

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, October 13, 2024

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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

## God is Holding Us Prayers

**To share a prayer request you may use the yellow prayer slips found in the racks in your seats and for this season we are placing them in the holding containers at the altar.**

Dave's health, prayers for Emma, parents in Florida, North Carolina and Florida

**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.

# WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship 8 & 10:30am in Church and Online

Oct. 6

Communion  
(World-Wide)

Oct. 13

Oct. 20

Healing/Praying with  
a Pastor

Oct. 27

New Members Received,  
Celebrating Those Who  
are Members for 40+  
Years at Union



Save the Date! Alathea is coming back to Union!

Sunday, November 24th at 8am and 10:30am Worship

Mande and Cristi are two of our favorite musicians, storytellers, and community builders. They have a gift for sharing their faith and God's love in a way that is authentic and inspiring. The last time they were here they did a virtual concert for us in worship during the pandemic. We are excited to have them back in person. They are joined by a new band member Calvin.

[www.alathea.com](http://www.alathea.com)

Their appearance is made possible by the Funds of Lasting Gifts and the Mattern Family Music Fund in the Funds of Lasting Gifts.



\$175. \$88 deposit due by January 1. \$87 balance due March 1.

Payment plans & assistance available.

**Checks to Union UCC, Memo Line – Women's Retreat**

Friends and Family members are welcome too.

Only 30 spots available.

Leader: Pastor Kris

Planning Team: Donna Christman, Diane Schaller, Julie Johnson, Sue Steinmann, Val Borman, Julie Wehr



## Holy Grounds Coffee Hour

Enjoy some coffee, tea, juice, hot chocolate, and snacks on Sundays in Memorial Hall after both worship services.

Upcoming hosts include:

Oct. 13—Christian Ed

Oct. 20 –Welcoming

Oct. 27—Church and Ministry





Have you been a member at Union UCC  
for 40 or more years?  
We'd like to celebrate you!  
And give God thanks for your faithful service.

Join us in worship on October 27th  
at 8am and 10:30am when we will also  
receive new members.

# CHRISTMAS *at Union UCC, Neffs*

Lights in the Grove with Santa  
Saturday, Dec. 7th 3-5pm

Parkland High School Chorale  
Concert  
Sunday, Dec. 15th at 7pm

Christmas Eve Eve Worship  
Monday, Dec. 23th at 7pm

Christmas Eve Worship  
Tuesday, Dec. 24th at 3, 5, & 8 pm

Sunday Worship 8am & 10:30am at church and online.  
[www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org)  
5550 Route 873 Neffs



## Labyrinth Walking at Union

Walk or sit with us  
in quiet and prayer.

Labyrinth walking is great for  
time with God  
and to de-stress.

(Wear socks, no shoes please.)

**Sunday, October 6**  
**8am-1pm**

Open House, stop by to walk  
anytime on your own. Optional  
handouts. Labyrinth will be in  
Memorial Hall all morning.

**Tuesday, December 10**  
**6-9pm**

Open House, stop by to walk anytime  
on your own. Optional handouts.  
Labyrinth will be in Memorial Hall all  
night. **Breathe** service is 7-8pm.

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### Hurricane Helene Appeal:

As we continue to pray for and respond to those who have experienced unimaginable loss due to Hurricane Helene, we invite you to support the UCC's recovery efforts in the following ways:

\* Donate to the relief efforts:

[https://support.ucc.org/hurricane-helene-relief?  
utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_term=united-  
church-of-christ&utm\\_content=7951c7de-0eff-457f-af45-  
a11435124728&utm\\_campaign=social-media](https://support.ucc.org/hurricane-helene-relief?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_term=united-church-of-christ&utm_content=7951c7de-0eff-457f-af45-a11435124728&utm_campaign=social-media)

Or write a check to Union UCC - Memo: Helene Relief.

# PLANT BINGO

with Gallivanting Greenhouse

Join us for a fun afternoon filled with  
Bingo, Raffle, Baked Goods & Food!

- Sunday, November 3, 2024**
- Doors open 1pm - Bingo starts 2pm**
- Union UCC  
5550 Route 873, Neffs PA
- Bingo tickets: \$25 in advance -  
\$30 at the door for 15 rounds

Proceeds will support Feed My Starving  
Children and Union UCC's Ministry

**TICKETS!!**

Use the QR Code to get tickets or watch for tickets to go on  
sale on Sundays!

# Tai Chi Thursdays

10-week session: 9/19-11/21

6-7pm

\$15 drop-in

5-pack \$67.50

10-pack \$110

Memorial Hall

Cash/check/venmo to instructor: Alice Perry



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



Electronic Giving



Venmo

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 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.

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



### 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.

Throughout the summer we have been interviewing Architects and Capital Campaign Consultants to begin the process of discerning the scope of renovating Memorial Hall.

The Marketing Team will be launching our logo soon!

The Mental Health and Wellness is creating new opportunities for our church and community!

The Summer 2025 Grove Event Team is booking bands and food trucks for our next grove adventure!

The Open and Affirming Team has been created and attended LVPrize in August.

