UNION TIDINGS

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

Volume 132, Issue 5 May 2025

God's Love Is Forever!

"I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete."

-John 15:11 (NRSV)

Church, it is Eastertide! This is the Season of Easter Joy. The time when we celebrate the glorious morning of Jesus' Resurrection for fifty days. During these seven weeks, we are to remember that 'weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.'

With so many reasons to be discouraged, Eastertide brings joy amid economic hardship. Eastertide brings joy in the face of national and global conflict. Eastertide brings joy in times of sorrow. Eastertide brings the joy of God's grace, which is our hope for a better tomorrow. For this joy, we celebrate!

During this church season of celebration, we also celebrate our Mothers, Students, and Graduates with special moments during worship and fellowship. We celebrate how we care for one another. We celebrate how we care for our neighbors near and far. And we celebrate our faith in God, whose love makes it all possible.



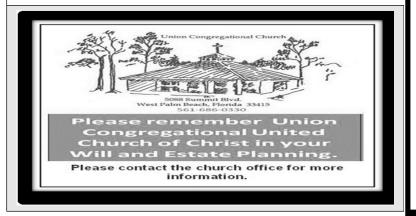
This year, it is also with great joy that we celebrate new Members who have become part of our family of faith, where Christ's love and light guide us forward. As we live into the Eastertide Season, let us do so with hope in God's love despite what the world throws our way.

Lastly, let us remember Resurrection Joy during this Eastertide journey, by allowing the light of Christ to see us through every valley and to carry us in our moments of weakness. Let us also give thanks that death is no more, and that God's Love Is Forever!

In Christ's Love, Pastor Sheila



Lynn McNaughton's cousin, Cade; Joanna Hollis's family friend, Gavin Weiss; Linda Padmore's daughter, Jeannine; Sabita Shah; Linda Harvey; Susan Young's sister, Genie; Kirk Dorhout; Evelyn Chouris; Charlotte Snowden; Renna McGinnis: Beth White's family & friends: Frank Byrd's family & friends; Melanie Shepherd; Ada Harvey and family; Charlene Buck; Linda Padmore's niece. Yvette & sister. Christine: Alice Payne; Bonnie Avery's family member, Greg; Rosemarie Lightfoots's sister, Anita; Marion & Criss Gaetano's family & friends: Charlie Rodriguez's family and friends; Richard Lightfoot; Beth White; Louise's friend, Martha; Susan Harrell's husband, George; David's family members, Evelyn Soza, Jerman Rodrigues, Carmen, Malgarita; Donna's brother, Clevert; George Gerson's Brother, Michael; Melanie's Friend, Donna; Borjana's son, Petar; Ruth Deischer's sister-in-law, Susan Deischer: Renna McGinnis; George Gerson's friends, Diane & Timothy Scott; George Gerson's nephew, Glenn; Ruth Cassidy's husband. Bill: Rose's daughter. Tyshawna for healing & recovery: Jan Mark: Rod Jennings; Jan Mark's son, Gary; Justice & Peace efforts; grieving, depression and anxiety; all refugees; Ukraine War; Puerto Rico; Haiti; Gun violence everywhere; Environmental concerns; Maui, HI, Florida; Israel conflict; Hurricane victims; Wild fires; Immigrant families; Attack on DEI; Medicaid & Food Assistance Programs





How can I give to Union UCC?

MOBILE: Scan this Code



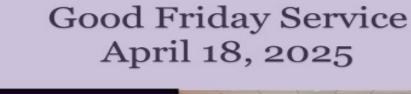
ONLINE: UNIONUCC.NET (GIVE) ENVELOPE: CASH AND CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO UNION UCC

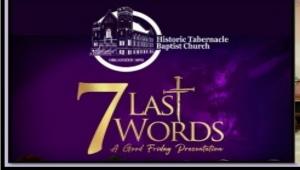
FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

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.









MISSION & OUTREACH

Whenever we think of mission and outreach here at Union Congregational UCC we are reminded of this biblical verse:

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

The Missions committee works diligently to fulfill this command of Jesus. Our biggest undertaking is feeding those in need by supplying 80-100 bags of groceries a month to those who are hungry with no questions asked. During this time we also give away books to help feed the minds of both children and adults. This past month we held a fundraiser by playing Bunco. We raised \$300.00 for the food bank. This team is remarkable in all aspects of this mission. If you ever would like to help out you can do so by holding a fundraiser, by donating or shopping and/or picking up food donations just let us know.

We take part in the CROS Ministries by being a part in the gleaning process, this last event culled green peppers. Once all the baskets are filled, the food is then sent on to a larger organization that distributes the food to different food banks. Several members of our church take part in this important event. Bravo to all of them!!!!!

I would also like to do a shout out to everyone who contributes to our 5 For 5 collections. These funds are used for the wider UCC church. Without our help they would not be able to reach out to the wider world. Thank you again for your generous donations. They are well appreciated.

Our Free Little Library is running very well but our little houses on Summit St. are looking a little weather worn. Our new handyman is willing to try and repair them.

And last but not least our committee has taken on the task of updating the Prayer Room. This room is dedicated to the memory of Rev. Hollis and we felt it was time for an updated look. Not only do we feed the poor and the hungry we also take care of our own members by helping to feed our souls. The Church Council will oversee this project.

Marion Gaetano, Mission Chairperson

UNION WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS!



Michelle Benghtt was born in New York City, NY. One of her talents is singing. Michelle's favorite Hymn is "We Are Marching in The Light of God" and favorite Bible Passage is "Psalm 23."

Billy Campbell is currently working on his Masters. He enjoys, walks in the park, videogames, yoga and psychology. Billy's favorite Bible verse is "Psalm 1."

Kirk Dorhout has been married 30 years. His hobbies are fishing, gardening. Kirk's Life Motto: Do as much as I can for as long as I can for as many as I can.

Paula Dorhout has been married to Kirk Dorhout. They have 5 children and 7 grandchildren. One her favorite Hymn is "How Great Thou Art."

Shelby Norris is a retired from a career as Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner. Her hobbies include reading and water aerobics. Shelby's favorite Bible Passage us "Corinthians 13: 4-8.

Mary Puhrman enjoys singing and playing different games. Her favorite Bible Passage is "Psalm 23." Mary's Life Motto: Live and Let Live!

Conversations on the Threshold: Women, Mystics and Liminal Space

Rev. Michael-Ann's Seminary Project

Loneliness can be a challenging topic. If you are wondering about it, experiencing it, let's share some thoughts and explore what women mystics and contemplative practices might offer.

Curious? Save the dates! Join this Month!

May 4th at 11:45 – 1:15 May 18th at 11:45 – 1:15



We'll gather to explore what happened in their lives and what is happening in our own.

Questions? Contact Rev. Michael-Ann (m-adveziroglu@outlook.com)

Please see the sign up on the sound board.





Kids, Teens, & Adults
All are invited to participate in Union's
Summer Praise ensemble
during the summer months.

If interested, please sign-up or contact the
office via

email: zaida@unionucc.net.

Summer Handbell Choir

fandbell

Kids, Teens, & Adults
All are invited to participate in Union's
Handbell Choir during the summer
months of July and August.
No Experience Necessary.
Tom Richards will be our Handbell

If interested, please sign-up or contact the office via

Director.

email: zaida@unionucc.net.

TRUSTEE NEWS

"Letting You Know..."

It is this time of year when our friends from the northern climates begin to migrate back to their northern homes and churches. We say our goodbyes – and look forward to their return in the fall. It is also the time of year when the Trustees begin to get a little nervous – as the seats begin to empty and the pledges and the plate start to fall off.

Can YOU help Union? Or better yet, YOU can help Union! How?

- 1. We do better when our numbers are higher. Please, please, invite friends, relatives and neighbors to church! We have so much to offer – a great worship service, with moving music & sermon, coming from a Biblical base; our Sunday School class is top notch!! The kids do a variety of activities while learning what it means to be a life-long, loving Christian. And our Fellowship Hour is unmatched – thank you Fellowship Team for leading this up – this is where we get to know each other, learn about the different Ministry Teams and their work in our community and see that our church is more than the walls of a building but the heart of our members and their love for our neighbors and community.
- 2. We know times are not good for savings accounts, retirement accounts (including our own Endowment account) and in some instances jobs are being cut so this isn't for everyone BUT if you are able, we certainly are not afraid to ask you to help us financially. Anything extra you might be able to give in the plate would be greatly appreciated. For sure, keep Union in prayer.
- 3. We may need to consider doing a fundraiser activity. Do you have an idea? Or if you can't think of anything would you be willing to help us if we come up with a viable fundraiser for the church? Manpower is always needed and not all of it is strenuous. So please consider lending a hand if the time arises where we need you to help out with a fundraiser.

And lastly, thank you for – coming to church each Sunday, your donations to the plate, your contributions to Fellowship Hour – each and every one of you are greatly appreciated! May we put our trust in Christ that he will be our Light and our Salvation.

Blessings to all, Jane Grandusky, On behalf of the Trustee Team

IDS GORNER

UNION'S CHILDREN & YOUTH CELEBRATING EASTER!!



Blessing Bags

Our children and youth will be making Blessing Bags on May 25th. These bags are to be given out to folks we see around our community, or in your travels, who could use a little something extra. They will be available for you to take during fellowship on the 25th. If you have items, you would like to donate here are some of the things we include:

Shampoo/conditioner (smaller sizes) Soap

Wash cloth Deodorant

Toothbrush/toothpaste Snack

The Blessing Bags Feminine products Razors

Project

Hand lotion Hand towel

Hand sanitizer





Huge thank you to all the folks who had their cars washed, who donated to our children and youth and who supported their efforts.

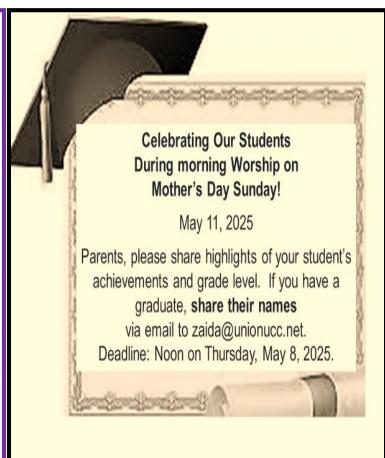
Great fun was had and a lot of cars cleaned!! Thanks to our children and youth and thank to the adults who helped out!!

May 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9am-1pm Office Hours	2 9am-1pm Office Hours	S Food Pantry 9am- 11:30am
4 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Communion Sunday	5	6 9am-1pm Office Hours	7 9am-1pm Office Hours	8 9am-1pm Office Hours	9 9am-1pm Office Hours	10
11 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Mother's Day & Student Recognition "Tea Time" Mother Tea Time"	12	13 9am-1pm Office Hours	14 9am-1pm Office Hours	15 9am-1pm Office Hours	16 9am-1pm Office Hours	17
18 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming	19	20 9am-1pm Office Hours	21 9am-1pm Office Hours	22 9am-1pm Office Hours	23 9am-1pm Office Hours	24
25 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Memorial Day Sunday	26 memorial DAY	27 9am-1pm Office Hours	28 9am-1pm Office Hours	29 9am-1pm Office Hours	30 9am-1pm Office Hours	31





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

Flowering News Especially for You:

