

HONORING THE PAST * CELEBRATING THE PRESENT *
 BUILDING THE FUTURE

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Sunday Sponsors

Flower Basket (\$30), Adult & Children's Bulletins (\$20, \$8) contact Phyllis Hamm at 610-349-0324 (leave a message or text).
Spread the Good News (\$20)
 contact-610-767-6961
 (secretary@unionucc.org)

September 10th – Steven Courtney

Education Hour resumes at 9:15 for all ages (children, youth and adults) every Sunday

Back to school and back to church for everyone!

Worship will be fun, inspiring and heart filling.

Steven Courtney leads worship at 8am & 10:30am worship. He visited us last in 2014.



Steven Courtney is a performing songwriter who has experienced multiple areas of success. In a span of this on going career, Steven has performed over 6,100 concerts to date, recorded 30 full-length albums, received 2016 Parents Choice Award for the Sun Hill Market album, 2012 Parents Choice Award for the Million Smiles To Go album, collected 7 Children's Music Web Awards and the Arpeggio Award for "Outstanding Work with Children" through the Arts, as well as produce four concert-length performance videos and an award winning Children's TV series. www.stevencourtney.com

Few artists are as committed to expanding the boundaries of Children's Music and Family Entertainment as Steven Courtney. Courtney's songs inspire imagination and positive social behavior with a superabundance of creativity added.

Women's Retreat 2018

Union UCC Women's Retreat Weekend April 27-29, 2018

Trout Lake Retreats,
 Stroudsburg
 \$135

Questions or More Info:
 Pastor Kris

Worship and Pastoral Care Plan

By Pastor Kris

We will continue to invite guest preachers until a new associate pastor is called. See the worship page for the schedule.

We have also asked two area pastors to assist us with emergencies, pastoral care and funerals as needed.

Reverend James Robison has been pastor of Good Shepherd UCC, Slatedale since October 1998 and St. Paul's UCC, Big Creek since January 2017. He has served on various PNEC Committees as well as being a delegate to General Synod. In addition to church work, he serves as President of Guardianship Support Agency, Inc. and President of Watsonstown Historical Association. In 1998 he graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary. He loves dogs, chai and genealogy.

Reverend Candi Cain-Borgman is a transplanted Kansas farm girl. After working as a Director of Christian Education in the United Church of Christ for seventeen years she attended and graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary. Immediately out of seminary she served St. Paul's UCC in Fleetwood. She served at Ziegels Union Church for almost nine years and is excited to see what God has in store next. She is an avid reader and an enthusiastic traveler. She and her husband, Craig, share their home in Vera Cruz, Pennsylvania with four dogs, or it might be the other way round.

Please continue to contact the church office, Pastor Kris or Rev. Patience as you need pastoral care.

Thank you for your patience and faith during this time of staff and pastoral transition.

Thank you for your discipleship of service and ministry to each other and the staff.

Join the Choir!

**Practice Schedules:
Tuesday Nights—Youth**

**Cherubs (age 4-1st grade)—
6pm**

**Juniors (2nd-5th grades)
6:30pm**

**Middlers (6th-8th grades)
7pm**

Unity Choir—7:30pm

**High School (9th-12th)-
Wednesdays @6pm**

**Sunday Mornings—Adults
Heritage Choir-7:15am
Horizon Choir-9:15am**

**Contact: Blake Hoppes
Blake.charger@gmail.com**

Harvest Home

September 24 at 8 & 10:30am worship

We need everyone's food contributions and support. The wheelbarrow for canned goods and groceries will be available for donations starting Sunday, September 16, in the church foyer. All home gardeners or produce shoppers, please drop off fresh produce for the display during Harvest Home set up time on **Saturday, September 23 from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.**

All produce and groceries items will be distributed to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank and Allentown Ecumenical Food Bank. **Let us celebrate God's bounty on this Earth and be thankful for all we have, and share with others.**



Union UCC forms a Covenant with Family Promise

A small committee of people who hail from several of Lehigh County's congregations and a local school district is trying to start a chapter of **Family Promise, a nonprofit organization committed to helping low-income families achieve lasting independence.** In June, the Consistory of Union UCC agreed to become a host site for Family Promise of the Lehigh Valley. **Family Promise of the Lehigh Valley is hoping to be opened in October.**

Family promise was founded in 1988. There are affiliates in 41 states. Currently, there are chapters in Berks and Carbon counties, among many others in the area. However, there is a rapidly growing need for an affiliate in the immediate community.

Family Promise enables communities to work together to address the **needs of homeless families by securing temporary shelter through host congregations,** providing meals donated by host congregations, and comprehensive services offered through local governmental and privately funded aid groups. Often, families are forced into a homeless situation due to assorted reasons. Guest Guidelines call for a maximum stay of 4 weeks. These are families that are truly trying to find their own housing. These families have no substance-abuse or mental health issues.

