



**June 21st 2026  
do to others...  
Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting  
Celebrating the Men in Our Church**

**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**

Dan Topp

**Greeters**

Carol Pope, Ron Pope, Johanna & Greg Zellner

**Ushers**

Donna Christman, Deana Correll, Deb Wenner, Doug Brace,  
Marianne Kitzmiller, Brian Horwith, Maryann Puia

**Sound**

Mike Baer

## **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**

Great is Thy Faithfulness  
Thomas O. Chisholm and William M. Runyan  
**Blake Hoppes**

### **Welcome & Announcements**

**We often share parts of worship responsively.**

**Phrases in Bold = All Read**  
**Phrases NOT in bold = Leader**

### **Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather as we are,  
God's people,  
and in this place make space for our enemy,  
the one we hurt as they have hurt us,  
the one we fear as they fear us,  
and create a larger space  
for love  
and in that larger space  
we worship.

### **Prayer of Adoration And Confession**

God of radical love,  
you call us beyond what feels natural  
to love our enemies,  
to withhold judgement,  
to offer grace before it is deserved.  
You show us a way of living  
that disrupts everything we have learned.  
And yet we resist.  
We confess how quickly we judge,  
how easily we divide the world into sides,  
how often we protect ourselves  
rather than risk loving others.  
We hold onto hurt.  
We replay grievances.  
We choose distance over reconciliation.  
Forgive us.

Gently reshape our hearts,  
that we might reflect your mercy  
not only towards those we understand,  
but towards those we struggle to love.  
Teach us the courage of grace.  
So be it.  
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** Dream God's Dream Bryan Sirchio  
#120 Sing! Prayer and Praise

**(Chorus)**

**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  
I'm dreaming of a world where the color of one's skin  
Will mean less than what's within the person's heart  
A world where water's clean, and where air is safe to breathe  
And every child born has enough to eat.**

**(Chorus)**

**I'm dreaming of the call God is offering to me  
How to use my energy and my best gifts  
To do the work of Christ -- to say, God please use my life  
To spread Your healing love -- and to live your Truth**

**(Chorus)**

**I'm dreaming of the way that I want my life to go  
I've got hopes and I've got goals I'd like to meet  
I'm reaching for the stars, but I won't forget the scars  
Of Christ who died to show that the Dream's for all...**

**(Chorus)**

**Please be seated.**

**Music Offering** Guardame las Vacas Luys de Narcaez (1538)  
**Mike Baer**

**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**



May 24th -  
August 23rd

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.

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.

**Scripture Reading  
Luke 6:27-42**

“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom

you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.” He also told them a parable: “Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? A disciple is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully qualified will be like the teacher. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Friend, let me take out the speck in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor’s eye.

### **Acts 9:9-20**

For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

**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: do to others...**  
**Pastor Kris**

**Reflective Prayer**

God of grace,  
pause us this week  
in the moments when judgement comes easily.  
Create space within us  
to breathe, to listen, to choose differently.  
When we are tempted to react,  
help us respond with patience.  
When we are hurt,  
guide us towards healing rather than hardness.  
Teach us the quiet strength  
of choosing love again and again  
not because it is easy,  
but because it reflects who you are.  
And in those small choices,  
may your kingdom take root within us.  
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  
God of reconciliation,  
we pray for a world fractured by division  
where relationships are strained,  
where words wound,  
and where trust feels fragile.  
We pray for communities marked by conflict,  
for nations caught in cycles of violence,  
for leaders making decisions that affect so many.  
Bring wisdom, restraint, and a longing for peace.  
We pray for those who have been hurt  
those carrying anger, grief, or betrayal.  
Hold them with compassion  
and gently lead them towards healing.  
We pray too for those we find difficult  
those we disagree with,  
those we struggle to understand,  
those we would rather avoid.  
Help us to see them as you see them.  
And for ourselves  
give us courage to take one step towards grace:  
to listen more deeply,  
to speak more gently,  
and to choose love, even when it costs.  
So be it.  
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.



**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.



**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'll Fly Away**  
Albert E. Brumely  
**Blake Hoppes**

**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:**

**God of unending grace,  
we offer these gifts  
as a sign of our desire to live differently.  
Take what we bring  
and use it to build bridges where there is division,  
to restore hope where there is hurt,  
and to reflect your generous love in the world.  
Shape us in that same spirit.  
Amen.**

**Please be seated.**

**Sending**

Be merciful;  
love the unlovely  
and the lovely alike;  
forgive  
and you will be forgiven;  
pray  
for all those you meet this week.



**\*Hymn #123** Draw the Circle Wide  
Sing! Prayer and Praise

**Chorus:**

**Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.  
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,  
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.**

**God the still point of the circle,  
'round whom all creation turns;  
nothing lost, but held forever in God's gracious arms.  
Chorus**

**Let our hearts touch far horizons,  
so encompass great and small;  
let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call.  
Chorus**

**Let the dreams we dream be larger,  
than we've ever dreamed before;  
let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door.  
Chorus**

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## **10:30 Worship SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION**

Union United Church of Christ, Neffs, PA  
Ron Pope, 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://bit.ly/junesemiannual2026>**

**Meeting ID: 837 7059 8661**

**Passcode: 876754**

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**Postlude Music** You Are My All in All  
Dennis Jernigan  
**Blake Hoppes**

**Worship Theme:** spill the beans worship and learning resources for all ages  
issue 59, [www.spillthebeans.org.uk](http://www.spillthebeans.org.uk) © 2026 Spill the Beans Resource Team

# EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week	
		8 AM	See You In September!
Last Week	\$6,225.00	10:30 AM	115
<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

*Spread the Good News*

### **In Memory of Gordon Rothrock and Family**

by Daughters Lucille Kuhns, Lana Reitz and Leoma Kern

### **Grateful for the Men of Union UCC**

Pastor Kris

**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.