



— Union UCC —

5550 RTE 873  
PO Box 66  
Neffs, PA 18065

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, August 24, 2025

Rev. Kris Penrose Snyder, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Kayli L. Freeman, Associate Pastor  
Nikki Pentland, Faith Formation Minister of Children  
Mr. Blake Hoppes, Minister of Music

Sarah Stoll, Church Administrator  
Barbara Carinci, Financial Manager  
Ryleigh Minnich, Claire Puia, Payge Haydt  
Sunday Set-up  
Dan Haftl, 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.

Peace and love for each and every person and the world, Jillian, military personnel, sister for good test results, daughter for strength and healing, Lucas and Stella, Joyce with cancer, Rich, Judy, Joe, Gladys Kuhns, Donna for the loss of her precious dog, Ruth and her family to find peace, our new office administrator Sarah, for daughter Sherry for a swift recovery, Brad having cancer treatments, Suzanne and Annie, Healing for Bruce, Kathy with her cancer battle, Brad with cancer, Darrell, Charlie, Dolly and the Mulcahy family, Connie's family and friends

Thanksgiving for all of the donations of socks and underwear this summer and for the medical debt fundraiser donations!

## Hospital Information for the Pastors

The hospitals no longer use the code system to notify us if you are in the hospital. If you are in the hospital and would like a pastor to visit you, call you, or pray with you please contact the church office or a pastor directly or ask a family member or friend to do so. We are grateful when we have a chance to support you through life's challenges.

Church Office 610-767-6961 Pastor Kris Snyder 610-657-6007

# Worship Schedule

**Sundays 8am and 10:30am  
at church and online**

**September 7- Prayers of Complaint**

8am worship returns

**September 14- Prayers of Thanksgiving**

Children's Education Hour at 9:15am resumes

**September 21- Prayers of Protection**

Baptism; Children's Church Resumes at 10:30 Worship

**September 28- Prayers of Intercession (for others)**

Harvest Home

**October 5- Communion**

September Worship Theme: Prayer  
This is not intended as a 'How to...' kind of series. Rather it is going to explore some examples of prayer from the Scriptures with the intent of delving more deeply into the nature of prayer, forms of prayer, and the content of prayer. Through these examples we hope to let the Scripture speak to us in our own faith lives, in our own contexts, to consider what prayer means to us.



## ***Summer Coffee Hour***



**Sundays after 10:30 worship.  
Stop by the lobby (Grove on Outdoor  
Worship Sundays) for some cool  
lemonade, juice, water, and a snack and  
visit with friends and pastors.**

**Anyone is welcome to bring fruit, baked  
goods, or snacks to share anytime!**



## ***Holy Grounds Coffee Hour***

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



Upcoming Hosts:

Sep 7 and 14 - Sunday Staff

Sep 21 - Fellowship Committee

Sep 28 - Consistory



## The Chemo Bag Project:

On Sunday, July 20, 2025, a group of sixteen church members, neighbors and friends worked together to **complete 67 port pillows onsite in about 3 hours**. Plus, some participants took home to finish **dozens more** pieces that were cut or ready to stuff or ready to sew shut. **125 additional pillows** that people made at home were also dropped off in the church lobby. All of the pillows made at and donated via our church get included with other comfort and care items in the hundreds of Bag of Hope totes that The Chemo Bag delivers monthly to infusion centers throughout the Greater Lehigh Valley and surrounding areas. Unfortunately, there is that much ongoing need, just in our area.

**Thanks, Deb**, for explaining to us the benefit these pillows provide to patients with implanted chemotherapy ports and for teaching us to make the pillows. **Thank you** to the **non-sewers** who suggested that we organize group sessions in which they could help by cutting and prepping materials and bagging and tagging completed pillows! **Thank you** to all the **home sewers** and the **group session sewers** for providing your tools, materials, skills and time! **Thank you** to **everyone who donated** fabric, Velcro, thread, stuffing, baggies and printed paper inserts to supply our pillow making!

**Whether or not you can sew, you're welcome to help at the next Group Chemo Port Pillow Making Session at Neffs Union UCC, after services, about 12noon - 3 pm on Sunday, September 7th in Fellowship Hall.**





**MOBILEPACK™**

**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 10-12<sup>th</sup>. 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.fmsc.org/lehigh> Make checks out to FMSC and include our event number 2510-090MI, or make checks to "Union, UCC" and put FMSC in the memo.



## KIDVENTURE SUMMER

**May 25th to August 31st**

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



**UPCOMING HOSTING WEEK:  
September 28 - October 5, 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 Gloelli, Dennis Foster, Phil and Julie Wehr, Susan Glosan





**Sight & Sound  
NOAH  
Saturday  
November 1st  
7:00 PM  
by Perkiomen Tours**

**We only have 3 seats still available - contact Ron ASAP**

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: \$170.00 (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. Includes Perkiomen Driver  
gratuity.

Pay to "Union UCC" by mail or to office or by Venmo@unionuccneffs

Questions and more details please contact

Ron Pope - ron.v.76@gmail.com or 484-695-9988

## *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.

### **Look for these opportunities to return in September:**

**Breathe** – a monthly service of prayer, scripture, music, singing bowls,  
Communion, and a quiet chance to catch your breath.

**Labyrinth Walks** – at various times, open houses to stop by and retreat mornings  
or evenings.

**Faith on Tap** – a night of God, Food, and Drink at Kornfeind's Tavern with church  
and community friends.

**God First Wednesdays** - the first Wednesday night of the month 5:30-7:30pm is a  
time to put God first with activities for everyone, includes supper to start and a  
closing time of worship.

**Adult Education Classes on Friday mornings 9:30-11am and Sunday Morning  
9:15-10:15am**

**Golden Times for Senior Adults**

**Sunday School during Education Hour on Sundays at 9:15 for all ages**

**Confirmation Class**

Dear Friends, Family, and Church Friends,

I never thought turning 60 could feel this good!

I am overwhelmed by your support of this fundraiser to erase medical debt. **Together we raised over \$10,000!** There is \$132 million dollars of debt in Pennsylvania alone. **We have helped to erase at least \$1 million of that debt in PA!**

I cried when the first donation came in 3 months ago and I've been crying almost every day since then with each of your donations. Hard tears, knowing that so many folks are struggling right now. And, good tears, knowing that together, we are bringing some ease, peace, and joy back into people's lives.

***I think we often feel that alone there's not much we can do to make a difference in the world. But together, well together, and with God's help, we can do so much more. Which is what we just did in a simple yet important way.***

Check out the website <https://unduemedicaldebt.org> to learn more about this agency's work and to hear the powerful stories of lives transformed by support like ours. One of the biggest gifts people receive is the repair of credit scores and the improvement of economic security allowing them to rebuild their lives. Some of you shared your own stories of knowing what this kind of debt is like. I think many of us are one crisis away from knowing this could be us.

Last year 5 churches in Bethlehem did this fundraiser. They raised \$25,000 and erased \$3 million dollars of debt. For just a moment, they erased ALL of the medical debt at that time that existed in the Lehigh Valley.

I wonder if the churches in our area would want to work together to make an even bigger impact on this concern and issue in the future? It's something to think about and pray about. Could we do even more together?

Thank you for joining me in honoring the life we live and the faith we walk with your incredible and powerful gift of presence, faith, hope, and love.

Thanks to everyone who came to the party and to everyone who donated. Thank you for all the birthday love and care for this old lady.

My heart is more than full, Pastor Kris



**Thank you to everyone who  
supported and helped with  
our Shakespears in the Grove  
and Faith and Food Truck Nights  
This Summer**

**We had a wonderful summer of additional events to  
enjoy with the chance to share our grove  
with our church friends and the community.**

Special thanks to:

The Shakespeare Festival and Vince's Cheesesteaks

Valerie Borman and Buns on the Go

Steel Creek, The Iron Grille and the Udder Bar

Woodside Avenue and Grumpy's BBQ

The Mattern Family Music Fund

**AND Thank you to ALL OF OUR AWESOME VOLUNTEERS!**

See you at the BBQ Bash on September 20<sup>th</sup>!  
Then it's Lights in the Grove with Santa on December 6.



It's time to celebrate our members who have been  
members at Union UCC for 1-19 years!  
We celebrated our members of 40 or more years last  
Fall, and our members for 20-39 years last Spring.  
Now it's time to celebrate you!  
Join us at church on October 5<sup>th</sup> at 8am or 10:30am.  
Let a pastor know if you'd like to be part of a video  
interview where you can share the story of belonging  
here and what it means to you.  
We'll share the videos during October and November.



# BBQ BASH

## Saturday, Sept. 20

Another great night of music under the trees in our grove...

Union UCC in Neffs

5550 Route 873 Neffs, PA

Free Admission 5:30-8:30pm

**Food: Lorah's Pig Roasters**

\$12 1/2 Chicken or

Pulled Pork Sandwich Dinners



**Music: TimeWhys**



Church food stand opens at 4pm with hot dogs, sides, desserts & ice cream.

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

**Your support helps us support our community ~ Thank you!**

**Band Sponsors:**

*Heintzelman Funeral Home &*

*The Law Offices of Steckel and Stopp*



*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.

Thank you to our team for finishing our community needs assessment interviews. We learned so much and can't wait to find new ways to be the church in our community! Over the Summer, this information will be reviewed along with the mapping information we received from our consultant and we will work on integrating it with our marketing plan and case statement for visioning and implementing ministry and mission goals.

After 2 years of work, we are taking a break from the major pieces of the Leadership Planning Team process for a sabbath rest and to honor the challenging time we are in. We have postponed doing a feasibility study for renovating Memorial Hall from the Fall of 2025 until sometime in 2026. Continue to pray for God's guidance and blessing as we seek to be relevant, engaged, and growing here in Neffs.

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



## **You Belong Here! Welcome home to Union UCC!**

New Member Information 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 using 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, October 19th at 11:30-12:30 in Memorial Hall where coffee hour is. You would be received in church on Sunday, October 26th 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://bit.ly/unionuccnewmember>  
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.

## *Faith on Tap*

Wednesday, September 24  
6:30-8:30pm



### **God. Conversation. Food & Drink.**

**Korny's Tavern at Kornfeind's Market**

**2228 Old Post Rd, Coplay**

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/fotseptember2025>**



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

*Thanks Kornfeind's Market!*

## **GOD FIRST WEDNESDAYS**

**Supper, Small Groups For Kids & Adults,  
Worship**

**Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 3  
5:30-7:30pm**

**Putting God First on First Wednesdays**



## HARVEST HOME WILL BE CELEBRATED ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 2025.

Bring your canned goods, produce, cut flowers, cornstalks, herbs, etc. Food collected will be given to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank. Sponsor the purchase of Mums for display. Please an order by filling out the form below. Make checks payable to Union UCC or order on our website under "Give Online" or by scanning the QR code below.

Deadline to sponsor is **September 14th.**



I will pick up my mums following the service \_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_ NO

Giver (envelope) # \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of Mums \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8 per Mum = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor Of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of: \_\_\_\_\_

## Staff Position Still Needed:

**Facility Cleaner:** Union UCC is looking for someone who is trustworthy, reliable and available weekly and has an interest in caring for our building, keeping it clean and welcoming for everyone who comes here. This job is a 4 hour a week job and includes cleaning the bathrooms, sanctuary, sacristy kitchen, basement kitchen, and additional monthly and seasonal jobs. Hours can be flexible, end of the week is preferred for some items. Additional hours are available and sometimes requested. This position works closely with the Facility Caretaker, our other custodian. Hourly rate is \$17/hour. If you are interested in applying for this position please contact Pastor Kris at [pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org)





# Succulent Pumpkin Workshop

Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup> 7PM  
appetizers served @6:30



Plant your ceramic pumpkin with a variety of succulents, then accent with dried florals, grasses and decorative moss.

This pumpkin will last throughout the fall season!

with



Union UCC  
5550 PA 873

Neffs, PA 18065  
(Enter at Neffs/North Side of church, basement entrance)

\*RSVP by 10/14/25\*

Venmo, Square  
or make checks payable to  
Gallivanting Greenhouse,  
attn Pastor Kris at Union UCC

Cost \$30- Venmo/Square to  
Gallivanting Greenhouse



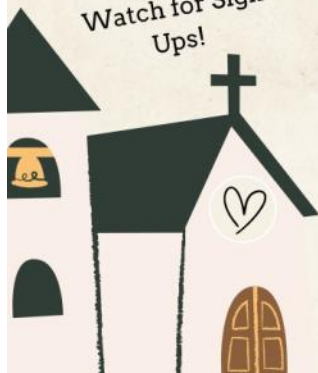
# Love Your Neighbor

## Community Outreach Day

# Saturday, November 15

*Together, we can do so much more!*

Save the Date,  
Watch for Sign  
Ups!



