

UNION TIDINGS

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

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A TIMELESS TREASURE

Praying is a timeless treasure. We pray collectively every Sunday during morning worship. We also offer a prayer room that is available on Sundays and during the weekdays.

With so many worries and concerns filling our minds and souls, it is good to be reminded that we are to always trust in God. If you or someone you know is going through a difficult season in life, please remember to read or share with others this "Serenity Prayer."

*God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.*

*Living one day at a time;
enjoying one moment at a time;
accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
taking, as He did, this sinful world
as it is, not as I would have it;
trusting that He will make all things right
if I surrender to His Will;
that I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with him
forever in the next.*

Amen.

Written by Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971)

May we continue to seek God's guidance in our daily lives and as the church. Blessings on the journey!

*With Gratitude,
Pastor Sheila*



Rev. Dr. Raymond Hargrove's family and friends; Pastor Sheila's family and friends; Doug Cornwell's family; Steve Spencer family and friends; Billie Wilson; Robert Littlefield; Rose's daughter, Tyshawna for healing & recovery; Jan Mark; 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; Donna's sister, Sharon; Joanie Gerson; Susan DiAmicis; 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; Richard Lightfoot's brother, Joseph; Justice & Peace efforts; grieving, depression and anxiety; all refugees; Ukraine War; Puerto Rico; Haiti; Turkey & Syria; Gun

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Keith Bullock
- 4 Sarah Silano
- 5 Jordan Sommerville
- 12 Janet Baker
- 13 Arliss Heath
- 14 Susan Harrell
- 18 Vanessa Nuñez
- 19 Marlene Henry
- 20 Brittany Kenimer
- 27 Patrick Watson
- 29 Melissa Waineo
- 30 Andrew Smith

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.

EASTER SUNDAY



Union's Church Family!



The "Seven Last Words" Good Friday service at Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church in downtown West Palm Beach.



MISSION & OUTREACH – MAY 2023

Greetings, Union! May is here, which means 2023 is almost at its halfway point! Yet, we still have a lot more to do. We strive to maintain our mission message of teaching others about God's love through the various projects that we support. Believe it or not, these offerings are utilized by the UCC in varied capacities, to: support disaster relief efforts; help with refugee/immigration; provide program development ministries, resources and tools to help local churches; continue the focus on economic justice issues; and care for retired clergy/laypeople who may be struggling to make ends meet. As you can see, your contributions go a long way.

Events:

- Food Pantry is Saturday, May 6th from 9am – 12noon. Our mission is 'to help stomp out hunger one family at a time'. In April, 97 bags of food were distributed. We are blessed to have a church family that continues to support this ministry. Also, a special thanks to all the volunteers, food contributors and financial donors. All are encouraged to give \$16 per bag for the food pantry to meet the growing needs of our neighbors. Thank you, Debbie and Simone, for your leadership!
- May 28th is Scholarship/Christian Ed Sunday. We will be honoring our Sunday School, 8th Grade and High School Graduates! Well done thy good and faithful servants of God!!
- June 12th begins our Family Promise week. Please see Jane or Judith if you'd like to volunteer or shop for groceries.

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

God Bless,
Rosemarie Lightfoot
Mission & Outreach Chair



STEWARDSHIP – MAY 2023

Greetings Union! 'From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving' – Jesus teaches us that gratitude and generosity should be our response to God's gifts when we share in communion and with our donations.

No matter how you give, whether it's your time, your talent or your 10th, you help support our church and its 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! Whether you volunteer at the food pantry, buy groceries for Family Promise, bring food/snacks for Sunday fellowship time or help clean up afterwards, your time is always of value to us, and we **'thank you!'**

Galatians 6:9 reads, "So let's not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don't give up, or quit." The apostle Paul wrote these words to the church in Galatia to assure them of the power of God's Spirit and to encourage them to be persistent in the work of being generous as we care for others. We can make a difference. We do make a difference. Your generosity makes all the difference. ~ 'From Bread & Cup to Faith & Giving!'

God Bless,
Rosemarie Lightfoot –
Stewardship Chair



Justice & Peace Ministry Team WASHINGTON, D.C. TRIP

June 20-22, 2023

Union is going to Washington, D.C. and we pray for God's blessings!



WAMM NEWS FOR MAY 2023

Search for new Music Director

In March WAMM hosted a brainstorming session to discuss the direction of Union's music program, post-Covid. WAMM has created a slogan, "Music To Match The Message". At the conclusion of this brainstorming meeting, all were in agreement that Union needs a Music Director. Recently WAMM met to update the description of Union's Music Director. The position has been posted online with Indeed. Interested applicants have until the end of May to apply. Please help us spread the word about this position!!

Thank You, Jr Medina

At the April 30th Sunday Worship Service Union thanked Jr Medina, our interim accompanist, for sharing his musical talent with us each Sunday. Jr will be graduating from Lynn University this spring and plans to continue his education this fall in Virginia. Everyone joined in to wish Jr well in his future musical endeavors.

EASTER PHOTOS



For all who took pictures at the Easter photo booth, please let us know if you would like to receive a copy of your photo. Email the Church at office@unionucc.net.

PRAYER ROOM

Have you visited our Prayer Room lately? Located on the office side of the sanctuary, a beautiful and peaceful space has been created to pray, meditate and support our members and friends. The Prayer Room is open during office hours; before and after worship on Sundays, and whenever the Church is open for activities. Feel free to stop by when the spirit moves you!

JUSTICE AND PEACE UPDATES

J & P Washington DC Trip

The Justice and Peace Team has been busy planning an Intergenerational Trip to Washington D.C. in June. Highlights of this trip will include a tour of the African American Museum of History and Culture, a visit to Capitol Hill for Lobby Day, and a visit to the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial. Eight adults and four youth will attend this social justice trip from June 20 - 22.

National UCC Initiative

National UCC has announced a nationwide UCC study of Ibram X. Kendi's book, **How to Be an Antiracist**. This move is a part of the UCC Join the Movement toward Racial Justice initiative. Ibram Kendi is scheduled to speak about his book at the 2023 General Synod during the Join the Movement toward Racial Justice dinner. Access materials for this initiative are available, and Union's Justice and Peace Team will make plans for how to implement this initiative at Union next Fall.

"'Racist' and 'antiracist' are like peelable name tags that are placed and replaced based on what someone is doing or not doing, supporting or expressing in each moment. These are not permanent tattoos.....We can knowingly strive to be an antiracist...being an antiracist requires persistent self-awareness, constant self-criticism and regular self-examination."

Estelle Fanucci, Justice and Peace Ministry Chair

2023 GENERAL SYNOD

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

Register at <https://generalsynod.org>.

YOUTH & KIDS PAGE

Palm Sunday at Union!!

April 2, 2023




Union's Easter Egg Hunt



May 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	3 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	4 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	5 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	6 9am-12pm Food Pantry 
7 Worship 10am FB Live Streaming Communion Sunday	8	9 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	10 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	11 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	12 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	13
14 Worship 10am FB Live Streaming Mother's Day "Tea Time" <i>Happy Mother's Day</i>	15	16 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	17 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	18 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	19 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	20
21 Worship 10am FB Live Streaming Graduation Sunday	22	23 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	24 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	25 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	26 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	27
28 Worship 10am FB Live Streaming	29	30 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	31 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open			



GRADUATION!

GRADUATION
Sunday

**Sunday School Appreciation &
Graduation Sunday!**
May 21, 2023
Party for Graduates during Fellowship Hour!

Please share **all names** of this year's graduates
by calling the office at
561-686-0330
or send an email to: office@unionucc.net.



Join us on Mother's Day!
Celebrating All Mother Figures
Sunday, May 14th
(Following Morning Worship)

"Tea Time with Union's Mothers"

Let us know if you plan to attend.
Call the office or send an email to office@unionucc.net.
Also, feel free to see Linda Padmore
for further details.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Flowering News Especially for You:



Wishing your days be filled
With an abundance of
Magnificent Miracles,
Blissful Blessings and
Splendid Surprises...

Let's Welcome May!