

## *Weekly Church Announcements*

UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Sunday, May 21, 2023

June Newsletter articles are due today.

Spring Scrip orders are due today and will be distributed the following week. Please contact Carol Turkett or Maryjane Starr with any questions.

Food Pantry Update - The next food distribution will be Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 4 - 5 pm.

Pastor's Hours - Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> from 12-2 pm. **Faith Chats:** If you are interested in diving deeper into the spirituality of scripture, Pastor Bradley invites you to a discussion-based bible study. It will be held during his office hours on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in his office.

Work Group - Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 9 am.

New Heights AA Group - Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup> from 12 - 1 pm.

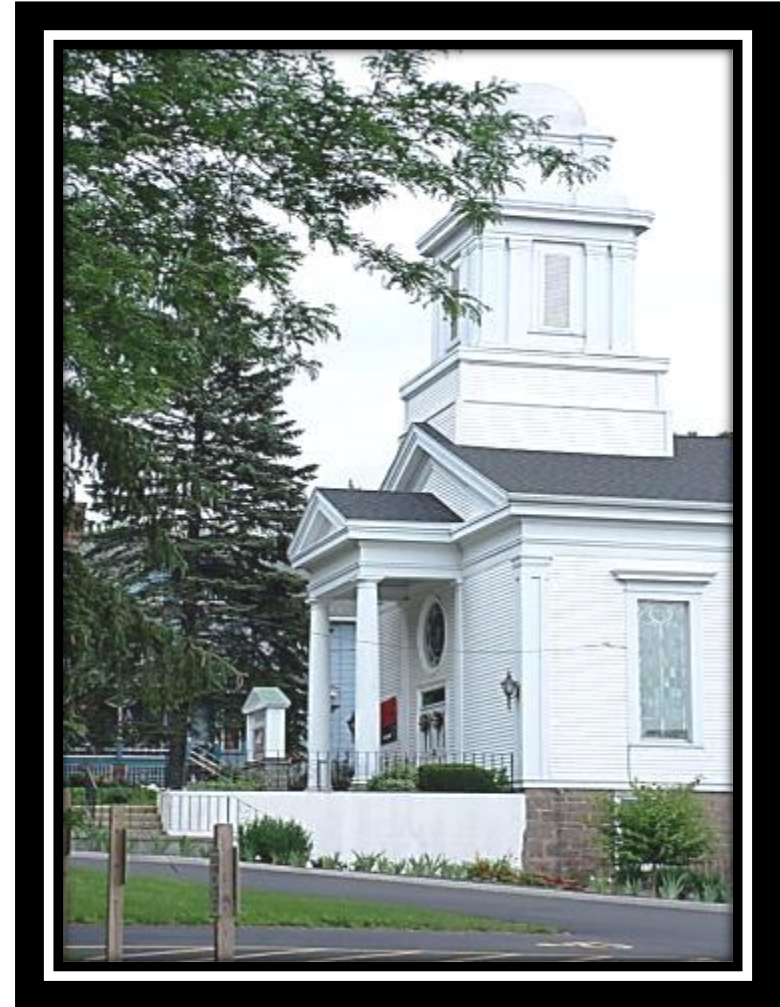
Memorial Day Breakfast: - Monday, May 29, from 8:30 to 9:30 am. Pancakes, eggs, sausage and applesauce will be served along with beverages. Cost is \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. No cost for Veterans. After breakfast, watch the Memorial Day Parade sponsored by the American Legion. Gareth Allen will be driving his tractor with a small trailer highlighting Union Church. Children and adults will walk alongside to distribute bookmarks and candy.

The Strengthen the Church UCC Offering will be collected until May 28<sup>th</sup>. This offering goes toward the building of the United Church of Christ throughout the United States. Envelopes will be available throughout May on the table in back of church. Make checks payable to Union Church with Strengthen the Church on the memo line

Union Church's Sunday service will be moving to 11 AM starting June 4<sup>th</sup> and continuing through the summer months. The new time change will be evaluated at the end of August.

Annual Union Church Garage Sale - Friday, June 9, from 10-3 pm and Saturday, June 10 from 10-1pm. Items may be dropped off at the church. No clothing please. If you need entry to the church, please call Sandy Cullen at 293-2006.

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## W e l c o m e

to all who are visiting.

Union Church is an **Open and Affirming** church of the United Church of Christ. We practice extravagant welcome to all. Thank you for being here this morning! No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome."

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
14 NORTH MAIN STREET, CHURCHVILLE, NY 14428 (585) 293-1665  
Email: [unionucc@frontier.com](mailto:unionucc@frontier.com) Website: churchvilleucc.com

**May 21, 2023**

**10:00 AM**

\*Indicates that you are invited to stand in body or spirit  
Our hymns are selected from the **New Century Hymnal**

### Greeting and announcements

#### Prelude

#### Call to Worship

L: We gather together today as one body, one people:

**P: We are one with each other and one with God.**

L: In worship, we open our hearts to the Lord and to one another:

**P: God's love shared among us binds us together.**

L: Today, let us seek strength in love and protection of our unity:

**P: Love is victorious. Love has overcome.**

L: May God's loving presence preside over our worship today:

**P: Amen! Let us worship together.**

\***Opening Hymn:** #386 "The Church's One Foundation"

#### Children's Time

#### Prayer of the Day

L: Don't try to diagram the mystery. The Body of Love, in your hands but hard to put your finger on, within, among, and yet beyond you, is here and also not here. The One is present with you, but not as you wish, speaking in sorrow joined perfectly with joy. Don't try to figure it out. Just receive it all with trust and gratitude:

**P: Loving God, we ask for your Spirit to unite us in the face of the conflicts that persist in the world and within us. Unite us even when we are fearful or racked with suffering. Protect us by your grace from those impulses within us and those forces around us that would tear us apart if they could. Amen.**

#### Scripture Reading:

**1 Peter** 5:6-11, NT *pg 225 in your pew Bibles*

L: For the Word of God in scripture:

**P: Thanks be to God**

**John** 17:6-11, NT *pg 105 in your pew Bibles*

L: God is still speaking to us through the living Word:

**P: Thanks be to God**

#### Sermon:

**"Protect Them In Your Name"**

\***Sermon Hymn:** #266

"Filled with the Spirit's Power"

#### Blessing of our Gifts

**P: Gracious God, enable us to use each and every gift we offer as one body, in unity, according to your purposes. Continue to reveal your will and protect our ability to walk in it together, we pray:**

L: Receive our gifts, O God, and bless them, we pray. May they speed the coming of your kingdom in our community. Amen

#### \*The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Amen

#### Prayers

Prayers of the people

L: Lord, in your mercy:

**P: Hear our prayer**

Pastoral prayer

The Lord's Prayer

\***Closing Hymn:** #393

"Blessed Be the Tie That Binds"

#### \*Benediction:

L: As we go our diverse ways, let us be bound together with love, united in the one Spirit that makes us present in the world:

**P: We will bear witness to the ultimate reality that is love.**

L: Now our service is ended. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

**P: Amen! Thanks be to God.**

#### Postlude