



word and work



# UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*We welcome all people to experience God's love,  
grow spiritually and engage in meaningful service.*

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

July 20, 2025

\*Please stand as you are able.

*This service is livestreaming. Thank you. ♥*

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### ENTER TO WORSHIP

#### GATHERING MUSIC

*When you hear the music, please gather. Be seated and prepare for worship.  
Lighting the Candle, we remember God's presence with us.*

#### PRELUDE

"You are Welcome Here"

#### THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Words of Welcome & Announcements

#### INTROIT

"There's a Spirit of Love in this Place"

**There's a spirit of love in this place, there's a spirit of love in this place. You can't see it, but it's there, just as precious as the air. There's a spirit of love in this place.**

Refrain: **O alleluia, sing alleluia! We bless your holy name.**

**O alleluia, sing alleluia! There's a spirit of love in this place.**

**There's a presence of peace in this room, there's the presence of peace in this room. In God's tenderness is found peace that passes human bounds. There's the presence of peace in this room. Refrain**

Greeting One Another

***No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.***

\*Chorus:

***We are one in the bond of love; we are one in the bond of love, we have joined our spirits with the Spirit of God, we are one in the bond of love.***



## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: In the presence of the faithful, let us proclaim God's name.

**Response: In the presence of the faithful, let us praise God's holy name.**

One: In times of joy and pain,

**Response: In the presence of the faithful, let us praise God's holy name.**

One: Whether serving at table, or in the streets, or on the mountaintops,

**Response: In the presence of the faithful, let us praise God's holy name.**

One: In our learning and teaching, and all of our growing,

**Response: In the presence of the faithful, let us praise God's holy name.**

One: Come, let us worship God.

## **INVOCATION**

Christ is with us!

**Christ is in our midst!**

**Come into our lives, Jesus. Help us to be faithful listeners. Help us to be faithful servants. In all that we do, may we welcome you and serve you as disciples. Amen.**

## **\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling"

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### **Sharing Joys and Concerns**

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

## **PRAYER RESPONSE**

"Goodness of God"

Soloist, Michelle Benght

**Refrain: Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.**

**Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.**

**With my life laid down, I surrendered now.**

**I give You everything, oh Lord.**

**Your goodness is running after, it's running after me. (Repeat)**

## OFFERTORY

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

**\*DOXOLOGY** (*Deacons George & Isaac to bring offerings forward.*)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that Love has done:  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.***

## **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT**

*(All children and youth are welcome to attend the Sunday School Class.)*

## READING OF SCRIPTURES

### **Amos 8:1-12**

This is what the Lord GOD showed me—a basket of summer fruit. He said, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A basket of summer fruit.” Then the LORD said to me, “The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. The songs of the temple shall become wailings in that day,” says the Lord GOD; “the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!” Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?

On that day, says the Lord GOD, I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins, and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day. The time is surely coming, says the Lord GOD, when I will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD. They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD, but they shall not find it.

## **PSALM 52**

Why do you boast, O mighty one,  
**of mischief done against the godly?**

All day long you are plotting destruction.

**Your tongue is like a sharp razor, you worker of treachery.**

You love evil more than good, and lying more than speaking the truth.

**You love all words that devour, O deceitful tongue.**

But God will break you down for ever;

**God will snatch and tear you from your tent  
and uproot you from the land of the living.**

The righteous will see, and fear, and will laugh at the evildoer, saying,

**"See the one who would not take refuge in God, but trusted in abundant  
riches, and sought refuge in wealth!"**

But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God.

**I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever.**

I will thank you forever, because of what you have done.

**In the presence of the faithful I will proclaim your name, for your name is  
good.**

## **Luke 10:38-42**

As they continued their travel, Jesus entered a village. A woman by the name of Martha welcomed him and made him feel quite at home. She had a sister, Mary, who sat before the Master, hanging on every word he said. But Martha was pulled away by all she had to do in the kitchen. Later, she stepped in, interrupting them. "Master, don't you care that my sister has abandoned the kitchen to me? Tell her to lend me a hand." The Master said, "Martha, dear Martha, you're fussing far too much and getting yourself worked up over nothing. One thing only is essential, and Mary has chosen it—it's the main course, and won't be taken from her."

