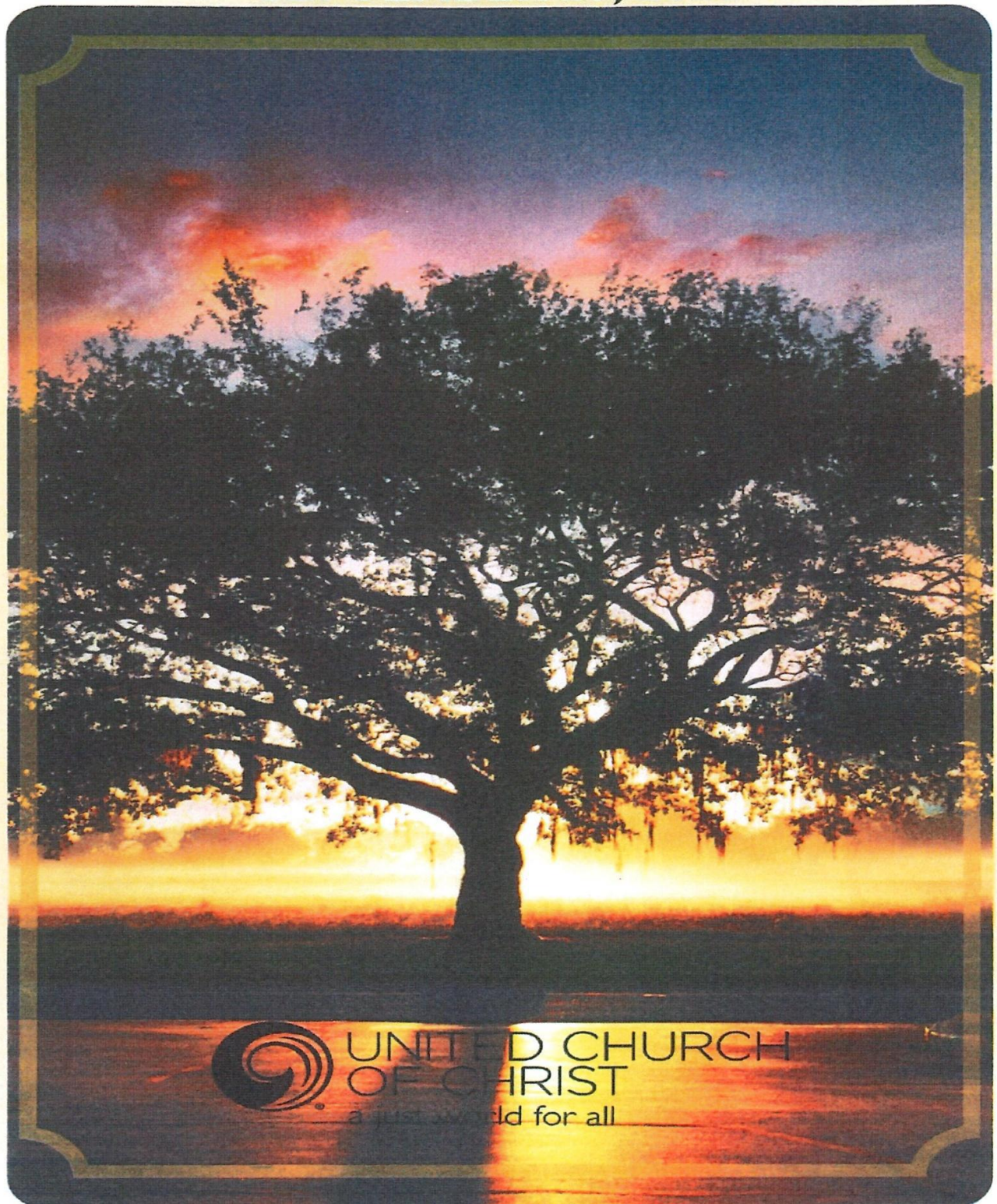


SEPTEMBER 27, 2026



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
a just world for all

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GODS, SUSTAINING PRESENCE



**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
CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

September 27, 2026

**Please stand as you are able.*

This service is livestreaming. Thank you. ❤️

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

"Come, Now Is the Time to Worship"

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Words of Welcome & Announcements

INTROIT

"De Colores"

De colores, de colores se visten los campos en la primavera. De colores, de colores son los pajaritos que vienen de afuera De colores, de colores el arcoíris que vemos salir, y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mi, y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mi.

