

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, August 20, 2023

Rev. Kris Penrose Snyder, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Kayli L. Freeman, Associate Pastor  
Tiffany Lakatos, Faith Formation Minister of Children  
Carrie Beleno, Pastor of Visitation  
Mr. Blake Hoppes, Minister of Music

Marissa Haney, Church Administrator  
Barbara Carinci, Financial Manager  
Payge Haydt Sunday Set-up  
Hannah and Ryleigh Minnich Sunday Set-up  
Bryce and Luke Thrash, Night Lock-up  
Shelly & Ori Handwerk, Facility Caretakers

CONSISTORY OFFICERS

President: Eric Minnich, VP: Don Penrod, Secretary: Janice Metzger, Treasurer: Marianne Kitzmiller

## THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN

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. Or submit [online here](#).

### *Medical*

Sharon and Mark, Ed, Beth, Dana diagnosed with cancer, Charlie with pancreatic cancer, Nan recovering, Carol, a friend in the hospital, Jillian, Joyce, mom with returning cancer, Bill and Marilyn, my husband's health and healing, healing from recent operation, prayers for my father, new medicine to help my grandson, Barbara, Diane, Jamie, Marlene, Dorothy, Susie, Linda, Maria, Mary Ellen, granddaughter with eye problems, 99 year old mom with health problems, mother with dementia

### *General*

To continue to live as normal life as possible, to get through difficult times and a period of adjustment. Direction in life, adjusting to losing mom, clarity and guidance, to continue to provide faith-filled opportunities at our church. My husband and I to start our family, good health, to develop my spiritual, mental, and physical health, adjusting to senior years, to listen to God and trust his path for me, continued health and happiness, health and strength, empty nest and caring for parents, last step in getting my Master's degree, to build my own family, continued prayers after loss of husband, learning to say no/stretching myself too thin, for Josh applying to the Air Force, for Dylan at Navy basic training, strength through transitions, sister for healing, Jerry, children during divorce, thankfulness for answered prayers

Congratulations and blessings to **Melissa Davis and Jim Bilger** who were married on 8/19/2023.

Prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of **Leonard Chowansky** who passed on August 12, 2023. Services were held on August 18, 2023.

## August Worship

10:30am Sunday worship only through September 3<sup>rd</sup>

**August 20** Pray with A Pastor

**August 27** Worship in the Grove

**September 3** Labor Sunday

**September 10** 8am and 10:30am worship, Education Hour and Children's Church Resumes

**Summer Coffee Hour** will continue on Sundays after 10:30 worship. Stop by in Memorial Hall for some cool lemonade, juice, water, and a snack and visit with friends and pastors.

**While everyone's response to loss is unique, people facing loss and grief will experience many of the same challenges. The weekly GriefShare topics address these common struggles—providing valuable tips, encouragement, and direction: loneliness, fear, anger, regret, relationships, hope and much more.**

Carrie Beleno, Pastor of Visitation at Union UCC, Neffs and Bob Gutekunst, Pastor of Grace UCC are beginning a GriefShare group on Mondays, September 11-December 11 (no Nov.

27) from 6:30-8pm in the Memory Room on the 2nd floor at Union UCC.

Cost is \$5 at the first meeting. Space is limited so please register early:

<https://www.griefshare.org/groups/172660/registrations/new>

or email Carrie at [vispastor@unionucc.org](mailto:vispastor@unionucc.org)

We look forward to sharing this special ministry with our congregations and the community!

Union UCC 5550 Route 873 Neffs, PA 18065  
610-767-6961 [www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org)



*Help and encouragement after the death of a loved one. GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life. We know it hurts, and we want to help.*

# BLUES NITE OUT

Neffs Church Grove  
Saturday, August 26  
4pm-10pm

A night of music  
under the trees.

Admission is Free  
Food is available to  
purchase.

Bring a chair or  
blanket.



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

**Bakers can you sweeten our Blues Night Out event on Saturday, Aug 26 with your wonderful baked goods?**

Please bake: cakes, cupcakes (icing can be tricky in the heat...), cookies, brownies, muffins, fudge, rice krispie treats, cheesecake cupcakes, choc cream cheese cupcakes, bar cookies. No pies, please. Hand pies are ok.

We always like to have 1 sugar free option and 1 Gluten Free option.

Please deliver to the grove stand on Saturday 12noon-5pm.

Please do not precut, our volunteers will take care of that. If possible, please use a disposable tray.

If you can help – please sign up using this link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-baked9>

In June you received a letter asking you to complete the information form and survey that was mailed with the letter.

If you haven't returned your form to the church office yet, please do so.

Here's the online link to complete it:

<https://forms.gle/JEZM4v4EcZ29EktMA>

Copies are available at worship or you can contact the church office.

# Back to School Blessing

8/20, 8/27, 9/3 & 9/10

All students, educators, and school employees are invited to bring their backpacks, tote bags, laptop bags, and tool belts to worship for a special blessing to begin the new school year.

## School Supply Drive

We will be collecting school supplies for local students from now until the end of September.

Donations can be dropped off at the church. If you would like to donate using our Target registry (<https://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/schoolsuppliesneffs>) any items can be delivered directly to the church.

If you have any questions contact Tiffany at [dired@union.ucc.org](mailto:dired@union.ucc.org)





## KICK OFF FALL MINI GOLF AND ICE CREAM!

All Youth grades 6th-12th are invited to join us for an afternoon of mini golf and ice cream! Meet us there, play a round, enjoy a treat!

**When: September 16, 2023**

**Time: 2:00pm**

**Where: Rolling Hills Recreation ( 4565 Spring Hill Dr, Schnecksville, PA 18078 )**

Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0f48aead2ba2fe3-kick>

## Y.A.T. LUNCH AND FUN

All youth are invited to the YAT Lunch and fun! We'll eat yummy food, plan some fun things, and spend time together

**When: September 24, 2023**

**Time: 11:30am-1:00pm**

Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0f48aead2ba2fe3-yat1>



## \*SAVE THE DATE\*



## PNEC SLEEP OUT FOR HOMELESSNESS

When: October 14-15, 2023

Where: UCC Greenawalds, Allentown

More information to come!

Let Pastor Kayli know if you are interested



## From The Sabbatical Trails

Hi there friends! I have returned from my 4 weeks of Sabbatical rest and I am ready to jump back in! While I was away I had the chance to spend some over due quality time with my friends and family. I was also able to get to some much overdue reading (I like to collect/buy books and tend to forget about them). I am grateful for the time to be away and to rejuvenate my soul and spirit. Having the time to be away has helped my mental health and cleared out the cobwebs to bring fresh energy to my ministry here! Words can not express how blessed I feel to be a part of such a wonderful community that allows for their pastors the chance to have times of rest and renewal. Thanks to Pastors Kris and Carrie for holding down the fort, and keeping me in the loop, while I was away. Special thanks to Deana Correll and Eric

Minnich for covering our youth gatherings while I was gone as well. Let's get ready for another amazing year of ministry together!

**Love and prayers,**

**Pastor Kayli**





*Stone Farm Cellars  
& Vineyard*

Proceeds will benefit families with children who are experiencing homelessness in the Lehigh Valley



SCAN ME

We sell out quickly!  
Sponsorship Opportunities  
are Available

Join us for a sunset gathering  
of friends, volunteers, and area businesses

*August 24, 2023 - 5:00 to 8:00 PM*

*Stone Farm Cellars and Vineyard*

5831 Vera Cruz Road Center Valley, PA

*Tickets: \$30 Pre-Event*

Includes a beverage and BBQ sandwich of your choice  
Additional beverages and light fare will be available for purchase

FEATURING

WINE/ CRAFT BEER \* LIVE MUSIC \* GREAT FOOD \* FUN FILLED AUCTION  
BROUGHT TO YOU FROM OUR FRIENDS  
SUSAN & LARRY KARPER \* STONE FARM CELLARS AND VINEYARDS  
BACKYARD BAR COMPANY \* UNIVEST BANK

For more information call 610-351-1368, email [Devdirector@fplehighvalley.org](mailto:Devdirector@fplehighvalley.org)  
visit our website [fplehighvalley.org](http://fplehighvalley.org) or simply scan the QR code above

Yoga is a beautiful mind-body practice to ease stress and find balance on and off the mat. Learn how to connect breath to movement and “move” better in your body. This all level class will be held outside in the beautiful grove of Neffs Church which is located on the North/Neffs side.

**TIME:** Thursday Evenings from 6-7pm.

**DATES:** AUGUST 24, 31, SEPTEMBER: 7, 14, 21, 28

**THINGS TO BRING:** yoga mat, beach towel, water, strap and blocks if you have them.

**PAYMENT:** \$8 drop in with a portion of proceeds given back to the church.

**PREFERRED PAYMENT LINKS:** Venmo:[sharon-schnyder](https://venmo.com/sharon-schnyder) OR Paypal:[paypal.me/sharonschnyder](https://paypal.me/sharonschnyder) however cash/check will be accepted as well.

# Roni Fabian Memorial Fundraiser

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15**

**12:30-2:30**



Roni was a beloved member of Union UCC and gave of herself generously to our church community. She fought a courageous battle against breast cancer and now her family and friends are inviting us to participate in a fundraiser in her memory.

**With the help of The CHEMO Bag ([www.thechemobag.org](http://www.thechemobag.org)) we will be assembling CHEMO bags for ADULTS undergoing treatment.**

Here's how you can help:

- Donate these items (for Adults) and place them in the box in the lobby: Adult coloring books, Crayons, Bottled water (8 oz.), Ginger, green and peppermint tea, Hard candy and chewing gum, Journal, Knitted (cotton or acrylic) beanie hats, Lap blanket 50" x 60" (adult-type patterns only), Lip balm, Nail Files, Pens, Puzzle Books, Selection of notecards, Thick soft socks, Travel-size hand and body creams, Travel-size hand sanitizer, Travel/purse size tissue.
- Donate financial gifts - checks to "Union UCC" memo line "Roni Fabian." Money will be used by The CHEMO Bag to purchase more supplies in bulk.
- Help assemble the bags on October 15th at church 12:30-2:30.

**Sign up here if you'd like to volunteer on Oct 15:**

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

**ALL SUPPLY AND FINANCIAL DONATIONS ARE DUE  
no later than OCTOBER 1.**

*Thank you for helping us celebrate Roni and support others.*



**UNION UCC, NEFFS (MEMORIAL HALL)**



## PNEC Ambassador Corner

### Keystone Study Group – Communications Summary\*

The sixth meeting of the Keystone Study Group\* took place Friday, June 16, 2023. Guided by the Spirit, the study group whole-heartedly affirms the possibility of becoming ONE Keystone Conference. In our May and June meetings, we clarified WHAT a Keystone Conference would look like. We were mindful of all the ways a Keystone Conference can serve, support, challenge and unite our diverse faith communities and ministries. In all we addressed, we aimed to imagine a vibrant way of being the Body of Christ in our areas.

Participants in all four conference meetings both affirmed and expressed important reflections about a Keystone Conference. Overall, meeting attendees shared energy, enthusiasm and support for continuing our study and work toward recommendations for Conference leaders and congregations. Our consensus remains, **“Together we are stronger! The Keystone Conference.”**

\*Excerpted from Communications from the Keystone Study Group, a study and discernment group of the 4 PA area UCC Conferences – Penn West, Penn Central, Penn NE, and Pennsylvania SE. Pastor Kris is a member of this discernment group.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me, Janice Metzger, at [jemrenaissinc@aol.com](mailto:jemrenaissinc@aol.com) & please put Union Ambassador in the subject line. As your PNEC Ambassador, I want to help Union members feel

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## Hawaii Wildfire Support

**DONATE**  
Hawai'i 2023 Wildfires Relief Fund  
[bit.ly/hcuccrelief](https://bit.ly/hcuccrelief)  
We are working with our churches on Maui to distribute funds to those in need in devastated areas.  
We are praying with Maui.  
HAWAII CONFERENCE  
[www.hcucc.org](http://www.hcucc.org)

The United Church of Christ, along with Global H.O.P.E. Ministries, stands in solidarity and prayer with our siblings in Hawai'i. We have a strong UCC presence on the islands. Please join us in praying for the people of Maui and Hawai'i Island, the families of the 36 people lost, and all those involved in search and rescue efforts.

More information and updates, including how to donate to their relief efforts here: <https://bit.ly/454ZvKi>

**Or you can write a check/donate to**

**“Union UCC” with Hawaii in the memo line and drop it with your offering here at church.**

The **Steering Without Oars Leadership Planning Team met with the Consistory on June 19<sup>th</sup>** to share the work that they have been doing and to ask them to partner together to continue the work moving forward.

The Consistory agreed to do the following with the LPT:

- endorse and support our work,
- partner with us moving forward to take to the congregation for input, to affirm and refine the miracle question response, and
- to examine the structure and process of committees and groups, to engage committees and groups to create and implement goals and a calendar for the year.

The LPT will meet for an hour at Consistory meetings.

September 18 (6pm Picnic, 7pm meeting), November 20 at 7pm, and TBD

The LPT and Consistory will lead Congregational Forums: Sep 24 and Oct 1

The LPT and Consistory will plan Retreat Days Winter and Spring 2024 to implement, plan, and address other items needed.



**GOD FIRST WEDNESDAYS<sup>®</sup>**  
**October 4 5:30-7:30pm**

5:30-6:30pm Supper  
6:00-6:30 Children's Choir with Blake  
(All kids are welcome but not required.) Non Choir kids hang with Ms. Tiffany and families.  
6:30-7:15 Kids with Ms. Tiffany (Parents can join or go with adults.)  
Youth Group with Pastor Kayli  
Adults with Pastor Kris  
7:15-7:30 Worship together

Signup here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-godfirst2>  
Or email/text a staff member. Do your best to sign up - but if you miss signing up, just come.

**Future Dates: Nov 1, Dec 6, Feb 7, March 6, April 3, May 1**  
**Putting God First on First Wednesdays**

Meditation and Prayer Gatherings with Pastor Kris  
Looking for some peace and ways to decompress?  
We meet by zoom monthly for meditation and prayer.

Union UCC Community  
Tuesdays 7-8pm

September 12, October 10, November 14, December 12

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/876803780467>

pwd=QmozYWJFemJOVENCdWjBbzRpbDVIUT09

Meeting ID: 876 8037 8046 Passcode: 954906

OR

Penn Northeast Conference Community  
Thursdays at 12noon

September 14 and 28, October 12 and 26, November 9 and 30

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/811881274837>

pwd=TzdmTFpIaXVlMjRQSHY1K1hOdkV2dz09

Meeting ID: 811 8812 7483 Passcode: 348630

I'll lead us in various readings, scripture, and prayer practices like breath prayer and centering prayer, as well as meditation practices from the Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction, Buddhist, and Christian traditions.

Sign up at [PastorKris@unionucc.org](mailto:PastorKris@unionucc.org)

You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions,  
whatever your schedule allows.



## GREATER ALLENTOWN CROP HUNGER WALK:

\*\*\*Sunday, October 22, 2023,\*\*\*

1:30 p.m., with registration beginning at 1:00 p.m.  
at St. Timothy Lutheran Church, 140 S. Ott St., Allentown, PA  
18104

**Register, donate,** or find more **information**  
about the life-saving work of Church World  
Service:

[www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa)



**Baptisms:** We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Our next date is **Sept 17**. There is a pre-baptism zoom session with the pastor the week before. Sign up by calling the church office at 610-767-6961 or emailing Marissa Haney at [administrator@unionucc.org](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org). The pastors will work with you if the scheduled dates are a conflict.

**New Member Sessions:** We encourage you to make a deeper commitment to your faith by joining us as a member. The next new member gatherings are **Thursday, October 12 at 7-8pm OR Sunday, October 15 at 9:15am-10:15am in Memorial Hall (Coffee Hour)**. **You will be received as a new member on Sunday, October 22 in worship.**

**Hearing Assistance System:** We have a wireless system on a table, as you enter from the lobby foyer. Please see an usher or a sound team person to assist you. You will need a receiver pack (turn it on) and ear piece (if you don't have a hearing aid) or a t-coil cord (if you have a hearing aid that is t-coil compatible.) Plug this into the receiver. At the end of worship, please return both pieces to the table and place the receiver back into the charger. Thank you to the Schlosser Family & Funds of Lasting Gifts for supporting this effort.

## UNION UCC STAFF

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