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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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS NOVEMBER 21, 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, Chester, Scott, Tommy, Mackenzie, Allison, Bonnie, Bertha, Sharon and Mark, Richard, Beth, Lucy, Jillian, David, Joe, Scott, Rob, Sue, Jacque for strength facing brain surgery, Janice going through radiation and chemo, Beth, Alta with MS, Bruce facing medical decisions, Harry for strength following surgery, Sherry, Elaine, Tony in treatment, Lisa for continued improvement

**General Prayers:** Sharon, Bob, Debra, and Bertie, Jack, Chris, Russ, Carrie, Ryan and Jake, Kyle, Jim, Ollie, a sister, Vic and Sherry, Charlie, Joe, Rose and Tom, peace and comfort for a sister, Mabelyn, Luis, Lucy, Terry facing surgery, Jacque for healing and strength, healing for Hannah after her surgery, Peggy, Katie

**Thanksgiving:**

# 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.

**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.

Congregational singing resumes in November.

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

**November 28** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, Communion

**December 5** 2<sup>nd</sup> **Sunday of Advent**, Rev. Patience Retirement Celebration,

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, Penn Northeast Conference

Minister

**December 12** 2<sup>nd</sup> **Sunday of Advent**

**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 in 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.

**Choir** Horizon Choir - Rehearsals every Sunday at 9:15am in the choir room.

Heritage Choir - Rehearsals every Sunday at 7:15am in the choir room. High

School Choir - 8th through 12th grade after the 10:30 service in the choir

room. Kids Choir - kindergarten through 7th grade @ 6pm and we'll continue to

meet every Tuesday in the choir room.

**Thanksgiving meals served at St. John's UCC, Slatington** – St. John's is hosting a community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 25 free of charge to anyone. Free-will donations are accepted and profits support the Northern Lehigh Food Bank. The dinner will be served as pick-up or delivery this year, no sit-down service will be available. If you would like to donate a turkey, money for food supplies or baked goods, contact Lisa Hofmann at [lehofmann9@gmail.com](mailto:lehofmann9@gmail.com) or 610-760-9991 Pastor Kris is volunteering this year from 11am-2pm on Thursday, let her know if you'd like to join her and she'll sign you up.

**Bakers Needed for Lights in the Grove on Saturday, December 4th 3-5pm.**

**Raindate Sunday, Dec 5 3-5pm.** We would love it if you could make some baked goods for this event. Could you make a batch or two of: Rice Krispie treats (individually wrapped), Christmas cookies (a snack bag of 6 small cookies or an individually wrapped large cookie), brownies (individually wrapped), or your favorite recipe of any kind of Chex Mix recipe (individual portions in a snack bag size -half of a sandwich size bag). We always need a Gluten Free option too. Please label your items if they include nuts or peanut butter. Please deliver items to the grove food stand that Saturday anytime after 12noon until 3pm. If you If you need to deliver items on Friday, drop them off at the church office 9am-3pm. Please sign up and help us share some Christmas cheer with our church and community. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4ca8a823a7fa7-bakers>

**Meditation Gatherings by Zoom with Pastor Kris** Looking for a way to deal with stress? Trying to be more mindful in your life? We start each session with a time to check in with each other and share a topic or discussion question. Kris leads us in a guided meditation for 20-30 minutes. After the meditation, folks can stay to talk or quietly leave. If you're interested in joining us contact Kris at [pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org).

**Dates: Tuesday, December 7 7-8:00pm, and Tuesday, January 11 7-8:00pm.** We are meeting virtually by zoom. Here's the link.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89386319277?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89386319277?pwd=UFFTRVJxdXVDZ0VFWndyY1d4cGIFQT09)  
[pwd=UFFTRVJxdXVDZ0VFWndyY1d4cGIFQT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89386319277?pwd=UFFTRVJxdXVDZ0VFWndyY1d4cGIFQT09)

Meeting ID: 893 8631 9277 Passcode: 411524

**Golden Times**– Strolling Strings will be coming **Dec. 14th!** We will meet at 11 am in Memorial Hall and have a bagged lunch to go.

**Food Bank**- Union UCC provided 200 five pound bags of potatoes to the Northern Lehigh Food Bank for their Thanksgiving food distribution on Nov 20.

**STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFTS** In the tradition of giving gifts to friends and loved ones, our church has traditionally expressed our love and appreciation for our hard-working pastors and staff by presenting each with a monetary gift. If you'd like to share in this gift, please send a check payable to Donna Christman at 5820 PA Rte 873, Slatington, PA 18080 and mail to her at **no later than Sunday, Dec 15.** You may also place it in the Church and Ministry mailbox near the church office. Any questions, email Donna at [dec12221@hotmail.com](mailto:dec12221@hotmail.com). Thank you.

### 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 31<sup>st</sup>, 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. 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.

# SANTA'S ATTIC & BOOK SALE



*Huge*  
**SPECIALS**

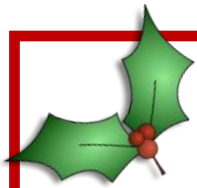
SUNDAYS, NOVEMBER 21 & 28  
7AM-NOON

MEMORIAL HALL

(Please do not bring new merchandise)

Choose your tags from the Salvation  
Army Angel Tree

Plus pick up your 2022 Envelopes



Union UCC's HOLIDAY challenge  
**REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR**

This year, we will be once again handing out baskets and advent calendars to interested families. The idea is to put something IN the basket each day of Advent. Put a sticker on your calendar each day you place something in the basket. Bring the filled basket back to church between December 24th and January 2nd and we will deliver your Holiday donation to the FOOD BANK. Help your family give to others every day of Advent. Baskets will be handed out 11/21 and 11/28. (You can use your own basket/box, if desired.)

