

Union Congregational United Church of Christ



At Union, we are all the body of Christ together:
Through our voices, Christ is still speaking
Through our hands, Christ is still serving
Through our hearts, Christ is still loving



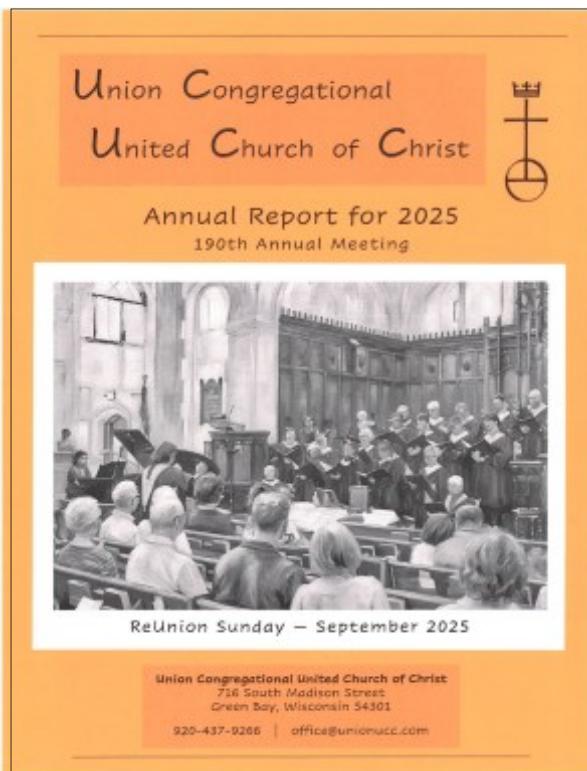
January 18, 2026

Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. You can access the loop by activating the T-coil in your hearing aid. If you do not have a T-coil, you can request a portable receiver from an usher.



Welcome to Union Church!

- Today's service is being live streamed via Facebook and YouTube.
- During the Children's Moments, the live stream will display a graphic, in order to protect our children's privacy.
- Please see an usher if you would like a children's activity packet or if you need help finding the nursery.
- Visitors are encouraged to fill out a visitor card at the usher's station or email office@unionucc.com to receive our weekly email newsletter.
- Visitors, if you would like more information about our church, please take home a yellow "Welcome to Union Church" folder located at either sanctuary door. If you have trouble finding them, ask one of our friendly members to help you locate one!
- We encourage those who are COVID positive or have cold or flu symptoms to worship from home and to consult with your healthcare provider to ensure you are engaging in best practices regarding masking, distancing, and receiving vaccines/boosters, particularly if you or someone you live with have health concerns.



Annual Reports Are Available!

Copies of Union Church's Annual Report for 2025 are available at the entrances to the sanctuary and on the table in front of the church office. In addition, the report is also available online at www.unionucc.com.

The 190th Annual Meeting of Union Church takes place next Sunday,

January 25

after worship in the sanctuary.
with a potluck to follow.

Serving Christ . . . Loving Each . . . Affirming All

Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday

January 18, 2026

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

(*) invites all who are able to stand

Today's bulletin prayers are quoted from the sermons and speeches of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

With music and silence we begin worship, praying quietly and opening our hearts to God.

THE LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY

Welcome! Please share Announcements, Ministry Opportunities, Joys and Concerns.

PRAISING OUR GOD

THE BOND OF UNION (in unison)

Giving our all as we have been given all...

We accept the religion of love and service which Jesus lived and taught, and declare it our purpose to strive to do the will of God, and to make the Christ Spirit dominant in our lives and in all human relations.

* INVOCATION: (responsive)

Leader: As we celebrate the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., let us use his words to remind us of these spiritual truths central to his legacy:

All: Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. This is the interrelated structure of reality.

Leader: An individual has not started living until they rise above the narrow confines of their individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.

All: Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (in unison)

We come, O God, with an awareness. The fact that we have not always given our lives to that which is high and noble. In the midst of all of the high and noble aspects of justice, we followed injustice. We stand amid the forces of truth and yet we deliberately lie. We stand amid the compelling urgency of the Lord of Love, as exemplified in the life of Jesus Christ, and yet we live our lives so often in the dungeons of hate. For all of these sins, O God, forgive. And in these days of emotional tension, when the problems of the world are gigantic in extent and chaotic in detail, give us penetrating vision, broad understanding, power of endurance and abiding faith, and save us from the paralysis of crippling fear. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST

*HYMN NO. 593:

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"
(see pages 6-7)

LIFT EVERY VOICE
The New Century Hymnal

PROCLAIMING GOD'S GOOD NEWS

HOLY SCRIPTURE:

Romans 12:1-2, 9-21

p. 161

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Children are invited to gather on the chancel steps and bring their offering.

Following Children's Moments, all children are welcome to remain in worship.

Additionally, parents are welcome to accompany their children to our "playground" in the south transept to play and pray quietly or to drop them off downstairs to play in the nursery with our paid nursery staff. Activity bags with crayons, etc. are available from an usher.

CHORAL ANTHEM:

"We Shall Overcome"

arr. Roy Ringwald

HOLY SCRIPTURE:

Isaiah 42:14-16

p. 671

THE SERMON

Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels

RESPONDING IN FAITH

HYMN:

"Sing for Justice"
(see page 5)

AR HYD Y NOS

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please join us in praying the Lord's Prayer in these words or a translation meaningful to you.
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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE OFFERING

Offertory:

"Come Sunday"

Duke Ellington

*Praise Response:

"We Are Becoming Peace"

Linnea Good

We are be - com - ing peace.

We are be - com - ing peace. A well of

pa-tience, well of grace, Make our souls a ho - ly place.

We are be - com - ing peace.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (in unison)

Almighty God, Thou has called us to walk for freedom, even as Thou did the Children of Israel. We pray, dear God, as we go through a wilderness of State Troopers that Thou will hold our hand. We pray, dear God, as we must go through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, that Thou will go with us and strengthen us for the task. Keep us strong. Keep us calm. Help us to love our enemy. And above all, keep the fires of freedom burning in our hearts, so that no matter what happens, ain't gonna let nobody turn us around. Because Thou, dear God, has sent us into this place. Thou has sent us to fight, not just for ourselves, but to fight for this nation so that democracy might exist here for the whole world.

Lord help me to accept my tools. However dull they are, help me to accept them. And then Lord, after I have accepted my tools, then help me to set out and do what I can do with my tools. Amen.

SENT INTO ALL THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *"This Little Light of Mine"* arr. Michael Hassell

** Editor's note: the quotes from Rev. Dr. King have been edited to be gender inclusive.*

Thanks to all who helped lead today's service including our reader, **Janet Roberts**, and **Brittany Hendrix Malone** who offered our Children's Moments.

Oh the Weather Outside Is Frightful!

With how persistently snow has been falling this season, we are looking for some volunteers to be on call to help shovel and salt the church walkways when it snows. Please contact the church office if you'd be willing to be on a list of people we contact when this need arises. Thank you!

Words by Brennan Blue
Minneapolis, MN | 2017

Music: *Ar Hyd Y Nos*, trad. Welsh

Sing for Justice

Flowing (♩ = 104)

F B♭ Gm C B♭ C7 F



1. All who want peace, sing for jus - tice, gath - er in song!
2. If you want peace, sing for jus - tice, join in the call!
3. We who want peace, work for jus - tice, so shall we grow.

F B♭ Gm C B♭ C7 F



Here we join with friends and strang - ers, all may be - long.
Jus - tice is love's pub - lic sto - ry o - pen to all.
We will work to see the day when all may be whole.

B♭ Gm F/C C7



You who bring hope, fear, or sor - row, help us sing a new to - mor - row.
Har - mo - ny is born of diff - 'rence, notes and chords of lived ex - per - ience.
Nam - ing truths while bur - dens bear - ing, sing - ing, shar - ing, learn - ing, car - ing.

F B♭ Gm C B♭ C7 F



All who want peace, sing for jus - tice, gath - er in song!
If you want peace, sing for jus - tice, join in the call!
We who want peace, work for jus - tice, so shall we grow.

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Lift Every Voice and Sing

Tune: LIFT EVERY VOICE Irr.
J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921

James Weldon Johnson, 1921; alt.

1 Lift ev- ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring, ring with the
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod, felt in the
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, God who has

har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty; Let our re - joic - ing
 days when hope un - born had died; Yet with a stead - y
 brought us thus far on the way; God, who by your

rise, high as the lis - tening skies, let it re - sound loud as the
 beat, have not our wea - ry feet, come to the place for which our
 might, led us in - to the light, keep us for - ev - er in the

roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the
 peo - ple sighed? We have come o - ver a
 path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the



faith that the harsh past has taught us, Sing a song full of the
way that with tears has been wa - tered, We have come, tread - ing our
plac - es, our God, where we met you, Lest our hearts, drunk with the



hope that the pres - ent has brought us; Fac - ing the
path through the blood of the slaug - tered, Out from the
wine of the world, for - et you; Shad-owed be -



ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun, let us march
gloom - y past, till now we stand at last where the white
neath your hand, may we for - ev - er stand, true to our



on till vic - to - ry is won.
gleam of our bright star is cast.
God, true to our na - tive land.

Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round

African-American spiritual

Ain't gon-na let no-bod-y turn me 'round,
turn me 'round, turn me 'round.

Ain't gon-na let no-bod-y turn me 'round.

