

# *Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright*



**The carol *Silent Night* is 200 years old. We'll use the carol's story and lyrics to prepare our hearts for Christmas.**

### **Sunday, December 2**

8am and 10:30am Worship with Communion

### **Sunday, December 9**

8am and 10:30am Worship

Joy! A Christmas Musical by our Adult Choirs

**7pm** Parkland High School Chorale Concert

### **Sunday, December 16**

8:00am and 10:30am Worship

The Carols of Christmas—Stories Behind our Favorite Songs

### **Friday, December 21 NEW Worship Service**

**7pm** Winter Solstice: a service of solace.

This quiet service with music, prayers, and communion will help you get through the holidays.

### **Sunday, December 23**

8:00am and 10:30am Worship It's almost time!

### **Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve**

We need a Silent Night...

**3pm** Candlelight, Communion

**5pm** Candlelight, Children's Choirs

**8pm** Candlelight, Communion

**11pm** Candlelight, Communion

### **Sunday, December 30**

NO 8:00 am Worship, 10:30 am Worship Only  
Led by our Young Adults and College Students

### **Sunday, January 6**

8:00am and 10:30am Worship  
Faith Commitment Sunday  
and New Year Communion



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#### **What Shall We Bring?**

Thank you for your generous and faithful support and prayers for God's work here.

**Bring your Faith Commitment Card to worship on January 6th. (We will have extras for you to use, too.)**

We're asking you to note on your Faith Commitment Card areas where you already serve as well as new areas you might like to try. We've added a space for you to share areas where you serve outside of church, too. These are all great things to celebrate and to ask God to bless and guide. You are also welcome to drop the card in the offering plate at any time before January 6<sup>th</sup> or mail it to the church to be included in our time of blessing.

**Come to Coffee Hour for a brunch to celebrate!**

### November 2018 Consistory Actions

These notes reflect items that needed action and approval by Consistory. Standing and routine items are reported by Committees and Staff throughout the newsletter. A complete copy of the Consistory minutes can be found in the church office.

- Approval for Pastor Kris' vacation, 12/25/18 - 1/2/19
- Approval for Pastor Kayli's vacation, 11/19/18 - 11/26/18
- Approval for funding to Pastor Patience to receive 15 hours of pay for additional time worked from FOLG - *Church and Ministry Committee*
- Approval for funding to cover a new TV and cart for use in Memorial Hall and elsewhere as needed from Memorial Fund - *Property & Maintenance Committee*

**The next regular meeting of the Union United Church of Christ Consistory will be held Monday, December 17 in Room 101.**

### From the Property Committee

As a kid growing up in Neffs, in a time way before cell phones, or even kids having wrist watches, I always knew what time it was by hearing the church bells toll the hour each hour, especially noon time when I would hear the hymns being played (also at 3 and 6). Five bells at night, time to get home from the playground, the Neffs Pool, or a friends house for supper with the family.

One constant thing in the Neffs community was the sound of our church bells. A comforting reminder of our church's presence to us all. The hourly ringing of the bells and the hymns being played are created through an electronic carillon system, with large speakers up in the bell tower.

During November, a new digital carillon system was installed, continuing the long standing tradition of bells and chimes for Union UCC and for the Neffs community. Funding for the new carillon system was provided by the Rolland Wotring Carillonic Bell Fund in the Funds of Lasting Gifts, specifically designed for the upkeep, repairs and replacement of the carillon. Give thanks to this family's generosity years ago and our trustees for providing for this upgrade for our church.

Upgrades were also made to the sound system in the sanctuary, with some new speakers installed and other upgrades to the sound board and new input jacks. Blake Hoppes provided input and advice to a local sound team who did the installation in November. Funding for this project was made possible through the Memorial Fund.

Christmas is coming, start making plans to visit Union UCC for any of the many Christmas festivities being held to celebrate the birth of Christ. The Christmas spirit is alive at Union UCC.

### From the Financial Leadership Team:

#### 2019 Envelope packets

Envelope packets for 2019 will be ready for pickup after Thanksgiving. Please pick up your packets in Memorial Hall, along with those of family members, neighbors or friends. The more envelope packets picked up, the more we save on postage costs!



Please do not use the new envelopes until 2019, everyone gets new numbers each year. Members who use the e-giving program do not receive envelope packets.