Family Promise of the Lehigh Valley is looking to form a covenant with at least 13 congregations to provide shelter, meals and general familial support for local homeless families. **As a covenantal member, Union UCC will open its doors four times a year for a seven-night period each time.** Union will provide a comfortable, safe and secure place for 14 people to stay from 5:30 pm until 7:00 am for seven consecutive overnights. Our members will provide broad support to these families by engaging with them through socializing, homework help, meal-prep and genuine Christian love and care. Our members will provide the ingredients to make a cold breakfast, a bagged lunch, and a hot dinner each day. Nightly, two volunteers will act as overnight hosts. Union will provide approximately 30 to 50 volunteers each hosting week.

God is calling Union UCC to show its faith in action. This will be a church-wide mission, not a Mission Committee project. This is an opportunity for anyone who worships with us, member or otherwise, to provide community outreach without even leaving our home church. Please consider acting as the hands and feet of Jesus Christ. Get involved with Family Promise when it's our turn to show families in need that they are loved, respected, valued and welcome in our church.

Thank You

For providing birthdays cards and gift certificates to residents at Leinbach Cottage.

Also thank you for providing a gift to us through the Penn Northeast Conference to help enrich our youth.

Bethany Children's Home
Kevin Snyder, CEO

Basket Social

Wednesday, October 4,
Fellowship Hall

Doors open at 5:30 pm/
Social begins 7 pm

Tickets are \$5 each with 25 on a sheet and are available from the church office. There are only 150 tickets, so secure yours early! Hot dogs & soda served

Donations of filled baskets (valued about \$10) & door prizes can be brought to the church office at any time, or to Fellowship Hall between noon & 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct 4. Donations of baked goods can be brought to the kitchen on Wednesday evening.

A few ideas of basket themes: Kitchen Basket – Kitchen Towel, Recipes, Utensils, Spices... / Snack Basket – Chips, Pretzels, peanuts... / Bathroom Basket – Soap, Toilet Paper Hand towel... / Coffee Basket – Creamer, Coffee



Where School Memories Begin

August is here and the lazy days of summer are being replaced by the hustle and bustle of getting ready for a new school year to begin. As a Preschool staff, we can feel the excitement in the air as we put the finishing touches on our updated library/reading corner and welcome new staff members. August also brings a rush of registrations, and we look forward to meeting our new students and families at our Preschool in the Park program. We also held our first ever Preschool Reunion in conjunction with the Church Family Movie Night.

This year **Neffs UCC Preschool will continue to offer a comprehensive program that addresses the social, emotional, physical and academic growth of our students** by utilizing the Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards. We have the unique ability to foster growth as children engage in centers-based learning while moving from room to room throughout the day. This change of activity as well as scenery engages all of the senses and takes advantage of a young child's short attention span and need to move.

As a Preschool, we remain committed to making our high-quality program available to families who need financial assistance by offering reduced tuition to families who demonstrate need. To continue to offer this assistance, **we are looking for individuals and families who would like to donate towards supporting the Preschool in our mission. All donations are tax deductible, and any amount is greatly appreciated.**

-Annette Wilcox, Director

Check us out on Facebook—
Neffs UCC Preschool
 or on our website—
www.unionucc.org/preschool



A **Trunk or Treat** is a Halloween event where people gather and park their cars in a large parking lot. They open their trunks, or the backs of their vehicles, and decorate them. Then they pass out candy from their trunks. The event provides a safe family environment for trick or treaters.

We will be hosting our **TRUNK OR TREAT** here at Union UCC on the afternoon of Saturday, Oct. 21st from 3:00pm-5:00pm. Last year, we had close to 200 trunk-or-treaters. We would love to see more cars this year! If you are interested in participating, please contact Kathy or sign up on her office door. Participating means you will **decorate your trunk** and **provide candy** for the trunk or treaters (costumes are optional). Please sign up by Oct. 15th. **Let's provide a safe and fun trick or treating experience for the children of our church and our community!**

Little Lambs Nursery

Marianne Ulrich is our Little Lambs coordinator. We need one additional volunteer to sign up for each Sunday. Please sign up on the nursery door.



CHRISTIAN ED HOAGIE SALE

SEPT. 30



Please consider buying a delicious lunch for your family / selling to others. Italian or turkey...\$6 each. Proceeds help reduce bus trip prices, buy extra supplies for children, support teachers, support birthday ministry for Bethany Home and so much more! Place your order in the foyer or with one of our children.

Introducing...

MESSY CHURCH WORKSHOP

Join us after the worship service on OCT. 1st for lunch and a craft.

LUNCH: hot dogs, salad, drinks, popcorn bar

CRAFT: Thankful Tree—
 make a personalized fall decoration for your home.

\$10/craft



Sign up in the foyer or use form in Sept. Sunday bulletins.



Contact: Kathy Bonsell
Phone: 610-767-6961
Email: dired@unionucc.org



Backpack
Sunday

**SEPTEMBER 10th is
BACKPACK SUNDAY!**
Bring your backpack to
church (*filled with school
supplies to donate*) for the
10:30 worship.
Start the school year off
with a special blessing!

SEPTEMBER

CHILDREN'S CHURCH LESSONS
Sept. 10 Church Family Worship
Steven Courtney/Backpack Sunday
Sept. 17 Matthew 18:21-3
Sept. 24 Matthew 20:1-16
Harvest Home

Children's Church

September 17th – Children's Church opens it's doors during the 10:30 worship service. Three year olds through sixth grade join us after Children's Time in the sanctuary. 1st-6th Grade move to Room 7 for a large group lesson, songs and prayer and then we move to grade level classrooms for age appropriate activities. Preschoolers and Kindergarteners meet and stay in room 100. Parents meet their children at their classrooms after the worship service. Grade levels are combined to support the "Safe Child" policy and to ensure a sufficient number of volunteers for each classroom. These are NEW groupings for the 2017-18 year.

Preschool/Kindergarten – Room 100
1st , 2nd, and 3rd Grade – Room 7
4th, 5th, and 6th Grade – Room 5

We will use the **WHIRL** curriculum. This curriculum is lectionary and includes videos and leaflets. **PARENTS:** There are many great ideas in the leaflets to explore during the week. Our Preschool/K classroom will use 'Lil K, a "Blue's Clues" for Sunday School video program.

We still could use a few volunteers to help us with this year's Children's Church. No experience is necessary. Join us one Sunday a month! It's only 6-7 Sundays a year! Contact Kathy Bonsell (dired@unionucc.org).



SUNDAY
SCHOOL
KICKOFF



SUNDAY SCHOOL—Join us on Sept. 10th
during the Education Hour (9:15-10:15)

Parents of all age levels are asked to bring their children to FELLOWSHIP HALL at 9:15 for an overview of the year.

Classroom assignments:
Preschool /Kindergarten– Room 100
1st and 2nd Grade - Room 7
3rd , 4th and 5th Grade – Fellowship Hall
6th and 7th Grade (The Munch Bunch) – office on 2nd floor

Youth Group News Grades 6-12

For more information contact:

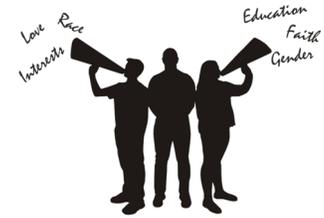
Pastor Kris pastorkris@unionucc.org 610-657-6007 Cell

Or Dave DiPaolantonio at 610-349-9162 and youthgroup@unionucc.org.

Facebook: Union UCC Youth Group [www.unionucc.org/Ministries/Youth Group](http://www.unionucc.org/Ministries/YouthGroup)

Anyone who is in grades 6-12 is considered a member of youth group. Adults and parents who meet our safe child guidelines are welcome as chaperones, drivers and team members. Friends and families are always invited (unless noted).

SHOUT OUT



Union UCC Youth Group 2017

Sunday, September 17 Lunch and Meeting 11:30-12:45 for the Advisory Team. RSVP to Pastor Kris by Friday, September 15. This is the time to help with organizing, planning and sharing ideas for the year.



Saturday, September 23-Sunday, September 24 **Sleepout for Homelessness**

This year the event returns to our church and is just our youth group. Arrive 6pm on Saturday and stay through Sunday morning. Spend the night learning about poverty and homelessness while also raising money to help Valley Youth House. The event is free, but we hope you'll raise at least \$25 from sponsors. See our Facebook group and Church website for permission forms and more info.

<http://www.unionucc.org/christian-education/youth-group>

FORMS DUE ASAP from Youth, Adult Chaperones sign up ASAP too, please.

Last day to sign up Fri, Sep 22.



Regional Youth Event 2018 Join other UCC youth from PA, MD, NJ, NY and DE at California University, PA (near Pittsburgh) **July 19-22, 2018.**

\$50 deposits being collected now through December 17 to hold your spot. Talk to Dave or PK with your questions.



SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:15-10:15am Resumes in September
THE MUNCH BUNCH (6th & 7th grade
2nd Floor Room 203)

CONFIRMATION CLASS (8th grade Youth Room) Confirmands can go to The Breakfast Club when there is no class.

THE BREAKFAST CLUB (9th- 12th grade Room 4)

Confirmation Class

Letters to our Youth in 8th grade have been mailed inviting them to be a part of the confirmation class. A registration fee of \$50 and forms are due now. ***A required information session for each student and at least 1 parent will be on October 1st, 9:15-10:15 in the Youth Room (basement.)*** This will be the last day to join the class. If you know someone who is interested in being in the class, please have them contact the church office or watch our website for the forms and information.

Property Committee

by Phil Wehr

Where has the summer gone? Time flies during busy times, and we stay busy around here at Union UCC. The grove has stayed busy this summer with Vacation Bible School, outdoor worship services, the Backyard BBQ Bash, Lion's Club summer festival, Girl Scout summer camp, church family picnic, member parties, and finishing up with Blues Nite Out.

Over at the main church property, Sunday services continued, plus Vacation Bible School, committee meetings, member events and more. We look forward to a new church year starting after Labor Day as Sunday School and Children's Church resumes, along with a new confirmation class, and many opportunities for worship, music, education, fellowship and mission. Come join us on Sundays.

Summer repairs occurred with new copper gutters installed around Memorial Hall. Professional floor crews were hired to clean and wax the floors in Fellowship Hall and the kitchen, Memorial Hall, the stair tower, and all hallways in the basement level. They really shine. Thanks to Union UCC's endowment fund, The Funds of Lasting Gifts, for the financial support for these two summer projects.

Farewell to the grove food stand, and thanks for the memories !! Stay tuned for more updates in the next newsletter, a new food stand will be rising soon !!



Adult Study

Friday Morning Adult Class

9:30am-11am – Room 5 (Basement)

Everyone is welcome at any time as your schedule allows.

Friday, September 15th Friday, September 22nd

Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End by Atul Gawande

A practicing surgeon has fearlessly revealed the struggles of his profession. Now he examines its ultimate limitations and failures – in his own practices as well as others' – as life draws to a close. And he discovers how we can do better.

Sunday Morning Adult Class

9:15-10:15 - Room 5 (Basement)

Everyone is welcome at any time as your schedule allows.

September 10, 17 and 24-Pastor Patience

We will explore the book, 'Tears We cannot Stop: a Sermon to White America' by Michael Eric Dyson. A writer, sociologist and ordained Baptist minister Dyson engages in a very frank discussion of race in contemporary America. Join us for an honest discussion on a very important topic.

Summer Adventures for Flat Jesus

Thank you to everyone who participated in taking Jesus with you throughout the summer.

Have fun looking at the pictures on the bulletin boards in the foyer and on our website www.unionucc.org under the Recent Albums, Flat Jesus Album.



Thanks to our Office Helpers!

Madeline Bingell,
Eunice Diehl,
Teresa Dalrymple,
Phyllis Hamm, Bonnie Herzog, Judy Hoffman,
Marjorie Hoffman,
Eleanor & Ron Kleckner,
Linda Migliori, Diana Miller, Barbara Panner,
Linda & Wilbur Romig,
Jill Schlosser

We always welcome newsletter assembly helpers the last Tuesday of the month at 9am in the Youth Room.

Sunday Morning Alive

Sunday Morning Alive leads worship on Sundays at 10:30 for about six Sundays throughout the year. We have a worship team that includes a group of singers, guitar players, keyboards and drums. We play traditional and favorite hymns as well as contemporary and alternative worship music.

Look for us next on November 15 at 10:30am worship!



WAYS TO GIVE and SUPPORT UNION UCC'S Ministry and Mission

DONATE ONLINE with your Credit or Debit Card Go to www.unionucc.org/resources/giving-and-sponsorship/ways-to-give/ and click on **GIVE ONLINE** button.

TEXT TO GIVE Send a text to 610-857-7023 with the amount you would like to contribute. Include the \$ sign. You'll be sent a text with directions to register.

ELECTRONIC GIVING you can designate an automatic weekly, semi-monthly or monthly donation to be transferred electronically. Fill out the form at <http://www.unionucc.org/egive.pdf> and return it to the church office.

AMAZON SMILE Earn money for Union UCC while you shop at Amazon by signing up at <https://smile.amazon.com>. Set Union United Church of Christ as your charity and 0.5% of your purchases will be donated to the church. Search charities by zip code 18065.

OFFERING ENVELOPES in person or by mail Packets are given to members and friends in December for the new year. Place your envelope in the offering plate on Sundays, use the envelopes in the rack in your seat at church for the offering plate or mail your offering by postal mail.

Staff Updates

Pastor Kris, Consistory and Church & Ministry

Sunday Set Up Position: Thank you Natalie Ondrey for your two years of service. We wish you all the best at Penn State. AJ DiPaolantonio, last year's substitute, will now be serving in the permanent position. Ryan Correll will be the new substitute. Thank you AJ and Ryan!

Instrumental Assistant Choir Director: Welcome Carol Fella to our staff to work with all of our instrumentalists, especially at the holidays. Please contact Carol (mellafella@gmail.com) or Blake (blake.charger@gmail.com) to let them know that you play an instrument and that you'd like to play in worship. There are opportunities to play solos, in a group and with other groups.

Associate Search Committee Update We have spent the summer interviewing candidates and hope to share more news soon. Please continue to keep the committee and the process in your prayers. **Donna Christman, Ardith Kuhns, Sue Ondrey, Carrington Smith, Phil Wehr, Teresa Dalrymple, Natalie Ondrey, Mollie Jarrett, Jason Klinger, Ashley and Ben Anderson, Pastor Kris and Aften Hamm - Co-Chairs.**



Sharon DiPaolantonio is our Catch the Spirit recipient for September. She was nominated by the Staff. She will be recognized September 17, 2017 at 10:30am worship.

Sharon grew up about an hour south of Neffs with her faith based in a large Catholic church. Dave and Sharon moved to the area a year after they were married and started searching for a church to raise their family in. "We tried out the Lutheran and UCC services since they were right down the street from our house and fell in love with the UCC congregation. Our children, Rachel and AJ, both attended church when they were each just 4 days old!"

Sharon has been on the Helping Hearts committee, making meals for our sick and delivering flowers to our shut in members. When the kids were in preschool, she was active in the Preschool Parent Group organizing the Teddy Bear Clinic, and fundraisers that helped purchase the playground equipment that is currently in the church grove. For almost 10 years she held a scrapbook night once a month for church members to work on preserving their families pictures in albums. Sharon also led Rachel's Girl Scout troop, that held meetings at Neffs, and organized Girl Scout Sundays in worship. She has been a long time helper for youth group activities such as meal fundraisers, sleep out for homelessness, buying supplies for college care packages, and a behind the scenes helper for Dave who is the youth group leader. And as if that wasn't enough, she also has been shopping for coffee hours supplies too.

She currently works as a full-time nurse in one day surgery/recovery room at St. Luke's. In her spare time she enjoys running, gardening, and spending time with her family and their two dogs.

"I love our church for so many reasons, but I am happy to have been able to share my love for God with our kids in our beautiful church! It is filled with love for one another whoever you are and wherever you are from! They have such a great foundation from our wonderful pastors and congregation."

Thank you, Sharon for being a part of that foundation for so many others in our congregation.

Introducing Becky Ensley

Becky is a recent seminary graduate and granddaughter to one of our members, Ruth Ensley. She is looking to gain more church experience and asked if she could serve here. At June's Consistory meeting, Church and Ministry presented her name for approval and she was approved. She will be shadowing Rev. Patience on hospital, home and nursing home visits. Please give her a warm Union UCC welcome as she visits with you and your family members. Becky preached here on June 25th.

Becky was raised in the South-side of Allentown. She is a life-long member of First Presbyterian Church of Allentown. She felt a call to ministry while in high school serving as a youth leader within the church's youth ministry program. Becky completed her undergraduate education at Messiah College as a Biblical Studies major. After working at a UCC congregation for two years, she was led to continue her education at Princeton Theological Seminary where she earned two masters degrees, an M.Div. and an M.A. in Youth Ministry. She has preached at several area churches, worked as a Children's and Youth Ministries Director, taught Sunday School and Bible study classes, led youth retreats and trips, and is an ordained Deacon. She is also very active within the music program of her church singing in two choirs and playing in two handbell choirs. She is excited to be working in a large and healthy church like Union. Her family has a long history with Union UCC. She is the eldest grandchild of Ruth Ensley.

Hospital Stay Information:

The pastors try to do hospital visits on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays/Saturdays hoping they will see any of our members during a hospital admission.

If you are in the hospital, please ask a family member or friend to call one of our pastors or the church office to be sure we know you are there. 610-767-6961

It would also be helpful to tell the staff during admissions that your **church code is 511**. If you are not sure that we know of your stay, you can also call the hospital chaplain's office and ask them to list you under our **church code 511**.

We are more than glad to visit, to pray with you and to ask the congregation to pray for you and care for you, so please don't hesitate to call on us.

Baptisms

January 15

Nolan Thomas Vernau son of **Dan and Lauren (Chorney) Vernau**

March 19

Reese Elizabeth and Everly Jean Beck, daughters of **Dale and Destiny (Van Kooten) Beck**



Beck Family

May 7,

Harper Marie Chau daughter of **Honman and Amanda (Stahley) Chau**

Hadley Drew Roulston daughter of **Jonathan and Heather (Emig) Roulston**

July 2

Locksley Rey Whalen daughter of **Matt and Rebecca (Anewalt) Whalen**

Jackson Kenneth Heller son of **Glenn and Stacey (Peters) Heller**

Rylen Matthew Yurkovic son of **Matthew and Tara (Clauser) Yurkovic**



Chilcote Family



Cygan Family



Yurkovic Family

New Members

February 26

Dale and Destiny Beck

children **Reese & Everly,**

William Arnold

Heather and William Chilcote

Children **Will & Delaney**

Nicholas Swartz

Reinstated: **Frank & Donna Schiavone**

Lauren Roth

June 18

Eliot Lightner, son **Everett**

Brendan Cygan and Molly Riley-Cygan

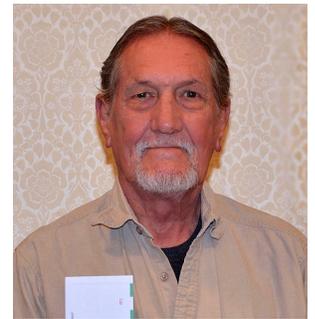
Children **Maggie & Lila**

Ralph Gioielli

Matthew and Tara Yurkovic, son **Rylen**



Connie & Ralph Gioielli



Bill Arnold

New Member Sessions

Pastor Kris and our church leaders invite you to gatherings on **September 10th and 17th at 9:15am-10:15am**. We will meet in the Memory Room (Room 200) on the second floor. This is time to get to know each other and ask questions. Attendance is not required to join. You will be welcomed as members in worship on **Sunday, September 24th at the 8am or 10:30am worship service**.

For more info: Pastor Kris PastorKris@unionucc.org

To sign up: Call the church office at 610-767-6961 or email Tara secretary@unionucc.org or Barbara administrator@unionucc.org

Baptism

We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Upcoming dates are September 17th and November 12th. There is a pre-baptism session for families typically held after church the Sunday before the baptism.

