

UNION TIDINGS

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

Volume 132, Issue 8

September 2025

A Hope for Peace and Justice for All!

On September 14th, we will celebrate Just Peace Sunday with our wider church and explore the theme, “The Earth Shall Mourn.” Also, on Sunday, September 21, we will honor the International Day of Peace, a time to hope and pray that one day, there be peace and justice for all.

On Just Peace Sunday and the International Day of Peace, 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. Psalm 85 speaks directly about the intersection of justice and peace, stating in verses 11-12,

*Kindness and truth shall meet.
Justice and peace shall kiss,
Truth shall spring out of the earth,
And justice shall look down from heaven.*

This passage expresses a hope for a time when these virtues, long separated, will be reunited, leading to a flourishing society rooted in both truth and equity.

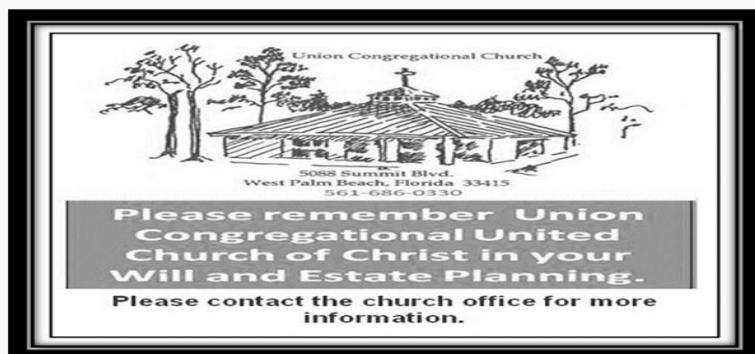
May our quest to seek the “things that make for peace” begin in each of our hearts. Let it be so. Amen.

*In Christ’s Peace,
Pastor Sheila*





Tom Richards's sister, Cindy Richards-Wallace & his friend, Jackie Sloan; Jan Mark; Ada Harvey's grandson, Grant; David Ramirez; Irv Koehler; Tom Richards; Linda Padmore's family & friends; Rod Jennings's family & friends; Marion Gaetano's family & friends; Jane Grandusky's husband, Mark; Bonnie Avery's family and friends; Teresa Byrd; Lin 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; 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; Palestinians; Hurricane victims; Wild fires; Immigrant families; Attack on DEI; Medicaid & Food Assistance Programs



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September Birthdays

3	Michelle Combs
4	Jane Louise Smith
6	Rebekah Gay
8	Ajani Blake
14	Robert Harold
16	Tom Richards
16	Steve Ventimiglia
21	Cunny Burgos
25	John Webster
25	Shirley Brozeman
26	Amy Dickinson
28	Simone Shah

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



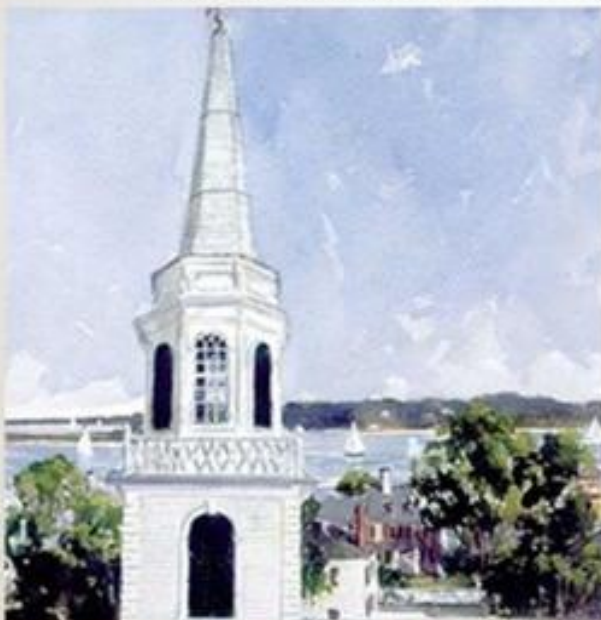
Every Sunday, beautiful flowers adorn our altar. We have a flower chart for sign-ups. Also, you can call the office or send an email to office@unionucc.net. Garden flowers are \$10 and floral arrangements are \$40. As an added bonus you can list the flowers in the bulletin in memory or in honor of someone or a special occasion. You are also welcome to take the \$40 arrangement home.

UNION GOES TO THE:

**NORTON
MUSEUM
OF ART**



**Pastor Sheila was invited to preach
at Martha's Vineyard UCC Church!!**



Missions & Outreach News

Newsletter Sept.2025

2 Corinthians 9:2

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion' for God loves a cheerful giver.

In keeping with our 5 for 5 UCC Giving we will be celebrating the Neighbors in Need collection on Oct 05, 2025. You will find envelopes in the back of the chairs in the sanctuary. It is important to understand what this collection is all about, let me start by reminding ourselves why we give to others. As is written on the UCC website, "Giving represents a personal commitment to contribute a portion of one's income or resources to support the work of the church. When we give beyond our tithing we help to sustain and grow ministries outside the walls of our church. It gives us an opportunity to express gratitude and positively impact the world around us."

Neighbors in Need (NIN) annual campaign supports ministries of Justice and Compassion throughout the United States. One-third of the collection goes to the Council of American Indian Ministry and two-third goes to Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants for justice initiatives, advocacy and direct service projects. In 2025, the NIN Offering will support 26 grant recipients across the UCC who are engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. Any amount that you can give will be a blessing.

Scholarships: This year we awarded two scholarships to Joseph Saintiris and Derya Veziroglu. Congratulations to both of our recipients who have begun their first year of college.

Food Bank: After a slow period during the very hot month of August, this amazing team is back to giving out 80+ bags of food. It is important to note that this team would welcome any help or support. Your food or money donation goes directly to help feed the hungry.

The Prayer Room: Work on the prayer room was on hold during the summer months, but we look forward to its completion by the end of October. If anyone has Devotional or Prayer books that they would like to donate, it would be very appreciated.

Free Little Library: As the weather turns cooler, we will once again be handing out books during the Food Bank distribution.

Marion Gaetano
Missions & Outreach
Chairperson



POSITION AVAILABLE **Music Director**

INSPIRE, LEAD, & GROW our Music Ministry!

Do you have a passion for Worship through music? Union Congregational United Church of Christ is searching for a dedicated and enthusiastic Music Director for our growing, intergenerational & diverse congregation. We are excited to find a director who can honor our traditions while bringing fresh, creative ideas to our music ministry.

Email your resume and a letter of interest to:

zaida@unionucc.net.



SAVE THE DATE
YOU ARE INVITED



**Church Anniversary
Celebration on
November 23, 2025**

Ministry Investment Opportunities!

***Anniversary Luncheon Sponsor**

***Silent Auction Participation**

***More Investment Opportunities
to be Announced**

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

2025 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN THEME:
DREAMING GOD'S DREAM:
NO GIFT TOO SMALL, NO DREAM TOO BIG

BELOW IS THIS YEAR'S STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN CALENDAR.

OCTOBER 5 - OFFERTORY MOMENT

Marion Gaetano
Mission & Outreach

OCTOBER 12 - OFFERTORY MOMENT

George Gerson
Deacons

OCTOBER 19 - OFFERTORY MOMENT

Tom Richards
WAMM

OCTOBER 26 - OFFERTORY MOMENT

Rebekah Gay
Justice & Peace

NOVEMBER 2 - OFFERTORY MOMENT

Cunny Burgos
Christian Education

NOVEMBER 9 - OFFERTORY MOMENT

Dorothy Bates
Fellowship Team

NOVEMBER 16 - OFFERTORY MOMENT

Jane Grandusky
Trustees

CELEBRATION SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23
THANKFUL GIVING MOMENT &
RECOGNITION OF UNION'S MINISTRY TEAMS

Sharon Hughes
Stewardship



***Team Chairs or one of their Team Members will lead us in the Stewardship Offertory Moment.**

PEACE VILLAGE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

October 7th



Sign-up for the Board of County Commissioners Meeting on October 7, 2025, when they will vote on whether to award funding towards the Peace Village Affordable Senior Housing Project.

Hustle to End HUNGER 5K



PRESENTED BY



GENETICS INSTITUTE OF AMERICA



LAKE WORTH
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

OCTOBER 4, 2025

7:30AM

JOHN PRINCE PARK
LAKE WORTH BEACH



100% of
proceeds benefit
CROS Ministries



SIGN UP



FINISHER MEDALS
RACE TECH SHIRTS
ACCUCHIP TIMING
AGE GROUP AWARDS

NEW 2025: Lil' Hustle Dash
MUSIC & FOOD
Virtual Option Available



JUSTICE & PEACE NEWS

All are invited to attend a PEACE "House Meeting" on September 14, 2025 - Following Hour.

PEACE
PEOPLE ENGAGED IN
ACTIVE COMMUNITY EFFORTS

YOUTH & KIDS CORNER

BACK TO SCHOOL "SUNDAE" AT UNION!



TODAY

**September 7, 2025 @ Union
Youth "PEACE" Talks and Pizza Party!**



**PEACE organizer, Megan, will engage
with the Youth at Union on what it
means to be a part of PEACE.**

UNION'S SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

Joseph Saintiris Began Palm Beach State
College!


*"Thank you all for the great gift...I'm lucky to be
part of this church."*



Derya Veziroglu Began Temple University!

*"Your generosity is greatly appreciated, and I'm
so grateful for the way you continually support
and empower the youth of this church."*

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	3 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	4 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	5 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	6 Food Pantry 9am-11:30 am 
7 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Communion Sunday "PEACE Talks" W/ Union's Youth	8	9 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	10 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	11 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	12 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	13
14 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming Just Peace Sunday PEACE House MTG	15	16 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	17 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	18 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	19 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	20
21 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming	22	23 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	24 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	25 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	26 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer	27
28 Worship 10 AM FB Live Streaming	29	30 9am-1pm Office Hours Sanctuary open for prayer				

**JUST
PEACE**
SUNDAY 9.14.2025



**Also Celebrating
International Day
of Peace!**

The Earth Mourns

"For this shall the earth mourn, and the heavens above be black; because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will not repent, neither will I turn back from it."

Jeremiah 4:28

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sweet September News Especially for you:

