

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, August 27, 2023

Rev. Kris Penrose Snyder, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Kayli L. Freeman, Associate Pastor  
Tiffany Lakatos, Faith Formation Minister of Children  
Carrie Beleno, Pastor of Visitation  
Mr. Blake Hoppes, Minister of Music

Marissa Haney, Church Administrator  
Barbara Carinci, Financial Manager  
Payge Haydt Sunday Set-up  
Hannah and Ryleigh Minnich Sunday Set-up  
Bryce and Luke Thrash, Night Lock-up  
Shelly & Ori Handwerk, Facility Caretakers

CONSISTORY OFFICERS

President: Eric Minnich, VP: Don Penrod, Secretary: Janice Metzger, Treasurer: Marianne Kitzmiller

## THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

To share a prayer request you may use the yellow prayer slips found in the racks in your seats and hand it to a pastor. Or submit [online here](#).

### *Medical*

Sharon and Mark, Bill and Marilyn, my husband's health and healing, healing from recent operation, prayers for my father, new medicine to help my grandson, Barbara, Diane, Jamie, Marlene, Dorothy, Susie, Linda, Maria, Mary Ellen, granddaughter with eye problems, 99 year old mom with health problems, mother with dementia, Elaine, baby Jacob, a moms upcoming surgery and testing, Jerry and a friend with cancer

### *General*

To continue to live as normal life as possible, to get through difficult times and a period of adjustment. Direction in life, adjusting to losing mom, clarity and guidance, to continue to provide faith-filled opportunities at our church, to start a family, good health, to develop my spiritual, mental, and physical health, adjusting to senior years, to listen to God and trust his path for me, continued health and happiness, health and strength, empty nest and caring for parents, last step in getting my Master's degree, strength with changes occurring with family, extended peace and love for all, continued prayers after loss of husband, learning to say no/stretching myself too thin, for Josh applying to the Air Force, for Dylan in the Navy, strength through transitions, sister for healing, Jerry, children during divorce, thankfulness for answered prayers, healing for Jodi, Nancy, and Steve, thanksgiving for strength and good friends, Dottie and her family in their grief, Katie to forgive, Monique and her husband to accept God, Alison to believe

### *Prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of*

**Jeffery Kuhns** passed on August 19, 2023. Services were held on August 26, 2023.  
**Loretta Wotring** passed on August 23, 2023. Services were held on August 26, 2023.

## August Worship

10:30am Sunday worship only through September 3<sup>rd</sup>

**August 27 Worship in the Grove**

**September 3 Labor Sunday**

**September 10 8am and 10:30am worship, Education Hour and Children's Church Resumes**

**September 17 8am and 10:30 worship, 10:30 Baptism, Children's Church at 10:30 Resumes**

**September 24 8am and 10:30 worship, Harvest Home**

**October 1 8am and 10:30am worship, Holy Communion**

**Summer Coffee Hour** will continue on Sundays after 10:30 worship. Stop by in Memorial Hall for some cool lemonade, juice, water, and a snack and visit with friends and pastors.

**While everyone's response to loss is unique, people facing loss and grief will experience many of the same challenges. The weekly GriefShare topics address these common struggles—providing valuable tips, encouragement, and direction: loneliness, fear, anger, regret, relationships, hope and much more.**

Carrie Beleno, Pastor of Visitation at Union UCC, Neffs and Bob Gutekunst, Pastor of Grace UCC are beginning a GriefShare group on Mondays, September 11-December 11 (no Nov. 27) from 6:30-8pm in the Memory Room on the 2nd floor at Union UCC.

Cost is \$5 at the first meeting. Space is limited so please register early:

<https://www.griefshare.org/groups/172660/registrations/new>

or email Carrie at [vispastor@unionucc.org](mailto:vispastor@unionucc.org)

We look forward to sharing this special ministry with our congregations and the community!

