

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, May 12, 2024

Rev. Kris Penrose Snyder, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kayli L. Freeman, Associate Pastor
Tiffany Lakatosh, 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 place in offering plate or submit [online here](#).

Medical

Sophia, Parents with covid, Chuck fighting cancer, Susie healing after surgery, Janine fighting cancer that has spread to her liver, MaryKate, Joe, Doug, Liz, Donna and Jan, Brad and Rob, Darrell, good outcome for friend's surgery, Keith, Katy, Karen, Grandpop, Sharon, Dave for healing from his recent surgery, C.K., Joan, Barbara

General

Josh in the Air Force training, Dylan in the Navy, Gabe in the Army, Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, peace in the world, prayers for Roma and family, Violet and Randy, Dorothy, Rusty, Diane, Mike and Donna, Abby for strength and healing, Sarah for strength and healing, Ann, Kay, Lucas & Stella, Joe for healing, Joanne for solace in her grief, thanksgiving for friends and family, Caroline for a healthy pregnancy, safe travels for family, a healthy pregnancy for Caroline, Steve, a couple for guidance in their marriage

Thoughts and Prayers

To the family and friends of **Tyler Stoss** who passed on May 2, 2024. A private service will be held.

For the family and friends of **Mark Maletsky** who passed on May 5, 2024. Services were held May 11 at The Heintzelman Funeral Home.

Sunday Worship in church and online

MAY 5

Confirmation Day

MAY 12

Mother's Day,
Last day of
Education Hour
& Children's
Church

MAY 19

Pentecost,
10:30 Baptism,
Guest Preacher:
Brad Hackett

MAY 26

Memorial
Sunday and
Mental Health
Sunday

JUNE 2

Communion
Last 8am
Worship for the
Summer

JUNE 9

10:30am
Worship Only

JUNE 16

Confirmation
Day, Father's
Day, Graduate
Sunday

JUNE 23

10:30
Semi-Annual
Meeting

JUNE 30

10:30 Worship in the Grove, Build Your Own Sundae Sunday Picnic
Guest Preacher: Geoffrey Brace

If you are in the hospital, please notify a pastor or church office, or ask a family member to do so. Please be sure to give the hospital our church code (511). If we missed you during your hospital stay, let us know 610-767-6961.

SUMMER
COFFEE HOUR
WILL CONTINUE



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.

Anyone is welcome to bring fruit, baked
goods, or snacks to share anytime!

Union UCC's Consistory and Leadership Planning Team Affirm Our Mission Statement, Core Values, and Vision Statement by Registering to be an Open and Affirming (ONA) Church in the United Church of Christ.

The following statement was approved and celebrated by our Consistory on February 20, 2024.

UNION UCC'S OPEN AND AFFIRMING STATEMENT

Our church is a diverse family of believers, extending extravagant welcome and hospitality to all. We affirm that all people are created in God's image and all are worthy of God's love and grace, treating all people with compassion, respect and dignity.

We inspire dedicated Christian discipleship to include persons of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith background, marital status and family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, physical, cognitive, or emotional ability, economic, educational, and social status, and political and cultural background.

We treasure the spiritual gifts of everyone, welcoming all into full membership, leadership, employment, ministry, mission, fellowship, worship, sacraments, rites, responsibilities, and blessings of the life of Union UCC.

As we grow with vitality into the future, we commit ourselves to the ongoing work of being an Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ. We celebrate and honor diverse theological and biblical interpretations as we strive to remain spiritually united in Christ. We will reach out with love to any and all people who enter our doors seeking God with faith in Jesus Christ our Savior.



Congrats and Blessings

Sheldon Christman and Larysa O'Neill who were married on
May 11, 2024.



May Mission: Cereal
 We are collecting boxes of cereal for
 the Northern Lehigh Food Bank to
 support their kid's summer packs



Our Goal: 300 boxes



Where did our meals go?
468 boxes

101, 088 meals

**Our meals have been sent to the
 Ukraine**



Faith on Tap

**Korny's Tavern
 at Kornfeind's Market
 2228 Old Post Rd, Coplay**

**Watch for a May date in
 Sunday's bulletin and on Facebook!**



God. Conversation. Food & Drink.

Park in the back of the store and enter from there.

Cost: Your drink (Beer, Wine, Iced Tea, Soda, Water)

Complimentary Kornfeind's Food. Sign up if you can, or just join us.

Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-49334413-fotmay2024>



Hosted by **Kris Snyder**, Senior Pastor,
 Union UCC, Neffs and
Joe Kornfeind, Kornfeind's Market and
 Business Professor, and other guests.

Thanks Kornfeind's Market!

Country Sale BAKE SALE HELPERS AND BAKERS Saturday, June 1

This event will be outside in the grove and baked goods will be sold in the grove stand.

We're looking for bakers who will help us provide tasty treats for our Country Sale.

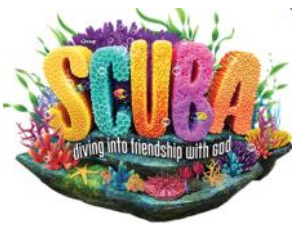
Some items will be sold whole and others will be cut for single serving sale. Please bring your items in disposable pans. We will cut and portion them. We need pies, cakes, cupcakes, cookies, apple dumplings, muffins, brownies, fudge, bar cookies, snack mixes.

We prefer items that don't need to be refrigerated. We can always use sugar free and gluten free options. Please drop off your baked goods on Friday at the church 9am-2pm or on Saturday in the grove by 9am.

Use this link to sign up or email Sherry Penrod at slpbakes19@gmail.com or contact the church office.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4CA8A823A7FA7-48528445-baked>

We also need volunteers to work shifts (1-4 hrs.) at the bake sale 8am-1pm. Please reach out to Sherry Penrod at slpbakes19@gmail.com if you'd like to help out or with any questions.



VBS 2024
June 24-28 6-8PM
Dinner available at 5:30pm

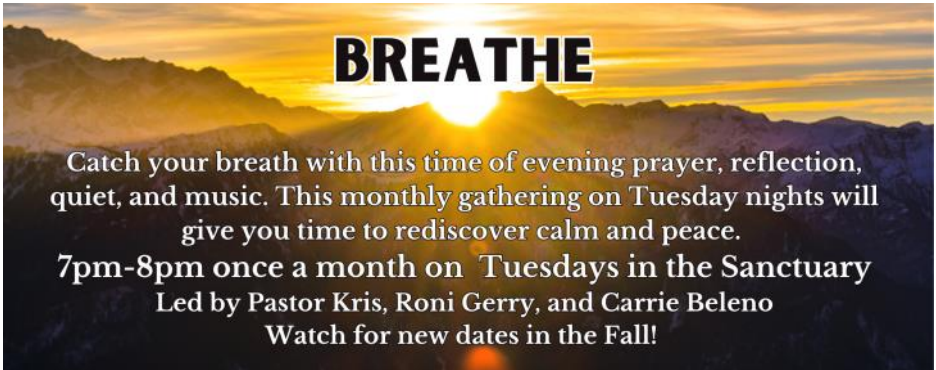


Volunteers and participants can sign up at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/unionucc>

Adult Faith Formation Classes with Pastor Kris

Watch for new dates in the Fall!

Note: In addition to these gatherings there is an adult group that meets on God First Wednesdays on the first Wednesday of the month. The night starts with supper (you can join or skip) at 5:30 with small groups starting at 6:30-7:30pm. See more detailed post.



BREATHE

Catch your breath with this time of evening prayer, reflection, quiet, and music. This monthly gathering on Tuesday nights will give you time to rediscover calm and peace.

7pm-8pm once a month on Tuesdays in the Sanctuary
Led by Pastor Kris, Roni Gerry, and Carrie Beleno
Watch for new dates in the Fall!



UNION UCC: RELEVANT, ENGAGED, and GROWING

Our Steering Without Oars group has been meeting since May 2022. They were the first to step into our boat! In October 2022 we invited 40 more leaders in our church to join us and formed the Leadership Planning Team. We have been meeting almost monthly looking at and creating a vision for God's ministry and mission at Union. In June 2023 we presented all of our work to Consistory who agreed to partner with us in our next steps.

We met in March and worked with our marketing designer, Rev. Nicole Pickens.

Watch for her work soon, very exciting!

