

UNION TIDINGS

*A monthly publication of Union Congregational United Church of Christ
5088 Summit Boulevard, West Palm Beach, FL 33415*

Volume 130, Issue 4

April 2023

RESURRECTION HOPE

On March 27, I was asked to share a vision for our community to more than 1000 people attending the PEACE Nehemiah Action. Here is an excerpt:

"I invite us to journey together as neighbors imagining what this world would look like through our faith traditions.

What would it look like for everyone to have safe and affordable housing?

What would it look like to have mental health treatment?

What would it look like if kids were not arrested?

We are here tonight to live into creating that vision.

Imagining a better world together is what every major religion teaches. We are taught to love one another by treating each other in the ways we would want to be treated.

When we imagine everyone having safe and affordable housing, we see more smiles on the face of our children and youth eager and ready to learn and grow.

When we imagine everyone having safe and affordable housing, we see a better quality of life for our parents and grandparents who are working to care for their family's well-being.

When we imagine everyone having safe and affordable housing, we see neighborhoods thriving with diversity and togetherness.

Even as we imagine a world with everyone having mental health treatment, we see children and youth getting the care they need in school, at home, and beyond!

When we imagine a world with everyone having the mental health treatment they need, we see parents and grandparents receiving the ongoing care that they need as they work daily to care for their family's needs.

When we imagine a world with everyone having the mental health treatment they need, we see caring neighborhoods thriving with diversity and togetherness.

And when we imagine a world with kids not being arrested, we see children and youth having the opportunity to receive the programs needed to give them hope for a better tomorrow.

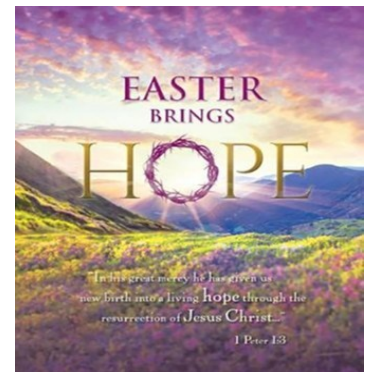
When we imagine a world with kids not being arrested, we see parents' and grandparents' dreams continue as they work to help make a better future for their children and their children's children.

When we imagine a world with kids not being arrested, we see neighborhoods thriving with diversity and togetherness!

As we are here tonight to help create a vision that sees a way for all of us to have a just society whereby all have affordable housing, access to mental health treatment, and kids have a second chance.

So, let our faith continue to guide us forward as we work together to live into this divine vision of hope whereby there is peace and justice for all!"

*With Humble Gratitude,
Pastor Sheila*





Zaida's family and friends; Billie Wilson; Pastor Sheila's cousin, Jason; Robert Littlefield; Rose's daughter, Tyshawna for healing & recovery; Stacey Bowen's (Lenny) family and friends; Isabelle Chapman's family and friends; Lone's family and friends; Estelle Fanucci; Nancy Reser; Linda Padmore; Renna McGinnis; Jeanne Martin; Barbara Gruber; Simone Shah; Cynthia and Sam Clarke; Rod Jennings; Sabita Shah; Evelyn's great-great-grandson, Zade; Donna's sister, Sharon; Joanie Gerson; Judith's nephew, Ramine; Charles Rodriguez; Gail Fei's daughter, Debbie; Ruth Cassidy's husband, Bill; Nancy Reser's daughter, Lori; Dottie Boswell; Marjorie Hanson; George Gerson's brother, Jerome; Shirley Thomas; Gail Fei's friend, (Helga's daughter), Katia; Melanie's friend, Grace; Jan Mark's son, Gary; Justice & Peace efforts; grieving, depression and anxiety; all refugees; Ukraine War; Puerto Rico; Haiti; Turkey & Syria; Shootings in Tennessee

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

8	Alberto Lopez
9	Ariel Hines
13	Gail Fei
20	Cheryl LaVigne
23	Doug Cornwell
24	Suelene Marletta

Union Congregational Church
5088 Summit Blvd.
West Palm Beach, Florida 33415
561-686-0330

Please remember Union Congregational United Church of Christ in your Will and Estate Planning.

Please contact the church office for more information.

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY



Every Sunday, beautiful flowers adorn our altar. We have a flower chart for sign-ups. Also, you can call the office or send an email to office@unionucc.net. Garden flowers are \$10 and floral arrangements are \$35. As an added bonus you can list the flowers in the bulletin in memory or in honor of someone or a special occasion. You are also welcome to take the \$35 arrangement home.

**Union attended the P.E.A.C.E. Rally March 6th
downtown at Memorial Presbyterian Church.**



**We care about and we are working for JUSTICE in our community
in the areas of affordable housing, mental health & police reform.**

MULTICULTURAL SUNDAY

At Union



MISSION & OUTREACH TEAM

Wow! April is here already!

- A special thank you to all those who donated to our One Great Hour of Sharing special mission offering in March. This offering supports the disaster, refugee/immigrant and development ministries within the UCC.
- We would also like to thank those who donated towards the ongoing Turkey/Syria earthquake crisis, as we continue to offer support to our 'neighbors in need'.
- CROS Gleaning was on Saturday, March 25th. Thanks to all who participated in this worthwhile project! The food helps feed the hungry in Palm Beach and Martin Counties.
- The next food pantry is Saturday, May 6th, 9am – 12noon. Our mission is 'to help stomp out hunger one family at a time'.
- Save the date for our next Family Promise outreach. It will be June on 12th. Family Promise is also asking everyone to 'Like' them on Facebook at Family Promise North Central Palm Beach County.

Union, let us remain focused and trust that God will provide. *We are still on a mission! All are welcome to get involved.*

God Bless,

Rosemarie Lightfoot
Mission & Outreach Chair



**2023 GENERAL
SYNOD**

**General Synod 34 will be
in Indianapolis from
June 30 – July 4, 2023**

Registration opens January 23, 2023.

Stewardship News for April 2023



Greetings Union! As you know, *From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving* is the theme that began our UCC Stewardship season. This theme is a reminder that gratitude and generosity is a response to the gifts of God that Jesus teaches us when we share in both communion and with our monetary gifts. The church depends on our financial support to continue to grow and serve.

Many thanks to those who continue to make a financial commitment to Union and our ministries. Whether you utilize the member numbered envelopes, the 'love offering' monthly envelopes or the 'give now' button on our website, it's all appreciated! Soon, we will be discussing more ways to add to our year-round Stewardship Program. We'll keep you posted!

When we have a heart to share our financial blessings, there are no limits to how we, the Church, can make a difference. Please continue to support the ministries of Union Congregational Church as we give of our time, our talent, and our 10th to God. It takes all of us working together to be the love and light of Jesus Christ for everyone, everywhere, all the time! *'From Bread & Cup to Faith & Giving!'*

God Bless,
Rosemarie Lightfoot
Stewardship Chair



WAMM and Justice & Peace Trip to Washington, D.C.

For all who are interested, the WAMM and Justice & Peace teams are in the planning stages for a trip in June to Washington D.C. The trip will include a visit to the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Please sign-up on the soundboard if you are interested in attending. We will be meeting at 7pm Wednesdays, April 12, 19 & 26 via zoom to discuss details of the trip.

Zoom Information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81296539395?pwd=Y0tvYU1KeGF3dFVSTHhOZVhQbCtsdz09>

Meeting ID: 8129659395

Password: 543935

MINISTRY TEAMS 2023

If you have questions about....

TRUSTEES

The Church budget or campus...
Contact Jane Grandusky at:
janegrandusky@comcast.net

DIACONATE

About Worship or home visits...
Contact George Gerson at:
office@unionucc.net

MISSION & OUTREACH

Ways to serve others...
Contact Rosemarie Lightfoot at:
rosemarie.lightfoot@gmail.com

WAMM

Music, art, technology in Worship...
Contact Estelle Fanucci at:
efanucci@aol.com

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/YOUTH

Sunday School or youth...
Contact Donna Minott at:
minott_donna@yahoo.com

JUSTICE & PEACE

Ways to support Justice & Peace for ALL.....
Contact Estelle Fanucci at:
efanucci@aol.com

EDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Updates on the endowment...
Contact Alice Payne at:
apayne1701@aol.com

PASTORAL RELATIONS

Church issues, concerns or comments...
Contact Debbie Chea at:
calledtoserve62@yahoo.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Supporting through your tithes and love offerings...
Contact Rosemarie Lightfoot at:
rosemarie.lightfoot@gmail.com

FELLOWSHIP

Helping with fellowship after Worship or ideas for other social activities ...
Contact Linda Padmore at:
plvpsunshine@aol.com

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

If you or someone you know is interested in serving in a ministry...
Contact Ada Harvey at:
harvey.adabelle@gmail.com

JUSTICE AND PEACE MINISTRIES

Compass Pride Event and Nehemiah Action:

The last week in March was a busy one for the Justice and Peace Team. Ministry members attended Union's booth at the Compass Pride event in Lake Worth on March 25 and March 26. Many people stopped by Union's booth to learn more about Union, some took a free Bible (Union's Spiritual Food project) and some purchased Peace Quilt items. Fifteen Union members attended the annual PEACE Nehemiah Action on March 27. The three issues being addressed at this year's Action were Affordable Housing, Mental Health & Addiction and Police-Community Relations. Since last fall, members of Union's J & P Team have worked diligently on all three issues to research and prepare for this event.

Haitian Women's Crafts Project:

Union's Justice and Peace Ministry has undertaken a new project to help the women of Haiti. Thanks to the sponsorship of Peace Quilts, an economic development organization, member owned women's sewing cooperatives have been started up in Haiti to produce a variety of handcrafted items. Each purchase of a craft item alleviates poverty in Haiti through job creation. All the money collected from the sale of these beautiful handcrafted items, handmade jewelry and metal art creations goes directly to this worthy cause. In addition to selling the items at the Compass Pride event, Union's J & P Team has been selling them in Fellowship Hall during Holy Week.

Did You Know?

At least 18 bills have been filed in the Florida Legislature that target transgender citizens. These bills are designed to regulate where trans people can use the bathroom, whether they can access health care and the extent to which they can express themselves in public. For example, the aim of one of the proposals is to expand Florida's "Don't Say Gay" parental rights law. The current law *restricts classroom instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity in grades K-3. The current bills in the House and Senate seek to apply the restriction from pre-K through Grade 8. Other bills would restrict access to gender-affirming care for both children and adults.* Taken from an article in the Palm Beach Post, March 16, 2023.

Estelle Fanucci, Justice and Peace Ministry Chair

UNION WALKING THE WALK!



welcome
April

April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9am-12pm Food Pantry 
2 Worship 10am FB Live Streaming Communion Sunday Palm Sunday	3	4 9am-1pm Office Hours	5 9am-1pm Office Hours	6 9am-1pm Office Hours 6PM Soup 7PM Maundy 	7 9am-1pm Office Hours 5:30PM Fish Fry 7PM Good Friday 	8
9 Worship 10am FB Live Streaming Easter/ Resurrection Day New Member Sunday 11:15 AM Easter Party	10	11 9am-1pm Office Hours	12 9am-1pm Office Hours 7pm WAMMI/JP DC Trip Zoom Meeting	13 9am-1pm Office Hours	14 9am-1pm Office Hours	15
16 Worship 10am FB Live Streaming	17	18 9am-1pm Office Hours	19 9am-1pm Office Hours 7pm WAMMI/JP DC Trip Zoom Meeting	20 9am-1pm Office Hours	21 9am-1pm Office Hours	22
23 Worship 10am FB Live Streaming	24	25 9am-1pm Office Hours	26 9am-1pm Office Hours 7pm WAMMI/JP DC Trip Zoom Meeting	27 9am-1pm Office Hours	28 9am-1pm Office Hours	29
30 Worship 10am FB Live Streaming						

Journey to

EASTER



PALM SUNDAY
APRIL 2, 2023
10:00AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY
APRIL 6, 2023
6:00PM Soup and
7:00PM Service

GOOD FRIDAY
April 7, 2023
6:00 PM Fish Fry
7:00 PM Service

Pastor Sheila and Rev. Michael-Ann, will be two of seven ministers to preach at the Ecumenical Good Friday Service at Tabernacle Baptist Church, 801 Eighth St., West Palm Beach, FL. All are invited.

EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION
APRIL 9, 2023
10:00AM

Intergenerational Easter Party to follow!

Union Congregational United Church of Christ
5088 Summit Boulevard
West Palm Beach, Florida 33415
(561) 686-0330
www.unionucc.net
email: office@unionucc.net

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Shouting Alleluia News to:

