

Sanctuary Guidelines Worship Fall 2021 (Starting September 12)

We will open the church at 7am, with worship services at 8am and 10:30am.

Please go to the welcome tables at each door for your bulletin and to share your offering (and to pick up Communion) before entering the sanctuary.

Masks are required for worship on Sundays, church group meetings, and all events and gatherings inside the building for everyone over the age of 3 regardless of vaccination status.

Pews will be marked to allow for 3 feet of distancing. Please sit in open areas only.

The balcony will be open.

On Communion Sundays, we will continue to use the prefilled communion cups of grape juice and a gluten free cracker. Please use the ziploc bag to take your garbage with you.

For now, there will not be congregational singing.

Music will be provided by soloists and instrumentalists.

Please gather with others for conversation outside of the building.

The pastors will greet you outside on the porches.

We hope to evaluate and edit these precautions when vaccination rates continue to increase, COVID (and variant) numbers continue to decrease, and guidelines are updated for churches and our region. There is no guarantee of complete safety from transmission of the COVID-19 virus, but we will continue to do our best to keep our members, friends, and families as safe as possible.

We are grateful for the love of this church family and for God's love which sustains and carries us during this challenging time.

~ The Pastors and Consistory of Union UCC

SEPTEMBER focus is on opening for Sunday Worship, Sunday programming (Education Hour, Confirmation, High School, Adults) and Neffs Preschool (Weekday), Funerals (Luncheons, as schedule and volunteers allow) and Weddings Resume

The plan at this time is to keep the building locked during the week, probably through the Fall, with a long term goal of upgrading our security system to enable visitors to communicate from the door.

September 12 8am and 10:30am return to worship in the Sanctuary

September 19 10:30 Baptism, 9:15am Confirmation Orientation – Fellowship Hall

September 25 Harvest Home Set Up (Morning), BBQ Bash in the Grove 5:30-8:30

September 26 Harvest Home / 9:15 Education Hour Starts (kids and adults), New Members Received

October 3 Worldwide Communion, Children's Church Resumes at 10:30

Open Building to Church Groups and Committees, Resume with Zoom option

Golden Times – Oct 5, Youth Group, Basket Social - cancelled, Feed My Starving Children – cancelled

No Outside Groups – only possible occasional events, but nothing regular weekly/monthly until January.

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General Guidelines:

STAFF and OFFICES

- The building will be locked at all times. The staff is requesting that when anyone comes to the building during the week that they call, email, or schedule their visit ahead of time. Please use the South entrance and we will let you in. If you need to enter on the North side for accessibility, please call or email us to let us know to meet you there.
- We are also requesting that everyone, regardless of vaccination status, wear a mask when they enter any of our offices.

MEETINGS

- Those vaccinated and comfortable may remove their masks.
- Those who are **un-vaccinated must wear masks.**
- In the building: Food and Beverage may be brought by the individual for the individual, no sharing or “common” food/drink.

COMMON AREAS

When you are in our church’s Hallways, Lobbies, Seating areas, Gathering areas, classrooms, bathrooms, and sanctuary:

- Those vaccinated and comfortable may choose not to wear their masks.
- **Those un-vaccinated must wear masks.**

MUSIC PROGRAMS

- **All Singers**, regardless of vaccination status, will continue to **wear masks during worship and practice.**
- **Anyone working with the Children’s Choirs, regardless of their vaccination status, will wear masks at all times.**
- Those sitting in the choir loft will maintain at least a one-seat-separation between singers.
- String Instruments, brass, and woodwind instruments may resume in worship as solo and small groups. Precautions for instrument covers and best practices being used in schools will be utilized.
- Chime Choir may continue. Masks are required for rehearsals and performances.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMMING

- For all youth events, we are asking that **adults** who work with our children **wear masks** regardless of vaccination status.
- We are asking our vaccinated youth who are assisting with programs to wear masks.
- We are asking our un-vaccinated youth to wear masks as age appropriate (> 3 years).

