

Rev. Kris P. Snyder-Samuelson, Senior Pastor Rev. Kayli L. Freeman, Associate Pastor Rev. Dr. Patience Stevenson, Minister of Visitation Tiffany Lakatosh, 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

Secretary: Teri Fekula, Treasurer: Marianne Kitzmiller

CONSISTORY OFFICERS President: Aften Hamm, VP: Jason Klinger,

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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.

<u>Medical Issues/Cancer:</u> Veronica, Gary, Chester, Scott, Tommy, Mackenzie, Allison, David, Scott, Rob, Sue, Beth, Alta with MS, Sherry, Elaine, Tony in treatment, Lisa, Rich, Deb and John, Beverly with cancer, Missy with recurrent breast cancer, Alex, Jim, Brian recovering from surgery

<u>General Prayers:</u> peace and comfort for a sister, Mabelyn, Luis, Lucy, Jacquie for healing and strength, healing for Hannah after her surgery, Peggy, Katie, sister for peace and comfort, prayers for a daughter, Nancy for continued healing, Izzy

Thanksgiving: Supportive family and friends, the music of the season

Congratulations and blessings: to **Jason Klinger and Cori Rubel** who were married on December 17, 2021.

To **Zackary Merkle and Chelsea Harlan** who were married on December 18, 2021.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Masks Required in Sanctuary and Building
Sunday Worship at 8am and 10:30am in the Sanctuary
December 26 -No 8am Worship, Only 10:30am Worship
January 2 - No 8am Worship, Only 10:30am Worship
January 9 - 8am and 10:30 Worship, Communion, 401G Sunday
January 16 8am and 10:30 Worship, Baptism at 10:30
January 23 8am and 10:30am Worship, Semi-Annual Meeting worship

It is that time of the year where we come together to review the work of our Church Family. At this Semi-Annual congregational meeting, we will be presenting the reviewing the financials to date, reviewing our semi-annual audit and taking and/or presenting nominations for Consistory. This is not possible without your support. Please plan to attend and participate in our Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting which will be held January 23, 2022 at the end of 10:30am worship in the church and on zoom.

Zoom Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84305387826?
pwd=cWJRR05WZWl6K1hTY3BmcVg0dkU2Zz09

Meeting ID: 843 0538 7826 Passcode: 757559

We sincerely thank each and every person who has supported our church. Please continue to support us in this time by being in engaged attendance. May God continue to bless our church family and those we are able to help! Respectfully,

Aften Hamm Consistory President

<u>Little Lambs Nursery:</u> 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.

<u>Choir</u> 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.

<u>The 2022 envelope packets</u> Envelope packets for 2022 are ready for pick up in Memorial Hall, Please find yours along with those of family members, neighbors or friends. The more envelope packets picked up, the more we save on postage costs. Please do not use the new envelopes until 2022, everyone gets new numbers each year. Members who use the e-giving program do not receive envelope packets. Your financial support is greatly appreciated all year long to continue the many and varied missions and ministries of Union UCC.

<u>Women's Retreat Weekend April 22-24, 2022</u> Trout Lake Retreats, Stroudsburg Cost: \$145 \$75 Deposit due January 9, \$70 Balance due April 3, Payment plans and financial assistance available. Checks to Union UCC, Memo Line – Women's

Retreat. Friends and family members are welcome. Leader and more Info: Pastor Kris, NOTE: If you already paid for this retreat in 2019, your spot is reserved, but still confirm with Kris. If you are no longer able to attend, we can only give a refund if someone new signs up to fill your spot.

Adult Faith Formation classes- Fridays 9:30-11am, Room 5. The Difficult Words of Jesus Amy-Jill Levine, continued. January 7, 14, 21 (No Class Jan 28) Sundays 9:15-10:15 Room 5. January 9, 16, 23 (No Class Jan 30) Please contact Pastor Kris if you'd like to join us in person or virtually by zoom or if you'd like a copy of the book if you can't join us.

<u>New Member Sessions</u> Our next new member gatherings are Sunday, February 13 and 20 at 9:15-10:15 in Memorial Hall. Joining would happen on Sunday, February 27th at 8am or 10:30am worship. To share your questions and interest in learning more contact Pastor Kris <u>PastorKris@unionucc.org</u>

<u>Baptism</u> We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month when we meet in person. Our next dates are Sunday, January 16, 2022 and March 6, 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

Search Committee for the Pastor of Visitation

The position has been posted and we are receiving resumes. We hope to do interviews in the new year. Committee members: Donna Christman, Ardith Kuhns, Teresa Dalrymple, Eric Minnich, Aften Hamm, Rev. Bill Metzger, Dan Topp, Phil Wehr, Carrington Smith, Pastor Kayli, and Pastor Kris.

<u>Ori Handwerk</u>, came back to work this week, welcome back Ori! Thank you **Wes Beltz** for helping to cover the custodian responsibilities with his supervisor/ wife **Beltz**, our other custodian. Grateful for both of you!

Rev. Patience's Retirment

What a wonderful celebration we shared on
December 5th to celebrate the 15 years of Rev. Patience's ministry with us as our
Pastor of Visitation. Thank you to everyone who shared generously with
donations to provide a caricature of her created by artist Linda LaDeu, a bird
house, an insect house, a quilt piece by our quilters, almonds, chocolates, gift
cards from The Brickhouse Tavern, Crystal Spring Dairy, Randall's Orchard,
Amazon, Birds Unlimited, Edge of the Woods, a cash gift, and a lovely coffee
hour. Well deserved, Rev. Patience! A reminder that Rev. Patience will no longer
be available for pastoral care here at Union UCC. She can not visit you in the
hospital or at home, attend worship or events, or officiate at funerals. This is
part of the boundaries established and carried out by the Penn Northeast
Conference, the UCC, and the best practices of pastors as they move through
these transitions. Appropriate boundaries also preclude her from seeing you as
clients in her private practice.

We will all miss her presence and care. And, we wish her all the best in her retirement.

Call for Prayer for Those Affected by Tornadoes in Kentucky

Friends, we woke this morning to the news that at least 5 states—Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri and Tennessee—were hit by tornadoes on Friday night. Among them, parts of Kentucky, particularly Mayfield, KY, were hardest hit. Sources report at least 70 dead in Kentucky alone.

We are writing both to ask you to hold in prayer those in our Conference in Kentucky who may have been affected by these deadly storms, and also all those in any place who have been affected by this natural disaster. For life and limb, property and security, we pray that God will be present to those who suffer and that God will motivate those of us who can help to offer the work of our hands, prayers, and donations.

Our Disaster Preparedness and Ministry Response Team (DPMRT) is already at work reaching out to area partners to see how and where we can provide aid. When we have details about ways you can help, we will share them via email and on our Facebook page. Until a plan for action solidifies, we invite you to donate to the IKC DPMRT by clicking the button, below. You will be directed to donate through PayPal to the IKC. When you process the PayPal donation, please be sure to add "DPMRT" to the field "Add special instructions to the seller" (refer to the screenshot included in this email

Your prayers and donations are a blessing. Thank you for your compassion.

With thanksgiving for your attention and assistance, Rev. Chad Abbott, Conference Minister Rev. Greg Denk, DPRMT chair and your IKC leadership

Donate Here:

http://ikcucc.org/connect/donate/

You can also give checks at church made to PNEC with DPMRT Kentucky in the memo line.



