



**June 14th 2026  
dining with outcasts  
Baptism**

**GUESTS**, Welcome to our faith community. To learn more about us please visit our website at [www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org) or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/unionneffs](http://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 are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.***

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

### **Lay Reader**

Janice Metzger

### **Greeters**

Ralph & Connie Gioielli, Tracey & Rob Bilger

### **Ushers**

Janice Metzger, Julie Johnson, Karen Nuschke,  
Ralph & Connie Gioielli, Carol James

### **Sound**

Dawn Dengler

## **Worship Theme: The Gospel of Luke – The Ministry of Jesus**

This Summer we are embarking on a journey through the texts written by Luke: both his Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. Worship will include some beloved and familiar songs and some new ones. The pastors hope our time together in God's word and this place of worship will give you the space you need to move through your days and weeks knowing that this community travels with you and that God holds, nudges, and carries you as well.

Let's settle in and sink into God's love and grace as Spirit gathers us here.

### **Prelude Music**

He Leadeth Me William Bradbury  
**Blake Hoppes**

### **THE WHEN WE GATHER**

#### **Welcome & Announcements**

**We often share parts of worship responsively.**  
**Phrases in Bold = All Read**  
**Phrases NOT in bold = Leader**

#### **Call to Worship**

Leader: The feast is ready...

**All: always.**

Leader: The meal is set...

**All: always.**

Leader: The promise is offered...

**All: always.**

Leader: Your place is waiting for you...

**All: always.**

Leader: Come now to the place  
where the kingdom's generosity abounds  
and discover you are expected...

**All: always.**

#### **Prayer Of Adoration And Confession**

Feasting Bridegroom,  
we are so grateful that you invite  
everyone to the party.

Here we are gathering to worship  
on this feast day to praise your name  
in this space and across the world.

You welcome the lost  
and we have so much to learn  
about welcoming.

We put up barriers  
to prevent people worshipping,  
and we do not make  
it easier for people to know you.  
We create rules like fasting  
and don't even realize  
when the bridegroom is among us.

Forgive us:  
for our self-righteousness;  
for those we oppress, even unwittingly;  
for our unwillingness to recognize  
that you call all to follow you.  
Help us to forgive ourselves  
and each other  
and in hospitality encourage one another  
to join in the great banquet  
sharing our bread with the hungry.  
In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen.

### **God's Open Arms and Our Union UCC Welcome**

Leader: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
**ALL: You are welcome here.**

Leader: Welcome to this place and time of worship, prayer, and service.

**\*Please rise in body or spirit to greet each other with Christ's welcome and for the first song.**

**\*Hymn** Take My Life and Let It Be  
#458 Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God

**Take my life and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my hands and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love,  
at the impulse of thy love.**

**Take my feet and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee,  
Take my voice and let me sing  
always, only, for my King,  
always, only, for my King.**

Take my lips and let them be  
filled with messages from thee,  
Take my silver and my gold;  
not a mite would I withhold,  
not a mite would I withhold.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store.  
Take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee,  
ever, only, all for thee.

Please be seated.

10:30 Children's Time – Invite Children Forward

**SONG** Snowball Mountain Challenge (Theme Song)

Can you feel it in your heart?  
Can you feel it in your soul?  
Are you ready for the challenge?  
Do you wanna go?

As we move  
Into the great unknown,  
God provides  
Strength we've never known.

This is a Snowball (Snowball)  
Mountain (Mountain) Challenge!  
This is a Snow! (Snow!) Ball! (Ball!) Moun! (Moun!) Tain! (Tain)  
Challenge!  
No matter what the future brings,  
With Jesus we can do all things  
Snowball (Snowball) Mountain (Mountain) Challenge!

Let's go, let's go, let's go!

Activity Bags for children can  
be found at the doors.

No Children's Church  
June 21st & August 30th



We invite all youth, ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, to join us this summer as we explore the love and strength of our God. Kids begin worship with their families before being welcomed to Children's Church with Miss Nikki. Children will return before worship concludes.

During our outdoor services this summer, we will hold  
Children's Church in the Grove.

May 24th -  
August 23rd

Returning in  
September:  
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.

## 10:30 Sacrament of Baptism

Rowan James Geronikos, child of Rebecca (Fehnel) and James Geronikos

Ezekiel Christman Galvin, child of Sonya (Christman) and Keith Galvin  
Sponsors: Karrie & Chris Bixler

### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

All: We promise our love, support, and care.

#### All Sung:

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,  
With a faith to suit you well;

I'll be there in case you wander off and find where demons dwell.

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

### Scripture Reading

#### Luke 5:(27-28)29-39

After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up, left everything, and followed him. Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house; and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and others sitting at the table with them. The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus answered, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance." Then they said to him, "John's disciples, like the disciples of the Pharisees, frequently fast and pray, but your disciples eat and drink. Jesus said to them, "You cannot make wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? The days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days." He also told them a parable: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and sews it on an old garment; otherwise the new will be torn, and the piece from the new will not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. And no one after drinking old wine desires new wine, but says, 'The old is good.'"

## Isaiah 58:3-9a

“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

### Song

ALL:

**Open our hearts, open our minds.  
Open our lives to you,  
O loving God.  
(Repeat)**

Open Our Hearts Jim Strathdee  
#28 Sing! Prayer and Praise

**The Message: dining with outcasts  
Pastor Kris**

### Reflective Prayer

Our great Physician,  
we need bonds of injustice loosed.  
We need straps of the yoke undone.  
We need new clothes  
and to let the oppressed go free.

This is not an “I want” list,  
but a prayerful request to recognize our abilities and efforts  
to make a difference in the world.

