

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



August 9, 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 one, 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.



**Time to Reflect
at Moon Beach
September 11-13**

Our All-Church Retreat is a weekend of fun, fellowship, and reflection. Cost for the retreat is \$200 per adult and \$35 per child.

Financial aid is available (talk to Pastor Bridget). Sign up to attend by contacting the church office or by filling out a form at Union Central.

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

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

(*) invites all who are able to stand

PRELUDE:

"This Is My Father's World"

arr. Joel Raney

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)

One: Come, all who have searched for God in the wind, the fire, the headlines, and the noise.

All: We come longing to hear the still, quiet voice of Love.

One: Come, all who have weathered storms this week.

All: We come carrying both hope and weariness.

One: Come, all who have stepped out in faith—and all who have hesitated at the edge.

All: Christ meets us in both our courage and our fear.

One: When the waves rise and certainty disappears,

All: God does not abandon us.

One: The Holy One calls us beyond fear and into trust, beyond isolation and into community, beyond despair and into hope.

All: Let us worship the God who is with us in every storm and who never lets us go.

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (responsive)**

One: God of wind and silence, too often we look for you in the spectacular — in certainty instead of mystery, in power instead of compassion, in easy answers instead of quiet wisdom. When fear rises around us, all too often we cling to what is familiar. We mistake caution for faithfulness, comfort for peace, and control for trust. Like Elijah, we sometimes want to hide in the cave. Like Peter, we begin with courage but lose heart when the winds grow strong. Let us take a moment of silence to call to mind all that we would lay at the feet of the Lord. (Silence is kept.)

One: Let us pray.

All: Forgive us when fear keeps us from loving boldly, from welcoming generously, from speaking truth, from working for justice, or from believing that your Spirit is still at work in this world. Quiet the voices within us that tell us we are alone or that nothing can change. Open our ears to your gentle whisper. Steady our trembling feet. Take us by the hand whenever we begin to sink. May we discover again that your grace is deeper than our doubt, your love stronger than our fear, and your presence nearer than our next breath. We offer these prayers in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (in unison)**

Beloved of God, the good news is not that we never falter. The good news is that Christ never stops reaching toward us. When Elijah hid, God sought him. When Peter sank, Jesus caught him. When we lose our way, Love comes looking for us. God's grace does not wait until our faith is perfect. It meets us in the middle of the storm, lifts us from despair, and invites us to begin again. Receive this gift: you are forgiven. You are loved. You are held. And nothing—not fear, not failure, not doubt—can separate you from the love of God. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*** PASSING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST**

*** HYMN:**

"My Life Flows on in Endless Song"
(see page 5)

ENDLESS SONG

PROCLAIMING GOD'S GOOD NEWS

HOLY SCRIPTURE:

1 Kings 19:9-18

p. 326

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.

HOLY GOSPEL:

Matthew 14:22-33

p. 16

THE SERMON:

Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels

RESPONDING IN FAITH

HYMN:

"Alchemy of Healing"
(see page 6)

COLUMCILLE

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:

"Spirit of God"

arr. Phillip Keveren

*Praise Response:

"For the Weaving of our Lives"

Amanda Udis-Kessler

For the thread that each of us offers to the

world's design, fabric of a thousand hues,

heart and hands and soul and mind: All creation

hears our prayer as we weave a world of care.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (responsive)

One: Generous God, you have entrusted us with gifts of time, talent, compassion, and resources, not so they can remain safely tucked away, but so they may become signs of your love in the world. Bless these offerings and those who have given them. May they strengthen weary hearts, welcome those who have been left out, feed those who are hungry, comfort those who grieve, and help build communities where justice and mercy flourish.

All: When we are tempted to stay safely in the boat, give us courage. When we are overwhelmed by the waves, give us hope. When we wonder whether our gifts are enough, remind us that your Spirit accomplishes far more than we can imagine. Receive these gifts, and receive our lives, that together they may bear witness to your steadfast love. In the name of Christ, who calls us beyond fear and into abundant life. Amen.

SENT INTO ALL THE WORLD

***HYMN NO. 249:**

"Peace I Leave With You, My Friends"
(see page 7)

PEACE, MY FRIENDS
The New Century Hymnal

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE:

"Sing Unto the Lord with I Will Sing of the Mercies"

arr. Mark Hayes

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

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My Life Flows on in Endless Song (How Can I Keep from Singing)

Tune: ENDLESS SONG 8.7.8.7.D. *Attrib. to Robert Lowry*

1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
 2 When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells
 3 What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is

ta - tion, I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
 ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how
 liv - ing. What though the shad - ows gath - er 'round? A

hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
 can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and
 new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my

and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
 dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When
 in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since

finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing - ing?
 friends by shame are un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing?
 Love com - mands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?

Alchemy of Healing

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COLUMCILLE

Irish Melody, arr. John Bell

1. The cour - age we bor - row, the cour - age we bring
 2. Bring grace and bring kind - ness to all that you sing,
 3. The dark - ness we ban - ish, the sha - dow we blame
 4. Come ga - ther your pow - er with good friends a - round.

shall bind us in strength to the heal - ing we sing.
 to heal and to hon - our each fierce ten - der thing.
 though hid - den, may help us to find our true name.
 To - geth - er we stand in the truth of this ground.

The cour - age to face an - y wound that we fear
 Each shame left un - spo - ken may yet shine a light,
 So bring all your cour - age that all be made whole,
 Our cour - age can make us, can heal and can mend,

shall bind us in beau - ty and bless ev - ery tear.
 a place that seemed bro - ken, that place can give life.
 trans - form - ing your stor - y in bo - dy and soul.
 and a wound can be sa - cred, an - y wound we tran - scend.

Peace I Leave with You, My Friends

John 14:18-29 Tune: PEACE, MY FRIENDS Irr. with refrain Arr. New Century Hymnal, 1994 Ray Repp, 1967

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.

D Em G D

1 To share God's love is why I came,
2 Take my hand and be at peace;

F#m Em/G Gm

to show God's kind - ness with - out end.
the spir - it of our love I send.

D Em G D

Go now, my friends, and do the same,
And with this love you will be free,

F#m G A7 to Refrain

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

Sunday Morning Faith Formation Needs You!



Education Ministry is currently seeking teachers and aides for our 2nd-4th grade classroom. Are you interested in passing on the faith and can you commit to 2 to 3 hours a month on a Sunday morning during the school year? If so, please reach out to a member of the Education Ministry. We have a great curriculum and even greater kids and colleagues—what we're missing is YOU!

Beth Lyman Piontek, Education Ministry Chair,
at beth.e.lyman@gmail.com or (920) 217-3564

Amy Heusterberg-Richards, Education Ministry Vice Chair,
at amyheus@gmail.com (920) 627-0033

Salt & Light Back-to-School Gift Card Drive

This August, Union's Salt & Light Immigrant Advocacy Team invites you to help immigrant families prepare for the new school year by donating gift cards of any amount to Walmart, Target, Meijer, or similar stores. Gift cards allow parents to choose the supplies, backpacks, shoes, and other essentials their children need most, offering both practical support and the dignity of choice.

As a congregation, we know there are many worthy opportunities to give this season—respond to what tugs at your heart. Place gift cards in the offering plate, bring them to the church office, or use the office night drop throughout August. Together, we can help children begin the school year with confidence, hope, and the reminder that people care.



Seeking Cooks for Wednesday Nights

Membership and Inreach Ministry is looking to schedule cooks for our Youth Group and Adult Education activities on Wednesday nights. Meals can be customized to your liking. Cooks sign up for 4 to 6 Wednesdays throughout the school year. Guidelines are:

1. Stay within the allotted budget.
2. Be able to estimate amount of food for about 25 to 30 people.
3. Can volunteer every week, once a month, or as often as you like.

Contact Pastor Bridget to learn more.



Blessing Box City Band Concert Food Drives

The Blessing Box team will collect canned food on Wednesday evenings, during the Green Bay City Band Concert season.

If you'd like to participate, you're welcome to drop off donations at the Mayflower Entrance on your way to the City Band concert. Thank you!

Concert details available at <https://greenbaycityband.com>.

ReUnion Sunday is September 20

8:45 a.m. Nursery Opens

9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation Open House
Mayflower I and II and Fellowship Room

10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion
Potluck in the church hall following Worship

Weekly Planner

August 10 — 15

Tuesday:

Fall Primary Election

5:00 p.m. Stewardship Ministry

Thursday:

5:00 p.m. Membership Ministry

6:00 p.m. Common Ministry

NEXT SUNDAY: August 16 **12th Sunday after Pentecost**

10:00 a.m.

Worship in the sanctuary
(or stream it online)
followed by Coffee Hour
in the church hall

120 Years Ago This Summer **“Spence’s Fairwell Sermon”** **August 25, 1906**

Rev. J.M.A. Spence will deliver his last sermon at the Union Congregational church tomorrow before leaving for Aurora, Ill., to enter upon his new duties as pastor of the People’s Church of that city. His subject is to be “The Chosen of Humanity.”

Musical selections will be given by the male quartet and Miss Helen Jane Waldo. The quartet will render “Thus Far the Lord Hath Led Me on,” and Miss Waldo will sing the solo, “Abide with Me,” and also “In Praise of Love,” the latter with the quartet accompaniment.

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 August 17**

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, Ella Hamilton

Nursery Attendants:

Jenna Stevens, London Graham, Katelyn Mertens, Scott Nixon