

Union UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Neffs, Pennsylvania

March 2018
Volume 3, Issue 42

HONORING THE PAST * CELEBRATING THE PRESENT *
BUILDING THE FUTURE



**Look for our PRAYER WALL on
Sundays and During the Week** in the
lobby and sanctuary.
Here you can write your
prayers of thanksgiving,
questions, dreams, hopes, joys, and
heartaches for yourself and others.



LISTEN on Wednesday Nights 5:30pm-7pm

Learning new ways to pray and talk to God.

March 7 (Centering Prayer) and 14 (Walking Prayer)

You are welcome to attend all night or part of the night.

Invite your friends, bring your family.

Each segment has activities for all ages and interests.

5:30-6 pm Activities and Fun Fellowship Hall/Basement

6-6:30pm Supper Provided, bring a dessert to share if you'd like.

6:30-7pm Worship in the Sanctuary

LISTEN on Sunday Mornings at 8am and 10:30am Worship

March 4, 11, 18, 25

Come and rest, come and listen.

Have you ever walked a Labyrinth?

We will have one available in Memorial Hall from Wednesday, March 14th all day every day through Sunday, March 18th. Feel free to stop by to pray and walk. There will be handouts available to guide you and we will walk and pray as a group Wed March 14 at 7pm.

March 25th Palm Sunday at 8am and 10:30am Worship

March 29th Maundy Thursday 6pm Potluck Supper and Worship

Bring a dish to share for supper, informal communion in Fellowship Hall with Worship

March 30th 7pm Good Friday Worship, Communion

April 1 Easter Sunday with Communion

6:30am Cemetery, 8am and 10:30am Sanctuary

Inside this issue

Consistory	2
Children's Programs	5
Youth Group	6
Worship	14
Calendar	16

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)

Staff Updates from Pastor Kris

Barbara Carinci, our Office Administrator, is Retiring Barbara has said that she will retire date yet to be determined. We will miss her devotion, conscientiousness and hard work. If you'd like to send her a card or cash gift to thank her for her 9 years of service, please place it in Pastor Kris's mailbox or give it to Pastor Kris. We can't surprise her, but we'd like to be sure to thank her. If you know someone who might be interested in this position, have them contact Pastor Kris.

Church Administrator Union United Church of Christ, Neffs is looking for a Church Administrator who has a heart for working in a church and welcoming members and guests to our church office. The Administrator position includes responsibilities like: financial management, payroll, recordkeeping, facility scheduling, and a variety of church related business. The position is 25 hours a week with some flexibility in scheduling. Applicants should have a mastery of MS Office and an aptitude to learn other software like Church Windows. Excellent communication and people skills and a high level of integrity and confidentiality are needed. Salary based on experience. If you'd like to be part of the work of this vibrant church (www.unioncc.org), send a resume to Senior Pastor Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuelson at applyunio-nucc@gmail.com.

Rev. Patience Needs Surgery – please keep her in your prayers as she faces hip replacement surgery on March 6th. She will be unable to visit and work here for 2 weeks (through March 20) and then will not be able to drive for another 4-6 weeks. We will keep you posted on her progress and ability to work as we know it. Please hold off on calling or visiting her during this time. Here is her address if you'd like to send a card: 1216 Pennsylvania Ave, Bethlehem, PA 18018. If you'd like to help with meals, please contact Amy McCoy at 484-358-6125. Please contact the church office if you or a church friend or family member needs assistance from a pastor during this time.

Ori Handwerk, Our Custodian Needs Surgery too! Please keep Ori and his family in your prayers as he faces hip replacement surgery. His surgery is on March 13th and plans to be out at least a month. Other staff and volunteers will help in his absence with building needs. If you'd like to send him a card, please send it to church or place it in his mailbox at church.

Consistory By Deb Wenner Subject to Approval

The monthly meeting of the Union United Church of Christ Consistory Meeting was called to order on Monday, February 19, 2018, by President Brad Hackett.

The Treasurer's Report and the Jan. 15 – Feb.16 bills were presented and approved.

Property and Maintenance Committee - repairs have been made to the organ, the emergency generator, girl's bathroom toilets, and parking lot lights. A new heavy duty electric line was installed into the kitchen to power two new griddles purchased by the Fellowship Committee. New signs placed on the clothing shed.

The food stand in the grove is 95% complete. Future exterior work: contractors installing sidewalks around the building, holding tank for the sink inside, two new light poles in the grove for the exterior string lights, and a small driveway to the entrance.