***Thanks be to God!***

### **SONG OF PREPARATION**

"There Is a Balm in Gilead" Arr. Mary McDonald  
Pastor Sheila & Tom Richards

### **SERMON**

"Word And Work" Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey

### **\*CLOSING HYMN**

"Standing on the Promises"

### **\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

***DEPART TO SERVE***



We **WELCOME** each of you to this celebration of worship. If you are visiting, we invite you to sign our Guest register in the Narthex. Offering envelopes are found in the pocket on the back of the chairs in the sanctuary for your convenience.

### Participating in Today's Service:

**Readers**

Vanessa Nuñez, Stephen Spencer, Louise Dempster

**Deacon Assisting**

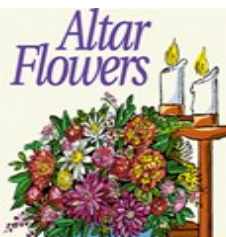
Vanessa Nuñez

## Union's Joys & Prayer Concerns

**Joys:** All Birthdays in July! Our Church Family! Live Streaming!

### Concerns:

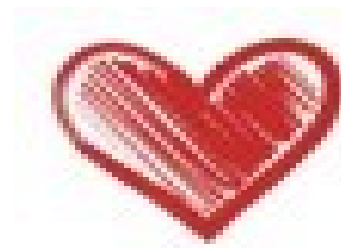
Linda Padmore's family & friends; Rod Jennings's family & friends; Jane Grandusky's husband, Mark; Bonnie Avery's family members, Greg & Nancy Avery; Teresa Byrd; Lynn McNaughton's mom and cousin, Cade; Linda Padmore's daughter, Jeannine; Linda Harvey; Susan Young's sister, Genie; Kirk Dorhout; Evelyn 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; Rosemarie Lightfoots's sister, Anita; Beth White; Louise's friend, Martha; 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



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](mailto: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.

### Sunday School Highlight

Learning and serving are both part of following Jesus. How do we learn about and serve in our faith? Join us in Sunday School as we share our answers creatively and explore new ways to experience our faith.



# Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

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Timothy Rees, 1922; alt.

1 Ho-ly Spir - it, ev - er dwell - ing in the ho - liest realms of light;  
2 Ho-ly Spir - it, ev - er breath - ing on the church the breath of life;  
3 Ho-ly Spir - it, ev - er work - ing through the church - 's min - is - try—

Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er brood - ing o'er a world of gloom and  
Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er striv - ing through your peo - ple's cease - less  
Quick - ening, strength - ening, and ab - solv - ing, set - ting cap - tive sin - ners

blight; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er rais - ing earth - bound souls to glo - ry  
strife; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er form - ing in the church the mind of  
free; Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er bind - ing age to age and soul to

high; Liv - ing, life - im - part - ing Spir - it; you we praise and mag - ni - fy.  
Christ: In our wor - ship we will praise you for your fruit and gifts un - priced.  
soul, In com - mu - ni - ty un - end - ing you we wor - ship and ex - tol.



