

WORSHIP SCHEDULE Sundays at 8am and 10:30am In the Sanctuary, unless noted

November 7 VETERANS DAY RECOGNITION Veterans and Active Military Honored

November 14 401G Sunday... What is a 401G Sunday?

November 21 Thanksgiving Sunday

November 28 1st Sunday of Advent, Communion

December 5 2nd Sunday of Advent, Rev. Patience Retirement Celebration, Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, Penn Northeast Conference Minister

December 12 2nd Sunday of Advent

December 19 4th Sunday of Advent Lessons and Carols by Interrupted Silence, Horizon Choir, & Community Choir

December 26 -No 8am Worship, Only 10:30am Worship with our Young Adults and College Students

January 2 – No 8am Worship, Only 10:30am Worship

January 9 – 8am and 10:30 Worship, Communion, 401G Sunday*

Sunday, December 12
Parkland Chorale Holiday Concert
Watch for more info!

November 19 at 7pm – Handel's Messiah

Welcome in the Holiday season with 12 singers with Interrupted Silence and Elysium String Quartet for Handel's *Messiah*. Do not miss the Christmas portion and Hallelujah Chorus from this Baroque Masterwork

\$15 General Admission Ticket
Watch for more info

Saturday, Dec 4 Lights in the Grove 3-5pm

(Raindate: Dec 5)

FREE Admission – Donate hats, gloves, mittens to the 6th Street Shelter

Live Christmas Music by Blake Hoppes, Lights by Christmas Décor, Crafts for everyone, assemble here or take home. Hot Chocolate and Snacks and Santa!

CHRISTMAS EVE in the Sanctuary

Masks Required, Registration Required, Limited Seating (Watch for more info)

Wednesday, December 22 at 7pm Christmas Eve Service, Candlelight and Communion, Special Music

Thursday, December 23 at 7pm Christmas Eve Service, Candlelight and Communion, Special Music

Friday, December 24 at 3pm, 5pm, and 8pm Christmas Eve Service,

Candlelight and Communion, Special Music

Interrupted Silence Ensemble at 3pm and 5pm

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Sanctuary Guidelines Worship Fall 2021

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

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.

Congregational singing resumes in November.

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

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

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.

Adult Faith Formation Classes with Pastor Kris

Fridays 9:30-11am, Youth Room

Nov 5, 12, 19 The Difficult Words of Jesus, Amy-Jill Levine

Sundays 9:15-10:15 Room 5

Nov 7 with Rev. Patience

Nov 14, 21 The Difficult Words of Jesus, Amy-Jill Levine

Please contact Pastor Kris if you'd like to join us in person or virtually by zoom or if you'd like a copy of the book if you can't join us.

***What is a 401G Sunday?** From Pastor Kris and the Financial Leadership Team

In a 401K one invests resources for the future and retirement.

In a 401G (G=God) we are investing in our spiritual lives hoping for short and long term returns, on earth as in heaven. What is the focus of your investment of your time, energy, love, schedule, finances, and resources? What do you need to invest in more deeply to create a more complete discipleship portfolio?

Watch for the Financial Leadership Team on November 14th and January 9th as they invite you to root your investments and growth in love.



Rooted in *LOVE*

"They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season." Psalm 1: 3a

**SANTA'S ATTIC
&
BOOK SALE**

**SUNDAYS NOVEMBER 21 & 28
7AM- 12 NOON
MEMORIAL HALL**

(Please do not bring new merchandise)

Choose your tags from the Salvation
Army Angel Tree
Plus pick up your 2022 Envelopes

STAFF NEWS FROM PASTOR KRIS

LAST CALL FOR CARDS AND GIFTS FOR REV. PATIENCE'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

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 plan to celebrate and thank her on Sunday, December 5th at 8am and 10:30am Worship. 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-Samuelson was called as the Associate Pastor.