Thank you, the Financial Leadership Team

## POINSETTIA ORDER FORM 2018

**\$8.25 each, deadline to order is December 2nd.**



I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ plants for the Home Bound

I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ plants for the Sanctuary. I will pick up my Poinsettia **after a Christmas Eve service on December 24th**

(Please circle one)      YES      NO

Envelope Number \_\_\_\_\_      Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_



### Christmas Mission Offerings (Advent Self-Denial)

The Mission Committee has chosen to support equally the Penn Northeast Conference (PNEC) **Disaster Relief Ministry and Church World Service.**

Our congregation continually funds PNEC, our home conference, but we specifically chose the Disaster Relief Ministry after an urgent appeal that literally hit very close to home. In late summer, several parts of Penn Northeast Conference and Pennsylvania Southeast Conference sustained severe damage due to heavy and continuous rains. Hundreds of homes and a few churches in both conferences suffered severe damage. You may remember that our church donated to Church World Service by putting together Clean Up Buckets and Hygiene Kits in years past, in addition to the yearly Blanket Sunday collection. Church World Service is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement and disaster.

We are honored to donate our Christmas Mission Offering to both groups who repeatedly provide supplies for the many areas of our country hit by disaster from flooding, wild-fires, hurricanes, tornadoes and other catastrophic events.

**Please use your envelope marked "Christmas Mission" or put "Christmas Mission" in the memo line of your checks to Union UCC to support this effort.**

## **FAMILY PROMISE TREE**

We need your immediate help. In order to host three to five families (up to 14 people total), we need to "set up house." Check out our wish list:



- Twin-size sheet sets (new)
- Machine-washable blankets (new)
- Pack-and-play/portable crib sheets (new)
- Age-appropriate board games and card games (new)
- Easy-to-clean toddler toys (new, no stuffed animals)
- Plastic tubs/bins with lids (new, 10-20-gallon sizes, preferably clear)
- Tap lights (battery-operated)
- Batteries for tap light
- Lysol disinfectant spray
- Sanitizer wipes
- Baby wipes
- \$20 Weis gift certificates/ other grocery stores
- \$20 Target gift certificates/ other general merchandise stores

**We welcome your donations at anytime, but we will set up the Christmas tree in Memorial Hall with tags to take for the many items needed. This will follow the Salvation Army Angel Tree and will be in lieu of the Mitten Tree. We are set to welcome our first families February 17-24, 2019. We are so excited to extend our hospitality!**



**Serving children and families that are experiencing homelessness.**  
<https://fplehighvalley.org/>  
**Facebook: Family Promise of the Lehigh Valley**

## **VOLUNTEER TO SIGN UP FOR FAMILY PROMISE AT UNION UCC**

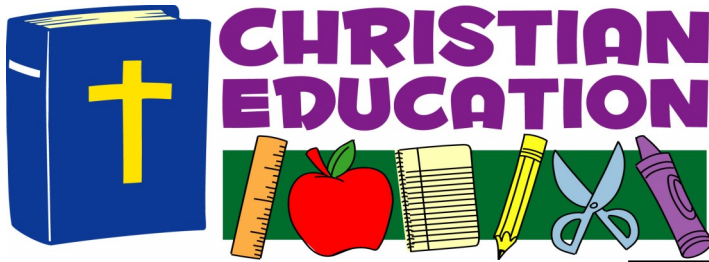
- Sunday Afternoon Setup (prepare for arrival of families)
- Supper Meal Preparation (at home or church before 5:30pm)
- Supper and Evening Volunteer (5:30-8:30pm Sun-Sat) (serve supper, cleanup and visit, prepare bagged lunches)
- Overnight Volunteer (8:30pm-6:00am Sun-Sat)
- Breakfast Volunteer (6am-7am Mon-Sun)
- Sunday Morning Cleanup (7am)
- Weekly Cleanup (after departure)
- Help with Laundry (end of week, towels/sheets)
- Doctor on Call       Nurse on Call
- Tutor students
- Donate non-perishable food items (cereals, snacks, juices, coffee, tea, peanut butter, jelly)

**Name:**

**Email:**

**Phone (Cell):**

RETURN THIS FORM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE OR PASTOR KRIS.



Contact: Kathy Bonsell  
 Phone: 610-767-6961  
 Email: dired@unionucc.org

**BIBLE JOURNALING**

We will be studying scripture and enhancing our understanding of the verses with design and color. Participants need a journal Bible. We will provide art supplies, ideas and techniques. Our December dates are Dec. 6 and 20, 9:30-11:30, in the Room 5.



**THANK YOU** to everyone who took a *Reverse Advent Calendar Basket*. Please bring your filled baskets to church anytime between Christmas Eve and New Year's Day.



Reverse Advent Basket

Another **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who filled *HOLIDAY HOPE CHESTS* for local children. This project is organized by the Volunteers of the Lehigh Valley and will benefit 7500 children in the Lehigh Valley.



We will be handing out **GIFT BIBLES** on December 2nd to 2nd Graders and above who have attended at least five Sundays since September.

**Sunday School 's 7th Annual**

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA - DEC. 23**

Please arrive by 9:15, when breakfast will be served by your Sunday School teachers, in their PAJAMAS or UGLY SWEATER! You are also invited to wear your pajamas to church. We will also have games and a very special visitor.



**PARENTS: We could use your help with dessert. Please bring one dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies to Fellowship Hall.**

**All Christian Education Volunteers:**



*Sunday School, Children's Church, VBS, Little Lambs Nursery, and the CE Committee*

**DECEMBER**

**Children's Church Calendar**

- Dec. 2** 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
- Dec. 9** Malachi 3:1-4
- Dec. 16** Zephaniah 3:14-20
- Dec. 23** Luke 1:39-55

**Holiday Schedule**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL and CHILDREN'S CHURCH will be on a Holiday Break DECEMBER 30th!**

We hope you and your family have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
**See you on Jan. 6th!**

# Youth Group News

December 2018

## THANK YOU!!!

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to, prepped, and bought a youth group lunch from our Sandwich Sale! It is through support of our Youth Group that we are able to go on trips and attend events!

## LOOKING AHEAD TO 2019

**January 19, 2019: Union UCC go to the Phantoms!** A great outing with your church family! Contact Steve Kareha ([s.kareha@gmail.com](mailto:s.kareha@gmail.com)) for tickets and for more information

**January 20, 2019: Suds & Spuds Lunch**

**February 24, 2019: Advisory Lunch/Escape Room** Come to the advisory lunch, do some youth Sunday planning...then we head to the escape room! Watch for more details!

**March 17, 2019: YOUTH SUNDAY!!!**

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER

16

Youth Group Advisory Lunch!

Followed by Caroling!

Join us for a lunch and time of fellowship followed by caroling to some of our homebound members!

\*Parents/Friends welcome!\*

*We will need drivers...:wink wink::*

*Parents*

**Last year we had a blast and a huge group that visited our members!**



**Check out one of these groups from 9:15am-10:15am Sunday mornings!**

**6th-7th Grade: Munch Bunch**

(Upstairs room 203)

**8th Grade: Confirmation**

(Youth Room (15), Confirmands can go to Breakfast Club when there is no confirmation)

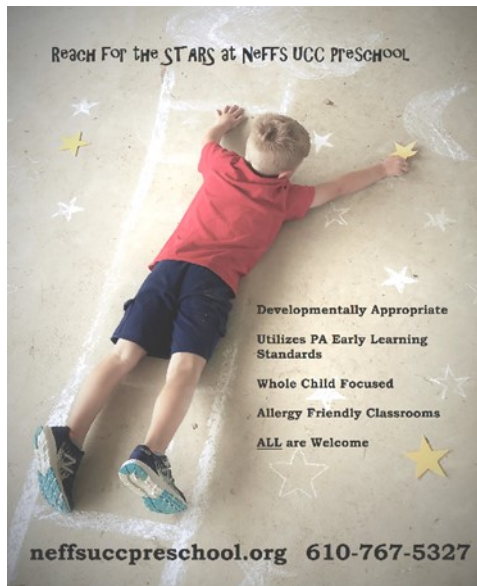
**9th-12 Grade: Breakfast Club**

(Basement, room 4)



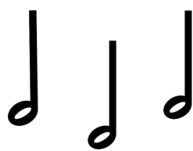
## From our Preschool Director, Annette Wilcox:

It is hard to believe that soon we will begin to see Christmas trees and lights everywhere; this Autumn season has gone by in a blink. The students in the Preschool had a busy November as the 3-year-olds studied Native Americans and Pilgrims, the 4-year-olds learned about good manners and how to be a friend, while the Pre-K completed an author/illustrator study with some of the most beloved children's authors. Along with this, all of the classes talked about what it means to be thankful as we counted our blessings. Chief among our blessings is the love and support we receive from the staff and church members of Union UCC Church. We truly could not run our program without the help and care we receive on a daily basis- for this we are immensely THANKFUL.



SAVE THE DATE

# praised in Stillness



## January 13, 2019

### 3:00 PM

**Inaugural Concert for Lehigh Valley  
based Professional Chamber Vocal  
Ensemble**

Featuring vocalists you know and love:  
William Marshall, Ronda Gerry,  
Jillian Krempasky and others.

## LIBRARY ON WHEELS

on December 2

We have a wonderful selection of books in our second floor library. Check out a few of our selections in the foyer as we bring the library to you!



**New Member Sessions** Pastor Kris and our church leaders invite you to gatherings on **February 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am-10:15am**. We will meet in the Memory Room (Room 200) on the second floor. This is a time to get to know each other and ask questions. Attendance is not required to join. You will be welcomed as members in worship on **Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at the 8am or 10:30am worship service**. For more info: Pastor Kris [PastorKris@unionucc.org](mailto:PastorKris@unionucc.org)

**Baptism** We offer baptisms during worship at the 10:30 service every other month. Upcoming dates are **January 13<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**. There is a pre-baptism session for families typically held after church the Sunday before the baptism.

**Weddings** To schedule your pre-marriage sessions and wedding at our church or a venue with one of the pastors, please see be in contact with one of the pastors. 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. You could also email [officeassistant@unionucc.org](mailto:officeassistant@unionucc.org) or [administrator@unionucc.org](mailto:administrator@unionucc.org)

## Adult Studies

### **FRIDAY MORNING ADULT STUDIES WITH PASTOR KRIS**

Everyone is welcome at any time as your schedule allows.

9:30 am-11am Room 5 (Basement) **Everyone is welcome at any time as your schedule allows.**

**December 7, 14, and 21** – *Grateful* by Diana Butler Bass

If gratitude is good, why is it so hard to do? Diana Butler Bass untangles our conflicting understanding of gratitude and sets the table for a renewed practice of giving thanks.

**Sunday Morning Adult Class with Rev. Patience, Pastor Kris and Lay Leaders**

**9:15-10:15am Room 5 (Basement) Everyone is welcome at any time as your schedule allows.**

**December 2** with Pastor Kris: We will learn about our Missionary in Japan and write Christmas cards to the Christian churches there.

**December 9 and 16** with Deb Topp and Dixie Gross: We will create gifts for the adults and children at **Turning Point**, a safe place where victims of abuse and their children can find refuge. They provide services in Lehigh and Northampton counties and reach nearly 2,600 people a year through their programs and services. Those include: a 24 hour helpline, an Emergency Safe House, Empowerment Counseling, Empowerment Groups, Legal Advocacy, Outreach Education, and Medical Advocacy.



**Sunday Morning Alive** leads worship on Sundays at 10:30 for about six Sundays throughout the year. We have a worship team that includes a group of singers, guitar players, keyboards and drums. We play traditional and favorite hymns as well as contemporary and alternative worship music.

**Next Sunday Morning Alive: Sunday, December 23rd at 10:30am Worship**

### **Join the Choir!**

#### **Practice Schedules:**

Tuesday Night:

Youth

6pm Cherubs (age 4-1st grade)

6:30pm Juniors (2nd-5th grades) and

Middlers (6th-8th grades)

High School (9th-12th grade)

Sundays at 11:40am

Sunday Mornings—Adults

Heritage Choir 7:15am

Horizon Choir 9:15am

Abby Hill is our Instrumental Assistant Choir Director.

If you are interested in playing with the group please contact Abby at [applepieabby09@gmail.com](mailto:applepieabby09@gmail.com) or Blake Hoppes at

[blake.charger@gmail.com](mailto:blake.charger@gmail.com). Please contact Abby if you'd like to offer special music on a Sunday or play during the Christmas season/Christmas eve. Your music blesses our time of worship!

**Horizon Choir**  
**Next Performance:**  
**Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>**





## Mission Committee Updates

### Mission Thank You - Holy Joe's Café

Holy Joe's Café recently celebrated 13 years of uninterrupted ministry to our chaplains and troops overseas. In August 2018 alone we delivered more than one and a half million cups of coffee to different locations around the world, thanks to our most generous and faithful donors.



In one of the chaplains own words: "With the help of Holy Joe's Café, the Chaplain Corps has established an effective program to aid in completing their mission. Offering coffee allows them to raise morale and increase their presence to the troops. When our military troops need someone to talk to, they know the chapel is ready to support them, and know a chaplain is there during a point of crisis. When someone is in need, they know us and they trust us."

Thank you for your recent donation and past support of Holy Joe's Café.

## OPERATION PROJECT FOOD BANK

Thank you from the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Your donation of 250 five pound bags of potatoes for our annual Thanksgiving food distribution was greatly



appreciated by our clients. Your support allows us to provide a special dinner for local families, we give thanks to everyone.

## BLOOD DRIVE:

11/11 blood drive resulted in **33 pints** of blood from 43 donors! Thank you for your support to the Miller Keystone Blood Center.

### ***Thank you for your support of the monthly Mission and Outreach envelope***

Mission Donations supported by the Funds of Lasting Gifts.

The consistory and trustees of the Funds of Lasting Gifts have approved for the following mission donations to the following mission agencies.

From the Non - Designate Fund

\$5,000 - OCWM - Our Church's Wider Mission

\$3,000 - Northern Lehigh Food Bank

\$3,000 - Family Promise of the Lehigh Valley

\$2,000 - Feed my Starving Children (recent packing event)

From the Thomas Family Fund

\$1,000 - Feed my Starving Children (recent packing event)

\$ 400 - Meals on Wheels of the Lehigh Valley

Blessings are in order to the donors and trustees of our church endowment fund to allow for financial support to these agencies, who will be able to help families locally and around the world.

# WORSHIP SCHEDULE

## Sunday, December 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent/Communion  
Advent Celebration

**8:00am Heritage Service**

**10:30am Horizon Service**

**Text:** Luke 21:25-36

**Message:** I Saw the Sign

**Preacher:** Rev Kayli Freeman

**Lay Readers:** Doug Albert, Susan Smith

**Greeters:** Karen & Scott Misera

## Sunday, December 9, 2018

Second Sunday of Advent

**8:00am Heritage Service**

**10:30am Horizon Service**

**Message:** Joy! A Christmas Musical by Adult  
choirs

**Lay Readers:** Sue Steinmann, Sueann Hregician

**Greeters:** Chris & Abby Bastidas, Connie & Ralph  
Gioielli



## Sunday, December 16, 2018

Third Sunday of Advent

**8:00am Heritage Service**

**10:30am Horizon Service**

**Message:** Service of Lessons & Carols

**Lay Readers:** Whitney Kern, Fawn Albert

**Greeters:** Karen Wonderly, Al

Stubbmann, Vicki Mayk

## Sunday, December 23, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent

**8:00am Heritage Service**

**10:30am Horizon Service with Sunday**

**Morning Alive**

**Text:** Luke 1:39-45

**Message:** Happy Birthday!

**Preacher:** Rev Kris Snyder Samuelson

**Lay Readers:** Sue Steinmann, Dan Topp

**Greeters:** Ron Snyder, Ruth Ensley

## Sunday, December 30, 2018

Young Adult & College Student Sunday/  
Church Family Worship

**10:30am Horizon Service ONLY– NO 8am  
SERVICE**

**Text:** Luke 2:41-52

**Message:**

**Preacher:** Rev Kayli Freeman

**Lay Readers:** Young adult

**Greeters:** Children & Youth



## Special Services and Music

**Sunday, December 9 at 7pm**

**Parkland High School Chorale Concert at Union UCC**

Enjoy a gorgeous night of music \* FREE with a donation to support the Chorale \* Reception following the concert.

**Friday, December 21 Worship Service at 7pm with Prayer and Communion**

**Winter Solstice: Longest Night Service – a service of solace.**

This quiet service with music, prayers, and communion will help you get through the holidays.

**Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Services**

3pm Candlelight and Communion, Carols and Special Music

5pm Family Service, Candlelight, Carols and Special Music

8pm Candlelight and Communion, Carols and Special Music

11pm Candlelight and Communion, Carols and Special Music

*\*Balcony open at all services except 11pm*

## CATCH THE SPIRIT AWARD FOR December 2018 goes to Frank Sorg.

Frank Sorg's background in faith was being raised Catholic while growing up. He became active here when he married Vicki. They have three young adult children, Patrick, Adrienne and Jack who were all baptized and confirmed here.

Behind the scenes he supports Golden Times, and for many years in the past he taught Children's Church, and served as a God Guide to confirmands. He has also served as chaperone for several confirmation events and field trips, as well as youth group events and field trips.

A few years ago he officially joined our church and has been even more involved in our work here. The activities he currently serves with the church are the Consistory and Financial Leadership Team. Currently he is working on a Planned Giving/Estate Planning microsite program for our church's website. This will allow members to learn about how they can leave a legacy gift to their church to help continue its ministry and mission through more generations.

Thank you Frank, for your service.

*We recognized Frank in worship on Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.*

### WOMEN'S RETREAT DAY

Joy...the Door to Peace

Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at Union UCC

8:30am-12:30pm

Breakfast and Retreat

Take time for yourself and each other during this wonderful and difficult season.

Leaders: El Buss and Sylvia Doyle with Pastor Kris

\$25 Due by December 2<sup>nd</sup>

### WOMEN'S RETREAT 2019

Union UCC Women's Retreat Weekend

April 5-7, 2019

Trout Lake Retreats, Stroudsburg

Cost: \$135, Collecting \$75 Deposit anytime now through Jan 13, Balance \$60 Due March 3.

Payment plans and financial assistance available.

Checks to Union UCC, Memo Line –

Women's Retreat

Friends and Family members are welcome too.

Leader and more Info: Pastor Kris

### MEN'S GROUP Events from Pastor Kris

**Sunday, Dec 16<sup>th</sup> after 10:30 church is over. Church-Wide Caroling** to members who are in nursing homes or homebound. Last year we had 2 groups go out and were able to visit about 25 different people, it was great!

**Saturday, January 19 at 7:05pm Phantoms Game**, (doors open at 6pm), \$21.50. Contact Steve Kareha by Dec 16<sup>th</sup> for questions or to place your ticket order. 717-514-8881

[s.kareha@gmail.com](mailto:s.kareha@gmail.com) Friends and families welcome!

# Golden Times

*For those wise in years  
and young at heart*

Our next gathering will be

**December 4**

Program: "Carols at the  
Kettle"

Donation items:  
condiments

Programs offered are fun,  
informative & entertaining  
Bring a dessert to share—  
we could use a few sugar  
free desserts too!

**12 noon – 1:30pm**

**FREE**

An informal sharing of Holy  
Communion is offered  
at the end of our time  
together for those who are  
interested

## Birthdays:

Janet Bachman: Dec. 3

Ronnie Sechler: Dec. 16

Ferne Strauss: Dec. 18

Helping Hearts will  
meet next on  
**December 6<sup>th</sup>**



## TALES FROM THE ROAD

By Rev. Dr. Patience Stevenson, Minister of Visitation  
Did You Know?

Jean Wieand was born in 1933 in Schnecksville, Pa. She picked potatoes on the local farms such as the Schneck Farm and Geiger Farm. She then worked at Leh's and was a waitress at Shankweiler's. Jean also served as the secretary for J.M. Snyder and sons and for 30 years as the secretary in the business office of the Parkland School District.

Jean met Stan Wieand in March of 1951. She graduated from high school that summer and married Stan on November 3, 1951. Stan and Jean raised four children, Terry, Kay, Mark and Jason. They lived in Schnecksville for 15 years, then near the edge of Schnecksville in Allentown for 42 years.

Jean was baptized, confirmed and married by Rev. Urffer at Union UCC. She was an active member of our Helping Hearts lay visitation ministry and was a greeter for many years. Her husband, Stan, served on the Consistory and sang on the choir. Stan and Jean both helped for many years to make the famous Union UCC Raised Cakes.

Stan served in the Navy reserves and was drafted into the Army during the Korean War. He was stationed in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the Nike Missile Base. Stan was an active member of the Oddfellows, an international service organization. Jean served for 60 years as an officer in the Rebekahs, the sister organization to the Oddfellows. She traveled with the Oddfellows and Rebekahs for many years. Stan was also a musician for 40 years, playing Polka and Country music in numerous bands. He worked as a millwright for the former Western Electric and then Lucent for 30 years.

Jean is grateful that she has been able to devote her life to helping others.

**Creation Care Tip:** Trying to go green with cleaning supplies? I've been using a mixture of vinegar and water and/or baking soda for years. I found a great website with LOTS of tips that suggested adding 20 drops of citrus essential oils such as lemon or lime. Check out this website: [TrashisforTossers.com](http://TrashisforTossers.com) for some inspiring ideas for living a life with less waste. The author, Lauren Singer, seeks to live a Zero Waste lifestyle.

# Financial & Attendance Reports

Date	Worship Service		CC/ Video/ Nursery	Total
	8AM	10:30AM		
Oct 7	96	142	30	268
Oct 14	71	174	19	264
Oct 21	63	137	25	225
Oct 28	69	196	39	304

	Operating Fund	Designated Funds	Grand Total All Funds
7-1-2018	\$9,644	\$1,453	\$11,097
Income	\$148,716	\$17,945	\$166,661
Expenses	\$141,259	\$19,841	\$161,100
10-31-2018	\$17,101	-\$443	\$16,658

Designated Funds category includes offerings for NIN, Mother's Day, OGHS, Country Sale, Family Promise

## TOTAL ATTENDANCE

October 2017: 1,318 October 2018: 1,061

### STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFTS

In the tradition of giving gifts to friends and loved ones, our church has traditionally expressed our love and appreciation for our hard-working pastors and staff by presenting each with a monetary gift. If you'd like to share in this gift, please send a check payable to Donna Christman at 5820 PA Rte 873, Slatington, PA 18080 and mail to her at **no later than Sunday, Dec 16**. You may also place it in the Church and Ministry mailbox near the church office. Any questions, email Donna at [dec12221@hotmail.com](mailto:dec12221@hotmail.com). Thank you.



### THANK YOU TO OUR HOST GROUPS FOR DECEMBER:

*Dec 2 – Advent Brunch*

*Dec 9 – Consistory (Aften Hamm)*

*Dec 16 – Confirmation Class (Pastor Kayli, Dan Topp/Karen Nuschke/Tina Jarrett)*



### Holy Grounds Coffee Hour Every Sunday

**9:15-10:15 & 11:30-12:00**

Continues on Sundays after 8am and 10:30 Worship Services and in between the services in Memorial Hall (on same level as the sanctuary). Stop by for snack or drink, to say hello to a friend, or learn about something new about a committee.

### WAYS TO GIVE AND SUPPORT UNION UCC'S MINISTRY AND MISSION

**DONATE ONLINE** with your Credit or Debit card <http://www.unionucc.org/resources/giving-and-sponsorship/ways-to-give/> and click on **GIVE ONLINE** button.

**TEXT TO GIVE** send a text to 610-857-7023 with the amount you would like to contribute. Include the \$ sign. You'll be sent a text with how to register.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** you can designate an automatic weekly, semi-monthly or monthly donation to be transferred electronically. Fill out the form at <http://www.unionucc.org/egive.pdf> and return it to the church office.

**You can make a difference**  
When you shop for back to school supplies at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) Amazon donates.  
You shop. Amazon donates.  
[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

**AMAZON SMILE** Don't forget Union UCC when you are doing your **holiday shopping** on AMAZON!

We receive about \$75-\$100 per quarter as a result of your choosing us as your Amazon Smile charity. You can sign up at any time. This is just one more way to help make a difference for God's ministry and mission at Union UCC.



Italiano/  
Meckes  
family



Kriens/  
Martin  
family

Boyle family



Exaros family



Brandle family



Anderson family



## BAPTISMS

Marilyn Christine Brandle, daughter of Sarah (Goldman) and Sean Brandle

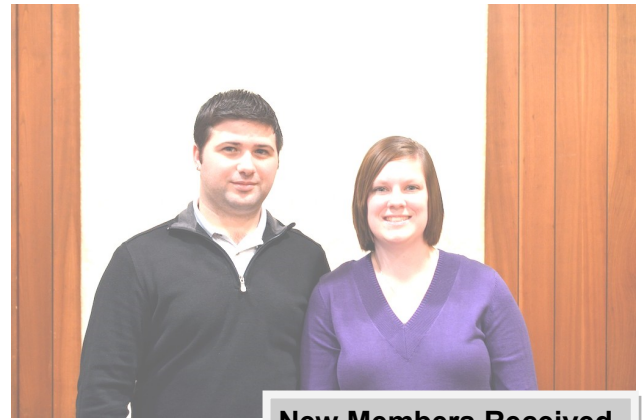
Connor Christopher Boyle, son of Alexandra (Geiger) and Christopher Boyle

Jackson Scott Exaros, son of Kimberly (Yencho) and Scott Exaros

Ava Marie Martin, daughter of Ashley Kriens and Ryan Martin

Beckham Tyler Anderson, son of Ashley (Kleiner) and Benjamin Anderson

Emma Jane Atil Meckes, daughter of Nicole Italiano and Allen Meckes



### New Members Received 11/18/2018

Jonel Payano  
Keneley Bautista  
Michael Haftl



## CHURCH MEMBER BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Do you have a business that you'd like us to share with others? If so, please contact Pastor Kris at [pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org) We know that many of you like to support local businesses or our members if you have the chance. This information will be made available to new members and current members and it will be posted on our website at [www.unionucc.org/resources](http://www.unionucc.org/resources) It's another way to support each other through our work and life together.

*Note: The church is not endorsing any of these businesses, we are merely making the information available to you. These are for paid services and businesses.*

## UNION UCC STAFF

### Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuelson

Senior Pastor  
Cell Phone: 610-657-6007  
[pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org)

### Rev. Kayli Freeman

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

### Rev. Dr. Patience Stevenson

Pastor of Visitation  
Cell Phone: 610-248-5587  
[vispastor@unionucc.org](mailto:vispastor@unionucc.org)

### Rev. Thomas N. Thomas

Pastor Emeritus

### Kathy L. Bonsell

Director of Christian Education  
[dired@unionucc.org](mailto:dired@unionucc.org)

### Amanda Sweeting

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

### Patricia Scripture

Office Assistant  
[officeassistant@unionucc.org](mailto:officeassistant@unionucc.org)

### Blake Hoppes

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

### Ori Handwerk

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

### 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  
[preschool@unionucc.org](mailto:preschool@unionucc.org)

### Church Telephone Extension Directory

610-767-6961

Pastor Kris	ext. 24
Pastor Kayli	ext. 25
Amanda Sweeting	ext. 21
Patricia Scripture	ext. 22
Kathy Bonsell	ext. 27
Music Office	ext. 26
Kitchen	ext. 30

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2</b> 1st Sunday of Advent/ Communion/Advent Celebration 8am Heritage service 9:15 Holy Grounds/ Education Hour/choir pract 10:30 Horizon service 11:30 Holy Grounds	<b>3</b> 11am Golden Times	<b>4</b> 11am Golden Times	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9:30am Bible Journaling 11:30 Preschool Mtg Helping Hearts Mtg 7pm Chime Choir 7pm Christian Ed Mtg 7:30 Girl Scouts	<b>7</b> 8am Bulletin crew 9:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>8</b> 8:30am Women's Day retreat
<b>9</b> 2nd Sunday of Advent 8am Heritage service 9:15 Holy Grounds/ Education Hour/choir pract 10:30 Horizon service 11:30 Holy Grounds 7pm Parkland Chorale	<b>10</b> 6:30pm Spiritually Fit 7pm Welcoming Comm.	<b>11</b> 6pm Choir 6:30pm 4H 6:30pm adult bible study 7pm AI Anon	<b>12</b> 9:15am Staff Mtg 10am KnitWits 6pm Daisy GSA 6:30 Spiritually Fit 7pm Brownie & Cadettes 7pm Church & Ministry	<b>13</b> 7pm Chime Choir	<b>14</b> 8am Bulletin crew 9:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 3rd Sunday of Advent/ Service of Lesson & Carols 8am Heritage service 9:15 Holy Grounds/ Education Hour/choir pract 10:30 Horizon service 11:30 Holy Grounds Church Wide Caroling	<b>17</b> 6:30pm Spiritually Fit 6:45pm Consistory	<b>18</b> 9am Newsletter crew 3pm Cub Pack 6pm Choir 6:30pm 4H 6:30pm adult bible study 7pm AI Anon	<b>19</b> 10am KnitWits 3pm Messy Church 6:30 Spiritually Fit 7pm Jrs GSA	<b>20</b> 9:30am Bible Journaling 7pm Chime Choir 7:30 Girl Scouts	<b>21</b> 8am Bulletin crew 9:30 Adult Bible Study 7pm Longest Night Service	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 4th Sunday of Advent 8am Heritage service 9:15 Holy Grounds/ Education Hour/choir pract 10:30 Horizon service 11:30 Holy Grounds	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Candlelight Services: 3pm Communion 5pm Family Service 8pm Communion 11pm Communion		<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8am Bulletin crew 9:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> Young Adult & College Student Sunday/Church Fam Worship 9:15 Holy Grounds/ Education Hour/choir pract 10:30 Horizon service 11:30 Holy Grounds	<b>31</b>	 <h1 style="color: red; font-family: cursive;">December</h1>				