



**October 12th, 2025
8:00 am & 10:30am
Healing Service/Pray with a Pastor**

Collaboration

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 Readers: 8 am– Ron Pope; 10:30 am– Doug Brace

Ushers: 8 am– Kerry Snyder, Tom Anderson, Larry Todd, Lorie Hackett
10:30 am– Eric Minnich, Julie Johnson, Karen Nuschke, Ralph Gioielli,
Carol James

Greeters: George & Val Borman, Geoff & Sara Jane Brace

Sound: Patrick Sorg

A Changemaker is a risk-taker, someone who puts their faith into action to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Jesus was a Changemaker. The Good News is... so are we.

Made in the image of God, sharing in the purposes of Jesus, empowered by the Spirit, we are the "assets" we've been looking for. Our wealth lies in the Compassion, Collaboration, Creativity, and Empowerment that sustains us through change, for change, for the sake of a better world. Join us as we hatch new ideas and fly to new heights, risking something big for something good.

PRAYERS WITH A PASTOR

During the postlude you are invited to come to the railing if you would like to have a pastor pray with you or to receive a blessing. Pastors will offer a blessing of anointing oil on your hand or forehead.

Prelude Music Walk on the Water

Jazz Ensemble: Blake Hoppes, piano; Craig Knauss, clarinet; Mike Baer, guitar; Mitchell Roth, trumpet; Malcolm MacKenzie, bass

**Welcome to Union UCC!
Welcome & Announcements**

The Call to Fly

The first thing Jesus did, in every version of the story we have about him, was to go out and find other people to come with him.

Twelve disciples, called right from the beginning-not to worship Jesus or to promote his reputation, but to walk right beside him, to learn everything he knew, to do the same things he did. He sent them out, early and often, to practice healing and teaching, just like he was doing. They didn't always get it right. Sometimes they got busy, or distracted, or afraid. Often, they forgot the instructions.

SONG

**ALL: In my dreams I can fly
and I soar**

**and my feet touch the sky
and it seems I can go anywhere if I try
and the world's not so dark
when the clouds make it white
If there's no hope
tell me why
in my dreams I can fly**

Jesus didn't do this work alone and you can't, either. The key thing Jesus did when starting ministry was to gather a group of people, a team of disciples. He didn't do it alone but in collaboration. Partnerships and joining others are essential parts of changemaking. Like the African proverb: "If you want to go fast, do it alone. If you want to go far, do it together."

**ALL: In our dreams we can fly
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Fly Bobby Jo Valentine

Call to Confession

We are called to make change together, but working with other people is hard. Let us confess the times that we have failed to be in community.

Holy One, you are a God of relationships. Hence, the Trinity!
You call us to be in relationship. You call us to
be changemakers together.

But all too often, we try to make change on our own.

We say it is because the need is too urgent,
but the truth is, we don't want to take time to listen to others.

We say it is because we work best alone,
but the truth is, we don't want to give up control.

We say that we don't need other people,
but the truth is, we are just afraid to be vulnerable.

All: Forgive us.

For the ways in which we have failed to love others,
and in turn, to love you, we ask your forgiveness.

Forgive us for when we failed to trust.

Forgive us for when we failed to risk vulnerability.

Forgive us, and change us again.

Remake us into the Body of Christ.

**Re-member us as one community so that we, together,
can be changemakers in the world. Amen.**

Assurance and Peace

Hear this assurance of Good News: Jesus said he would be with us always. This is the nature of the Divine—we are never alone. The presence of God was made real to humanity through Jesus, and the Spirit is the Advocate that Jesus said would remain in every breath of our lives and beyond. Made in the image of this Divine Love, our true nature is to be with and for one another. It is part of who we are, and we have everything we need to unleash this collaborative spirit.

Peace be with you!

And also with you!

As forgiven and freed people through Christ,
let us pass the peace of Christ with one another.

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

***Hymn #611 Precious Lord, Take My Hand**
Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God

**Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand, precious Lord
Lead me home**

**When my way grows drear
Precious Lord, linger near
When my light is almost gone
Hear my cry, hear my call
Hold my hand, lest I fall
Take my hand precious Lord
Lead me home**

**Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light
Take my hand precious Lord
Lead me home**

Please be seated.

Sundays at 10:30am: Worship Children's Church 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. Nikki 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.

10:30 Worship Children's Time

ALL SING (Words are on the video too!)

**We can be a changemaker,
change the world.**

Make a better place for everyone!

Changemaker!

**Just one small change
can make a difference every day
make a difference every day!**

Be A Changemaker

AI Start

Also on Sundays 9:15-10:15 am, ages 3 to grade 7. Kids are invited to the Education Hour with Ms. Nikki and Leaders.

Watch for God First Wednesdays ⁵ and other events too!

8 & 10:30 Music Offering: Old Time Religion

Jazz Ensemble: Blake Hoppes, piano; Craig Knauss, clarinet;
Mike Baer, guitar; Mitchell Roth, trumpet; Malcolm MacKenzie,
bass

Prayer of Illumination

**Holy One, help us to hear the Gospel as if for the first time.
Free us of our self-centeredness, and help us to see how this
Good News**

is for our wider community and the entire world.

**May this story show us the way
to become a compassion-driven changemaker, like Jesus,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

A Story about Compassion

Luke 10:1-11 (CEB)

After these things, the Lord commissioned seventy-two others and sent them on ahead in pairs to every city and place he was about to go. He said to them, "The harvest is bigger than you can imagine, but there are few workers. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest. Go! Be warned, though, that I'm sending you out as lambs among wolves. Carry no wallet, no bag, and no sandals. Don't even greet anyone along the way. Whenever you enter a house, first say, 'May peace be on this house.' If anyone there shares God's peace, then your peace will rest on that person. If not, your blessing will return to you. Remain in this house, eating and drinking whatever they set before you, for workers deserve their pay.

Don't move from house to house. Whenever you enter a city and its people welcome you, eat what they set before you. Heal the sick who are there, and say to them, 'God's kingdom has come upon you.' Whenever you enter a city and the people don't welcome you, go out into the streets and say, 'As a complaint against you, we brush off the dust of your city that has collected on our feet. But know this: God's kingdom has come to you.'"

Video: When Your Dream Wakes Up

Bobby Jo Valentine

Our song by Bobby Jo Valentine this week is one about the

moment when a dream wakes up in our lives. He describes the fight within ourselves between listening to fear or honoring the dream that is growing inside of us. As we think about collaboration this week as an asset for changemaking, we can think about collaborating with our dreams and being invited to share our dreams with each other. As he says, "It's OK if you are scared; we're all afraid that we are not enough. Just make sure you are prepared when your dream wakes up."

Lectio Divina

Mark 6:30-44 (CEB)

Last week, we began reading another scripture that we will hear every week of this series. It is the story of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes from the Gospel of Mark. We are hearing various versions of the story in order to discover something new each week about the nature of changemaking. Repeating a scripture multiple times is an ancient Christian tradition called "lectio divina." Hear now another version of this story:

The apostles then rendezvoused with Jesus and reported on all that they had done and taught. Jesus said, "Come off by yourselves; let's take a break and get a little rest." For there was constant coming and going. They didn't even have time to eat. So they got in the boat and went off to a remote place by themselves. Someone saw them going and the word got around. From the surrounding towns people went out on foot, running, and got there ahead of them. When Jesus arrived, he saw this huge crowd. At the sight of them, his heart broke—like sheep with no shepherd they were. He went right to work teaching them.

When his disciples thought this had gone on long enough—it was now quite late in the day—they interrupted: "We are a long way out in the country, and it's very late. Pronounce a benediction and send these folks off so they can get some supper."

Jesus said, "You do it. Fix supper for them."

They replied, "Are you serious? You want us to go spend a fortune on food for their supper?"

But he was quite serious. "How many loaves of bread do you have? Take an inventory."

That didn't take long. "Five," they said, "plus two fish."

Jesus got them all to sit down in groups of fifty or a hundred—they looked like a patchwork quilt of wildflowers spread out on the green grass! He took the five loaves and two fish, lifted his face to heaven in prayer, blessed, broke, and gave the bread to the disciples, and the disciples in turn gave it to the people. He did the same with the fish. They all ate their fill. The disciples gathered twelve baskets of leftovers. More than five thousand were at the supper.

Sermon Pastor Kris

Looking to learn, study, or pray more?

Journals for this series can be found on the table in the Lobby. Here's a book our Friday and Sunday classes are doing. Copies are in the lobby.

Everywhere You Look: Discovering the Church Right Where You Are
Tim Soerens

Is the church really necessary anymore? Is it even possible? The author sees this unsettled time in the church as an extraordinary opportunity to the church in our everyday lives.