Sing of colors, sing of colors that over the hills in profusion are springing; Sing of colors, of the birds that fly outside my window their canticles singing; Sing of colors, in the rainbow's bright colors God's promise of hope we recall; Sing of colors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who created us all. Sing of colors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who created us all.

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: Our eyes are heavy. Our hope is soaring. We wait in the marketplace.

All: Nuestro Dios es clemente. / Our God is gracious.

One: Our feet are tired. Our expectations rise. We are hired first.

All: Nuestro Dios es compasivo. / Our God is merciful.

One: Our backs are sore. Our spirits are low. We are paid last.

All: Nuestro Dios es lento para la ira. / Our God is slow to anger.

One: Our tempers flare. Our anger rages. We take what belongs to us.

All: Nuestro Dios abunda en amor firme. / Our God abounds in steadfast love.

***INVOCATION**

Christ is with us!

Christ is in our midst!

Flow with us, God, through the loud rushing rapids and among the deep silent pools. Acknowledge our many sources and outlets for sharing our gifts as we come together to find all that bubbles up in your wisdom. Move us into the current of your creative energy as we immerse ourselves in worship and praise with River as our guide. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

PASTORAL PRAYER

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Hispanic Heritage Month Blessing



Good and gracious Creator, we thank You for the vibrant gift of Hispanic and Latiné cultures, traditions, and languages.

We see Your grace in the beauty of their art, the joy of their music, the strength of their families, and their deep commitment to la comunidad.

Bless all those of Hispanic heritage with peace, prosperity, and protection.

Strengthen our communities with a spirit of unity, empathy, and mutual respect, making us one strong family.

Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

“God is So Good”

OFFERTORY

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!”

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le lu-ja. Hal-le, ha-le, hal-le-lu-ja.

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-ja. Hal-le-lu-ja, hal-le-lu-ja. (Repeat)

***DOXOLOGY** (*Deacons Stephen and 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

Exodus 17:1-7

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?" But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?" Then Moses cried out to the LORD, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the LORD saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;

incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable;

I will utter dark sayings from of old,

things that we have heard and known,

that our ancestors have told us.

We will not hide them from their children;

we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of God,

we will tell of God's might,

and the wonders that God has done

In the sight of their ancestors God worked marvels in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

God divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap.

In the daytime God led them with a cloud,
and all night long with a fiery light.
God split rocks open in the wilderness,
and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.
God made streams come out of the rock,
and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

Philippians 2:1-13

If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care— then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion.

Because of that obedience, God lifted him high and honored him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth—even those long ago dead and buried—will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that he is the Master of all, to the glorious honor of God the Father.

What I'm getting at, friends, is that you should simply keep on doing what you've done from the beginning. When I was living among you, you lived in responsive obedience. Now that I'm separated from you, keep it up. Better yet, redouble your efforts. Be energetic in your life of salvation, reverent and sensitive before God. That energy is God's energy, an energy deep within you, God himself willing and working at what will give him the most pleasure.

Thanks be to God!

SONG OF PREPARATION

"What a Friend"

Arr. Mary McDonald

Soloists: Tom Richards & Pastor Sheila

SERMON

"Gods, Sustaining Presence"

Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey

***CLOSING HYMN**

"God Be with You"

***COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"De Colores"

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

Linda Padmore, Kirk Dorhout, Sabita Shah

Deacons Assisting

Judith Mooers

Union's Joys & Prayer Concerns

Joys: All Birthdays in September! Our Church Family! Live Streaming!
Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month!