To sign up: Call the church office at 610-767-6961 and speak to Tara secretary@unionucc.org or Barbara administrator@unionucc.org

Weddings

To begin the process of scheduling your pre-marriage sessions and wedding at church/a venue and/or with one of the pastors: Barbara Carinci at 610-767-6961 administrator@unionucc.org

Memorials

The following donations have been accepted into the Union UCC Memorial Fund in memory of Stanely M. Wieand:

Harold & Arlene Remaley
Mary Jane Hittner
Oliver & Althea Blose
Ronald & Elanor Kleckner
Ray & Dottie Kutz
Charlotte J. Fritz
Lloyd & Ardith Kuhns
Tom & Sandra Hoenl
Wilbur & Linda Romig
Janet Bachman & Children (Dennie, David, Douglas, Jane & Daniel)
Richard & Jill Schlosser
Phil & Julie Wehr
Curtis & Janet Hoffman
Arthur & Shirley Kuhns
Dennis & Wendy Christman
Doris R. Miller
Linda M. Wieand
Carole J. Hausman
Michael & Cynthia Best
Barbara J. Panner

The Schoch Family
(Beth,Bill,Matt,Phil,Alex)
Todd P. Donnelly
Krause Toyota
Babette A. Pennay
Don & Gloria Chaputa
Carolyn George
Eunice M. Diehl
Richard Gogle
Delores Rader
Lee & Carolyn Schleicher
Ken & Melanie Cherry
Karen L. Osborn
Nancy Cherry
Judith A. Stuffed
Donald & Heather Kern
Community Fire Co. No. 1
Georgene Brobst
Jason Wieand
Richard & Barbara Carinci
Dennis & Denise Rothrock
Lee & Carolyn Schleicher
Jordan Lodge No. 192 Inc.
Lady Lillie Best Rebekah Lodge

TAI CHI

Begins Sept. 6 and meet Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:15 am in 215. If you are interested in evening classes call Contact Beth Dymond at 610-767-5688.

SPIRITUALLY FIT Starts Sept. 6, 2017, Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 pm in Memorial Hall. The program is simple and free and consists of light aerobics, toning weights, floor abs and stretching. It's a way to make exercise fun. Contact Dan Topp at 610-767-3384.



Home Visitation Members Birthdays



Dorothy Reph - Sept. 4
4540 W. Mt. View Drive
Walnutport, PA 18088-9449

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

All committees and groups must complete a use of facility form to schedule events or activities. Please contact Barbara, in the church office at 610-767-6961 or administrator@unionucc.org for forms and room availability. Thank You!

Golden Times

For those wise in years and young at heart.

Our next gathering will be
Tuesday, October 3, 2017

Program: Parkland Strolling
Strings
November: Behind the Bench

**Programs offered are fun,
informative and entertaining.
Bring a dessert to share.**

**12 noon – 1:30pm
FREE**

An informal sharing of Holy Communion is offered at the end of our time together for those who are interested.

Helping Hearts and Communion Ministers

Our Helping Hearts group cares for our members on our visitation list by delivering flowers sponsored by church members and by visiting, sharing prayers and Christian friendship. Our Communion Ministers also share in this ministry by delivering communion. **Our next meeting will be Sept. 21 at 7pm in the Memory Room.**

Ronnie Sechler was born in Fogelsville. He was baptized and confirmed at St. John's Lutheran Church in Fogelsville, where he sang on the choir and served as Assistant Sunday School Secretary. Ronnie graduated from William Allen High School. He then served for 2 years in the U.S. Army, in New Jersey and in Arizona. Ronnie delivered milk for the Lehigh Valley Dairy for several years, then served as the North Whitehall Township Supervisor for 12 years, and a further 7 years as a township employee.

Marilyn Sechler was born in Schnecksville. You may know her siblings, Harold Remaley, Catherine Haberern and Lorraine Hunsicker. Marilyn graduated from Parkland High School. She worked as a typist for Dunn and Bradstreet for 4 years, then worked as a waitress at the Days Inn and Holiday Inn for 37 years.

Marilyn and Ronnie met on a blind date in 1952. They married July 2, 1955 at Union UCC and raised their children in Orefield.

They have two children, Diane and Daniel. Diane has two sons, Jeremy and Brendan. They have two delightful granddaughters, Emily and Samantha.

Ronnie was out delivering milk when Marilyn was in the hospital delivering Daniel and Diane. Bob Haberern kindly drove Marilyn to the hospital both times. He famously refused to kiss Marilyn goodbye when the nurse asked him if "he wanted to kiss his wife goodbye." "She's not my wife," was his reply. Catherine and Marilyn helped to take care of each other's children when their children were young.

Marilyn was very involved in the Schnecksville Sunday School from birth on. She walked to Sunday School as a student and teacher. She served as Sunday School Treasurer and Superintendent. Marilyn also volunteered at VBS at Union UCC.

