

JANUARY WORSHIP

Sunday Worship 8am and 10:30am in church and online.

JAN
7

Communion

JAN
14

10:30 Baptism

JAN
21

Healing Service/
Pray with a Pastor

JAN
28

Semi-Annual Meeting

FUTURE
WORSHIP
DATES

Feb 11- Communion

Feb 13- Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper

Feb 14- Ash Wednesday,
Communion

March 31- Easter

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 and Community
Tuesdays 7-8pm
January 16, Feb 20, March 19, April 23, May 21

Zoom Link: [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87680378046?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87680378046?pwd=QmozYWJFemJOVENCdWJBbzRpbDVIUT09)
[pwd=QmozYWJFemJOVENCdWJBbzRpbDVIUT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87680378046?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 with PastorKris@unionucc.org
You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions,
whatever your schedule allows.



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
Dec 19, Jan 30, Feb 27, March 26
Led by Pastor Kris, Roni Gerry, and Carrie Beleno



See page 3
for more
information



See page 6
for more
information

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UNION UCC: RELEVANT, ENGAGED, and 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.

Our Leadership Planning Team and Consistory met in October and November and will meet again at the Consistory meeting in January.

At November's Consistory meeting we committed to work on a marketing and outreach strategy and to increase Pastor Carrie's hours to support our first steps in offering more opportunities around wellness and mental health initiatives in our church and community.

We will share in a day long retreat on Saturday, January 27th to design a plan to implement next steps in our work together.

Thank you church for affirming and supporting our core values of extravagant welcome, spiritual growth, and being open and affirming.

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



INFORMATION FORM AND SURVEY

Members if you haven't yet completed the information form and survey that was sent to you, please do so as soon as possible. This form includes letting us know about your membership status and offers a chance for you to participate in a survey.

Please complete the form either by using the online link provided or by completing a paper copy and returning it to the church.

If you do not want to complete the survey portion that's fine, but please complete the information part of the form and check off your membership status.

Here's the online link to complete it: <https://forms.gle/JEZM4v4EcZ29EktMA>

Paper copies are available in the lobby on Sundays or you can contact the church office for additional paper copies to be mailed to you. Thank you for your help.

Rev. Jeffrey Mensendiek, Union UCC's member and pastor serving in Japan

I have updated my blog <https://jeffreyfromjapan.blogspot.com/> so you can tune in to some of the issues facing the communities in and around Fukushima. I know that with issues in Palestine and Ukraine that it is easy to "forget" that there are equally pressing issues in so many areas of the world including in the US, but I am sure that our partners will appreciate to be lifted up in prayer again this Christmas.

With love,
Jeffrey Mensendiek, Global Ministries mission co-worker working in Tokyo.



Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

Fellow Members of Union UCC,

It is that time of year where we come together as a congregation to review the work of our Church family. At this semi-annual meeting we will be reviewing the finances to date, reviewing our semi-annual audit and taking / presenting nominations for Consistory and Funds of Lasting Gifts. This is not possible without your support. Please plan to attend and participate in our Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting which will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2024 following the 10:30 service. Be sure to get your tickets for the Youth Group's Best in Bowl soup fundraiser, benefiting Feed My Starving Children, immediately after the service / meeting.

As churches everywhere struggle to survive and maintain relevancy, it is more important than ever that we as members continue to engage with our church's mission and activities to ensure a healthy and vibrant future. I encourage you to attend this important meeting. Because of you, Union UCC is a growing church, rich with opportunity for years to come. The meeting will be held in person and there will also be a Zoom option for anyone who cannot join us in person.

I thank you all for your commitment and dedication throughout the past year and look forward to our collective service to God and our community in 2024.

May God continue to bless our church family and those we serve.

Respectfully,
Eric Minnich
Consistory President

Best In Bowl 2024



Union UCC Youth Group is sponsoring a fundraiser for FMSC but we need YOUR help! If you make soup, consider donating a crock-pot for our soup tasting. Top 3 tastiest soups will win a prize.

