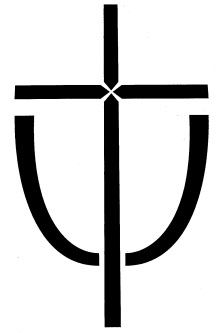


Still Speaking



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

September 2024

The Inside Scoop

Newsletter Deadline

*Our next newsletter
will be published the week of
October 23, 2024.*

*The deadline for that newsletter is
Friday, October 18, 2024.*

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Union Church Changes Lives!

Because of you, and the grace of God, our church changes lives!

While there are many ways to support our congregation, our annual pledge campaign provides a chance to think in a particular and prayerful way about the choices we make with our money in support of the church.

Our church changes lives when our youth, as they explore who they are and what they want to be in the world, describe Union as a community where they get to practice “equity, self-discovery, and respect.” (Noah Harkoff)

Our church changes lives every time an LGBTQIA2S+ person walks through our doors and finds a community that both proclaims and lives that they are made in the image and likeness of God.

Our church changes lives when we go out on a limb to host the Wise Woman Gathering Place Safe Overnight Parking, providing hospitality for individuals on the edge.

Our church changes lives when adults are encouraged to deeply explore the scriptures as a means of approaching the Bible with intellectual integrity and finding ways to apply the wisdom of this foundational document to our current lived experience.

Our church changes lives by nurturing community and relationships, through inspiring music and preaching in worship, and by encouraging the healing of creation - both people and the earth.

When we put our resources into the service of God’s mission, **lives are changed!**

(continued on page 2)

Lectionary Readings

September 22

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 31:10-31 and Psalm 1 or
Wisdom of Solomon 1:16-2:1, 12-22
or Jeremiah 11:18-20 and Psalm 54
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

September 29

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
and Psalm 124 or
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
and Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

October 6

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Job 1:1, 2:1-10 and Psalm 26 or
Genesis 2:18-24 and Psalm 8
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

October 13

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Job 23:1-9, 16-17 and Psalm 22:1-15
or Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 and
Psalm 90:12-17; Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

October 20

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38:1-7, (34-41) and
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c or
Isaiah 53:4-12 and Psalm 91:9-16
Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

October 27

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Job 42:1-6, 10-17 and
Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22) or
Jeremiah 31:7-9 and Psalm 126
Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

Union Church Changes Lives!

(continued from page 1)



(photo courtesy of Kathleen Caylor)

Your Pledge Decision

Without your gifts, we would not be able to engage in the programs, projects, ministry, and worship experiences that further God's mission and change lives.

It is important to note that our church's financial needs continue to grow as we strive to change lives with God's love. With rising costs of wages, health insurance, and utilities, one of the goals of this year's Annual Budget Pledge Campaign is to receive a \$75,000 overall increase in pledging to offset increasing economic costs. Many of us are on a journey towards abundant generosity. As you think about your own practice of generosity, we encourage you to think of increasing your giving. We know that some may not be able to pledge any increase at all, while others may have the means to make a more substantial increase, and so we simply ask you to prayerfully consider how you can financially support Union's mission.

Most importantly, I thank you for your support. Giving in the manner that you do does not simply happen – it is the result of faith, trust, intentional choices, and a life of discipline. It is a joy to know that because of your giving our church changes lives.

Please take some time this fall to consider how your giving empowers Union Congregational UCC to change lives, and make a pledge to financially support Union's ministries in 2025.

We appreciate your financial support and we truly appreciate having you as part of our church family.

Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels



Our Church Family

As a church family, we live our baptismal promises when we love, support, and care for one another:

-

Our Attendance

August	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
1st Sunday	73	95
2nd Sunday	76	69
3rd Sunday	73	96
4th Sunday	NA	70
Totals	222	330
Average	74.0	82.5

Human Rights Campaign

Phone/Text Banks continue at Union on September 23

Take action to defend equal rights in Wisconsin and beyond! Join HRC as we call and text to activate supporters in the area. Every conversation counts. All you need is a phone and a computer (or HRC can provide printouts) from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Chapel Classroom.