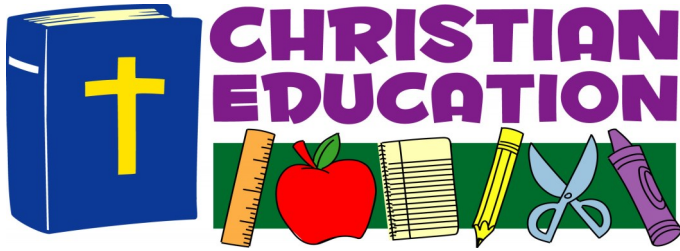
Shortly after she began her work here, she and Pastor Tom realized that the church had grown in its focus on children and youth ministries and now needed to focus on their ministries with older adults. They created the Pastor of Visitation position to help meet those needs and Pastor Kris created the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



Contact: Tiffany Lakatosh

Phone: 610-767-6961

Email: dired@unionucc.org

Union UCC's HOLIDAY challenge

Reverse Advent Baskets

For the sixth year, we will be handing out baskets and advent calendars to interested families. The idea is to put something **IN** the basket each day of Advent. Bring the filled basket back to church between Christmas Eve and Jan 2nd and we will deliver your Holiday donation to the FOOD BANK. Help your family give to others every day of Advent.

Item Ideas: shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, pasta, canned goods, condiments, cake and brownie mixes, jello, pudding, cereal, socks, mittens, undies, children's books, crayons, toilet paper, etc.



Sunday School's

Polar Express Christmas Celebration

DEC. 19th at 9:15am

This will be fun for all the children who attend!

Please let us know if your child will be attending by emailing Tiffany at dired@unionucc.org or talking to your child's Sunday School teacher. We invite all the children to wear pajamas to church. We will read Polar Express, have games, a very special visitor, and a treat bag to take home and enjoy.

THE POLAR EXPRESS



HOLIDAY HOPE CHESTS for local children

(through the Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley)

Fill a wrapped shoebox with suggested items and bring to church by Nov. 21st. See the table in the foyer for gift suggestion sheets and nametags on Nov. 7th and Nov. 14th.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoF4DACA723A7FC1-holiday1>



SUNDAY SCHOOL and CHILDREN'S CHURCH will be on a Holiday Break

DECEMBER 26th & JANUARY 2ND

We hope you and your family have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you on Jan. 9th!



Advent Prayer

Each week we add another light,
Our hope for Jesus growing bright.

We pray, we share, we do our
part...

To welcome Jesus to our Heart!

Questions? Comments? Ideas? Contact Pastor Kayli (pastorkayli@unionucc.org)

UNION UCC YOUTH GROUP

BE IN THE KNOW
NOVEMBER 2021 EDITION



2021 PNEC YOUTH

Sleep-Out for Homelessness

(AKA "One Night Without a Home")

When: November 13-November 14, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm-7:00 am

Where: Union United Church of Christ, Neffs (in the grove)

WHAT IS IT?? Youth in grades 7th -12th will sleep outside in a large box (or tent) during this overnight homeless simulation. Engaging activities will not only be fun but provide valuable lessons on homelessness that gently confront harmful stereotypes and misunderstandings about who might become homeless and why.

Confirmation Retreat!

November 20, 2021

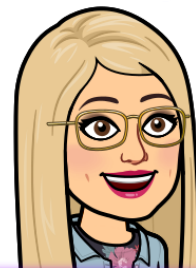
9am-5pm

Union UCC Grove

All youth, grades 9th-12th, are invited to help Pastor Kayli with the 2021 Confirmation Retreat. You are asked to eat breakfast at home, bring a lunch, and be an extra set of hands/fun for the retreat!

Let Pastor Kayli know if you want to help! Email or Text her!

i helped.



LIGHTS IN THE GROVE!!!

December 4, 2021

(rain date: December 5, 2021)

3pm-5pm

Join us again this year to bring in the holiday cheer! We'll have crafts, snacks, hot chocolate, and the lighting of our grove lights!! Come out and help with out our other committees, come out and have some fun, or come out and do both!



BLOOD DONORS SAVE LIVES



Union United Church of Christ-Neffs is hosting a blood drive to save lives at Miller-Keystone Blood Center. Our only source of blood is from donors like you!

JOIN US
NOV. 15TH - NOV. 20TH



GROUP ID 0550

MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER

1255 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Ste 1300, Allentown
1465 Valley Center Parkway, Bethlehem

Schedule your blood donation by calling 1-800-223-6667 and mention **Group ID 0550** or visit [GIVEaPINT.org](https://giveapint.org) and include the Group ID in the notes section of the form.



GIVEaPINT.org | 1-800-B-A-DONOR

MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD DRIVE

Our semi-annual blood drive is happening! Because of staffing shortages, very few blood drives are remote. Instead, Miller-Keystone is asking donors to make an appointment at either their Allentown or Bethlehem donation sites. While you can always donate anytime, we are specifically assigned the dates of November 15-20. By donating during this week, and including our church code of 0550, Union UCC will get credit for helping the area's hospital and local clinic community that is served by Miller-Keystone. Please visit <https://giveapint.org/union-ucc-drive>.

