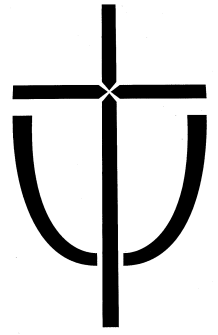


# Still Speaking



Indeed, the word of God is living and active...  
-Hebrews 4:12

September 2023

## The Inside Scoop

### Newsletter Deadline

Our next newsletter  
will be published the week of  
**October 18, 2023.**

The deadline for that newsletter is  
Friday, **October 13, 2023.**

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## Living and Loving

If you've spent much time with us at Union in the past decade, you've heard me talk about living our baptismal promises.

Most often, when people think of living the congregation's promise to love, support, and care for an individual, they think of being active in our child and youth ministries—teaching Faith Formation, leading Youth Group, offering Children's Moments and even cooking for our Wednesday night dinners.

Over the years, I've encouraged the congregation to think of that promise even more broadly—it plays out in how we care for one another when we're sick, when we're grieving—and I've challenged us to understand that how we treat the poor and vulnerable and how we respond to systemic injustice is wrapped up in our baptismal promises, too.

One area that I haven't delved into when encouraging us to live our baptismal promises is our family life, but these promises are exactly what come to mind as I read Dr. Rolf Lulloff's new book, *Living and Loving with Parkinson's Disease: Our Partnership Through a 45-Year Journey*. A longtime Union member, Dr. Lulloff weaves spirituality throughout as he tells of learning of his wife Annie's early onset Parkinson's Disease and how the couple navigated those waters.

Of the couple, Dr. Ann McKee, MD, director of the Boston University CTE Center and UNITE Brain Bank says, "The sense of despair that often accompanies the loss of control from Parkinson's can be overwhelming. Rolf

*"Rolf and Annie Lulloff are great examples of how focusing on love and resilience makes it possible to enjoy a fulfilling quality of life."*  
-Ann McKee, MD, director of the Boston University CTE Center and UNITE Brain Bank

## Living and Loving with Parkinson's Disease

Our Partnership Through a 45-Year Journey



**Rolf Lulloff, MD**

(continued on page 2)

## Lectionary Readings

### September 24

#### 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-15 and  
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 or  
Jonah 3:10-4:11 and Psalm 145:1-8  
Philippians 1:21-30  
Matthew 20:1-16

### October 1

#### 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1-7 and  
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 or  
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32  
and Psalm 25:1-9  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Matthew 21:23-32

### October 8

#### 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and  
Psalm 19 or  
Isaiah 5:1-7 and Psalm 80:7-15  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
Matthew 21:33-46

### October 15

#### 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 32:1-14 and  
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 or  
Isaiah 25:1-9 and Psalm 23  
Philippians 4:1-9  
Matthew 22:1-14

### October 22

#### 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 33:12-23 and Psalm 99 or  
Isaiah 45:1-7  
and Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

### October 29

#### 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 and  
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 or  
Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 and Psalm 1  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46

(continued from page 1)

and Annie Lulloff are great examples of how focusing on love and resilience makes it possible to enjoy a fulfilling quality of life."

Not only does focusing on love and resilience result in a fulfilling quality of life, I would suggest that the practice of those two virtues is yet another manifestation of our baptismal promises. Anyone who spent time with the Lullofs in the 31 years after Annie was diagnosed quickly saw that love was the singular motivator in their existence. They practiced what Jesus preached.

The description of *Living and Loving with Parkinson's Disease* on Amazon describes the book as "part love story and part how-to guide for all participants in a care partnership. Care persons, their spouses, and extended family and friends will benefit from the tips and care suggestions."

Dr. Lulloff will be with us in Coffee Hour on September 24 to sign books and share insights, and will be back to discuss the book in our Adult Faith Formation hour on Sunday, January 7.

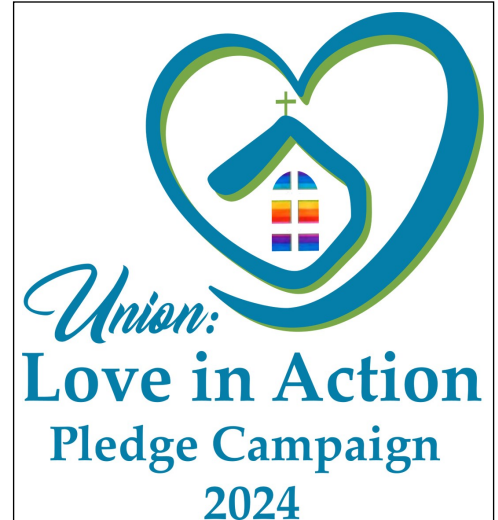
Pastor Bridget Flad Daniels

## Our Church Family

Our church family has been living our baptismal promises of love, support, and care profoundly this month, as we walk with one another in our grief.

## Our Attendance

August	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
1st Sunday	95	56
2nd Sunday	69	70
3rd Sunday	96	52
4th Sunday	70	63
<b>Totals</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>241</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>82.5</b>	<b>60.3</b>





## Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation October 2023

Gather in Bagby Chapel at 9 a.m. (first and third Sundays of the month) for these informative and inspiring conversations:

**October 1 — Habitat for Humanity** — Representatives from Habitat for Humanity, which was brought to Brown County by members of Union, will join us to share their recent efforts.

**October 15 — St. John's Shelter** — If homelessness isn't visible, people may think it doesn't exist. This past shelter season, St. John's Ministries served 605 individuals with 18,308 nights of shelter. They are preparing for another busy season, which begins November 1. Jesse Brunette of St. John's Ministries will provide an update on their critically important mission of serving the homeless and housing insecure in Green Bay.

## Priscilla Circle to Meet September 26

Priscilla Circle returns at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, September 26, in the English Room. Mary Hemminger will talk about the Blessing Box. If you have questions, please contact Helen Krueger at [chkrueger@new.rr.com](mailto:chkrueger@new.rr.com).

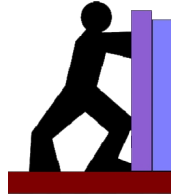
## Neighbors in Need

The United Church of Christ offers grants to organizations nationwide engaged in justice work. Our church will support this effort with a special offering on Sunday, October 1. Any gift, no matter the amount, shows we share a hope for a world free of poverty and prejudice.

## Tuckpointing



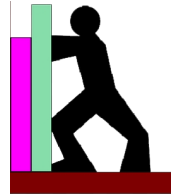
R. J. Jacques has been tuckpointing at Union this month. Here is a before and after photo of the courtyard steps.



## Your Church Library

### Speak with the Earth

by Cathy Putman



In December 2022 at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference, 188 nations signed a Global Biodiversity pledge which addressed biodiversity loss, ecosystems and indigenous rights. Concrete measures included putting 30 percent of the planet and 30 percent of degraded ecosystems under protection by 2030.

Sojourners Magazine reported in a follow up to that agreement, Irish bishops have issued a "strong recommendation" to its parishes to set aside 30 percent of their church yards for pollinators and habitat to increase biodiversity.

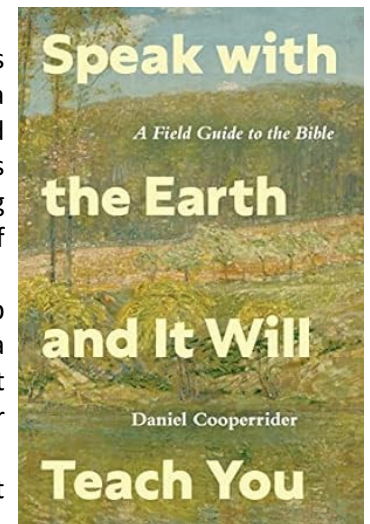
Could Union Church adopt a 30 percent pledge to action? I believe we could.

Of the 83,100 square feet the church owns for its use, 27.7 percent is green space. It's a patchwork to be sure: the courtyard garden, the Memorial Garden, a large stretch at the Jefferson end of the parking lot, the former Biblical Garden and two strips along the parking lot arm that extends to Cass Street.

At this point about half our green space is slotted for habitat renewal. Habitat renewal means planting native trees, shrubs and plants and removing invasives. It means slowly transitioning from non-natives that have no food or hosting use for the rapidly dwindling insect population and the group of birds who depend on insects, as we do ourselves. It means removing two large invasive species trees in the courtyard and two long invasive species hedges along the parking lot arm. It means selecting native species when the yews which are impacting the stone joints at the churches foundation are removed.

Plants and landscapes have emotional value. I am aware of trees given in memory of loved ones and of transplants from the Women's Fellowship courtyard. Claudia Doelger cares for the courtyard rose garden as if it were her own. Achim and Kathy Seifert maintain and improve the courtyard garden with an eye to beauty and color. Memorial Garden caretaker Robert Johnson remembers Katie Small and her garden loves when tending the space. Moving toward habitat should not steamroll these affections, just influence next steps.

Next steps are important. By taking them, we open ourselves to a new way of thinking and a new way of reading scripture. Many of us already find a sense of the holy in nature – fishing, hiking, being. Christians are not alone in this as Karen Armstrong explains in "Sacred Nature." Yet the non-human natural world needs to be rediscovered as pastor Daniel Cooperrider does in "Speak with the Earth and It Will Teach You: A Field Guide to the Bible." Cooperrider is the keynote speaker for the Wisconsin Conference Creation Care meeting at the UCC Daycholah Conference Center in October. Stay tuned, more to come!



## Union: Love in Action

As we celebrate our church at its best in our Union: Love in Action pledge campaign this fall, we've lined up great opportunities to put God's love into action. Join us every Sunday in October after worship.

### Sunday, October 1 — Opening Hearts and Minds

Conversational Advocacy Training facilitated by representatives from Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin.

### Sunday, October 8 — Heifer International Living Gift Market

Gather in the courtyard to learn about and donate toward Heifer's work to eliminate poverty.

### Sunday, October 15 — Ties to Mexico

Union's Immigration Advocacy Team will share about current immigration issues as we tie blankets for refugees during Coffee Hour.

### Sunday, October 22 — Love Is Louder

Dr. Sherry Warren, former Union member and current Minister for Women and Gender Justice with UCC National Ministries, will lead us in a service project and conversation about gender related justice.

### Sunday, October 29 — Love in Action Through Music

Union Music Director Haley Steele will teach some simple pieces to foster love of God, neighbor, and self.



A total of 67 people, including a record 21 children, attended Union's All-Church Retreat at Moon Beach held September 8-10.

(L-R): Virginia Riggs, Gail Carels, Jeff Carels and Betty Bienash.

(photo courtesy of Jeff Larson)

## A Special Ties to Mexico Meets October 15

- **May 2:** Outreach Ministry approved the service project of making blankets for asylum-seeking migrants arriving in Mexico.
- **June/July/August:** Union Church members met on the second Wednesday of each month to tie fleece and flannel blankets.
- **August 13:** Ninety-four (94) blankets were blessed during worship.
- **August 15:** The bags were transferred, in Shawano, to a member of Black Mountain UCC Church in Scottsdale, Arizona. Eight days later, they arrived at Black Mountain and on **August 28**, the blankets were given to the Centro de Esperanza Refugee Resource Center in Sonoyta, Mexico! Such a project; such a journey!

**Save the Date:** If you want to experience blanket tying for yourself, join us after church during Coffee Hour on **October 15** as a part of "Love in Action." Thanks to all who have supported this project in so many ways!

**Note:** Ties to Mexico will also hold its regular monthly meeting on **October 11 at 10 a.m.**



Clockwise from center front:

Lou Norsetter, Tina Bechtel, Lucy Klug, Barbara McClure-Lukens, Mary Hemminger, Shirley De Lorme, Tony Baldwin, Jean Smithback and Kathy Baldwin

# Heifer Living Gift Market is Sunday, October 8

Heifer International is an organization that works with communities to end world hunger and poverty. Through our Heifer Living Gift Market we hope to inspire our church family to get involved in ending hunger and poverty, bringing the commandment to love our neighbors to life. Families who receive our gifts not only benefit from the animals, they also pass on the gift to other families in their community. This allows them to help others as we have helped them.

Our goal is to fill an ark by raising \$5,000 or more. This can be done with your gift of a goat, heifer, water buffalo, alpaca, llama, sheep, pig, fish fingerlings, rabbits, honeybees, ducks, chickens, and more.

Come out to the courtyard after church on October 8. We will have exhibits and treats (including treats for some special visitors) and enjoy the Living Gift Market.

Not sure which animal to choose? Hear what they have to say about it!



