

UNION TIDINGS

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

Volume 130, Issue 6

June/July 2023

THERE IS A SPIRIT OF LOVE IN THIS PLACE

'There's a Spirit of love in this place.' We sing this song during our worship service from time to time to remind us that we are gathering in the midst of God's love. While reflecting upon this song, it reminds me that we are a place of extravagant welcome. We enjoy connecting with our church family and welcoming others. We look forward to sharing in one another's joys and concerns along the journey. We look forward to traveling together to explore how justice and peace have moved through history and how it shapes our lives today. We encourage everyone to invite family and friends to come to experience the "Spirit of Love in This Place!"



God's loving Spirit has also been the glue holding us together emerging from COVID. This Spirit of love has guided us through our music transition. Helped us go from in-person-only worship to adding a virtual live-streaming worship experience. The Spirit has called us to have an ongoing intergenerationally themed Fellowship Hour.

God's welcoming Spirit has surely changed how we worship and engage in fellowship together!

Moreover, the Spirit of God's love moves us to serve. As Union remains steadfast in serving God. And in doing so, we continue our food pantry and have fed more people than ever before. We continue reaching out to one another by dropping off groceries, increasing our phone calls, and praying, like never before. We continue to open our hearts and offer our commitment to matters of justice and peace, like never before. And we continue to spread the Word of God, like never before.

Surely, the presence of God's Spirit is in this place!

Therefore, I invite you to spread the Good News about God's loving Spirit in this place by sharing our website, www.UnionUCC.net, and to 'like' our Facebook page, Union Congregational United Church of Christ. Also, please tell your family and friends about our motto that we say every Sunday, "No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey... you are welcome here!" As we are the United Church of Christ, where all are welcome to experience the ministries of our church through online and/or in-person worship, fellowship, service, and prayers on behalf of ourselves, one another, and all people, everywhere.

Let us pray that God's loving Spirit continues to guide us onward, together with hope.

*In Christ's Love,
Pastor Sheila*



Charles'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; Ione'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; Gun violence everywhere; Environmental concerns

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JUNE BIRTHDAYS	JULY BIRTHDAYS
1 Livia Cola	2 Irma Carreras
12 Marjorie Richards	3 Julie Smith
14 Annette (Pat) Martin	5 Jeremiah Thomas
15 Sabita Shah	5 Demetra Sweeting
16 Aja Levy	7 Sarah Jolly
20 Isabelle Chapman	9 Misti Johnson Arce
21 Gayle Vardy	10 Rodney Jennings
22 Joan Gerson	11 Linda McNaughton
25 Susan DiAmicis	11 Morgan Parish
25 Lillian Fish	11 Kathy Church
28 Melanie Shepherd	13 Evelyn Chouris
29 Sue McMath	14 Shirley Thomas
30 Ada Daniels Harvey	15 Linda DiPaola
	16 Bonnie Avery
	19 David Ramirez Alonso
	22 Sandra Thomas
	26 Cindy Chouris

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.

MOTHER'S DAY AT UNION



MISSION & OUTREACH – JUNE 2023

Greetings Council!!

- **Graduation Sunday** on May 21st was a success! Congratulations to all the graduates, from Elementary, Middle, High School and College as well! Many thanks to all those who helped make their day special!
- Our **Strengthen the Church** (STC) special mission offering was held on Sunday, May 28th. Thank you to all who gave. We remain a 5-for-5 church, and we strive to maintain our mission message of teaching others about God's love.
- **Food Pantry** distributions are on the first Saturday of every month. In May we gave away 97 bags of food serving up to 280 individuals! The pantry remains an important mission 'stomping out hunger one family at a time'.
- **Family Promise** week is fast approaching. We are on the schedule for the week of June 12th. Our potluck day is June 13th, so Jane and Judith will be looking for volunteers to help with decorations and dinner items. If you would like to help, please let them know.
- Our **Little Free Libraries** are still going strong. We have two beautifully made little libraries have become a huge success. Last month during our food pantry distribution, Ruth set up a table and gave away free books to whoever was interested. Two dozen books were given away. Thanks Ruth!
- **Summer Yard Sale!** We are looking into presenting a yard sale sometime in July or August. We are still in discussion as to the date; information will be forthcoming.
- **CROS' Hustle to End Hunger 5K Walk** is scheduled for Saturday, October 7th. We are looking for someone to represent Union as we walk to raise money for the hungry in Palm Beach & Martin Counties. If you are interested, please see Debbie for more details.



God has placed an 'investment' in us both individually and as a church body. We must remain focused and trust that God will provide. *We are still on a mission!*

God Bless,
Rosemarie Lightfoot
Mission Chairperson

STEWARDSHIP – JUNE 2023

Greetings Union!

From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving is the theme that started our UCC Stewardship season. It is a constant reminder that gratitude and generosity go hand-in-hand with sharing in communion and with our donations.

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 do not give up, or quit." No matter how you give, whether it's your time, your talent or your 10th, you help support our church and its ministries, and we truly **'thank you'**.

When we have a heart to share our blessings, there are no limits to how we, the Church, can make a difference. 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 Chairperson



WE WANT TO SEE YOU!!



For our virtual members & friends please send your photos for our August publication! We look forward to "seeing" you in August!

Email your photos to:
office@unionucc.net.



Union's Summer Music & Arts Camp!

Saturday, July 15th, from 10-2pm, & Sunday, July 16th, from 10-3pm.

At this time, the young participants will learn songs on Saturday that they will perform during worship on Sunday. On Sunday, we plan to have an intergenerational arts and crafts opportunity during Fellowship Hour as part of the Summer Camp that ends by noon. Followed by a pool party!



Understanding the United Church of Christ



Our Florida Conference asks each congregation to submit a \$15 per capita fee for each member in our church. We have currently 130 members. That equals a bill the church will pay this year of \$1950. These funds go to operate the Florida Conference of the United Church of Christ, a vital operational part of our denomination. Please consider helping defray our 'Per Capita' cost. You will find in the pew back pocket an envelope labeled 'My Per Capita Contribution'. You are welcome to submit your \$15 all at once or over weekly or monthly contributions. Whatever works with your budget. To be sure, anything you contribute toward our Per Capita is a welcome relief to our budget. And if you would like to pay yours and submit extra toward another person's – please do! Every little bit helps Union continue our mission of spreading the Word of God in our community!

Blessings from Your Trustee Team

JUSTICE AND PEACE UPDATES

I am excited to announce that some additional tours have been added to the Justice and Peace Intergenerational Trip to Washington D.C. **The National Mall Bus Tour has been added as well as an NAACP tour and talk.** These are in addition to the 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.

On May 26, 2023, PEACE published a response to FL Senate Bill 1718 which has recently been passed. This bill prohibits local governments from funding the Community ID programs that PEACE helped initiate. The Community ID Program was created to provide all residents of Palm Beach County with a form of ID if they do not have a way of obtaining an ID by traditional methods. In 2022 PEACE pushed the Board of County Commissioners to allocate \$75,000 to fund the administration of this essential program. Because Senate Bill 1718 has been passed, the funding for the Community ID program is now in jeopardy. In its published response, PEACE vows to keep working to ensure that all of its programs, including the Community ID Program will continue in Palm Beach County.

Estelle Fanucci, Justice and Peace Ministry Chair

SAVE THE DATE

October 7, 2023

Hustle to End Hunger 5K Run

Start Time: 7:30am EDT

End Time: 10:00am EDT

John Prince Park 3034 Prince Drive
Lake Worth, FL US 33461

YOUTH & KIDS PAGE

CONGRATULATIONS TO UNION'S STUDENTS & GRADS!!!

CLASS OF

2023







June 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	2 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	3 Food Pantry 9am-12pm 
4 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Communion Sunday	5	6 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	7 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	8 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	9 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	10
11 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Pride Sunday	12	13 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	14 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open 7pm JP DC Trip Zoom Meeting	15 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	16 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	17
18 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Father's Day Juneteenth Celebration 	19	20 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	JP TRIP TO WASHINGTON , DC		22 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	24
25 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Baby Shower	26	27 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	28 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	29 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	30 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	
UCC GENERAL SYNOD						

JULY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Food Pantry 9am-12pm 
2 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming	3	4  OFFICE CLOSED	5 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	6 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	7 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	8
UCC GENERAL SYNOD						
9 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Communion Sunday	10	11 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	12 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	13 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	14 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	15
16 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming	17	18 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	19 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	OFFICE CLOSED		22
23 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming	24	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	28 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer room open	29
30 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Pastor Vacation	31					



**CELEBRATING SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2023
FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE
FATHER'S DAY AND JUNETEENTH
CELEBRATION
WITH MUSICAL GUEST DRUM LINE FROM
FAITH'S PLACE!**



**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

Hot Summer News Especially for You:

