



August 16th, 2026
setting his face towards Jerusalem

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

Vicki Mayk

Greeters

Jim & Edie Fella, Melissa Kohler, Judy Kern

Ushers

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

Sound

Karl Klinger

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

Sweet Sweet Spirit Doris Akers
© Manna Music, Inc. CCLI License #1523377
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: Gathered,

All: we worship.

Leader: Brought in,

All: we worship.

Leader: Sent out,

All: we worship.

Leader: With good news

All: we worship.

Leader: In love

All: we worship.

Leader: Together

All: let us gather,

let us worship.

Prayer of Adoration And Confession

God of the journey,
you call us forward
not alone, but together.
You send us in partnership,
in community,
reminding us that your work
is never meant to be carried alone.
And yet we resist.

We confess our desire for control,
our reluctance to depend on others,
our fear of being vulnerable.
We try to carry what was never ours to carry alone.
We push through instead of reaching out.
We isolate ourselves instead of trusting community.
Forgive us.
Teach us to walk alongside one another,
to receive as well as give,
to recognise that your strength is often revealed
through shared journey.
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 #161** Breathe on Me Breath of God
Gold Hymnal / Hymns for the Family of God

Words: Edwin Hatch, 1878; Music: Robert Jackson, 1888. Public Domain

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until my will is one with yours,
to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
for all eternity.**

Please be seated.

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 Aug. 30th*

 Sunday Funday CHILDREN'S CHURCH SERIES 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.	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.
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Music Offering Thy Will Bernie Herms, Emily Lynn Weisband, Hillary Scott

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Lucy Boyer with Blake Hoppes

Scripture Reading Luke 9:51-10:24

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the

laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town. "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But at the judgment it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? No, you will be brought down to Hades. "Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." Then turning to the disciples, Jesus said to them privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

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

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The Message: Peace be to this house

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. David DeRemer

The Rev. Dr. David DeRemer most recently retired as Director of Supervised Ministry and Director of Enrollment at the School of Religion of Moravian University in Bethlehem PA. In 2014 he concluded more than 18 years as Senior Pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ in Nazareth PA. In 1985, DeRemer was the founding director of New Bethany Ministries in Bethlehem. He served as pastor of First UCC Bethlehem from 1979 to 1985. Recently, DeRemer has been providing coaching services to rostered ministers in the NE Synod's (ELCA) 6261 program. He is also serving as the Moderator of the new Keystone Conference Transitional Board of Directors. He is married to Kathy. They live in Macungie PA.

Reflective Prayer

Life points in all directions
travelling on the road with Jesus.
Each road is different
and we all have a choice:
straight flat easy roads
or winding up and down roads.
Some roads are darker and unknown.
Some roads illuminate to show the way.
With Jesus
there is no straight line from A to B.
Life is full of obstacles,
excuses for delay tactics
averting our gaze
or with a face like flint,
upon the hard road of sacrifice
where yet we find faith, hope and love.
Companionship or solitude?
To be together or alone?
Two is better than one,
partnership and support,
empathy and compassion,
embracing life's challenges,
"a threefold cord is not quickly broken",
as we travel on the road with Jesus.

(Silence for your own reflections)

Prayers For Others And Ourselves

God who sends and accompanies,
we pray for all who are stepping into new places
new roles, new responsibilities, new uncertainties;
for those beginning something unfamiliar;
for those carrying weight they did not expect;
for those wondering if they are enough;
be their courage and their peace.
We pray for those who feel alone,
disconnected from community,
isolated in their struggles,
unsure where they belong.
Draw people alongside them.
We pray for communities and churches
seeking to live out your mission
that they might do so not in isolation,
but in partnership, humility, and trust.
And for ourselves - open our eyes
to those we are called to walk with,
to support, to encourage, to learn from them.
Remind us that we are not sent alone,
and that you are already at work
where we are going.
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.**



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

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!

Neighbors in Need

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is one of four special offerings of the United Church of Christ, and part of Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM). This annual special offering supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States.

One-third of the offering supports the Council for American Indian Ministry, two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

You can make a difference. Your gifts to NIN provide immediate aid and long-term support to people and families around the United States. Collections for NIN will take place the first two weeks of August, to make a donation, please use the special envelope included. 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.

Ambassadors (everyone!): Share our news, events, and spirit on social media and with your friends, family, and neighbors. That's what keeps us relevant, and growing!



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Relevant • Engaged • Growing



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



10:30 Music Offering It Is Well With My Soul

Words: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873 Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1876 Public Domain

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

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Prayer of Dedication

**ALL: Sending God,
we offer these gifts
as part of your ongoing work in the world.
Use them to strengthen community,
to support those in need,
and to extend your love beyond these walls.
And send us too
as partners in your mission,
walking together in your grace.
Amen.**

Please be seated.

Sending

Set your face to the world
knowing that you are loved.
Set your face to the world
knowing you are not alone.
Go with the blessing
of our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.
Ready to show and tell of the Good News
Today, tomorrow, and always.

***Hymn The Summons John Bell**

Graham Maule, John L. Bell © 1987 WGRG, c/o Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland (Admin. by Wild Goose Resource Group) CCLI License #1523377

**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 blind man 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 that 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: The Heart of Worship Matt Redman

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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

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week	
2 Weeks Ago		8 AM	See You In September!
		10:30 am on 8/2	137
Calendar Year 2026 (Jan.-June)	\$200,870.00	2026 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Calendar Year 2025 (Jan.-June)	\$188,550.00		
Change from Last Year	6.5%	Last Week	\$300, 165 Lbs
Budget FY 2025-2026(July-June)	\$428,000.00	YTD	\$600, 2,740 Lbs
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date(July-June)	\$426,108.00	MEDICAL DEBT FUNDRAISER	
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-0.4%		
Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes		\$12,782.35	

Presentations to the Glory of God

Spread the Good News

Thanks to everyone who supported the Medical Debt Fundraiser!

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.