



STEVEN COURTNEY



SHARING
KINDNESS
&
LOVE

October 23, 2022
8:00am and 10:30am Worship

GUESTS, Welcome to our faith community here at Union UCC. To learn more about us please visit our website at www.unionucc.org or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/unionneffs.

Please complete the Welcome Card in the racks in front of you and hand it in with your offering or give it to a pastor. This is a good way to let us know you're here.

One of our core values as a church is extravagant welcome and hospitality. We believe in God's inclusive love. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Lay Reader: 8:00 Kiel Baer, 10:30 Max Bilger

Ushers: 8:00 Cliff James, Carol James

10:30 Carrington Smith, Jim Lane, Jason Klinger, Susan Smith, Al Stubbmann, Karen Misera, Claire Kern, Gene Thrash

Sound: Mike Baer

***Please stand in body or spirit.**

**Prelude Music for Gathering
The Lords' My Shepherd**

Tune: Marosa, James Leight Macbeth Bain, Arr. Larry Shackley

Welcome

Leader: During the last 4 weeks in our worship series on change, we have been reminded that our Creator God made us for change, that we are being made new always from the inside-out, and that our job sometimes is just to let go into trust that God is with us through the loss and rediscovery that is this process of change.

Here at church we're handing out play dough each week for during the prayer. For those of you at home see if you have any around or stop by on the south porch and get some from the bin there.

Enter the Play Zone

Leader: Remember the days when a tub of Play-Doh could spark your imagination and all things felt possible! As we age, somehow the Play-Doh of our Lives gets cracked and dry and less malleable. We become suspicious of change as we start to believe that "the way things are" is the safest choice. But often "what is" starts to crumble and if we look closely at what the Creator set in motion, we find that change is actually the most constant part of life. Change is inevitable and actually necessary for animating our spirits as we find renewed purpose throughout life.

Theme Song

"Change is Good"

Choir/Soloist: (Feel free to join in anytime! And maybe even dance a little.)

Change is good you go first
my brain is suspicious of change

anything out of the ordin - ary
can cause my brain to com - plain
But I was created
for a pur - pose
formed into something spec - ta - cu - lar
not just created, but recreated a - gain
and again and again and again
o-kay so

Change is good I'll go first
we were made for this
God's gonna work from inside out cause
in - ner change is where it starts
Everything changes if we are will - ing
to let old expectations fall a - way
if you feel some stirrage
take a step t'wards cour - age
and be re - shaped a - gain
and again and again and a - gain
Eve-ry-bod-y now!

EVERYBODY NOW:

**Change is good I'll go first
we were made for this
God's gonna work from inside out cause
in - ner change is where it starts
Everything changes if we are will - ing
to let old expectations fall a - way
if you feel some stirrage
take a step t'wards cour - age
and be re - shaped a - gain
and be re - shaped a - gain
and be re - shaped a - gain
and again and again and a - gain
and again and again and a - gain
and a - gain**

Leader: It takes courage to change, to break out of whatever narrow paths we might find ourselves in. Just like Peter, if we are going to change, we have to take the first uncertain steps out of the boat onto the water and into the unknown. Luckily,

we too have Jesus 'redeeming help and support, his hand reaching out to us, if we start to sink or lose our way.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray together – repeat after me line by line so that our friends at home can join us:

**Encouraging God,
we hear your invitation into the future
and we look to you for courage.
Open us to know your presence as we
embark together on new adventures.
Calm our fears, and animate our spirits
for ongoing discovery.
Amen.**

Peace

Leader: One of our core values as God's church here in Neffs is extravagant welcome.

So repeat after me - No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,

ALL: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,

Leader: you are welcome here.

ALL: you are welcome here.

Leader: And when we're together we like to remind each other that God loves you, and there's nothing you can do about it.

Leader: For those of you who are here, I invite you to pass the peace with those around you saying,

"God loves you and there's nothing you can do about it."

We send our prayers and blessings to those watching and listening at home or during the week.

God loves you and there's nothing you can do about it.

Please be seated.