The hard drive and computer equipment for the security cameras is failing. Protect Alarms provided a quote to upgrade the system with a new hard drive, software package, and four new outdoor cameras for a total cost of \$3,700. Request for funding through FOLG was presented and approved.

Christian Education is are currently supporting our Lent program.

Mission Committee - the Souper Bowl collection received \$136 in donations for the Lehigh Conference of Church and over 300 cans of soup for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Welcoming Committee - the annual Souper Bowl Tailgate celebration was successful and had a good turnout. Members of the committee are attending a workshop on March 3 that will focus on new approaches for increasing membership to our church family.

Fellowship Committee - 114 people attended the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. The Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for March 24.

Worship Committee - on the special speakers and worship opportunities. The Lenten services were discussed – our program is Hearing That Still Small Voice and Finding Your Own. Upcoming Lent services are held Wednesday evenings from 5:30 – 7:00pm and include dinner, a workshop and prayer.

The next regular meeting of the Union United Church of Christ Consistory will be held Monday, March 19, in Room 101.

Mission Committee

Easter Mission Offerings

The Mission Committee has selected Meals on Wheels of the Lehigh County, and Bethany Children's Home in Womelsdorf, PA to receive this year's Easter Mission Offerings. Please use the special envelope in your envelope packet to support their missions, or place your donation in any envelope and mark "Easter Mission." You are truly making a difference in the lives of people in the local community.

Meals on Wheels of the Lehigh County

Their mission is to serve seniors or adults with disabilities who are primarily homebound and unable to cook or shop for themselves. Their services include meal delivery, well-being checks, friendly visits, grocery shopping, and linking clients to other services to help them live independently and stay healthy in their own homes.

Sixty six volunteers deliver meals and smiles to 465 clients each weekday. Volunteers are so important, 69% of clients state that the volunteer is the only person they see all day, 36% state that the volunteer is the only person they see all week.

Last year, over 165,000 meals were delivered by over 850 volunteers. New delivery volunteers are always needed - call Dawn at 610-398-2536.

Bethany Children's Home

Located on a beautiful campus in Womelsdorf, PA, Bethany Children's Home helps children and youth reclaim their lives from trauma, abuse, and neglect. In 2017, they helped close to 300 children, coming from 20 counties in Pennsylvania.

Their mission is to provide a safe place of nurture, protection, and supportive care to aid their residents in their self understanding, growth, and healing toward a brighter future. Founded in 1863, Bethany Children's Home provides a home to youth to gain an education, to have a place for music therapy, arts & recreation, spiritual services, social services and more.

Their mission is active and vibrant all year long in improving the lives of children and youth from age 7 - 20, a true blessing to brighten their future.

Women's Retreat 2018

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

Trout Lake Retreats,
Stroudsburg
Balance of \$60 payment
due April 8.
Leader: Pastor Kris

Union UCC Night at the Iron Pigs

Saturday, June 16th, 6:35 p.m. game time
Opponent: Pawtucket Red Sox
25 seats available, Section 118, just beyond third base. The sun will be behind us.
\$11. per ticket. Each ticket includes a \$2. food voucher.

Please call John Snyder-Samuelson to reserve your tickets: 484-809-3815.

Memorials

The following donations have been received into the Memorial Fund in memory of Gordon

R. Rothrock:

Dennis & Denise Rothrock

Lorene & Bill Hume

George, Leoma Kern & Vanessa Kern

Warren J. Reitz, Jr.

Luther & Martha Lutz

Doroty V. Best

Marlene Stofflet

John & Nancy Remaley

Anna K. Davis

Lana W. Reitz

The following donations have been received into the Memorial Fund in memory of Anna

Lord:

Margaret & Murray Blaker

Janice L. Blaker

Barbara Kiehle

The following donation has been received into the Memorial Fund in memory of Lorraine Hunsicker:

Dennis & Denise Rothrock

The following donation has been received into the Memorial Fund in memory of James Vater:

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Oberecker

The following donations have been received into the Memorial Fund in memory of Roy C.

Kern:

Dean H. Snyder

Shirley A. Schneck

Tom & Linda Anderson

Lois & Elmer Shaffer

Bruce & Louise Stettler

Loretta S. Wotring

Kathleen Whitaker

Carolyn George

Craig & Sue Rinehimer

Henry & Joyce Shankweiler

Lorraine Schneck



Follow us on
Instagram

www.instagram.com/unionuccneffs/



Where School Memories Begin

By Annette Wilcox

In between snow and ice storms the Preschool held our Informational Open House and Registration Kick-Off event during the first week of February. The rooms were packed with families coming to learn more about our programing and lots of children having fun making new friends. **We will continue to take applications until our classes are full.** If you, your family, or your friends are interested in enrolling a child and would like more information or a registration form, please **email preschool@unionucc.org or call the Preschool office at 610-767-5327.**

Inside the classrooms the threes spent the month learning all about health and wellness, which culminated in our annual Teddy Bear Clinic. The students always love exploring the inside of the ambulance and discussing when to dial 911. We were also joined by the Glitterbug Program which focuses on good hand-washing techniques, and by a pediatric dentist to talk about teeth brushing. The fours studied Fine Arts in February, spending time on some of the greats: Van Gogh, Andy Warhol, Da Vinci and Monet. They had the opportunity to look at some of the original artworks then create their own individual versions. After services feel free to walk down the school hallways and check out our masterpieces. Finally, the PreK class spent the month conducting exciting science experiments as they explored their 5 senses. It may have been a short calendar month, but February was packed with lots of exciting happenings in the Preschool.

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

If you have a child or know of one who would enjoy learning in our fun and caring environment, registration information can be found on our website or by calling the Preschool directly.

Curriculum aligned with Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards. Whole child focused: academic, social and emotional.



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

First Communion Preparation



First Communion Preparation Class is scheduled for **Sunday, March 18**, after the 10:30 service. The class is open to all first graders and any other students (2nd through 7th grade) who have not previously attended the class and would like to participate in communion. The children and parents will join Mrs. Bonsell and Pastor Kayli after church. We hope to conclude the session by 12:30pm. The children will receive their **first communion** on **Thursday, March 29** during the Maundy Thursday evening service. The children will then be prepared to take communion on Easter Sunday. Information flyers will be handed out in Sunday School and Children's Church. Please register with **Kathy Bonsell** before **March 11th** at dired@unionucc.org.



March 4 Church Family Worship
YOUTH SUNDAY
March 11 Numbers 21:4-9
March 18 John 12:20-33
March 25 Mark 11:1-11; 14:1-15
PALM SUNDAY
April 1 Church Family Worship
EASTER SUNDAY

Bible Journaling

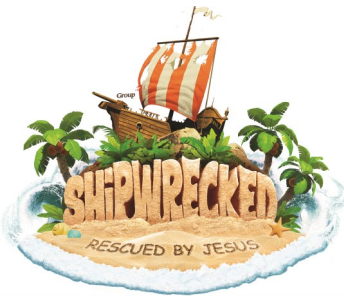
Join us on March 1 and March 15, 9:30-11, in Room 5 to study the Bible in new and creative ways.

You provide a journaling Bible. We provide art supplies, techniques, and ideas.



Adults and teens are needed to assist Maryann Ulrich in our Little Lambs Nursery during the 10:30 worship service. A sign-up sheet is on the nursery door.

VBS 2018 June 25-29



This summer Union UCC will be SHIPWRECKED!! We will have a great time with lively songs, humorous skits, creative experiments, exciting games, Bible stories and tasty snacks....all of the things that make VBS so much fun for children (and adults). This year's program is scheduled for June 25th through the 29th, 9:00am to noon daily. We hope you can join us for a week of fun and adventure!

Registration Forms are located in Memorial Hall. Due by May 14th. We still need adults and youth to lead this year's VBS.

VBS DESIGN LAB

Help with this year's VBS! We will meet March 6 for **planning**, 10-12:00 and March 20 for **decorating**, 10-2:00 (bring your lunch). We will meet in Room 5.



MEMORY VERSE

Our Sunday school children are learning the following verse:

*No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us.
1 John 4:12*

Youth Group News Grades 6-12

For more information contact:

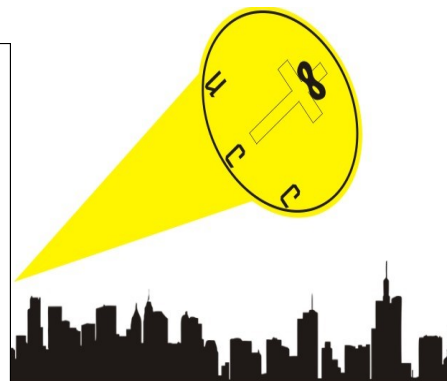
Pastor Kayli PastorKayli@unionucc.org

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

Facebook: Union UCC Youth Group

www.unionucc.org/christian-education/youth-group/

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).



Union UCC Youth Group 2018

SUNDAY MARCH 4

Youth Sunday @ 10:30 worship!

(Senior's will also speak at 8am)

Youth participants report @9:15am
for practice

Youth Group T-Shirts are available!

Designed by Dylan Kuntz and Mollie Jarrett

Bring your \$5 to get one!

Help Wanted!

When: March 24, 2018

What: Easter Egg Hung

Time: 12:45pm

Come out and help with the Easter Egg Hunt!
(Confirmation class, this counts for service points!)

THANK YOU to our Confirmands and their families for their donations of toiletries, blankets and towels that we took to the Catholic Services Soup Kitchen, the Salvation Army and the Lehigh Conference of Churches at our visits on February 10th. **THANK YOU** to our parent drivers, food shoppers, chaperones and teaching team for your help in our visits and sleepover at church.

CONFIRMANDS you were awesome worship leaders!

Thanks Church for your love and support of our youth.

SUNDAY MORNINGS 9:15-

10:15am

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)

What's Next

Things that are coming up to mark down:

April 7: Zip-Lining @ Camp Icthus

We missed out on this in November, so we are planning on going back to do team building and have fun

April 22: Youth Group Sandwich Sale

May 5: Country Sale

Watch for more information on these events



**Got a fun idea for Youth Group? Adventurous outing?
Service project? Let Pastor Kayli or Dave D know!**

Flower Plants for the Home Visitation Members and for the Sanctuary

This year we are pleased to offer Easter Lilies (\$9 each), Tulips Hyacinths and Daffodils (\$8 each).

Please help by sponsoring a Flowering Plant for the Sanctuary.

You may pick this up after the 10:30 a.m. Easter Service on April 1st.

Let us share this Joy of the Easter season with our Home Visitation Members. Sponsor a Flowering Plant and assure them that we include them within our Church Family.

Please **print** your information on the form, enter the number of plants you are ordering, and place in the offering plate, with your payment (checks payable to Union U.C.C.) or mail to the church office by Sunday, March 11, 2018.



I would like to sponsor Flowering Plant(s)

FOR SANCTUARY
 Lily (\$9) ____ Tulip (\$8) ____ Hyacinth (\$8) ____ Daffodil (\$8) ____

FOR VISITATION MEMBER(S) Tulip only (\$8) ____

Sponsor's Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Total amount enclosed is \$ _____

Envelope Number _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

I will pick up my plants after the 10:30am Easter worship service on April 1, 2018. (Please circle one) YES NO

Pint For Pint: Blood Drive and Soup Sale

Take care of others and we will take care of you. You donate a pint to the Miller-Keystone Blood Center and well give you a pint of delicious homemade soup. Sponsored by the Mission Committee, the Miller-Keystone Blood Center will be here on **Sunday, March 25** to take blood donations for use throughout the 21 local hospitals served by them. Our goal for Miller-Keystone is to get 30 blood donors in their five-hour visit (**8am to 1pm**). With a great worship attendance, dedicated church members, and community participation, Union UCC should be able to collect the maximum 42 blood donations, not just the 30 that are planned. In coordination, we are offering a Soup Sale on that same day. Soup sales are for take-out only and are open to all. There will be many varieties from which to chose. **Quarts are \$6 and pints are \$4.** Soup Sale proceeds and monetary donations will benefit Miller-Keystone Blood Center.

To make this a great event, please participate in any of the many ways possible: sign up to donate blood if you are able (visit giveapint.org to see if you qualify as a donor), buy a soup, or educate yourself on the life-saving gift of blood donation. Call Susan Smith at (610) 366-7284 to sign up. Blood collection will be in Memorial Hall from 8 am until 1 pm, with appointments every 15 minutes. If you are a regular blood donor, keep Sunday, March 25 in mind so that you can be eligible to donate here at Union UCC.

Property Committee

by Phil Wehr

Two snow and ice storms in one week during the first week of February can really wreck havoc on the snow plowing budget. Yet the work must be done, the parking lots cleared and salted, the sidewalks and steps shoveled and salted, all to be ready and safe for our staff, members, and guests to enter our church buildings. Thanks are in order to our paid snow crews, and staff, and other volunteers who make this all happen.

While we did not have many big snow storms this winter, the storms that did arrive were costly for cleanup and salting. Only one more month to go, and March can bring big wet snow storms, so we will probably go over budget, but it has to be done.

Numerous repairs have been made around the church property during the past six weeks. Repairs have been made to the organ, the emergency generator, girls bathroom toilets, and parking lot lights. A new heavy duty electric line was installed into the basement kitchen to power two new griddles purchased by the Fellowship Committee. New signs were installed on the clothing shed.

The food stand in the grove is 95% percent complete, the interior counters will be the finishing touches to the main building. There is still more work to come in spring as contractors will install sidewalks around the building, install the holding tank for the sink inside, install two new light poles in the grove to hook up the balance of the exterior string lights, and the paving crew installs a small driveway to the entrance.

Then we plant grass, and watch it grow . . .



Adult Study

Friday Morning Adult Class

9:30am-11am – Room 5 (Basement) Everyone is welcome at any time as your schedule allows.

March 2 The Bible and Handel's Messiah, the Kerygma Program

We loved studying the Advent and Christmas songs in December and now we will turn to some of the Lent and Easter music of Handel's *Messiah* and look at the Bible texts used in the music.

March 9 and 16 Accidental Saints Nadia Bolz- Weber

March 23 –No Class, Meet Author Nadia Bolz-Weber

March 30 – No Class, Good Friday

April 6 – No Class, Serve Breakfast at Jubilee Ministry

Sunday Morning Adult Class

9:15-10:15 - Room 5 (Basement) Everyone is welcome at any time as your schedule allows.

March 4 - LVCIL is a cross disability organization in the Lehigh Valley. Debbie Rozear will be in attendance to hand out information, speak about our services and answer any questions you may have. The services that we provide may help you or someone you may know.

March 11, 18, 25 with Pastor Kris

What Makes a Hero? A series by Matt Rawle that offers us an image of what it looks like to be victorious over trials and temptations. Looking at the heroes of pop culture through the lens of faith we'll see how Jesus turned the concept of hero on its head.

April 1 – No Class, Easter

TURN YOUR TRASH INTO CASH

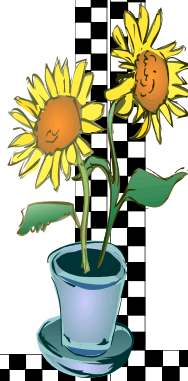
It's time to start thinking about
spring and yard sales again.
Why not sell your items at our
Country Sale!

DATE: Saturday, May 5th, 9-2

COST: \$20 donation per
indoor/outdoor space

REGISTRATION: Contact Dan &
Deb Topp or
download contract at
unionucc.org

** All unsold items can be placed in a
truck for donations for Recycle Local.
This is a fundraiser for our Preschool.



HOW CAN I HELP???

- Reserve a table , \$20 donation
Dan/Deb Topp 610-767-3384
- Bake...Bring items to the church on
Friday, May 3rd 12-8 or Saturday, May
4th after 7am
- Kitchen Help serving, preparing, clean
-up *Vicki Sorg 610-261-1242*
- Book Collection, No earlier than April
17, drop off on stage
- Greeters/Runners/Set-up/Clean-up/
General Help/Traffic Control
 - Advertise pick up a flyer to hang in
your business or local store
Maryann Puia 610-767-9318

To volunteer, contact name listed
above or contact the church office.
Hope to see you there!



Saturday, March 24 at 1PM

In the Church's grove, weather permitting. If not, Memorial Hall. Ages 0-10
Bring a basket or container to collect eggs!

Please register your child no
later than
Sunday, March 11!

SPONSORED BY
THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

EASTER BUNNY VISIT / EGG HUNT Registration Form

Name : _____ Age _____ (Boy) (Girl)
Name : _____ Age _____ (Boy) (Girl)
Name : _____ Age _____ (Boy) (Girl)
Name : _____ Age _____ (Boy) (Girl)
Parent: _____
Contact Phone No.: _____

Donations needed for Easter Bunny's Visit:

Wrapped candy. Examples: Wrapped kisses, chocolate/white Easter candy, etc.

Prizes for "lucky eggs." Examples: Books, coloring book, larger pieces of wrapped chocolate, pencils, chalk,
stuffed toys... \$5 Gift cards can be left in the offering plate or at the church office.

Thanks to our Office Helpers!

Tom & Linda Anderson,
Madeline & Dick Bingell,
Teresa Dalrymple,
Larry Frantz, Phyllis
Hamm, Bonnie Herzog,
Judy Hoffman, Marjorie
Hoffman, Eleanor & Ron
Kleckner, Linda Migliori,
Barbara Panner, Jill
Schlosser, Linda & Wil-
bur Romig

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

Sunday Morning Alive

Sunday Morning Alive
leads worship on Sun-
days at 10:30 for about
six Sundays throughout
the year. We have a
worship team that in-
cludes a group of sing-
ers, guitar players, key-
boards and drums.
We play traditional and
favorite hymns as well
as contemporary and
alternative worship
music.

**Look for us
April 8, 2018
at 10:30am
worship!**



Donate, Recycle and Help Your Church

You helped the church raise over \$3,00 last year with your donations of clothing and household items.

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.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

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.



Jennifer, Tegan, Kaden, and Regan Haley are our Catch the Spirit recipients for March 2018. They were nominated by the Christian Education Committee. They will be recognized March 11th at 10:30am worship service.

Prior to coming to Neffs, the Haleys were members for 10 years at St Johns UCC, Mickleys and all three of the Haley children were baptized there. They joined Union UCC in Nov 2011 after seeing what an “amazing” children’s program was here.

Jen has been a Kindergarten teacher in the Northampton School District for the past 17 years. In her free time she enjoys crocheting and reading. Tegan’s interests include theology and science, while Kaden enjoys running and Boy Scouts and Regan loves soccer, taking care of the environment, and crafts.

The entire family helps with Children’s Church, Bible School, Sunday Greeting. They all attend Sunday school either as students or helpers.

“We love our church because we are comfortable here as we all expand our faith. We appreciate how the pastors check in with us and have taken the time to get to know each of us. We are not just members of the church we are a part of our church family.”



Quilters, Knitters and Crocheters

If you’d like to learn or share your gifts while visiting with others join us on Wednesdays.

The quilters (The Busy Bees) start at 9am and work until about noon.

The knitters and crocheters (The Knit Wits) start at 10am and work until about noon.

Each group works on projects that support the church’s ministry with quilt raffles and lap robes and baptism blankets for our members. Come for the whole time or as long as your schedule allows.

Busy Bees are selling quilts! We are updating our list of people interested in having a quilt compiled. If someone has a quilt in need of being done contact Janet Creitz at 610-767-6710 or the church office at 610-767-6961.

Join the Choir!

**Practice Schedules:
Tuesday Nights—Youth**

**Cherubs (age 4-1st grade)—
6pm**

**Juniors (2nd-5th grades)
Middlers (6th-8th grades)
6:30pm**

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**

Golden Times

For those wise in years and young at heart.

Our next gathering will be
Tuesday, March 6, 2018

Program: Ron Snyder:
National Parks and Monu-
ments

April 3:

Steve Strack, Esquire
Estate Planning
Rev. Dianne Kareha
The Five Wishes: A Guide
to Your Wishes for Medical
Care

Programs offered are fun,
informative & entertaining.

Bring a dessert to share.

12 noon – 1:30pm
FREE

Food Bank Donation:
Condiments

An informal sharing of Ho-
ly Communion is offered
at the end of our time to-
gether for those who are
interested.



Find us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/unionneffs

Tales from the Road

I will be headed on a journey in March that is familiar to many of you. I will be having hip replacement surgery on March 6th. I will be unable to visit or work at the church for at least two weeks (through March 20th) and will not be able to drive for another 4-6 weeks. Thank you for your prayers, support and encouragement as I anticipate this surgery and recovery. I look forward to being with you again once spring is in full bloom.

By Rev. Dr. Patience Stevenson, Minister of Visitation

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 March 15, 2018, 7pm.**

Picture Directory Free Picture:

Thank you for participating in our church's picture directory! Your free picture has been shipped to the church. You can pick it up at your convenience during the week (9am-9pm) or on Sunday mornings. **They are located in Cheryl Yenko's mailbox outside of the church offices.** Look for your name on the envelope. So glad you're a part of our faith family, Pastor Kris

Did You Know?

- You can get **weekly emails** updating you on the events and Sunday services at church?
- You can get your monthly **newsletter online**? Simply text UNIONUCC to 22828 to join the list.
- We have a **Facebook** page: [Facebook.com/unionneffs](https://www.facebook.com/unionneffs)
- You can sign up for **E-giving** at no cost to you?
- **Text to give**? See page 8 for details.
- You can sign up for **Amazon Smile** and a portion of your Amazon.com purchases will be donated to the church?

To sign up to get emails/e-newsletter, or for E-giving visit our web-site: **WWW.UNIONUCC.ORG** and click on the **RESOURCES** tab or send an email to: **secretary@unionucc.org**

New Member Sessions

Pastor Kris and our church leaders invite you to gatherings on **April 8th and April 15th 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, April 22nd 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 **May 20th and July 8th**. 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

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.

Family Promise Update

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.

Here are some of the ways that we will need help – as we know of now:

- Steering Committee – helping to organize the various pieces needed.
- Donating, Preparing Serving Supper, Breakfast, Bagged lunches
- Hosting families for a few hours in the evening – helping them with directions in the building, visiting with those who want to visit, helping with homework, playing board games, etc.
- Hosting families overnight/Sleeping at the church

We'll have our own organization meeting on **Sunday, March 4th at 11:45-12:15** to continue organizing this effort. **We'll meet in the youth room/basement.**

RSVP to Pastor Kris if you are interested in attending the meeting and/or helping with this effort. I know this will be a blessing to all involved.



Home Visitation Members Birthdays



Janice Herzog—March 26

7308 N. Gate Drive
Slatington, PA 18080-2230



Sunday, March 4, 2018

Youth Sunday

8:00am Heritage Service

10:30am Horizon Service-Church Family

Worship

Preacher: Youth Group Seniors

Lay Readers: 8:00– Youth

10:30 - Youth

Greeters: Youth Group

Acolytes: 8:00AM –Mitchell Roth

10:30 AM—Cameron Kuntz, Jacob Solt

Sunday, March 11, 2018

Girl Scout Sunday

8:00am Heritage Service

10:30am Horizon Service

Text: Ephesians 2:1-10

Message: A Piece of Work

Preacher: Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuelson

Lay Readers: 8:00—Whitney Kern

10:30—Sueann Hregician

Greeters: Chris & Abby Bastidas, Karen & Scott Misera

Acolytes: 8:00AM –

10:30AM– Katherine Schaedel, Marissa Christman

Thursday, March 29 - Maundy Thursday

6PM First Communion Celebration

Discipleship Meal

Friday, March 30, 2018

Good Friday Worship 7PM

Tenebrae and Altar Communion

Text: John 18:1-19:42

Message: Reversible Errors and Just Mercy

Sermon: Rev. Kris P. Snyder-Samuelson

Readers: Donna Christman, Don Penrod, Dan Topp, Michael Roth, Fawn Albert, Claire Kern, Youth

Acolytes: Josh Baron

Sunday, March 18, 2018

Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:00am Heritage Service

10:30am Horizon Service-Baptism

Text: John 12:20-33

Message: Wouldn't It Be Nice

Preacher: Rev. Kayli Freeman

Lay Readers: 8:00– Carol Pope

10:30 - Dan Topp

Greeters: Karen Wonderly, Al Stubbman, Vicki Mayk

Acolytes: 8:00AM –Nickolaus Schmidt

10:30AM–

Sunday, March 25, 2018

Palm Sunday

8:00am Heritage Service

10:30am Horizon Service

Text: Mark 11:1-11

Message: Jerusalem March Madness

Preacher: Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuelson

Lay Readers: 8:00– Doug Albert

10:30 - Elena Steidinger

Greeters: Jim & Leanna Lane. George & Naomi DeNardo

Acolytes: 8:00AM – Nickolaus Schmidt

10:30AM– Grace Baer, Mitchell Roth

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:

March 4-Youth Group

March 11-Girl Scouts

March 18-Worship Committee

March 25-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	\$287,404.00	\$28,546.00	\$315,950.00
Expenses	\$231,696.00	\$30,007.00	\$261,703.00
1-31-2018	\$65,352.00	\$30,504.00	\$95,856.00

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>		<u>CC/ Video/ Nursery</u>	<u>Total</u>
	8AM	0:30AM		
January 7	56	164	25	245
January 14	59	187	26	272
January 21	74	180	34	288
January 28	72	135	27	234

TOTAL ATTENDANCE

January 2017–1,084 January 2018– 1,279

AVG ATTENDANCE

December 2016–217 December 2017– 320

Deaths

Anna Lord passed away on January 26, 2018 and was laid to rest on January 31, 2018.

Gordon Rothrock who passed away on January 31, 2018 and was laid to rest February 3, 2018.

Lorraine Hunsicker passed away on February 8, 2018 and was laid to rest February 15, 2018.

Roy C. Kern passed away on February 8, 2018 and was laid to rest February 12, 2018.

Kenneth Clauser passed away February 17, 2018 and was laid to rest on February 23, 2018.

You're invited to a public meeting on Gerrymandering!

When: Sunday, March 11 at 3 pm

Where: The Family Life Center (gym) of Union Lutheran Church, 5500 PA Route 873, Schnecksville

Who: All ages welcome

Fair Districts Pennsylvania, an offshoot of the League of Women Voters, is holding an educational public meeting on gerrymandering. You might've seen this in the news recently, and wondered what it is and how it affects you.

Mary Erdman of Fair Districts will present an interesting show on voting district lines, and explain ways to eliminate gerrymandering in the future. This is a non-political, non-partisan discussion on good government. There will be refreshments and an opportunity to ask questions. Call Dianne Gillikin at [610-704-0998](tel:610-704-0998) with any questions.

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

March 2018

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <u>9:30am</u> Bible Journaling 1pm Country Sale Meeting 7pm Chime Choir	2 <u>9am</u> Bulletin Prep <u>9:30am</u> Adult Study	3
5 <u>9:30am</u> Adv. Tai Chi <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit	6 <u>9:30am</u> Beg. Tai Chi <u>12pm</u> Golden Times <u>6pm</u> Cherub Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Junior/Middler Choir <u>7pm</u> Bible Study <u>7:30pm</u> Unity Choir	7 <u>9:30am</u> Busy Bee Quilters; Int. Tai Chi <u>10am</u> Knitwits <u>6pm</u> High School Choir; Lent Activities <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit	8 <u>7pm</u> Chime Choir	9 <u>9am</u> Bulletin Prep <u>9:30am</u> Adult Study	10 <u>9am</u> Leadership Planning Team
12 <u>9:30am</u> Adv. Tai Chi <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	13 <u>9am</u> Staff Meeting <u>9:30am</u> Beg. Tai Chi <u>10am</u> Program Staff <u>6:30pm</u> Junior/Middler Choir <u>7pm</u> Bible Study <u>7:30pm</u> Unity Choir	14 <u>9:30am</u> Busy Bees; Int. Tai Chi <u>10am</u> Knitwits <u>6pm</u> High School Choir; Lent Activities <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit	15 <u>9:30am</u> Bible Journaling <u>7pm</u> Chime Choir; Helping Hands	16 <u>9am</u> Bulletin Prep <u>9:30am</u> Adult Study	17 <u>9am</u> FLT Meeting
19 <u>9:30am</u> Adv. Tai Chi <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit <u>6:45pm</u> Consistory	20 <u>9:30am</u> Beg. Tai Chi <u>6pm</u> Cherub Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Junior/Middler Choir <u>7pm</u> Bible Study <u>7:30pm</u> Unity Choir	21 <u>9:30am</u> Busy Bees; Int. Tai Chi <u>10am</u> Knitwits <u>5pm</u> Lent Activities <u>6pm</u> High School Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit <u>7pm</u> Church & Ministry	22 <u>7pm</u> Chime Choir	23 <u>9am</u> Bulletin Prep <u>9:30am</u> Adult Study	24 <u>1pm</u> Egg Hunt
26 <u>9:30am</u> Adv. Tai Chi <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit	27 <u>9am</u> Newsletter; Staff Meeting <u>9:30am</u> Beg. Tai Chi <u>10am</u> Program Staff <u>6pm</u> Cherub Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Junior/Middler <u>7pm</u> Bible Study	28 <u>9:30am</u> Busy Bees; Int. Tai Chi <u>10am</u> Knitwits <u>5pm</u> Lent Activities <u>6pm</u> High School Choir <u>6:30pm</u> Spiritually Fit	29 <u>6pm</u> Maundy Thursday Meal <u>7pm</u> Chime Choir	30 <u>9am</u> Bulletin Prep <u>9:30am</u> Adult Study <u>7pm</u> Good Friday Ten-ebrae Service	31
SUNDAYS					
4 Youth Sunday <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/Church Family Worship <u>11:30am</u> Holy Grounds	11 Girl Scout Sunday <u>8am</u> Heritage Service <u>9:15 - 10:15 am</u> Holy Grounds Education Hour Bible Study Horizon Singers Tech Committee <u>10:30am</u> Horizon Service/Children's Church <u>11:30am</u> Holy Grounds Pre-Baptism	18 Boy Scout Sunday <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-Baptism <u>11:30am</u> Holy Grounds	25 Palm Sunday <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		