Ronnie was an officer in the "Quarter Midget Club", a local midget car racing club, when Daniel was involved. The dads would push the cars to start them, while the moms worked in the snack stand. Marilyn and Ronnie often traveled with Daniel to various races. Ronnie was also a lifetime member of the Copeechan Fish and Game Club.

Marilyn helped Diane in her 4-H activities, where Diane learned to sew. Marilyn remembers her own mother being an excellent seamstress.

Marilyn and Ronnie loved to travel. One memorable trip was driving 11,500 miles to Alaska and back.

They'd love to hear from you:

Ronnie Sechler
At Home at Parkland
4515 Washington Street
Schnecksville, PA 18065

Marilyn Sechler
4615 Daisy Ave
Orefield, PA 18065

Penn Northeast Conference Updates

The Reverend Bonnie L. Bates will be the next Pennsylvania Northeast Conference Minister. She will begin on September 1, 2017. Rev. Bates comes to us from Ohio where she is serving an Associate Conference Minister for Vitality and Development. She says, "I have a dream about the church - that it will nurture individuals who will help bring positive change and development to the world. I have a dream that hope will replace hopelessness, that activism will replace apathy, that faith will replace fear." We look forward to welcoming Rev Bates in September and working with her. The designated term is three years and may be extended but not indefinitely. A large part of Rev Bate's job will be to help us discern whether or not we want to merge with the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference in order to create a new Pennsylvania East Conference.

The Pennsylvania Northeast Conference **Amigos de Guatemala** partnership with The Council of Ecumenical Churches in Guatemala is moving forward on the construction of a multiuse facility in the village of Monte Margarita. Already there is a retaining wall and exterior walls. The building will serve as a health clinic, a place for education, perhaps worship, and much more. Building is expected to be completed sometime early next year. Union UCC has been a supporter of this effort.

BACKYARD BBQ BASH *Sponsors*

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DONNA'S MEDICAL/THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

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Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!



Sunday, September 3, 2017

Labor Sunday

8:00am Heritage Service

10:30am Horizon Service-

Guest Preacher: Rev. Ernie Shaffer

Lay Readers: 8:00- Liz Normann

10:30 - Donna Christman

Greeters: Mark & Debbie Daluisio, Jen Haley Family

Acolytes: 8:00AM -

10:30AM-

Sunday, September 17, 2017

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00am Heritage Service

10:30am Horizon Service-Baptism

Guest Preacher: Susan Glosan

Lay Readers: 8:00- Doug Albert

10:30 - Don Penrod

Greeters: Chris & Abby Bastidas, Karen & Scott Misera

Acolytes: 8:00AM -

10:30AM-Jacob Solt, Cameron Kuntz

Sunday, September 10, 2017

Education Hour Resumes/Blessing of Backpacks

8:00am Heritage Service

10:30am Horizon Service-

Guest Musician: Steven Courtney

Greeters: Todd & Amy McCoy, Eric Minnich

Acolytes: 8:00AM -

10:30AM-Andrew Hill, Mitchell Roth

Sunday, September 24, 2017

Harvest Home/New Members

8:00am Heritage Service

10:30am Horizon Service-

Texts: Psalm 65

Message: Blessings of Growth

Preacher: Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuelsan

Lay Readers: 8:00- Sandy Craig

10:30 - Fawn Albert

Greeters: Jim & Leanna Lane, Naomi & George DeNardo

Acolytes: 8:00AM -Josh Baron

10:30AM- Grace Baer



Continues on Sundays after 8am and 10:30 Worship Services and in between the services in Memorial Hall (on the same level as the sanctuary). Stop by for snack or drink, to say hello to a friend, or learn about something new about a committee.

Holy Grounds Coffee Hour

Every Sunday

9:15-10:15 &

11:30-12:00

Thank you to our hosting committees:

September 3— No Committee

September 10— Fellowship Committee

September 17— Church & Ministry

September 24— Consistory

Financial & Attendance Reports

	<u>Operating Fund</u>	<u>Designated Funds</u>	<u>Grand Total All Funds</u>
7-1-2017	\$9,644.00	\$31,965.00	41,609.00
Income	\$33,473.00	\$973.00	\$34,446.00
Expenses	\$29,205.00	\$7,998.00	\$37,203.00
7-31-2017	\$13,912.00	\$24,940.00	\$38,852.00

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship Service</u>		<u>CC/ Video/ Nursery</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>8AM</u>	<u>10:30AM</u>		
June 4	112	245	15	372
June 11	55	98	10	163
June 18	64	147	6	217
June 25	61	165	CFW	226

Designated Funds category includes offerings for NIN, Mother's Day, OGHS, Lenten, Advent, Improvement Fund, Flowers, Directory, Bulletins, Phoebe Campaign, & Special Gifts.

TOTAL ATTENDANCE	
June <u>2016</u> –845	June <u>2017</u> – 978
AVG ATTENDANCE	
June <u>2016</u> –211	June <u>2017</u> - 245

Deaths

Raymond Kiser passed away on June 22, 2017 and was laid to rest on June 27, 2017.

Sandra Grim passed away on July 6, 2017 and was laid to rest on July 11, 2017.

Christine D. (Kuhns) Smith passed away on July 9, 2017 and was laid to rest on July 13, 2017.

Muriel Hughes passed away on August 21, 2017 and was laid to rest on August 26, 2017.

Church Directory

SAVE THE DATE: A new Church directory is coming! Please save the date(s) of **November 24-27**. LifeTouch Photography will be taking portraits of all members beginning Friday, the day after Thanksgiving through Monday, November 27th. Additional dates will be added as needed. Each family will receive a beautiful, color directory and a free 8x10 portrait. More details to sign up for your photography session, and how you can help make our Church directory a success, will be coming soon. Contact Deidre Bilger at 610-393-7630 or Cheryl Yencho at 610-295-7524 for more information.

UNION UCC CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuels
Senior Pastor
Cell Phone: 610-657-6007
pastorkris@unionucc.org

Rev. Dr. Patience Stevenson
Pastor of Visitation
Cell Phone: 610-248-5587
vispastor@unionucc.org

Rev. Thomas N. Thomas
Pastor Emeritus

Kathy L. Bonsell
Director of Christian Education
dired@unionucc.org

Barbara Carinci
Church Administrator
administrator@unionucc.org

Tara Henninger
Communications Coordinator
secretary@unionucc.org

Blake Hoppes
Minister of Music
Blake.charger@gmail.com

Church Office:
610-767-6961
Fax: 610-767-7128

PO Box 66,
5550 Route 873
Neffs PA 18065-0066

www.unionucc.org

Preschool Office:
610-767-5327

Church Telephone Extension Directory 610-767-6961

Pastor Kris	ext. 24
Pastor Patience	ext. 31
Barbara Carinci	ext. 21
Tara Henninger	ext. 22
Kathy Bonsell	ext. 27
Music Office	ext. 26
Kitchen	ext. 30

September 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <u>9am</u> Bulletin Prep	2
4	5	6 <u>9:15am</u> Tai chi <u>9:30am</u> Busy Bee Quilters <u>10am</u> Knitwits <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit	7 <u>1pm</u> Property <u>7pm</u> Christian Ed	8 <u>9am</u> Bulletin Prep	9
11 <u>9:15am</u> Tai chi <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit <u>7pm</u> Fellowship Committee	12 <u>9am</u> Staff Meeting <u>10am</u> Program Staff <u>6pm</u> Cherub Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Junior Choir <u>7pm</u> Middler Choir; Bible Study <u>7:30pm</u> Unity Choir	13 <u>9:15am</u> Tai chi <u>9:30am</u> Busy Bees <u>10am</u> Knitwits <u>6pm</u> High School Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit	14 <u>10am</u> Preschool Board <u>7pm</u> Chime Choir	15 <u>9am</u> Bulletin Prep <u>9:30am</u> Adult Study	16
18 <u>9:15am</u> Tai chi <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit <u>6:45pm</u> Consistory	19 <u>6pm</u> Cherub Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Junior Choir <u>7pm</u> Middler Choir; Bible Study <u>7:30pm</u> Unity Choir	20 <u>9:15am</u> Tai chi <u>9:30am</u> Busy Bees <u>10am</u> Knitwits <u>6pm</u> High School Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit	21 <u>7pm</u> Chime Choir; Helping Hearts	22 <u>9am</u> Bulletin Prep <u>9:30am</u> Adult Study	23
25 <u>9:15am</u> Tai chi <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit	26 <u>9am</u> Newsletter Mailing; Staff meeting <u>10am</u> Program Staff <u>6pm</u> Cherub Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Junior Choir <u>7pm</u> Middler Choir; Bible Study <u>7:30pm</u> Unity Choir	27 <u>9:15am</u> Tai chi <u>9:30am</u> Busy Bees <u>10am</u> Knitwits <u>6pm</u> High School Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit	28 <u>7pm</u> Chime Choir	29 <u>9am</u> Bulletin Prep	30 <u>9-10am</u> Hoagie Pick-up

SUNDAYS

3 Labor Sunday <u>8am</u> Heritage Service <u>9:15 - 10:15 am</u> Holy Grounds <u>10:30am</u> Horizon Service/Church Family Worship <u>11:30am</u> Holy Grounds	10 <u>8am</u> Heritage Service <u>8:30am</u> Sunday School Teachers <u>9:15 - 10:15 am</u> Holy Grounds Education Hour Bible Study Horizon Singers Tech Committee New Members <u>10:30am</u> Horizon Service/Church Family Worship- Steven Courtney <u>11:30am</u> Holy Grounds Pre-baptism	17 <u>8am</u> Heritage Service <u>9:15 - 10:15 am</u> Holy Grounds Education Hour Bible Study Horizon Singers New Members <u>10:30am</u> Horizon Service-Baptism/ Children's Church <u>11:30am</u> Holy Grounds Private Party	24 Harvest Home <u>8am</u> Heritage Service <u>9:15 - 10:15 am</u> Holy Grounds Education Hour Bible Study Horizon Singers <u>10:30am</u> Horizon Service- Children's Church <u>11:30am</u> Holy Grounds
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