



VOLUME 11, ISSUE 6 OCTOBER 2020

## Worship in October

**We have extended 10:30 Outdoor Worship in the Grove until October 25th**

**We will continue to offer online worship through Facebook, our website, and Youtube. Please join us there every Sunday. The service is posted at 8am. Join us then or any time after that on Sunday or during the week. Bulletins and announcements are posted through links on these pages too.**

**If you are not able to go online, we are glad to mail you a paper bulletin of the service each week, this includes weekly announcements. Contact Marissa in the office if you'd like to receive the bulletin in the mail or receive our weekly emails. 610-767-6961 [administrator@unionucc.org](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org)**

**You can listen to our service by phone by calling 610-410-9595**

**Sunday Coffee Hour** The pastors and various committees will host an online virtual coffee hour every Sunday at 11:30am-12noon. The information to log on or call in by zoom will be provided in the weekly emails. Contact Marissa for assistance.

Hosts:

October 4 Fellowship Committee (Veronica Fabian, Maria Beltz)  
October 11 Welcoming Committee (Randy Bilger)  
October 18 Helping Hearts (Rev. Patience)  
October 25 Consistory (Aften Hamm, Jason Klinger)

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October Worship Theme

## Prophecies and Pottery: Journey with Jeremiah

Or we should just call it, Pastor Kris Loves Clay and Play Dough

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." — Jeremiah 1:4-5

Heartache, displacement, violence, helplessness, and homesickness are part of the ongoing human story. Our faith story invites us to deal openly and honestly with these things helping us to remember the presence of God and the hope of a better future. We will journey with the prophet Jeremiah during a time of exile in this worship series and encounter the familiar imagery of God as the Potter who can reshape and remake us, making us vessels of living water ready for a brighter tomorrow.

If you can, find some clay to have on hand at home for worship. You can use it to create something that you let dry and keep for later or you can use it to play with again and again. It's so meditative and relaxing to play with clay. Any kind will do.

Take me, Mold me  
Use me, Fill me  
I give my life to the Potter's hands  
Hold me, Guide me  
Lead me, Walk beside me  
I give my life to the Potter's hand  
- The Potter's Hand Darlene Zschech



## FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE BY PHIL WEHR

The church property misses YOU, but the church grove is happy to see YOU. Happy to see you during worship, during a meeting, during Yoga or exercise class, during a picnic lunch, or during a walk through the woods. Next time you are in the grove, take a walk over to the woods and check out the new gazebo and reflection gardens which were installed as part of Karl Schmidt Jr's and Nicholas Schmidt's Eagle Scout project. What a great new addition to the grove area, thank you to the Schmidt family.

Summer projects continued around the church property. The Haas Masonry crew installed an epoxy coating on the front steps of Memorial Hall, and the sides. This made a major improvement to the look and safety of the old concrete steps. After this, painters arrived for a few weeks painting all of the exterior of Memorial Hall, the exterior of the rear classrooms, all of the metal railings and rear fire escape.

The project was halted for a short while as we dealt with removing a honey bee hive, which developed behind the woodwork of the roofline of the front of Memorial Hall. Simock Construction was needed to remove thirty feet of wood work from the roofline with the help of a hi lift bucket. Steve from Meadowview Bees in Kutztown arrived to extract the bee colony and hive, and take back to his farm to start a new colony. Talk about a honey of a job !! Sweet too !! A few weeks later, after all of the bees were gone, Simock Construction installed new woodwork, and the painters could then finish painting the front roofline of Memorial Hall, and the cross and base on top of the peak.

The exterior of the steeple was given a thorough inspection by CJ Diirner & Sons from Ephrata, PA. A full report will be provided to the property committee for review of any need repairs or upgrades to be done in 2021.

Thanks to our Funds of Lasting Gifts endowment fund for funding all of these major property projects and improvements.

Praise to all, our steeple and church is a beacon of hope, peace, and love to the community.

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## FOOD AND TOILETRY COLLECTIONS

To help support the Northern Lehigh Food Bank and Lehigh Conference of Churches, we will continue to collect food and toiletries each weekend. Please drive to the large north side parking lot, and drop off your donations in the large boxes under the porch entranceway. Collections will take place every Sat. and Sun. from 8 - 4, just drive by and drop off, the Mission Committee will deliver to both agencies on a regular basis.

Items needed include: cereals, cake & brownie mixes, jelly, condiments, hand soap, toothpaste and toilet paper.

