



— Union UCC —

5550 RTE 873
PO Box 66
Neffs, PA 18065

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 19, 2025

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
Hannah and Ryleigh Minnich Sunday Set-up
Claire Puia 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 the Offering plate.

May 2025 be a healthy and blessed to all, blessings to our church & community, grateful for our Pastors & staff of Union UCC, blessing for my church family, peace on earth, All active military personnel protecting us in our homeland or deployed overseas especially Gabriel and Dylan, Emily on the birth of her baby girl, Annette, Dave and Sandy, Glenn undergoing leukemia treatments, dad's & mom's health, healing for a couple with health issues, strength and confidence for a son, peace for dad, prayers for a successful surgery, Doug, Barbara, Dorothy, David, Jamie, Marlene, Sonny, and Susie strength and healing, Diane going for surgery, rapid & full recovery for Deb, Sparky, Frank's recovery, Hal responding to his treatments, Charlotte, Ken, Beth, sick uncle, Ed, mother-in-law with brain cancer, our daughter facing open heart surgery, Lucas and Stella, sister and brother in law for peace and healing, Annmarie, Richard, Katherine, Rachel, Tom, and all battling cancer, Susie, Dorothy, Susan, Darrell, Cam and Jordan's family, baby Felix, Suzanne, Annie, Malcolm and Margie, daughter to find her way.

Congrats and Blessings

On the birth of Adeline James DiGregorio to Emily (Fella) and John DiGregorio on January 9th. She arrived a little early, so keep them in your prayers. Grandparents are Edie and Jim Fella

Worship Schedule

SUNDAY WORSHIP
8AM AND 10:30AM
AT CHURCH AND ONLINE

29
DEC No 8am Worship,
10:30am only

5
JAN Communion

12
JAN 10:30
Baptism

19
JAN Healing/Pray with a Pastor
New Worship Series Starting
6 Stone Jars

A miscalculation has occurred. The wedding guests have drunk all the wine before the party is over. At times, life can feel like we're "running out" of so much, and scarcity is shutting down the party. In these moments, we are invited to turn to the currency and economy of Jesus. Know the abundance of Jesus by drawing from jars of Hope, Purpose, Healing, Meaning, Vision, and Grace.

26
JAN 10:30
Semi-Annual
Congregational
Meeting

2
FEB

Upcoming:

Feb 9: Souper Bowl Sunday/ Tailgate Lunch

March 2: Communion/ Organ Concert

March 4: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

March 5: Ash Wednesday Worship at 7pm

Adult Faith Formation Classes with Pastor Kris and Pastor Carrie

Fridays from 9:30 to 11am Jan 10, 24, Jan 31
Sundays from 9:15 to 10:15am Jan 8, 22, Feb 2

Hear Us Out by Sue Pizor Yoder and Co. Lab. Inq.

6 Questions on Belonging and Belief – this team interviewed over 200 people under forty in search of the lessons they might teach about belonging, adversity, legacy, and faith. This book illustrates the ways millennials and Gen Z are navigating life, crafting their stories, and making meaning. McLaren says, "this is the must read for churches that are shrinking in size and wrinkling with age to help take seriously when they consider ways to welcome emerging generations into their midst.

Your congregation needs this book!"



God 1st Wednesday and Wednesdays at Union in February:

- 2/5: Modern parenting & grandparenting: Key issues facing today's families
 - 2/12: Avoid Getting Crispy: Burnout/Trauma/Stress
 - 2/19: Sleep/Health/Community: How these topics intersect & brief discussion of diagnosis & treatments for sleep disorders
 - 2/26: Managing Anxiety and Depression in the Winter Months
- Seminars led by St. Luke's Clinical Therapy Services



January
NO God First or
Wednesdays at
Union

1st Wednesday: 5:30 - 6pm Supper,
 6 - 7:15 pm Kids Choir & Adult seminars
 7:15 - 7:30pm Closing Worship
 All other Wednesdays: Adults 6 - 730



Join us as we welcome our newest members to our team!

Menu: Sandwiches, pizza, wings, snacks, water.

Please bring a dessert to share

(Gluten Free options available)

Make it a **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** by bringing a can(s) of soup or cash donation for area food banks.



If you are in the hospital, please notify a pastor or the 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.

Step Into Serving At Union UCC We're in this together.



Find opportunities at:
<https://bit.ly/4dfQZvb>

Or contact a pastor, staff member, or the church office.

- Looking for meaning and purpose?
- Wanting to put your faith into action?
- Hoping to make a difference in the lives of others?

Presented by: C.R.E.W Connection-Resources-Education-Wellness

Join us for a special viewing and Q & A of
"This Is My Son, This Is My Daughter."

presented by Bill Tonkin. It is an emotionally candid look at the impact of addiction on individuals and families, resources and hope.

February 2, 2025

11:30-1:30pm

All adults and teens are encouraged to attend but is not intended for children under 12. Pizza lunch provided.

RSVP by January 29.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEAD2BA2FE3-53909593-bill>

golden times

Golden Times is a gathering for our senior adults. Everyone is welcome, including friends. We start at 12noon with lunch (often soup, salad, and a sandwich) and then have a program until about 1:30pm. There is no charge to attend. Your support of the budget and the Funds of Lasting Gifts provides the events and luncheon. Contact the church office if you'd like to receive postcard mailing reminders.

No January or February

3/11: Strolling Strings (week change)

4/1: Rick Daugherty from Lehigh Valley Aging

5/6: Final for the year TBD

**25th Anniversary
Basket Social**
March 29-March 30, 2025
Hosted by the Fellowship Committee

Tickets on sale beginning in January
After worship & online

Questions?
Contact Maria Beltz (wesmar92@icloud.com)
or Debbie Romig (dromig180@gmail.com)

BASKET SOCIAL 2025
Tickets are on sale!
After worship services & Online
\$5 per sheet (25 tickets)
\$20 for 5 sheets

To purchase online & pay via Venmo visit: <https://forms.gle/p5CAcpY3N9jhdubo6>

Welcome Home
TO UNION UCC



Are you looking for a family of faith? Do you want to know the love and grace of Jesus more fully? What are your questions? We would love to welcome you on this journey.

Our next new member gathering is on Sunday, February 16th at 11:45-12:45 at Coffee Hour.

Your welcome Sunday is February 23rd at 8am or 10:30am or virtually.

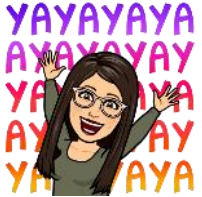
Contact me if you would like to talk, sign up, or if you'd like a different date.
Pastor Kris pastorkris@unionucc.org

Our leaders have been writing their elevator pitches for their faith or our church. Here's Pastor Kris's: Our kids and youth love growing up here. They say that the building is like a second home and the people are a second family. It's a safe place to ask questions and a great place to learn how to love and serve God. Adults tell us that coming to worship is fun, surprising, and gives them what they need to get through the week. They feel nurtured here, as well as challenged and inspired to live out their faith. Guests and new members say that they love that we say and embrace the United Church of Christ motto: "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." Some have said it is the best thing they have heard a pastor say and they are grateful for a place that models what it looks like to be followers of Jesus when we disagree or are different. It is this extravagant welcome that is often the reason they join us as members.



SAVE THE DATE!
YOUTH SUNDAY 2025
MARCH 16, 2025

Theme: TBD



HS Seniors Preach, everyone is encouraged to participate!



Check Out The 2025 Dates for High School Happy Hour and Open Sunday School!!!



