



August 30th 2026
jesus prays

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

Doug Brace

Greeters

Tracey & Rob Bilger, Gene & Christina Thrash

Ushers

Edie Fella, Deana Correll, Doug Brace, Carol James, Eric Minnich

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

Arabesque No. 1 in E Major, L. 66
Claude Debussy (1862–1918) , *Public Domain*

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 pause,
find space,
seek the moment.
We breathe,
centre ourselves
on what is holy.
We find the silence
before the words:
Let us worship.

Prayer of Adoration And Confession

Father, Abba, Papa, Daddy,
may your name be revered as holy,
not only today, but tomorrow
and the next day.

We are grateful that you adopt us
into your family
and introduce us
to brothers and sisters
far and wide.

We worship and pray together
with those in the space near to us
and those across the oceans of the world.

Merciful God,
you offer abundant care
and generosity beyond measure
in forgiveness of sins.
We bring before you now
confessions of acts we wish
we did not commit...

silence

and activities we should have initiated
but we failed to do so...

silence

for ignoring people we have not loved
that you call us to love...

silence

and for those we do love
but we treat with lack of compassion...

silence

We aim to do what
we have learned
and received
and heard
and noticed in you.
We rejoice that you are near,
that you are generous
and look on us in compassion.
May we be as generous
as we look to forgive
those who have slighted us.

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 and for the first song.**

***Hymn #31 All Things Bright and Beautiful**

Black Hymnal / New Century Hymnal

Words: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848 Tune: English melody Adapt. Martin Saw, 1915

REFRAIN: All things bright and beautiful

All creatures great and small

All things wise and wonderful

Our dear God make them all

Each little flower that opens

Each little bird that sings

God made their glowing colors

And their tiny wings

REFRAIN: All things bright and beautiful

All creatures great and small

All things wise and wonderful

Our dear God make them all

The purple headed mountain

The river running by

The sunset and the morning

That brightens up the sky

REFRAIN: All things bright and beautiful

All creatures great and small

All things wise and wonderful

Our dear God make them all

The cold wind in the winter

The pleasant summer sun

The ripe fruits in the garden

God made them every one

REFRAIN: All things bright and beautiful

All creatures great and small

All things wise and wonderful

Our dear God make them all

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!

Children's Church • Ages 3 through Grade 5 • Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Summer Children's Church returns on September 13th! Children begin worship with their families and are invited forward for Children's Time with Ms. Nikki. They then leave with Ms. Nikki and return to worship with their families before the service ends.

Summer Children's Church will continue into Fall Children's Church with Ms. Nikki beginning September 27th

Education Hour • Ages 3 through Grade 7 • Sundays 9:15–10:15 a.m.

Education Hour returns September 20! Children are invited to join Ms. Nikki and our Education Hour leaders in Fellowship Hall.

There is no Children's Time August 30th and September 6th

**Blessing of the Backpacks, Devices, Students, Educators,
School Staffs, and all Learners and Growers!**

AND A GIFT FROM THE PASTORS AND MS. NIKKI

If you brought your backpack or device, bring it forward with you,
If you don't have it, we will bless you!

Prayer

Pastor: God of fresh starts and new beginnings, we bring ourselves, our big feelings, and our backpacks to you. In our backpacks, we carry blank pages, sharpened pencils, and pointy crayons, and in our hearts, we carry big feelings, unanswered questions, and hopeful expectations. There are endless possibilities of what this new year might bring— of what we might learn, who we might meet, and who we might become. God, our friend who is always with us, be with us through it all. Be with us as we ride the bus. Be with us as we walk. Be with us as we buckle seat belts, zip-up jackets, and tie shoes. However we get there, and whatever we wear, bless this journey into something new. For the grown-ups going back to school, With-Us God, be with them too. Thank you for our teachers, helpers, caregivers, and leaders, and for all they do to help us learn and grow. God, our friend who's full of wonder, fill their hearts and bless their hands.

Youth: God, bless these backpacks and the children and youth who carry them as they begin yet another year of school. Give them peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, energy when they feel tired. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them to make friends that build one another up, and be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever-present with them in the classroom, on the school bus, on the playground, and at home, and may they feel your loving care in all they do.



Teacher: Lord, bless those in the ministry of teaching future generations. As they embark on a new school year, grant them energy, passion, discipline, and endurance for their daily tasks. Infuse their classrooms with an atmosphere of care and mutual respect, that all interactions there will be bathed in patience and understanding. Help their lessons to grow pupils in both knowledge and character, and help us all to support the work these teachers do building up our community and our future.

Youth: God, bless our donations of backpacks and school supplies and the children who will use them. Let these physical gifts be symbols of the love and support we give to the children of our community throughout the year. Help us to look upon every child in our community as one of our own, helping them to grow in character and knowledge.

**Put your hand on the shoulder of someone next to you and say,
“God loves you and so does your church! Have a great start to
your school year!”**

Sacrament of Baptism

**Tanner Jay Schell, son of Laura (Beltz) & Kendrick Schell
Sponsors: Allison Grammes & Eric Schell**

**Ella Ruth Lorah, daughter of Alexis (Ziegenfus) & Isaac Lorah
Sponsor: Aaron and Katelin Lorah**

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.

Music Offering: My Wordless Prayer Craig Courtney, Pamela Stewart

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Jillian Krempasky with Blake Hoppes

Scripture Reading
Luke 11: 1-13, 24-28, 33-36

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.'

And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

"When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it wanders through waterless regions looking for a resting place, but not finding any, it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' When it comes, it finds it swept and put in order. Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and live there; and the last state of that person is worse than the first." While he was saying this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!" But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!"

"No one after lighting a lamp puts it in a cellar, but on the lampstand so that those who enter may see the light. Your eye is the lamp of your body. If your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light; but if it is not healthy, your body is full of darkness. Therefore consider whether the light in you is not darkness. If then your whole body is full of light, with no part of it in darkness, it will be as full of light as when a lamp gives you light with its rays."

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: Jesus prays
Pastor Kayli

Reflective Prayer

“Ask and it will be given you.”
We often hear that when we pray,
but, Lord, we forget the next part,
how much more
will the heavenly Father
give the Holy Spirit.
Teach us to Pray.
Lord, when we ask
persistently in your name,
we do so want to follow your will,
we want to discern your way
and ask for those things
that bring about your kingdom.
Teach us to pray.
We sometimes assume you do not answer
when what we request fails to appear.
Help us accept what we are given,
help us understand your will and your way,
and to seek the Holy Spirit in all that we do.
Teach us to pray,
‘your will be done...’
in Jesus’ name.
Amen.

(Silence for your own reflections)

Prayers For Others And Ourselves

Most Holy One,
you taught us to pray
‘And do not bring us to the time of trial’
so we come humbly to you in prayer.
And Paul reminds us in everything
by prayer and supplication

with thanksgiving
let your requests be known.
We give you thanks
for every breath granted,
for each new day of possibility
for the beauty of creation,
the myriad colors and uniqueness of life.
We recognize the hope of the coming kingdom
in which we are called to live
and we are utterly grateful.
Comforting God,
we also live under
the strain of uncertainty,
We pray for your intervention
in affairs that need straightening,
where injustice prevails
and where your children are hungry
for not only righteousness,
but also for daily bread.
Our leaders promise
to work for the good of many
but in practice,
often choose the good of the few.
Our societies are skewed
with such a gap
between those who have
and those who have not.
We pray for more equitable
distribution of goods and wealth
throughout the world,
and may countries share
as individuals in communities share.
Your church, Lord,
across this world
is built on relationship.
Relationship with Jesus,
and invitations of your disciples
to spread and share this great love.
Fill your church with gratitude
and appreciation
for our common heritage.
Embolden your disciples
to pray persistently
for the growth of your Kingdom
as we are taught.



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

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).



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Electronic Giving

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.

Music Offering: How Great Thou Art

Words and Music by Stuart K. Hine, Arr. Lloyd Larson

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Jillian Krempasky with 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: Gracious Lord,
you provide for our daily bread,
and we give thanks daily.**

**We bring back to you
but a portion of
your generosity
in our gifts.**

**We do so with grateful hearts
for all that we have been given
and for all that**

we can share with others.

**May your kingdom come
ever closer with this offering.**

**Bless these gifts and the givers
multiplying the efforts to grow
into heaven on earth.**

In Christ's name we pray.

Amen.



Sending

Blessed are those who hear
the word of God and obey it.

Go out praying persistently,
and shine your light on a lampstand
for all the world to see your love of Jesus.

Rejoice and do not worry,
you are loved by God.

***Hymn #506 What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

(New Century Hymnal, black)

Words: Joseph Scriven, 1855 Tune: Charles C. Converse, 1868

**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 our God in prayer
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to our God in prayer**

**Are we weak and heavy laden, burdened with a load of care
Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to our God in prayer
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to our God in prayer
Jesus' arms will take and shield you; you will find a solace there.**

Postlude Music: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

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	
Last Week		8 AM	See You In September!
\$10, 961.00		10:30 AM	122
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%		
Budget FY 2025-2026(July-June)	\$428,000.00	Last Week	\$300, 165 Lbs
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date (July-June)	\$426,108.00	YTD	\$600, 2,740 Lbs
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-0.4%	NEIGHORS IN NEED	
<i>Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes</i>		\$455.00	
		MEDICAL DEBT FUNDRAISER	
		\$45,000+ !!!	

Presentations to the Glory of God

In Honor of Tanner's Baptism

by Maria and Wes

In honor of the brave volunteer Firefighters and their families

by Martha Lutz

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.