Don't make soup? Buy a ticket and help us crown TOP SOUP MAKER

Date: January 28, 2024

Where: Fellowship Hall

Time: After 10:30am Worship

Tickets: \$5 for unlimited soup tasting

Sign up to make soup here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3->

Tickets on sale after worship on January 7, January 14, January 28

Help us support our upcoming FMSC Event March 8-10th 2024

Questions? See Pastor Kayli (pastorkayli@unionucc.org)

Adult Faith Formation Classes with Pastor Kris

Fridays from 9:30 to 11am- Jan 12, 19, 26, Feb 2 and 9

Sundays from 9:15 to 10:15am – Jan 14, 21, 28, Feb 4 and 11

The Gospel of Mark Amy-Jill Levine

Walk through the Bible's earliest source for the life of Jesus. See Jesus as divine and human, powerful and weak, approachable yet mysterious. We will look at select passages and stories in its historical context and as a source for the other gospels.

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.

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: Feb 7, March 6, May 1 (No Jan or April).



GOD FIRST WEDNESDAYS
Wednesday, Feb 7
5:30-7:30pm

5:30-6:30pm Supper
 Menu: Grilled Cheese, Soup, Cookies
 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/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-46862989-godfirst>
 Or email/text a staff member. Do your best to sign up - but if you miss signing up, just come.

Future Dates: March 6, May 1 (No Jan or April)
Putting God First on First Wednesdays



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 14, 2024
6pm-8pm
Fellowship Hall
 Hosted by the Fellowship Committee

GriefShare is a faith-based grief support group that focuses on discussion questions and video presentations for those who have lost a loved one, a friend or family member. It is scripted, but there is still time to share individual thoughts and questions. (It is not designed for those who are grieving other circumstances, like loss of a job or a divorce)

February 4 begins our next GriefShare series. It runs Sundays until April 28 from 1-2:30pm here at the church (excluding Easter Sunday).

The cost is \$20 for the mandatory workbook (payable at the first class), but if you are re-using your 4.0 workbook, there is no cost. Please write in the notes when you register whether you need a book or not so I can pre-order.

Participants have found this support group very helpful in their grief journey.

Please reach out to Pastor Carrie with any questions!

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GriefShare

Union UCC 5550 Route 873
 Neffs, PA 18065
 610-767-6961

Blanket Sunday Coming Soon

You're changing lives around the World !! Through your support of the Church World Services Blankets Program, you are helping people faced with difficult challenges, whether due to a natural disaster or another sort of emergency.

Thank you for your support of the upcoming Blanket Sunday in February 2024. You are helping to spread God's love to many families around the country and the world.



Souper Bowl Sunday - Feb 11, 2024

Let's get ready for some football during the Super Bowl. Let's get ready to buy and donate canned soup during our annual SOUPER Bowl celebration. Let's start this new year with a huge donation of SOUP for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank, start shopping NOW, God's team is counting on YOU.

Thank you for fighting hunger and being on the winning SOUPER Bowl team.

Reverse Advent Baskets

Thank you to all who filled the Reverse Advent Baskets during the recent Advent and Christmas Season. Your donations of groceries, toiletries, gloves, socks, mittens, children's books & crayons weighed close to 1,000 pounds. All donations have been sorted and distributed to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank, Lehigh Conference of Churches, and Sixth Street Shelter.

2024 Envelopes

The 2024 envelope packets will be mailed out in mid January. If you have not received yours, please contact the church office. Members on the e-giving program do not receive envelopes.

Please use the initial envelope in your packet to offset the cost of printing and mailing the envelopes. Please continue to support the mission and ministries of Union UCC by bringing your envelopes to Sunday Services, or by mailing them to the church office. Thank you for sharing your gifts to God.

Contact Barbara in the office to sign up for the e-giving program or to make changes to your current account.



FAITH FORMATION

FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Contact: Tiffany Lakatosh

Email: dired@unionucc.org

BRING YOUR FAVORITE
STUFFED TOY TO SUNDAY
SCHOOL & CHILDREN'S CHURCH
ON JANUARY 14TH



KIDS NIGHT OUT SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

5-8PM



Kids aged 4-10 are invited to a fun evening of food, crafts, and activities.

Kids must be fully potty trained.

It is \$5 per kid, to help cover the cost of food and supplies.