High School Happy Hour

January 5	March 30
January 12	April 13
February 2	April 27
February 16	May 11
March 2	

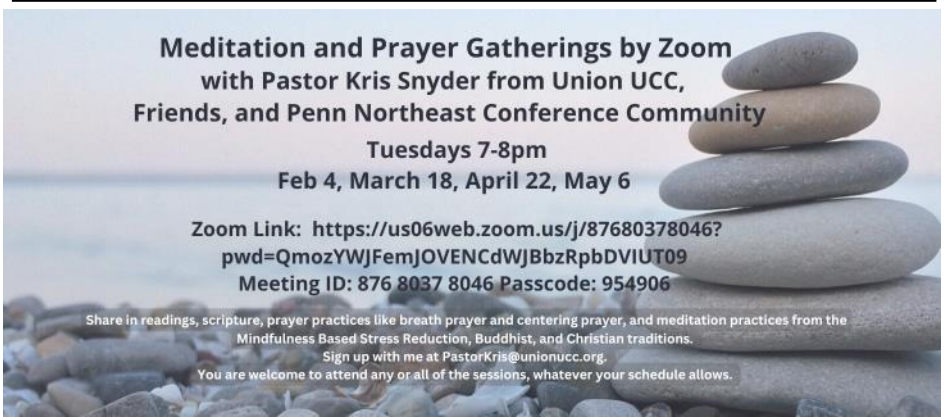
11:30am-12:30pm
Youth Room or Zoom



Open Sunday School

January 12	March 23
January 26	April 6
February 9	April 20
February 23	May 18
March 9	

9:15am-10:15am
Youth Room



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

Tuesdays 7-8pm
Feb 4, March 18, April 22, May 6

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

Share in readings, scripture, prayer practices like breath prayer and centering prayer, and meditation practices from the Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction, Buddhist, and Christian traditions.
Sign up with me at PastorKris@unionucc.org.
You are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions, whatever your schedule allows.



UPCOMING HOSTING WEEK:
February 16-23, 2025

serving 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



**FAITH
FORMATION**
FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Contact: Tiffany Lakatosh
Email: dired@unionucc.org

Join us for God First on
February 5th at 5:30pm

PIZZA & PAINT FLANNEL SUNDAY

**JANUARY 19TH AT 11:45AM
IN FELLOWSHIP HALL**

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. NO
PAINTING EXPERIENCE NEEDED. WE WILL BE
DOING A BEGINNER LEVEL CROSS PAINTING.
EMAIL MS. TIFFANY AT [DIRE@UNIONUCC.ORG](mailto:dired@unionucc.org)



TO SIGN UP.



FEBRUARY 9TH

WEAR YOUR
FAVORITE
FLANNEL
OUTFIT TO
CHURCH. THE
MOST CREATIVE
OUTFIT WILL
GET A SPECIAL
SURPRISE.





Let's Bowl!

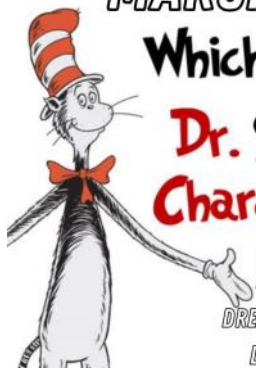
JOIN US FOR SOME FUN ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH AT 10AM
AT HAMPTON LANES IN NORTHAMPTON.

IT IS \$6 PER PERSON, PAYMENT IS DUE BY FEBRUARY 2ND.

REGISTER ONLINE BY JANUARY 30TH AT
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/3ZEAQAV](https://bit.ly/3ZEAQAV)



DR. SEUSS SUNDAY MARCH 2ND



Which
**Dr. Seuss
Character**
Are You?

DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVORITE
DR. SEUSS CHARACTER

VBS 2025

June 23-27 6pm-8pm

MAKER FUN FACTORY

Created by GOD
Built for a Purpose

Volunteers and participants can register online at <https://vbspro.events/p/unionucc>



Those interested in volunteering and those signed up to volunteer are invited to join us for a meeting on March 9th after the 10:30 service in the Youth Room.

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, February 16th at 11:30 -12:30 in Memorial Hall where coffee hour is. You would be received in church on Sunday, February 23rd 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.



Open and Affirming (ONA) Team Update - Early 2025

It is amazing how quickly time goes by. One year ago in February 2024 is when Union became an ONA congregation! Thank you for your support as we take steps to show our community how we are ONA!

A reminder that being ONA is about opening our minds and hearts and including and accepting people that are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ), as well as people that are of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith background, marital status, family structure, physical, cognitive, or emotional abilities, economic, educational, and social statuses, and political or cultural backgrounds. EVERYONE!

The ONA team would like to let everyone know that **Sunday, June 29th** will be **ONA Sunday** at Union. Join us for worship outside in the grove!

The team is also in the beginning stages of scheduling and organizing programming for the Fall and we look forward to sharing information about them as they are ironed out and get closer.

 Douglas Brace - doug@dougbrace.com 



Relevant • Engaged • Growing

Our Leadership Planning Team (LPT) and Consistory continue to meet on the 3rd Monday of the month at Consistory meetings and on Saturday mornings about every other month.

On February 8th our LPT Team and Consistory will meet to be trained by Jill White to interview our community to discover how they perceive us, what they need from us, and how we might partner together. We look forward to seeing how this input will shape God's ministry and mission here at Union UCC.

The Architect Team continues to work with Alloy 5 our architect firm to help us design a plan for renovating Memorial Hall.

The Marketing Team will start to implement additional outreach and marketing strategies. CREW (Connection, Resources, Education, Wellness) has created an awesome February of mental health and wellness opportunities.

Food trucks and bands are lining up for a great summer 2025 idea in the grove!

Please talk to one of us if you'd like to join one of these teams or to learn more:
Pastor Kris, Pastor Kayli, Pastor Carrie, Consistory Officers: Eric Minnich, Don Penrod, Janice Metzger, Marianne Kitzmiller, and the LPT/Consistory



Faith on Tap

Wednesday, January 29
6:30-8:30pm

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

God. Conversation. Food & Drink.

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

Cost: Your drink (alcohol and non-alcohol options)

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

SIGN UP HERE:

<https://bit.ly/41KAjKa>



Thanks
Kornfeind's
Market!

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

Union UCC is holding a 5-session book study: **"Grieving with Hope"**

Mondays, monthly, 6-7:30pm
1/13, 2/10, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12
Memory room, 2nd floor.

Please RSVP to Pastor Carrie to secure your spot and receive the free book.

 **Country Sale**
Community -Wide yard Sale

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, May 31, 2025
8am -1pm
Union UCC Grove

Watch for information on how to reserve your yard sale space in the New Year!



Tai Chi Thursdays

10-week session: 1/16-3/20
6-7pm
\$15 drop-in
5-pack \$67.50
10-pack \$110
Memorial Hall
Cash/check/venmo to instructor: Alice Perry

Knitters and crocheters: We are looking for folks to make baby blankets to share with our families when they have a child baptized. Size around 32" by 32" and gender neutral colors like sage, white, yellow, and multi colors and must be soft. We also need a few larger ones every year for older children. Contact Pastor Kris if you are able to help with this ministry of wrapping our kids in Union UCC love!



UNION UCC NIGHT WITH THE PHANTOMS 7:05PM (DOORS OPEN AT 6PM)

SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND

Tickets: \$27.00 each

ORDERS can be emailed or dropped at the church office or in the offering plate but MUST be in an envelope marked Phantoms Tickets.



TO ORDER TICKETS OR FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT STEVE HAREHA

717-514-8881 OR s.hareha@gmail.com

Cash, Check, or Venmo

(Make Checks Payable to Steve Kareha)

Presented by Union UCC Men's group

venmo



BREATHE

TUESDAYS ONCE A MONTH
IN THE SANCTUARY

- NO JANUARY
- FEBRUARY 11 AT 7PM
- MARCH 11 AT 7PM
- APRIL 8 AT 7PM
- MAY 1 AT 7PM



*Catch your Breath
...with God*

*Prayer * Meditation * Music * Communion*

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

OUR NURSERY IS OPEN!

PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS ARE WELCOME TO STAY WITH THEIR LITTLE ONES IN OUR NURSERY ON SUNDAYS.

LISTEN TO AND WATCH WORSHIP TOGETHER WHILE YOU SNACK, PLAY, AND REST.

Baptisms: We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Our upcoming date is **March 30, 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. 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: Rebekah Millroy



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