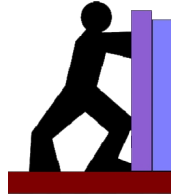
Priscilla Circle to Meet September 24

Priscilla Circle returns at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, September 24, in the English Room. Steve Hartman will address the troubling phenomenon of White Christian Nationalism, what it is and why it is such a problem.

Questions, please contact Helen Krueger at chkrueger@new.rr.com.

Thank You!

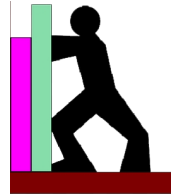
This summer, our church leaders sent a letter to the congregation, reminding us all of the church's financial picture and encouraging members and friends to consider additional monetary support. We are grateful to the 19 households who responded to that letter, resulting in close to an additional \$24,000 in pledges. Whatever you're able to give, whether financial gifts or gifts of time and energy, know that you are critical to how Union Congregational UCC puts flesh on God's love. Thank you.



Your Church Library

Recent Best-Selling Fiction

by Cathy Putman



This is a quick rundown of recent best seller fiction added to the church library. We select books based on availability, readability and are committed to offering a wide variety of narrative voices.

Historical fiction by Kristin Hannah is a satisfying read. The Four Winds, which takes place during the Dust Bowl years, is a sweeping family story and the story of a difficult time for Americans.

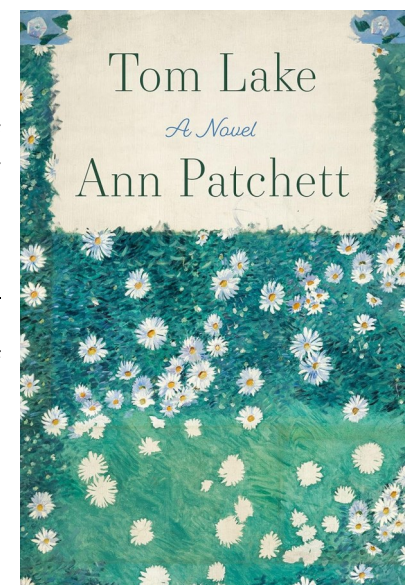
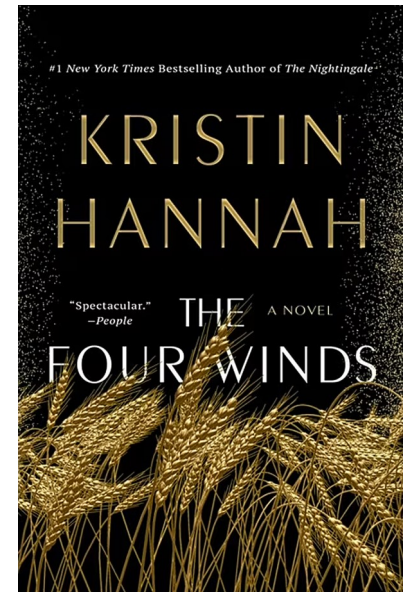
A New York Times bestseller, Ann Patchett's 2023 novel Tom Lake is set on a cherry farm in Michigan during COVID. A story of a mother and grown daughters, family dynamics and love in its many phases from youth to maturity.

Highly regarded fiction from accomplished Black authors include The Water Dancer by Ta-Nehisi Coates, James McBride's The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store and Colson Whitehead's Harlem Shuffle. All three are historical novels, each with a light twist of genre in the plot: fantastical in the case of The Water Dancer, mystery for James McBride and a crime novel for Colson Whitehead. Human struggles in a fast-paced storyline.

We continue to add to our Maisie Dobbs series with In This Grave Hour. Winspear's ongoing historical series features Dobbs, a London private investigator, and a cast of characters. This book is set on the eve of World War II in England and illuminates the history as well as the human drama.

A follow up to her young adult novel The Firekeeper's Daughter, author and enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie tribe of Chippewa, Angeline Boulley has written a story with a teenage girl protagonist set on returning Native artifacts to her community. Warrior Girl Unearthed is enlightening because of how embedded the story is in the Anishinaabe community and its traditions.

These and other books are available in the basket under the window in the church library. Happy reading!



Blessing Box Food Drive Sunday, October 6

Thank you for your continuing support of the Blessing Box ministry!