Union UCC 5550 Route 873 Neffs, PA 18065  
610-767-6961 [www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org)



*Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help.*



# golden times




Golden Times is a gathering for our senior adults. Everyone is welcome, including friends. We start at 12noon with lunch (often soup, salad, and a sandwich) and then have a program until about 1:30pm. There is no charge to attend. Your support of the budget and the Funds of Lasting Gifts provides the events and luncheon.

Contact the church office if you'd like to receive postcard mailing reminders.

We also collect monthly items for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Oct. 3 is an art project with Rev. Jamison Baxter from Phoebe Ministries.

Future dates: 10/3, 11/7, 12/5



Meditation and Prayer Gatherings with Pastor Kris  
Looking for some peace and ways to decompress?  
We meet by zoom monthly for meditation and prayer.

## Union UCC Community

Tuesdays 7-8pm

September 12, October 10, November 14, December 12

Zoom Link: [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87680378046?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87680378046?pwd=Qmo2YWJFemJOVENCdWJlBbzRpbDVIUT09)

pwd=Qmo2YWJFemJOVENCdWJlBbzRpbDVIUT09

Meeting ID: 876 8037 8046 Passcode: 954906

OR

## Penn Northeast Conference Community


Thursdays at 12noon

September 14 and 28, October 12 and 26, November 9 and 30

Zoom Link: [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81188127483?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81188127483?pwd=TzdmTFplaXVtMjRQSHY1K1hOdkV2dz09)

pwd=TzdmTFplaXVtMjRQSHY1K1hOdkV2dz09

Meeting ID: 811 8812 7483 Passcode: 348630



I'll lead us in various readings, scripture, and prayer practices like breath prayer and centering prayer, as well as meditation practices from the Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction, Buddhist, and Christian traditions.

Sign up at [PastorKris@unionucc.org](mailto:PastorKris@unionucc.org)

You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions, whatever your schedule allows.

In June you received a letter asking you to complete the information form and survey that was mailed with the letter.

If you haven't returned your form to the church office yet, please do so.

Here's the online link to complete it:

<https://forms.gle/JEZM4v4EcZ29EktMA>

Copies are available at worship or you can contact the church office.

# Back to School Blessing

8/20, 8/27, 9/3 & 9/10

All students, educators, and school employees are invited to bring their backpacks, tote bags, laptop bags, and tool belts to worship for a special blessing to begin the new school year.

## School Supply Drive

We will be collecting school supplies for local students from now until the end of September.

Donations can be dropped off at the church. If you would like to donate using our Target registry (<https://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/schoolsuppliesneffs>) any items can be delivered directly to the church.

If you have any questions contact Tiffany at [dired@union.ucc.org](mailto:dired@union.ucc.org)







## KICK OFF FALL MINI GOLF AND ICE CREAM!

All Youth grades 6th-12th are invited to join us for an afternoon of mini golf and ice cream! Meet us there, play a round, enjoy a treat!

**When: September 16, 2023**

**Time: 2:00pm**

**Where: Rolling Hills Recreation ( 4565 Spring Hill Dr, Schnecksville, PA 18078 )**

Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0f48aead2ba2fe3-kick>

## Y.A.T. LUNCH AND FUN

All youth are invited to the YAT Lunch and fun! We'll eat yummy food, plan some fun things, and spend time together

**When: September 24, 2023**

**Time: 11:30am-1:00pm**

Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0f48aead2ba2fe3-yat1>



## \*SAVE THE DATE\*



## PNEC SLEEP OUT FOR HOMELESSNESS

When: October 14-15, 2023

Where: UCC Greenawalds, Allentown

More information to come!

Let Pastor Kayli know if you are interested



## HARVEST HOME WILL BE CELEBRATED ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023.

Bring your canned goods, produce, cut flowers, cornstalks, herbs, etc. Food collected will be given to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Sponsor the purchase of Mums for display. Please 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 10th**.

- 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 mums after the 9/24 10:30am service.)

I will pick up my mums following the service \_\_\_ **YES** \_\_\_ **NO**

Giver (envelope) # \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of Mums \_\_\_\_\_ x \$7 per Mum = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Women's Pot-Luck Brunch Saturday, October 7th  
9am-11am at church, bring a food item to share.**

Is anyone interested in helping Pastor Kris  
host this event? Contact her.

Come to share your work or hobbies and network and  
connect with each other.

Let's catch up and decompress together.

We'll also talk about some ideas for future events.

Sign up here

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-  
womens2](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-womens2)

or email [pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org).

**Women's Retreat Weekend**

**April 12-14, 2024**

Trout Lake Retreats, Stroudsburg

Cost: \$175. \$88 deposit due now/before January 1. \$87  
balance due March 3.

Payment plans and financial assistance available.

Checks to Union UCC, Memo Line – Women's Retreat

Friends and Family members are welcome too.

Help us meet our minimum needed of 25 people.

Leader and more Info: Pastor Kris



**GREATER ALLENTOWN CROP**

**HUNGER WALK:**

**\*\*\*Sunday, October 22, 2023,\*\*\***

1:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 1:00 p.m.  
at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA  
18104

**Register, donate,** or find more **information**  
about the life-saving work of Church World  
Service: [www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa)



# Roni Fabian Memorial Fundraiser

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15**

**12:30-2:30**



Roni was a beloved member of Union UCC and gave of herself generously to our church community. She fought a courageous battle against breast cancer and now her family and friends are inviting us to participate in a fundraiser in her memory.

**With the help of The CHEMO Bag ([www.thechemobag.org](http://www.thechemobag.org)) we will be assembling CHEMO bags for ADULTS undergoing treatment.**

Here's how you can help:

- Donate these items (for Adults) and place them in the box in the lobby: Adult coloring books, Crayons, Bottled water (8 oz.), Ginger, green and peppermint tea, Hard candy and chewing gum, Journal, Knitted (cotton or acrylic) beanie hats, Lap blanket 50" x 60" (adult-type patterns only), Lip balm, Nail Files, Pens, Puzzle Books, Selection of notecards, Thick soft socks, Travel-size hand and body creams, Travel-size hand sanitizer, Travel/purse size tissue.
- Donate financial gifts - checks to "Union UCC" memo line "Roni Fabian." Money will be used by The CHEMO Bag to purchase more supplies in bulk.
- Help assemble the bags on October 15th at church 12:30-2:30.

**Sign up here if you'd like to volunteer on Oct 15:**

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-roni>**

**ALL SUPPLY AND FINANCIAL DONATIONS ARE DUE  
no later than OCTOBER 1.**

*Thank you for helping us celebrate Roni and support others.*



**UNION UCC, NEFFS (MEMORIAL HALL)**



## PNEC Ambassador Corner

### Keystone Study Group – Communications Summary\*

The sixth meeting of the Keystone Study Group\* took place Friday, June 16, 2023. Guided by the Spirit, the study group whole-heartedly affirms the possibility of becoming ONE Keystone Conference. In our May and June meetings, we clarified WHAT a Keystone Conference would look like. We were mindful of all the ways a Keystone Conference can serve, support, challenge and unite our diverse faith communities and ministries. In all we addressed, we aimed to imagine a vibrant way of being the Body of Christ in our areas.

Participants in all four conference meetings both affirmed and expressed important reflections about a Keystone Conference. Overall, meeting attendees shared energy, enthusiasm and support for continuing our study and work toward recommendations for Conference leaders and congregations. Our consensus remains, **“Together we are stronger! The Keystone Conference.”**

\*Excerpted from Communications from the Keystone Study Group, a study and discernment group of the 4 PA area UCC Conferences – Penn West, Penn Central, Penn NE, and Pennsylvania SE. Pastor Kris is a member of this discernment group.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me, Janice Metzger, at [jemrenaissinc@aol.com](mailto:jemrenaissinc@aol.com) & please put Union Ambassador in the subject line. As your PNEC Ambassador, I want to help Union members feel

---

## Hawaii Wildfire Support

**DONATE**  
Hawai'i 2023 Wildfires Relief Fund  
[bit.ly/hcuccrelief](https://bit.ly/hcuccrelief)  
We are working with our churches on Maui to distribute funds to those in need in devastated areas.  
We are praying with Maui.  
HAWAII CONFERENCE  
[www.hcucc.org](http://www.hcucc.org)

The United Church of Christ, along with Global H.O.P.E. Ministries, stands in solidarity and prayer with our siblings in Hawai'i. We have a strong UCC presence on the islands. Please join us in praying for the people of Maui and Hawai'i Island, the families of the 36 people lost, and all those involved in search and rescue efforts.

More information and updates, including how to donate to their relief efforts here: <https://bit.ly/454ZvKi>

**Or you can write a check/donate to**

**“Union UCC” with Hawaii in the memo line and drop it with your offering here at church.**



### UNION UCC: ENGAGED, RELEVANT, GROWING

Our Steering Without Oars group has been meeting since May 2022. They were the first to step into our boat! In October 2022 we invited 40 more leaders in our church to join us and formed the Leadership Planning Team. We have been meeting almost monthly looking at and creating a vision for God's ministry and mission at Union. In June 2023 we presented all of our work to Consistory who agreed to partner with us in our next steps.

**We invite you, beloved church community, to get into the boat with us.**

**Join us for a congregational forum and special coffee hour on:**

**Sunday, September 24th at 9:15-10:15am or 11:30am-12:30pm In Memorial Hall  
OR Sunday, October 1 at 9:15-10:15am or 11:30am-12:30pm In Memorial Hall**

In Mathew 14: 22-31 a storm comes when the disciples are in a boat. Jesus walks on the water toward them and tells them to take heart and not be afraid. Peter challenged Jesus and Jesus invites Peter to walk on water too.

Peter got scared and when he began to sink, he asks Jesus to save him and Jesus didn't hesitate.

Jesus reached down and grabbed Peter's hand.

**This is an exciting time for Union!**

**It's time to grab Jesus' hand and step out of the boat, together.**

**We can't wait!**

Pastor Kris, Pastor Kayli, Consistory Officers: Eric Minnich, Don Penrod, Janice Metzger, Marianne Kitzmiller and the LPT/Consistory



**GOD FIRST WEDNESDAYS<sup>®</sup>**  
**October 4 5:30-7:30pm**

- 5:30-6:30pm Supper
- 6:00-6:30 Children's Choir with Blake  
(All kids are welcome but not required.) Non Choir kids hang with Ms. Tiffany and families.
- 6:30-7:15 Kids with Ms. Tiffany (Parents can join or go with adults.)
- Youth Group with Pastor Kayli
- Adults with Pastor Kris
- 7:15-7:30 Worship together

Signup here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-godfirst2>  
Or email/text a staff member. Do your best to sign up - but if you miss signing up, just come.

**Future Dates: Nov 1, Dec 6, Feb 7, March 6, April 3, May 1**  
**Putting God First on First Wednesdays**

**UPCOMING HOSTING WEEK:  
NOVEMBER 26-DECEMBER 3**



**serving children and families experiencing homelessness**

**Every child  
deserves a  
home.**

We need your help hosting families in our church building 4 weeks a year.

- Help with set up and tear down.
- Cook and deliver a supper one night during the week. (5:30-6pm)
- Visit with families, serve supper, and clean up. (5:30-9pm)
- Host overnight (In your own area 8:45pm-6:30am).
- Assist with food shopping during the week.
- Offer financial support through your church donations marked "Family Promise."



**Why do I volunteer?**

**It is a good feeling to know that you have helped to make someone's days a little brighter and lifted their spirits during a challenging time in their lives. - Deb & Fred Sanek**

**Please contact Kerry Snyder (610) 737-7768 or Rosalie Snyder (610) 597-9302 with questions and to sign up.**

**Other Steering Team members: Ralph and Connie Gioelli, Dennis Foster, Phil and Julie Wehr, Susan Glosan**



**FEED MY STARVING  
CHILDREN  
LEHIGH VALLEY MOBILEPACK  
EVENT  
MARCH 8-10, 2024**



Do you want to help make a difference to children in other parts of the world who don't have enough to eat every day? This meal packing event makes a huge impact.

This is what we need to help make this event happen:

- Help with Financial donations - we need to raise \$30,000 - and most of that we need to raise by the end of December in order to commit to this event. That amount will help us pack 100,000 meals. Can you or someone you know make a donation now? Our event number is 2403-049MI. <https://give.fmcs.org/campaign/2403-049mi-neffs-pa-lehigh-valley/c508364>
- Help with set up and clean before, during and after the event.
- Help with organizing volunteer sign ups and teams.
- Help with keeping track of financial donations and follow up thank you efforts.
- Help with providing meals for the FMSC staff while they are here.
- Help with packing at the event - it's fun, inspiring, and hope-filled.

Here's the team - join us! Hannah Minnich, Ryleigh Minnich, Eric Minnich, Ron Snyder, Ann Koren, Everett and Eliot Lightner, and Pastor Kris

Contact Eliot Lightner 610-844-8327 [FMSCEvent@gmail.com](mailto:FMSCEvent@gmail.com)  
or Pastor Kris to serve on one of the teams or to make a donation.

**Baptisms:** We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Our next date is **Sept 17**. There is a pre-baptism zoom session with the pastor the week before. Sign up by calling the church office at 610-767-6961 or emailing Marissa Haney at [administrator@unionucc.org](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org). The pastors will work with you if the scheduled dates are a conflict.

**New Member Sessions:** We encourage you to make a deeper commitment to your faith by joining us as a member. The next new member gatherings are **Thursday, October 12 at 7-8pm OR Sunday, October 15 at 9:15am-10:15am in Memorial Hall (Coffee Hour)**. **You will be received as a new member on Sunday, October 22 in worship.**

**Hearing Assistance System:** We have a wireless system on a table, as you enter from the lobby foyer. Please see an usher or a sound team person to assist you. You will need a receiver pack (turn it on) and ear piece (if you don't have a hearing aid) or a t-coil cord (if you have a hearing aid that is t-coil compatible.) Plug this into the receiver. At the end of worship, please return both pieces to the table and place the receiver back into the charger. Thank you to the Schlosser Family & Funds of Lasting Gifts for supporting this effort.

## UNION UCC STAFF

**Rev. Kris P. Snyder**  
Senior Pastor  
Cell Phone: 610-657-6007  
[pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 24

**Rev. Kayli Freeman**  
Associate Pastor  
[pastorkayli@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkayli@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 25

**Carrie Beleno**  
Pastor of Visitation  
[vispastor@unionucc.org](mailto:vispastor@unionucc.org)

**Tiffany Lakatosh**  
Faith Formation Minister for  
Children & Families  
[dired@unionucc.org](mailto:dired@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 27

**Marissa Haney**  
Church Administrator  
[administrator@unionucc.org](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 21

**Blake Hoppes**  
Minister of Music  
[Blake.charger@gmail.com](mailto:Blake.charger@gmail.com)  
Ext. 26

**Ori Handwerk**  
Facility Caretaker  
[Caretaker@unionucc.org](mailto:Caretaker@unionucc.org)

**Barbara Carinci**  
Financial Manager  
[financialmanager@unionucc.org](mailto:financialmanager@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 32

Church Office:  
610-767-6961  
Fax: 610-767-7128

PO Box 66,  
5550 Route 873  
Neffs PA 18065-0066  
[www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org)

Preschool Office:  
610-767-5327  
[prechool@unionucc.org](mailto:prechool@unionucc.org)  
Director: Annette Wilcox



[www.facebook.com/unionneffs](http://www.facebook.com/unionneffs)