## NEWSLETTER REMINDER

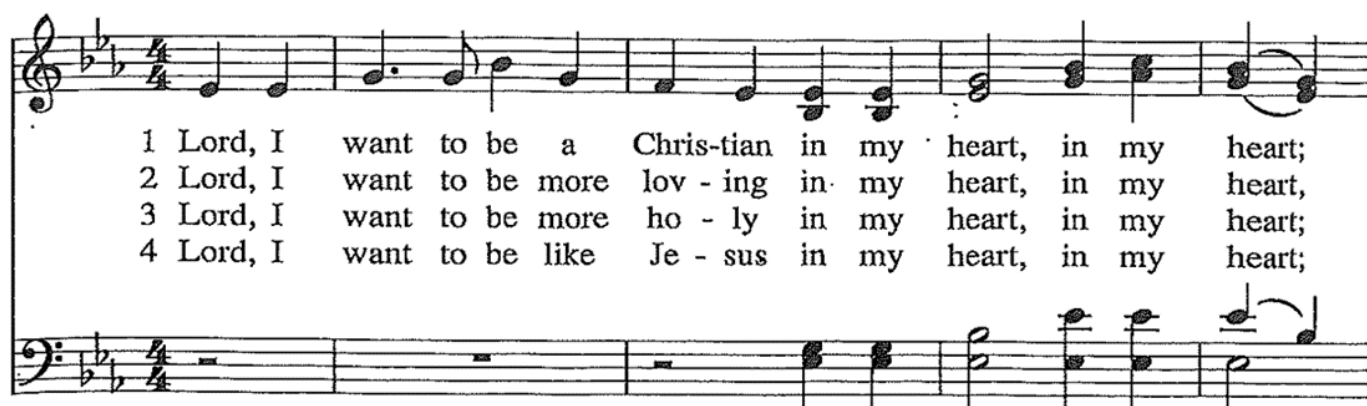
Don't forget to submit any articles/news/pictures and/or announcements for the August Newsletter by Tuesday, July 29th. Please send them email to: [zaida@unionucc.net](mailto:zaida@unionucc.net). Thank you!

# Lord, I Want To Be a Christian

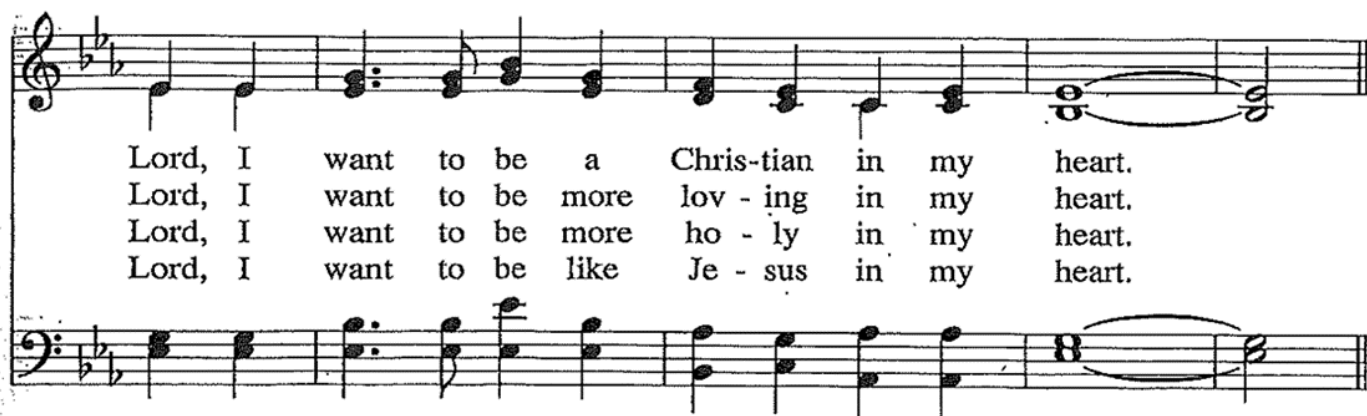
454

*African-American spiritual*

*Deut. 6:5-6; 10:12-16*



1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;  
2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart,  
3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;  
4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

