

October Worship

All worship services are in person and streamed online.

OCT	01	8AM & 10:30 AM WORSHIP -	Holy Communion
OCT	8	8 AM & 10:30AM WORSHIP -	
OCT	15	8AM & 10:30 AM WORSHIP -	Healing/ Pray with a Pastor
OCT	22	8AM & 10:30AM WORSHIP -	New members received, CROP Walk/ Sneaker Stroll
OCT	29	8AM & 10:30AM WORSHIP -	All Saints
NOV	05	8AM & 10:30AM WORSHIP -	Festival Choir and lots of music!



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BREATHE

Catch your breath with this new and unique time of evening prayer, reflection, quiet, and music. This monthly gathering on Tuesday nights will give you time to rediscover calm and peace.

7pm-8pm on Tuesdays in the Sanctuary
October 24, November 21, December 19
Led by Pastor Kris, Roni Gerry, and Carrie Beleno



Faith on Tap

Korny's Tavern
at Kornfeind's Market
2228 Old Post Rd, Coplay
Wednesday, Oct 11 6:30-8:30pm

Park in the back of the store and enter from there.
Cost: Your drink (Beer, Wine, Iced Tea, Soda, Water)
Complimentary Kornfeind's Food
Sign up if you can, or just join us.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-44392103-fotoct>

God. Conversation. Food & Drink.
In your favorite neighborhood bar.



Hosted by **Joe Kornfeind**,
Owner Kornfeind's Market and
Business Professor,
• and **Kris Snyder**, Senior
Pastor, Union UCC, Neffs
and other guests.



UNION UCC TRUNK OR TREAT

October 21, 2023

1 pm- 3 pm

Union UCC Grove Parking
Lot

Join us and Union Lutheran
Church. Which is just a short
walk away for a safe family
friendly Halloween
celebration!

Would you, your business, or
an organization you are
associated with like to
decorate a car and be part of
the Halloween fun? Register
at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4daca723a7fc1-trunk2#/>





Engaged, Relevant, and Growing: Union UCC

Our Steering Without Oars Leadership Planning Team has been meeting for a year and in June 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 also get into the boat with us.
Join us for a congregational forum and special coffee hour on:
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!



Sanctuary Updates to Sound and Video This has been a big year of upgrades.

- We added a new camera in the sanctuary for our online worship experience. It's been a huge improvement both in sound and video quality.
- The sanctuary sound system was also reviewed and refreshed, adding a new wireless microphone system.
- The outdoor portable system for the grove was overhauled with new speakers and a new mixer. The old sanctuary wireless microphone system will be used for outdoor worship.
- In October two flat screens will be installed in the sanctuary so that we can add to all that we do to make worship creative, relevant, and meaningful. This will allow us to project announcements, pictures, videos, and to interact with our online community in new ways.

We couldn't do these things without the support of the **Larry Wotring Estate, the Memorial Fund – in memory of Larry Pruneski, Phil & Julie Wehr Music Gift, Selig Electric, Entertainment Services Group (Mike and Nate), Jeff and Ronnie Herbine, Ed Normann, Phil Wehr, Pastor Kayli, and our Sound Team. THANK YOU!**

See Pastor Kris or Pastor Kayli if you are interested in being a Digital Host on Sunday mornings. You'll get to help with the camera and interact with our online community during worship.



GOD FIRST WEDNESDAYS
October 4 5:30-7:30pm

5:30-6:30pm Supper
 Menu: Hot Dogs/Mac & Cheese

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

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4C8A823A7FA7-godfirst>
 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

PLEASE RETURN THE INFORMATION FORM AND SURVEY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

In June members received a letter asking you to complete an information form and survey. If you **haven't returned your form to the church office yet, please do so.**

Your response is important to us.

WE NEED EVERYONE TO RESPOND and COMPLETE THE INFORMATION FORM and SURVEY.

Here's the online link to complete it:

<https://forms.gle/JEZM4v4EcZ29EktMA>

Or you can contact the church office for additional paper copies to be mailed to you.

Thanks!

Adult Faith Formation Classes with Pastor Kris

Note: In addition to these gatherings there is an adult group that meets on God First Wednesdays on the first Wednesday of the month. The night starts with supper (you can join or skip) at 5:30 with small groups starting at 6:30-7:30pm. See more detailed post. Dates: Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6.

Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life by Richard Rohr

Father Rohr offers a new paradigm for understanding one of the most profound of life's mysteries: how our failings can be the foundation for our ongoing spiritual growth. He explores the two halves of life to show that those who have fallen, failed, or gone down are the only ones who understand "up." How do we grow spiritually and know spiritual joys in the midst of it all?

Sessions Fridays from 9:30 to 11am, October 6 and 13

Sundays from 9:15 to 10:15am, October 8 and 15

Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road? Brian D. McLaren

In looking at other religions McLaren proposes ways to create benevolence and solidarity rather than rivalry and hostility going beyond tolerance by encouraging vigorous hospitality toward, interest in, and collaboration with others.

***Watch the bulletin for dates where we hope to meet with other faith leaders and visit other faith communities. Anyone can join us.**

Sessions Fridays from 9:30 to 11am- Oct 20, 27, Nov 3, Nov 10

Sundays from 9:15 to 10:15am - Oct 22, 29, Nov 5, 12

If you're unable to join us but want to read the books, there are copies available on the table in the lobby or contact Pastor Kris.

Staff Update from Pastor Kris

Congratulations to Carrie, our Pastor of Visitation, for taking the first (big) steps of authorization from the Penn Northeast Conference of the UCC!

She has been working hard on writing papers, sermons, and submitting material for the PNEC committee to review and this summer she received approval for lay ministerial standing. She can celebrate the sacraments of baptism and communion without another authorized minister present. More importantly, this is a huge affirmation of her gifts and leadership, which we have the privilege of seeing first hand here.

The next step, to be licensed here and with her position at St. Luke's, will take some more work which she's doing. At her recent PNEC meeting they affirmed her gifts by challenging her to consider the ordination (lay) track as well, which involves more work, but after being licensed she'd be more than half way there. AND, she said, 'yes!'.

Celebrate with her and continue to keep her in your prayers as she serves God here and discerns her call among us. She's doing wonderful work and is an important part of our team here. Thanks Carrie!

Our Sunday Set Up Person

Payge served as the substitute last year and is now the permanent Sunday Set Up Person. Payge is a senior at Northampton Area High School where she is a member of the Orchestra. She also volunteers after school to help the Elementary and Middle School orchestra rehearsals. Payge is a member of the Lehigh Valley Young People's Philharmonic and is involved with the Hearts for Music program held at Union Lutheran Church.

Payge is highly involved in 4-H, she is a member of the 4-H Equine club and competes with her horse, Maverick. She is also a member of Teen Council, Textile, Clovers, Farm to Table clubs and 4-H Potato Judging Team. She will be traveling to Georgia in Fall to represent the county at the National 4-H Conference. Payge is a member of the Youth group, attends High School Happy Hour and has played her viola during services. She is always willing to lend a helping hand.

And now, she knows how to make coffee and run the camera for our live stream! Welcome Payge, you're doing great!

From the Property Committee

September has brought more activity to the church property. There is much excitement during the week as the preschool children and teachers came back and settled into a nice routine of greeting each other and partaking in their daily activities. Sunday activities are moving along with two services, 8 & 10:30, along with the start of Sunday School, children's church, choir rehearsals, confirmation class and mission activities. The church facility is ready to welcome everyone for worship and share in God's spirit.

The grove is also available to all who want to take a break and enjoy nature. The leaves will begin to change color soon and the crisp air is a welcome relief from the summer heat. Come take a walk through the woods, enjoy the playground with the kids, or have a little lunch break under one of the pavilions. Trunk or Treat and Lights in the Grove are two big events planned for the grove, come and enjoy these special events with your church family.

The painting of the exterior of the church sanctuary is nearly complete. Landmark Painters have been working hard for many weeks removing layers of old paint and applying two coats of white paint to all of the wood trim around the windows, doors, gutters and accessories of the main church. They also painted the metal railings along the steps. The finished painting project is looking great.

Funding for this major project was provided by the Funds of Lasting Gifts endowment fund, we give thanks for this financial support to keep our church beautiful.

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) 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)



FAITH FORMATION

FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Contact: Tiffany Lakatosh

Email: dired@unionucc.org

GOD FIRST WEDNESDAYS

5:30-7:30pm

October 4th

November 1st

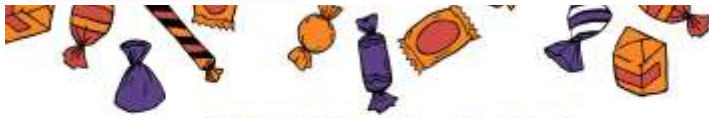
December 6th

February 7th

March 6th

April 3rd

May 1st



UNION UCC TRUNK OR TREAT

JOIN US FOR A SPOOKTACULAR FAMILY FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN EVENT!

OCTOBER 21, 2023

1 PM - 3 PM

AT UNION UCC GROVE PARKING LOT

JOIN US AND UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WHICH IS JUST A SHORT WALK
AWAY, FOR A SAFE FAMILY FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION!

WOULD YOU, YOUR BUSINESS, OR AN ORGANIZATION YOU ARE ASSOCIATED
WITH LIKE TO DECORATE A CAR AND BE PART OF THE HALLOWEEN FUN?

REGISTER AT

[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/10COF4DACA723A7FC1-TRUNK2#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COF4DACA723A7FC1-TRUNK2#/)



ALL AGES PIZZA AND PAINT

November 12th
11:45-3:30pm
in Fellowship Hall

Register at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COF4DACA723A7FC1-allages1>



SNEAKER STROLL

We will be having our annual Sneaker Stroll to
raise money for the local Crop Walk on October
22nd during Sunday School and Children's Church.

Please remember to wear sneakers.

A donation would be greatly appreciated and can
be put in an envelope marked Sneaker Stroll.

WALK TO FIGHT HUNGER IN THE LEHIGH VALLEY
AND AROUND THE WORLD!



WOULD YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN A FUN CHRISTMAS
PROGRAM THAT DOESN'T REQUIRE ANY SPECIAL REHEARSALS? IF SO,
EMAIL MS. TIFFANY AT [DIRE@UNIONUCC.ORG](mailto:dired@unionucc.org) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

OUR TENTATIVE DATE FOR OUR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PERFORMANCE IS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD AT 9:15AM.



Union UCC, Neffs Youth Group

"Always be a first-rate version of yourself, instead of a second-rate version of someone else." – Judy Garland



October 2023 Edition
Pastor Kayli (pastorkayli@unionucc.org)

PNEC

Sleep Out for Homelessness

When: October 14-15

Time: 7pm-7am

(meet at church at 6:15pm)

Where: UCC Greenawalds, Allentown

See Pastor Kayli for paperwork/covenant

Sign-Up by October 2

All Youth are encouraged to participate



Trunk Or Treat!

Join Pastor Kayli in decorating her car for our Annual Trunk or Treat!

When: October 21, 2022 (rain or shine)

Time: 1pm-3pm (arrive at 12pm to begin decorating)

Where: Grove Parking Lot

Sign up using the link provided: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-trunk2>



Need someplace to be on Sundays at 9:15am?
Join us for "Open Sunday School" in the Youth Room!

Youth 8th thru 12th are invited for a time to hang-out and have a "coffee hour" dedicated just to them!

No need to sign up! Just be there!

October 29, November 12, December 10

9:15AM-10:15AM

WANNA...



HANG OUT?

YOU ARE LOVED. YOU ARE WORTHY. YOU ARE WELCOMED.

PNEC Ambassador Corner

Continuing with expanding on resources offered by the PNEC, did you know that the PNEConference offers several different financial resources? Well, they do and they are listed below!!

Gwilym T. Williams Scholarship Fund* [GTW] – provides financial assistance for students who are current UCC members within PNEC enrolled in a formal post-high school degree program for a career as either, a medical doctor, occupational or physical therapist, nurse [B.S.], ordained minister or certified teacher or educator.

GEM [Grants Energizing Mission] **Fund*** - grants are used as 'seed money' to help start or carry through to completion, local church mission and outreach projects. These projects should be proposed and administered by PNEC congregations and be intended to enhance and make more relevant the spiritual life and gospel mission of the churches of PNEC. Applications are received quarterly.

YEA Fund* – provides financial assistance for youth and youth advisors to participate in education and mission opportunities. Churches and individuals are welcome to submit applications to receive funding for educational and mission opportunities in which they have participated.

*Excerpted from the Penn Northeast Conference of the United Church of Christ brochure

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me, Janice Metzger, at jemrenaissinc@aol.com & please put Union Ambassador in the subject line. As your PNEC Ambassador, I want to help Union members feel more connected to the Conference and the wider church.



UNION UCC NIGHT WITH THE PHANTOMS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

7:05PM (DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM)

Tickets: \$25.00 each

ORDERS can be emailed or dropped at the church office or in the offering plate but **MUST** be in an envelope marked **Phantoms Tickets.**

TO ORDER TICKETS OR FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT STEVE KAREHA.

Stephen Kareha
@Stephen-Kareha

717-514-8881 or s.kareha@gmail.com

Cash, Check, or Venmo

(Make Checks Payable to Steve Kareha)



venmo

Bring your friends and family!

Presented by Union UCC Men's group

Pastor Carrie's Corner

What Does "Be the Light" Actually Mean?

This phrase is thrown around all the time~but what does it *mean*? And why should we bother to "be the light?" Is it *really* going to matter? Can anything we do make a dent in the unrest that seems to inhabit every corner of society?

The answer is a resounding YES!

- "Be the light" means looking for the best in everyone, and finding it.
- "Be the light" means choosing wisely where you put your time and energy.
- "Be the light" means biting your tongue when someone opposes your viewpoint.
- "Be the light" means not sharing gossip (or unchecked "facts").
- "Be the light" means not poisoning your body and mind (including what you watch and read).
- "Be the light" means caring as much about yourself as you do others (because when we feel our best, we give our best).
- "Be the light" means communicating with strangers; smile, say hello.
- "Be the light" means helping someone in need.
- "Be the light" means being a patient driver or customer or diner.

"Be the light" means breathing in the sun and the natural world and giving thanks.

And the reason you have to be the light? Because it causes a ripple effect. You may not see it, but energetically it's there. We can choose to be the light or be absent of light. More importantly, it makes us feel better. Being God's eyes, hands and hearts on Earth.

Helping Hearts is a group of volunteers who visits with our senior folks who often cannot attend worship or church events. We are always looking for new helpers! It entails visiting 3-4 times a year and delivering flowers and treats provided by the church. We also meet for about an hour prior to each delivery. Would you like to join us? Contact Pastor Carrie, vispas@unionucc.org or 610-297-6569.



Helping Hearts
Communion Ministers

Room or Hall Use for Members

Members are now able to reserve the use of rooms in the church again. Contact Marissa in the office to see if your date is available, to complete the necessary forms, to learn the guidelines and process, and to pay the fees. One time use fees are \$60 plus a \$25 cleaning fee. We do not offer room use to non-members.



From the Mission Committee

Thanks to your support of the Mission and Outreach envelopes, or online giving, the Mission Committee approved to support each of the following missions agencies with a \$500 donation.

Meals on Wheels of the Lehigh Valley

Allentown Crop Walk

Bloom organization

Maui Food Bank

The Mission Committee also approved to support each of the following mission agencies with a \$1,00 donation from the Larry Wotring Estate gift.

Lehigh Conference of Churches

Parkland C.A.R. E. S Food Pantry

We are blessed to be able to provide financial help to so many varied mission agencies, who help people and families here in the Lehigh Valley and around the world. Thank you to all who help to make Union UCC a giving church to the community and the world.

Holy Grounds Coffee Hour

Enjoy some coffee, tea, juice, hot chocolate, and snacks on Sundays in Memorial Hall after both worship services.

Upcoming hosts include:

Oct. 1– Consistory and Leadership Planning Team/ Congregational Forums

Oct. 8– Fellowship Committee

Oct. 15– Christian Ed

Oct. 22– Welcoming Committee

Oct. 29– Church and Ministry

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. Jameson Baxter from Phoebe Ministries.

Future dates: 11/7, 12/5

Country Sale?

Save the Date!

Saturday, May 4, 2024

Thanks to everyone who has signed up to be on the team!
Here's where we still need your help in making this an awesome day for our church and community.

- Kitchen helpers to prep for the event on Thursday & Friday (days and eves)
- Kitchen helpers at the event on Saturday (7am-2pm, 2-4 hour shifts)
- Bake Sale helpers at the event on Saturday
- Parking Attendants and greeters day of sale 7am to 10:30am (4 people)
- Grill guys (hot dogs and burgers)
- Organize some type of raffle
- Bakers - if you're not already on Pastor Kris's email list, contact her.
- Helpers at conclusion of the event, tear down, trash cans, clean up

Vicki Sorg, Diane Schaller, Claire Kern, Kathy Bonsell, Sheila Nagle, Sherry Penrod, Maryann Puia, Miranda Perloff, Dan & Deb Topp, Phil Wehr, Pam Minnich, Pastor Kris

**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>

or email 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



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.fmssc.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
or Pastor Kris to serve on one of the teams or to make a donation.

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

Meditation and Prayer Gatherings with Kris Snyder

Looking for some peace and ways to decompress?

We meet by zoom monthly for meditation and prayer.

**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/811881274837>

pwd=TzdmTFplaXVtMjRQSHY1K1hOdkV2dz09

Meeting ID: 811 8812 7483 Passcode: 348630

NOTE: You can count this as continuing education credits.

