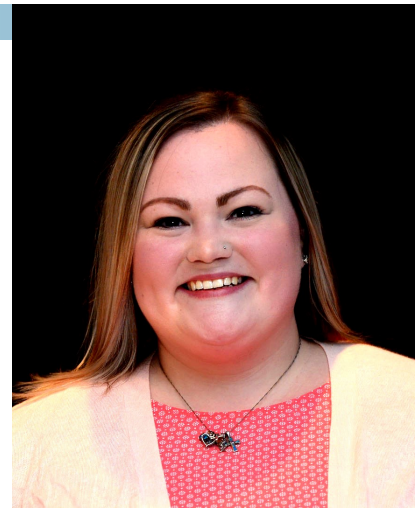


HONORING THE PAST \* CELEBRATING THE PRESENT \*  
 BUILDING THE FUTURE

## Welcome Pastor Kayli!

Pastor Kayli's first day in the office as Union's Associate Pastor will be Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> and first Sunday is December 3rd.. Please be sure to give her a warm Union UCC welcome. She will announce her office hours soon.

Her ordination service will be held on Sunday, December 10th at St. John's UCC, Emmaus, her home church. Everyone is invited, watch for more information.



**Kayli L. Freeman,**  
**Associate Pastor**

Photo Credit: Kevin Richter

## Christmas Eve Yard Signs

Yard Signs are available for you to pick up on Sundays or during the week at the end of November. If you already have a yard sign with the 3pm service added, please use it if it's in good shape. We ask that you place them in your yard or at important corners near your home to help us share the hope of Christmas with your neighbors and invite them to our church. Please hold onto signs for next year. New signs are available with all 4 services listed: 3pm, 5pm, 8pm and 11pm.

Thank you for your gifts to the **Spread the Good News Fund** to help with this cost.

Thank you to **Grant Mertz and Mertz Signs** for their work and contribution.

## Church Directory

SMILE! New Church directory pictures are coming!

Please visit the sign-up table in the foyer [after the 8am and 10:30 services] to schedule your photography session and receive additional information about this exciting event. All members, families, friends and neighbors are encouraged to have their pictures taken. Appointments are currently being scheduled for

Friday, December 1 from 2 – 9pm

Saturday, December 2 from 10am – 5pm

Sunday, December 3 from 1 – 8pm

Monday, December 4 from 2 – 9pm

Tuesday, December 5 from 2 – 9pm

Wednesday, December 6 from 2 – 9pm

Thursday, December 7 from 2 – 9pm

Sign up online at: <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y1cp686y/>.

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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)

**Did you know that the largest percentage of people that are homeless are children and that EVERY school district in our area has several families that are homeless?**

**Our pastors meet with families in need and/or who are homeless almost every week. Now's our chance to make a difference in another important way.**

Our Mission Committee and Consistory has said yes to a new opportunity called Family Promise. 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.

We are 1 of 13 churches and groups that has offered to host families for 4 weeks over the course of a year. During the weeks that families are here, families will go to work, school and the Family Promise services during the day and return to our church in the evening for a safe, warm and friendly place to stay. We will share making supper together and preparing breakfast. We might provide homework help or play a card game together.

The Mission Committee and Consistory will help to organize this effort but we will need everyone's help. We're looking for a Steering Committee to oversee things like volunteers, meals, donations and building use. We're looking for volunteers to help make or donate food for meals. We're looking for volunteers to come for a few hours in the evening to visit with the families and for other volunteers to stay overnight.

**We are known for being a welcoming church. I'm excited that God is calling us to open our arms a little bit wider.** I'm certain that the people of Union will find many more ways to care for these families who are homeless while they are with us.

Let Pastor Kris, the Mission Committee or the Consistory members know that you are praying for this important effort and how you might be able to volunteer to help or donate funds and resources.



## Consistory

By Deidre Bilger Subject to Approval

Pastor Kris and the Mission Committee  
[pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org)

The monthly meeting of the Union United Church of Christ Consistory Meeting was called to order on Monday, October 16, 2017, by President Brad Hackett.

The Treasurer's Report and the August – September 2017 bills were presented and approved.

**Property and Maintenance Committee reported** that a new fan was installed in the quilting room. A pressure test was successfully completed on the elevator. Julie Wehr painted the Associate Pastor office. Work is beginning on replacing the brick chimney of the church. The building of the new food stand in the grove is on schedule – the concrete floor is finished and the walls are going up with the roof to be up shortly thereafter. A paved area leading from the road to the food stand will be a wise investment. Phil Wehr is working with paving contractors Kuhns and Anthony on a design for a small parking area and also checking into township regulations, and will bring more information back to Consistory next month.

**Mission Committee reported that** the Crop Walk had 6 walkers that raised over \$1,062 for Allentown. On November 5, hygiene kits and clean up buckets are being sent to CWS. The Golf tournament on October 7 raised \$4,200 for hurricane relief efforts, and the Congregation donated an additional \$500. The Family Promise initiative was discussed. Consistory to help the church-wide effort to oversee, volunteer, organize meals and host families. The project is anticipated to begin in 2018.

