

UNION TIDINGS

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

Volume 131, Issue 8

September 2024

We are a Just Peace Church!

On September 15th, we will celebrate Just Peace Sunday with our wider church and explore the theme, “Things that Make for Peace.” Every year, on the Sunday before the International Day of Peace, we dedicate this time to hope and pray that there be peace and justice for all.

On Just Peace Sunday, we will be invited to reflect on the world around us. We will also be invited to recognize where glimpses of peace may be found. In scripture, we see that the “things that make for peace” include loving our enemies, welcoming the outcast, healing diseases, and illnesses, feeding the hungry, and the power of love to transform our lives and culture.

Union’s Justice and Peace Ministry also invites us not just to talk the talk, but to walk the walk. This hope of forward movement can be found in our mutual repentance and forgiveness. As we seek to better understand God, ourselves, and one another along our journey of faith.

As a Just Peace Church, we can also seek God’s strength and guidance on how best to love all of God’s creation. In doing so, we can join in singing praises with the psalmist who says:

*I lift my eyes to the hills-- where does my help come from?
My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot slip-- he who watches over you will not slumber;
Indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The LORD watches over you-- the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
The sun and the moon will not harm you day or night.
The LORD will keep you from all harm-- he will watch over your life;
The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forever.*

May our quest to seek the “things that make for peace” begin in each of our hearts. Let it be so. Amen.

*In Christ’s Peace,
Pastor Sheila*





Louise's friend, Martha; Zaida's family and friends; Donya's family and friends; Susan Harrell's husband, George; Marjorie Hanson; Vanessa's grandfather & cousin, Elsa Velez, Ada Harvey and family; John Webster family and friends: George Gerson; Rev. Marion Harrison; 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 everywhere; Environmental concerns; Maui, HI, Florida; Israel conflict everywhere; Environmental concerns; Maui, HI, Florida; Israel conflict

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Michelle Combs
- 4 Jane Louise Smith
- 6 Rebekah Guy
- 8 Ajani Blake
- 14 Robert Harold
- 15 Felicia Hernandez
- 16 Steve Ventimiglia
- 17 Jody Kistenmacher
- 20 Amy McMath
- 21 Cunny Burgos
- 25 John Webster
- 25 Charlene Buck
- 26 Shirley Brozeman
- 26 Bruce Menning
- 28 Amy Dickinson
- 29 Simone Shah

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.

The Federated Church
welcomes
Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey
Pastor, Author, Advocate

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2024

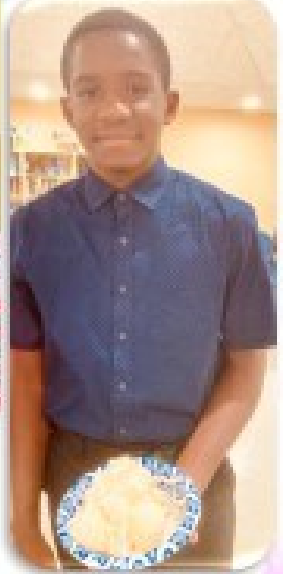
10:00 AM
**Edgartown,
Martha's Vineyard**

Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey
SHEILA HARVEY
MESSAGES OF HOPE
Preaching Peace and Justice for All

Back to School Fellowship 2024



At Union, all enjoyed ice cream as we celebrated the start of another school year!!



TRUSTEE NEWS SEPTEMBER 2024

Friendly Reminder from the Trustees:



The facility has been 'collecting' items that have not been requested by any Ministry Team. If you are busy doing 'closet clean-out' – please do not bring your treasures to the church at this time. We currently do not have a planned yard sale and the campus does not have the space to store items. We love you – and we love that you are thinking of us with ways to raise funds – but please hold these items at your homes until the Council has made plans to do a sale.

You are always welcome to ask a Ministry Team chair if they might have a use for your specific item, but please do not drop off items for a yard sale until we ask for them.

Note: The Food Pantry always needs food. There is a bucket in the Narthex for food items. Please do keep bringing in food for our neighbors!

1 Corinthians 14:40

“Let everything be done in a fitting and proper manner that is organized, well-planned, respectful, well-mannered and polite.”

Jane Grandusky, Chair

2024 STEWARDSHIP THEME “IMAGINE TOGETHER”



STEWARDSHIP – SEPTEMBER 2024

Greetings, Union!

“*Imagine Together*” is the theme for Union’s Stewardship Campaign, celebrated on Sunday, November 24th. This important campaign effort helps to finance all the ministries of the Church.

A letter will be mailed in October explaining the Stewardship Campaign. It seems that some clarification is needed in regards to 'pledged giving' vs 'designated giving.' **Pledged giving (or Tithe)** is when we fill out the commitment/pledge cards & make a pledge of a specified financial amount for the year. These amounts are placed, or budgeted, in the church's General Fund in order to help pay for the ministry expenses incurred throughout the year. **Designated giving**, such as donations towards Missions, food pantry, & other special offerings, are monetary gifts that are *over and above* your pledged (tithe) amount. These donations only go to a specific ministry and cannot be moved into the General Fund. If you have questions about the various types of 'giving,' please do not hesitate to ask.