***All of this is pending on current COVID guidelines from CDC, State and the practices of local schools, hospitals, and businesses. There’s always an asterisk now!**

PIG OUT at Union UCC's

BACKYARD BBQ BASH

September 25, 2021

4:00—8:30 pm

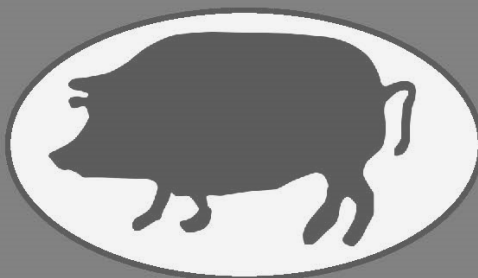
Neffs Church Grove

Free Admission

✓ Live Music by **TimeWhys** (5:30-8:30)

Music of the 60's and 70's

✓ Lorah's Pig Roasters and Chicken Dinners



UNION UCC, 5550 ROUTE 873, NEFFS PA 18065
610-767-6961

Band Sponsored By Heintzelman Funeral Home

STAFF NEWS FROM PASTOR KRIS

Rev. Patience Announces Her Retirement Rev. Patience is turning that certain age in October and has announced her retirement as our Pastor of Visitation. We are very happy for her as she anticipates this next chapter in her life. But, we are sad to see her leave us. She has faithfully served as our first Pastor of Visitation for the last 15 years.

She will continue to serve here through December 31st, 2021. We will plan to celebrate and thank her on a Sunday in worship in December. In the meantime, please participate in a card and gift shower to honor her ministry among us by sending your card and gift to Donna Christman at 5820 PA Rte 873, Slatington, PA 18080 by November 1st. Checks made to "Donna Christman." You are also invited to drop off your cards and gifts on Sundays in the offering plate as long as they are clearly marked for Donna Christman/Rev. Patience.

Please take this time to thank Rev. Patience with best wishes, words of gratitude, and stories about how her ministry has been meaningful to you and your family. We have been blessed by her presence of leadership as a pastor and we look forward to receiving your words of appreciation as well as the chance to celebrate her work here.

History of the Pastor Of Visitation Position

When Pastor Thomas Thomas was called here as pastor in 1984 he was the only pastor on staff for this large church. A few years later he and the church leaders realized that an Associate Pastor position needed to be created in order to cover all of the pastoral responsibilities for this growing and healthy congregation. Union UCC called a few part-time associates in the transition and then called Janice Dey as the first full-time Associate. She served here for nine years. In this interim several part-time pastors helped Pastor Thomas who focused on pastoral care. After a 2-year interim, Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuels was called as the Associate Pastor.

Shortly after she began her work here, she and Pastor Tom realized that the church had grown in its focus on children and youth ministries and now needed to focus on their ministries with older adults. They created the Pastor of Visitation position to help meet those needs and Pastor Kris created the Helping Hearts and Communion Ministers groups to support the position and the care being provided to our adults.

In September of 2006 Rev. Dr. Patience Stevenson was called as our first Pastor of Visitation. She has been serving in a variety of ways averaging 10 hours a week with a focus on caring for our members on our visitation list, supporting and organizing our Helping Hearts and Communion Ministers, leading our Golden Times monthly senior adult gathering, sharing hospital visits and general member care with the other pastors, officiating at funerals, assisting in worship monthly, and preaching quarterly. She also helped to organize our Green Team and our care for God's creation efforts.

We look forward to building on the wonderful foundation of pastoral care, programming, and spiritual nourishment that Rev. Patience has provided to so many of us.

Search Committee for the Pastor of Visitation

The Consistory has called the following people to serve on the Search Committee: those from Church and Ministry – **Donna Christman, Ardith Kuhns, Teresa Dalrymple, Eric Minnich, Aften Hamm** and additional members – **Rev. Bill Metzger, Dan Topp, Phil Wehr, Carrington Smith, Pastor Kayli, and Pastor Kris.**

We will keep you posted on the timeline and progress of our process.

MORE STAFF UPDATES FROM PASTOR KRIS

Thank you **George DeNardo** for serving as our Sunday Set Up Substitute 2 years ago and our Sunday Set Up Person this past year. COVID brought you more challenges than the usual issues of opening the building and taking care of coffee hour and you did wonderfully! Thank you for being on call to serve in a variety of ways and for supporting the staff and church. George is heading to Duquesne University, send him your love and prayers.

Thank you **AJ DiPaolantonio** for also being willing to help in a variety of ways during this past year, including helping on Sundays again. We are so grateful for your dedication. AJ will continue as our weeknight lockup person this year.

Welcome **Maggie Cygan** to our staff as our new Sunday Set Up Person!

Welcome **Kiel Baer** to our staff as our new Sunday Set Up Substitute!

THANK OUR PASTORS AND STAFF!!!

A huge thank you to our pastors and staff for all that they have done this past year to help our church move through this time of COVID. I can't say enough about how proud of them I am and how grateful I am for each of them. We are so blessed to have such faithful and wonderful leaders and servants.

Thank you - Pastor Kayli, Rev. Patience, Marissa Haney, Blake Hoppes, Barbara Carinci, Ori Handwerk, Maria Beltz, Maryann Puia, Tiffany Lakatosh, George DeNardo, and AJ DiPaolantonio.

FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

September greetings to everyone. Our church property is ready to welcome worshippers back in the sanctuary this month. The building has missed you, the pews have missed you, the carpeting has missed you.



While the church sanctuary has been closed, our church grove has been active this past year with worship and many special events, and has been a great blessing to us during the past year, and many activities will still be happening in the grove this fall, so stay tuned, and visit often.

Property repairs, upgrades, and normal maintenance has continued around the whole property the past year. Grass cutting, gutter cleaning, oil burner cleaning, elevator inspections, electrical and plumbing repairs, etc . . . continued as normal.

In spring a new slate roof was installed on the south side of the church sanctuary, then a concrete retaining wall was removed and replaced on the north side of the sanctuary, and a new air conditioning system was installed in the sanctuary, with an air scrubber purification system.

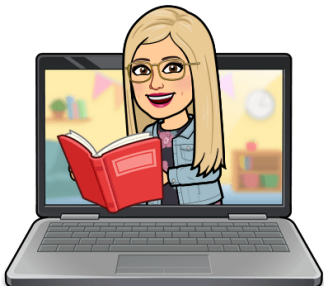
We are blessed with a generous congregation and supportive Funds of Lasting Gifts endowment fund to provide for the needed repairs, upgrades and maintenance that the church property needs each and every year, even during a pandemic.

Peace to all and welcome home, both in person or online.

UNION UCC YOUTH GROUP

BE IN THE KNOW

SEPTEMBER 2021 EDITION



As You Head Back to School

I know that this past year has been stressful, complicated, and weird. I also know that as we gear up for another school year that there is the potential for it to be all the same things and maybe more. It's important for all to know (youth and adult) that we are here for you! We are rooting for you, supporting you, and ready to rock this school year alongside of you!

Keep being awesome!!



SUNDAY FUNSIES

MUNCH BUNCH

Grades: 5th—7th

Time: 9:15am-10:15am

Where: 2nd Floor

CONFIRMATION

Grades: 8th (or higher)

Time: 9:15am-10:15am

Where: Youth Room
(basement)

HIGH SCHOOL HAPPY HOUR

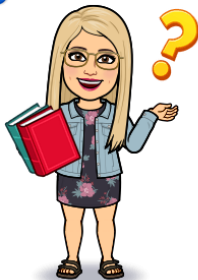
Grades: 9th—12th

Time: TBD

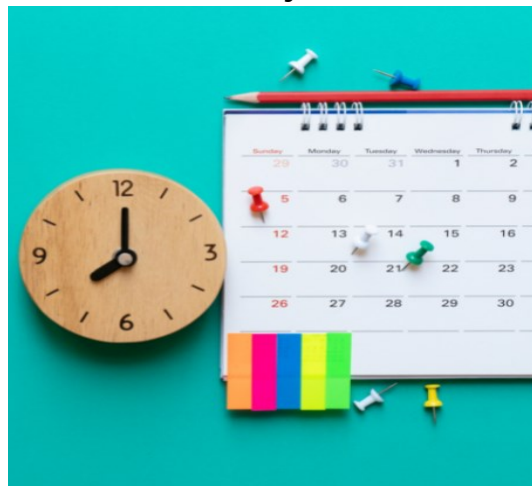
Where: Youth Room
(basement)

All Youth are invited, welcomed, and encouraged to join us on Sundays for a time just for them! Join us Sundays, beginning October 3, during education hour (or another time) to grow in your faith.

Any Questions?



Contact Pastor Kayli
pastorkayli@unionucc.org



SAVE THE DATE

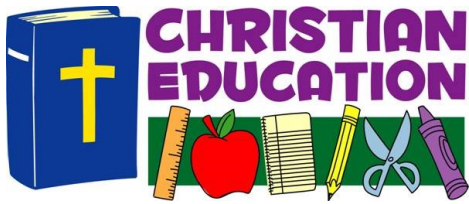
November 13-14, 2021

PNEC Sleep Out for
Homelessness

In conjunction with Lehigh
Conference of Churches

More Information to Follow





Contact: Tiffany Lakatosh
Email: dired@unionucc.org

In **August and September** we will be collecting **new school supplies** to donate to local students.

On **September 12th, 19th, & 26th** we invite educators, school employees, and students to come to 10:30 service for a blessing and students will receive a special gift for the new school year.



Sunday School Starts September 26th (9:15-10:15)

ALL CHILDREN and THEIR PARENTS/GUARDIANS will meet in Fellowship Hall at 9:15 to begin a new church year.

*Preschool/K—Room 100, 1st/2nd/3rd/4th— Fellowship Hall,
5th/6th/7th— 2nd floor –old office.*



Children's Church will begin on **Oct. 3rd**. All children will be invited to the chancel rail at Children's Time. From there, we move to Children's Church! Preschoolers and Kindergarteners meet their teachers in the foyer and move to Room 100. 1st thru 6th grade travel to Room 7 for our worship service. Parents meet their children after church in their classrooms (Preschool/K—Room 100, 1st-6th –Room 7).

WE STILL COULD USE A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL TEAMS!

Trunk or Treat



We are currently looking for families, clubs, committees, etc. to bring a decorated car (and candy for 200) to this year's TRUNK OR TREAT on **Sat., Oct. 23rd, 1-3pm**. Cars should arrive between 11:30-12:30.

Contact Tiffany at dired@unionucc.org to sign up.

Sunday School & Children's Church Sneaker Stroll

We will be having our annual Sneaker Stroll on **October 10th** to raise money for the local Crop Walk. Our goal is \$5 per walker.



In order to create the safest environment possible, we kindly ask that those ages 3+ wear a mask or shield when attending Sunday School and Children's Church. Thank you for understanding.

Any questions, contact Tiffany at dired@unionucc.org.

FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE

Thank you to everyone for supporting the varied mission projects this past summer.

Thank you for the wonderful and generous donations of socks and underwear during Christmas in July. Numerous boxes were filled with donations for children, young adults, and adults, then delivered to the Allentown Rescue Mission and 6th Street Shelter.

Thank you for the generous donations to One Great Hour of Sharing, Neighbors in Need, and the Mother's Day offering for Phoebe Home.

Thank you for the continued support for Family Promise and the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Union UCC continues to be a blessing to many local families and families around the world. Together, we all make a difference in the lives of many.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY



AUGUST 2021 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 Kiel Baer as the Sunday Set up Back-Up Person
- Approval of Eric Minnich and Janice Metzger as the two new consistory members to fill in openings

Approvals done by vote since June 2021

- Approval of Maggie Cygan as the Sunday Set Up Person
 - Approval of the members of the Pastor of Visitation Search Team
 - Approval for the use of FOLG for Trunk or Treat and Lights in the Grove
- Approval for the use of FOLG for Tiffany continuing education.

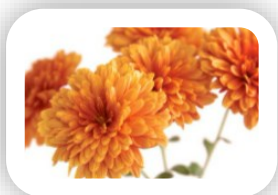
Harvest Home is a time to celebrate God’s bounty, a time to be thankful for local farmers, and those around the country and world. A time to be grateful for the sun and the rain, and the hard work provided by many to feed us and nourish us, our bodies and our souls. A time to share our bounty with others in the local community and to spread God’s love.

Please bring:

- fruits, vegetables, or produce for our display for the sanctuary. All home gardeners or produce shoppers, please bring fresh produce on Sunday morning before either church service. Your donations will be included in the display.
- fill a bag of groceries to donate to local families. The wheelbarrow for canned goods and groceries will be available for donations starting Sunday, September 19, in the church lobby.

All produce and groceries items will be distributed to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank. Join us in giving thanks to God for the bounty of the earth and the prosperity we have enjoyed for over 260 years.

For more information, contact Gloria Ringer at 610-502-0340.



We will be sponsoring the purchase of Mums for display. Place an order by filling out the form below. **Make checks payable to Union UCC or order on our website under “Give Online” or by clicking [here](#).** Deadline to sponsor is **September 12TH**.