**Church and Ministry reported that** Consistory approved Pastor Patience working 15 hours per week through March 2018.

**Welcoming Committee reported that** New Members informational meetings will be held on Nov. 5 and 12 in the Memory Room at 9:15am. Committee and Consistory members are encouraged to attend and welcome our upcoming new members who will be joining the church on November 19.

**Stewardship Committee reported that** the committee is working to send a series of mailings and faith commitment cards will be sent in January. November 19 will be Stewardship Sunday.

**Fellowship Committee reported that** the basket social was attended by 160 people and was very successful. The event raised \$3,500.

**Worship Committee reported that** there are several special opportunities for worship and include:

11/5 – All Saints Day

11/12 – Veterans will be acknowledged

11/26 – Thanksgiving family worship service

Consistory approved replacing the Christmas greens and bows used for decorating the sanctuary.

**The next regular meeting of the Union United Church of Christ Consistory will be held Monday, November 20, in Room 101.**

# Mission Committee

## CROP Walk

By John Snyder-Samuelson

Thank you and congratulations to everyone at Union UCC for a really great job with the Allentown CROP Walk.

First of all, Kathy Bonsell, the Sunday School teachers, and the Children's Church teachers got us started by organizing the children in the annual Sneaker Stroll (including the walk itself as well as collecting and counting all of the pledges and sponsorships). The children raised a wonderful total of \$160. Then, many thanks to the entire congregation (at both services) for its generosity with the milk jug collection for CROP. \$294 was deposited into those milk jugs for the CROP Walk. Last, thank you to the Union UCC walkers (and their many financial sponsors): Dion Henninger, Teresa Dalrymple, Graham Smith, Susan Smith, Carrington Smith and I raised a total of \$610.

When you put all of these dollar figures together, Union U.C.C. raised a total of \$1064 for the 2017 Allentown CROP Walk. I am very pleased with and excited about that number. Many, many people with have something to eat and some water to drink in the coming days, weeks and months thanks to your efforts.

As a whole, twenty-eight congregations raised a total of \$26,109.09 today for the Allentown CROP Walk. From my past experience with the CROP Walk, the grand total on the day of the CROP Walk always inches higher and higher in the days and weeks that follow the walk so I will not be surprised at all if this year's total eventually reaches \$30,000.



Sneaker Stroll Above;  
Allentown CROPWalk Below



## Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma Relief

On Oct 7, a golf tournament was held at Iron Lakes Golf Club. Organized by member Matt Gerry, and sponsored by Union UCC's mission committee, 32 golfers played a round of golf, tournament style, on a warm sunny day. Their efforts raised \$4,200 which will support relief efforts to families affected by Hurricane Harvey. Thank you to Matt Gerry and all golfers who participated.

On Nov 5, Union UCC will be making 320 hygiene kits, and 24 clean up buckets for Church World Services and their efforts for disaster relief from all of the recent natural disasters. A \$1,500 donation will also be provided to Church World Services to help families affected by the recent hurricanes. Thank you to Union UCC's Funds of Lasting Gifts endowment fund for supporting this church mission project.

## Operation Project Food Bank

Every November, Union UCC is responsible to provide volunteers to help distribute food at the Northern Lehigh Food Bank in Emerald. **Ten to twelve volunteers are needed on Thursday November 2, 9, and 16 from 3:34 pm - 7:15 pm and on Saturday November 18 from 8:30 am - 12:00 noon.** Please consider providing time to help others, call Phil Wehr 610-767-3657 or Wilbur Romig 610-841-6586. The food bank is located on Center Street in Emerald, directly across from the Washington Township Municipal building.

The NL food bank provides food relief to over 250 families in the local area. Director Dale Bryfogle manages the huge task of overseeing the daily operations of the food bank, along with many volunteers from the community, over twelve participating local churches, and other service organizations.

She is always looking for more regular helpers to organize, stock shelves, distribute food and other duties. Volunteer opportunities are available on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Please contact Phil or Wilbur for more information.

### Mission Thank You's From Meals on Wheels of Lehigh County

Your generous \$500 donation helps to provide nutritious and medically tailored meals, well being checks and friendly visits to over 450 other home-bound seniors and adults with disabilities each weekday. Our service keeps people living in their homes, where they want to be, and out of nursing homes. It also keeps our clients healthy and out of the hospital.

Thanks again for your generosity and caring.

### From the UCC National Church

Thank you for your gift of \$150 to support Hurricane Harvey Relief Efforts. Your donation will help address the emergency now, as well as the long-term recovery that will be needed to get communities restored and people back into their homes. We are asking for prayers for everyone impacted by the storm, and for your continues support as long-term recovery take shape.





## Where School Memories Begin

October leaves are changing colors as we learn about the seasons and the weather in our 4-year-old program. We go “down on the farm” with our 3’s, complete with a trip to the pumpkin patch. Our Pre-K students are completing an author and illustrator study, working through some of the most celebrated children’s authors including Eric Carle, Tomie DePaolo, Jan Brett and Laura Numeroff. Our families joined us for a fun Open House in which Parkland Community Library joined us to sign students up for library cards. In addition, we had a visit from the Neffs Fire Department for Fire Safety Week. We will wrap up a busy October with our traditional Halloween parties and Costume Parade.

Thank you to the church families who have donated to our scholarship fund to help pay for the tuition of families suffering from financial hardship. We continue to take donations throughout the school year.



### NEFFS PRESCHOOL RECYCLING FUNDRAISER

It is time to start cleaning out those closets and drawers. There will be a truck by the Church Grove from November 11th through the 18th to collect your unwanted clothing and household items. This fundraiser benefits Neffs UCC Preschool.

**Items accepted:** Clothing, shoes, bedding, dishes, pots, plastic products, knickknacks, luggage, tools, toys, stuffed animals, sporting goods, exercise equipment. All items should be clean and dry.

**Items NOT accepted:** COMPUTERS or OTHER ELECTRONICS, TV’s, mattresses, carpets, large furniture or appliances, car seats, any moldy or mildewed items.

-Annette Wilcox, Director

## Fall Blood Drive

Thanks to successful collections in the past, Union UCC will host a blood drive through Miller-Keystone Blood Center. This is an additional drive this year. This will be a **blood drive only** event. There will not be any soup sales during this Sunday, **November 12** collection. Please spread the word and consider donating blood on this day. Sign up online at [www.giveapint.org](http://www.giveapint.org), or contact Susan Smith at (610) 366-7284 to schedule an appointment. Appointments will be from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. If you are unable to give blood, consider making a monetary donation. Miss the soup sale? We’ll bring that back in March, when we’ll do another blood drive as well.

## 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](mailto:Blake.charger@gmail.com)**



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

### Union UCC's HOLIDAY challenge— Reverse Advent Calendar

For the second year, we will be handing out baskets and advent calendars to interested families. The idea is to put something **IN** the basket each day of Advent. Bring the filled basket back to church between Christmas Eve and New Years Day and we will deliver your Holiday donation to the FOOD BANK. Help your family give to others every day of Advent. Baskets will be handed out 11/19 and 11/26.



Reverse Advent Basket

(Item Ideas: canned goods, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, pasta, condiments, cake and brownie mixes, jello, cereal, socks, mittens, toilet paper)



### Messy Church Workshop #2 Advent Celebration

Join us for brunch and a craft.  
We will be decorating ADVENT BOXES for your family to open during December.

Sunday, Dec. 3rd  
After the 10:30 service  
Cost: \$10/ craft (24 boxes)

Bring candy/prizes to fill boxes. We will have some items available.



### Bible Journaling WORKSHOP

We will be studying scripture and enhancing our understanding of the verses with design and color. We share ideas and techniques. Participants need a journal Bible. We will provide art supplies. Our workshops are stress-free and we will focus on the positive! Our November dates are Nov. 2 and Nov. 16, 9:30-11:30, in



### WHOOOO knows?

Our Sunday School children are currently memorizing **Isaiah 64:8**. Check out the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall to see what our amazing children are doing! All children who complete this challenge will receive 50 coins for the end of the year coin exchange.

The children participated in our annual SNEAKER STROLL during Sunday School and Children's Church on Oct. 8th. They collected **\$160** in sponsor money to donate to our local Crop Walk. **YAY!**



## November



### Children's Church Calendar

**Nov. 5** Matthew 23:1-12  
**Nov. 12** Matthew 25:1-13  
**Nov. 19** Matthew 25:14-30  
**Nov. 26** Church Family Worship

Union UCC has a **GIFT BIBLE PROGRAM** which is sponsored by the CE Committee and Funds of Lasting Gifts. We will present BIBLES the first Sunday of Advent to those children who are in 3rd grade or older and have attended at least five Sunday School or Children's Church classes. We will be presenting WHIRL NRSV Bibles.



### HOLIDAY HOPE CHESTS for local children (through the *Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley*)

Fill a wrapped shoebox with suggested items and bring to church by Nov. 26th. See the table in the foyer for gift suggestion sheets and nametags on Nov. 5 and Nov. 12.

## Youth Group News Grades 6-12

For more information contact:

**Pastor Kayli** [pastorkayli@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkayli@unionucc.org) 610-657-6007 Cell

**Or Dave DiPaolantonio** at 610-349-9162 and [youthgroup@unionucc.org](mailto:youthgroup@unionucc.org).

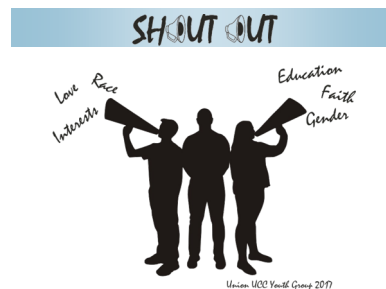
**Facebook: Union UCC Youth Group** [www.unionucc.org/Ministries/Youth Group](http://www.unionucc.org/Ministries/YouthGroup)

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).



**Welcome to Youth Group,  
Pastor Kayli!**

**We can't wait to work with you!**



### **Sunday, November 5th during Coffee Hour—Sandwich Fundraiser**

Sign up to help that morning and/or to donate food items.

And, come by to eat!

\$6 gets you a sandwich (PBJ, Ham/Cheese, Turkey BBQ), chips, granola bar or cookie, apple, water or lemonade.

**Nov 17-19 Confirmation Class Retreat at Camp Ichthus** 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to join the Confirmation Class for the weekend. Space is limited, contact Pastor Kris for forms.

### **Sunday, Dec 17 Advisory Team Meeting and Lunch 11:45-12:30**

\$50 Deposit for Regional Youth Event due.

**Church-Wide Christmas Caroling 12:30-3:30** Bring some cheer and Christmas spirit to our members who are on our visitation list.



### **Future events for your calendar:**

Jan 21 -Suds and Spuds Lunch and Fundraiser

Jan 28 – Indoor Rock Climbing

Feb 10-11 – Confirmation Class Sleepover

Feb 13—Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

March 4— Youth Sunday

### **SUNDAY MORNINGS**

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

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** (8<sup>th</sup> grade Youth  
Room) Confirmands can go to The Break-  
fast Club when there is no class.

**THE BREAKFAST CLUB** (9<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grade  
Room 4)

### **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.



# Property Committee

by Phil Wehr

Fall is here, but temperatures make it feel like summer. One way or another, the leaves will be falling soon, and we will prepare for Thanksgiving and the rest of the fall season.

Union UCC is thankful and blessed in having a beautiful church and property to conduct worship, mission, education, fellowship, provide pastoral care and so much more. We are blessed to have financial support to maintain, improve, and upgrade the many areas around our church property, which allow for Union UCC's mission and ministry to thrive.

Recently the brick chimney to the main church was removed and rebuilt with new brick. Large scaffolding was placed along side of the church for a few weeks, to allow for this project to happen. While not many people see the chimney, it was time to perform this task, before future damage would occur to the chimney or the oil burner. Thank you to Union UCC's Funds of Lasting Gifts for supporting this project.

Over in the grove, work continues at a fast pace in building the new food stand. Warm weather and rain free days provided carpenters, concrete installers, electricians, plumbers, and others to progress in this building project. By the time you read this, the foundation and floor have been finished, and the whole building up and standing. Roofing contractors, masons, and electricians will follow suit. Stop by and take a look, our food stand is moving along nicely.

Praise to all.



## Adult Study

### Friday Morning Adult Class

**9:30am-11am – Room 5 (Basement)**

**Everyone is welcome at any time as your schedule allows.**

**Friday, Nov 3 and 17 (no class Nov 10 and 24)**

We are continuing with Rob Bell but through video: Everything is Spiritual. **Watch for a holiday themed series in December.**

### Sunday Morning Adult Class

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

**Everyone is welcome at any time as your schedule allows.**

**No Class on November 26**

**November 5 and 19, 2017**

*The Benefits of Gratitude*-Learn some of the science behind how gratitude is good for you and develop some "gratitude disciplines".

**November 12, 2017 9:15-10:15**

*Medical Ethics and Palliative Care*, Joseph Vincent, M.D

Dr. Vincent will talk about some basic medical ethics principles and palliative care/hospice care. Please bring your questions and insights and join us for this interactive session. Dr. Joseph Vincent practiced medicine in the Lehigh for forty-five years prior to his retirement in June of 2016. His training was in pulmonary diseases and critical care medicine, but his interests in the humanities and ethics in healthcare led him to work in palliative care during the last 10 years of his practice. He has had a long-standing involvement with Phoebe Ministries on their ethics committee and also serves on the advisory board of the Phoebe Institute on Aging.

### Thanks to our Office Helpers!

Madeline Bingell, Teresa Dalrymple,  
Eunice Diehl, Phyllis Hamm, Bonnie Herzog, Judy Hoffman, Marjorie Hoffman, Eleanor & Ron Kleckner, Linda Migliori, 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  
in 2018 at  
10:30am  
worship!



## Donate, Recycle and Help Your Church

**You helped the church raise over \$3,000 this year with your donations of clothing.**

As you are cleaning out closets and cabinets, be sure to keep Union UCC in mind. Bring your donations at any time to the bin in our grove. The church receives a certain amount of money for each pound that is donated. Items that are usable are resold or recycled. You are also helping to save the amount of things that end up in a landfill by donating your items this way. Recycle Local's goal is to help agencies have 0% waste.

**Items accepted include: clean and dry clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, towels, drapes, pillow cases and stuffed animals. Place all items in plastic bags. NO furniture, rags, pillows, toys, or household goods.**

Another way to give and support the mission and ministry of Union UCC. Thank you.



**You shop. Amazon gives.**

When you shop at Amazon, go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to make your purchase; .5% of your order will be donated to Union UCC, as a charitable organization. Don't forget to use zip code 18065 to select Union United Church of Christ, Neffs as your charity.

**Thank you for making Union UCC the place to benefit from your shopping on Amazon.**

**We receive about \$75-\$100 per quarter as a result of your choosing us. You can sign up at any time. This is just one more way to help make a difference for God's ministry and mission at Union UCC.**

## Worship and Pastoral Care Plan – from Pastor Kris

We will continue to invite guest preachers until our associate pastor arrives. 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. **We are so grateful that these pastors have agreed to support our congregation through the end of November.**

**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 Watsontown 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.





*Dave Fleming and Sue Ondrey are our Catch the Spirit recipients for November. They were nominated by the Church and Ministry Committee.*

I thought it would be good to highlight **Dave Fleming and Sue Ondrey on behalf the Church and Ministry** Committee as a way to celebrate their work over the years, to wish them well as they move to Georgia (the Flemings) and Colorado (the Ondreys), and to highlight the work that Church and Ministry does. It's been a busy three years for this Committee. -Pastor Kris

**From Dave Fleming:** I have been a lifelong member of the United Church of Christ and have always been active on the local, conference and national levels of the UCC. We became involved at Union UCC as well as the PNEC after we moved here from Virginia.

I had the honor of serving as chair of the Church & Ministry Committee at Union for nearly twenty years. As many know, this vital committee to our church life, handles issues on membership, covenantal responsibilities, serves as personnel committee, Spiritual Council and as an advocate for our staff. The committee makes recommendations to Consistory on church governance and personnel policies and is responsible for filling staff vacancies.

I have found involvement on this committee to be both challenging and very rewarding especially the opportunities to work with our talented and devoted staff of lay members and clergy. Providing support for our pastors (of the largest church in our conference) has been extremely satisfying.

I thoroughly enjoyed the search process for both our Senior Pastor and Associate Pastor positions. While it was a challenging and time-consuming endeavor the committees, including LPT and all church leaders, rallied and supported the process which was led by Pastor Bill and then assisted wonderfully and faithfully by Pastors Allan, Kris, Patience, CM Alan Miller, Len Kesselring, Brad Hackett, our church staff and entire congregation. I remain so impressed that we were able to follow the Holy Spirit and discern what God had planned for us.

Finally, I want to acknowledge and thank my colleagues on both Search Committees for their dedicated service and profound commitment to these tasks which have taken several years to successfully complete. It was a pleasure working with you and I will cherish the time and bonds we made during this faith adventure.

As Karen and I live out the next chapter of our lives in Atlanta, we will remain as active with Union as we can from afar, visit when able and hold each of you in our prayers. We miss you all already.

I am humbled by this honor of receiving the Catch the Spirit Award for a second time. I leave you with this excerpt from Rev Michael Piazza's weekly benediction: "Live passionately and love faithfully and celebrate every moment of your life from now until the Finale. Our God of relentless grace goes with you."

**From Sue Ondrey:** When we relocated to the Lehigh Valley, finding a church family was not as easy as we thought it would be. Having come from different backgrounds, Jim and I weren't led to one denomination. Eventually our family found our home at Union UCC. Why? Because we found a healthy church with a friendly congregation, strong leadership, a church with the same Christian values that we were looking for, and a church with a vibrant youth program. Once we started attending Union UCC, we all got involved in different ways. Jennifer and Natalie joined the youth programs and choirs, Jim as a reader, a worship assistant, and most recently Consistory member, and I got involved with VBS, Consistory, the Confirmation teaching team, and Church and Ministry Committee.

The Church & Ministry committee is akin to a Human Resources department. We monitor staff needs, evaluations, recruitment, budget recommendations for staff including salaries, and at times we are asked to respond to concerns from congregants. It's critical that we listen and respond to the needs and concerns of all staff. What I have found to be most satisfying is to be a part of the recruiting process for the leaders that help define who we are at Union UCC.

I have been honored to be a part of many search committees over the years – for the Church Administrator, Sunday Set-up, Interim Pastor, Senior Pastor, Music Director, and most recently the Associate Pastor. What has impressed me most with each of these searches is the commitment of the volunteers that have served on the committees. Each team has taken their responsibility seriously, with individuals contributing their time and talent to create a productive, synergistic committee. The most intense effort was for the Senior Pastor position, since we had to do so much ground work with the LPT to define who we are and what we're looking for, and then create a profile to attract the right candidates.

I hope I have contributed in some small way to Church and Ministry and all that the committee has accomplished in the last few years, but more importantly I am thankful to have been an active part of Union UCC. I encourage everyone to find a committee, small group, or educational opportunity to participate in at Union. You'll meet new people, make a positive impact, and I suspect you'll get much more back than you give. It has only been a few weeks since we've moved, and I already miss my church.



Help us to remember our Home Visitation Members by sponsoring a Poinsettia Plant at the cost of \$8.25. These members are unable to come to church to see the decorations in the sanctuary. However, you are able to help share the joy and love of Christmas with them by sponsoring a Poinsettia Plant for them.

Anyone who wishes to sponsor a Poinsettia Plant at the cost of \$8.25 for our church services during the Christmas Season, in memory of loved ones, in honor of someone, should order using the order form below. **The deadline date for orders is Sunday, December 3, 2017.**

#### POINSETTIA PLANT ORDER FORM 2017

I would like to sponsor #\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia(s) for a **HOME VISITATION MEMBER.**

I would like to sponsor #\_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia(s) for **CHRISTMAS SERVICES** which I may pick up after 11PM church services on December 24th. I will pick up my Poinsettia(s) following the service. ☐ YES ☐ NO

**TOTAL # OF POINSETTIA(S)** \_\_\_\_\_ X \$8.25 each = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please **print** your information on this form and place in the offering plate with your payment (checks payable to Union UCC) or mail to the church office (PO Box 66, Neffs, PA 18065-0066) **no later than Sunday, December 3, 2017.**

## Women's Retreat 2018

### Union UCC Women's Retreat Weekend

**April 27-29, 2018**

Trout Lake Retreats, Stroudsburg

\$135, Collecting \$75 Deposit Now through January 8 to hold your spot.

Balance \$60 Due April 8.

Payment plans and financial assistance available.

Checks to Union UCC, Memo Line – Women's Retreat

Friends and Family members are welcome too.

### 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.**

## New Member Sessions

Pastor Kris and our church leaders invite you to gatherings on **November 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 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, November 19<sup>th</sup> at the 8am or 10:30am worship service**.

For more info: Pastor Kris [PastorKris@unionucc.org](mailto:PastorKris@unionucc.org)

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

## Baptism

We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Upcoming dates are **January 14 and March 18**. 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](mailto:secretary@unionucc.org) or Barbara [administrator@unionucc.org](mailto: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](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org)

## 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](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org) for forms and room availability.



# VETERANS DAY

Please help us collect the names of all our members who are currently serving in the military, as well as, those who are inactive, retired, and veterans.

We will make a display board to recognize these individuals on

**Veteran's Day at 8:00 & 10:30 worship services (Nov. 12).**

Please complete the following info and submit it to the office or email [secretary@unionucc.org](mailto:secretary@unionucc.org) **no later than Sunday, November 5.**

**Rank/Title and Name:**

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**Branch of the Military:**

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**Time Served/Current Status:**

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**Special**

**Honors:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Home Visitation Members Birthdays



**Elaine Creitz - Nov. 10**

c/o Vicki Lindsay  
3844 Vista Dr.  
Slatington, PA 18080

**Shirley Knappenberger-  
Nov. 21**

2257 Skyline Dr.  
Slatington, PA 18080

**Delores Rader- Nov. 23**

1654 Clearview Rd.  
Coplay, PA 18037



### Golden Times

*For those wise in years and young at heart.*

Our next gathering will be  
**Tuesday, November 7,  
2017**

**Program:** Behind the Bench  
Pat Warmkessel and Suzanne  
Ensley Toto share a behind the  
scenes view of the courtroom  
from the perspective of a judge  
and court reporter

**Dec 5:** Old Towne Carolers  
Piano Duo

**January:** No meeting

Programs offered are fun, in-  
formative & entertaining. Bring  
a dessert to share.

**12 noon – 1:30pm  
FREE**

**Food Bank Donation:** Soap/  
Toothpaste  
An informal sharing of Holy  
Communion is offered

### Helping Hearts and Communion Ministers

Our Helping Hearts group  
cares for our members on  
our visitation list by deliv-  
ering flowers sponsored  
by church members and  
by visiting, sharing pray-  
ers and Christian friend-  
ship. Our Communion  
Ministers also share in this  
ministry by delivering  
communion. **Our next  
meeting will be in  
December.**

Shirley Good Levan was born on October 18, 1939 to William and Pearl (Wotring) Good. She has 2 brothers and five sisters. Shirley grew up in Bal-lietsville. She and her brothers and sisters went to school in a 2 room school house in Ironton. They completed their education at Parkland High School. Shirley married Dale Levan on March 19, 1957. She and Dale have one son, Wil-liam. Shirley cleaned homes for 30 years for many wonderful families.

Shirley was baptized, confirmed and married at Union UCC. She has helped baking raised cakes at Union UCC and loves attending Golden Times, es-pecially when the Parkland Strolling Strings play for us. Shirley contributes faithfully to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank and attends worship at 8:00 when she is able. Shirley is very grateful for the meals prepared by church members for her husband while she was in the hospital.

Shirley enjoys crossword puzzles, reading newspapers and magazines. She used to love to do counted cross stitch. Shirley has very fond memories of the year she spent in Germany with her husband, Dale, when he was stationed in Pirmasens with the U.S. Army. Their son, William, was born in Germany and has dual citizenship.

Shirley would love to hear from you. Please write to her at:

Shirley Levan  
24 S. 38<sup>th</sup> Street  
Allentown, PA 18104

### All Saints' Sunday

#### All Saints' November 5th

We will remember our church members who passed away this year. Family and friends are invited to take a rose home.

You will also have a chance to remember your friends and family members who are not members by listing their name on an easel. The empty chair will help us to remember their place in our lives as we re-member them in worship, along with our church members who have passed away this year. Peace be with you.

**We Remember:** Donald Bachman Sr., Ziba Berlew, Jeff Best, Marion Butz, Elaine Domitrovits, Wendy Gambler, William George II, Priscilla Greiss, Sandra Grim, Donald Herzog, Benjamin Hess Jr., Kenneth Hoff-man, Mark Hoffman, Muriel Hughes, Jennie Hunsicker, Raymond Kiser, Kathy Klimek, Helen Peters, Dorothy Rabert, Russell Rader, Ruth Rob-erts, Willard Ruch, Caroline Schillinger, Sandra Simock, Christine Smith, Marian Supp, Tammy Wanamaker, Stanley Wieand



## Stewardship from the Financial Leadership Team

Pastor Kris

### **Journey to Generosity: The Way of Jesus.**

***"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."*** Matthew 9:35-10:23

One virtue of this passage for today's church, with respect to stewardship, is that it underlines the importance of making as clear a choice as possible in using resources in favor of God's ministry and mission. Individuals, households, and congregations become clearer and deeper in stewardship commitment when we make a deliberate "Yes."

To accept the command of Jesus to engage in bringing wholeness to a fragmented world is to be on a mission that matters. It is a mission that is not without risk, cannot be taken without deep personal commitment, and requires that we ultimately trust God to provide what we need. Then again, most things that matter in life are not necessarily easy or without effort.

**Watch your mail for letters inviting you on this Journey of Generosity. Stewardship Sunday is November 19<sup>th</sup>. Faith Commitment Card Sunday is January 7<sup>th</sup>.**



### **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/](http://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.



# Worship Opportunities

## Sunday, November 5, 2017

All Saints Sunday: Remembering those who have passed

**8:00am Heritage Service**

**10:30am Horizon Service**

**Texts:** Matthew 23:1-12

**Message:** Easting Humble Pie

**Preacher:** Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuelsan

**Lay Readers:** 8:00- Liz Normann

10:30 - Elena Steidinger

**Greeters:** Vicki Mayk, Malcolm & Margie Mackenzie

**Acolytes:** 8:00AM -

10:30AM- Andrew Hill, Josh Baron



### Guest Musicians: Simple Gifts

Two women plus twelve instruments equals one good time when Simple Gifts takes the stage. Combining tradition with innovation, Simple Gifts creates some of the finest arrangements in folk music today. Based in the hills of central Penn-

sylvania, these women play an amazing array of instruments. Linda Littleton and Karen Hirshon switch with ease among fiddle, mandolin, banjo, guitar, guitjo, recorders, bowed psaltery, hammered dulcimer, baritone fiddle, guitar, and percussion.

## Sunday, November 12, 2017

Veterans Honored-Special Music with Brass and Organ to honor our Active, Retired and Deceased Veterans

**8:00am Heritage Service**

**10:30am Horizon Service-Baptism**

**Guest Preacher:** Rev. Don Quayle

**Lay Readers:** 8:00- Susan Rumble

10:30 - Vicki Mayk

**Greeters:** Al Stubbman, SueAnn Hregician, Karen Wonderly

**Acolytes:** 8:00AM -

10:30AM- Katherine

Schaedel, Marissa

Christman

## Sunday, November 19, 2017

Stewardship Sunday/ New Members

**8:00am Heritage Service**

**10:30am Horizon Service-Children's Choirs**

**Texts:** John 14:1-14, John 14:15-21, Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

**Message:** Journey to Generosity

**Preacher:** Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuelsan

**Lay Readers:** 8:00- Doug Albert

10:30 - Don Penrod

**Greeters:** Nancy Jones, Eric Minnich

**Acolytes:** 8:00AM -Jacob Solt

10:30AM- Cameron Kuntz, Grace Baer

## Sunday, November 26, 2017

Thanksgiving Sunday/Jazz Ensemble

**8:00am Heritage Service**

**10:30am Horizon Service-Church Family Worship; High School Choir**

**Guest Preacher:** Rev. Dr. David DeRemer

**Lay Readers:** 8:00- Michael Roth

10:30 - Fawn Albert

**Greeters:** Connie Gioielli

**Acolytes:** 8:00AM -Mitchell Roth

10:30AM-

### Future Worship Dates: Save the Dates!

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>** - 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, Communion

**December 10<sup>th</sup>** - Choir Musical at 10:30am

**December 10<sup>th</sup>, 7pm** -Parkland High School Chorale Concert

**December 17**-Lessons and Carols

**12:45-3:30pm** Church-Wide Christmas Caroling

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve**

**No Morning Services at 8am and 10:30am**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**

**3pm - with Communion**

**8pm - with Communion**

**5pm - Family Service**

**11pm - with Communion**

## Holy Grounds Coffee Hour

**Every Sunday**

**9:15-10:15 &**

**11:30-12:00**



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.

Thank you to our hosting committees:

November 5—No Committee

November 12—Christian Ed

November 19—Stewardship

November 26—No Committee



# Financial & Attendance Reports

	<u>Operating Fund</u>	<u>Designated Funds</u>	<u>Grand Total All Funds</u>
<b>7-1-2017</b>	\$9,644.00	\$31,965.00	41,609.00
<b>Income</b>	\$107,140.00	\$7,358.00	\$114,498.00
<b>Expenses</b>	91,194.00	\$13,272.00	\$104,466.00
<b>9-30-2017</b>	\$25,590.00	\$26,051.00	\$51,641.00

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship Service</u> 8AM 10:30AM		<u>CC/ Video/ Nursery</u>	<u>Total</u>
September 3	69	220	7	296
September 10	59	96	8	163
September 17	69	112	CFW	181
September 24	57	80	7	144

**TOTAL ATTENDANCE**  
September 2016–1,077 September 2017– 932

**AVG ATTENDANCE**  
September 2016–215 September 2017– 186

## Memorials

The following donations have been accepted into the Union UCC Memorial Fund in memory of **Priscilla A. (Moore) Greiss**:

Sandra Daumer  
 Priscilla J. Hartzell  
 Margaret Dennis  
 Carolyn Herman & Cathy White  
 Carolyn George  
 Holly Heishman  
 Barbara DeLong  
 Paul & Cathy Peters  
 Ethel M. Dervarics

## Weddings

**Melissa Check and Daniel Moser** were united in Marriage on October 14, 2017.

**Sarah Goldman and Sean Brandle** were united in Marriage on October 21, 2017.

## UNION UCC CHURCH STAFF

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

**Rev. Kayli Freeman**  
 Associate Pastor  
 pastorkayli@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

**Ori Handwerk**  
 Custodian  
 Caretaker@unionucc.org

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  
 preschool@unionucc.org

### Church Telephone Extension Directory 610-767-6961

Pastor Kris	ext. 24
Pastor Kayli	ext. 25
Pastor Patience	ext. 31
Barbara Carinci	ext. 21
Tara Henninger	ext. 22
Kathy Bonsell	ext. 27
Music Office	ext. 26
Kitchen	ext. 30

# November 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1 9:15am</b> Tai chi <b>9:30am</b> Busy Bee Quilters <b>10am</b> Knitwits <b>6pm</b> High School Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Spiritually Fit	<b>2</b> <b>9:30am</b> Bible Journaling <b>1:30pm</b> Property <b>7pm</b> Christian Ed;	<b>3</b> <b>9am</b> Bulletin Prep <b>9:30am</b> Adult Study	<b>4</b>
<b>6</b> <b>9:15am</b> Tai Chi <b>6:30pm</b> Spiritually Fit <b>7pm</b> Fellowship Cmte	<b>7 9am</b> Staff meeting <b>10am</b> Program Staff <b>12pm</b> Golden Times <b>6pm</b> Cherub Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Junior/Middler Choir <b>7pm</b> Bible Study	<b>8 9:15am</b> Tai chi <b>9:30am</b> Busy Bee Quilters <b>10am</b> Knitwits <b>6pm</b> High School Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Spiritually Fit	<b>9</b> <b>10am</b> Preschool Board <b>7pm</b> Chime Choir	<b>10</b> <b>9am</b> Bulletin Prep <b>9:30am</b> Adult Study	<b>11</b>
<b>13</b> <b>9:15am</b> Tai chi <b>6:30pm</b> Spiritually Fit	<b>14 6pm</b> Cherub Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Junior/Middler Choir <b>7pm</b> Bible Study	<b>15 9:15am</b> Tai chi <b>9:30am</b> Busy Bees <b>10am</b> Knitwits <b>6pm</b> High School Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Spiritually Fit	<b>16</b> <b>9:30am</b> Bible Journaling <b>7pm</b> Chime Choir	<b>17</b> <b>9am</b> Bulletin Prep <b>9:30am</b> Adult Study	<b>18</b>
<b>20</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Spiritually Fit <b>6:45pm</b> Consistory	<b>21 6pm</b> Cherub Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Junior/Middler Choir <b>7pm</b> Bible Study	<b>22</b> <b>9:30am</b> Busy Bees <b>10am</b> Knitwits <b>6pm</b> High School Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Spiritually Fit	<b>23</b> <b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>24 OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>9am</b> Bulletin Prep <b>2:00pm</b> Photo Directory	<b>25</b> <b>10am</b> Photo Directory
<b>27</b> <b>9:15am</b> Tai chi <b>6:30pm</b> Spiritually Fit	<b>28</b> <b>9am</b> Newsletter Mailing; <b>6pm</b> Cherub Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Junior/Middler Choir <b>7pm</b> Bible Study	<b>29 9:15am</b> Tai chi <b>9:30am</b> Busy Bees <b>10am</b> Knitwits <b>6pm</b> High School Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Spiritually Fit	<b>30</b>		

## SUNDAYS

### 5 All Saints

**8am** Heritage Service

**9:15 - 10:15 am**

Holy Grounds  
Education Hour  
Bible Study  
Horizon Singers  
New members  
Brass Ensemble

**10:30am** Horizon  
Service/Children's Church

**11:30am** Holy Grounds  
**11:45 am** Pre-Baptism

### 12 Veteran's Honored Blood Drive

**8am** Heritage Service

**9:15 - 10:15 am**

Holy Grounds  
Education Hour  
Bible Study  
Horizon Singers  
Tech Committee  
New Members

**10:30am** Horizon  
Service/Children's Church

**11:30am** Holy Grounds  
Mission Committee

### 19 New Members

**8am** Heritage Service

**9:15 - 10:15 am**

Holy Grounds  
Education Hour  
Bible Study  
Horizon Singers

**10:30am** Horizon Service-  
Children's Church

**11:30am** Holy Grounds

### 26 Thanksgiving Sunday

**8am** Heritage Service

**9:15 - 10:15 am**

Holy Grounds  
Education Hour  
Bible Study  
Horizon Singers

**10:30am** Horizon Service-Church  
Family Worship

**11:30am** Holy Grounds

**1pm** Photo Directory