The LPT and Consistory enjoyed a summer break and reconvened in August. They meet for an hour about every other month at Consistory meeting and for part of a day every other month.

Next meetings are September 28 and October 26.

Contact one of us if you want to know more or participate in any of these teams.

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



## The much beloved Basket Social will return in the Spring!

Watch for more information on ticket sales and basket donation requests in the coming weeks and months! Want to help plan the event? Join our next meeting

November 10, 2024

11:30am (after 10:30am worship)

Room 5, basement



## GOD FIRST WEDNESDAYS and WEDNESDAY NIGHTS at Union

God First Wednesdays  
Supper, Small Groups, Worship  
Wed, Oct 2 5:30-7:30pm

5:30-6pm Supper 6-6:30pm Kids Choir or Activities

6:00-7:15 Small group for adults, Youth, and Kids 7:15-7:30pm Intergenerational Worship

OCTOBER TOPIC for Youth and Adults: The Chosen TV Series

## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS at Union

Adult and Youth Small Group on The Chosen Continues  
Oct 9, 16, 23, 30 6-7:30pm

Midweek chance to put you and God first!

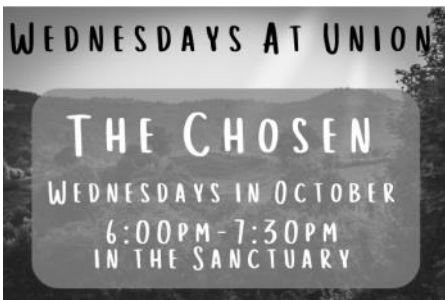
Sign up at [PastorKris@unionucc.org](mailto:PastorKris@unionucc.org) or just join us!

Future God First Dates:

Nov 6, Dec 4

A new adult topic starts in Nov

## Have You Heard About THE CHOSEN?



Everyone is welcome to join us on Wednesdays during the month of October as we explore the stories of Jesus' life as depicted in the hit series The Chosen. We'll look at some of our favorite scriptures and themes from the Bible while exploring what Jesus calls us to do as disciples in 2024. Once the 5-week series is over, and you feel like you're wanting more, you can explore the series on

Amazon Prime Video or at [thechosen.tv/en-us](http://thechosen.tv/en-us)



## BREATHE

TUESDAYS ONCE A MONTH  
IN THE SANCTUARY

7-8PM

NOVEMBER 12

DECEMBER 10 WITH LABYRINTH

OPEN HOUSE 6-9PM



*Catch your Breath  
...with God*

*Prayer \* Meditation \* Music \* Communion*

*Led by Roni Gerry, Pastor Carrie,  
and Pastor Kris*

### Meditation and Prayer Gatherings by Zoom with Pastor Kris Snyder from Union UCC, Neffs Union UCC, Friends, and Penn Northeast Conference Community

Tuesdays 7-8pm  
September 17, October 15, November 26

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 me at [PastorKris@unionucc.org](mailto:PastorKris@unionucc.org).  
You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions, whatever your schedule allows.



**CHILDREN'S CHURCH  
NEEDS YOUTH AND  
ADULT HELPERS**



DO YOU LIKE HAVING FUN?  
DO YOU ENJOY INTERACTING WITH CHILDREN?

**JOIN US!**

EMAIL TIFFANY AT [DIRE@UNIONUCC.ORG](mailto:DIRE@UNIONUCC.ORG)  
TO JOIN THE FUN!

**NOVEMBER 2ND 3PM TO 6PM**



**JOIN US FOR THIS FUN EVENT!  
ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!**

REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/3RSOIMS](https://bit.ly/3RSOIMS)

**UNION UCC  
TRUNK OR TREAT**

JOIN US FOR A SPOOKTACULAR FAMILY FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN EVENT!

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024**

**1 PM - 3 PM**

**AT UNION UCC GROVE PARKING LOT**

JOIN US AND UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH, WHICH IS JUST A SHORT WALK  
AWAY, FOR A SAFE FAMILY FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION!

WOULD YOU, YOUR BUSINESS, OR AN ORGANIZATION YOU  
ARE ASSOCIATED WITH LIKE TO DECORATE A CAR AND BE  
PART OF THE HALLOWEEN FUN WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF  
WINNING AN AMAZON, TARGET, OR DUNKIN GIFT CARD?

REGISTER AT [HTTPS://BIT.LY/4DAWPB0](https://bit.ly/4DAWPB0)

*Experience the Wow!*



Help support VBS and Christian Education by  
purchasing some delicious Butter Braids!  
Each Butter Braid is \$16.

This fundraiser will take place October 6th-20th.  
Pick up will be Monday, November 11th 5:30-  
6:30pm.

If there are any questions, don't hesitate to get in  
touch with Tiffany at [dired@unionucc.org](mailto:dired@unionucc.org).

**Polar  
Express  
Christmas  
Celebration**

December  
22nd at  
9:15am in  
Fellowship  
Hall



Register at <https://bit.ly/3Telh8d>

**NOVEMBER 16TH**



Register at <https://bit.ly/478RXr0>

## You're Busy Folks...



So let us meet you where you are! This year, Pastor Kayli & Deana want to be able to come cheer you on at your sporting events, activities, musicals, etc! Please use the link below to add activities to the calendar so we know!

### **Info Needed: Name (first and last), activity, location.**

\*there is no need for you to subscribe to the calendar, but if you want to support each other please feel free\*

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=a3E0NDR2aG84bnYyNHhMmJwMXVpNGJ2NGNAZ3JvdXAuY2FsZW5kYXIuZ29vZ2xlLmNvbQ>

## **Sunday Funsies for ALL!**

Join us this fall as we kick off our program year with many opportunities for all youth!

**High School Happy Hour** 10/20 (11:30am-12:30pm)

**Open Sunday School:** 10/27(9:15am-10:15am)

**Youth Advisory Team Lunch:** October 13 (11:30am-1pm)

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## **Trunk or Treat October 19, 2024 1pm-3pm**



Youth are invited to join Pastor Kayli in decorating her trunk for our annual Trunk or Treat Event!

**Please arrive by 12pm to be ready to go by 12:30pm.**

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-51219729-trunk>

## **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. **Our next gathering for new members is on Sunday, October 13th at 11:30-12:30 in Memorial Hall where coffee hour is. You would be received in church on Sunday, October 27th at 8am or 10:30am worship.**

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.***

## UNION UCC'S OPEN AND AFFIRMING (ONA) STATEMENT

**Adopted February 2024**

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.



**The ONA Team: Deana Correll, Eric Minnich, Hannah Minnich, Payge Haydt, Sue Steinmann, Doug Brace, Pastor Kayli, Pastor Kris**

Our team is here to continue the work of Consistory and the Leadership Planning Team in becoming an ONA community and doing all that we can to sustain a safe and welcoming place for everyone here at Union.

In addition to LGBTQ+ topics we hope to also look at ways to include awareness around needs for those with physical and emotional challenges.

**Doug Brace(doug@dougbrace.com)**has agreed to help us with communication and outreach. Please contact him or anyone on the team with your ideas or interest in participation.

**Our Team was glad to participate in Lehigh Valley Pride in August with the Penn Northeast Conference.**



## **“Together We Are Stronger”** Staffing a New Conference

When the four Conference Ministers started meeting to explore options for sharing resources, the topic of staffing was forefront in their discussions. Staffing has been one of the key components of discussion during the Keystone Working Group (KWG) meetings. The staffing subcommittee, previously comprised of the four Conference Ministers, kept the KWG updated every month on their progress. At the time of our joint annual meeting in June the KWG had a tentative staffing model for a Keystone Conference.

The subcommittee is now being expanded to include the personnel chairs from all four conferences so we can begin to look at transitional staffing needs and position descriptions should the November vote be approved by all four conferences. Having a transitional staffing plan in place is key to starting any merger process for the four conferences.



It is important to note that this is a staff model and may be altered as we move forward in the implementation of the merger. Succession planning, especially when it comes to staffing, will have a positive effect on the overall success of every aspect of a new Keystone Conference.

***“While the working group initially considered several different forms for sharing resources, they overwhelmingly opted for fully combining the conferences as the best way to serve congregations, conferences, and pastors.”***

~ Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates, PNEC Conference Minister

## Next Town Hall Sessions

The conversations around the timeline, staffing model and finances are available for registration. Please use the QR code, on all conferences websites or contact your conference office.



QR code.

In each townhall conversation, the timeline will be reviewed for possible action toward our vote, the motion to the General Synod and next steps.

## Merger Motion Vote by 4 Conferences Nov. 9, 2024

Each congregation is allowed their usual number of delegates to vote on the merger motion. See each conference for details to register, participate and make your vote count! The full motion is available on the website.

For more information: <https://psec.org/keystone/>

## Motion to General Synod, July 11-15, 2025

If approved by all 4 conferences, the motion is presented to General Synod for UCC delegates' approval.



***“We face the unknown, but God is known!”***

-- Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson  
President and General Minister of the UCC to the  
delegates at the gathered PA area conferences.

**Baptisms:** We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Our upcoming date is **January 12, 2025**. 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.

**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](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 24

**Rev. Kayli Freeman**

Associate Pastor  
[pastorkayli@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkayli@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 25

**Carrie Beleno**

Pastor of Visitation  
[vispastor@unionucc.org](mailto:vispastor@unionucc.org)

**Tiffany Lakatosh**

Faith Formation Minister for  
Children & Families  
[dired@unionucc.org](mailto:dired@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 27

**Marissa Haney**

Church Administrator  
[administrator@unionucc.org](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org)  
Ext. 21

**Blake Hoppes**

Minister of Music  
[Blake.charger@gmail.com](mailto:Blake.charger@gmail.com)  
Ext. 26

**Ori Handwerk**

Facility Caretaker  
[Caretaker@unionucc.org](mailto:Caretaker@unionucc.org)

**Barbara Carinci**

Financial Manager  
[financialmanager@unionucc.org](mailto: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](http://www.unionucc.org)

Preschool Office:  
610-767-5327  
[prechool@unionucc.org](mailto:prechool@unionucc.org)  
Director: Rebekah Millroy



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