

# TRUCC NEWS AND VIEWS

## November 2017



*"No matter where you've been, no matter where you are going, Trinity can be a home for you. And that's a very good thing!"*  
*This is a congregation in which we teach love; we preach compassion and justice; and, we expect diversity.*  
*Everyone is welcome!*

**Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ**

**450 West Main St.**

**Mountville, PA 17554**

**717-285-5593**

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**Find us on Facebook**

**[Facebook.com/trucc2.0](https://www.facebook.com/trucc2.0)**

**Open and Affirming**

*After several months on hiatus, our TRUCC newsletter is back!*

*Beginning next month in this column, I'll be reporting on some of the workshops, association meetings, and community events and ministries that I participate in on a regular basis. In addition, I plan to offer a summary of the reports that I submit to the executive team that become part of the TRUCC annual report. So, beginning in December (in conjunction with Advent of the new liturgical year) look forward to Tikkun Olam: a monthly column by Pastor Don. Peace.*



## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- Sunday, Nov. 5 1-2:30 Pastor Parish Resource Team meeting
- Monday, Nov. 6 7-8:30pm at Parish Resource Center: **Neighboring Well: Living Like Jesus in Your Community**
- Tuesday, Nov. 7 7pm Guild meeting
- Tuesday Nov. 7 7:30 pm ..Call To Fun meeting right after the Guild meeting
- Sunday, Nov. 12 noon: games and potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday, Nov. 14 6:30pm worship team meeting
- Sunday, Nov. 19, congregational meeting, immediately after worship
- Sunday, Nov. 26 1-3 pm: a discussion of the Immigrant/Refugee experience in Lancaster County with guest speakers from Lancaster Stands Up

### Weekly

- Sunday, Nov. 12, 19, 26: Challenging Faith Bible Discussion and Discipleship Group (Fellowship Hall)
- Thursday nights at 6pm: Art for Worship (Fellowship Hall)

## NOVEMBER NEWS FROM THE GUILD

### Two-Day Rummage Sale

On November 3rd. (Friday) from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., with additional evening hours from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and November 4<sup>th</sup>. (Saturday) from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon), the /guild will have a two day Rummage Sale.

Trinity will have the rummage sale by donation, instead of charging a set price per item. An exception is a table of vintage items that will be pre-priced.

Your donations of fall and winter clothing and gently used items are appreciated.

Frozen homemade soups are available at \$6.00 per quart and \$4.00 per pint. Even though this sale is by donation, interested parties that want to purchase items for resale should come after 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Spread the word.



### November Guild Meeting

The Guild monthly meeting is Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. In addition to the regular business meeting, we will have a presentation by Bobbi Poteau on the Norwex Company. Have ideas for fundraisers or special speakers? We welcome your suggestions.

### Guild Fundraisers

We are raising funds for Trinity with the **Christmas Brochure program** until the end of November. The Christmas catalogs and order forms are here.

**Orders can be taken for the Gertrude Hawk fundraiser until the end of November.**



#### **YOU CAN HELP**

- Show the catalog to friends, relatives, and co-workers
- Use a separate order form for each friend, relative or co-worker.
- Orders are packaged separately & eliminates handling of orders for distribution.

Watch for more information and display in the Narthex. The Christmas Brochure Program is a simple, delicious and profitable way to raise money. The Christmas Brochure Program offers over 60 delicious chocolate treats that make terrific gifts and basket fillers.

Your help is greatly appreciated. Any questions, please ask **Mary Ibach**.

Another fundraising tool is the **Rada Cutlery Program**. This runs in October and November. The Rada catalogs and order forms are here. For more information see the display in the Narthex. Any questions, please ask **Helen Yohe**.



### **The Lancaster Fossil and Mineral Club Showcase**

is scheduled for Saturday, November 11th. – 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

As a fundraiser, the Guild will sell soup sides, sandwiches, snacks and bakery foods at the sale. We need volunteers to bake desserts and also sell food at the sale. Please sign the list in the narthex for area(s) that you can help. Volunteers Needed!! **THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.**

Date: 04 Aug 2017



Words matter; but without action, they lose their dignity and meaning.

If there's one thing I've learned as a servant of the church, it's this: We love talking about race, racism, and white privilege, especially those of us who identify as progressive Christians. But we rarely do a thing about these evils within our own institutions. While we're fighting against the injustices "out there," the church *within* often remains unchanged at its core.

Words matter; but without action, they lose their dignity and meaning.

If racism and white privilege/supremacy were actively being dismantled to create a more just, diverse, equal, God-reflecting church, we might be able to answer the following questions with a resounding "Yes":

- Is there equal representation of historically oppressed/underrepresented groups in all settings of church leadership (local church, middle judicatory, and national)? Have people of color made it to the highest positions within our churches and denomination in equal proportions? In other words, have people of color been able to move beyond serving at the behest of white (usually male, heterosexual, cis-gender, able bodied) senior ministers/executives/boards?
- In addition to representation, is space truly made on councils, boards, and leadership structures for people of color to hold equal stake, decision-making power, authority, and respect?

