

UNION TIDINGS

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

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August 2024

STRENGTHENING OUR FAITH!

"I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first." –Revelation 2:19

During the summer months, we sang the favorite songs of our congregants. Some of them included "Blessed Assurance," "I Surrender All," "Love Lifted Me," and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." We called this special service, "Hymn Sing" Sunday! This Sunday worship was so meaningful because the lyrics of the songs ministered to those who listened. One person said, "I wasn't sure how this would work, but I loved it!"



**Love, Strength, Faith
& Hope**

Music that reflects God's Word can strengthen our faith in God. We became stronger in the ways that we care for ourselves and one another. By faith, our strength is deeply rooted in God's calling upon us all to have love for one another. To show this kind of strength, Union continues to come together in weekly fellowship, or by checking in on one another via phone or mail. Union also remains dedicated to feeding our community, offering emergency relief to those directly impacted by natural disasters, and continued advocacy for neighbors in need of affordable housing.

With your continued support, we offered many good deeds in the summer, and we plan to do more good deeds in the Fall. We plan to continue joining together in God's strength in being church together by showing up for worship, whether it is in-person or virtually. We plan to continue joining together in God's strength by caring for one another through our weekly prayers. We also plan to continue finding ways to engage in acts of love through educational opportunities offered during our new Intergenerational Bible Studies and upcoming 130th Anniversary Celebration events.

As we persevere to 'be the church' and 'people of the church,' we can be encouraged by the holy presence of God, who is always with us. And with God's presence, we can be strengthened along the journey. This perseverance is exemplified in the love and life of Jesus Christ, who shows us that persevering is not an easy task, but with God's love all good things are possible.

And so, let us continue to be strengthened by God's abiding love in every season of life. Let us also 'Be the Church' of Jesus Christ by treating all people with equal respect and care. And let us be transformed by the peace of Christ whose love and light guide us still. May it be so. Amen.

*In Christ's Love,
Pastor Sheila*



Zaida's family and friends; Donya's family and friends; Susan Harrell's husband, George; Rev. Marion Harrison; Susan Harrell's husband, George; Donya's brother, Adam, Sis-in-law, Wendy & nephew, Alex; Marjorie Hanson; Vanessa's grandfather & cousin, Elsa Velez, Ada Harvey and family; John Webster family and friends: George Gerson; Barbara Gruber family and friends; Beth White; David's family members, Evelyn Soza, Jerman Rodrigues, Carmen, Margarita; Donna's brother, Clevert; Richard & Rosemarie Lightfoot; Adelaida Hernandez; Ruth Deischer's great-niece, Brianna; Linda DiPaola's family & friends; George Gerson's Brother, Michael; Cheryl Lavigne; Susan DiAmicis; Gail Fei's friend, Helga's daughter, Katya; Melanie's Friend, Donna; Alice Payne; Borjana's son, Petar; Ruth Deischer's sister-in-law, Susan Deischer; Melanie Shepherd family and friends; Nancy Reser family and friends; Renna McGinnis; Pat & Laurel Martin family and friends; George Gerson's friends, Diane & Timothy Scott; Wayne Johnson; Karen's friend, Kris; Terry Williams, sister Barbara; George Gerson's nephew, Glenn; Melanie's recovery; Ruth Cassidy's husband, Bill; Doug Cornwell's family; Billie Wilson; Rose's daughter, Tyshawna for healing & recovery; Jan Mark; Barbara Gruber; Rod Jennings; 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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1	Yasmine Matos
2	Barbara Bullock
9	Lauren Haywood Mike Roppel
10	Rosalynd Homer Nialah Montgomery
13	Amy Chouris
14	Rosamarie Lightfoot
15	Mia Moore
20	Loma Everitt
20	Karen Jackson
22	Simone Barton
25	Joanna Hollis
26	Ruth Deischer
28	Jiajin Zhou
29	Nancy Laing
30	Mallisa Prisarojn

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 \$40. 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 \$40 arrangement home.



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.

Union Celebrates Father's Day & Juneteenth!



Union's New Members!



TRUSTEE NEWS AUGUST 2024

The Trustees continue to meet the second Sunday evening of each month throughout the summer. At these meetings the Trustees focus on the Finances of the church, the facility and the growth of the Love of Christ in our community.

Finances: At our last meeting we discussed the fact that the summer months are slow in terms of donations. We have had to go to our Endowment Fund two times. The Trustees are working with the Stewardship team to brainstorm ideas for increasing financial support of our church.

Facility: The roof repairs have been completed and we feel the roof is ready for the rainy (sometimes stormy) season. We have added the Fire Alarm board as in need of replacement. ATT, our phone line service, has made us aware that our out-of-date alarm board requires a phone line to connect it to the fire department and our board is currently using an analog line. This has become increasingly expensive (\$175 a month) since analog is being phased out. We will need to switch to a digital alarm (would only be \$20 a month). The Trustees are investigating this in addition to our need to eventually replace one of the sanctuary AC systems and one of the Lift Station pumps.

Growth: The Trustees continue to support our WAMM and our Fellowship teams, as WAMM has been working tirelessly to improve our Live Stream and sound system, allowing us to reach our 'out of the area' members as well as our in-church service; and we enjoyed creating after worship Fellowship activities in June, including a July 4th indoor picnic and Juneteenth and Pride celebrations.

The Trustees appreciate all the volunteers who help out in all three of these areas! Bob Smith works on the grounds almost every Saturday and welcomes anyone who would like to assist and we have a handful of other 'angels' who always help out in the kitchen (David!) and others who continue to help us with the smaller repair jobs that come up now and then. And then there are those of you who come to worship (in person or online). Your presence is gift to God!

We could not do this without your Love for the church!

STEWARDSHIP – AUGUST 2024

Why I Give



I believe that at some time in our lives we all have a God moment. I know I have had several and continue to have God moments often. For me it was when I was a little girl and my siblings, and I spent the night at my aunt's home. Before we went to bed, we all knelt to say our prayers. My aunt prayed, we just knelt. My aunt prayed for something specific, and her prayer was answered. I remember thinking, wow, there is a God and He heard my aunt's prayer. That was my first of many God moments.

When we surrender our lives to God, who is love and purposely follow God's example, love wins. Love wins when we follow the example of tithing and financially supporting our church family.

Tithes generate the revenue needed to support a church administration, a church facility, and most ministries. For me, tithing is a financial commitment to my church family. I always gave when the plate was passed around. When we follow Jesus and commit our lives to follow the ways of Jesus, it is one of the many ways we show our love.

Do we have to tithe? Absolutely not, that is a personal choice. Should we give, yes. Why? Because there is a scripture Mathew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be. The spirit of Jesus lives in my heart, because of who I say I am, a believer in Jesus Christ, I have a spirit to give and to serve.

There is no greater joy for me than when I can help or encourage someone else. When I give, I am inspired and encouraged. When I watch a sports event on TV, I think if every person at that game gave a dollar as they entered the event, we could feed thousands of hungry people in this world.

I pray that my words will confirm, inspire, encourage you to continue to seek God's plan because love always wins.

Debbie Chea,
On behalf of the Stewardship Team

FELLOWSHIP - AUGUST 2024

Fellowship makes us stronger and provides encouragement. (Hebrews 10 24-25)

On behalf of our fellowship team, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our church family, visitors and friends for their generous contributions of items that makes our fellowship time together after worship each Sunday very special. We are also thankful for those who volunteer their time to help with post cleaning up. We appreciate the love and camaraderie that sets a great example for our youths as well.

Many thanks to the committee members across all Ministries. Teams as they all continue to provide artistic and celebratory themes to mark all special occasions. Your hard work is greatly appreciated and does not go unnoticed.

Let us remain focused on doing good and heeding the words of the Bible which teaches us that fellowship makes us stronger and provides encouragement.

The rotation of the respective ministries who will be sponsoring the remaining months of the year are as follows:

August - Christian and Youth

September - Justice and Peace

October - Mission and Outreach

November - Trustees

December - Diaconate

Over the past several months the Fellowship Ministry has been bringing information on health and healthy living tips, we hope that these tips are helpful and that you are able to share them with others as you deem necessary. We welcome ideas to keep the information informative and relevant.

Health/Healthy Tips:

According to many health reports, Covid-19 is still quite prevalent. There are several emerging variants of the virus. It is reported that there is rapid increase since early June. The symptoms are very similar to colds and flu. It is not always

possible to treat Covid-19, but there are things you can do if you become infected with the virus to ease some of the symptoms. Take a home test, see your health provider, drink lots of water to avoid dehydration and wear a mask when in company to keep others safe.

Sincerely, Fellowship Team
Linda Padmore, Chair

MOTHER EMANUEL CHURCH TRAGEDY IN CHARLESTON, SC

The Journey of a Victims' Son



Please join us for the inspirational story of Chris Singleton, who lost his mother, Sharonda, during the church mass shooting on June 17, 2015.

**Thursday, August 22, 2024
8 AM to 12 PM**

Airport Hilton
150 Australian Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL



HOSTED BY
THE PALM BEACH COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
& PALM BEACH COUNTY
SHERIFF'S FOUNDATION

TO REGISTER

PLEASE SCAN
QR CODE



OR CONTACT

Kevin Stanfill
stanfillk@pbso.org
561-688-3916

THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

SENIOR HOUSING UPDATE - AUG 2024

Union's Affordable Senior Housing project is progressing. We have been given the "Green Light" by the County to move forward in our Mission.

Our developer, Green Mills, has made the decision to wait until the next funding cycle to apply for funding for our project. They are feeling very positive about the support from both the Board of County Commissioners and the Building & Zoning Board -but the application requirements for funding is complex and calls for a need for more area studies and drawings. They feel more time is needed to make a strong application. Our goal is to be successful in the funding process, so we support Green Mills as they complete the application process. Stay tuned for updates!



YOUTH & KIDS CORNER

UNION'S VBS SUNDAY, BEACH CLEAN-UP, & FUN IN THE SUN!





August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Communion Sunday	5	6	7	8 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	9 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	10 
11 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Back to School "Sundae"	12 School Starts 	13 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	14 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	15 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	16 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	17
18 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming	19	20 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	21 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	22 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	23 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	24
25 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Pastor Away preaching MV	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	31

SAVE THE DATE:
AUGUST 11TH

BACK TO SCHOOL

“SUNDAE”

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2024

AFTER WORSHIP
ALL ARE WELCOME!



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5088 Summit Boulevard
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