



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 NOVEMBER 7, 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, John and Debbie, Sharon and Mark, Richard, Beth, Rick and Kathy, Lucy, MaryEllen, Jillian, David, Joe, Scott, Rob, Sue, Bruce diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, Jacquie for strength facing brain surgery, Janice going through radiation and chemo for the 3rd time, Rob, Beth, Alta with MS

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, family and friends of Uncle Jim, Charlie, Joe, Rose and Tom, teachers and school staff struggling to make up for the lack of substitutes, peace and comfort for a sister, Mabelyn, Luis, Lucy, Terry facing surgery

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, Prayer for happiness to Janice Herzog and Larry Lentz who were united in the eyes of God with their commitment ceremony on October 30.

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 14 401G Sunday... What is a 401G Sunday?

November 21 Thanksgiving Sunday

November 28 1st Sunday of Advent, Communion

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 Sundays 9:15-10:15 Room 5
Nov 7 with Rev. Patience

Baptisms We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month when we meet in person. Our next date is Sunday, 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

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 beginning on October 17th.

High School Choir - 8th through 12th grade. We'll start our weekly rehearsals on October 17th after the 10:30 service in the choir room.

Kids Choir - kindergarten through 7th grade. Our first rehearsal will be on October 12th @ 6pm and we'll continue to meet every Tuesday in the choir room.

Masks are required for everyone when they are in the building regardless of vaccination status. We ask that singers wear masks during rehearsals and performances as well.

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. Watch for details.

If you would like to donate a turkey, money for food supplies or baked goods, please contact Lisa Hofmann at 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.

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.

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

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

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

November 19 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 1st Sunday of Advent, Communion

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

FREE Admission – Donate hats, gloves, mittens to the 6th 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 2nd Sunday of Advent, Rev. Patience Retirement Celebration, Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, Penn Northeast Conference Minister

December 12 2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 12 at 7pm Parkland Chorale Holiday Concert

December 19 4th 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*



We look forward to providing clients of Family Promise nutritious meals and a warm and safe shelter for the week of November 14-21. Although our facility isn't available, we will provide homecooked dinners, gift cards for groceries to purchase breakfast and lunch, and some funding to offset the cost of the week at a hotel that has been part of the services during the height of the Covid-19 crisis.

The Steering Committee is looking for volunteers to cook and deliver dinners, to donate grocery cards, and to provide funds for the hotel stay. If you would like to help these families stay together and get back into their own homes, please join the Family Promise volunteer group here at Union. Questions regarding any aspect of the program (cooking a meal, donating gift cards, or paying for an evening at the hotel) can be directed to Susan Smith at susancarrington@hotmail.com or (610)366-7284.

Our upcoming hosting is scheduled for Nov. 14-21. Families will be housed at WoodSpring Suites Hotel in Allentown. We will be providing dinners and grocery gift cards for them to purchase their own breakfast, lunch, and snack foods. If you'd like to prepare a meal, please click on the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b44aaaa23a31-family>

Please read the instructions as there are allergies and food aversions. If you'd like to provide a grocery gift card, please sign up under the Sunday, Nov. 14 slot. If you'd like to make a monetary donation, please send your donation to the church office (marked Family Promise, Barbara Carinci).

You are a blessing to many in need; you are much appreciated!

BLOOD DONORS SAVE LIVES



Union United Church of Christ-Neffs is hosting a blood drive to save lives at Miller-Keystone Blood Center. Our only source of blood is from donors like you!

JOIN US
NOV. 15TH - NOV. 20TH



GROUP ID 0550

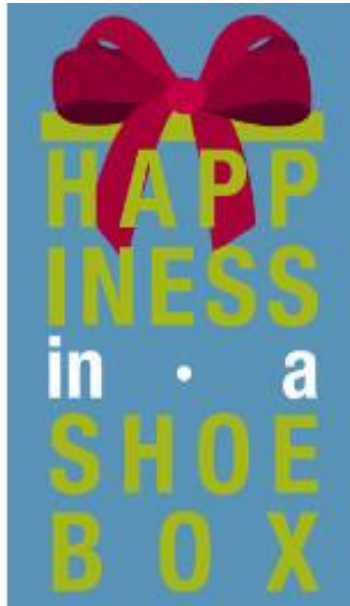
MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD CENTER

1255 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Ste 1300, Allentown
1465 Valley Center Parkway, Bethlehem

Schedule your blood donation by calling **1-800-223-6667** and mention **Group ID 0550** or visit [GIVEaPINT.org](https://www.giveapint.org) and include the Group ID in the notes section of the form.



GIVEaPINT.org | 1-800-B-A-DONOR



- Pick a gift tag (in foyer on 11/7 & 11/14)
- Shop for your child using the gift suggestion sheet
- Wrap the top and bottom of your standard size shoebox separately
- Pack your shoebox

**PLEASE BRING
YOUR FILLED and
WRAPPED SHOE-
BOX TO CHURCH BY**



SHOEBOX
Collection



**Volunteer Center
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY**

INTERRUPTED SILENCE
VOCAL ENSEMBLE



PRESENTS

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

November 20
7:00pm
Union UCC, Neffs

November 21
3:00pm
St. Johns UCC, Fogelsville





Welcome in the holiday season with 12 singers and a string quartet. You won't want to miss the Christmas portion and Hallelujah Chorus from this Baroque Masterwork!

ELYSUM
QUARTET



\$15 General Admission

 
@interruptedsilenceensemble
Contact: interruptedsilenceensemble@gmail.com

Tickets can be purchased via
EventBrite & Facebook
or at the Door
(Subject to Availability)



Masks Required for Audience Members



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 5550 Route 873 Neffs

Bring a chair, masks optional, practice safe distancing.