



June 28th 2026
known by our fruit
Outdoor Worship in the Grove
Build Your Own Sundae-Sunday Picnic

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 are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.***

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

Lay Reader

Brynn Buskirk

Greeters

Brynn & Jon Buskirk, Sally Saltzer, Devon Kuharik

Ushers

Eric Minnich, Gene Thrash, Jason Klinger, Marlene Blose, Dale Blose,
Kim Pentland, Andy Dyszel

Sound

Karl Klinger & Patrick Sorg

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

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus
George Duffield, Jr., George J. Webb
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: Called into life,
All: we worship.
Leader: Held by the foundation of love,
All: we worship.
Leader: Surrounded by the storms of life,
All: we worship.
Leader: Holding fast as the waters surge,
All: we worship.

Prayer of Adoration And Confession

Leader: God of root and river,
God of fruit and foundation,
you meet us beneath the surface,
below the polished words,
beneath the names we inherit
and the masks we fasten on.
You are the one who sees
what grows in secret:
the tangled roots,
the thirsty places,
the seeds of courage,
the places where love has taken hold
and the places where fear still clings.

You call us beyond appearances,
beyond religious performance,
beyond saying "Lord, Lord"
while building on sand.
You call us to lives with depth,
to hearts made spacious by mercy,
to words that carry justice,
to faith that can stand when the waters rise.
And we confess that we are often
more concerned with seeming than with being.
We have dressed ourselves in goodness
while neglecting the hard work of love.
We have spoken faith
without always living it.
Forgive us
for the fruit that wounds,
for the foundations left shallow,
for hearing your word and walking away unchanged.
Dig deep in us, O God.
Break open the hardened ground.
Plant truth where falsehood has flourished.
Plant courage where fear has ruled.
Plant compassion where judgment has grown wild.
Make us whole,
that what is within us and what flows from us
may speak of Christ.
God of root and river,
God of fruit and foundation,
meet us again beneath the surface,
and lead us once more,
in the name of Jesus our Saviour.
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 #1 For the Beauty of the Earth (Gold Hymnal)**

**For the beauty of the earth
For the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies
Lord of all, to thee we raise, This our hymn of grateful praise**

**For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night
Hill and vale and tree and flower
Sun and moon and stars of light
Lord of all, to thee we raise, This our hymn of grateful praise**

**For the joy of human love
Brother, sister, parent, child
Friends on earth and friends above
For all gentle thoughts and mild
Lord of all, to thee we raise, This our hymn of grateful praise.**

Please be seated.

Music Offering Shine, Jesus Shine Graham Kendrick
Geoff Brace

10:30 Children's Time – Invite Children Forward

SONG Snowball Mountain Challenge (Theme Song)

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 August 30th



May 24th -
August 23rd

We invite all youth, ages 3 through 5th 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 6:43-49

“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil, for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.

“Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I tell you? I will show you what someone is like who comes to me, hears my words, and acts on them. That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who hears and does not act is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the river burst against it, immediately it fell, and great was the ruin of that house.”

James 1:2-11, 22-25

“My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance, and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.

If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind, for the doubter, being double-minded and unstable in every way, must not expect to receive anything from the Lord.

Let the believer who is lowly boast in being raised up, and the rich in being brought low, because the rich will disappear like a flower in the field. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the field; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. It is the same way with the rich; in the midst of a busy life, they will wither away.

But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror, for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—
they will be blessed in their doing.”

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: known by our fruit
Pastor Kayli**

Reflective Prayer

O God,
search the soil of our lives.
Show us what is growing there.
When our words rush ahead of wisdom,
draw us back to the heart.
When I cling to appearances,
lead us toward truth.
When we build quickly, cheaply, carelessly,
turn me again toward the deeper work.
We bring you our unsettled places,
our fractured loyalties,
our hunger to be known and loved,
our fear that there may not be much beneath the words.
Meet us there.
Not with rejection,
but with truth strong enough to heal,
and love strong enough to rebuild.
Let your message become
more than sound in our ears.
Let it become structure in our lives,
root in our souls,
fruit in our living.
And when the floods come,
as they always do,
may we find that we are held
not by our own strength,
not by our own image,
but by the deep foundation of your love.
Amen.

(Silence for your own reflections.)

Prayers For Others And Ourselves

Loving God,
we thank you for your faithfulness,
for your care that does not fail,
for the love that roots us,
and for the hope you keep planting in our lives.
We thank you for moments of strength and joy,
for people who reflect your kindness,
and for the promise that even in troubled times
you do not let us go.
We pray for those whose lives are shaken by grief,
illness, fear, or uncertainty.
Hold them steady when the waters rise,
and surround them with comfort, courage, and care.
We pray for those who feel
overlooked, rejected, or diminished.
Speak your deep truth into their lives,
that they may know themselves to be beloved.
We pray for your church,
and for all who lead in places of responsibility.
Make our words honest,
our actions fruitful,
and our lives grounded in the way of Christ.
And we pray for ourselves:
where we are anxious, bring peace;
where we are divided, bring wholeness;
where we are shallow,
draw us deeper into your love and truth.
Shape us into people who
not only hear your word
but live it.
In Jesus' name we pray.
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!

#526 Faith of Our Fathers (Deb Topp's Favorite)

Faith of our fathers, living still,
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword
O how our hearts beat high with joy,
Whene'er we hear that glorious word!
Faith of our fathers, holy faith
We will be true to thee 'til death.

Faith of our fathers, we will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife
And preach thee to as love knows how
By kindly words and virtuous life.
Faith of our fathers, holy faith
We will be true to thee 'til death

Here I Am, Lord (Connie Gioielli's Favorite)

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

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

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



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: Born For These Times Annie May Willis
Pastor Kris with Mike Baer, Guitar

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: Faithful God,
we offer you not only our praise
but our practice.
Take our speaking and our silence,
our thinking and our choosing,
our work, our rest,
our relationships, our witness.
Receive us,
root us,
and send us in Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Sending

You have heard Jesus' words,
and have built upon a strong foundation.
Out of the abundance of the heart
speak and produce good fruit.
We are called to act;
to be doers of the word,
and may we be blessed in the doing.

***Hymn #187 Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary**
(Sing! Prayer and Praise)

**Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you**

**God empower me, to be a witness for you
Acting boldly in your name
Seeking justice, where there is hurting
Offering hope where there is pain**

Postlude Music In The Presence of Jehova
Becky and Geron Davis
Blake Hoppes

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week	
		8 AM	See You In September!
Last Week	\$7,009.00	10:30 AM	94
<i>Calendar Year 2026 (Jan. - May)</i>	\$167,501.00	2026 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
<i>Calendar Year 2025 (Jan-May)</i>	\$164,672.00	Last Week	\$300, 175 Lbs
Change from Last Year	1.7%	YTD	\$600, 2,575 Lbs
Budget FY 2025-2026(<i>July-May</i>)	\$402,470.00	One Great Hour of Sharing	
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date (<i>July-May</i>)	\$393,863.00	\$1,670.00	
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-2.1%	MEDICAL DEBT FUNDRAISER	
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>		\$7,437.67	

Presentations to the Glory of God

Children's Bulletin

In Memory of Walt Disney

by Don Steffy

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.