Concerns:

Dorothy Bates; Linda Padmore; Jenny, Paula & Kirk's daughter; Sharon Smith; Sam Clark; Zaida's family & friends; Susan Young's family and friends, Jan Mark; Debbie Englert; Linda Padmore; Stephen Spencer: Joan Gerson; Paula & Kirk's daughter-in-law, Melissa; Adderley's mom, Maxine; Lin's mom; Sharon and Donna's family and friends; Phyllis Adderley; Martha Yanick family & friends; Stephen Spencer family and friends; Timothy Blood; Tom Richards's sister, Cindy Richards-Wallace & his friend, Jackie Sloan; 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; Linda Padmore's niece, Yvette & sister, Christine; Donna's brother, Clevert; George Gerson's Brother, Michael; Borjana's son, Petar; George Gerson's friends, Diane & Timothy Scott; George Gerson's nephew, Glenn; Rose's daughter, Tyshawna for healing & recovery; 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; Mass deportations of Immigrants; War In Iran; Cost of Living Increases



Flowers In The Altar Today Presented By:



Sabita Shah in honor of her daughter, Simone Shah's's birthday.



Ralph Tarricone in memory of his loving wife, Nancy Tarricone.



Sunday School Highlight

Students will look for God's way in the parable of the two sons.
Today's Sunday School teacher is Rebekah Gay.



Called as Partners in Christ's Service

495

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

John 15:12-17; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 2:14-22



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
4 So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life



We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
That sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



Equal part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
Blend-ing hu-man skills to-geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.



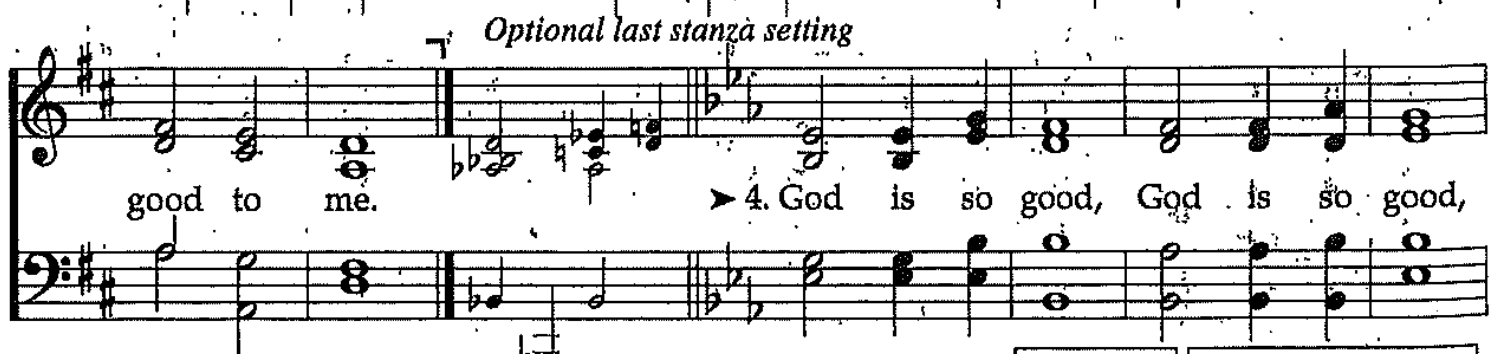
193 God Is So Good

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. 1 Chronicles 16:34
 Stanza 1: Children – Stanza 3: Children and youth – Stanza 4: Everyone

