

GUESTS, Welcome to our faith community. To learn more about us please visit our website at www.unionucc.org or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/unionneffs. Let us know you're here by completing the Welcome Card in the racks in front of you and hand it to a pastor or drop it in the offering plate.

Vision Statement

UNION UCC: RELEVANT, ENGAGED, and GROWING

Mission Statement

Our church is a diverse family of believers, spiritually united in Christ, rooted in a rich heritage and growing with vitality into the future. We proclaim God's word, nurturing and inspiring dedicated Christian discipleship through worship, education, pastoral care, fellowship, and outreach within our community and the world.

No matter who you are or where you on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Union UCC is an Open and Affirming (ONA) Community.

Lay Reader: 8am Carol Pope, 10:30am Tami Wassum

Ushers: 8am Kerry Snyder, Tom Anderson, Larry Todd, Lorie Hackett 10:30 am Janice Metzger, Julie Johnson, Laura Kohler, Ralph Gioielli,

Connie Gioielli, Carol James

Greeters: Nancy Jones, Eric Minnich, Ralph & Connie Gioelli

Sound: Dawn Dengler

Prelude Music

Just A Closer Walk Traditional

Blake Hoppes

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We look to the rulers of this earth for leadership, wisdom, and strength.

We look to these bodies of ours for stability, fulfillment, and joy.

We look to families and friends for love, compassion, and hope.

ALL: When rulers betray, when bodies fail, and when families disappoint,
God offers another look.
God will guide us.
God's Spirit will sustain us.
Christ will welcome us home.
Children and siblings of God's,
we are all God's family now.

Prayer

One: Lord, we come this day, having seen the miracles of everyday creation in our world. We have enjoyed both the bright sunshine and the gentle rains. We have marveled over the beauty of flowers and the complexity of your creation. Make our hearts ready to receive your word for us, that we may go forth from this place ready to joyfully serve you all of our days. AMEN.

Response
ALL sung:
For the beauty of the earth, For the glory of the skies,

For the love which from our birth,
Over and around us lies:
Lord of all to thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Welcoming Each Other to Union and God's Family

*Opening Hymn

#67 Blessed Assurance
Gold Hymnal/Hymns for the Family of God

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, Visions of rapture now burst on my sight; Angels, descending, bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest, Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Refrain

Please be seated.

10:30 Worship Children's Time

Song: The Fruit of the Spirit Uncle Charlie Songs

ALL Sung:

The fruit of the spirit's not a coconut (pineapple, banana, watermelon)
The fruit of the spirit's not a coconut If you want to be a coconut You might as well hear it You can't be a fruit of the spirit.

Cause the fruit is:
Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
Goodness faithfulness,
Gentleness and self-control.

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, Goodness faithfulness, Gentleness and self-control.

This Summer on Sundays at 10:30 worship – Times with Ms. Tiffany and Friends. Start worship with your family and then leave at the Children's time with Ms. Tiffany for a time just for you with activities, Bible story, crafts, and more! Kids return to the families by the end of worship or can be found in Room 100 or at the Gazebo when we're in the grove.

Starting in September:

Children's Church – during 10:30am Worship for ages 3-grade 5. Kids start in worship with their family and are invited forward for a children's time, They then leave with Ms. Tiffany and return before worship is over.

Kids are invited to the Education Hour and Faith

Formation for All Ages – 9:15-10:15am on Sundays, ages 3 to grade 7.

Scripture Mark 3:20-35

Then he went home; and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. "Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"— for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Response

Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet MW Smith

ALL sung:
Chorus: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path
Repeat

When I feel afraid
And I think I've lost my way
Still you're there right beside me
Nothing will I fear
As long as you are near
Please be near me to the end
Chorus

Message Pastor Carrie Beleno

<u>Directions – as you leave worship</u>: There are flower post it notes in the front of the church, near the railing. Please take time to write on a post it where you see God's love blooming or where you are praying for it to bloom. We will share these in our prayers.

Place your post it on the railing.

Join us for a cold drink and snack in the lobby.

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

Response

Amazing Grace John Newton

ALL sung:

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

NEWS ABOUT THE MINISTRY AND MISSION OF GOD'S CHURCH AT UNION



OFFERING

Thank you for the many ways you give of yourself to God's ministry and mission here at Union.

Because of YOU our church changes lives....

Here are some of the ways you can share your financial generosity at Union.

ELECTRONIC GIVING https://

secure.myvanco.com/L-Z51X/home or use the QR code with your cell phone. Choose an ongoing regular donation or a single donation with your credit or debit card. (Help us with fees if you can.)



Electronic Giving

• FREE Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app Look for our church Union United Church of Christ, Neffs, PA and register your information to contribute.



Vanco Mobile

• **Venmo @unionuccneffs** Make a donation or pay for a fundraiser or event. Complete "What's this for?" See QR code.



• Cash or checks (to "Union UCC") Place in the Venmo offering plate with a member offering envelope or guest envelope (in the seat racks) or drop in the mail if you're not in person.

Contact John Harting (610-799-2508) or Don Penrod (610-972-8719) or Pastor Kris if you have questions or if you'd like to learn more about other giving options or legacy gifts to Union.

Invitation to the Offering

Come into God's courts with thanksgiving and praise. Come offer the strength of your soul and the generosity of your spirit, that all may know that Christ is our brother and that we are God's family. All are welcome here.

Music Offering I'll Fly Away Albert E. Brumley Blake Hoppes

*Please stand in body or spirit.

*Offering Response

I Will Bless the Lord at All Times Joe Pace

ALL sung:

I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good
I will bless the Lord at all times, He's good
He's good, so good, real good
And every day of my life
I'll bless the Lord for He's good

*Offering Dedication

We bow before you with these offerings and gifts, that you may know our love. Gather these gifts, and gather your people, that we may be your family on this earth.

Amen.

Please stand in body or spirit.

*Benediction

One: Go now in peace, knowing the miracles that God has produced in your life. Be assured that there are still more miracles to come. Bear witness to God's love to all you meet. In the name of the Creator, the Holy One who resides with you always, go in peace. AMEN.

Response

A Thousand Amens Tim Timmons

All sung:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise Him, all creatures here below Praise Him above, Ye heavenly Host Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

Unfailing love comes with the morning
It's Your faithfulness we sing at night
It's Your kindness Lord that leads to our healing
All glory to our maker and a thousand amens.

*Closing Hymn #4 Spirit, Fill Me Sing! Prayer and Praise



Postlude Music

There is a Fountain
Tune: Cleansing Fountain, Early American Melody
Blake Hoppes

EVIDENCE OF STEWARDSHIP LAST SUNDAY

Offering (e-giving, envelopes, and plate)		Attendance Last Week		
Last Week:		8 AM		
Calendar Year 2024 (JanApril)	\$ 141,275.00	10:30 AM		
Calendar Year 2023 (JanApril)	\$ 138,705.00	Online Vie	ws	
Change from Last Year	1.9%	Breathe		10
Budget FY 2023-24 (July-April)	\$ 372,070.00	2024 Donations to the		
Actual Fiscal Year-to-	\$ 361,368.00	Northern Lehigh Food Bank:		
Date (July-April)		Last	\$,	Olbs
Difference in Giving vs. Budget	-2.9%	Week:		
		Total	\$8	75, 2,725lbs
Additional financial information available in Consistory Minutes		YTD:		

Presentations to the Glory of God

Good News Sponsor- for \$20 help us cover the costs of advertising on social media, mailings, and local papers.

Children's Bulletin sponsor- for \$8 cover the cost of bulletins for children.

Send to Union UCC through your offering envelope or online marked Spread the Good News or Children's Bulletin. Contact Marissa to sign up for a certain date or to sponsor in honor or memory of someone.

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