Prayers of the People

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.**

Song

Let Us Be Makers (verse 1)

[Sung to the tune of Blessed Assurance]

**ALL: Let us be makers, makers of change,
born of our passions, with limitless range.**

**We pray for guidance, we seek your grace;
be with us now, God, in this holy place.**

Celebrating and Blessing Our Members And Disciples of 1-19 Years

Video: Pam Minnich

NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF GOD'S CHURCH AT UNION

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 guest envelope (in the seat racks) or drop in the mail if you're not in person.

Please reach out to 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.



Electronic Giving



Vanco Mobile



Venmo

Music Offering: Climb Every Mountain
Craig Knauss with Blake Hoppes

Ritual of Offering: The Nest

Rev. Kathi McShane, the pastor of the congregation that founded The Changemaker Initiative, says this:

“Find your people. Make partnerships. Every small act of kindness and generosity changes the world in some way. Every Changemaker who makes a good and lasting impact—large or small—on the world does it with other people, not alone.”

Last week, we began to think about what being Changemakers might look like as we discerned where our hearts break for the world. Perhaps over the week you began to think about one small act of kindness or generosity, or one idea you'd like to work on. Today you are invited to imagine who you would like to talk to about your ideas.

What need in our community or our world is speaking most clearly to you in this moment, this week? What action are you being nudged to take? Talking out loud about an idea is the next step to seeing it take flight. Are there others in this congregation who could join you as the gestation of your idea takes place? Are there people you want to serve, who you want to listen to first rather than make assumptions about what they need?

Write an idea or a partner on the nesting strip of paper in your bulletin. Place your paper in the offering plate.

Please stand in body or spirit.

*** Offering Response**

Let Us Be Makers (verse 2)

[Sung to the tune of Blessed Assurance]

**Let us be makers, makers of change,
compassion and courage for each new exchange.
As we discern, God, our offerings now,
gift us and bless us, show us just how**

Changemaker Blessing

Blessed are the changemakers.
Blessed are you who are not asleep
to the world's pain and suffering.
Blessed are you who lament for the way things are.
Blessed are you who know, to the depth of your bones,
that this is not how things are meant to be.
Blessed are you for not believing the lie that
this is how they will always remain.
Blessed are you who know that things can change,
who long for things to change.
Blessed are you whose life's ambition is to bring the change
that is justice and mercy for all.
Blessed are you who know that God has always employed
the faithful acts
of ordinary people to heal and change this world.
Blessed are you who know that change begins today,
change begins with us,
and that we are blessed to be the changemakers.
Let the people say... **Amen!**

Dismissal

Now go into the world,
risking something big for something good.
Know that community is a vital resource for survival,
and that by working together, we can do great things.
And know that your passion will emerge from the nest
when the time is right... and fly!

***HYMN** I Will Bless the Lord at All Times

**I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good
I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good
I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good
I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good**

**He's good, so good, real good
And every day of my life
I'll bless the Lord, for He's good**

(Repeat from the top)

PRAYERS WITH A PASTOR

During the postlude you are invited to come to the railing if you would like to have a pastor pray with you or to receive a blessing.

Pastors will offer a blessing of anointing oil on your hand or forehead.

Postlude Music: I Surrender All

Jazz Ensemble: Blake Hoppes, piano; Craig Knauss, clarinet;
Mike Baer, guitar; Mitchell Roth, trumpet;
Malcolm MacKenzie, bass

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	\$7,691.00
<i>Calendar Year 2025 (Jan-September)</i>	\$ 274,871.00
<i>Calendar Year 2024 (Jan.-September)</i>	\$ 288,842.00
Change from Last Year	-4.8%
Budget FY 2025-2026 (<i>July-September</i>)	\$ 86,050.00
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date (<i>July-September</i>)	\$88,094.31
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	2.4%
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>	

Attendance Last Week	
8 AM	42
10:30 AM	134
Online Views	-
Sunday School	10
God First	-
Faith on Tap	28
Breathe	6

2025 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Last Week:	330 lbs \$80
YTD	3,875 Lbs \$1,335.00

Neighbors in Need: \$630.00

Presentations to the Glory of God

**In memory of Gordon Rothrock
by daughters Lucille Kuhns, Lana Reitz, and Leoma Kern**

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 Sarah to sign up for a certain date or to sponsor in honor or memory of someone.

