

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



April 12, 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.

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, April 30 (6 to 7:30 p.m.)** and on **Wednesday, May 6 (5:30 to 7:30 p.m.—includes dinner)**. 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, May 17.

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

Used Book Sale

The church library will hold its used book sale in the church hall on Sundays, May 3 and May 10, before and after church. Most books are \$1 and mass market paperbacks 2 for 1.

For a successful sale, we need donations. Thank you to those who have already brought books. Please bring books to the church library.

Anyone wishing to help sort and set up, contact Cathy Putman at 920-435-1540 or cputman@new.rr.com. Cathy is planning to do most sorting on the Thursday or Friday before the sale on May 3.

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

Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

(*) invites all who are able to stand

PRELUDE:

“Christ ist erstanden”

arr. Anton Leupold

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.

*CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

Leader: Christ is risen!

All: Alleluia!

Leader: ...and still, we find ourselves behind locked doors.

All: locked doors of fear, of grief, of uncertainty, of doubt.

Leader: Yet the risen Christ comes anyway:

All: through barriers, through borders, through every wall we build.

Leader: Christ stands among us and says, “Peace be with you.”

All: Blessed are we who have not seen, and yet come seeking.

Leader: Blessed are we who question, and still dare to hope.

All: Come, bring your whole selves—your faith and your doubt,

Leader: your fear and your courage.

All: For new life is still being born among us.

Leader: Let us worship the God who meets us behind locked doors

All: and calls us into resurrection life.

*GATHERING PRAYER: (in unison)

**God of Peace, as the disciples gathered on that first Easter behind locked doors for fear of the authorities, so this day, many refugees, immigrants, and undocumented persons also live in fear of those who are in authority. As the risen Christ came and spoke words of comfort and hope, we pray that you would be with all those who are fearful this day. Give them your peace and assurance and strengthen the resolve of those who stand with them to break down the doors and walls dividing your children.
In Jesus' name we humbly pray. Amen.**

* PASSING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST

* HYMN NO. 256:

"We Live by Faith and Not by Sight"
(see page 5)

DUNLAP'S CREEK
The New Century Hymnal

PROCLAIMING GOD'S GOOD NEWS

HOLY SCRIPTURE:

1 Peter 1:3-9

p. 232

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.

CHORAL ANTHEM:

"I Believe"

Mark Miller

A note about today's anthem: On June 26, 1945, a Swiss newspaper published a special correspondence from a reporter in Cologne, Germany, writing about underground bomb shelters and passages among church buildings used by the Catholic resistance as refuges from the Gestapo during World War II. The reporter spoke of an area in which nine Jewish refugees were known to have hid for several months, relying on the altruism of their neighbors for food and care, often spending prolonged periods of time in complete darkness to avoid detection. In one area, the reporter found written on a wall the words that became the lyrics to this piece and many others. Yom HaShoah, a Holocaust Remembrance Day, is Monday, April 13 this year.

*I believe in the sun, even when it's not shining.
I believe in love, even when I don't feel it.
I believe in God, even when God is silent.*

HOLY GOSPEL:

John 20:19-31

p. 115

THE SERMON:

Rev. Steve Hartman

RESPONDING IN FAITH

HYMN:

"All Our Days"
(see page 8)

ARCHVIEW

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:

"Crimond"

arr. Duane Funderburk

*Praise Response

"We Come With Gifts"

ELLACOMBE

text by Amanda Udis-Kessler

***Oh, grant that we may come to know each gift we have to give,
To cul-ti-vate them grate-ful-ly to help each o-ther live
and may the gifts that o-thers bring be wel-comed and em-braced
to make this fear-ful, ang-ry world a just and joy-ful place.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Generous and resurrecting God, you meet us in our fear and call us into courage; you meet us in our doubt and call us into deeper faith; you meet us in our broken world and call us to healing work. Bless these gifts we offer, not only what we place in plates or baskets, but what we carry in our hearts: our time, our compassion, our willingness to show up for those living behind locked doors of fear. May these offerings become signs of resurrection—good news for the weary, solidarity for the vulnerable, and justice that refuses to be sealed away. Send us out as witnesses, like Thomas: honest in our questioning, bold in our proclaiming, and alive with a living hope that cannot be contained. In the name of the risen Christ, who breathes peace into us still, we pray. Amen.

SENT INTO ALL THE WORLD

*HYMN NO. 249:

"Peace I Leave with You, My Friends"
(see pages 6-7)

PEACE, MY FRIENDS
The New Century Hymnal

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

"Hyfrydol"

arr. Anna Laura Page

Thanks to all who helped lead today's service including our reader, **David Thie**,
Brittany Hendrix Malone who offered our Children's Moments,
and **Rev. Steve Hartman** who filled in for Pastor Bridget.

Our Gathering Prayer today is part of an effort of the JOSHUA Spiritual Leaders' Caucus to continue our advocacy for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers and is accompanied by this note:

In this Easter season, we are reminded that the risen Christ first came to his disciples in a moment of fear and uncertainty and spoke words of peace: "Peace be with you."

Today, many in our communities, including refugees, immigrants, and others who feel vulnerable, are experiencing fear and uncertainty in response to current events and public policies. As people of faith, we are called to respond not with fear, but with prayer, compassion, and a commitment to see one another as beloved children of God.

This prayer is being shared by local faith leaders who are part of JOSHUA (Justice Organization Sharing Hope and United for Action), a network of congregations in the Greater Green Bay area working together for the well-being of our community.

We offer this prayer as an invitation, not as a statement of uniform perspective, but as an opportunity for congregations to join together in seeking God's peace, wisdom, and guidance for all people, especially those who are feeling afraid or uncertain.

AV Team In Need of Volunteers

Our AV team is in deep need of folks who are tech-minded and looking to volunteer for Union in a fun way. Duties include operating the video broadcast board during Sunday service that we livestream to Facebook and YouTube (this is a lot easier than it sounds, and we've got great trainers!) or running sound. Rotation is generally one Sunday a month.

Please contact Daniel Hatton at dhatton@outlook.com or Pastor Bridget if interested. Thank you!

We Live by Faith and Not by Sight

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Henry Alford, 1844; alt.

John 20:24-29

Unison

1 We live by faith and not by sight;
2 We may not touch Christ's hands and side,
3 Help then, O Christ, our un - be - lief;

no gra - cious words we hear From Christ who spoke as
nor fol - low where Christ trod; But in con - fess - ing
and may our faith a - bound To call on you when

none e'er spoke, who still we know is near.
we re - jice: our Sav - ior and our God!
you are near and seek where you are found:

Tune: DUNLAP'S CREEK C.M.
Samuel McFarland, c. 1816
Harm. Richard Proulx, 1986

Peace I Leave with You, My Friends

John 14:18-29

Tune: PEACE, MY FRIENDS Irr. with refrain Ray Repp, 1967

Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

Refrain

D Em G D F#m

Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom, my peace, in

Em Gm D Em G D F#m

all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to

Bm Em G D 1-2 3

you so you can give to oth - ers, too.

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D Em G D

1 To share God's love is why I came,
 2 Take my hand and be at peace;
 3 With this love now all will know

F#m Em/G Gm

to show God's kind - ness with - out end.
 the spir - it of our love I send.
 that lone - li - ness is at an end.

D Em G D

Go now, my friends, and do the same,
 And with this love you will be free,
 Re-joice, my friends, al - though I go,

F#m G A7 *to Refrain*

un - til I come a - gain.
 un - til I come a - gain.
 for I will come a - gain.

All Our Days

Tune: Archview

1. Lord, to you our song we raise,— Thank - ing you for all our days;—
2. Storms and trou-bles come our way;— We, from lov-ing path-ways stray;—
3. We re - flect on what is past:— When we've tried to be stead - fast—

We can on - ly be a - mazed— By all you give;—
Yet, we know that come what may,— You are our friend;—
Good we've done we pray that lasts— You're in all things;—

When our lungs first filled with air,— We were hard-ly then a - ware—
In our laugh-ter, smiles and tears,— Warm em - bra-ces, chil-ling fears,—
Now we seek to fol - low you,— To your care for all, be true,—

How, you in our mo - thers' care,— Show how we live.—
Ev - en when our time is near,— Love does not end.—
You make eve - ry - thing brand new,— So, now we sing!—

Upcoming Adult Education

Sundays at 9 a.m. in Bagby Chapel — No Adult Ed on Easter

April 19: Internet Safety — With so much of our lives online, Lisa Olson will reprise the class she offers through the Lifelong Learning Institute. Learn how to stay safe online and protect yourself and family. Learn how to ensure our password protected accounts remain secure and tips on creating a good password.

April 26: Two Offerings

Before Worship — Julie Harder will conclude her series on the Psalms.

After Worship — Mark Smith will facilitate a special adult education session on Environmental Justice.

Killoran Scholarship Fund

Thanks to Bernie and Sally Killoran, a wonderful gift is available to the youth of the church. The Killoran Scholarship provides up to \$1,500 scholarships renewable for four years of undergraduate study.

If you are a high school senior or graduate and a member of Union Church, you are eligible to apply. Applicants must enroll in a full-time undergraduate program at Lakeland University or any four-year school in the University of Wisconsin system.

If interested in applying, contact the church office for an application. Applications must be received by May 22. Questions? Please contact scholarship committee chair, Sandy Polarek at smpolarek@aol.com.

Our Housing Offering is May 10

This congregation is generous and it recognizes that our gifts are meant to be shared.

We will extend that generosity through our Housing Offering on May 10. This offering supports the work of the Ecumenical Partnership for Housing (EPH). EPH brings together diverse congregations to partner in ways that provide people who are housing insecure with solid, decent housing, along with the opportunity to gain skills to thrive. Jubilee House, in Union's backyard, is part of EPH and it is Union's responsibility to maintain this property.

As we continue our Easter celebration of new life, let's continue Union's legacy of generosity through this special offering.

Weekly Planner

April 13—18

Tuesday:

- 4:00 p.m. Education Ministry
- 5:00 p.m. Stewardship Ministry
- 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Wednesday:

- 1:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 5:45 p.m. Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. Youth Groups
- 6:15 p.m. Seminary Secrets

Thursday:

- 4:30 p.m. Outreach Ministry

NEXT SUNDAY: April 19 **Third Sunday of Easter**

- 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
 - 9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: Internet Security
 - 10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary
(or stream it online)
followed by Coffee Hour
in the church hall
-

It's Almost Rummage Sale Time

Intake Day is Saturday, May 9 (morning)
Sale Day is Saturday, May 16 (8 to 2)

Questions? Call Tim Dantoin at 920-366-3744 or Achim Seifert at 708-822-8998.

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 April 20

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