Always following Christ's example  
and creating effective change  
in our communities with the help of the Spirit.  
Let your light break forth like the dawn.  
May it be according to your will.  
Amen.

(Silence for your own reflections.)

### **Prayers For Others And Ourselves**

Great God,  
we bring prayers to you today from a place of thanksgiving.  
We have grateful, hopeful hearts,  
because Jesus has come into our lives  
and said, "Follow me".  
We are here today because we long to follow.  
We hear the prophet  
and seek to share your bread with the hungry  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
we commit to covering the naked  
and not to hide ourselves from our own kin.  
Lord be with the hungry.  
Invite them to the table with the sinners and tax collectors  
Feed them and unblock their ears  
and help them to be hungry for you.  
Lord, let the naked, the vulnerable know your presence.  
Those who are feeling trauma,  
who are sick in spirit, who are mourning,  
be their physician.  
We pray for your Church in this community,  
for each person seated beside us,  
at this banquet and for the person  
who would like to be here but is unable.  
Spirit, make us aware  
of your movement in this place,  
and prevent us from being a stumbling block  
for those in our community.  
Gracious God,  
you promise when we call, you will answer.  
In our calling, let us be open to the answering;  
always praying: your will be done.  
Amen.

## **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.**

### **SUMMER SUNDAYS Favorite Hymns**

During the greeting the Pastors will gather 2 favorite hymns from you to be sung at this time. We'll sing 2 verses of the selection.

If your favorite hymn is not from the Gold or Black Hymnal, we will save it for another Sunday when you are here and we can put the words in the bulletin. Enjoy!

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

### **One Great Hour of Sharing - It's Time to Share**

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is one of four special offerings of the United Church of Christ. This annual special offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM).

In Galatians, the Apostle Paul encourages followers of Jesus to generously help and care for others. Though there is great need in the world and we can grow weary because we do not know how to help, God's spirit energizes us to help.

You can make a difference. Your generosity makes all the difference. Your gifts to OGHS provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world

Collections for OGHS will take place in June. To make a donation, please use the special envelope included in the bulletin. This may be mailed to the church office or dropped into the collection plate. Donations may also be made online. Thank you for supporting this annual mission collection.



**Dreaming God's Dream**  
NO GIFT TOO SMALL. NO DREAM TOO BIG.

Thank you for all the ways that you help us make God's dream a reality at Union UCC.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z51X/home> or QR code. Single or ongoing donation with credit/debit card. Help 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 Sunday's offering plate with a member offering envelope or guest envelope (in the seat racks).

Please reach out to Don Penrod 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



**Ambassadors (everyone!):** Share our news, events, and spirit on social media and with your friends, family, and neighbors.

That's what keeps us relevant, engaged, and growing!

**Watch for Union UCC merchandise soon!**



**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

*Relevant • Engaged • Growing*

**Music Offering:** I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked  
Geoffrey O'Hara  
**Blake Hoppes**

**Please stand in body or spirit.**

**Song**

**Here are our hearts,  
Here are our hands,  
Here are our lives,  
Use them as you can.  
Show us those who hurt,  
Show us those in need,  
Show us how to serve,  
Teach us how to see.**

Here Are Our Hearts Drake, Jennings

#178 Sing! Prayer and Praise  
**Prayer of Dedication**

**ALL:**

**Generous God,  
feasting or fasting,  
there is enough...**

**Enough to share with our neighbors  
in this community and abroad.**

**May we joyously share  
what we have brought this day  
and in gratitude**

**hone and develop those unique gifts  
you have so generously given  
to the benefit of creating heaven here on earth.  
Amen.**

**Please be seated.**

**Sending**

Friends,

we have heard today how Jesus called Levi  
from his tax booth,  
and how Levi rose up, left what he knew,  
and followed him.

We have heard how Jesus  
sat at the table with all sorts of people—  
the respectable and the questionable,  
the confident and the curious—  
reminding us that he came not for the righteous,  
but for those who know they need mercy.

And we have heard that the life Jesus brings  
is like new wine—  
fresh, joyful, and alive—

not something to be squeezed into old habits and tired ways.

So as you go from this place:  
go ready to follow when Christ calls,  
even if it means leaving the comfort of the familiar.

Go ready to share the table,  
welcoming others with the same grace you have received.

Go ready to live the new life Christ offers,  
open to the new things God is doing among us.

And may the God who calls us,  
the Christ who welcomes us,  
and the Spirit who renews us  
go with you today and always.

**\*Hymn** The Summons

Will you come and follow me  
If I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
And never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
Will you let my name be known,  
Will you let my life be grown  
In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind  
If I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
And never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
Should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
In you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see  
If I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
And never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
And do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean  
In you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide  
If I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
And never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
To reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch and sound  
In you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true  
When you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
And never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
Where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
In you and you in me.

**Postlude Music** His Eye is on the Sparrow  
Civilla Martin, Charles Gabriel  
**Blake Hoppes**

# EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week	
		8 AM	58
Last Week	\$12,185.00	10:30 AM	109
<i>Calendar Year 2026 (Jan. - May)</i>	\$167,501.00	<b>2026 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:</b>	
<i>Calendar Year 2025 (Jan-May)</i>	\$164,672.00	Last Week	\$300, 175 Lbs
Change from Last Year	<b>1.7%</b>	YTD	\$600, 2,575 Lbs
Budget FY 2025-2026( <i>July-May</i> )	\$402,470.00	<b>MEDICAL DEBT FUNDRAISER</b>	
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date ( <i>July-May</i> )	\$393,863.00	<b>Union UCC Donations \$3,856.85</b>	
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	<b>-2.1%</b>	<b>Campaign Page Donations from other Churches and Businesses \$1,190.00</b>	
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>			

## Presentations to the Glory of God

**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.