



— Union UCC —

5550 RTE 873
PO Box 66
Neffs, PA 18065

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, April 27, 2025

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

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

CONSISTORY OFFICERS

President: Eric Minnich, VP: Ron Pope, 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 place in the Offering plate.

kindness, acceptance, tolerance and love, Jackie starting chemo, Sheila whose son just passed, a good friend having open heart surgery, Jillian as treatments continue, Bruce for a speedy recovery, Don for a pain free recovery, sister for peace and healing, daughter for wisdom and peace, Uncle Mark who passed, Parents' health, Aunt's health, peace and love for each and every person, Kate & Ed's house to be restored, healthy pregnancy for daughter in law, recovery for my son in law from surgery, Prayers for Rich, Rick, Tim, and Mike, Shirley, Elaine, father having open heart surgery, a friend who recently lost her mother and brother

Prayers and Blessings

To the family and friends of **Beth Cherry** who passed on April 21, 2025. Services were held on April 26, 2025.

If you are in the hospital, please notify a pastor or the 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.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8am and 10:30am at church and online

May Worship

May 4- Confirmation Day
May 11- Mother's Day, Last Day
of Sunday School and Children's
Church
May 18- 10:30 Baptism
May 25- Memorial Sunday

June Worship

June 1- Communion
June 8- Graduate Sunday
June 15- Father's Day
June 22- 10:30 Semi-Annual
Meeting
June 29- 10:30 Outdoor Worship
in the Grove *Build Your Own
Sundae Sunday * ONA Sunday



SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June 1 will be the last 8am worship service for the summer.

Starting June 8 we will only have 10:30 worship. 8am returns on September 7.

Outside Worship in the Grove is at 10:30am on June 29 (Build Your Own Sundae Sunday), July 13 (Blessing of the Animals), August 10 (Church Picnic). Bring your favorite chair or blanket or enjoy a bench under the trees or a table under the pavilion.



GOD FIRST WEDNESDAYS and WEDNESDAY NIGHTS at Union

God First Wednesdays
Supper, Small Groups, Worship
Wed, April 2 5:30-7:30pm

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS at Union

Adult Small Group on The Chosen
(Season 4)
April 2, 9, 16, & 23 (not 30)

Final God First Wednesday: May 7
(potluck dinner)

Adult Faith Formation Classes with Pastor Kris and Pastor Carrie

Fridays from 9:30 to 11am April 25, May 2, May 9 (last class)

Sunday from 9:15- 10:15am April 27, May 4, May 11 (last class)

Field Notes for the Wilderness: Practices for an Evolving Faith by Sarah Bessey

Sarah Bessey is an expert at faithfully stumbling forward. As a New York Times bestselling author and co-founder of Evolving Faith, the foremost community for progressive Christians, she has been trusted by thousands of people to pursue a reconstruction of faith centered on compassion, truth, and inclusion. Bessey has found a deeply underserved and underestimated remnant in the wilderness of Christianity who are still devoted to Jesus, deeply rooted in the Gospel, fascinated with Scripture, and committed to reimagining their faith.

Field Notes for the Wilderness guides us through multiple principles to live by for an evolving faith, including

- practicing wonder and curiosity as spiritual disciplines
- mothering ourselves with compassion and empathy
- making space for lament and righteous rage
- finding good spiritual teachers
- discovering what we are for in this life, and moving in that direction

In this groundbreaking and nurturing book, Bessey becomes a shepherd for our curiosity, giving us a table for our questions, tools to cultivate what we crave, and a blessing for what was—even as we leave it behind.



Holy Grounds
Coffee hour

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

Upcoming hosts:

April 27—Fellowship Committee
May 4- Consistory



Creative Practices Group Meeting

Bring your ideas, creativity, openness and any supplies you'd like to work with. No experience needed. This is non-judgmental space for creative exploration. The time can be spent in the way you need. No RSVP needed. Meets upstairs in Memorial Hall, Union UCC, Neffs.

Contact: Tara Henninger
tara.henninger@gmail.com

 **APRIL 6**

 **MAY 4**

 **JUNE 8**
1-3pm

creative
adjective — /kreɪˈtɪv/
An ability to create something new, unique, and useful. Creativity will increase the spirit and motivation of your life.

PNEC Ambassador Corner

Keystone Conference

The Keystone Working Group is working on the transition from (4) Conferences in the Keystone Conference. Details on governance, staffing, budget, communication and processes for the General Synod vote in July are being finalized. You can learn more in the May newsletter or visit <https://psec.org/keystone/>.