- **I would like to sponsor # _____ potted Mum (s) for a HOMEBOUND MEMBER.**
- **I would like to sponsor # _____ potted Mum (s) for DISPLAY (you may pick up your mums after the Sept. 26 10:30am service)**

I will pick up my mums following the service

_____ YES _____ NO

Giver (envelope) Number _____

Total # of Mums _____ x \$6 per Mum = Total \$ _____

Sponsor's Name: _____

In Honor of:

In Memory of:

Rev. Dr. Patience D. Stevenson, Minister of Visitation

An Interview with Jarod Pokorny about Permaculture

This spring Jarod Pokorny shared a presentation by zoom on Permaculture for our Adult Education class and our Green Team. It was so rich that I asked Jarod to give us a brief introduction to share in our newsletter. Don't miss Jarod's own gardening YouTube channel, *Terra-ble Gardening Videos!*

Initially, I was beginning to practice permaculture long before I actually knew what it was. I have always enjoyed spending time outdoors. Whether I was going on hikes or camping; I found I was most at peace in those natural areas. My family also had a garden when I was growing up. I enjoyed helping out with planting seeds, and gleaning the harvests when I was a young kid. Eventually, as I got older, I was inspired to create my own garden. As I prepared the plot of land I thought about how much I enjoyed spending time out in the woods. I thought it would be nice to bring that sense of sanctuary, I found in Nature, into my own backyard. If only I could figure out a way to combine that with the garden I was creating. I soon found that the natural world was all too eager to jump in and help. Days after planting I discovered a bunch of plants emerging that I had not planted. I figured out ways to incorporate certain wild plants into beds of cultivated species where the relationship could be mutually beneficial. After further research, I realized some of these wild volunteers were also edible, and that many wild plant species could be indicators of various soil qualities. As the years progressed and I continued to learn more and experiment, I eventually ran across this term of permaculture. I realized it was very close to the unconventional self-taught gardening method I had been using. As long as we allow Nature to lead by example, we will find our own way.

Recently, there's been a dramatic interest in gardening and home food production. I think it can be an awesome and rewarding endeavor, especially in the long-term. However, there's the catch...long-term. So, the question arises: How do we design a garden that is practical but productive and sustainable for the average homeowner? A garden that has minimal demands for long-term work, inputs and other costs? It seems that in order to accomplish this, we must look to the natural world. Ultimately, in our actions we want to leave the landscape better than we found it, exhorting a sense of regeneration upon the land, while also finding our own connection to the landscape, the Earth. Enter permaculture.

Look at a forest. It is a functioning ecosystem of a rich diversity of species: various trees, shrubs, perennials, vines, groundcovers etc. If I were an insect flying over a plot of land with an assortment of species grown in small patches throughout the area, I would likely bypass that area. Seeking out instead the plot that consists of many acres of a single crop. For this place will likely have a plenitude of food with lower levels of natural predators. Diversity can be vital, albeit challenging, to grasp. Neglecting this value can, as history points out, result in a brutal *denouement*, i.e. the Irish Potato Famine. In embracing diversity, we find greater strength. It is a concept we still have yet to embrace, not only in the farm field, but in our own lives, and society as a whole.

We share the land with every other living being on this Earth. Some old time gardeners would set aside a patch of land, away from the main garden, and they would fill this space with an assortment of

delectable crops or spare seed for some of the wild animals. Some people would plant turnips to feed the deer. Even for those of us who hunt, this can be a way to give back, and to ultimately help support a greater ecosystem.

What can a dandelion teach us about an area of land? The seed commonly requires full sun to germinate, and it can flourish where other plants wither and die. It sends down a deep taproot to access stores of water and nutrients where it is too far for others to reach. These nutrients then accumulate in the dandelion. When it dies back, these minerals become more accessible to shallow-rooted plants. The dandelion's taproot breaks up compacted soil and thus allows for better subterranean drainage. Once the dandelion has helped to rectify the land, the soil becomes more loose and fertile enabling other successive plants to enter in. The dandelion has done its job, no longer being needed in that area it is thus phased out. If the dandelion is not allowed to play its role in soil reclamation, then that responsibility falls even more directly on us. Generally when a volunteer plant appears in an area, it is usually for a reason. Learning these 'reasons' will enable us to read the landscape on a deeper level, aiding us in making more informed decisions when considering gardening, landscaping, presence of animal species, and so much more.

There is always so much to learn, provided we open ourselves to the opportunities to do so. Questioning our own opinions and judgements is hard and undesirable, however this is exactly what a permacultural perspective challenges us to do. By facing our own opinions, I think we are also facing a part of ourselves. And it is an aspect of ourselves that we must overcome in order to grow and develop into our full potential, along with the rest of the garden. For we too have a place in the landscape.



GOLDEN TIMES IS BACK!

We are looking forward to beginning our Golden Times program in October. Our current plan is to meet in Memorial Hall at 11:00 a.m. for a program and send everyone home with a bag lunch. If the church policy changes due to the virus we will keep you informed.

October 5 - Strolling Strings

November 2 - Sheep to Shawl (Donna Panner, Barbara Panner's daughter)

December 7 - Program TBA

NEEDED: SAFE CHILD COORDINATOR!

After several years of wonderful service, Amy McCoy is stepping down from the position of Safe Child Coordinator. This is an important position in the church's mission of providing a safe environment for our children to grow, and also one required by our Safe Child Policy. It is also a position with very low time and labor needs, just a high requirement for love of your fellow church members! If you feel moved to and can volunteer a couple hours a week to fulfill this important mission, please contact Pastor Kris, Pastor Kayli, or Chrissy Shivok.

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! After a successful year of cyber preschool last year, we are excited to be returning for in-person learning. The staff and board have been hard at work developing a Health and Safety Plan that we hope will allow us to minimize any virus outbreaks and remain open for instruction. This year brings a new member to our staff; we would like to welcome Karen Speicher as a Teacher Assistant for our 4 year-old classes. Karen had two grandchildren go through our program and was a frequent volunteer during that time. We are thrilled that she has joined us as a staff member. Most of our classes have reached our maximum capacity, but we are taking names for a waitlist if you know anyone still looking for a program this year.



WHERE SCHOOL MEMORIES BEGIN!

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



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

Richard W. Blose passed on May 10, 2021 in his home. Services were held on May 13, 2021 in the Heintzelman Funeral Home.

John "Jack" Fels III passed on July 28, 2021. Services were held on August 4, 2021 at Kohut Funeral Home.

Leona Baer passed on August 14, 2021. Private services were held on August 18, 2021 at Heintzelman Funeral Home.



Photo credit: Kevin Richter

Dale David Beers pictured with parents: Cassandra Gaumer and Jarret Beers and sponsors: Tyler Beers, Shana Hensinger, Alexis Shockley



Celebrate our Seminary Graduate Ashley Werkheiser!

She has been called to Christ UCC Schoenersville and will be ordained and installed there on October 2, 2021 at 1:00PM. The church is located at 5050 Airport Rd., Allentown. Please join in the celebration.

HOME VISITATION BIRTHDAYS

September 12 -

Joanne Ebert

4619 Gary Road,
Orefield, PA 18069-9604

September 22 -

Ralph Ebert

282 Indian Trail Road
Northampton, PA 18067-9122

October 10 -

Dorothy George

Whitehall Manor, Room 36A
Whitehall, Pa 18052

UNION UCC STAFF

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Senior Pastor
Cell Phone: 610-657-6007
pastorkris@unionucc.org

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Church Administrator
administrator@unionucc.org

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610-767-6961**

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Associate Pastor
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Blake Hoppes
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Pastor Kayli ext. 25
Marissa Haney ext. 21
Maryann Puia ext. 27
Barbara Carinci ext. 32
Music Office ext. 26
Kitchen ext. 30

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Ori Handwerk
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Caretaker@unionucc.org

Preschool Office:
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Tiffany Lakatosh
Interim Director of Christian Education
dired@unionucc.org

Barbara Carinci
Financial Manager
financialmanager@unionucc.org



www.facebook.com/unionneffs

HELPING MEALS MINISTRY



Pam Minnich (Pjp.edrn@gmail.com) and Connie Gioielli (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 DiFiore 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.**

CHOIR INFO– FALL 2021

We are planning to resume in-person rehearsals and performances for all choirs in October! Please be on the lookout for details in the upcoming weeks about rehearsal times & dates, performances, etc. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at blake.charger@gmail.com.