**HEIFER**

**FULL » \$500    SHARE » \$50**  
"These people named their organization after me, so I must be a pretty big deal."



**WATER BUFFALO**

**FULL » \$250    SHARE » \$25**  
"Dare I say I'm the strongest gift option available?"



**ALPACA**

**FULL » \$150    SHARE » \$20**  
"Who could say no to this adorable face?"



**GOAT**

**FULL » \$120    SHARE » \$10**  
"I'm perfect for the cool people in your life who know what G.O.A.T. means."



**SHEEP**

**FULL » \$120    SHARE » \$10**  
"Sweaters shrink. Sheep don't. Plus — I'm perfect for all the knitters in your life."



**PIG**

**FULL » \$120    SHARE » \$10**  
"Pretty in pink and perfect in your gift bag."



**FISH**

**FULL » \$300    SHARE » \$30**  
"Nothing fishy about it, I get along swimmingly with all the families I meet!"



**CHICKENS**

**FULL » \$20**  
"Who cares if the chicken or the egg came first — as long as I'm your first pick."



**HONEYBEES**

**FULL » \$30**  
"I'm a sweet gift for your honey! (Pro tip — throw in some locally sourced honey!)"

# Union Church Calendar

## September 24, 2023—October 26, 2023

### September 24 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
 10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary followed by Coffee Hour in the church hall  
 11:15 a.m. Dr. Rolf Lulloff will sign copies of his book during Coffee Hour

### September 26 Tuesday

12:00 p.m. Bible Study  
 1:00 p.m. Priscilla Circle  
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

### September 27 Wednesday

6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets

### October 1 Sunday

#### World Communion Sunday Neighbors in Need

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
 9:00 a.m. Adult Education: Habitat for Humanity  
 10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion in the sanctuary or stream it online followed by Coffee Hour in the church hall  
 11:15 a.m. Opening Hearts & Minds

### October 3 Tuesday

12:00 p.m. Bible Study  
 3:30 p.m. Education Ministry  
 4:30 p.m. Outreach Ministry  
 5:30 p.m. Worship Ministry  
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

### October 4 Wednesday

7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group at Denny's on Oneida

5:45 p.m. Dinner  
 6:15 p.m. Youth Group  
 6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets

### October 8 Sunday

#### Heifer Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
 10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary or stream it online  
 11:00 a.m. Heifer Living Gift Market

### October 10 Tuesday

12:00 p.m. Bible Study  
 5:00 p.m. Stewardship Ministry  
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

### October 11 Wednesday

10:00 a.m. Ties to Mexico  
 6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets

### October 12 Thursday

5:00 p.m. Membership and Inreach Ministry  
 6:00 p.m. Common Ministry

### October 15 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
 9:00 a.m. Adult Education: St. John's Shelter  
 10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary or stream it online followed by Coffee Hour in the church hall  
 11:15 a.m. Ties to Mexico

### October 16 Monday

11:30 a.m. Ladies Lunch Bunch at the Village Grille

### October 17 Tuesday

12:00 p.m. Bible Study  
 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir  
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

### October 18 Wednesday

5:30 p.m. New Member Class  
 5:45 p.m. Dinner  
 6:15 p.m. Youth Group  
 6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets

### October 22 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
 10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary or stream it online followed by Coffee Hour in the church hall  
 11:15 a.m. Dr. Sherry Warren on women's gender and justice

### October 24 Tuesday

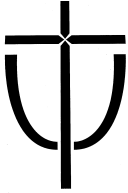
12:00 p.m. Bible Study  
 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir  
 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

### October 25 Wednesday

5:45 p.m. Youth Group Bonfire & Dinner at Pastor Bridget's  
 6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets  
 TBD Union and LGBT Center Game Night

### October 26 Thursday

6:00 p.m. New Member Class



Union Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
716 S. Madison Street  
Green Bay, WI 54301

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## Interested in Learning More About Union Church?

Interested in learning more about Union Congregational UCC and discerning whether this is the right church home for you? Our Membership and Inreach Ministry will be hosting two classes to help people get to know Union, our community, and each other on **Wednesday, October 18 at 5:30 p.m.** and on **Thursday, October 26 at 6:00 p.m.** It's helpful to participate in both sessions.

After those two sessions, people who would like to join the church will be received into membership during worship on Sunday, November 12.

Please contact the church office at [office@unionucc.com](mailto:office@unionucc.com) or 920-437-9266, to register.

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### **Union Congregational United Church of Christ**

716 S. Madison Street  
Green Bay, WI 54301  
e-mail: [office@unionucc.com](mailto:office@unionucc.com)  
(920) 437-9266

### **Bridget M. Flad Daniels**

Senior Minister

### **Tim Harder, M.D.**

Moderator

### **Church Office Hours**

**Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

For more information about us,  
visit our web page  
at <http://www.unionucc.com>