ALSO – IN PNEC

We, Union UCC, will be hosting the Spring meeting of the PNEC on Saturday, May 3, 2025! Doug Brace and I will be Union UCC delegates to that meeting.

If you have any general Conference 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.



UPCOMING HOSTING WEEK: May 18-25, 2025

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



Sight & Sounds - NOAH
Saturday November 1st
7:00 PM

by Perkiomen Tours

Departure Time:

2:00 pm at Neffs UCC

Return Time:

11:30 pm at Neffs UCC

Dinner at Hometown Kitchen, Quarryville, 1 hr. and 45 min to eat before the show departure at 5:45.

Cost: \$168.00 (adults) and \$130.00 children 12 and under, includes motorcoach transportation, family style lunch (Choice of One Salad, Two Meats, Three Vegetables, two Desserts Served with Vanilla Ice Cream, and Beverages), tax and gratuity for lunch and show. The cost does not include Perkiomen Driver gratuity, suggestion is to give a few extra dollars added to the cost for driver gratuity.

Money due 7/22/25 - Need Minimum of 30 to have the trip. Checks should be made out to "Union UCC" or paid to the church venmo. Payment can be placed in Ron's mailbox across from pastors offices or given to the church office marked "Noah."

Questions and more details please contact Ron Pope -
ron.v.76@gmail.com or 484-695-9988



VENMO @unionuccneffs

UCC Night at the Iron Pigs



In the Picnic Patio! **Included:** All-you-can-eat buffet & great seats
along the 3rd Base Line

Friday, June 20, 7:05 pm Doors open at 5:45 pm

Only \$30/person!

Stephen Kareha
@Stephen-Kareha

TO ORDER TICKETS OR FOR MORE INFO CONTACT
STEVE KAREHA.

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

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

Payments can be made by Cash, Check, or Venmo
(Make Checks Payable to Steve Kareha)

Bring your friends and family!



venmo



Congratulations Confirmation Class 2025



Confirmands

Lucas Maxwell

Tricia Schwarz

Parents

Krista & Benjamin Maxwell

Kelly Paulhus & David Schwarz

God-Guides

Kristin Ploeger

Ryleigh Minnich





Faith on Tap
Wednesday, April 30
6:30-8:30pm

*Thanks
 Kornfeind's
 Market!*

Korny's Tavern at Kornfeind's Market
2228 Old Post Rd, Coplay

God. Conversation. Food & Drink.

What Can the Church Learn from Taylor Swift?

Guest Leader: Rev. Kimberly Berenotto

Discover what Taylor Swift and her fans can teach the institutional church about cultivating community and authentic participation and engagement. Pastor Kim is the pastor of Longswamp UCC in Mertztown and also attended the Eras Tour.

Park in the back of the store and enter from there.

Cost: Your drink (alcohol and non-alcohol options)

Complimentary Kornfeind's Food. Sign up if you can, or just join us.

SIGN UP HERE:

<https://bit.ly/4IHjtRP>

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

We are still in awe of how amazing our basket social was a few weeks ago! Special thanks to all the amazing businesses that generously offered donations for the event. We could not have done it without these businesses, our amazing congregation, and the support from well beyond our walls. Because of this generosity, we were able to raise \$8,391! We have donated \$1,000 to Iron Pigs Charities in memory of Veronica Fabian (who's love and dedication ran this basket social event for many years). The rest will be used towards the mission and ministry of Union UCC! Thank you again to everyone!





Congratulations to
**Madison Flueso &
 Chevelle Humanick**
 For completing their
 First Communion class
 and taking their first
 communion on
 April 17, 2025.



Youth Group Goes Mini-Golfing!

All Youth & Friends (grades 6th thru 12th) are invited to join us as we "take-on" Rolling Hills Recreation for some mini-golf and ice cream after. We'll meet at to play, and enjoy some ice cream when we're done playing!

Please RSVP by May 15 if possible

When: May 17, 2025 Time: 3pm Where: Rolling Hills Recreation
 (4565 Spring Hill Dr, Schnecksville, Pa 18078)

Sign-Up Here: [https://www.signupgenius.com/
 go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-56173050-ygmini](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-56173050-ygmini)

YAT Summer Lunch

All Youth (6th thru 12th grade) are invited to join us for our End of School Y.A.T. Summer Lunch! We'll eat some yummy foods, maybe some special treats, and tons of fun.