Our churches will share in a day of service projects like Habitat for Humanity, packing toiletry and clean up kits, and yard clean ups for church members.

Participating Churches include:

- Union UCC, Neffs;
- St. John's UCC Laury's Station;
- Jordan UCC, Allentown;
- Heidelberg Union, Slatington;
- Good Shepherd UCC, Slatington;
- Grace UCC Northampton,
- St. John's UCC, Fullerton.

## Women's Retreat Weekend

April 17-19, 2026

Tuscarora Retreat Center, Mt. Bethel

<https://www.tuscarora.org/>

\$175 - \$88 deposit due now, until Dec 1.

\$87 balance due March 1.

Payment plans & assistance available.

**Checks to Union UCC,**

**Memo Line – Women's Retreat**

Friends and Family members are welcome too.

Only 30 spots available.

Leader: Pastor Kris

Planning Team: Donna Christman, Diane Schaller, Julie Johnson, Sue Steinmann, Val Borman, Julie Wehr



## SCHOOL SUPPLY DONATION COLLECTION

**AUGUST-SEPTEMBER**

Donations can be dropped off in the donation boxes on the porch or brought to worship on Sundays.

We are collecting items such as:

- ✓ Backpacks
- ✓ Lunch Bags
- ✓ Pencils/Pens
- ✓ Markers/ Crayons
- ✓ Target gift cards (\$10-\$20)
- ✓ Glue Sticks/ Erasers
- ✓ Spiral Notebooks
- ✓ Pencil Cases
- ✓ Kids Scissors

## Education Blessing

8/31, 9/7, & 9/14

All students, educators, and school employees will receive a special blessing to begin the new school year.







**TRUNK  
OR  
TREAT**

**October 18th 1pm-3pm**  
**FREE EVENT**

UNION UCC GROVE PARKING LOT  
& UNION LUTHERAN PARKING LOT  
SAFE FAMILY FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION

**Lots of Candy!**  
**Hot dogs, pizza, soft pretzels, & drinks too!**  
Register to decorate a car here:

<https://bit.ly/trunkortreat2025>

Would you, your business, or organization  
like to decorate a car and be part of this fun event?  
Please register.  
**5550 PA-873 Neffs, PA**

## *Spread the Good News*

Your support is especially important now as we work to provide spiritual care and connection for members and the community both online and in person.

**Good News Sponsor-** for \$20 help us cover the costs of advertising on social media, mailings, and local papers.

**Children's Bulletin Sponsor-** for \$8 cover the cost of bulletins for children. Send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News or Children's Bulletin.

**Contact us to sign up for a certain date or to sponsor in honor or memory of someone.**

**Baptisms:** We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Our next dates are **September 21, 2025 and January 11, 2026.** . 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 Sarah Stoll at [administrator@unionucc.org](mailto: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

**Rev. Kris P. Snyder**

Senior Pastor  
Cell Phone: 610-657-6007  
[pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 24

**Rev. Kayli Freeman**

Associate Pastor  
[pastorkayli@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkayli@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 25

**Nikki Pentland**

Faith Formation Minister  
Of Children

**Sarah Stoll**

Church Administrator  
[administrator@unionucc.org](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 21

**Blake Hoppes**

Minister of Music  
[Blake.charger@gmail.com](mailto:Blake.charger@gmail.com)  
Ext. 26

**Ori Handwerk**

Facility Caretaker  
[Caretaker@unionucc.org](mailto:Caretaker@unionucc.org)

**Barbara Carinci**

Financial Manager  
[financialmanager@unionucc.org](mailto:financialmanager@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 32

**Church Office:**

610-767-6961  
Fax: 610-767-7128

PO Box 66,  
5550 Route 873  
Neffs PA 18065-0066  
[www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org)

**Preschool Office:**

610-767-5327  
[prechool@unionucc.org](mailto:prechool@unionucc.org)  
Director: Rebekah Mill-roy



Find us on  
**Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/unionneffs](http://www.facebook.com/unionneffs)