



Paradise Community United Church of Christ
Troutville Trinity United Church of Christ
Are you a shepherd looking for a fold?



Then God may be calling you to lead the sheep of the United Church of Christ, Paradise-Troutville Charge, in rural Western Pennsylvania.

The congregations of the Troutville Trinity United Church of Christ (of Troutville, PA) and the Paradise Community United Church of Christ (of Reynoldsville, PA) are looking for a pastor. Our previous pastor of 41 years has retired, and we are in search of a permanent replacement.

About The Sheep:

Upon attending the traditional Sunday morning worship service in Troutville you will be greeted by the 35-40 people in attendance from a membership of 75. This mostly mature gathering is small in number but mighty in devotion to the Lord and commitment to the ministry of their church to the people of their small rural town. Sunday morning worship in Paradise will put you in the midst of about 125 regular attendees from a membership about 200 of varying ages, also committed to ministry in their community and supporting the youth.

You will quickly learn that we have close family and friendly ties within our churches and surrounding farming communities and we enjoy basically informal lifestyles that carryover to our worship format. Warm hand-shakes and welcoming smiles will come to you from an array of people, including retirees, professionals, blue-collar workers and farmers in this largely Caucasian community. Within our folds we have been blessed with caring and talented members gifted in music, hand-crafts of all kinds, scrumptious culinary skills and more. We enjoy a good laugh but are sensitive to the needs of our communities and those around us and are promptly generous to lend help when needed.

About the Fold:

Both quaint country churches, though different in style, are conscientiously well maintained. At the Paradise location we are surrounded by woods and outlying farmland. The Troutville church overlooks the small village of Troutville. We also share our communities with a large number of Amish citizens.

While some administrative and maintenance positions receive compensation, we are fortunate to possess an array of charitable volunteers that provide many necessary services without receiving financial reimbursement.

Surrounding Pastures:

Within a twenty minute drive you can shop at department stores or a variety of grocery stores and small town malls; find a restaurant to suit most any palette; visit a hospital (one of which is nationally recognized as a "Top 100 Hospital," and is also a major employer in the area); attend private or public schools, as well as branch college campuses of Penn State, IUP & Lockhaven University.

What the Sheep do for Fun:

While we don't experience a fast-paced city routine, our schedules are kept full. Within our church families we have group ministries of Ladies Aid, Women's Service Group, Choir, Youth Fellowship, Sunday School and St. Paul's Auxiliary. Other events in and around us include county fairs, socials that boast the best home-made rolls and pies with everything in between; corn & doggie roasts in the Fall, soup suppers, spaghetti dinners, Sunday morning breakfasts, Christmas caroling, Lenten Bible Study, Easter sunrise services, 4th of July home-coming celebrations, and a variety of home-town festivals and carnivals. You can even meet the famous groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil!

Special events in which we take some humble pride are our "Bethlehem Walk" complete with a walk through the shops of Bethlehem, live animals, singing heavenly host and live nativity; and our children's exceptional Christmas musical production. These are planned alternately every other year and are anticipated and well-received. Bible Schools are also routinely held and supported by both churches as community outreach programs.

Needs of the Sheep:

Our churches face the same challenges of many others, the competition for time and priority in the face of an ever fast-paced demanding society.

Paradise – We cannot count on the next generation of church families to fill the pews. Our prayers are for God to send us the right Shepherd who will seek to broaden our church's approach to evangelism by welcoming friends and families from our surrounding community.

Troutville – Our needs are as strong as our faith, due to our older congregation and lack of younger membership. We seek a pastor who is up to the challenge of revitalizing and encouraging this congregation.

We look forward to meeting the answer God will provide to our prayers.