When: June 8, 2025

Time: 11:30am-1:00pm

Where: Youth Room

[https://www.signupgenius.com/
 go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-56189076-
 yatsummer](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-56189076-yatsummer)





SATURDAY, MAY 10TH

4-6PM



REGISTER USING THE QR CODE OR VISIT
[HTTPS://M.SIGNUPGENIUS.COM/#1/SHOWSIGNUP/10C0F4DACA723A7FC1-56048918-NERF](https://m.signupgenius.com/#1/SHOWSIGNUP/10C0F4DACA723A7FC1-56048918-NERF)

VBS 2025

JUNE 23-27 6PM-8PM
DINNER AVAILABLE AT 5:30PM



Volunteers and participants can register online at
<https://vbspro.events/p/unionucc>



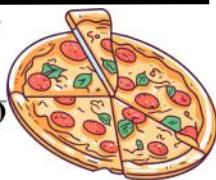
Those Interested in volunteering and those signed up to volunteer are invited to join us for a meeting on March 9th after the 10:30 service in the Youth Room.

KIDVENTURE SPRING & SUMMER

May 25th to August 31st

During the 10:30am service, children are warmly invited to join Ms. Tiffany and friends on an inspiring adventure to discover the wonderful teachings of God and Jesus.

FAMILY PIZZA & GAME NIGHT



June 11th
6pm-8pm



To register, visit
<https://forms.gle/h25imSdundpLVTEUA>
or scan the QR code.

COUNTRY SALE

CHURCH & COMMUNITY WIDE YARD SALE

Bakers - We need pies, cakes, cupcakes, cookies, muffins, brownies, fudge, bar cookies, snack mixes. We prefer items that don't need to be refrigerated. Some items will be sold whole and others will be cut for single serving sale. Please bring your items in disposable pans, we will cut and portion them. Please drop off your items on Friday 9am-2pm in the grove stand or

Saturday by 9am. Use this link to sign up here: <https://bit.ly/4j121bJ>

Or contact Sherry Penrod slpbakes19@gmail.com or call the church office.

If you are interested in volunteering for a shift of an hour or more at the event, please contact:

Food Prep during week or Kitchen serve and sales at the event - Diane Schaller
dschaller59@gmail.com

Bake Sale Table - Sherry Penrod slpbakes19@gmail.com

Grill Guys - Scott Nagle ssnagle@ptd.net

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2025
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

UNION UCC,
NEFFS GROVE
5550 ROUTE 873, NEFFS PA



Summer events in the Grove!

FAITH & FOOD TRUCKS

FOOD TRUCKS 4:30-8 FREE MUSIC 5:30-8 PM

* Free Kids Activities and playground
*Prayer and a Message *Cool Dessert Treats for Sale

<p>FRIDAY, JUNE 13 SHAKESPEARE IN THE GROVE BY DESALES UNIVERSITY 7-8PM Truck: Vince's Cheesesteaks 11am-8pm</p>	<p>SUNDAY, JUNE 22 VALERIE BORMAN TOOTSEE THE CLOWN AND FRIENDS Truck: Buns on the Go</p>	<p>SUNDAY, JULY 13 STEEL CREEK Truck: The Iron Grille Truck & The Udder Bar</p>	<p>SUNDAY, AUG 17 WOODSIDE AVENUE Truck: Grumpy's Food Truck</p>
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Volunteers needed. Sign up here <https://bit.ly/3Y2paC1>
or email pastorkris@unionucc.org.

*Bring a chair or blanket or enjoy our covered picnic area.

Union UCC * 5550 Route 873 * Neffs



BREATHE

TUESDAYS
ONCE A MONTH
IN THE SANCTUARY

MAY 13 AT 7PM



*Catch your Breath
...with God*

Prayer • Meditation • Music • Communion

*Led by Rani Gerry, Pastor Carrie,
and Pastor Kris*



Relevant • Engaged • Growing

Our Leadership Planning Team (LPT) and Consistory continue to meet on the 3rd Monday of the month at Consistory meetings and on Saturday mornings about every other month.

In April we will be heading out into the community interviewing neighbors, businesses, agencies, schools, and more to learn about what they think our community's strengths and challenges are and how our church can support the community in new ways.

The Architect Team is getting close to revealing draft design plans for renovating the lobby, the south entrance canopy, and Memorial Hall.

Watch for a chance to see those plans soon!

Summer 2025 will host new events in our grove: Shakespeare in the Grove from DeSales and 3 Faith and Food Trucks events with bands, a message, kids activities, and food trucks.

Please talk to one of us if you'd like to join one of these teams or to learn more:
Pastor Kris, Pastor Kayli, Pastor Carrie, Consistory Officers: Eric Minnich, Ron Pope, Janice Metzger, Marianne Kitzmiller, and the LPT/Consistory

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 funds. Contact the church office if you'd like to receive post card mailing reminders. We also collect monthly items for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

May 6: "Preschool Fun and Games"
(Last gathering until Fall)

Open and Affirming (ONA) Team Update - Early 2025

It is amazing how quickly time goes by. One year ago in February 2024 is when Union became an ONA congregation! Thank you for your support as we take steps to show our community how we are ONA!

A reminder that being ONA is about opening our minds and hearts and including and accepting people that are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ), as well as people that are of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith background, marital status, family structure, physical, cognitive, or emotional abilities, economic, educational, and social statuses, and political or cultural backgrounds. EVERYONE!

The ONA team would like to let everyone know that **Sunday, June 29th** will be **ONA Sunday** at Union. Join us for worship outside in the grove!

The team is also in the beginning stages of scheduling and organizing programming for the Fall and we look forward to sharing information about them as they are ironed out and get closer.

♥♥♥♥♥ Douglas Brace - doug@dougbrace.com ♥♥♥♥♥



Yoga in the Grove

AN OUTDOOR YOGA
SESSION TO LET YOU
CONNECT WITH
NATURE

Yoga is a beautiful mind-body practice to ease stress and find balance on and off the mat. Learn how to "move" better in your body. This all level class will be held outside in the beautiful grove of Union UCC

Dates: Thursdays June 5th through September 25
Time: 6-7pm

Things to bring: yoga mat, a beach towel, water, strap and blocks(optional)

Payment: \$8 drop in (with a portion of proceeds given back to the church)

Preferred payment links: Venmo: sharon-schnyder OR PayPal: paypal.me/sharonschnyder however cash or check will be accepted as well.

Classes will be held rain or shine as we have access to the covered pavilion. I will however notify you on my blog (1asanamama.blogspot.com) and Facebook page if I need to cancel class for any reason.

Are you ready to join the fight against hunger? If so join us in October as we pack more than 100,000 meals!

Our next Feed My Starving Children Meal Packing Event will take place October 10-12th. To achieve our goal we will need 500 volunteers and will have to raise \$30,000 to pay for the ingredients. Volunteer registration will begin in September and the fund-raising efforts have already begun. Last year our meals went to support children in Ukraine. To support this event please use the QR Code below, visit <https://give.fmssc.org/lehigh> or make checks out to FMSC and include our event number 2510-090MI.



We are also partnering with The Red Tomato Pizzeria to raise funds for our meal packing event.



From when they open Friday May 9th until they close Sunday May 11th The Red Tomato will donate a portion of all sales to help us reach our fund-raising goal. Please consider supporting our event by ordering and help spread the word to friends and family. Each FMSC meals costs 29 cents so each dollar raised goes a long way. (Third parties such as DoorDash, Uber Eats, ect. Not included.)

 3626 Route 309 Orefield, PA 18069

 610-398-8999

 info@theredtomatopizzeria.com



Graduating in 2025?

Let us celebrate your accomplishments!

If you're graduating from High School, College, Grad School, or BEYOND...we want to celebrate you!

Submit your information via the Google form below or the information form in your bulletin. Then join us in worship on June 8, 2025 to honor you! Google form: <https://forms.gle/pcpHdnAsM7uNypM17>

Baptisms: We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Our upcoming date is **May 18 2025**. 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. The pastors will work with you if the scheduled dates are a conflict.

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.

Food and Toiletry Donations: You're invited to bring non perishable food and toiletry donations at anytime to help our local food bank. Place items in the shopping cart in the lobby. Needed items: cereal, soup, pasta/sauce, peanut butter/jelly, vegetables, fruit, toothpaste/brush, shampoo, deodorant, soap, baby items. Thanks!

UNION UCC STAFF

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prechool@unionucc.org
Director: Rebekah Millroy



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Facebook

www.facebook.com/unionneffs