These teams created more questions and drafts for: Architect interviews and design process, Capital Campaign and Financial pieces, and Purpose and Why of Renovating Memorial Hall.

We will be meeting at Consistory meetings in April and May.

We're looking for some more folks to join us with these new ideas (contact a Pastor to sign up):

Mental Health and Wellness Initiative Team

Summer 2025 Grove Event Idea Team

Pastor Kris, Pastor Kayli, Consistory Officers: Eric Minnich, Don Penrod, Janice Metzger, Marianne Kitzmiller and the LPT/Consistory





How can you help change lives with us?
Electronic Giving use the Vanco QR code with your cell phone. FREE Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app - Look for our church Union United Church of Christ, Neffs, PA and register your information to contribute.



Vanco

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



Electronic Giving

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

Contact the church office or Pastor Kris if you have questions or if you'd like to learn more about other giving options or legacy gifts.



Venmo

Union UCC: Relevant, Engaged, and Growing...Because of YOU!



Graduating in 2024?

Let us celebrate your accomplishments!

If you're graduating from High School, College, Grad School, or BEYOND...we want to celebrate you! Submit your information via the Google form below or the information form in your bulletin.

Then join us in worship on June 16, 2024 to honor you!
Google form: <https://forms.gle/n8A4zXhEUvyjW4Cv6>

MAY 12TH AT 9:15AM
IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Family Fun Day

Families are invited to join us for our last morning of Sunday School where we will have snacks, crafts, and family fun.

Time with
Ms. Tiffany & Friends



Summer of the Spirit

MAY 26TH-AUGUST 25TH DURING 10:30AM SERVICE

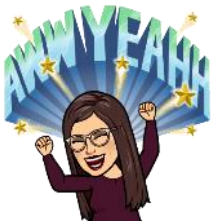


CHILDREN WILL BE LEARNING ABOUT LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, AND SELF-CONTROL IN FUN AND CREATIVE WAYS.

High School Happy Hour

See You In The Fall

Our May 12 lunch in the grove has been cancelled due to conflicts for Mother's Day! Thanks to everyone who joined us this year for great conversations, laughs, and friendship! We can't wait to gather in the fall! Watch your emails with the schedule!



Youth Group Summer Plans!

All youth grades 6th thru 12th are encouraged to join us! Bring your friends too!

June 12, 2024 (6pm-8:30pm) "Kick Off Summer Game & Rita's Night"

July 9 & July 23, 2024 (6pm-8pm) "Grove Hang-Out Nights"

August 17, 2024 (6pm-9pm) "Movies & Sundaes Night"

Make sure to get on our email list to get the most up-to-date- information on Youth Group Activities.

PNEC Ambassador Corner- One of Union's initiatives coming out of the LPT work is mental health/wellness. During our worship services on Sunday, May 26th we will be lifting up mental health. Please plan to be in worship as we acknowledge this important facet of our lives. Also, in October, Union will be hosting a Mental Health workshop, put on by the PNEConference.

This Week in PNEC, April 4, 2024: **2024 Summer Conference Meeting**

"For the first time, all four Pennsylvania conferences of the UCC will be gathering for a **shared Meeting on June 7-9, 2024 at The Penn Stater in State College, PA**. We will have shared worship, workshops, meals and meetings as well as each conference's separate business meeting.

Below is a letter from the four PA UCC Conference Ministers about this year's Summer Meeting: *The planning committee for the Keystone State UCC Conference Summer Meeting has been working diligently to prepare for our June 7-9 meeting. The Keystone Working Group in collaboration with the Conference Ministers have been seeking grants and additional funding to assist with the costs of the meeting.*

*We want you to know that **YOUR** attendance is vitally important to us. **We need you** to help us plan for the future of our conferences. Our General Minister and President, the Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson will be with us on Saturday and Sunday, **and we hope you will be with us to meet her and worship with her on Sunday.***

The costs for this meeting will be significantly higher than our usual conference meetings. For one thing, this is a 3-day meeting and incorporates the extensive use of technology and the Penn Stater multiple room assignments for our gathering. We do not want the cost of the event to prevent anyone from attending.

Therefore, we are increasing our scholarship funds to cover ½ the cost of the registration. The registration materials (which are forthcoming) include some links for additional hotel locations, should you choose to utilize them.

Also, we want you to know that our meetings as a Keystone Conference will likely be shorter and less costly. Please make plans to join us in State College in June and celebrate the work we are doing together, because we believe "Together We Are Stronger."

Union has two delegates who will be attending, but anyone can attend as a guest. If you are interested in more info or would like to register, as a guest, for this shared meeting, contact Patty at patty@pnecon.org or reach out to the PNEConference office, 610-826-5464. If you have any general Conference questions, please feel free to reach out to me, Janice Metzger, at jemrenaissinc@aol.com & please put Union Ambassador in the subject line. As your PNEC Ambassador, I want to help Union members feel more connected to the Conference and the wider church.

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 and Community
Tuesdays 7-8pm
May 21 (watch for new dates in the Fall)

Zoom Link: [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87680378046?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87680378046?pwd=QmozYWJFemJOVENCdWJBbzRpbDVIUT09)
pwd=QmozYWJFemJOVENCdWJBbzRpbDVIUT09
Meeting ID: 876 8037 8046 Passcode: 954906



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 with PastorKris@unionucc.org
You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions, whatever your schedule allows.

SUMMER WORSHIP PLAN

At Consistory's meeting in February they decided on this plan for Summer worship.

There will only be a 10:30am worship service starting on June 9 through September 1.

There will NOT be 8am worship starting on June 9 through September 1. We will have outdoor worship in the grove at 10:30am on the following Sundays:

June 30, July 14 and 28, August 11 and 25.

We will worship in the church if the weather does not cooperate on these Sundays.

Walking Tacos at the Country Sale June 1, 2024 8:00am-1:00pm (set up at 7am)

Join us as we serve the community our famous walking tacos with proceeds benefitting future youth group shenanigans!



Sign up below to help and/or donate items! Everyone's help is greatly appreciated!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-48976205-country>



Pastor Kayli's Sabbatical Journey

Every five years, our pastoral staff is allowed the opportunity to get 12 weeks of sabbatical time. This is a time of rest and spiritual rejuvenation. Last summer, I took my first 4 weeks of sabbatical, and this May & July I will finish out my time. During my time away **(May 13-June 9 & July 1-July 28)** I plan to find ways to reconnect to my spiritual growth and journey. I'm hopeful to find creative outlets that will connect my desire for creativity with my spiritual well being. I'm grateful for the opportunity to rest my body, mind, and soul to be able to better serve the wonderful people of Union UCC.

PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

The Neffs Preschool Board of Directors is pleased to announce their 2024 scholarship winner. This \$250 scholarship is given every year to a high school senior who is planning on higher education and started their educational career at Neffs Preschool. The applicants are required to complete a 500 word essay in which they discuss themselves, their future plans, and a preschool memory. **Congratulations to Matthew Reiter**, a senior at Northampton High School who plans on pursuing a degree in Computer Engineering.



Tickets are sold out!

OUR NURSERY IS OPEN!

Parents and caregivers are welcome to use our nursery for little ones who may need a little break from the worship service to eat or just need to get out some wiggles and energy.

We kindly ask that you sign in, to let us know that you used the space, and place any toys that your child played with in the green bin for cleaning.

We have a Nursery Nook area that is great for feeding and changing little ones. In that area we have diapers and wipes, in case you forgot to restock the diaper bag.

We also have a TV in the room for parents and caregivers to enjoy worship service while caring for their little one.

We do not have an attendant at this time, therefore, a parent/caregiver is required to

stay with the child(ren) when they are in the nursery.

We hope that you enjoy our nursery.



UPCOMING HOSTING WEEK: May 12-19, 2024

servicing children and families experiencing homelessness

Every child deserves a home.

We need your help hosting families in our church building 4 weeks a year.

- Help with set up and tear down.
- Cook and deliver a supper one night during the week. (5:30-6pm)
- Visit with families, serve supper, and clean up. (5:30-9pm)
- Host overnight (In your own area 8:45pm-6:30am).
- Assist with food shopping during the week.
- Offer financial support through your church donations marked "Family Promise."



Why do I volunteer?

Jesus tells us to love God and to love our neighbors. This is a great way to do both while helping families get back on their feet.

~Kerry Snyder

Please contact Kerry Snyder (610) 737-7768 or Rosalie Snyder (610) 597-9302 with questions and to sign up. Other Steering Team members: Ralph and Connie Gioelli, Dennis Foster, Phil and Julie Wehr, Susan Glosan



Congratulations Confirmation Class 2024



Confirmands

Parents

God-Guides

Grayson Christman

Greg & Wendy Christman

Ardith Kuhns

Madison Eckhart

Amanda & J.R. Roth

Ron Pope

Jocelyn Kareha

Steve & Jen Kareha

Deana Correll

Kendall Miller

Jarrad & Tiffany Miller

Hannah Minnich

Noah Roth

Amanda & J.R. Roth

Edie Fella



Country Sale

New & Improved- Church Wide Yard Sale
Saturday, June 1, 2024 8am -1pm
Union UCC, Neffs Grove

- Have stuff that you want to get rid of?
- Purchase a Vendor Space: \$21
- One Space per family - Spaces limited
- Vendors sell and keep profit
- Each space includes an area of 15' wide x 15' deep

***Rain or Shine**
***Breakfast, Lunch and**
Baked Goods will be Sold
***Everyone is welcome!**

Set up: Saturday, June 1 -- 6:30 am – 8:00 am

If you have any questions or are interested in renting a space, please email Sheila Nagle
ssnagle@ptd.net or contact the church office, 610-767-6961.

Country Sale Space Reservation contracts may be found on the church web site
Unionucc.org, or you may pick one up in the church office.



New Members from Pastor Kris

New members come to us with a variety of faith experiences and backgrounds as well as a variety of interests, passions, and schedules. Maybe you have been visiting us or other churches for a long time and are still wondering if this is a fit or the right time to make a commitment to join us formally. Or maybe you visited here a few times and knew right away this is your place.

In our effort to honor this diversity, we'd like to offer you a few options of continuing this conversation.

1. You can join as a member at any time. Complete the information form (attached or use the link) and return it to the office or to me. Reach out to me to schedule a time to meet. We can then welcome you as a new member on whatever Sunday you choose at your convenience.

2. The other option (or in addition to the first option) is to attend a new member gathering. This is a chance to meet with me and with other members and hear why they love their church and love to serve God here.

We hope both options will give you a chance to meet some new friends, get some more information about us, and ask your questions.

To let us know you are interested, please complete this information form by using this link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeXM2pHU6Pnwd020Rpm-o8BV6-eWUoxPe2fxpZnBawlmYeZ-g/viewform>

Or you can contact the office for a paper copy.

We want to do whatever we can to support you in your spiritual journey here and in the community.

Please let me know where you are in your discernment and how I can support you. Call or email me anytime.

Baptisms: We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Our next date is **May 19**. 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. The pastors will work with you if the scheduled dates are a conflict.

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.

Food and Toiletry Donations: You're invited to bring non perishable food and toiletry donations at anytime to help our local food bank. Place items in the shopping cart in the lobby. Needed items: cereal, soup, pasta/sauce, peanut butter/jelly, vegetables, fruit, toothpaste/brush, shampoo, deodorant, soap, baby items. Thanks!

UNION UCC STAFF

Rev. Kris P. Snyder
Senior Pastor
Cell Phone: 610-657-6007
pastorkris@unionucc.org
Ext. 24

Rev. Kayli Freeman
Associate Pastor
pastorkayli@unionucc.org
Ext. 25

Carrie Beleno
Pastor of Visitation
vispastor@unionucc.org

Tiffany Lakatosh
Faith Formation Minister for
Children & Families
dired@unionucc.org
Ext. 27

Marissa Haney
Church Administrator
administrator@unionucc.org
Ext. 21

Blake Hoppes
Minister of Music
Blake.charger@gmail.com
Ext. 26

Ori Handwerk
Facility Caretaker
Caretaker@unionucc.org

Barbara Carinci
Financial Manager
financialmanager@unionucc.org
Ext. 32

Church Office:
610-767-6961
Fax: 610-767-7128

PO Box 66,
5550 Route 873
Neffs PA 18065-0066
www.unionucc.org

Preschool Office:
610-767-5327
prechool@unionucc.org
Director: Annette Wilcox



www.facebook.com/unionneffs