Local families continue to be served by both agencies, your donations continue to make a difference in their lives.

## JULY AND AUGUST 2020 CONSISTORY ACTIONS

These notes reflect items that needed action and approval by Consistory. Standing and routine items are reported by Committees and Staff throughout the newsletter. A complete copy of the Consistory minutes can be found in the church office.

- Approval of funds from Memorial fund for COVID cleaning materials to re-open the church building
- Approval to waive Preschool rent for the first half of the school year
- Approval to accept estimate for roof replacement
- Approval of funds for deposit to start roof replacement
- Approval of funds to cover remaining cost of roof replacement project
- Approval for search committee to fill Director of Christian Ed position
- Approval to pay out unused vacation time and thank you gift to Kathy Bonsell

Please note that due to the Covid-19 pandemic and shut down, after the standard March 16<sup>th</sup> consistory meeting, the Consistory has continued to meet via Zoom conference calls. A complete copy of the Consistory minutes from each call can be found in the church office.

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## MISSION NEWS

September greetings from the Mission Committee. While the church building was closed, **Union UCC's mission efforts continued helping the community.** The following list are some of the support and donations made by the Mission Committee.

Toiletries collection to Lehigh Conference of Churches

Groceries and School Supplies collection to Northern Lehigh Food Bank

**\$450 to Phoebe Home from Mother's Day Offering**

\$750 to Neighbors in Need and \$750 to POWER Interfaith of Lehigh Valley From the Thomas Family Fund in Funds of Lasting Gifts.

\$1,000 to OCWM Disaster Relief for Hurricane Laura from Estate Gift

The Mission Committee will soon be making 200 hygiene kits to be provided to people and families in the local community this fall and winter.

Thank you to all for supporting the missions of Union UCC, your donations to the Mission and Outreach envelopes provide funds which are provided to many mission agencies to keep their programs going strong to help people and families everywhere.

## From the Financial Leadership Team and Pastor kris

You are amazing! Thank you for your incredible support that has come to the church in so many ways during this time. Financial donations continue to be strong, often reaching and exceeding 90% of our budgeted income. We have also seen an increase in **electronic giving**. That's a strong way to really help us stay secure financially right now. Your generosity is a double blessing during such a challenging time. We appreciate you and your faithful stewardship! Your gifts continue to make a difference in our church, community and world.

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## Feed my starving children news from eliot lightner and pastor kris

Our event has been cancelled for this year. Watch for news here and on the FMSC of the Lehigh Valley Facebook page for news about other area events we can support as well as the rescheduling of our event. The need for food around the world is bigger than ever, we'll find a way to continue to support this important work.

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## Church Building and office

The building remains locked and closed at this time.

If you need something from our office, staff, or pastors please do not stop by but call or email us instead.

Church Office 610-767-6961

Pastor Kris [pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org) 610-657-6007

Pastor Kayli [pastorkayli@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkayli@unionucc.org) 610-390-8768

Rev. Patience [vispastor@unionucc.org](mailto:vispastor@unionucc.org) 610-248-5587

Kathy Bonsell [dired@unionucc.org](mailto:dired@unionucc.org)

Office Administrator – Marissa Haney [administrator@unionucc.org](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org)

Financial Manager – Barbara Carinci [financialmanager@unionucc.org](mailto:financialmanager@unionucc.org)



### Food Assistance

If you or someone you know is in need of food assistance during this time, please contact the Northern Lehigh Food Bank or the Parkland Cares Food Pantry. If you need help with this, please contact a pastor and we'll help you.

# Youth Group News

October 2020 Edition

Pastor Kayli (pastorkayli@unionucc.org)

## Sunday Opportunities

- \* **Grades 5th-7th: Munch Bunch** (virtual)
- \* **8th Grade: Confirmation** (Every Sunday @ 9:15am; virtual)
- \* **9th-12th: High School Happy Hour** (Held every other Sunday @3:30pm-4:30pm; virtual)

\*All of these start on October 4\*

All the Sunday programming looks a little different this year. But it will be filled with the same love, support, and God as always! Plug in when you can, we look forward to seeing you!

Hey Friends!!

Pastor Kayli has missed all of you and is excited for some physically distant opportunities for the fall! I know that so much of what we are used to doing is different, but together we will still be able to stay connected and share our lives together. Remember to keep your eye out for emails with updated events, and opportunities for all youth grades 6th thru 12th. If you are not getting my emails, please let me know so I can ensure that I have your proper email address. Also, if you are interested in helping to organize youth events, let me know to add you onto the Advisory Team!

