

June 7th, 2026
incredible things
Baptism
Holy Communion

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 Readers

8am– Ron Pope; 10:30am– Doug Kuntz

Greeters

Jim & Edie Fella, Nancy Jones, Eric Minnich

Ushers

8:00am- Phil Wehr, Ron Pope, Leoma Kern

10:30am- Leanna Lane, Scott Nagle, Tami Herzog Wassum, John Fabian, Jennifer Haley, Carolyn Seyler

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.

Blessed Assurance **Prelude Music**
Fanny J. Crosby, Phoebe P. Knapp
Blake Hoppes

THE WHEN WE GATHER

Welcome & Announcements TODAY: HOLY COMMUNION

Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace. Here, you will be served in your seats. Please wait to eat and drink until the Pastor invites you to do so. A non-gluten option with juice is available in a prepackaged container on the bread tray. Both red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups. Please choose either.

AT HOME: Please find something to eat and drink that represents communion for you so that you can share in Communion.

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

Call to Worship

We have arrived here
by whatever means,
some have limped,
some stumbled,
some in pain
holding onto doors,
some through the roof,
however we come here
may we find the healing space we need
of word
and hope,
companionship
and grace.
Let us worship.

Prayer Of Adoration And Confession

Holy God, your gathered church,
so varied and unique,
comes from the festivities
and celebration of Pentecost to a quieter Sunday this day.

On this Trinity Sunday,
we marvel at the relationships within the Trinity.
You model for us how to be in relationship with our neighbor,
how to be a good friend at all times.

Grant us grace to be faithful witnesses to that relationship
as we interact with others in our communities.

Together we are praying now,
coming into your presence,
as those who have come before us
and those who will come after us,
doing so together as a community, bound up with each other,
and committed to one another's care.

As you marvelled, Lord Jesus,
at the friends who would not be deterred
but carried their dear friend to you, so we carry each other
and all that burdens us into your holy presence.

As you offered forgiveness to that paralyzed man,
freeing him to start afresh,
so we ask that you forgive us
for all that stops us from being
wholly what you would want us to be.

May we be the instruments you have chosen
to bring your name before others in this community.

Give us grace to see your visions,
hear your word, and share the Good News
with those you place in our path.

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** What A Friend We Have In Jesus
#466 Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God

**What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

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 7th, June 21st, 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.**

10:30 Sacrament of Baptism

Hayes Rabenold, child of Trisha (Nagle) and Harrison Rabenold

Sponsor: Amelia Jensen and Andrew Barskile & Brad Nagle

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 5:17-26

One day while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem were sitting nearby, and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. Just then some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a stretcher. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, but, finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down on the stretcher through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. When he saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you." Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, "Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the one who was paralyzed—"I say to you, stand up and take your stretcher and go to your home." Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with fear, saying, "We have seen incredible things today."

Song

ALL:

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

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

**The Message: incredible things
Pastor Kris**

Reflective Prayer

Good God, when is too much too much? Is it too much
to wonder whether what seems incredible might one day happen?
Is it too much to pray for peace in a world riven by hostility?
Is it too much to care for a friend who society has discarded?
Is it too much to interrupt you when you are speaking to us?
Is it too much to expect assistance
when there is a queue outside the door?
Is it too much to carry my friend atop the roof?
Is it too much to rip away the tiles and find a way to you?
Is it too much to tear apart someone's home in the hope of healing?
When is too much too much?
May we learn, good God, that it is never too much
when the work of your kingdom is afoot.

Prayers For Others And Ourselves

Loving Father and Mother,
Precious Son and Teacher,
Holy Spirit and Air we breathe,
we have so little understanding
of the ways in which the persons interact,
and we marvel at the mysteries of faith.
God of grace and glory, we bring before you now
prayers for our communities and our world.
The natural world needs so much of our attention,
it is groaning in its upheaval.
We pray for peace.
Conflicts throughout the world
destroy not only human-made structures,
but also harm the very life you created,

and the world in all its beauty.

We pray for peace.

We bear witness to those stories that remind us
that not all that is has to remain so forever,
that change and transformation, renewal and healing,
is never incredible for you.

For situations around our world today
where people have forgotten
what it is to be a friend,
may we see something wonderful happen.

We pray for peace.

Where your children
hurting from illness: mental and physical,
from discrimination in many different categories,
and from cruelty related
to selfishness and misinformation
need transformation in their lives
bring your presence
in loving relationship.

We pray for peace.

We gather as your church,
realizing there are people in time zones
all over the world gathering for worship.
May we listen for your collective voice,
and build up your church
so that it reflects
your will, wisdom and glory
throughout this land and the world
and may we actively work for peace in this world
as we pray together as Jesus taught us saying,

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

Dreaming God's Dream Moment 8am and 10:30am Karen Nuschke

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: Exodus Ernest Gold, Pat Boone
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: O Lord,
giver of all good gifts,
each given in good measure,
more abundantly
than we can possibly imagine,
today we return a portion to you,
in grateful thanksgiving.**

**We offer these gifts
of ourselves and our earnings
that we may meet the needs
of those who ask of us,
and of those unable to ask.**

Thy will be done.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Holy Communion

**Everyone is welcome to this meal of love and grace.
Here, you will be served in your seats. Please wait to eat and drink
until the Pastor invites you to do so. A non-gluten option with juice
is available in a prepackaged container on the bread tray. Both
red wine and white grape juice are on the tray of cups. Please
choose either.**

AT HOME: Please find something to eat and drink that represents
communion for you so that you can share in Communion.

Jesus said: I am the bread of life.
All who come to me shall not hunger,
and all who believe in me shall not thirst.
With Christians around the world
and throughout the centuries,
we gather around these symbols
of bread and wine—simple elements
that speak of nourishment and transformation.

Loving God, we thank you
that you are as close to us as breath,
that your love is constant and unfailing.
We thank you for all that sustains life,
and especially for Jesus Christ,
who teaches us how to live out
an ethic of justice and peace,
and for the promise of transformation
made real in his life, death and resurrection.
We ask you to bless this bread and this cup.
Through this meal, make us the body of Christ,
that we may join with you in promoting the well-being of all
creation. Amen.

We remember on the night
when Jesus and the disciples
had their last meal together,
Jesus took the bread, gave thanks,
and gave it to the disciples,
saying, "This is my body,
which is broken for you."
Take and eat it, and as often as you do, remember me."

In the symbol of the broken bread, we participate in the life of
Christ and dedicate ourselves to being his disciples.

In the same way he took the cup,
and after giving thanks
he gave it to the disciples, saying:
"Drink this, all of you."
This cup is the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

In the symbol of the cup, Christ pours new life into us and into
the world.

BREAKING BREAD AND POURING WINE

L: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are
ready.

SHARING THE MEAL THE BREAD

SONG

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
They will know we are Christians by our love

We will work with each other, we will work side by side
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
They will know we are Christians by our love

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
They will know we are Christians by our love

L: Take and eat, the body of Christ, broken for you.

#677 They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love
Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God


THE CUP

SONG

When your soul's weary
When you find doubt
When you can't hear me
Lay your troubles down
In your dark moments
When your heart's weak
Bring yourself broken
You will find me

Who wrote the rain?
Who wrote the sun in?
Who called your name?
Where are you runnin'?
I'm gonna be there near or far
I'm gonna meet you where you are
Who wrote the rain?
Who wrote the sun in?

When you come thirsty
When the well's dry
When your soul's dirty
I am by your side
When your faith's broken
When you can't see
With my arms open
You will find me



Who wrote the rain?
Who wrote the sun in?
Who called your name?
Where are you runnin'?
I'm gonna be there near or far
I'm gonna meet you where you are
Who wrote the rain?
Who wrote the sun in?
Mm-mm-mm, mm
Mm-mm-mm, mm
Mm-mm-mm, mm
You will find me
Mm-mm-mm, mm
You will find me

You Will Find Me Andrew Ripp

L: Take and drink, this is the cup of the new life, poured out for you.
L: May this meal keep and preserve you unto eternal life.

COLLECTING OF CUPS

Song

For the Beauty of the Earth

**For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies.**

Refrain:

**Christ, our Lord, to you 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,**

Refrain

**For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,**

Refrain

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**ALL: We give thanks, loving God,
that you have refreshed us at your table.
Strengthen our faith; increase our love for one another.
As we have been fed by the seed that became grain,
and then became bread,
may we also go out into the world to plant seeds
of transformation, growth, and hope.
Amen.**

Sending

Be a friend to someone,
be determined to help them,
do not let things get in your way.
Do the things of Jesus,
offer forgiveness, practice healing,
and generate new life.
As we leave this place,
go out like those faithful friends.
Go, ready to carry hope
for someone who is weary.
Go, ready to bring prayer
for someone who cannot pray.
Go, ready to open a way
where there seems to be no way.
And may you trust that when people
are brought close to Christ,
incredible things can still happen.
So go in peace,
to love and serve the Lord,
and to help others find their way to him.

Please stand.

***Hymn** Lord Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary
#187 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.**

(Repeat)

Postlude Music Blest Be The Tie That Binds Us Together
Blake Hoppes

Worship Theme: spill the beans worship and learning resources for all ages
issue 59, www.spillthebeans.org.uk © 2026 Spill the Beans Resource Team

Communion Liturgy: This liturgy was written by Rev. Jeanyne Slettom and is
made available through Process & Faith, a program of the Center for Process
Studies. Used by permission.

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week	
		8 AM	35
Last Week	\$6,559.00	10:30 AM	87
<i>Calendar Year 2026 (Jan. - Apr.)</i>	\$136,714.00	God First	-
<i>Calendar Year 2025 (Jan. - Apr.)</i>	\$132,469.00	Faith on Tap	50
Change from Last Year	3.2%	2026 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Budget FY 2025-2026(<i>July-Apr.</i>)	\$365,930.00	Last Week	\$300,100 Lbs
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date (<i>July-Apr.</i>)	\$364,201.7.11	YTD	\$600,2400 Lbs
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-0.5%	Medical Debt Fundraiser	
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>		Union UCC Donations	\$2,797.50
		Campaign Page Donations	\$161.00

Presentations to the Glory of God

Children's Bulletin

In Honor of Grandson Hayes' Baptism

By Sheila & Scott Nagle

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.