(Item Ideas: shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, pasta, canned goods, condiments, cake and brownie mixes, jello, pudding, cereal, socks, mittens, undies, children's books, crayons, toilet paper, etc.)



**Reverse Advent  
Basket**



Share the joy of Christmas with our **Members on our visitation list.**

You can also sponsor a **Poinsettia for our church services** during the Christmas Christmas Eve week in memory of a loved one, or in honor of someone.

**The cost of a Poinsettia is \$8.25.** Please fill out the form below and return the form and payment (please make the check payable to Union UCC) and put it in the offering plate, or put the form and payment in the mail and address it to: Union UCC Poinsettia Plant Order PO Box 66 Neffs, PA 18065-0066. You can also order on our website under online giving. [https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco\\_ver3.vps?appver3=wWsk24ZWJSTZKsGd1RMKlg0BDvsSG3VIWQCPJNNxDsupkiY7JlDavDsozUE7KG0nFx2NSoS8LdUKGuGuF396vbT7q8tlCbXgdMlwdBGTvl4mXHubq5Z7ap5JVmPErc4ZeYHCKCZhESjGNQmZ5B-6dxzFIXYKd1yijB29TOHwCL9I=&ver=3](https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=wWsk24ZWJSTZKsGd1RMKlg0BDvsSG3VIWQCPJNNxDsupkiY7JlDavDsozUE7KG0nFx2NSoS8LdUKGuGuF396vbT7q8tlCbXgdMlwdBGTvl4mXHubq5Z7ap5JVmPErc4ZeYHCKCZhESjGNQmZ5B-6dxzFIXYKd1yijB29TOHwCL9I=&ver=3)

**Deadline for ordering Poinsettias is Sunday, November 29, 2021**

## POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

**\$8.25 each**



I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ plants for the Home Bound

I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ plants for the Sanctuary. I will pick up my Poinsettia plant **after a Christmas Eve service on Dec 22nd, 23rd, and 24th.**

(Please circle one)      YES      NO

Envelope Number \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

# *Faith on Tap*

## **God, Beer, and Conversation**

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

**Monday, November 29th**

**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-faith4>

"A great place to share questions and meet others while I'm working on my relationship with the church."



"What a good night out!  
No kids!! And food for the soul."



"Thanks for FOT, it's an interesting concept you are exploring."



"The 401G idea really has me thinking about my spiritual portfolio."

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

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





UNION UCC IN NEFFS PRESENTS

# LIGHTS IN THE GROVE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4TH  
3-5PM

RAINDATE SUNDAY, DEC 5TH 3-5PM

**FREE admission**

**Donate new hats, gloves or scarves for the 6th St Shelter.**

- ◆ Live Christmas Music by Blake Hoppes
- ◆ Lights by Christmas Decor
- ◆ Crafts for everyone, assemble here or take home.
- ◆ Hot Chocolate and Snacks to Go
- ◆ Santa! Bring your letter or write one here to deliver to him today.

**Enjoy the lights! They will be on every night in December!**

Sponsors: Larry Wehr in Memory of Carlton and Velma Wehr  
Phil and Julie Wehr in Celebration of Christmas at Union UCC

[www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org) 5550 Route 873 Neffs

Bring a chair, masks optional, practice safe distancing.

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE Sundays at 8am and 10:30am In the Sanctuary, unless noted**

**November 14 401G Sunday... What is a 401G Sunday???\***

**November 20 at 7pm – Handel's *Messiah***

Welcome in the Holiday season with 12 singers with Interrupted Silence and Elysium String Quartet for Handel's *Messiah*. Do not miss the Christmas portion and Hallelujah Chorus from this

Baroque Masterwork being presented in our beautifully decorated sanctuary in Neffs!

**\$15 General Admission Ticket**

**November 21 Thanksgiving Sunday**

**November 28 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, Communion**

**Saturday, Dec 4 Lights in the Grove 3-5pm (Raindate: Dec 5)**

**FREE Admission – Donate hats, gloves, mittens to the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Shelter**

Live Christmas Music by Blake Hoppes, Lights by Christmas Décor, Crafts for everyone, assemble here or take home. Hot Chocolate and Snacks to Go and Santa!

**December 5 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Rev. Patience Retirement Celebration, Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, Penn Northeast Conference Minister**

**December 12 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Sunday, December 12 at 7pm Parkland Chorale Holiday Concert**

**December 19 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Lessons and Carols by Interrupted Silence, Horizon Choir, & Community Choir**

**CHRISTMAS EVE in the Sanctuary**

**Masks Required, Registration Required, Limited Seating**

**Wednesday, December 22 at 7pm Christmas Eve Service, Candlelight and Communion, Special Music**

**Thursday, December 23 at 7pm Christmas Eve Service, Candlelight and Communion, Special Music**

**Friday, December 24 at 3pm, 5pm, and 8pm**

Christmas Eve Service, Candlelight and Communion, Special Music  
Interrupted Silence Ensemble at 3pm and 5pm

**December 26 -No 8am Worship, Only 10:30am Worship with our Young Adults and College Students**

**January 2 – No 8am Worship, Only 10:30am Worship**

**January 9 – 8am and 10:30 Worship, Communion, 401G**

**Sunday\***