

Sunday Worship in church and online

June 2 Communion Last 8am Worship for the Summer	June 9 10:30 Worship Only	June 16 Father's Day, Graduate Sunday	June 23 Semi-Annual Meeting	June 30 Worship in the Grove, Build Your Own Sundae Sunday Picnic, Guest Preacher: Geoffrey Brace
July 7 Guest Preacher: Geoffrey Brace	July 14 Blessing of the Animals- bring your pet or a picture of them or a stuffed animal to represent them for a blessing	July 21 Baptism	July 28 Christmas in July	August 4 Communion

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!

country sale

**Neffs Church
Union UCC**

**June 1
8am-1pm**

**HUGE Yard Sale
Delicious Food**

**Routes 873 & 329
Neffs, PA**

Build Your Own Sundae

June 30, 2024
Join us after 10:30am worship
in the Grove

**Hot dogs, Snacks, Ice Cream
& ALL THE TOPPINGS**

Sponsored by: Welcoming Committee

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Upcoming Schedule and events	Pg. 1	Mission	Pg. 5	PNEC Ambassador Corner Weddings	Pg. 9	Pastor Carrie's Corner	Pg. 13
Semi-Annual Meeting/ Summer Worship Plan	Pg. 2	Faith Formation	Pg. 6	Preschool/ Backyard BBQ Bash	Pg. 10	New Members Info/ Family Promise	Pg. 14
Open and Affirming/ Graduates	Pg. 3	Youth Group	Pg. 7	Nursery/ Ways to Give	Pg. 11	Prayers/ May Baptisms/ Contact Info	Pg. 15
Breath/ Steering Without Oars	Pg. 4	Property Committee/ Blues Nite Out	Pg. 8	Preschool Staff Update/ Meditation/ Yoga	Pg. 12	Member Information	Pg. 16

Dear Church Family,

I'd like to invite you to attend our Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, June 23, 2024 following the 10:30 AM service. This meeting's agenda will focus on the approval of the FY2025 Budget as well as a review of the audit report for the Funds of Lasting Gifts.

Your participation and engagement in this process supports our programs and mission while ensuring our financial vitality moving forward. The budget will be available to review between services on Sunday, June 16, 2024. Please take this opportunity to meet with our Financial Leadership Team and become informed.

The meeting will be held in person, but a Zoom option will be available to view the meeting (voting must be done in person). I look forward to seeing you on June 23rd and working together to better serve God and our greater community.

May God continue to bless our church family and those we serve.

Respectfully,

Eric Minnich

Consistory President

Zoom Information:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83097072849?pwd=FlgL3ZvMIgYNwmQP8bIZXEzVzxpmb.1>

Meeting ID: 830 9707 2849

Passcode: 560069

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.

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.



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.

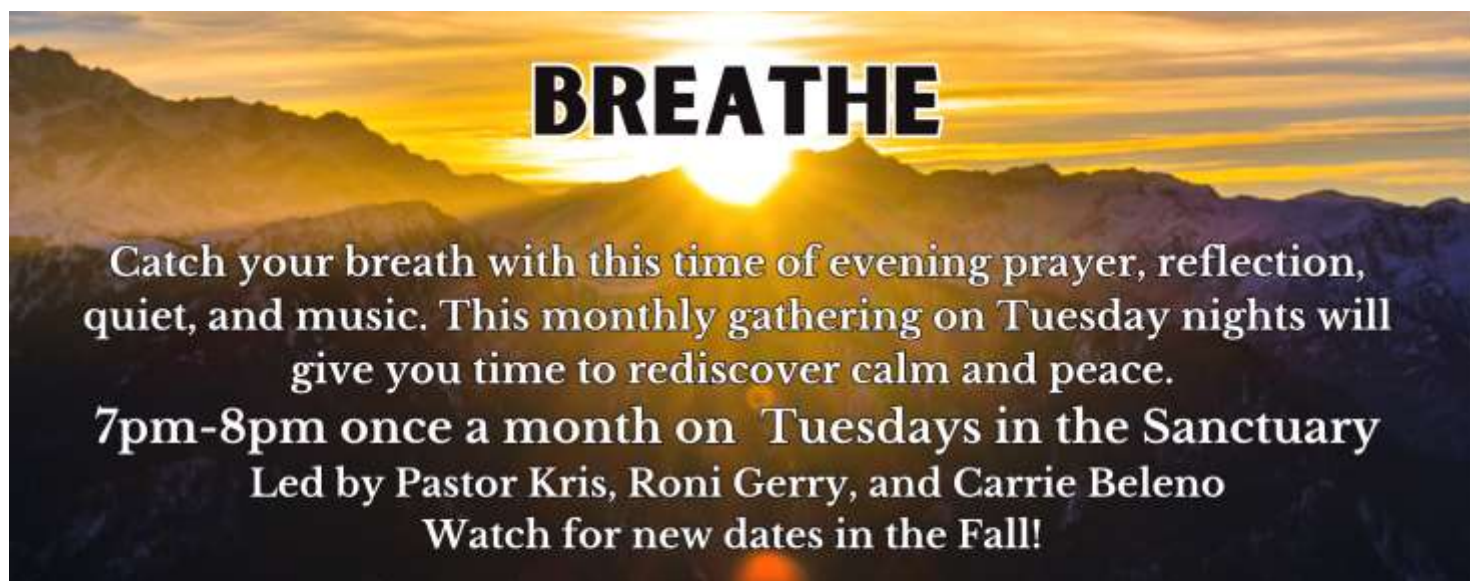
Then join us in worship on June 16, 2024 to honor you!

Google form: <https://forms.gle/n8A4zXhEUvyjW4Cv6>

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



One Great Hour of Sharing - **It's time to share**

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is one of four special offerings of the United Church of Christ. This annual special offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ within Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM).

In Galatians, the Apostle Paul encourages followers of Jesus to generously help and care for others. Though there is great need in the world and we can grow weary because we do not know how to help, God's spirit energizes us to help.

You can make a difference. Your generosity makes all the difference. Your gifts to OGHS provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world.

Collections for OGHS will take place in June, to make a donation, please use the special envelope included in this newsletter. This may be mailed to the church office, or dropped into the collection plate. Donations may also be made online.

Thank you for supporting this annual mission collection.

From the Mission Committee

Thank you for your generous support during the Easter Mission collection. Donations of over \$1,350 will support Parkland C.A.R.E.S and over \$1,350 will support the YMCA Warming Station program in Allentown. Both missions will provide love and support to local families, our financial support definitely makes a difference in the community.

Each year, earnings from the Urffer Fund in the Funds of Lasting Gifts is provided to missions outside of the church who deal with improving the lives of children.

This year the Mission Committee approved \$720 to sponsor two young adult girls living in Zimbabwe, Africa, through the Church World Service program. Miracle League of the Lehigh Valley will receive \$875 and My Stuff Bags Foundation will receive \$800 to support their mission to provide bags of new belongings to children rescued from abuse, homelessness and neglect in the US.

Each year, earnings from the Mattern Family Humanitarian Needs Fund is provided to missions across the globe to provide families some of the basic requirements of food, clean water and shelter.

This year the Mission Committee has approved for \$1,000 donations to Veteran's Outreach of Pennsylvania and the Guatemala UCC Water Project. \$500 donations will be provided to Meals on Wheels of the Lehigh Valley, Maui Food Bank, and the Northeast Community Center Food Pantry in Bethlehem.

Thank you to the Urffer Fund and the Mattern Fund, individual funds within the Funds of Lasting Gifts endowment fund for Spreading God's Love to the World.



FAITH FORMATION

FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Contact: Tiffany Lakatosh

Email: dired@unionucc.org

Do you like to paint or make crafts? If so, join us on June 2nd at 11:45am in Fellowship Hall to help make decorations for VBS. Let Ms. Tiffany know if you plan to attend.



Time with Ms. Tiffany & Friends



Summer of the Spirit

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

VBS 2024
JUNE 24TH-28TH 6-8PM
DINNER AVAILABLE AT 5:30PM



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

VOLUNTEERS AND PARTICIPANTS CAN SIGN UP AT
[HTTPS://VBSPRO.EVENTS/P/EVENTS/UNIONUCC](https://vbspro.events/p/events/unionucc)

VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING

SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH AT 11:45
IN THE YOUTH ROOM

Christmas in July Gingerbread House Decorating Contest



Sunday, July 21st
11:45AM - 2:45PM
in Fellowship Hall

Register your team at
<https://bit.ly/3vZcLEh>



Adults and teens (currently in 8th grade or older) planning to volunteer for VBS are invited to attend our meeting.

Contact Tiffany at dired@unionucc.org with any questions.

Union UCC, Neffs Youth Group



“No matter what anybody tells you, words and ideas can change the world.” – Robin Williams

June 2024 Edition

Pastor Kayli (pastorkayli@unionucc.org)

YOUTH GROUP KICK OFF TO SUMMER

June 12, 2024

6:30pm—8:30pm

All youth grades 6th thru 12th are invited to kick off summertime with some fun games, maybe some prizes, and Rita’s to cool us down We’ll meet in the Grove (unless it rains, then we’ll be in the Youth Room)

No need to sign up...just show up and bring your friends!



STAY UP TO DATE!

Make sure you're on our email list to receive our weekly emails and have the most up-to-date information on what's going on in Youth Group!
Wanna be added? Contact Pastor Kayli



Summer Sun Tips:

- *Wear SPF 15 or more when in the sun
- *Stay hydrated by drinking water
- *Keep yourself cool to avoid heat exhaustion
- *Hang out with Youth Group for safe summer fun



Every year, I get sentimental watching all those who graduate turn the page to the next chapter of life. Many blessings and congratulations to all of our graduates! This life is a wonderful adventure and we are here for you every step of the way.

Adventure is out there ~ UP



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.

Watch for Fall dates.



FUNDRAISER AT DRIZZLE ICE CREAM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10
12NOON TO 9PM

5040 ROUTE 873
SCHNECKSVILLE

EAT ICE CREAM ALL DAY!
15% of all sales will help us raise funds for the Breakfast Bunch summer breakfast/lunch program for kids in Slatington.

Drizzle offers Kreider Hand Dipped Ice Cream (Lancaster County), soft serve, Flavorburst (soft serve), Italian Ice, and Penn State Creamery Ice Cream. Sundaes, milkshakes, & banana splits too!



From the Property Committee

Summer is coming soon, but let's think back to the beautiful spring we experienced. God's beauty was all around as all of the flowers and trees awakened from their winter hibernation. The daffodils in the grove, and all of the other flowers were spectacular this year. Then the flowering dogwood trees, cherry trees and magnolias took over for a few weeks, providing for a colorful outdoor experience. Let's not forget about the green grass, growing fast from all of the rain showers, even the dandelion's provided some color, until the fertilizer kicked in. Yes, Spring is always a special time around Union UCC's property.

The yearly maintenance of the property continues, the oil burner cleaned, fire extinguishers inspected, AC units of the offices serviced, gutters cleaned, flower beds cleaned and mulched, everything in order as summer arrives. Thank you to the many contractors who perform various skills to keep our property in good shape

Reminder to church members looking to hold a special event in the grove this summer, dates are going fast, please contact Marissa in the church office to book a special family event. The grove is a special place for parties, showers, reunions and more.

BLUES NITE OUT

will return this summer, for one night, and one night only to the Neffs Church Grove on Saturday, August 24.

Mark you calendars now to attend this community favorite event.

A new local band, Powder Valley Bang will be performing from 4 - 6:30, then Sarah Ayers and James Supra will be on stage with their band from 7 - 10. Both bands will be performing at Musikfest and other venues this summer and look forward to coming to the Neffs Church Grove.

All of the favorite foods will be back in 2024



4-6:30 pm
Powder Valley Bang



7-10 pm
Sarah Ayers & James Supra

PNEC Ambassador Corner
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@pniec.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.

Congratulations and Blessings

Sheldon Christman and Larysa O'Neill

married on May 11, 2024



PRESCHOOL

May is quickly wrapping up as I write this, and with it comes the end of the school year. Last days of school and graduation are only a week and a half away, and the students are brimming with energy and excitement. The staff on the other hand are drinking extra cups of coffee just to keep up. The chocolate one of the parents sent in does not hurt either! The end of a school year is always bittersweet, as we know the students are ready to fly the coop and head off to kindergarten, but we will also miss being a part of their lives. We have watched them grow and develop over the course of one, two and sometimes three years, and we have grown attached to them and their families. Each unique personality leaves a mark on our hearts that lasts forever. This group of students and families will hold an extra special place in my life as they are the last classes entrusted to my care.

This week is also Teacher Appreciation week. We will be holding our annual teacher appreciation luncheon, and the board and I will say "thank you", but it will never be enough to express how much I value their professionalism, their dedication, the extra hours they put in, and the way they truly nurture each individual student.

There is no Preschool Board Appreciation Week (although there should be), so I am using this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to each and every one of the Neffs UCC Preschool Board, both present and past, who have supported and guided me, and occasionally talked me off the ledge, throughout my tenure here. To all of the staff here at Union UCC, thank you for always having my back and for being patient when I have lost and confused parents who need to be guided back my direction, or a crazy idea for a new activity.