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- Beyond representation in our current structures, are we analyzing how these structures themselves are also perpetuating white supremacy, and then working to dismantle and transform them?
- Is the great wealth of the church—our assets, securities, endowments, properties, etc.—being transferred to, and utilized for the empowerment and agency of, historically oppressed groups for ministry transformation? Are these groups even aware of, or able to access, these assets?
- Have we as individuals, churches, and institutions with privilege actually risked and lost anything—power, influence, status, safety, time, money, property—as a result of working to dismantle racism and white supremacy? (See Matthew 16:25 for reference.)

People of color are struggling for survival every day in this country. The church shouldn't be making us struggle for survival too—the church should be a place where we are equal stakeholders and shapers of the present and future. Otherwise, none of us will be truly free.

There is a time for talking and educating; and that is part of the work we are called to do as people of faith. We must also continue to dismantle racism in the public sphere. But at some point, we need to start putting our money where our mouth is—literally. Who will join me and work *within* the church to make it a more just, more equitable, more diverse, more collaborative, more transparent, more Spirit-filled place for all?



Rev. Dr. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi works within the national setting of the UCC as director of the Center for Analytics, Research and Data (CARD). She is committed to dismantling racism and white privilege/supremacy from within the church as a minister, researcher and statistician, and justice seeking child of God.

## ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SPAGHETTI DINNER

will benefit Trinity UCC General Fund

Come to Trinity on Saturday, November 18, 2017, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., to eat as much spaghetti as you can, and, at the same time, contribute to Trinity's General Fund.



Only \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children aged 3-12 (children under three eat free), there will also be a variety of desserts for just \$1.00.

Be sure to bring family and friends to enjoy good food and fellowship.

**Questions...please call (717) 285-5593 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon).**



### JUST A NOTE TO SAY "HELLO"...

*Members and Friends of Trinity Reformed UCC, Mountville –*

*It is my sincere pleasure to serve you as Administrative Assistant. Since I began working at Trinity in October, I have met so many wonderful people. I am excited to be serving a congregation who are so active in meeting each other's needs and the needs of the community.*

*I am married 43 years to my caring husband, Steve. We live overlooking Columbia, with four cats and whatever wildlife we can attract. Prior to starting at Trinity, I worked for 13 years as Program Secretary in Pennsylvania's Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness (OTDA) Education project coordinated out of Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13. Since I have been blessed by the Gift of Life having received a liver transplant myself, this program was a perfect way for me to express my gratitude. I also currently work part-time as Administrative Assistant at Salem UCC, Columbia.*

*My hours at Trinity are Mon-Wed-Fri, 10 am – 2 pm, and Tues-Thurs, 8 am – 12 pm. Please call me when you have a need or just stop by to introduce yourself to me.*

*If you would like to know more about me, I have written a memoir under the pen name of "Garet Spiese" entitled, "Life is but a Dream: a memoir of living with illness," available at [iUniverse.com/bookstore](http://iUniverse.com/bookstore) or Amazon.*

*I look forward to meeting many of you, by phone, email or in person, in the months and years to come. Thank you for this opportunity.*

--- Peggy (marGaret) Spiese  
Administrative Assistant  
Trinity Reformed UCC, Mountville





# Antal, other religious leaders "Take a Knee" for climate change

October 25, 2017

Written by **Tiffany Vail**



The Rev. James Antal was one of a dozen religious leaders of Protestant, Catholic, Evangelical and Jewish traditions who gathered at the EPA Tuesday to "take a knee" in prayer and urge the current administration to address global climate change.

Antal, who serves as general minister and president of the Massachusetts Conference United Church of Christ, **presented a statement to the EPA**. He reports that in June 2017, 97% of the delegates to the National Synod of the UCC voted "to resist all expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure and demand new sources of renewable energy that are accessible to all communities."

These religious leaders requested the Oct. 24 meeting with the EPA, saying that standards enacted to protect people from harmful chemicals, air pollution and the worst impacts of climate change are being rolled back at an alarming rate. During the meeting – and afterward at the EPA main entrance – they urged EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt and his staff to consider the moral implications of ignoring climate change science and a wide range of environmental challenges facing the nation, from polluted air and drinking water to the degradation of public land and protected waterways.

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"For the sake of our children, grandchildren and unborn generations, we ask you to hear us – as representatives of tens of millions of people of faith, all of whom are stakeholders in the EPA and in God's creation – hear us," Antal said. "Enforce policies and promote innovation that will allow the next generation to at least forgive us for what we and a few generations before us have already caused. Overcome the false and destructive divide that dominates climate policy and conversation, and refocus this nation on providing the next generation with what is their Constitutional right to inherit a world not wrecked by climate change."

***Tiffany Vail is the associate conference minister for communications of the Massachusetts Conference United Church of Christ.***

***DEADLINE FOR NEXT TRINITY NEWSLETTER:***

***FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17***

***Send announcements, greetings, inspirations to:***

***[trucc@mountvilletrinityucc.org](mailto:trucc@mountvilletrinityucc.org)***

***or mail to***

***Trinity Reformed UCC  
450 W. Main St.  
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