Email Ms. Tiffany at dired@unionucc.org to register.

ALL AGES PIZZA AND PAINT



Register at
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DAE-A723A7FC1-allages1>

NERF &



NACHOS

JANUARY 13, 2024 3PM TO 6PM

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. *ATTENDEES UNDER 13 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.*

WE ASK THAT YOU BRING YOUR OWN SAFETY GOGGLES, 1 NERF SHOOTER, AND 1 NACHO TOPPING TO ADD TO OUR NACHO BAR.

REGISTER TO ATTEND AT
[HTTPS://WWW.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/GO/10C0F4DAE-A723A7FC1-46166208-NERF](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DAE-A723A7FC1-46166208-NERF)

New Year Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for all the exciting things this New Year will bring. Thank you for the chance to make changes and set goals. Please help me to make realistic resolutions, and remind me to keep trying even when I fail. Thank you that you give me a fresh start every day. I know you are beside me to cheer me on. **It's good to share resolutions and encourage each other.** Thank you for this New Year. Amen.

THANK
you

A BIG THANK YOU TO
EVERYONE WHO DONATED A
SHOEBOX TO HOLIDAY HOPE
CHEST, AND TO THOSE WHO
PARTICIPATED IN OUR
REVERSE ADVENT BASKET
COLLECTION

Union UCC, Neff's Youth Group

"Worthiness doesn't have prerequisites" - Brene Brown

January 2024 Edition

Pastor Kayli (pastorkayli@unioznucc.org)

Happy New Year!!!

Friends,

We have made it to 2024! How crazy is that!?!? I pray that everyone enters into the new year with good health and sense of adventure. We've got some good stuff for you and can't wait for you to join us! Look for sign-ups, emails, and all the fun in store for 2024!!



GRATEFUL



Youth Group Gives Back!

This winter, our Youth Group decided to put a portion of our money from fundraising to good use! We donated a total of \$1,000 to the

following organizations:

Tunnels to Towers
Foundation
Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT
Community Center
Eastern PA Down Syndrome
Center
Philly Bully Team

We were able to do this because of YOUR continued support of our Youth! Thank You!

Best In Bowl 2024

January 28, 2024

11:30am

Fellowship Hall

FUNdraiser for FMSC

Youth Group is sponsoring a fundraiser for FMSC. Join us in making soup, or helping with the event.

\$5 per ticket to taste all the soups

Pick your favorite; Top 3 get a prize

Sign up to help below: [https://](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-46786952-best#/)

[www.signupgenius.com/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-46786952-best#/)
[go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-46786952-](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-46786952-best#/)
[best#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-46786952-best#/)



Open Sunday School 2024 Schedule

All Youth 8th thru 12th are invited to join us during education hour for a time just for them! Grab some snacks and come hang out!

Dates: Jan 14, Feb 11, Feb 25, March 10, April 14, April 28

From the Property Committee

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Once again, December brought us a beautifully decorated sanctuary for everyone to enjoy for the Advent and Christmas season. The entranceways were decorated, and the manger scene greeted everyone who passed by our church.

Once again, the Lights in the Grove brought Love and Joy to the community each night. Mr & Mrs Santa Clause also paid a visit to welcome everyone to the church grove and enjoy the nightly lighting.

Once again, the Mission and Christian Education committees organized many and varied missions to provide Love and Joy to families in the local communities. The Christmas spirit was shared to many people, thanks to YOU.

Once again, the Christmas message was spread through words, prayer, songs, and music. Christ is coming, Christ is born, Joy to the World.

Once again, special musical concerts were held for the community in our sanctuary. The power of music and song is strong during the Christmas season, such a joy to hear the voices and talents of all of the musicians.

Once again, let's give Thanks to all who shared their time, talents, and treasures to make the Christmas Season so special at Union UCC.

Peace to all in 2024.

UPCOMING HOSTING WEEK:
January 14-21



**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?
Jesus tells us to love God and to love our neighbors. This is a great way to do both while helping families get back on their feet.
~Kerry Snyder

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

Pastor Carrie's Corner

We all hear: "New Year, New You!" and "Out with the old, in with the new!" at this time of year. But I'd like to propose a new way of looking at the new year:

"New Year, OLD You."

Remember that "old" you? The one who took chances~ was fearless? The child who laughed and played, who loved unconditionally? I challenge you this new year to bring back some of that inner child. Laugh more, find things that bring you joy, love unconditionally. Focus on health and friends and family, less on stressors and work and commitments. I know they are all necessary, but new ideas and loves grow where you put your focus. What are you focused on right now? Can you shift it, even just a little bit? Maybe it is watching different programming or trying a new book genre. Maybe it is getting outside more or calling that long-lost friend?

May 2024 bring you many blessings and a new outlook on life...that's one way we can ring in the new~by tapping into our "old." Happy New Year!

Carrie Beleno
Pastor of Visitation



Wawa Shorti (six-inch sandwich) gift cards will be sold after each service in December. They are \$6.00 a piece. Each gift card sold raises enough money to feed a child for a week.

To support our event by check be sure to include our event number 2403-043MI.

You can also give online at <https://give.fmssc.org/campaign/2403-049mi-neffs-pa-lehigh-valley/c508364>.

With enough support we will be packing meals March 8-10th! Please contact Eliot Lightner with any questions. (610) 844-8327



We blinked and it is already the end of another calendar year. What a whirlwind end to the year we have had in the preschool. On the learning end, our 3-year-olds had "Dinosaur December", complete with a visit from a dinosaur friend to greet the students on the first day. The 4's enjoyed hands-on fun with a month-long science lab learning about states of matter. They experimented with different forms of matter, weighed and measured objects, and watched as solid and liquid ingredients combined to form a different item- cookie dough! The best part was cooking and eating the cookies at the end. A big thank you to the parents who helped us bake the cookies. Our Pre-K class took a tour through the various holiday traditions of Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza, with plenty of art projects along the way. Of course, what December would be complete without a Christmas party and a visit from Santa himself! We had to move the party indoors due to the weather, but that did not keep us from having a great time creating crafts and eating delicious treats made by the LCTI bakery.



Enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year begins with an Informational Open House on February 5th at 6:30 p.m. We will continue to take applications until our classes are full. If you, your family, or your friends are interested in enrolling a child and would like more information or a registration form, please email preschool@unionucc.org or call the Preschool office at 610-767-5327.



Merry Christmas from the preschool staff.

December 18, 2023, Consistory Actions:

These notes reflect items 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.

Requested approvals:

Eliot Lightner presented information on Feed My Starving Children for approval to move forward with the event in March 2024. Consistory approved the event at the 100,000 meal level.

In November Church and Ministry presented a proposal for Union to become a certified Open and Affirming [O&A] church. Consistory approved moving forward with the process at their December meeting. The timeline involves Church & Ministry drafting a Covenant Statement to be reviewed by Consistory and the LPT at their January retreat with a vote for final approval at the February Consistory/LPT meeting.

All of the above were approved unanimously.

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:

Jan 7– Sunday Staff

Jan 14– Fellowship Committee

Jan 21– Consistory

Jan 28– Christian Ed

Feb 4– Boy Scouts

Feb 11– SouperBowl Lunch

Feb 18– Confirmation Class

Feb 25– Church & Ministry

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.)



Vanco

- **Venmo @unionuccneffs** Make a donation or pay for a fundraiser or event. Complete "What's this for?"



Venmo

- **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.



Let's Build A Team

We need a team of dedicated people to help us run the projection system.

If you want to join this team and learn the projection system contact Pastor Kayli or Pastor Kris.

Teamwork makes the dreamwork!



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.



New Members from Pastor Kris

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.

1. 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.

Our next gathering for new members is on Sunday, Feb 4th at 11:30-12:30 in Memorial Hall where coffee hour is. You would be received in church on Sunday, Feb 11 at 8am or 10:30am worship. We hope both options will give you a chance to meet some new friends, get some more information about us, and ask your questions.

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

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On November 19th, Stewardship Sunday, our Financial Leadership Team Member, Phil Wehr shared this message:



Because of you, our church is changing lives, not just on Sundays, but every day of the week. Because of you, this building and property provides a place for our pastors and staff to serve God and change lives. Because of you, this building has power, water, heat and air conditioning. This may sound funny, but this is all needed to run the telephones, the computers, the elevator, the toilets, the oil burner, the freezers, the steeple lights, the organ, and the new TV's. Because of you, Union UCC can operate daily to change lives.