OR

Union UCC Community

Tuesdays 7-8pm

September 12, October 10, November 14, December 12

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/876803780467>

pwd=QmozYWJFemJOVENCdWJBbzRpbDVIUT09

Meeting ID: 876 8037 8046 Passcode: 954906

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

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



Christmas Worship Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE EVE - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22 AT 7PM,
CANDLELIGHT, CAROLS, AND COMMUNION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 - NO MORNING SERVICES AT 8AM OR 10:30AM

CHRISTMAS EVE AT 3PM, 5PM, AND 8PM CANDLELIGHT AND
CAROLS, COMMUNION AT 3PM AND 8PM

SUNDAY, DEC 31, NO 8AM WORSHIP, 10:30AM WORSHIP

SUNDAY, JAN 7 8AM AND 10:30 WORSHIP, COMMUNION



New Members

Welcome to Union UCC! I am so glad you found us and feel at home here.

New members come to us with a variety of faith experiences and backgrounds as well as a variety of interests, passions, and schedules. Maybe you have been visiting us or other churches for a long time and are still wondering if this is a fit or the right time to make a commitment to join us formally. Or maybe you visited here a few times and knew right away this is your place.

In our effort to honor this diversity, we'd like to offer you a few options of continuing this conversation.

You can join as a member at any time. Complete the information form (attached or use the link) and return it to the office or to me. Reach out to me to schedule a time to meet. We can then welcome you as a new member on whatever Sunday you choose at your convenience.

2. The other option (or in addition to the first option) is to attend a new member gathering. This is a chance to meet with me and with other members and hear why they love their church and love to serve God here.

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 at 8am or 10:30am, your choice. Or we'll pick a different date if that is a conflict.

We hope both options will give you a chance to meet some new friends, get some more information about us, and ask your questions.

Please complete this information form by using this link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXM2pHU6Pnwd020Rpm-o8BV6-eWUoxPe2fxpZnBawlmYeZ-g/viewform>

Or you can contact the office for a paper copy.

We want to do whatever we can to support you in your spiritual journey here and in the community.

If the timing of this does not fit your schedule, you can try again in the future. If formal membership is not for you, you can continue to be involved here without joining.

Please let me know where you are in your discernment and how I can support you. Call or email me anytime.

Pastor Kris

September 18, 2023 Consistory Actions:

These notes reflect item 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.

Approvals:

- Request from Property for funds from the Memorial Fund for upgrades to the Sanctuary spotlights in tandem with the projection project in the Sanctuary
- Request from Church and Ministry for vacations:
- Pastor Kris - week of 12/26 and week of 1/8 - 1/14/24
- Pastor Kayli - week of 11/20/23

All of the above were approved unanimously.



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

Loretta Wotring passed on August 23, 2023. Services were held on August 26, 2023 in the Heintzelman Funeral Home.



Union UCC Staff

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



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Financial Report

Fiscal Year	Operating Fund	Designated Funds	Grand Total All Funds
7-1-2022	(\$4,682.00)	\$39,850.00	\$35,168.00
Income	\$37,413.00	\$4,234.00	\$41,647.00
Expenses	\$32,853.00	\$13,706.00	\$46,559.00
7-31-2023	(\$122.00)	\$30,378.00	\$30,256.00

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

Donate, Recycle and Help Your Church

As you are cleaning out closets and cabinets be sure to keep Union UCC in mind. Bring your donations at any time to the bin in our grove. The church receives a certain amount of money for each pound that is donated. Items that are usable are resold or recycled. You are also helping to save the amount of things that end up in a landfill by donating your items this way. Recycle Local's goal is to help agencies have 0% waste.

Items accepted include: clean and dry clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, towels, drapes, pillow cases and stuffed animals. Place all items in plastic bags. NO furniture, rags, pillows, toys, or household goods.

This is one more way to give and support the mission and ministry of God's church at Union UCC. Thank you.

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. They 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 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. This time together is a great chance to share your questions and meet some other members. You only need to attend one of the sessions. Contact Pastor Kris PastorKris@unionucc.org to sign up or if you have schedule conflicts.

Baptism We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month when we meet in person. Our next dates are Sunday, **November 12, 2023**. 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.

Because of YOU our church changes lives....

Here are some of the ways you can share your financial generosity at Union.

- **ELECTRONIC GIVING** <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z51X/home> Choose an ongoing regular donation or a single donation with your credit or debit card. (Help us with fees if you can.)
- **Venmo @unionuccneffs** Make a donation or pay for a fundraiser or event. Complete "What's this for?"
- **Mobile Giving** Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app
- **Cash or checks (to "Union UCC")** Place in the offering plate with a member offering envelope or guest envelope (in the seat racks) or drop in the mail if you're not in person. Contact John Harting (610-799-2508) or Don Penrod (610-972-8719) or Pastor Kris if you have questions or if you'd like to learn more about other giving options or legacy gifts to Union.



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