenda Warehime, Tom Craigs Friend with health concerns
- Co-Worker of Holly Smith, Dawn and Friend of Holly Smith, Jo both with Cancer
- Mildred Hershey at Encompass in York after a fall
- Larry Rhoten, Tom Craig's friend, dealing with health issues

Please remember to help Pastor Fred & Pastor Amy update prayer requests and keep him informed when someone is no longer in need of prayer.

New or changed addition

Leave prayer requests on the Prayer Line or Pastor Fred Young at 717-346-1703. You can also email *pastoryoung.tuccgburg@gmail.com*. Requests will be added weekly to the bulletin, mailings, and easel in The Gathering Place and daily to the phone line.



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•	Praise ye the LORD God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power
•	Praise him for his mighty: praise him according to his excellent greatness.
•	Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the and harp.
•	Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and
•	Praise him upon the loud: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.
•	Let every thing that hath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

- ORGANS
- CYMBALS
- BREATH

- PRAISE
- ACTS
- PSALTERY