Because of you, and members from the past and present who have made donations to the Funds of Lasting Gifts endowment fund, the Memorial Fund, or an estate gift to the Reserve fund, we have been able to make improvements and upgrades to our church property. We are blessed, because of you, to have a beautiful property to share God's love to the community and the World.

Because of you, the missions of this church are strong and support many and varied missions both locally and around the world. Because of you, families in the local area are provided food, toiletries, clothing, shelter and more. Because of you, families around the world are provided with blankets, food, medical supplies, disaster relief and more. Because of you, local children are provided with school supplies, hats and gloves, socks and underwear, and Christmas gifts.

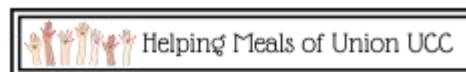
Because of you, God's love is being shared to hundreds and thousands of individuals and families locally and around the world. From Neffs to Allentown, to Hawaii, to Mississippi, to Guatemala, to South Africa, to the Philippines, and back to Schnecksville. Your financial gifts to Union UCC have truly made a difference in people's lives.

Thank you for supporting the ministries and missions of Union UCC.



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

Donations were made in memory of Janice Liska by: Richard & Marilyn Lauchnor, Diane Rauch Pesola, Bernard & Judith Baer, Thomas & Brenda Noll, Scott & Lani Shimandle, Ann Koren, Best Insurance Agency c/o Julie Michael & Donna Bucko, Irene Wenner, John & Gloria Simock, Cliff & Carol James Charles & Carol Mesics, Richard & Madeline Bingell, Michael & Sandra Daumer, Michele Jones, Russel & Donna Chorney, Philip & Julie Wehr, Robert & Georgene Brobst, Shirley Schneck, Diane Davidson, Ronald & Eleanor Kleckner, David & Linda Wuerstle, The Heintzelman Family, Richard & Sharon Bandle, Deborah Vater, Jeffrey & Rosemarie Laudenslager, Richard & Betty Bobal, Douglas & Claire Kern, Richard & Kathy Bonsell, Dennis Rothrock, Daniel & Debra Topp, R.H. Kressley's Garage Inc., Mary Ellen & David Golden



Helping Meals

This fall we brought back our Helping Meals ministry! Our team will be delivering a baked good with the option of a casserole or soup, if requested, for those who are in need of a bit of support due to a life change like a hospitalization, birth or death of a loved one.

To request a visit from the Helping Meals or to volunteer to bake, cook and deliver, please reach out to Pastor Carrie. If you would like to assist in coordinating the team via text and a google doc, please let her know. It's an easy way to continue to support this ministry and we'd love to have you join our team.

Union UCC Staff

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Senior Pastor
Cell Phone: 610-657-6007
pastorkris@unionucc.org

Marissa Haney
Church Administrator
administrator@unionucc.org

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Financial Report

Fiscal Year	Operating Fund	Designated Funds	Grand Total All Funds
7-1-2023	(\$4,682.00)	\$39,850.00	\$35,168.00
Income	\$195,119.00	\$20,511.00	\$215,710.00
Expenses	\$184,469.00	\$33,975.00	\$218,444.00
11-30-2023	\$6,048.00	\$26,386.00	\$32,434.00

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.

New Member Sessions We encourage you to make a deeper commitment to your faith by joining us as a member. Contact Pastor Kris PastorKris@unionucc.org to sign up. See page 14 for more information.

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.

Baptism We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Our next dates are Sunday, January 14, 2024 and March 3, 2024. There is a pre-baptism zoom session with a pastor the week before. Sign up by calling the church office at 610-767-6961 or emailing Marissa Haney at administrator@unionucc.org. The pastors will work with you if the scheduled dates are a conflict.

Weddings To begin the process of scheduling your pre-marriage sessions and wedding at church/a venue and/or with one of the pastors call the church office at 610-767-6961 or email Marissa Haney at administrator@unionucc.org.

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.

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.