Galatians 6:9 ~ "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.

~ So, let us “Imagine Together!”

God Bless,
Sharon Harvey Hughes
Stewardship Chairperson



FELLOWSHIP TEAM - SEPTEMBER 2024

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

The fellowship Ministry continues to be supportive to each Ministry as they host the fellowship hour after worship each Sunday.

The Christian Education and Youth Ministry team hosted fellowship for the month of August and did a wonderful job of creating themes that fostered intergenerational socialization.

The youths as well as the entire congregation, returning guests and new visitors enjoyed the back to school Benediction and Blessings that were offered for all students and teachers, a Back-to-School "Sundae" celebration was held in their honor. We wish our Students and Teachers a safe and productive school year.

Special thanks to all those who contributed to making this event enjoyable for all.

The Justice and Peace Ministry will be hosting the fellowship hour for the month of September. Starting with our customary "Birthdays for the Month" all themes and presentations throughout the month will embody Justice and Peace initiatives. Be on the look-out for these announcements.

All contributions and donations and participation will be greatly appreciated.

Fellowship makes us stronger and provides encouragement

Ministry sponsorship for the remaining months of the year are as follows:

October - Mission and Outreach

November - Trustees

December - Diaconate

Please continue to support our Ministries.

Health/Healthy Tips:

It is quite easy to put off your healthy lifestyle goals. Although it may be hard to get out of old habits, maintaining a healthy lifestyle gives you more energy, improves your overall and helps reduce the risk of certain diseases

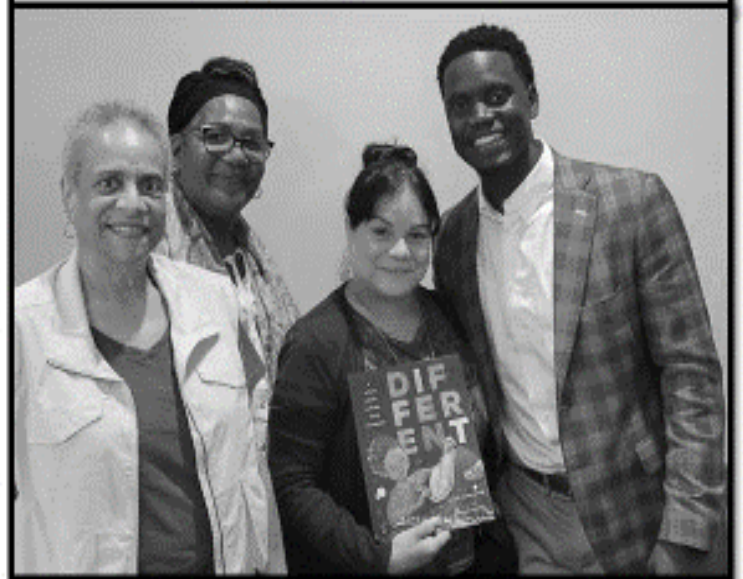
Five Top habits to adopt to maintain a healthy lifestyle:

- Eat Healthy
- Stay hydrated
- Exercise
- Keep spaces where you prepare your meals clean to avoid germs and bacteria.
- Get good sleep
- Pray Daily

Sincerely, Fellowship Team
Linda Padmore, Chair

MOTHER EMANUEL CHURCH TRAGEDY IN CHARLESTON, SC

The Journey of a Victims' Son



NEIGHBORS IN NEED SPECIAL MISSION OFFERING

In 2024, the Neighbors in Need focus is "Mental Health Justice For All!" We will be collecting for this NIN offering as part of World Communion Sunday observance. **Neighbors in Need** is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. This special offering will be held October 6, 2024.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS



Seeking a volunteer with a heart to serve the community via the food pantry. A driver needed to shop and pick up the groceries once a month. For details, please contact Debbie Chea at calledtoserve62@yahoo.com.

YOUTH & KIDS CORNER

UNION'S "BACK-TO-SCHOOL" EVENT!



Roger Jean CHEVROLET

STADIUM



Union's Handbell Choir



All are invited to participate in
Union's Handbell Choir.

No Experience Necessary.

If you are interested, please sign-up on the
soundboard or contact the church office

Via Email: office@unionucc.net

Or call (561) 686-0330.





September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Communion Sunday	2 HAPPY LABOR DAY * * *	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-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	7 Food Pantry 9am-11:30am
8 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming	9	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 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	14
15 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Just Peace Sunday	16	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 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	21
22 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming	23	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 9am-1pm Office Hours Prayer Room open	28
29 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming	30					

JUST PEACE
SUNDAY 9.15.2024

Things That Make For Peace

"As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, 'If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.'"
Luke 19:41

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

130th
Union
Congregational
United Church of Christ

Church Anniversary Celebration

SAVE THE DATES

Kick-off Picnic – Oct. 6

History Museum Tour – Oct. 12 at 1pm

Joint Poinciana Chapel Service – Oct 27 at 10:30am

Choral Celebration Ft. Bryan Ijames - Nov. 17

Celebration Luncheon - Nov. 24

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sweet September News Especially for you:

