

Word and World: Steadfast Love Word Psalm 118, 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24 World International Picnic Day (18 June) International Sushi Day

June 22, 2025 10:30am Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

GUESTS, Welcome to our faith community. To learn more about us please visit our website at www.unionucc.org or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/unionneffs. Let us know you're here by completing the Welcome Card in the racks in front of you.

Vision Statement

UNION UCC: RELEVANT, ENGAGED, and GROWING

Mission Statement

Our church is a diverse family of believers, spiritually united in Christ, rooted in a rich heritage and growing with vitality into the future. We proclaim God's word, nurturing and inspiring dedicated Christian discipleship through worship, education, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach within our community and the world.

No matter who you are or where you on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Union UCC is an Open and Affirming (ONA) Community.

Lay Reader: Janice Metzger Ushers: Eric Minnich, Gene Thrash, Jason Klinger, Marlene Blose, Dale Blose, Kim Pentland, Andy Dyszel Greeters: Carol Pope, Ron Pope, Johanna & Greg Zellner Sound: Karl Klinger

Prelude Music

Blessed Assurance

Fanny J. Crosby, Phoebe P. Knapp Blake Hoppes

Welcome to Union UCC! Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: In word, in act, in thought, in deed, in song, in story, in compassion, in relationship, in prayer, in hymn, in poetry, in worship. In all we do, and in all we are, we shout thanks to our God.

Prayer of Adoration And Confession

This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. We come together today to recognise that we put our trust in you. We sing your praises together, as neighbor and friend. In community we can hold each other in prayer and give praise for each unique individual. We give thanks for the upcoming months of summer, for lighter days with less responsibility, for upcoming holiday clubs and camps. Make your presence felt among your people and let your stories be known in their lives. Merciful God. we rely on your abundant compassion, when we quench the Spirit, when we do not follow your instruction and when we hurt your beloved children. We do not abstain from every form of evil. Sometimes we even hurt ourselves. We ask your forgiveness in each unique situation.

Silence

We take the words of the psalmist:

you are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Amen.

SONG

ALL: I come to the garden alone While the dew is still on the roses And the voice I hear falling on my ear The Son of God discloses.

And He walks with me, and He talks with me, And He tells me I am His own; And the joy we share as we tarry there, None other has ever known.

#588 Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God

Passing Joy

The Joy of Christ be with you. And also with you.

I invite you to share the JOY of Christ with those around you, [remembering to greet those online with a wave to the camera].

*Please rise in body or spirit to greet each other and for the first song.

*Hymn #403 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less Black Hymnal/New Century Hymnal

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness.

I dare not trust this earthly frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When shadows veil my Savior's face, I rest upon unchanging grace. In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. (Refrain)

Christ's oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the rising flood. When all around my soul gives way, Christ then is all my hope and stay. (Refrain)

Please be seated.

Children Are Invited forward to go with Ms. Tiffany Adults: You are the "where?" response!



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.

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy Down in my heart (where?) Down in my heart (where?) Down in my heart I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy Down in my heart (where?) Down in my heart to stay

I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus Down in my heart (where?) Down in my heart (where?) Down in my heart I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus Down in my heart (where?) Down in my heart to stay

I've got the peace that passes understanding Down in my heart (where?) Down in my heart (where?) Down in my heart I've got the peace that passes understanding Down in my heart (where?) Down in my heart to stay

I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer Way down in the depths of my heart (where?) Down in the depths of my heart (where?) Down in the depths of my heart I've got the wonderful love of my blessed Redeemer Way down in the depths of my heart (where?) Down in the depths of my heart to stay

Resuming September 14: Children's Church – during 10:30am Worship for ages 3-grade 5. Kids start in worship with their family and are invited forward for a children's time, They then leave with Ms. Tiffany and return before worship is over. They will return to worship before it's over and if not, please pick up your children in Room 100. If you want your child to stay in worship with you, please let them know.

Returning September 7: Kids are also invited to the Education Hour and Faith Formation for All Ages – 9:15-

10:15am on Sundays, ages 3 to grade 7.

Reflection How does it feel? Rejected. Ignored. Belittled. Cast aside. Useless. Left on the scrapheap. How do others see us? How do we see ourselves? And what of God? How does God see us? Beloved. Belonging. United. Valued. Honored. Trusted.

The rejected stone, no use to the builders, becomes the cornerstone in God's kin-dom building. How does it feel?

Scripture Reading Psalm 118

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

his steadfast love endures forever!*

Let Israel say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."-

Let the house of Aaron say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

Let those who fear the LORD say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

Out of my distress I called on the LORD;

the LORD answered me and set me in a broad place.

With the LORD on my side I do not fear.

What can mortals do to me?-

The LORD is on my side to help me;

I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.*

It is better to take refuge in the LORD

than to put confidence in mortals.*

It is better to take refuge in the LORD

than to put confidence in princes.[±]

All nations surrounded me;

in the name of the LORD I cut them off!

They surrounded me, surrounded me on every side;

in the name of the LORD I cut them off!

They surrounded me like bees;

they blazed^f like a fire of thorns;

in the name of the LORD I cut them off!

I was pushed hard,^g so that I was falling,

but the LORD helped me.

The LORD is my strength and my might;

he has become my salvation.*

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;" the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."-I shall not die, but I shall live and recount the deeds of the LORD. The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.¹ I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.[±] The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.*

This is the LORD's doing;

it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.h

Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!

O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.¹

We bless you from the house of the LORD.*

The Lord is God,

and he has given us light.

Bind the festal procession with branches,

up to the horns of the altar.i*

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

you are my God; I will extol you.*

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever.*

1 Thessalonionas 5: 12-24

12But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; 13esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. 14And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. 15See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. 16Rejoice always, 17pray without ceasing, 18give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 19Do not quench the Spirit. 20Do not despise the words of prophets, 21but test everything; hold fast to what is good; 22abstain from every form of evil.

All Sing:

ALL Sing: I, the Lord of sea and sky I have heard my people cry All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save

I, who made the stars of night I will make their darkness bright Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night I will go, Lord, if you lead me I will hold your people in my heart

Here I Am, Lord Schutte

The Message Steadfast Rock Pastor Kris

PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

All Sing:

In times of brokenness, in every wilderness God has seen us through Times when our strength was gone Somehow we carried on God has seen us through

Look behind and see throughout history God has never let us down Lean ahead and trust God is guiding us God is with us here right now

God will see me through God will see you through God will see us through somehow Step by step we'll be given all we need God will see us through this now God Will See Us Through Sirchio

NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF GOD'S CHURCH



OFFERING

Be an ambassador for Union UCC and tell your friends and neighbors about our church! Thank you for your prayers, participation, and financial

support which helps us be a church that is relevant, engaged, and growing!

•`ELECTRONIC GIVING https://secure.myvanco.com/L-

Z51X/home or use the QR code with your cell phone. Choose an ongoing regular donation or a single donation with your credit or debit card. (Help us with fees if you can.)

 FREE Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app Look for our church Union United Church of Christ, Neffs, PA and register your information to contribute.

 Venmo @unionuccneffs Make a donation or pay for a fundraiser or event. Complete "What's this for?" See QR code.

• Cash or checks (to "Union UCC") Place in the offering plate with a member offering envelope or quest envelope (in the seat racks) or drop in the mail if you're not in person.

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.

Music Offering

Ernest Gold, Pat Boone Exodus **Blake Hoppes**

*Please stand in body or spirit.

ALL Sing: Dream God's dream Holy Spirit, help us dream... Of a world where there is justice, and where everyone is free To build and grow and love And to simply have enough The world will change when we dream God's dream

Dream God's Dream Slrchio **Prayer Of Dedication**

O God.

Electronic Giving

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our joy in giving comes in our ability to give and from the respect we have for the labors we do that enables our giving. May we never labor in vain, and never for our own glory. We ask your blessing on the gift as well as the giver. May we hold the gospel story in our hearts and share it with those we meet, as joyfully as we share our offerings today. O give thanks to the Lord, with all our hearts. Amen.

Sending

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good, and God's steadfast love endures forever. May we go from our worship today thankful for the love we have experienced, grateful for the friendship, and committed to live each day prayerfully and joyously.

*Hymn Jesus Is the Rock and He Rolls My Blues Away Tony Congi Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,) Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,) Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

When you wake up in the morning And the sky ain't bright and blue (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

When you wake up in the morning And the big world's after you (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,) When you wake up in the morning Jesus' gonna pull you through. (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,) Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,) Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

When you're out on the streets And you're really feelin' down and low, (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

When you're out on the streets And there's really no place to go, (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

When you're out on the streets Well, Jesus gonna save your soul. (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,) Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,) Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

When you look in the mirror And your face causes it to crack; (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

When you're through with your day And you feel like you've been attacked, **(Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)** Well, Jesus gonna love you And baby now that's a fact. (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,) Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,) Jesus Is The Rock And He Rolls My Blues Away (Bop Shoe Bop, Bop Shoe Bop,)

10:30 Worship SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Union United Church of Christ, Neffs, Pa Eric Minnich, Consistory President presiding

For those of you at home:

Please log in or call in to our zoom meeting. There is a waiting room, please be patient until someone lets you into the meeting. Please mute yourself once you are in the meeting. We may ask you your name in order to identify everyone present and be sure that we have a quorum. The agenda and other documents were emailed to you or will be available to see on your screen. Thank you for being a part of the work that we do as God's church.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84558856773? pwd=2bbjnv8Lvg7XDNIOjN3Njbu6sG8QAH.1 Meeting ID: 845 5885 6773 Passcode: 123911

Postlude Music

Blest Be the Tie That Binds Us Together Bob Gillman, Arr. Mark Hayes Blake Hoppes

Worship Theme adapted from www.spillthebeans.org.uk

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week		
Last Week		8 AM		-
Calendar Year 2025		10:30 AM		72
(Jan.May)	\$164,672.00	Online Views		134
Calendar Year 2024 (Jan May)	\$ 169,837.00	Sunday School		
27	-3.0%	God First		32
Change from Last Year		Faith on Tap		30
Budget FY 2024-25 <i>(July-</i> <i>May)</i>	\$ 387,990.00	Breathe		10
Actual Fiscal Year-to- Date <i>(July-May)</i>	\$389,400.00	2025 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:		
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-0.4%	Last Week:	\$, 300lbs	
Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes		Total	\$90	00, 2,795lbs

One Great Hour of Sharing to date: \$990.00

Presentations to the Glory of God

6/25 Happy 60th Birthday to me? Pastor Kris. Watch for celebration details!!!

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