I'm gonna keep on a-walk-in',
keep on a-talk-in',
work-ing for a bet-ter world.

Ain't gon-na let bro-ken sys-tems turn me 'round,
turn me 'round, turn me 'round.

Ain't gon-na let bro-ken sys-tems turn me 'round.

I'm gonna keep on a-walk-in',
keep on a-talk-in',
work-ing for a bet-ter world.

Ain't gon-na let in-jus-tice turn me 'round,
turn me 'round, turn me 'round.

Ain't gon-na let in-jus-tice turn me 'round.

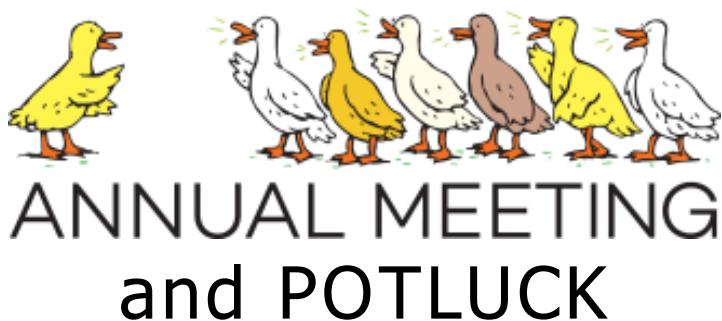
I'm gonna keep on a-walk-in',
keep on a-talk-in',
work-ing for a bet-ter world.

Sojourner Circle/Cooks Who Care Meal Prep Event

Sojourner Circle will hold its next Cooks Who Care meal prep in the church kitchen on **Thursday, Feb. 19 at 6 p.m.** We will make paprika chicken (or white bean), polenta, tomato, pepper, and parmesan casseroles, and would appreciate help in gathering the ingredients we'll need. If you're willing/able to contribute, please sign up via the link found in your This Week at Union email.

We ask that **all sign-ups be completed by Sunday, February 15** so that we have time to shop for anything still needed the week of the event, and that all donations be dropped off in the church kitchen in well-labeled bags or packages (with refrigerated items labeled and in the fridge) *no later than Wednesday, February 18*.

If you have any questions, would like to contribute monetarily instead, or are interested in joining us (Sojourner Circle is a group of women supporting each other through career decisions, raising children, personal growth, mid-life reflections, and more, with all who identify as women welcome!) please reach out to me, Beth Lyman Piontek (beth.e.lyman@gmail.com), or Emily Lakatos (emilyclakatos@gmail.com) to coordinate or for details.



Call to the 190th Annual Meeting

The 190th Annual Meeting of Union Congregational United Church of Christ will convene on Sunday, January 25 at 11:30 a.m. We will conduct our business meeting and share a time of fellowship after our agenda is concluded. Reports concerning the ministry of Union Church in 2025 will be presented, outgoing ministry chairs and vice-chairs will be recognized, elections will be held for new leaders, and a budget for the ministry of Union Church in 2026 will be adopted.

Our annual report will be emailed to all households on our mailing list. Contact the church office if you would like a paper copy mailed to you.

Weekly Planner

January 19 — 24

Monday:

11:30 a.m. Ladies Lunch Bunch
CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED

Tuesday:

6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Wednesday:

1:00 p.m. Bible Study
6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets

NEXT SUNDAY: January 25

Third Sunday after Epiphany Annual Meeting Sunday

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

11:15 a.m. 190th Annual Meeting
in the sanctuary with a
potluck to follow

Priscilla Circle Returns

Priscilla Circle returns at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, January 27, in the English Room. Sandy Polarek will lead a discussion centered around books suitable for adults to read and enjoy.

Questions? Contact Helen Krueger at chkrueger@new.rr.com.

Union Congregational United Church of Christ

Union Congregational United Church of Christ is an **Open and Affirming Congregation**. We are a Christian fellowship where diverse perspectives may live together in the Spirit of Christ and where all persons are precious children of God without qualification or discrimination because of ability, age, ethnicity, gender, race, or sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

e-mail: office@unionucc.com
church office: **920-437-9266**
website: www.unionucc.com

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Meets January 19

**Join us at 11:30 a.m.
at the Village Grille in Allouez**

Our Church Staff

Senior Minister Bridget Flad Daniels
Administrative Assistant Eric Goska
Financial Secretary Katrina Catteruccia
Building & Maintenance Supervisor Brad Dorin
Music Director Haley Steele
Organist Franklin Beyer
Handbell Ensemble Director Linda Cook
Librarian Cathy Putman
AV Coordinator Daniel Hatton

Student Music Interns:

Zeke Fietsch-Huber, Caleb Hale,
Caitlyn Kolter, Ella Hamilton

Nursery Attendants:

Jenna Stevens, London Graham, Katelyn Mertens, Scott Nixon