



Rev. Kris P. Snyder-Samuels, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kayli L. Freeman, Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. Patience Stevenson, Minister of Visitation
Tiffany Lakatos, Faith Formation Minister of Children
Mr. Blake Hoppes, Minister of Music
Ms. Marissa Haney, Church Administrator
Barbara Carinci, Financial Manager
Maggie Cygan/ Kiel Baer 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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS OCTOBER 17, 2021

OUR PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN THIS WEEK

To share a prayer request you may use the yellow prayer slips found in the racks in your seats and hand it to a pastor.

Medical Issues/Cancer: Veronica, Gary, Brett and Jess,, Chester, Scott, Tommy, Mackenzie, Allison, Bonnie, Bertha, John and Debbie, Sharon and Mark, Richard, Beth, Rick and Kathy, Lucy, MaryEllen, Jillian, David, Joe, Scott, Rob, Sue, Bruce diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, Jacque for strength facing brain surgery, Janice going through radiation and chemo for the 3rd time

General Prayers: Sharon, Bob, Debra, and Bertie, Jack, Chris, Russ, Carrie, Ryan and Jake, Kyle, Jim, Ollie, a sister, Vic and Sherry. Mary on the passing of her husband, the Pruneski family on Larry's passing, school board members and superintendents making hard decisions right now regarding the safety of our children, those work in food industry facing stress, therapeutic and counseling staffs, and everyone who is struggling with extra Covid-related stress and loss, family and friends of Uncle Jim, Charlie, Joe, Rose and Tom, teachers and school staff struggling to make up for the lack of substitutes.

Thanksgiving: Grateful for COVID vaccines, health care workers and school staffs, encouraging friends and the many people who love and support us, Union UCC family.

Hospital: Lvcc John Romig, LVCC – Lisa Minnich

Thoughts and Prayers To the family and friends of **Andrew B. Howett** who passed on October 5, 2021. Services were held on October 12, 2021.
To the family and friends of **Frank Shiovone** who passed on October 7, 2021. Services were held on October 13, 2021.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

UPDATE:

Please continue to visit the welcome tables to receive your bulletin (and communion) and to share your offering.

Sanctuary Guidelines Worship Fall 2021

We will open the church at 7am, with worship services at 8am and 10:30am. Please go to the welcome tables at each door for your bulletin and to share your offering (and to pick up Communion) before entering the sanctuary.

Masks are required for worship on Sundays, church group meetings, and all events and gatherings inside the building for everyone over the age of 3 regardless of vaccination status. Pews will be marked to allow for 3 feet of distancing. Please sit in open areas only. The balcony will be open.

On Communion Sundays, we will continue to use the prefilled communion cups of grape juice and a gluten free cracker. Please use the ziploc bag to take your garbage with you.

For now, there will not be congregational singing. Music will be provided by soloists and instrumentalists. Please gather with others for conversation outside of the building. The pastors will greet you outside on the porches.

We hope to evaluate and edit these precautions when vaccination rates continue to increase, COVID (and variant) numbers continue to decrease, and guidelines are updated for churches and our region. There is no guarantee of complete safety from transmission of the COVID-19 virus, but we will continue to do our best to keep our members, friends, and families as safe as possible.

We are grateful for the love of this church family and for God's love which sustains and carries us during this challenging time.

~ The Pastors and Consistory of Union UCC

October 24 8am and 10:30am Worship

October 31 8am and 10:30am Worship, All Saints Sunday: We will remember and give thanks for those church members who have passed away this year since November 1st, 2020 and those for whom our pastors presided over funerals. A flower will be placed on the altar for family members to receive.

November 7 8am and 10:30am Worship, Active Duty Military and Veterans Honored

Little Lambs Nursery: The nursery is open to families who may need to use it. It will not be overseen by staff or volunteers at this time. Parents and adult family members are responsible for their children. We will provide the livestream of worship for you while you utilize the room. Please sign in on the clipboard and use

the bin for used toys. Thank you for understanding and being flexible during this time.

Adult Faith Formation Classes with Pastor Kris

Love is the Way-Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times by Bishop Michael Curry. Fridays 9:30-11am, Youth Room Oct 22 (No class Oct 29)

Sundays 9:15-10:15 Room 5 Oct 17,24.

Oct 31 and Nov 7 with Rev. Patience

Please contact Pastor Kris if you'd like to join us virtually.

Baptisms We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month when we meet in person. Our next dates are Sunday, November 7 and January 9, 2022. Families can sign up to have their children baptized during the worship service in the sanctuary or in a private service with family and pastors.

To sign up: Call the church office at 610-767-6961 or email Marissa Haney at administrator@unionucc.org

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 every Sunday. Thank you sound team! **Karl Klinger, Mike Baer, Pat Sorg, Doug Albert, Dawn Dengler, and Blake Hoppes.** Would you like to help the sound team? Or assist us in our current video production for livestreaming and recording as well as for future plans? Please reach out to me, Pastor Kris

United Way has kicked off it's campaigns and it is time to make your designations. If your company matches funds, this is a great time to add Union UCC to your giving. Please work with your HR or Personnel departments to include us in this year's campaign. Thanks in advance for your generous support!

Collecting Luggage Kids Peace is looking for used duffel bags and suitcases to help when kids are moved to and from their homes to foster homes. If you have items to donate please bring them to church on the North Porch during the week or bring them inside the building on Sundays in Memorial Hall on the floor in front of the stage. Please make sure items are clean and in usable condition. We will be collecting items through November 7th. Thank you for your care and support. We are sharing this effort with Heidelberg Union Church. The Mission Committee

Rev. Patience Announces Her Retirement

Rev. Patience is turning that certain age in October and has announced her retirement as our Pastor of Visitation. We are very happy for her as she anticipates this next chapter in her life. But, we are sad to see her leave us. She has faithfully served as our first Pastor of Visitation for the last 15 years. She will continue to serve here through December 31st, 2021. We plan to celebrate and thank her on Sunday, December 5th at 8am and 10:30am Worship. Please participate in a card and gift shower to honor her ministry among us by sending your card and gift to Donna Christman at 5820 PA Rte 873, Slatington, PA 18080 by November 1st. Checks made to "Donna Christman." You are also invited to drop off your cards and gifts on Sundays in the offering plate as long as they are clearly marked for Donna Christman/Rev. Patience. Please take this time to thank Rev. Patience with best wishes, words of gratitude, and stories about how her ministry has been meaningful to you and your family. We have been blessed by her presence of leadership as a pastor and we look forward to receiving your words of appreciation as well as the chance to celebrate her work here.

History of the Pastor Of Visitation Position

When Pastor Thomas Thomas was called here as pastor in 1984 he was the only pastor on staff for this large church. A few years later he and the church leaders realized that an Associate Pastor position needed to be created in order to cover all of the pastoral responsibilities for this growing and healthy congregation. Union UCC called a few part-time associates in the transition and then called Janice Dey as the first full-time Associate. She served here for nine years. In this interim several part-time pastors helped Pastor Thomas who focused on pastoral care. After a 2-year interim, Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuelsan was called as the Associate Pastor. Shortly after she began her work here, she and Pastor Tom realized that the church had grown in its focus on children and youth ministries and now needed to focus on their ministries with older adults. They created the Pastor of Visitation position to help meet those needs and Pastor Kris created the Helping Hearts and Communion Ministers groups to support the position and the care being provided to our adults. In September of 2006 Rev. Dr. Patience Stevenson was called as our first Pastor of Visitation. She has been serving in a variety of ways averaging 10 hours a week with a focus on caring for our members on our visitation list, supporting and organizing our Helping Hearts and Communion Ministers, leading our Golden Times monthly senior adult gathering, sharing hospital visits and general member care with the other pastors, officiating at funerals, assisting in worship monthly, and preaching quarterly. She also helped to organize our Green Team and our care for God's creation efforts. We look forward to building on the wonderful foundation of pastoral care, programming, and spiritual nourishment that Rev. Patience has provided to so many of us.

Search Committee for the Pastor of Visitation

The Consistory has called the following people to serve on the Search Committee: those from Church and Ministry – **Donna Christman, Ardith Kuhns, Teresa Dalrymple, Eric Minnich, Aften Hamm** and additional members – **Rev. Bill Metzger, Dan Topp, Phil Wehr, Carrington Smith, Pastor Kayli, and Pastor Kris.**

We will keep you posted on the timeline and progress of our process.

UNION UCC AND UNION LUTHERAN

INVITE YOU TO

Trunk
or
Treat



WHERE: Neffs UNION UCC GROVE PARKING LOT and UNION LUTHERAN PARKING LOT

WHEN: SATURDAY, October 23rd (rain or shine)
1:00—3:00pm

WHAT: A safe FAMILY trick or treating event

- Wear a costume!
- Trunk or treat with your family from car to car
- No Pets, please!
- Have a ton of fun!

If you are interested in decorating your car and handing out treats, sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DACA723A7FC1-trunk> or email Tiffany at dired@unionucc.org.

Faith on Tap

God, Beer, and Conversation

Kornfeind's Market & Pub
2228 Old Post Rd, Coplay

Monday, October 25th

6:30-8:30pm

Park in the back of the store and enter from there.

Cost: Your drink (Beer, Wine, Iced Tea, Water), FREE Admission

Sign up to save your spot. Use the link below.

Space is limited.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-faith3>



So what is Pub Theology? In a nutshell, it's people sitting around a table, talking about issues of faith and philosophy, ethics and ideas over a beverage. It is a safe space, where people can be honest and open about topics of faith, ask any questions, and at the end of the night, know that it's perfectly fine if we disagree with one another.

Pub Theology 101, Berghoef

Led by **Joe Kornfeind**, the owner of Kornfeind's Market and Associate Dean of Business at Muhlenberg College, and

• **Kris Snyder-Samuelson**, Senior Pastor at Union.UCC in Neffs.