

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, September 3, 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 Jeff, thanksgiving for strength and good friends, Dottie and her family, Katie to forgive, Monique and her husband to accept God, Alison to believe,

**If you are in the hospital**, please notify a pastor or church office, or ask a family member to do so. Please be sure to give the hospital our church code (511). If we missed you during your hospital stay, let us know 610-767-6961.

# September Worship SCHEDULE



SUN 03 SEPT	10:30 AM WORSHIP ONLY Labor Sunday
SUN 10 SEPT	8 AM & 10:30AM WORSHIP 9:15 Education Hour Returns
SUN 17 SEPT	8AM & 10:30 AM WORSHIP 10:30 Baptism, Children's Church
SUN 24 SEPT	8AM & 10:30AM WORSHIP Harvest Home
SUN 01 OCT	8AM & 10:30AM WORSHIP Holy Communion

All worship services are in person and streamed online.

Our new worship series, "Come to the Table," will invite us to dine with Jesus. But not just for the sake of eating, or even Holy Communion, but to come to a table where he fed people as well as challenged them to acts of hospitality that reflect God's way of love, peace, grace, and joy. Welcome to the table!

**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=QmozYWJFemJ0VENCdWJlBbzRpbDVIUT09)  
pwd=QmozYWJFemJ0VENCdWJlBbzRpbDVIUT09  
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=TzdmTFplaXVtMjRQSHY1K1hOdKvZ2dz09)  
pwd=TzdmTFplaXVtMjRQSHY1K1hOdKvZ2dz09  
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.

## Fellowship Meeting

Our next Fellowship meeting is Tuesday September 12 at 6:30pm.

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

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## 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 OF THE UCC  
[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**



3626 Route 309 Orefield, PA 18069 (610) 398-8999  
<https://theredtomatopizzeria.com/>

# THE RED TOMATO IS FIGHTING HUNGER AND YOU CAN HELP!

## Sep 29, 30, & Oct 1

TAKE OUT, DINE IN, or DELIVERY. \*  
If you order food this weekend The Red  
Tomato they will donate 5% to Feed My  
Starving Children.

\*Not available through 3<sup>rd</sup> parties like GrubHub or  
DoorDash.



Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian  
nonprofit dedicated to providing nutritious meals to  
children around the world. FMSC estimates at least  
10,000 children die each day from causes related to  
undernutrition.

Your purchase will  
help Union UCC  
host a meal pack-  
ing event that will  
make 100,000  
meals.

Partner with us in  
making a difference  
in the lives of  
children.

If you'd like to  
make an additional  
donation go to:  
[https://  
give.fmssc.org/  
campaign/2403-  
049mi-neffs-pa-  
lehigh-valley/  
c508364](https://give.fmssc.org/campaign/2403-049mi-neffs-pa-lehigh-valley/c508364)

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

[FMSCevent@gmail.com](mailto:FMSCevent@gmail.com)  
610-767-6961

Thank you and thank you  
Red Tomato!

**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

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Preschool Office:  
610-767-5327  
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Director: Annette Wilcox



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