CHRISTMAS MISSION OFFERING

This year the Christmas Mission Offerings will be divided to The Allentown Warming Station at the YMCA and Parkland C.A.R.E.S. Food Pantry. Please support these two mission organizations by using the Christmas Mission Offering envelope in your envelope packet, or blank envelope marked - Christmas Mission. Thank you, the Mission Committee.

THE ALLENTOWN WARMING STATION AT THE YMCA

The Warming Station provides shelter, food, and a safe place for those experiencing homelessness in the community. They are open to welcome guests Nov 1 - April 30. The guests are greeted with kindness, and provide a safe place to sleep and a dignified sense of community for neighbors in need. The doors are open each night from 7 pm - 7 am. The YMCA also provides meals Mondays through Fridays.

PARKLAND C.A.R.E.S. FOOD PANTRY

Parkland C.A.R.E.S. strives to feed and serve every member of the community affected by and suffering from hunger. Established in 2019 in the Kernsville area of Parkland School District, the pantry initially served 12 families. Fast forward to today, the food pantry serves over 130 families who are provided with a variety of food items each month.. Parkland C.A.R.E.S. is proud to serve families in the Parkland community.

We look forward to providing clients of Family Promise nutritious meals and a warm and safe shelter for the week of November 14-21. Although our facility isn't available, we will provide home-cooked dinners, gift cards for groceries to purchase breakfast and lunch, and some funding to offset the cost of the week at a hotel that has been part of the services during the height of the Covid-19 crisis.

The Steering Committee is looking for volunteers to cook and deliver dinners, to donate grocery cards, and to provide funds for the hotel stay. If you would like to help these families stay together and get back into their own homes, please join the Family Promise volunteer group here at Union. Questions regarding any aspect of the program (cooking a meal, donating gift cards, or paying for an evening at the hotel) can be directed to Susan Smith at susancarrington@hotmail.com or (610)366-7284.

2022 ENVELOPE PACKETS

Envelope packets for 2022 will be ready for pick up starting Sunday Nov 21 . Please pick up your packets in Memorial Hall, along with those of family members, neighbors or friends. The more envelope packets picked up, the more we save on postage costs. Memorial Hall will be open every Sunday in November and December, and the Christmas Eve dates,

Please do not use the new envelopes until 2022, everyone gets new numbers each year. Members who use the e-giving program do not receive envelope packets.

Thank you for your continued support by mailing in your envelopes to the church office during this special time. Your financial support is greatly appreciated to continue the many and varied missions and ministries of Union UCC.

The Stewardship Committee.

FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

This month we take some time to thank our facility caretakers who work behind the scenes every day, every week, all year long to clean, organize, and care for the church buildings.

Ori Handwerk spends many hours a week cleaning floors, emptying trash, organizing room arrangements for groups or events, cleaning bathrooms, keeping entrance ways clean, and so much more. In winter, he even helps shovel snow, salt the walks and steps.

Maria Beltz spends a few hours each week cleaning bathrooms (there are nine bathrooms around the property), and cleaning and organizing the sanctuary, getting everything looking good for Sunday Services.

AJ DiPalattonio is our nightly lock up person, who comes four nights of the week around 9 pm to check that all doors are locked, lights are all off, the building is unoccupied, and that there are no major problems in the building. Over the years, on two different occasions, he did experience two major plumbing leaks which needed immediate attention.

We thank all three of these individuals for their service to the church and for keeping the property in good shape and ready for all who visit and use the church property.

Unfortunately Ori Handwerk will be having hip surgery and will be out of commission for November and part of December. We wish Ori well during this time and for a speedy recovery from his surgery. Wes Beltz will be performing Ori's duties during his time off, and we welcome him to our team of facility caretakers.



GOLDEN TIMES IS BACK!

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.

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

December 14 - Strolling Strings

Two months of school have flown quickly past, as we tip toe back into familiar school activities such as field trips to the pumpkin patch and Halloween parades. We even have school photos scheduled in November, something that we haven't done since November of 2019! This year we have added more "loose parts" play into the curriculum. It allows the children to utilize every day objects that you can find around the home or yard in new and unique way, all while learning and developing fine motor skills. For example, this month the 4's practiced their cutting skills on leaves from the yard and various herbs. Manipulating scissors around different textures requires them to adapt their grip and pay extra close attention to the task at hand. By including herbs, such as peppermint, it added a delightful scent to engage the sense of smell at the same time. Do you have young children or grandchildren at home- give it a try, and let them guess what scent they detect.

WHERE SCHOOL MEMORIES BEGIN!



Our classes are full for this year, but we have already begun planning registration for next February, feel free to reach out with any questions about or process. preschool@unionucc.org.

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.

Patricia Anne Kothenbeutel who passed on September 4, 2021. Services were held September 14, 2021 in the Heintzelman Funeral Home, Inc .

Larry W. Pruneski who passed on October 2, 2021. Services were held on October 8, 2021 at Union U.C.C.

Andrew B. Howett who passed on October 5, 2021. Services were on October 12, 2021 in the Heintzelman Funeral Home, Inc.

Frank B. Schiavone who passed on October 7, 2021. Services were held on October 13, 2021 in the J.S. Burkholder Funeral Home.

Olive V. Yocum who passed on October 13, 2021. Services were held on October 18, 2021 in the Heintzelman Funeral Home Inc.

Additional memorial contributions were made in memory of Gary Kern by Bill and Janice Metzger, Doug Kern, Lynn and Tom Daniels.

Memorial contribution was made in memory of Kathryn Ann McCray by Pamela Evans.

November Birthdays

11/10

Elaine Creitz
c/o Vicki Lindsay
3844 Vista Drive
Slatington PA 18080

11/21

Shirley Knappenberger
Sacred Heart by the Creek
602 E. 21st Street
apt. 342
Northampton PA 18067

11/26

Colin Andres
5636 Route 873 P O Box 117
Neffs PA 18065-0117

UNION UCC STAFF

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pastorkris@unionucc.org

Rev. Kayli Freeman
Associate Pastor
pastorkayli@unionucc.org

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Neffs PA 18065-0066
www.unionucc.org

Preschool Office:
610-767-5327
prechool@unionucc.org
Director: Annette Wilcox

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

Pastor Kris	ext. 24
Pastor Kayli	ext. 25
Marissa Haney	ext. 21
Tiffany Lakatosh	ext. 27
Barbara Carinci	ext. 32
Music Office	ext. 26
Kitchen	ext. 30



www.facebook.com/unionneffs

CHOIR INFO- FALL 2021 FROM BLAKE HOPPES

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.

Horizon Choir - Rehearsals every Sunday at 9:15am in the choir room.

Heritage Choir - Rehearsals every Sunday at 7:15am in the choir room beginning on October 17th.

High School Choir - 8th through 12th grade. We'll start our weekly rehearsals on October 17th after the 10:30 service in the choir room.

Kids Choir - kindergarten through 7th grade. Our first rehearsal will be on October 12th @ 6pm and we'll continue to meet every Tuesday in the choir room.

Masks are required for everyone when they are in the building regardless of vaccination status. We ask that singers wear masks during rehearsals and performances as well.



UNION UCC IN NEFFS PRESENTS

LIGHTS IN THE GROVE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

3-5PM

RAINDATE SUNDAY, DEC 5TH 3-5PM

FREE admission

Donate new hats, gloves or scarves for the 6th St Shelter.

- ◆ Live Christmas Music by Blake Hoppes
- ◆ Lights by Christmas Decor
- ◆ Crafts for everyone, assemble here or take home.
- ◆ Hot Chocolate and Snacks to Go
- ◆ Santa! Bring your letter or write one here to deliver to him today.

Enjoy the lights! They will be on every night in December!

Sponsors: Larry Wehr in Memory of Carlton and Velma Wehr
Phil and Julie Wehr in Celebration of Christmas at Union UCC

www.unionucc.org 5550 Route 873 Neffs

Bring a chair, masks optional, practice safe distancing.

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	\$114,029.00	\$17,223.00	\$131,252.00
Expenses	\$101,941.00	\$13,184.00	\$115,125.00
9-30-2021	\$7,406.00	\$26,898.00	\$35,304.00

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

FROM THE FINANCIAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

United Way has kicked off it's campaigns and it is time to make your designations. If your company matches funds, this is a great time to add Union UCC to your giving. Please work with your HR or Personnel departments to include us in this year's campaign. Thanks in advance for your generous support!!

Dual Member Status 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 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, January 16, 2022 and March 6, 2022. 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. To sign up: Call the church office at 610-767-6961 or email Marissa Haney at administrator@unionucc.org **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.

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

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>.