

November 15, 2026
Generosity and Stewardship Sunday

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
8:00am - Doug Albert 10:30am- Vicki Mayk
Greeters
Carly & Randy Kocher, Ralph & Connie Gioelli
Ushers
8:00am- Kerry Snyder, Tom Anderson, Larry Todd ,Lorie Hackett
10:30am- Donna Christman, Julie Johnson, Karen Nuschke, Ralph & Connie Gioielli, Carol James
Sound
Doug Albert

Prelude Music

Morning Has Broken

Bill George, Dino Kartsonakis © 1991 Bridge Building Music, Inc. CCLI License #1523377B

Blake Hoppes

WE PREPARE THE TABLE

Welcome & Announcements

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

Call to Worship

Leader: Our focus today is on part of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, a long lesson contrasting the ways of the world with the way of God's faith. Our section today and throughout stewardship season is about the connection between our hearts and our giving. Many wealthy people in Jesus' time gave alms for the show of it, to earn status, power, and privilege. Jesus preached that alms were a given, but what mattered was the motivation, the heart.

ALL: We come together to share our hearts with God.

One: We have come in with wandering and lonely hearts.

All: God draws us together in community.

One: We have come in with confusion about sharing our gifts.

All: God offers us clarity and hope.

One: We have come in for a good word.

All: Jesus offers us this calling,
"Where our treasure is, there our hearts will be."

ALL Sung:
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator,
we are family.
Let us walk with each other
In perfect harmony.

Prayer

All: God of both secret and public places, we confess that we don't always know if our hearts are in the right place. Our motivations are sometimes self-serving and focused on immediate needs. Grant us grace and discernment as we seek to align our hearts with our resources. Renew our church as we strive to connect our ministry with your calling. Amen.

One: God's covenant with us lasts beyond struggle, beyond fault, beyond shame, beyond illness, beyond violence and even beyond death. Remember that love, now. Let it wash over you and bring you peace. Amen.

ALL Sung:
Let peace begin with me,
let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment,
and live each moment,
In peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
and let it begin with me.

"Let There Be Peace on Earth" by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson; Copyright © 1955, Renewed 1983 by Jan-Lee Music, (ASCAP All Rights Reserved. International copyright secured.)

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** #565 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending
Black Hymnal/New Century Hymnal
Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1961; Tune: Franz J. Haydn, 1797, *Public Domain*
Blake Hoppes

God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store:
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door,
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the Church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone;
born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred;
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the Gospel Word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.

Please be seated.

10:30 Children's Time – Invite Children Forward

ALL SING:
This is My commandment that you love one another,
that your joy may be full.
This is My commandment that you love one another,
that your joy may be full:
That your joy may be full,
that your joy may be full.
This is My commandment that you love one another,
that your joy may be full.

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

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.

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

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

Our Nursery is Open! Parents are welcome to stay with their little ones in our nursery during church. Listen To and watch worship together while you snack, play, and rest.

There will be no Sunday School or Children's Church on 11/29. Activity bags will be available in the lobby for both services.

Music Offering: God of the Sparrow
Carl Schalk, Arr. Joel Martinson © 1983, Arrangement © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-714125. All rights reserved.
8 am; Heritage Choir
10:30am; Horizon Choir

Scripture Reading
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

"Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The Message: So, where is your heart?

Pastor Kris and the Financial Leadership Team
Marianne Kitzmiller, Phil Wehr, Brian Horwith

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

ALL SUNG:
Love, love, love one another
Love one another for God is love.
Love, love, love one another
Love one another for God is love.

Prayers of the People

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.

ALL SUNG:
Love, love, love one another
Love one another for God is love.
Love, love, love one another
Love one another for God is love.

"Love One Another" | Words and music by Tommy Walker. © Copyright 2020 WeMobile Music. (admin. by Music Services, Inc.) All Rights Reserved. Used By Permission.

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

Faith Commitment Cards

Please complete and return your Faith Commitment Card by January 24 by placing it in the offering plate, or in the box at the sanctuary entrance, or by completing it with the link: https://bit.ly/faithcommitment26-27

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!

UNION
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Relevant • Engaged • Growing

THERE OUR HEARTS WILL BE

OUR OFFERINGS to GOD

Thank you for all that you do and all that you are to help create a church that is relevant, engaged, and growing!

Electronic Giving

Vanco Mobile

Venmo

Ways to give financially:
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 Pastor Kris if you have questions or if you'd like to learn more about other giving options like legacy or estate gifts to Union UCC.

"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also..." – Matthew 6:21

Music Offering Thank You, Lord
Dan Burgess © 1972 Bud John Song, Inc. CCLI License #1523377
Blake Hoppes

Please stand in body or spirit.

***Song**
Praise God, the Source who makes us one,
Praise Jesus Christ, beloved Son.
Our gifts we give as we've been led,
all bodies, minds, and spirits fed.
Help us show love,
Here as above,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

(Tune LASST UNS ERFREUEN)

Prayer of Dedication

Leader: Matthew 6: 21 says, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

All: Generous God, we know that faithful stewardship is not primarily about money—it is about placing our hearts in your hands, trusting that where our hearts go, our lives, choices, and resources will follow. Together, as a community shaped by grace, we will ask: Where is our treasure? How can our hearts more fully align with yours? Let our giving reflect our deepest values and commitments. Align our actions with our commitment to love and serve wholeheartedly. Transform, heal, and renew our hearts. May our generosity be rooted, joyful, and Spirit-led we pray, Amen.

Sending

One: God's word inspires us and sustains us.
All: May we build communities of generosity.
One: God's word challenges and provokes us.
All: May we build communities of belonging.
One: God's word renews and heals us.
All: May we build communities of the heart.

One: Go now with the blessings of Jesus,
who whispers to our hearts
and shouts in all creation,
where your treasure is, there your hearts will be. Amen.

***Hymn** #395 We Plow the Fields and Scatter the Good Seed
Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God (adapted)
Text: Mathias Claudius, Tr. By Jane M. Campbell; Tune: Johann A.P. Schulz
Blake Hoppes

We plough the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand:
you send the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain:
All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
we thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord
for all your love.

You only are the Maker
of all things near and far;
you paint the wayside flower,
you light the evening star;
the winds and waves obey you;
by you the birds are fed;
much more to us, your children,
you give our daily bread.

Refrain

We thank you, our provider,
for all things bright and good,
the seedtime and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
No gifts have we to offer
for all your love imparts,
but that which you most welcome:
our humble, thankful hearts.

Refrain

Postlude: The Potter's Hand
Darlen Zschech © 1997 Wondrous Worship CCLI License #1523377
Blake Hoppes

Altar Design Team: Kathy Bonsell, Claire Kern, Deb Topp, Pastor Kris

Worship Theme: "*Adapted from www.worshipdesignstudio.com/ neighbor in collaboration with https://campaignforkindness.com/.*

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)	
Last Week	$9,140.00
Calendar Year 2026 (Jan.-Oct.)	$ 319,577.00
Calendar Year 2025(Jan.-Oct.)	$ 300,763.00
Change from Last Year	**6.3%**
Budget FY 2026 (July-Oct.)	$ 116,012.00
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date *(July-Oct.)*	$ 118,285.00
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	**2.0%**
Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes	

Attendance Last Week	
8 AM	61
10:30 AM	90
Confirmation Class	11
Faith on Tap	32
Breathe	12

2026 Donations to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank:	
Last Week	$25, 450 Lbs
YTD	$625, 3,545 Lbs

Presentations to the Glory of God

Spread the Good News

Grateful to our generous congregation in supporting God's church here! - *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.*