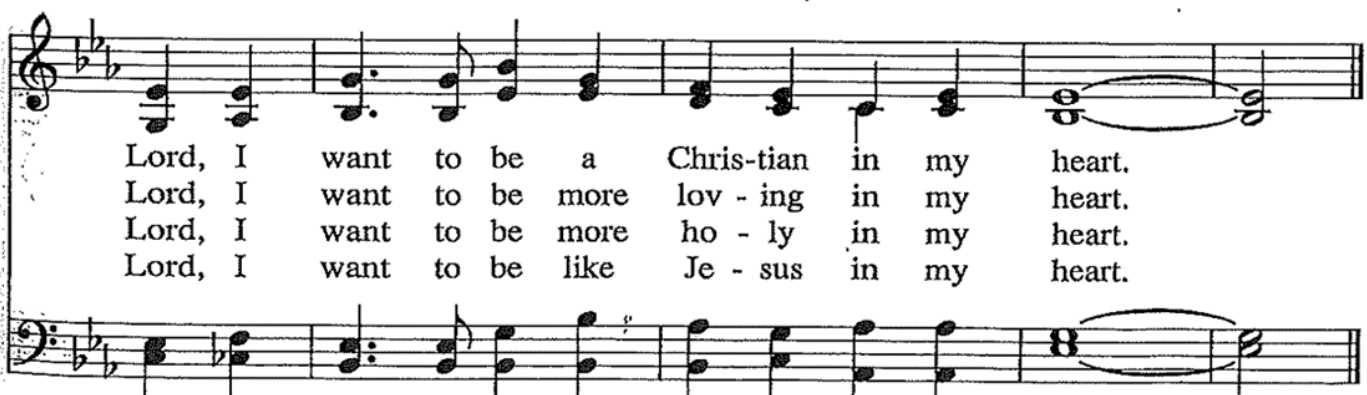


Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

## *Refrain*



In my heart, in my heart, in my heart,  
In my heart, in my heart, in my heart,

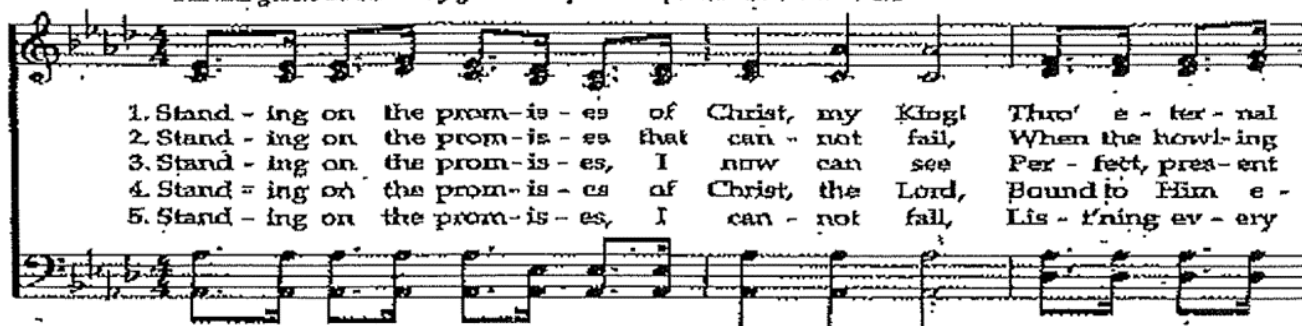


Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.  
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

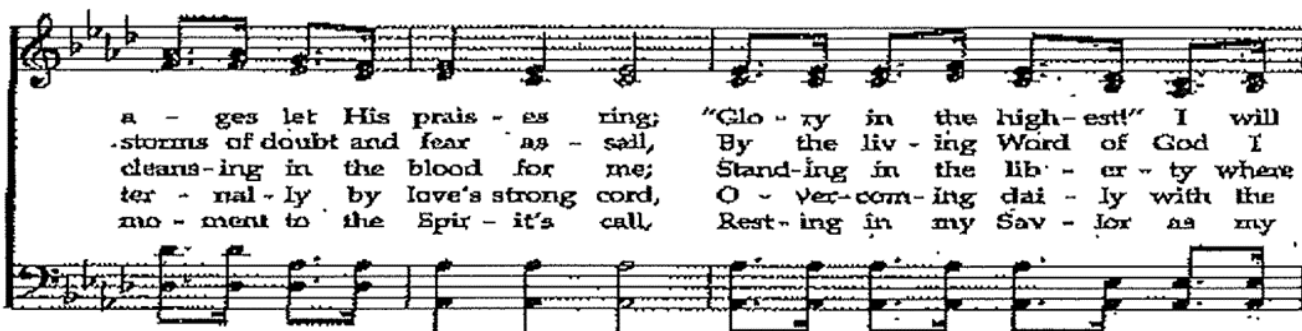


# 410 Standing on the Promises

*He has given us His very great and precious promises. 2 Peter 1:4*



1. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ, my King! Tho' e - ter - nal  
 2. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es that can - not fail, When the howl - ing  
 3. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es, I now can see Per - fect, pres - ent  
 4. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ, the Lord, Bound to Him e -  
 5. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es, I can - not fail, Lis - t'ning ev - ery

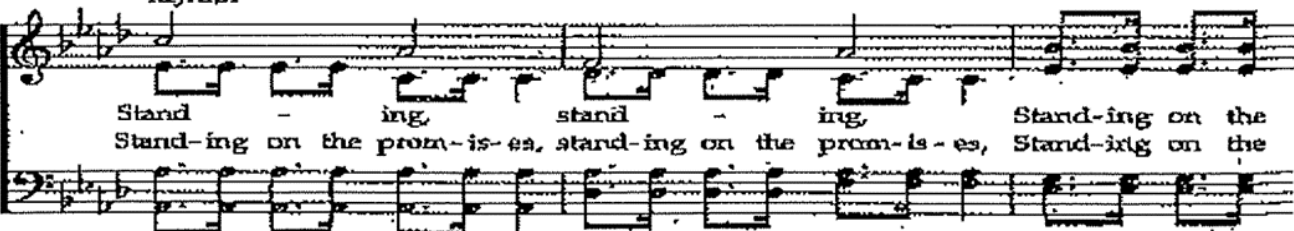


a - ges let His prais - es ring; "Glo - ry in the high - est!" I will  
 storms of doubt and fear as - sail, By the liv - ing Word of God I  
 cleans - ing in the blood for me; Stand - ing in the lib - er - ty where  
 ter - nal - ly by love's strong cord, O - ver - com - ing dai - ly with the  
 mo - ment to the Spir - it's call, Rest - ing in my Sav - ior as my



shout and sing, Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.  
 shall pre - vail, Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.  
 Christ makes free, Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.  
 Spir - it's sword, Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.  
 All in All, Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

## Refrain



Stand - ing, stand - ing, Stand - ing on the  
 Stand - ing on the prom - is - es, stand - ing on the prom - is - es, Stand - ing on the



prom - is - es of God, my Sav - ior; Stand - ing, stand - ing,  
 prom - is - es of God, my Sav - ior; Stand - ing on the prom - is - es,



stand - ing, I'm stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God,  
 stand - ing on the prom - is - es, I'm stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

Union Congregational  
United Church of Christ

Upcoming  
**YARD SALE**  
July 26th!

START  
GATHERING  
NOW!

Donate your gently used  
clothing and household  
goods to support the  
missions of Union!

**DONATE  
& HELP**

VOLUNTEER TO HELP SET UP  
& SELL THE DAY OF - SIGN UP  
ON THE SOUND BOARD

Accepting donations beginning  
**July 20th thru July 25th**  
**9 AM-1 PM or 4-7 PM**

Visit Us : [www.unionucc.net](http://www.unionucc.net)  
Call: 561-686-8444  
Email: [office@unionucc.net](mailto:office@unionucc.net)

# Union's Yard Sale

**Yard Sale on Saturday, July 26, 2025**

Church yard

**8 AM – 4 PM**

**SALE**



Sign up sheet on the sound board for  
Council's Yard Sale & Summer Church  
Cleaning-Clearing away unneeded items.  
Collection will begin, Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>.

# UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

5088 SUMMIT BLVD, WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33415

Ministers of the Church  
Pastor  
Sunday School Teacher  
Guest Musician  
Vocalists

All of Us  
Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey  
Rev. Michael-Ann Veziroglu  
Shirley Norwood  
Tom Richards  
Michelle Benght  
Vanie Joseph

Sexton  
Email Address: Pastor Sheila [sheila@unionucc.net](mailto:sheila@unionucc.net)  
Office - Zaida Pacheco [zaida@unionucc.net](mailto:zaida@unionucc.net) / [office@unionucc.net](mailto:office@unionucc.net)  
Union Congregational Church, UCC: [unionucc.net](http://unionucc.net)  
Florida Conference, UCC [www.uccfla.org](http://www.uccfla.org)  
National UCC: [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

**Office Phone: 561-686-0330** - please leave a message.

Go to [www.unionucc.net](http://www.unionucc.net) to see more of our news.

**Office Hours are: Tuesday thru Friday from 9:00AM – 1:00 PM.**

## THIS WEEK AT UNION UCC

### Sunday, July 20, 2025

10:00 AM Worship – Facebook Live Streaming

11:15 AM Fellowship - All are welcome!

11:30 AM Music Ensemble Rehearsals (30 Minutes)

### Tuesday - Friday – The Sanctuary is Available for Prayer!

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Open during office hours!

Accepting donations for the Yard Sale!

### Saturday, July 26, 2025

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM Union's Yard Sale!

### Sunday, July 27, 2025

10:00 AM Worship – Facebook Live Streaming

11:15 AM Fellowship - All are welcome!

11:30 AM Music Ensemble Rehearsals (30 Minutes)



## SUMMER Praise ENSEMBLE

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](mailto:zaida@unionucc.net).



## Summer Hymn Sing

### ALL ARE INVITED

Sunday, August 10, 2025  
Join us for Union's Summer Hymn Sing.  
Share your favorite Hymns or Songs by  
placing them on the soundboard.  
If you have any questions, please contact  
the Church office via  
email: [zaida@unionucc.net](mailto:zaida@unionucc.net).





## Word and Work

There was a faded handstitched sampler hanging in the church kitchen that read, “God bless the Marthas among us.”

It was made by a blue-haired saint of the congregation who organized every Sunday coffee hour as well as all the church potlucks and community dinners. The kitchen was her holy ground, so heaven help the person who stepped upon it unaware of how things were done.

The story behind the sampler was that one day the blue-haired kitchen saint felt underappreciated by a growing movement in the church to cut back on all the feasting to pray and fast more.

Legend has it that she rolled her eyes, threw down her dish towel and huffed out of the kitchen muttering, “Let the Marys make the darn coffee.”

She, of course, was referring to the story of Mary and Martha, sisters who Jesus often visited in their hometown of Bethany. It was one such visit that Mary puts aside all her chores to sit at the feet of Jesus to listen and learn from him, leaving Martha with the sole responsibility of preparing a meal for their guest.

Martha’s anger begins to boil as rapidly as a pot of water over the fire. She demands that Jesus tell Mary to help her. Jesus chides Martha saying that her sister has chosen the better task.

If Martha had some embroidery thread on hand, I bet she would have furiously stitched the same message that hung in the church kitchen.

This story today is often used to call out our own misplaced busyness, calling us back to the importance of being still to listen to Jesus. We often pit the two sisters against one another, elevating Mary’s choice as the better one. But is all busyness misplaced? Is one sister’s choice better than the other’s?

While chances are we do need to embrace the slow living trend more, life is not about dismissing Martha and celebrating Mary. Life is about finding the balance between work and rest.

What we fail to recognize is that followers of Christ are not called to either sit or serve but to both sit and serve, and that takes awareness of how we prioritize our time with God and schedule are activities so that both our bodies and spirits are being fed.

Yes, God bless the Marthas in the world that get things done. But God bless the Marys, too, who know when their spiritual wells need to be filled by retreating into quiet time of prayer and studying God’s word. God bless us all as we seek balance in serving and learning, seeking and sharing. Now that’s a message worthy of stitching.

*God of word and work, help us to find balance in our walk with You so that we are not only serving Your children but also listening to Your beautiful words of life. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.*

(Rev. Donna Frischknecht Jackson is a communications specialist for the United Church of Christ and author of today’s Sunday Bulletin.)