Keep being awesome!

Pastor Kayli







## SIGN UP TODAY

**Online Sunday School/Children's Church Combo**

**Starting October 4th**

We sure do miss seeing the faces of all the boys and girls who have attended Sunday School and Children's Church. Since the church building is still temporarily closed, we would like to offer an opportunity for Faith Formation online every Sunday during the Education Hour, 9:30-10:00am. We are still working out the details, but we are thinking it will be a half hour ZOOM gathering for preschoolers through 4th grade. We have decided to use the WHIRL curriculum (which we have used in Children's Church and many children are familiar with their characters). The children will be able to watch the weekly videos together and discuss the lesson with their friends and teachers. We will send out leaflets to all families who are interested, which include family activities that you can do during the week to further enhance the lesson. (Don't worry about the grade level on the leaflets. The leaders will make it appropriate for whoever is ZOOMING in.) Your child will earn 5 coins for every attended session.

If you are interested in having your child(ren) participate, we NEED you to send an email to [administrator@unionucc.org](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org). Please include the best email to receive a ZOOM invite and your home address so we can send you a packet of the fall leaflets. The leaflets will be for lessons from October 4th through

November 22nd. We don't expect you to ZOOM every Sunday, but wouldn't that be awesome!



### Zoom Lessons

Oct. 4 Rejection in the Vineyard Matthew 21:33-46

Oct. 11 Rejoice in the Lord Always Philippians 4:1-9

Oct. 18 A Question about Taxes Matthew 22:15-22

Oct. 25 The Greatest Commandment Matthew 22:34-46

5th –7th GRADE—MUNCH BUNCH will have their own ZOOM gathering!

## Join us this year for a NEW WAY to TRUNK-OR-TREAT!

Union UCC and Union Evangelical Lutheran would like to invite all children to our ninth annual TRUNK-OR-TREAT on Saturday October 31, 2:00 to 3:00pm.

This year all trunk-or-treaters will remain in their cars and DRIVE from one church parking lot to the other through a HAUNTED CEMETERY! Goodies will be distributed at just a few designated points in a minimal-contact manner. Social distancing will be observed. We are looking for individuals or families to dress up and bring our cemetery to life! If you can help please contact Chrissy Shivok at [chrisdan@ptd.net](mailto:chrisdan@ptd.net). We will also need candy donations to fill goody bags; look for a labelled box placed at the grove-side entrance to place your donations.





## WHERE SCHOOL MEMORIES BEGIN!

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! There were many times over the last 6 months that I was not sure I would be able to say those words out loud. Yet here we are, ready to embark on a new school adventure for a new school year. Due to the continued spread of COVID-19, the preschool returns to session via a cyber school format. Teachers hold Zoom classes twice a week with students and send home learning boxes with all of the supplies needed to complete the accompanying assignments. While we would prefer to be teaching face to face, we are still thrilled to be able to build a love of learn in our students in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century manner. We will continue with this format through December 2020, and will be evaluating a return to in-person learning in January by November 1.

Curriculum aligned with Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards  
 Whole child focused: academic, social and emotional  
 Check us out on Facebook and Instagram—Neffs UCC Preschool  
 or on our website— [www.unionucc.org/preschool](http://www.unionucc.org/preschool)



On Saturday, September 5th, we were blessed to witness something that we've never seen before, right in our own yard. Two Monarch caterpillars that were done feeding on milkweed had attached themselves to the underside of neighboring coneflower and butterfly bush leaves. Each one hung in the shape of a J for several hours, sometimes contracting inside its skin but only occasionally. Then, suddenly one of them straightened out, hanging upside down. And we could see its yellow and black striped caterpillar skin begin to expose its new mostly green body, starting at the back of its head. In fewer than 8 minutes, it had shrugged and shimmied all of the caterpillar skin, including the antennae and feet, down to its tail end and pushed it all off. The remaining green with yellow stripes pupa continued to wiggle periodically until, over about 20 minutes, its new skin finished forming its gold crowned jade green chrysalis. Hopefully, it will metamorphose over 10-15 days and emerge as a Monarch butterfly that will migrate to Mexico for the winter. Because habitat loss, herbicides and pesticides have threatened the Monarch and other pollinators, we encourage everyone to plant pollinator-friendly gardens that include at least one species of milkweed, the only host plant and food for Monarch caterpillars. The Green Team is partnering with the Christian Education Committee to include multiple pollinator species' host and nectar plants in a new church garden. No pollinators = no human food that relies on pollinators. Plus, you may be privileged to witness one of God's amazing wonders in person.



# Kid's Choir

JUDY STUBBMANN AND BLAKE HOPPES ARE OFFERING REHEARSALS ON THE ZOOM APP EVERY TUESDAY @ 6PM.

YOU'LL VIDEO RECORD YOUR CHILDREN SINGING THEM AND A VIDEO WILL BE MADE FOR OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED, PLEASE TEXT OR EMAIL JUDY OR BLAKE USING THE CONTACT INFO BELOW.

JUDY STUBBMANN: 610-909-9913,

JUDYSTUBBMANN@GMAIL.COM

BLAKE HOPPES: 610-295-7805,

[BLAKE.CHARGER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BLAKE.CHARGER@GMAIL.COM)



# High School & Adult Choir

WE'RE HAVING ONLINE / VIRTUAL REHEARSALS AND RECORDINGS AS NEEDED. AN ACCOMPANIMENT TRACK WILL BE PROVIDED TO PRACTICE ALONG WITH AND YOU'LL VIDEO RECORD YOURSELF SINGING. THE CHOIR'S VIDEOS WILL BE COMPILED AND THE VIDEO WILL BE UPLOADED TO OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL. PLEASE CONTACT BLAKE HOPPES AND LET HIM KNOW IF YOU'RE UP FOR VIRTUAL SINGING THIS FALL.

BLAKE HOPPES: 610-295-7805, [BLAKE.CHARGER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BLAKE.CHARGER@GMAIL.COM)

# Special Music

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR SPECIAL MUSIC BY USING THE LINK BELOW. THERE ARE STILL SLOTS AVAILABLE AND BLAKE IS MORE THAN HAPPY TO MAKE AN ACCOMPANIMENT TRACK IF NEEDED.

[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/10C0F4DACA723A0FF2-NEFFS6](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DACA723A0FF2-NEFFS6)



## Every Home a Church—From Pastor Kris

How are you doing? How are we doing at helping you move through this time? What can the church be doing to help you spiritually? **Are there ways that you'd like to offer your help and support for others?**

Pastor Kayli, Rev. Patience and I have been working hard to be there for you and with you. Like many professions, we were not trained to know what to do during a pandemic, so we are learning as we go. Like many of you, we are figuring this out as we move through it. Your encouragement and support has meant so much. Thank you.

We have made pastoral care one of our priorities. We have divided the church membership up between the 3 of us and we are making phone calls (or sending notes and emails) to each member. It has been a wonderful gift to talk to you and catch up. Thank you! **We can't visit folks right now in the hospitals but we take turns calling people who have been dealing with medical issues.** We have also focused on keeping in touch with those on our visitation list. Our Helping Hearts made sure folks received communion and flowers for Harvest Home. Now that Fall is here, we are starting to offer things like Coffee Hour on Sundays and Meditation and Happy Hour on Tuesdays and our Adult Classes are resuming. Pastor Kayli is starting up her confirmation, youth and young adult calendar as well. **Our children's ministry is also starting to gather.** If there are other ways that we can support you, please reach out to one of us.

Worship is our other priority. We will continue to offer an online/call in worship service. At this time, we are not planning to have in person worship in the sanctuary. We have enjoyed seeing you in the grove! Our goal is to start recording worship in the sanctuary so that soon your online experience will include being in the sanctuary.

Mission is also so important right now. We continue to support the community and other mission efforts as we are able to. Watch for more information about those opportunities and give to them as you can. Others need the church more than ever right now, I'm grateful for how you continue to be God's hands and heart.

**When churches first gathered during the time of Jesus, people met in each other's homes.** House church ministries still exist today. I heard a pastor say this is a good time to make every home a church. I encourage us to find ways to be the church at home and wherever we are. We miss our church, but the church has never closed, only the building has. May your faith and love for God continue to carry and guide you through this time.



**Contact Pastor Kris or the church office for the Zoom Information to Log in or Call in to join us.**

## Tuesday Church nights on zoom

CONTACT PASTOR KRIS OR THE  
CHURCH OFFICE FOR THE ZOOM  
LOG IN/ CALL IN INFORMATION

## Helping Meals ministry

**Pam Minnich** ([Pjp.edrn@gmail.com](mailto:Pjp.edrn@gmail.com)) and **Connie Gioielli** ([c\\_gioielli@yahoo.com](mailto:c_gioielli@yahoo.com)) are our coordinators of this ministry. We are always looking for people who can make a meal for our families when they face a challenging time. You can also donate a Weis or DiFiores Restaurant card and give it to the church office for a pastor to share with a family. You would probably only need to help about 4-5 times a year. Please contact them if you'd like to be added to the list to help cook and deliver meals.

We are not currently making meals for members however, we are offering delivery of take-out meals or local gift cards. **If you are in need of meals, please contact one of the pastors.**

## Do you play an instrument?

If so, please contact Mitchell Roth, our new Instrumental Choir Director. He will help to organize players to play special music or hymns and to play on special occasions like Veterans Day and Christmas.

**Mitchell Roth** [mqroth2005@gmail.com](mailto:mqroth2005@gmail.com) (484) 633-1152



**Dual Member Status Approved by Consistory** Dual membership is available to people who wish to join our church but who want to also maintain membership at another church. Dual members will have the same rights and duties as a member. According to our Constitution members are required to commune and donate yearly. We look forward to continuing to welcome new members into the Christian journey with our faith family here at Union UCC.

**New Member Sessions** Pastor Kris and our church leaders invite you to a gathering on November 22. We meet during the 9:15 hour in the Memory Room (Room 200) on the second floor if we are in person, or we will meet virtually by zoom. This is a time to get to know each other and ask questions. You will be welcomed as members in worship on **November 29th**. Attendance is not required to join. For more info: Pastor Kris [PastorKris@unionucc.org](mailto:PastorKris@unionucc.org)

**Baptism** We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month when we meet in person. When we are only worshipping virtually, we are offering private baptisms in the sanctuary. Our next date is **Sunday, November 1**.

**Weddings** To schedule your pre-marriage sessions and wedding at our church or a venue with one of the pastors, please call the church office.

There is information on our website, forms to complete are downloadable. More information on the site: <http://www.unionucc.org/resources> for New Member, Baptism, and Wedding forms.

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

## Did You Know?

Norman was a private person and was reluctant to let me interview him for the newsletter while he was alive. I am happy to be able to share Norman's rich legacy with you now with the permission of his daughter, Linda Musseman.

Norman Hunsicker was born at home on July 17, 1926 in Guth's Station, PA. Norman grew up in a large family as the oldest of six children. He stopped school in 8<sup>th</sup> grade to help earn money to help take care of his family. One icy night Norman was stopped by the police driving a truckload of potatoes. He feared that he would be in trouble because he was too young to drive legally at that time. Fortunately the police officer had stopped just to make sure he was alright on the icy roads and did not give him a ticket.

Norman continued his legacy of hard work when he started his own business in 1955, which he named Albright's Hardware after the trolley stop close by. Norman ran his hardware store supplying neighbors far and wide with tools and supplies to run their homes and businesses for 35 years before he retired.

Norman married Betty Stein in 1949. Together they had two children, Linda and Rick. After a long fight with cancer, Norman's wife, Betty, died. Norman didn't like living alone, so he courted a woman he met at Union UCC, Lorraine Remaley Hunsicker. After working hard to convince her to go out with him, they eventually shared a life together for 16 years. With his partnership to Lorraine he gained 2 more children, Chris and Michael. He lost Lorraine to cancer 2 years ago.

Norman loved the outdoors. He loved horseback riding and snowmobiling and riding his motorcycle. He loved caring for his beautiful property in Fogelsville. Norman loved working on cars and watching stock car racing. He passed his love of car racing on to his children. Both of Norman's children, Linda and Rick raced quarter midget cars. In fact, Norman's daughter, Linda, was featured in the newspaper at the age of 5 for her midget car racing.

Norman was such a survivor. He fought hard to get through many challenges in his life, including losing 2 partners to cancer. Once he could no longer drive his car, he could still drive his tractor to get his newspaper and mail. He valiantly fought the coronavirus over the course of 8 weeks, finally succumbing on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Let's remember the legacy he left us.





### Our blessings and prayers go to the friends and families of those who have passed.

**Raymond Hoffman** who passed on June 1, 2020 at Lehigh Valley Cedar Crest. A private service was held at the Heintzelman Funeral Home, Inc.

**Charles H. "Chuck" Horwith** who passed on July 5, 2020 in North Whitehall Township. Funeral services were held on July 10, 2020 in the Heintzelman Funeral Home. Donations were made in his memory by: Donald & Lee Ann Hortman, Barbara Grim & Family Joanne Gantz-Jalowickim Keith W. Grim and Kevin Grim, Timothy & Regina Grim, Horwith Trucks, Inc., Robert A. Moser, Sheila M. Horwith, Dalton & Mary Lorah, The Escape Condo Association c/o Earl Gobrecht, Ann H. Flores, Martin P. Ritter, Thomas C. Hock, Carolyn M. George, John & Teresa Beers, Philip & Julie Wehr, Arthur J. Henry Lumber Co. , Leonard E. Nuss, Donald & Marlene Steffy, Boyko's Petroleum Service Inc.

**Betty McGee** who passed on July 5, 2020 at Phoebe Home Inc., Allentown, PA. Services were held July 10, 2020 at Union Church Cemetery, Neffs.

**Lorraine A. Van Norman** who passed on July 27, 2020 in her home. A private service was held July 31, 2020 at Union Cemetery of Slatington. Donations were made in her memory by: Ronald B. Hausman, Marilyn & Michele Cerrone, LaRue Blose, Oliver & Althea Blose, Scott D. Breininger, Slatington Lions Club, Wyn & Barbara Davies

**Delores M. Rader** who passed on August 14, 2020 at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest, Allentown. A private service was held August 19, 2020 in the Heintzelman Funeral Home, Inc.

**Alice May Keiper Weiss** who passed on September 2, 2020 at St. Luke's Hospital— Allentown campus. A private service was held September 11, 2020 at Greenwood Cemetery.

**Janet Bachman** who passed on September 9, 2020 at The Phoebe Home in Allentown. A private service was held September 12, 2020 at the Heintzelman Funeral Home, Inc.

## Union UCC Staff

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Find us on  
Facebook

www.facebook.com/unionneffs

## 7/19/2020 Baptisms

### 6/21/2020 Baptism



Jamie and Siera Adcock pictured with Aften Hamm



Luke Michael Hoffert, pictured with parents Jenna and Michael Hoffert and sister Micayla



Maverick James Moser, pictured with parents Melissa and Daniel Moser and sister Amelia



Landon Phillip Seymour, pictured with parents Jillian and Keith Seymour

## 9/20/2020 Baptisms



Emilia Catherine Todd, pictured with parents Julia and Andrew Todd and brother Nathan



Elene Madlin Boyle and Eric Levie Boyle pictured with parents Alexandra and Christopher Boyle, sponsors Thomas and Stephanie Gardiner and Thomas Boyle and Kelsy Halloran



Brynlee Ryan Eisenhard pictured with parents Jamie Woods and Randy Eisenhard, sponsors Ryan Eisenhard and Nicole Tibak



Leo John Kushnir pictured with parents Andrea Kushnir and Daniel Kushnir, sponsors Brittany and Daniel Pressmann



Olyvia Ellen Nicole Meckes pictured with parents Nicole Italiano and Allen Meckes, sisters Emma and Sophie, sponsors John and Ashley Varady



Congratulations and blessings on the birth of **Evie Carmen Fetherman**, on July 7, 2020 to Melissa Fetherman and Rob Fetherman.

Congratulations and blessings on the birth of **Sylvia Katherine Strack** on July 23, 2020 to Steve and Leslie Strack.

Congratulations and blessings on the birth of **John Stephen Gacesa IV** to Carol and John Gacesa on August 10. Grandparents are Jim and Edie Fella.

Congratulations and blessings on the birth of **Madeline Marie Newtz** on August 11, 2020 to Liz and Joe Newtz. Grandparents are Sue and Larry Todd.



Congratulations and blessings to **Daniel Gilbert and Michael Haftl** who were married on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.



**Dorothy George 10/10**

**Emilie Peters 10/24**

**Bertha Blose 10/28**

We will be hosting Family Promise the first week of November. While our church is closed, and we won't be housing or making meals for the families, we are still showing our hospitality by sending gift cards for groceries and restaurants, as well as providing money to pay for the hotel where the families are spending their weeks. Please consider purchasing gift cards to the following merchants or sending in a check to be applied to housing costs (made payable to Union UCC), returned to the church office by October 25. Thank you for your continued generosity and love.

Redner's	Taco Bell	Denny's	Mod Pizza
Aldi	McDonald's	Red Robin	Panera
Wawa	Sonic Drive-In	Applebee's	
Wendy's	Waffle House	Chipotle	

### Financial Report

Fiscal Year	Operating Fund	Designated Funds	Grand Total All Funds
7-1-2019	\$9,644	\$22,507	\$32,151
Income	\$355,129	\$57,126	\$412,255
Expenses	\$301,516	\$56,149	\$357,665
2-29-2020	\$63,257	\$23,484	\$86,741

Designated Funds category includes offerings for NIN, Mother's Day, OGHs, Lenten, Advent, Improvement Fund, Flowers, Directory, Bulletins, Phoebe Campaign, & special gifts.

### SUPPORT GOD'S MINISTRY AND MISSION AT UNION UCC WITH YOUR DONATIONS.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** you can mail your envelopes to the church. The church address is on one side, just add a stamp.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** This is a great time to try e-giving! Choose a 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. [financialmanager@unionucc.org](mailto:financialmanager@unionucc.org)

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

**AMAZON SMILE** Donate to Union UCC, Neffs (Search by zip code 18065) while you shop at Amazon. <https://smile.amazon.com>. Amazon Smile's impact to date for Union UCC is \$1,289.24.



**On September 27<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated Kathy Bonsell's retirement.** She served here as our Director of Christian Education for 23 years. 23 years?!?!? That's 23 years of leading Sunday School teachers and children. That's 23 years of teaching and organizing Children's Church. That's 23 years of Vacation Bible, bulletin boards, mission projects, Bible stories, staff meetings, preschool meetings, crafts and more. We are so very, very grateful for how she has loved our kids and families and showed them the way to loving God and God's church. Thank you, Kathy!

**Thank you church of your incredible generosity to her thank you gifts. She was showered with gift cards, thank you notes, and many more surprises that we'll share later.**

Thank you to the following people for serving on the **Search Committee** for the Director of Christian Education.

**Donna Christman** (Chair Church and Min, Consistory), **Aften Hamm** (President Consistory, Church and Min), **Ardith Kuhns** (Church and Min), **Dan Gilbert** (Consistory), **Chrissy Shivok** (Chair Christian Education), **Naomi DeNardo** (Christian Education), **Tara Henninger** (Christian Education), **Pam Minnich** (Parent/Member at Large), **Hannah Minnich**, **Pastor Kayli**, **Pastor Kris**

Our Consistory and Search Committee for the Director of Christian Education have approved the following interim plan:

**Maryann Puia will serve as our Interim Faith Formation Director.**

Maryann is a graduate of Lebanon Valley College with a B.S. degree in Elementary Education. She recently received her certification for Special Education by completing DeSales University's certificate program. Her teaching experience ranges from the preschool level to seventh grade.

Sixteen years ago she became a member of Union UCC and began filling my need to instruct and help children through volunteer activities in the church and community. She has been a Sunday School teacher, Children's Church teacher, classroom volunteer at Ironton Elementary School, the Ironton PTO treasurer, Schnecksville PTO President as well as an active member and organizer of several committees and booster clubs. She recently returned to the classroom in February of 2016 to teach the Three and Four Year Old Class at Neffs Preschool after taking some years off to raise her two children, Jake, 21, and Claire, 11. She is married to Ralph.

She has a few things to finish up in the next few weeks, so her start date would be October 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Rev. Michelle Funk will serve as our Interim Coach and Consultant.**

The Rev. Michelle Funk was born and raised in Bethlehem, PA. She worked in the medical field for several years before following her dream and opening a dance studio, the Pennsylvania Performing Arts Center which owned and directed for 20 years. In 2013 she was hired as the Director of Christian Education and Youth at St. John's UCC in Fullerton. In 2016 she was called as their Associate Pastor and approved as a UCC licensed minister. After the Senior Pastor's retirement she served as Acting Lead Pastor. During this time she was also ordained. Michelle's husband, Jon, was transferred to Graham NC for his work. They moved there in March of this year. Michelle completed her ministry at St. John's in May 2020. She is now searching for a pastoral position in North Carolina.

Michelle has been trained as a coach with the Penn Northeast Conference. She will meet with the Search Committee about 3 times to support their process.