8:00 and 10:30 WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

The Mission Statement of Union UCC

Our church is a diverse family of believers, spiritually united in Christ, rooted in a rich heritage and growing with vitality into the future. We proclaim God's word, nurturing and inspiring a dedicated Christian discipleship through worship, education, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach within our community and the world.

Welcome and Reception (ALL in unison)

ALL: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Greeting of Christian Love

New members being welcomed today: **Justin Brown** (Tiffany and Miranda Lakatos), **Jacelyn Cressman** (Mason MacDonald), **Debra Grote**, **Kristen Haugh** (Grace), **Kim and Nicole Pentland**, **Amy Recker**

**Education Hour for All Ages – 9:15-10:15am
Children's Church – during 10:30am Worship for
ages 3-grade 5.**

Ms. Tiffany would like to invite children to join her and her volunteers for Sunday School at 9:15 and Children's Church during 10:30am service.

Ms. Tiffany also offers **Tales with Ms. Tiffany on Zoom every Sunday at 7pm**. It includes a story and some fun creative movement before bedtime.

Today at 10:30: Children stay in worship with Steven Courtney!

The Message Steven Courtney!

Play-Doh Contemplation

Leader: Each week, we have a time of contemplation as an opportunity to shape Play-Doh as we think about change in our own lives. Today I invite you to use the Play-Doh to create a footprint, a shoe, a walking stick, a suitcase...anything that represents embarking on a journey to you. As you create it, think about one step that you have been contemplating taking that requires change in your life. Allow the shaping of the clay to be your petition of prayer to God for the courage and encouragement you need.

Prayers of the People

For all who are experiencing change as a result
of civic policies and laws,
may they be supported in their search for
good outcomes and resolutions.

From our community and beyond, we name these persons...

For all who are experiencing change in their
sense of identity or work,
may they know their sacred worth no matter the chaos of
unsettled circumstances.

From our community and beyond, we name these persons...

For all who are experiencing change in their sense of home,
may they be welcomed into safe and vibrant
communities of belovedness.

From our community and beyond, we name these persons...

For all who are experiencing change in their health,
may they feel the healing power of love and care.
From our community and beyond, we name these persons...

For all who are facing change in their lives,
may they, may we, find the strength and courage
to move forward.

For our community and beyond, we name these things...

In this silence we offer to you the deepest yearning
of our hearts...

Silence

God of Next Steps,
when we just can't muster our courage
and shut ourselves off from those who encourage us,
forgive us and remind us that we are forgiven.

When we choose comfort over needed confrontation
that could move the world closer to justice,
forgive us and remind us that we are forgiven.

When we stand in the way of other's forward motion,
and forget to be the encouragers you would have us be,
forgive us and remind us that we are forgiven.

We pray this in the name of Jesus, who came to change our
hearts for good...

The Lord's Prayer

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

Offering the Possibilities and Praise

**News about the Ministry and Mission of God's Church
Offering**

**Thank you for the many ways in which you support God's
work and God's people.**



401(g) Discipleship Portfolio

In a 401(k) one invests resources for the future and retirement.

In a 401(g) (g=God) we are investing in our spiritual lives hoping for short and long term returns (blessings!), on earth as in heaven.

How diverse and balanced is your 401(g) discipleship portfolio?

g = God - worship, prayer, meditation, study, relationship. ALL the g's!

g = good - do good/serve, create goodness, notice goodness.

g = grace - receive and share God's grace.

g = gratitude - express gratitude to God and others.

g = generosity - give and love with your whole heart and life.

g = gold - money, resources, treasures, material goods.

g = goals - hopes and dreams, God's dream and mission.

g = gifts—talents, friendship, compassion, kindness, service.

g = grit and grind - perseverance, courage, strength, growth, meaning, purpose.

From Pastor Kris and the Financial Leadership Team
Don Penrod, Marianne Kitzmiller, John Harting, Larry Todd,
Aften Hamm, Phil Wehr

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God,
We offer these gifts
and the gift of courage to go where you call us.
May all these gifts be multiplied for all those who need
our every effort and movement for change.
Bless all of this to your glory
and to the work of making the world a better place for all.

Donate to God's Mission and Ministry at UNION UCC

OFFERING ENVELOPES. If you can't attend worship, you can mail your envelopes to the church. The church address is on one side, just add a stamp.

ELECTRONIC GIVING. Choose to give a repetitive contribution on a regular basis (i.e weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly), or make single contributions whenever you desire in an amount of your choice. These contributions can be made from a credit/debit card or be deducted from a checking or savings account. Electronic contributions are initiated from Union UCC's website (UnionUCC.org). Click on 'giving', then on 'Ways to Give' and follow the prompts. Feel free to contact

John Harting 610-799-2508) or Don Penrod (610-398-2654) to answer your questions or demonstrate the process.

MOBILE GIVING. If you would like to give on the go, Vanco, the company that processes our e-giving transactions, has a mobile app that allows you to do so. Open your app search screen, search under “Vanco Mobile Faith \Engagement” and follow the prompts.

AMAZON SMILE. Donate to Union UCC, Neffs (Search by zip code 18065) while you shop on Amazon <https://smile.amazon.com>

Musical Offering

Music Offering

8:00 Worship

**I Go to The Rock Dottie Rambo, Arr. Lloyd Larson
Heritage Choir**

10:30 Worship

**All Hail the Power Oliver Holden
Blake Hoppes**

*Offering Response

Please stand in body or spirit.

THE POTTER'S HAND



Take Me

Mold me, use me, fill me. I give my life to the Pot-ter's hand
Hold me, guide me, lead me, walk be-side me. I
give my life to the Pot - ter's hand.

*Benediction

Leader: Go into the world knowing
that the Potter God is still shaping and reshaping you as you
were made to do;

that the Teacher Jesus is inviting you to a change of heart,
 making it all so very possible;
 and that the Adventurous Spirit is luring you to
 more play and curiosity in your precious life.

Go in peace,
 stay in courage,
 Amen!

***Hymn** Go, Make a Diff'ence Angrisano, Tomaszek #199
 Sing! Prayer and Praise

♩ = 56
 Dm

Asus A Dm B^b C

Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff -

Dm F Asus A

'rence. Go make a diff - 'rence in the world.

Dm B^b C Dm

Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff - 'rence.

B^bma⁷ Asus A Dm Am Am

Last time, Fine 1. 2.3.

Go make a diff - 'rence in the world. 1. We are the 2. We are the

Dm B^b C Dm

salt of the earth, called to let the peo - ple see the hands of Christ reach-ing out to those in need, the

F Asus A Am Dm

love of God for you and me. We are the light of the world,
 face of God for all to see. We are the spir - it of hope;

B^b C Dm B^bma⁷ Asus

not to be hid - den but be seen. Go make a diff -
 we are the voice of peace. Go make a diff -

A⁷ Dm Am Dm

- 'rence in the world. 3. So let your love shine on,
 - 'rence in the world.

B^b C Dm F

let it shine for all to see. Go make a diff - 'rence in the

Asus A Am Dm B^b C

world. And the spir - it of Christ will be with us as we

Dm B^bma⁷ Asus A⁷ Dm

go. Go make a diff - 'rence in the world.

Postlude Music
Change is Good **Chuck Bell**
Blake Hoppes

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$3,945.00
Calendar 2022 (Jan-Sept.)	\$275,532.00
Calendar 2021 (Jan.-Sept.)	\$273,527.00
Change from Last Year	.7%
Budget FY 2022 (July22-June 23)	\$93,840.00
Actual FY (July 22- Mar 23)	\$78,766.00
Giving vs. Budget	-16.1%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

Attendance Last Week		
	In person	Online
8:00 am	42	149
10:30 am	68	242
Education Hour	7	

2022 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Last Week:	200lbs, \$60
Total YTD:	5,113 lbs, \$805

2022 CROP Walk total: \$569.00

Presentations to the Glory of God **Spread the Good News :**

Be a sponsor for \$20, send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News or \$8 for Children's Bulletin. Contact Marissa to sign up for a certain date or to sponsor in honor or memory of someone.

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Our church is a diverse family of believers, spiritually united in Christ, rooted in a rich heritage and growing with vitality into the future. We proclaim God's word, nurturing and inspiring dedicated Christian discipleship through worship, education, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach within our community and the world.

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