- Current needs include:**
- Canned Tuna or Chicken
 - Canned Chili or Pasta Meals
 - Canned Fruit
 - Canned Soup
 - Fruit Cups
 - Instant Pasta or Rice Meals
 - Pouch Tuna

Donations can be placed on the cart at the front of the Sanctuary on Sunday, October 6 or on the blue table inside the Mayflower entrance at any time.

Monetary donations are also welcome, and we'll do the shopping! To donate, send a check to Union Church with "Blessing Box" on the memo line, or donate via the church website at www.unionucc.com/giving.



Capital Campaign Strength Continues to Build for Faith in Action

Thanks to all who contributed time, resources, and prayers to our Building for Faith in Action Capital Campaign! Our progress chart outside of the elevator now shows that you have contributed \$385,877, which is 67% of the \$572,000 pledged. Praise be to God!

Your generosity has accomplished so much, and has enabled us to replace the west church hall roof, Mayflower roof, and carport roof this summer. Our fall project will be finishing the solar installation. Painting the sanctuary and church hall are slated for after the holidays, while the fire in the Mayflower classrooms moved up the timeline on that renovation. Stay tuned for details.

Adult Education: Spiritual Disciplines

According to Marcus Borg, spirituality is "the opening of the heart to God who is already here." Gather with Ed Tucker at 9 a.m. on October 20 for an introduction to the classical spiritual disciplines — behaviors and actions that can help us to follow Jesus' example. By practicing some of these disciplines, we can develop a deeper and richer relationship with God.

This meeting will cover a very brief review of the practices of prayer, meditation, fasting, study, simplicity, solitude, submission, service, confession, worship, guidance, and celebration, with a short focus on prayer. If there is continued interest, we can proceed to dive deeper into each one over the rest of the year.

JOSHUA

Panera
FUNDRAISING

Help support us!



25%
OF SALES
WILL BE
DONATED

September 26, 2024
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
2627 South Oneida Street, Green Bay, WI



A total of 64 people, including a record 25 children, attended Union's All-Church Retreat at Moon Beach held September 6-8.

(photo courtesy of Susan Tucker)

Heifer Living Gift Market is Sunday, October 6

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 6. 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 22, 2024—October 27, 2024

September 22 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
9:00 a.m. Adult Faith Formation:
Is the Bible Inerrant?
Join Julie Harder to learn
more.
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary
(or stream it online)
followed by Coffee Hour
in the church hall

September 23 Monday

5:00 p.m. Human Rights Campaign
Phone/Text Banks

September 24 Tuesday

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

September 25 Wednesday

6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets

September 29 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

October 1 Tuesday

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

October 2 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 3 Thursday

6:00 p.m. Sojourner Circle
6:00 p.m. Prospective Member
Gathering

October 6 Sunday

Heifer Sunday

World Communion Sunday

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

October 8 Tuesday

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

October 9 Wednesday

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

October 10 Thursday

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

October 13 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

October 15 Tuesday

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

October 16 Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Prospective Member
Gathering
5:45 p.m. Dinner
6:15 p.m. Youth Group
6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets

October 17 Thursday

6:00 p.m. Sojourner Circle

October 20 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
9:00 a.m. Adult Faith Formation:
Ed Tucker on spiritual
disciplines
9:00 a.m. Confirmation
Teen/Parent Meeting
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary
with our Jazz Ensemble
(or stream it online)
followed by Coffee Hour
in the church hall

October 21 Monday

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

October 22 Tuesday

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

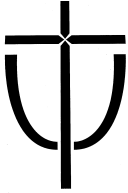
October 23 Wednesday

6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets

October 27 Sunday

New Members Received

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary
(or stream it online)



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

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GREEN BAY, WI

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 Ministry will be hosting two classes to help people get to know Union, our community, and each other on **Thursday, October 3 at 6:00 p.m.** and on **Wednesday, October 16 at 5:30 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, October 27.

Please contact the church office at office@unionucc.com or 920-437-9266, to register.

Union Congregational United Church of Christ

716 S. Madison Street
Green Bay, WI 54301
e-mail: 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>