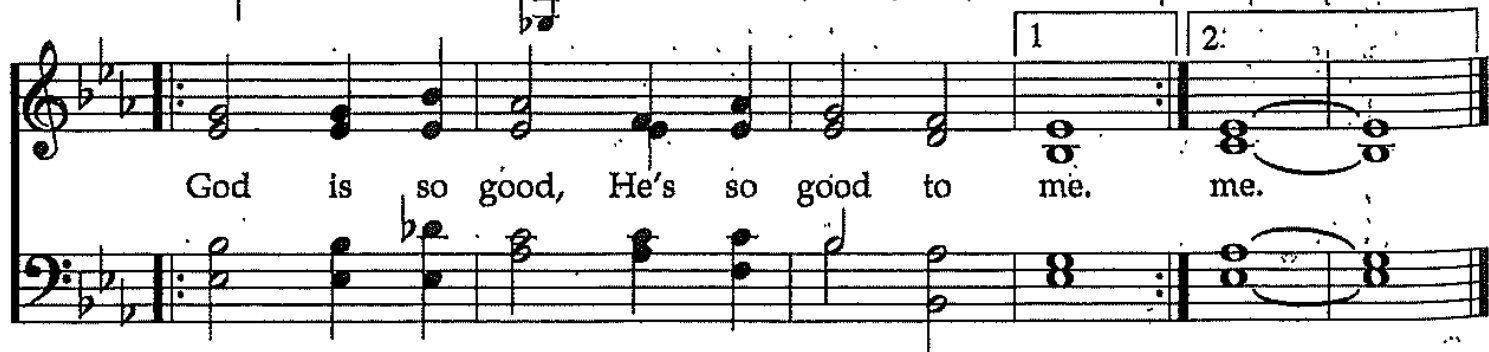


> 1. God is so good, God is so good, God is so good, He's so
 2. He cares for me, He cares for me, He cares for me, He's so
 > 3. He loves me so, He loves me so, He loves me so, He's so
 > 4. God is so good, God is so good, God is so good, He's so

Optional last stanza setting



good to me. > 4. God is so good, God is so good,



God is so good, He's so good to me. me.

TEXT: Traditional
 MUSIC: Traditional

GOD IS SO GOOD
 Irregular meter

The end of PRAISE, LOVE AND THANKS - A Worship Sequence

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLE ANNOUNCEMENTS REMINDER



Please submit any articles for the October Newsletter by **Tuesday, October 6st**. Send via email to Zaida at zaida@unionucc.net. Thank you!



KINDNESS IS LOVE IN ACTION CONTINUES!



Union joins with the wider church and the United States of Kindness project in hopes to have a big impact on the way citizens treat each other by offering 250 Acts of Kindness, and we are enjoying putting our kindness into Action! We have a sheet on the soundboard (or email zaida@Unionucc.net) for us to share how our Kindness is Love in Action! Join in on the good-fun of being Kind!!!

<https://www.ucc.org/ucc-and-values-in-action-partnership-working-to-promote-kindness-across-the-country/>



God Be with You

81

Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880; alt.

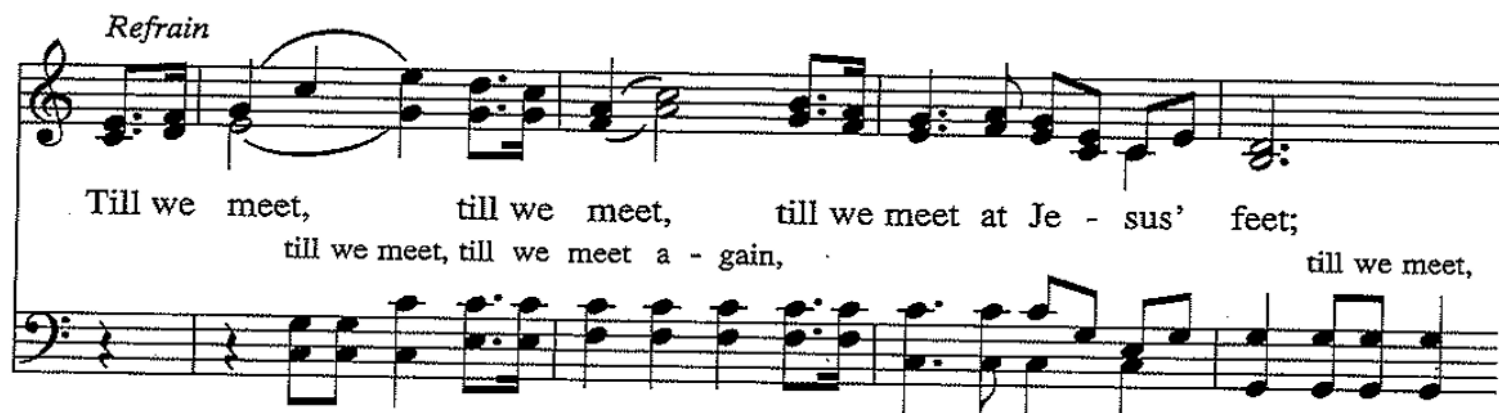


1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; By good coun-sel guide, up - hold you,
2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; Wings of shel-ter safe - ly hide you,
3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; When life's per - ils thick con-found you,
4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; Keep love's ban-ner float - ing o'er you,



With a shep-herd's care en - fold you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
Dai - ly man - na still pro-vide you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
Put un - fail - ing arms a - round you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
Smite death's threat-ening wave be - fore you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Refrain



Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet a - gain, till we meet,



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
till we meet, till we meet a - gain,

ELECTION EXPO 2026



NONPARTISAN • NETWORKING • ICE CREAM • COFFEE • FAMILY FUN

FREE

ALL WELCOME

SEPTEMBER 28 | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE GYMNASIUM

4200 S. CONGRESS AVE., LAKE WORTH



- ✓ Free Voters' Guide
- ✓ Voting Machine Demo
- ✓ Election Dates & Deadlines
- ✓ Amendments & Referendum

MEET
CANDIDATES
ONE-ON-ONE

Scan the QR Code to Register



<https://tinyurl.com/ElectionExpo2026>



SEARCY | DENNEY | SCAROLA | BARNHART | SHIPLEY



SIERRA CLUB



FLORIDA INJURY LAWYERS
FIGHTING FOR EQUAL JUSTICE FOR THE INJURED

STEWARDSHIP NOTE

Next month, we will begin our Annual Stewardship Campaign. It will begin October 4th and we will Celebrate on November 22nd.



UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
5088 SUMMIT BLVD, WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33415

Ministers of the Church

Pastor

Guest Pianist

Vocalists

All of Us

Rev. Dr. Sheila Harvey

Patricia Holland

Michelle Benght

Tom Richards

Vanessa Nuñez

Sexton (Temporary)

Email Address:

Pastor Sheila

sheila@unionucc.net

Office - Zaida Pacheco

zaida@unionucc.net / office@unionucc.net

Union Congregational Church, UCC:

unionucc.net

Florida Conference, UCC

www.uccfla.org

National UCC:

www.ucc.org

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

Go to **www.unionucc.net** to see more of our news.

THIS WEEK AT UNION UCC

Sunday, September 27, 2026

10:00 AM - Worship / Sunday School – (Live Streaming Worship)

11:15 AM – Fellowship - All are welcome!

11:45 AM – Bagging for Food Distribution

12:00 PM – Council Meeting

Tuesday - Friday – The Prayer Room is Open!

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

Saturday, October 3, 2026

9:00 AM – 11:30 AM - Food Pantry Distribution



Sunday, October 4, 2026 Neighbors In Need

10:00 AM - Worship / Sunday School – (Live Streaming Worship)

11:15 AM – Fellowship - All are welcome!

11:45 AM – PEACE “Listening Session”

12:15 PM – Handbell Rehearsal



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026



WALK IN LOVE

I would like to beg you dear Sir, as well as I can, to have patience with everything unresolved in your heart and to try to love the questions themselves as if they were locked rooms or books written in a very foreign language. Don't search for the answers, which could not be given to you now, because you would not be able to live them. And the point is to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps then, someday far in the future, you will gradually, without even noticing it, live your way into the answer. Rainer Maria Rilke, 1903, in, "Letters to a Young Poet". Today's Bible story, as God's people wander in the wilderness and begin to be disgruntled and fractious, is packed full of questions. Moses first asks, "Why do you quarrel with me?" and immediately after, "Why do you test the Lord?" The people chorus back with a question of their own, asking, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt to kill us and our livestock and our children with thirst?" Finally, Moses, fearful he will be killed, pleads to God, "What shall I do with the people?" In the end, the area where they are wandering brings up so many questions that they decide to name the place after the question they all keep asking, "Is the Lord among us or not?" A century and a couple of decades ago, the poet Rilke urged his young correspondent to "live the questions." Moses and his people certainly lived the questions in this story. But are they the kind of questions that deepen relationships or cause more alienation? Are we willing to ask questions of God, of our leaders, and of each other that draw us into better conversations? And what would it mean to consider the questions on our minds, rather than just ask them? What would it mean to sit with the questions over time? How might the questions deepen and enrich our faith? What questions strengthen and empower our faith communities? Which questions encourage and support community leaders? Which questions are worth living? Can we begin asking those questions, here and now?