Heritage Choir (8am Service)
Horizon Choir (10:30 Service)
High School Choir
Kids Choirs

Chime Choir (Directed by Edie Fella - edie.fella@gmail.com)

SOUND TEAM OR VIDEO TEAM

Our sound team continues to do a great job supporting worship. They have been especially helpful this year when we've added things like the FM transmitter so folks can listen to worship from their cars and when we've worshipped outside in the grove from July-October last year and probably May-August this year. Normally we worship in the grove for 3 Sundays during the summer. Thank you sound team! **Karl Klinger, Mike Baer, Pat Sorg, Doug Albert, Drew Panner, Ian Henninger, and Blake Hoppes.**



I am looking for more people to learn the sound system for outside and sanctuary worship. **Welcome Dawn Dengler!**

I am also looking for people who would like to assist us in our current video production for livestreaming and recording as well as for future plans.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact me.

Thanks, Pastor Kris

Financial Report

Fiscal Year	Operating Fund	Designated Funds	Grand Total All Funds
7/1/2021	(\$4,682.00)	\$22,859.00	\$18,177.00
Income	\$45,016.00	\$4,900.00	\$49,916.00
Expenses	\$34,482.00	\$5,015.00	\$39,497.00
Balance 7/31/21	\$5,852.00	\$22,744.00	\$28,596.00

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

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
610-657-6007

Pastor Kayli pastorkayli@unionucc.org
610-390-8768

Rev. Patience vispastor@unionucc.org
610-248-5587

Tiffany Lakatosh dired@unionucc.org
Office Administrator – Marissa Haney
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Financial Manager – Barbara Carinci
financialmanager@unionucc.org

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 Our next new member sessions will be on September 12 and 29 at 9:15-10:15am in the Memory Room (2nd floor). Contact the office if you plan to attend. To share your questions and interest in learning more contact Pastor Kris PastorKris@unionucc.org

Baptism We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month when we meet in person. Our next dates are Sunday, September 19 and November 7. Families can sign up to have their children baptized during the worship service in the sanctuary or in a private service with family and pastors.

Weddings To schedule your pre-marriage sessions and wedding at our church or a venue with one of the pastors, please see be in contact with one of the pastors.

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.

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

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>.

Covenant for Christian Leadership & Faith Community Behaviors

Relying on the grace of God, we will do our best to...[repeated prior to each covenantal statement]

1... live the fruits of the spirit... love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control [Galatians 5:22-23a], remembering that...

this is Christ's church founded as a spiritual community over 250 years ago. We are His servants and stewards and our words and our behaviors communicate many things.

2... recognize the gifts and graces each of us brings to the table, remaining aware that healthy church leadership requires a variety of gifts and we have all been blessed in different ways [1st Corinthians 12]

3... share our part in our mutual accountability for success, by actively participating in the discussion and decision-making process

4... keep an open mind as we listen to, invite and encourage other points of view and we will believe everyone is trying their best to have this church bring glory to God

5...respectfully ask questions for clarification, without intentionally offending others

6... feel free to respectfully disagree with issues and methods but will restate what we are disagreeing with first, without fear of ridicule

7... not knowingly participate in negative or derogatory conversations about others and will remind any brothers or sisters who try to engage us in these conversations that we do not do that as people of faith [Galatians 5:19-21]

8... try to avoid defensive reactions and will speak only for ourselves unless being asked to bring an issue to leadership on behalf of another person or group

9... discuss privately with someone we may have offended, or who may have offended us, and not talk to anyone else about it unless we have agreed to ask a witness to be present; when we do make mistakes we will admit them and make amends [Matthew 5:21-24, Matthew 18:15-20]

10... address behaviors that are non-productive, disruptive, unhealthy and/or destructive

Healthy Church Leaders:

1. Are emotionally, psychologically, spiritually grounded – more concerned about their own functioning than they are on blaming others for what goes wrong, possessing a stance of curiosity and having a heart for Christ's church and Union's Ministry & Mission;
2. Are, relying on God's grace, intent on living the Fruits of the Spirit and are willing to stand up to those who sabotage these values - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, generosity and self-control [Galatians 5];
3. Have a contrite and humble heart – are willing to admit when mistakes are made, take ownership, make amends, forgive, accept forgiveness and move on;
4. Are willing to live in accordance with Union's Covenant for how we are to behave as the "body of Christ".