I am truly going to miss each and every person associated with this wonderful program. I am, however not saying goodbye, I will make sure to pop in often enough you do not have a chance to forget me.

Sincerely,
Annette Wilcox



Backyard BBQ Bash

Another local favorite band, TimeWhys will be back on stage for our annual Backyard BBQ Bash on Saturday Sept 21. Chicken and pork dinners from Lorah's Pig Roasters and other favorite foods and desserts will be available for all to enjoy. Keep this date open for a fun night in Neffs Church Grove



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.

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>
Choose an ongoing regular donation or a single donation with your credit or debit card. (Help us with fees if you can.)
- Venmo @unionuccneffs Make a donation or pay for a fundraiser or event. Complete "What's this for?"
- Mobile Giving Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app
- **Cash or checks (to "Union UCC")** Place in the 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.



Vanco



Vanco Mobile



Venmo



Dear Union UCC members,

As many of you know, Mrs. Annette Wilcox is retiring at the end of this school term. She has been our Preschool Director for the last nine years. Annette has guided our preschool and instituted many positive changes during her tenure. Our preschool has continued to provide the children of our community with a solid and foundational base for their educational journey. We have thoroughly enjoyed working with Annette and she will be missed.

Lucky for us, we have found Mrs. Wilcox's successor within our own preschool. It is with great pleasure and excitement that we would like to announce that Mrs. Rebekah Millroy will be our new Preschool Director, starting June 1st. Rebekah brings with her twenty years experience working with preschool-aged children. She has been teaching in our preschool for the last five years, working with all three age levels. Rebekah's enthusiasm, creativity and knowledge of preschool children and preschool curriculum are just a few of the wonderful attributes she will bring to this position. Best of all, she knows our school, our children and the goals of Neffs UCC Preschool. She is working closely with Mrs. Wilcox in order to guarantee a smooth transition. We are all looking forward to what the future holds with Mrs. Millroy as our Director.

If you know of anyone looking for a preschool for their three year old, four year old or PreK-aged child, we would appreciate you sending them our way.

Sincerely,

Neffs UCC Preschool Board

Claire Kern, Kathy Bonsell, Deb Topp, Susan Steinmann, Dixie Gross, Tiffany Lakatosh, Chrissy Shivok, Barbara Carinci

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

Monthly - watch for new fall dates.

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.

A stack of smooth, light-colored stones of varying sizes, used as a decorative element in the meditation and prayer gathering announcement.

Yoga in the Grove

AN OUTDOOR YOGA SESSION TO LET YOU CONNECT WITH NATURE

Yoga is a beautiful mind-body practice to ease stress and find balance on and off the mat. Learn how to "move" better in your body. This all level class will be held outside in the beautiful grove of Union UCC

A photograph of a person in a white t-shirt performing a yoga pose (Cobra) in a sunlit outdoor setting, with their arms raised and back arched.

Dates: Thursdays June 13 through September 26
(No class 6/27, 7/4, & 7/25)
Time: 6-7pm

Things to bring: yoga mat, a beach towel, water, strap and blocks(optional)
Payment: \$8 drop in (with a portion of proceeds given back to the church)
Preferred payment links: Venmo: sharon-schnyder OR PayPal: paypal.me/sharonschnyder however cash or check will be accepted as well.
Classes will be held rain or shine as we have access to the covered pavilion. I will however notify you on my blog (1asanamama.blogspot.com) and Facebook page if I need to cancel class for any reason.

Pastor Carrie's Corner

Wisdom Tips for talking about Mental Health

Be a friend: "A friend loves at all times..." (Proverbs 17:17a). Listen without judgment. Provide companionship. Offer a ride or a meal. Respect confidentiality. Avoid shame and guilt. Remember that we all are impacted by mental health.

Remember that words can hurt: "Rash words are like sword thrusts..." (Proverbs 12:18a). Pay attention to the words you use and how they affect the people around you. Avoid labelling and stereotyping people.

Stop the stigma: "We, who are many, are one body in Christ" (Romans 12:5). Challenge negative attitudes toward mental health and neurodiversity whenever you encounter it. Question your assumptions. Correct misinformation about mental health challenges, substance use disorders, trauma, and brain differences.

Educate: "Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice?" (Proverbs 8:1). Learn the facts about the various challenges that can affect mental health, including substance use and brain disorders, neurodevelopmental difference, trauma. Realize that mental health is physical health.

Resources:

Blessed Youth: Breaking the Silence About Mental Illness with Children and Teens by Sarah Griffith Lund

Not Alone: Reflections on Faith and Depression by Monica A Coleman

Keefe, Rachael A., The Lifesaving Church: Faith Communities and Suicide Prevention by Rachael A. Keefe



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



Watch for new dates in the Fall!

**God. Conversation. Food & Drink.
Not at church.**

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.



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!



GOD FIRST WEDNESDAYS
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 Pastors Kris & Carrie
7:15-7:30 Worship together

**Putting God First on First Wednesdays
Watch for new dates in the Fall!**

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 20th 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.



UPCOMING HOSTING WEEK: September 15-22, 2024

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



Our blessings and prayers go to the friends and families of those who have passed.

Tyler F. Stoss passed on May 2, 2024. A private service was held on May 16, 2024.

Mark R. Maletsky passed on May 5, 2024. A service was held on May 11, 2024 at The Heintzelman Funeral Home.

William J. Ochs passed on May 12, 2024. Services were held on May 20, 2024 at the Heintzelman Funeral Home.

Frederick D. Dannecker, Sr. passed on May 18, 2024. A graveside service was held on May 23, 2024.

May Baptisms



Grace Elizabeth and Mark Anthony Daluisio III pictured with parents Hannah and Mark Daluisio Jr.



Joseph Paul Frey pictured with parents Lora and Jeffrey Frey and siblings Alexis, Alivia, and Rowan

Union UCC Staff

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

Rev. Kayli Freeman
Associate Pastor
pastorkayli@unionucc.org

Carrie Beleno
Pastor of Visitation
vispastor@unionucc.org

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

Marissa Haney
Church Administrator
administrator@unionucc.org

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

Ori Handwerk
Facility Caretaker
Caretaker@unionucc.org

Barbara Carinci
Financial Manager
financialmanager@unionucc.org

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

Church Telephone
Extension Directory
610-767-6961

Pastor Kris ext. 24
Pastor Kayli ext. 25
Marissa Haney ext. 21
Tiffany Lakatosh ext. 27
Barbara Carinci ext. 32
Music Office ext. 26



www.facebook.com/unionneffs

Financial Report

Fiscal Year	Operating Fund	Designated Funds	Grand Total All Funds
7-1-2023	-\$4,682.00	\$39,850.00	\$35,168.00
Income	\$432,559.00	\$48,472.00	\$481,031.00
Expenses	\$404,027.00	\$62,113.00	\$466,140.00
4-30-2024	\$23,850.00	\$26,209.00	\$50,059.00

Designated Funds category includes offerings for NIN, Mother's Day, OGHS, Lenten, Advent, Improvement Fund, Flowers, Directory, Bulletins, Phoebe Campaign, & special gifts.

Donate, Recycle and Help Your Church

As you are cleaning out closets and cabinets be sure to keep Union UCC in mind. Bring your donations at any time to the bin in our grove. The church receives a certain amount of money for each pound that is donated. Items that are usable are resold or recycled. You are also helping to save the amount of things that end up in a landfill by donating your items this way. Recycle Local's goal is to help agencies have 0% waste.

Items accepted include: clean and dry clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, towels, drapes, pillow cases and stuffed animals. Place all items in plastic bags. NO furniture, rags, pillows, toys, or household goods.

This is one more way to give and support the mission and ministry of God's church at Union UCC. Thank you.

New Member Sessions We encourage you to make a deeper commitment to your faith by joining us as a member. Contact Pastor Kris PastorKris@unionucc.org to sign up. See page 14 for more information.

Dual Member Status Dual membership is available to people who wish to join our church but who want to also maintain membership at another church. Dual members will have the same rights and duties as a member. According to our Constitution members are required to commune and donate yearly. We look forward to continuing to welcome new members into the Christian journey with our faith family here at Union UCC.

Baptism We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Our next dates are **Sunday, July 21, 2024 and September 22, 2024**. There is a pre-baptism zoom session with a 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.

Weddings To begin the process of scheduling your pre-marriage sessions and wedding at church/a venue and/or with one of the pastors call the church office at 610-767-6961 or email Marissa Haney at administrator@unionucc.org.

There is information on our website, forms to complete are downloadable. More information on the site: <http://www.unionucc.org/resources> for New Member, Baptism, and Wedding forms.

Room or Hall Use for Members Members are now able to reserve the use of rooms in the church again. Contact Marissa in the office to see if your date is available, to complete the necessary forms, to learn the guidelines and process, and to pay the fees. One time use fees are \$60 plus a \$25 cleaning fee. We do not offer room use to non-members.