



Rev. Kris P. Snyder-Samuelson, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kayli L. Freeman, Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. Patience Stevenson, Minister of Visitation
Maryann Puia, Interim Director Christian Education
Mr. Blake Hoppes, Minister of Music
Ms. Marissa Haney, Church Administrator
Barbara Carinci, Financial Manager
George DeNardo, Sunday Set-up
AJ DiPaolantonio, Night Lock-up
Mrs. Maria Beltz, Mr. Ori Handwerk, Facility Caretakers
CONSISTORY OFFICERS *President:* Aften Hamm, *VP:* Jason Klinger,
Secretary: Teri Fekula, *Treasurer:* Marianne Kitzmiller

5550 RTE 873, PO BOX 66,
NEFFS, PA 18065
Church Office (610) 767-6961
Office Fax (610) 767-7128
www.unionucc.org
Facebook.com/unionneffs

ANNOUNCEMENTS MAY 16, 2021

OUR PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN THIS WEEK

Please [click here](#) to put a prayer request in. The pastors will include your prayers in their daily devotions and in next week's worship bulletin.

Medical Issues/Cancer: Joe for continued healing. Sharon's family, Gloria, Kay, my brother, Gary, Marianna, Jess, Brett and family, Joyce, Stanley, Jillian, Charlie, Linda, Loyanne, Dorothy Reph and her family, Sherrie, Tom and Beverly, Darlene, Edna, Angie and her family, Al, June, Frances, Dorothy, Edna, Elaine, Tawson, Gary and Deb, Scott with cancer and his young family

General Prayers: Strength and rest our students and educators and school staffs, Richard and Lisa, strength and calmness for Kathryn, Jane and Katie, Pat, healing for Nancy, Jeff, Jack, healing and strength for those suffering from COVID 19, and strength for their families, Liz, family healing, and harmony, Al, Leona, Joyce, Tomlin family, friends battling cancer, all suffering from the pandemic, struggling families, Pat, Dorothy, Rose Marie, Nancy, Roberta, Sonia and Carolyn, Peggy for healing

Thanksgiving: Grateful for COVID vaccines, thanksgiving for mothers and fathers, for confirmation class and families, Baptism of Johnny

Congratulations and blessing to our Baptism family today:
John Stephen Gacesa IV, child of Carol and John Gacesa

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We will have Worship in the Grove at 10:30am. If you would like to stay in your car, tune your FM Radio to 102.3 FM to listen to the service.

We will continue to offer online worship through Facebook, our website, and Youtube.

Join us then or any time after that on Sunday or during the week. Bulletins and announcements are posted through links on these pages too.

If you are not able to go online, we are glad to mail you a paper bulletin of the service each week, this includes weekly announcements. Contact Marissa @

administrator@unionucc.org

You can listen to our service by phone by calling 610-410-9595

May and June Sunday Worship will be at 10:30am in the Grove

May 23– Worship in the Grove 10:30am with guest Preachers, members Kerry Snyder and Andy Dyszel.

May 30– Memorial Sunday– Remembering those who served in the military.

June 6 - Communion & Graduate Sunday

June 13 **Worship in the Grove 10:30 am. Semi-Annual Meeting after worship.** At this Semi-Annual congregational meeting, we will be presenting the Budget for review and approval. The budget is an important part of the business side of carrying out God's mission and ministry here. Please support us in this time by attending.

The meeting and worship will be livestreamed this day and we are working on creating a way for those who are at home to participate. Please watch for updates in our bulletin announcements on Sundays and on Facebook.

May God continue to bless and guide our church family as we love and serve God and our community.

Respectfully, Aften Hamm, Consistory President

June 20–Worship in the Grove 10:30am Music by Gerry Music Studio Students

June 27– Ice cream Sundae Sunday after Worship

All events: Plan to sign in, wear a mask, and socially distance. Bring a chair. Online and phone worship will also be available.

YOUTH GROUP IN THE GROVE–June 18, 6-7:30pm. Join us for fun and games in the grove All youth 6-12 grade. Friends welcome. Contact Pastor Kayli pastorkayli@unionucc.org with questions.

CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION– Sunday May 23rd following our 10:30 worship in the grove. Fire and Ice Science show/demonstration by Mad Science of the Lehigh Valley, show will start @ approximately 11:30. Bag lunch will be provided.

SVS– Summer Vacation Series– Sad there is no VBS this year? Join us in the grove for a new event....SVS....Our Summer Vacation Series. Be sure to mark your calendars! You do not want to miss these Special Evenings! Dates: June 2, 16, 30 Time: 6-7:30

Join us for 1, 2 or all 3 evenings, children and families are invited to join the fun. Each night will consist of some music, a Bible Story and a special craft/demonstration

June 2nd – Tropical Theme with Canvas Painting

June 16th – Science Theme with Experiments

June 30th – Nature Theme with a visit from Lehigh Valley Zoo

Sign-up information can be found in Weekly Updates during the month of May

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Maryann Puia @ dired@unionucc.org

HAPPY HOUR IN THE GROVE– Tuesdays June 8 and June 29 6:45pm-8:15pm

When is the last time you hung out with a pastor during Happy Hour? Now's your

chance. Pastors Kris and Kayli will offer a time to catch up and relax together.

Tell your friends you're joining us so that they show up too. Bring a chair or blanket, everyone is welcome. RSVP to one of us the day before if possible, if not just show up.

FOOD AND TOILETRY COLLECTION- Please share your donations to help support our neighbors at the Northern Lehigh Food Bank and Lehigh Conference of Churches. Come to Northside (Neffs) parking lot, and drop off your donations in the large boxes under the porch entranceway. Collections will take place every Sat. and Sun. from 8 – 4.

Watch for a special budget mailing (instead of the June newsletter) to review the budget to be voted on at our June 13 semi-annual meeting. There will be a budget discussion meeting for anyone who is interested on Sunday, June 6th at 9am by zoom.

<https://zoom.us/j/94282321468?pwd=MOJ4RC8yRmVYaWVwdHlpdjhPYnhFdzO9>

Meeting ID: 942 8232 1468 Passcode: 505021

Semi- Annual Meeting – June 13 following 10:30am Grove Worship

Please plan to attend and participate in our semi-annual meeting which will be held on Sunday June 13, 2021, following the 10:30 am worship service in the grove and on

Zoom. <https://zoom.us/j/97519016333?pwd=c2NURVR4UUUJuYUE5ZWpyRGpERThtUT09>

Meeting ID: 975 1901 6333 Passcode: 379181

Sound Team or Video Team Our sound team continues to do a great job supporting worship. They have been especially helpful this year when we've added things like the FM transmitter so folks can listen to worship from their cars and when we've worshipped outside in the grove from July-October last year and probably May-August this year. Normally we worship in the grove for 3 Sundays during the summer. Thank you sound team! **Karl Klinger, Mike Baer, Pat Sorg, Doug Albert, Drew Panner, Ian Henninger, and Blake Hoppes.** I am looking for more people to learn the sound system for outside and sanctuary worship. I am also looking for people who would like to assist us in our current video production for livestreaming and recording as well as for future plans. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Pastor Kris.

Do you play an instrument? If so, please contact Mitchell Roth, our new Instrumental Choir Director. He will help to organize players to play special music or hymns and to play on special occasions like Veterans Day and Christmas.

Mitchell Roth mqroth2005@gmail.com (484) 633-1152

GOLDEN TIMES– We are excited to announce that we will be hosting Golden Times in the Grove on **Tuesday, June 1st!** We will gather at 11 for fellowship and entertainment with Earl Ball, Accordionist! Rain date is **Wednesday, June 2nd.**

Staff Update from Pastor Kris

We have good news to share! The Search Committee presented **Tiffany Lakatosh** to Consistory for the position of Faith Formation Ministry for Children and Families (Formerly the Director of Christian Education) and they approved!

Tiffany is a member at Union UCC who grew up here and has raised her daughter, Miranda, here as well. She has served as a Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School teacher, and sang on our Saturday Night Alive team for several years. Currently she is a fitness professional that works with all ages throughout the Lehigh Valley and online.



She impressed us throughout the interview process with her enthusiasm, thoughtfulness, positive spirit, and her love for God and God's church. She has a heart and passion for working with children and families and a heart for working here.

Tiffany will start on June 1 and work with Maryann Puia (our Interim Director of Christian Education) through the month of June. We will introduce Tiffany to the congregation in worship on June 6th at 10:30 worship in the grove. We will thank Maryann for her service on Sunday, June 27th at 10:30 worship in the grove.

As part of this transition, we have also asked Kathy Bonsell to return as a consultant for 20 hours over the months of June-December.

Welcome Tiffany, thank you Maryann and Kathy!

Sabbatical News from Pastor Kris

She's going on a sabbatical again? Yes, I am. I know it seems like I just did this. Let me explain. Union UCC has been very generous and supportive of our full-time pastors by honoring the recommendations of the Penn Northeast Conference guidelines by providing the time to take a 3-month sabbatical for every 5 years of ministry. I was due for my recent sabbatical 2016 but postponed it due to all of the transitions going on. I took 1 month in the Summer of 2018 and one month in 2019, postponed the last month in 2020 due to COVID and will now take that last month this summer in 2021. (Next year in 2021 I'll be taking the next 3 months of sabbatical again, thank you!)

I will be away May 10 through June 7. I will use this time to do some reading, planning, and spending time refreshing my spirit. During this time I won't be providing pastoral care. Pastors Kayli and Patience will be available to you. See the worship schedule for some of our guest preachers to enjoy. I trust you will behave while I'm away and not work Pastors Kayli and Patience too hard. :)

I will continue to hold you in my heart and in my prayers. This year of crazy COVID has multiplied the blessings in my life as your pastor.

Hospital Information: Pastors are not allowed to visit church members when they are in the hospital, however, we'd like to be able to call on the phone and pray with you or your family. Currently most chaplain offices are no longer able to provide us with accurate information by church code. We suggest that if you or a loved one is in the hospital that you or a family member contact the church office directly to let us know.



CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION



FIRE AND ICE SCIENCE SHOW

by Mad Science of the Lehigh Valley

SUNDAY, MAY 23RD FOLLOWING OUR
10:30 WORSHIP IN THE GROVE.

SHOW WILL START

@ APPROXIMATELY 11:30 AM

*Bag lunch will be provided.



Sad there's no VBS this year?

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Time: 6-7:30



Science Theme with
Experiments
June 16th

Tropical Theme with
Canvas Painting
June 2nd



Nature Theme with
a special guest
June 30th

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Maryann Puis @ dired@unionucc.org

HAPPY HOUR IN THE GROVE

**Tuesdays June 8 and June 29
6:45pm-8:15pm**

When is the last time you hung out with a pastor during Happy Hour? Now's your chance! Pastors Kris and Kayli will offer a time to catch up and relax together. Tell your friends you're joining us so that they show up too. Bring a chair or blanket everyone is welcome.

RSVP to one of us the day before if possible, if not just show up.





Attention all high school, college, and beyond students who are graduating this year!

We know that this year has been weird for a multitude of reasons, but, we are so proud of all you have accomplished!

So let us know all about it!!! Fill out the google form with your Name, School you graduate from, future plans, etc...

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeiB-xC1vqD8rwShwt7u2_oXCdmdF7cJ93V6x46SJB1nbPaw/viewform?usp=pp_url

We will celebrate and honor our graduates during worship on June 6, 2021 @ 10:30am.

This year has been anything but normal, and in our attempt to be normal we still asked our 7th graders to be our acolytes. Though they were never able to light a single altar candle, we are still grateful and appreciative of their willingness to be our acolytes!

Thanks to: Alexis Baron, Carter Christman, Parker Haydt, Eve Horvath, Brayden Peters, Ella Stanek.

A special thanks also to Susan Glosan and Julie Wehr for rolling with punches and still supplying training (even in a video form).

We will be gathering next year's acolytes (current 6th graders) sometime in the future. Keep an eye on your mail to sign up!

