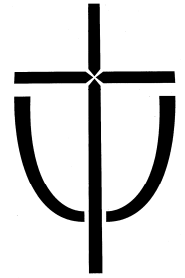




Still Speaking



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

March 2018



As the snows paralyze the city and a blizzard howls yet again, it's hard to believe that Easter is right around the corner. Easter, with its lilies, speaking to us of the spring of rebirth and new life, seems tame in comparison to the ice pelting my windows today and the harsh, eagle-eyed Lenten focus we've had on the cross, on human brokenness, on the reality of sin in our world.

But Easter is anything but tame!

So much more than a rite of spring, in which the bulbs give us hope that our cabin fever might be coming to an end, Easter is about the ultimate revolution! It's about the fact that, even when all hope is lost, God has blessings we cannot even imagine yet in store for us...if we have eyes to see.

With God's ultimate power of transformation in mind, the Second Sunday Series committee is excited to announce that our April 8 session will bring world-renowned singer/songwriter K.C. Williams to share with us the power of the African-American spirituals, how they originally functioned as tools of liberation, and how they can have relevance in our current racially charged times.

Born in Milwaukee, Williams spent summers on his uncle's farm in Greenwood, Mississippi. "Basically there were only two types of music you listened to in his house, that's gospel and country," Williams said. Those two genres of music have shaped Williams' musical career, which has included touring all across the world and even recording with Tim McGraw.

It is the power of the spirituals, though, that lured Williams away from life on the stage. Believing in the power of music, Williams determined that the best way to live his faith is to empower children in the state's poorest school district by serving as a traveling music teacher.

"Joy is an understatement," he says, admitting that seeing the light in kids' eyes is even better than rubbing elbows with celebrities.

Along with offering our Second Sunday session on April 8, Williams will also join in leading worship that day, sharing the power of the spirituals in our times.

(continued on page 2)

The Inside Scoop

Newsletter Deadline

*Our next newsletter will be published
the week of April 11, 2018.
The deadline for that newsletter is
Friday, April 6, 2018.*

Our Church Family	2
Meet Dr. Jon Pahl	3
Lakeland University Choir	3
Holy Week at Union Church	4
Extreme Makeover Work Camp	4
Immigration: Learning More	4
Union to Host NEA Annual Meeting -	5
Souper Cooks	5
Church Camp Scholarships	6
Learn About Union	back page

Lectionary Readings

March 11 — 4th Sunday in Lent
Num 21:4-9; Ps 107:1-3, 17-22
Eph 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

March 18 — 5th Sunday in Lent
Jer 31:31-34
Ps 51:1-12 or Ps 119:9-16
Heb 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

March 25 — Palm Sunday
Mark 11:1-11 or
John 12:12-16 • Ps 118:1-2, 19-29
Isa 50:4-9a • Ps 31:9-16 • Ps 2:5-11
Mark 14:1-15:47 or
Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)

March 29 — Maundy Thursday
Ex 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14
Ps 116:1-2, 12-19; I Cor 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

March 30 — Good Friday
Isa 52:13-53:12
Ps 22 • Heb 10:16-25 or
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42

March 31 — Holy Saturday
Job 14:1-14
Lam 3:1-9, 19-24
Ps 31:1-4, 15-16
1 Peter 4:1-8
Matthew 27:57-66 or
John 19:38-42

April 1 — Easter
Acts 10:34-43 or Isa 25:6-9
Ps 118:1-2, 14-24
I Cor 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

April 8 — Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 4:32-35; Ps 133
1 John 1:1-2:2
John 20:19-31

(continued from page 1)

Easter is so much more than fresh blossoms in the barren landscape, so much more than the return of warmth and light. It is the triumph of God's transforming grace, it is the culmination of the promise that love wins. When we gather around the spirituals with K.C. Williams the Sunday after Easter, it will be in this same spirit: looking to once again tap in to the transforming energy of God's healing love.

In Joyful Hope,

Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels

Our Church Family

Easter Breakfast Sunday, April 1

8:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

Inreach Ministry invites those attending worship on Easter to enjoy a delicious breakfast in Pilgrim Hall. No reservations are necessary. Bring your friends and eat after early worship (8:00 a.m.) or before worship at 10:00 a.m. A free-will offering would be gratefully accepted.

Our Attendance

February	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
1st Sunday	132	136
2nd Sunday	138	141
3rd Sunday	168	165
4th Sunday	120	181
Totals	558	623
Average	139.5	155.8

The Search Committee invites you to meet our proposed candidate,

Dr. Jon Pahl,

at an open house in the English Room on

Saturday,

March 17, 2018

from 2 to 4 p.m.

Lakeland University Choir Concert and Hosting Students for an Evening

The Lakeland University Choir will be offering a concert at Union Church on Friday, April 13 at 7 p.m. All members of the church are warmly invited to this free concert.

Overnight housing on the 13th is needed for the 18 members of the choir; if you would be willing to offer a room to two students for the night, it would be greatly appreciated. It would require taking the students home after the concert and returning them the following morning to the church to board the bus to their next performance. Additionally, we could also use help feeding the students dinner by bringing a dish and serving.

If interested in supporting the choir in either way, please contact the church office. Thank you.

Union's Search Committee Recommends Jon Pahl, Ph.D.



It is with great excitement that we, Union's Search Committee for the Minister of Faith Formation and Community Engagement, recommend Jon Pahl, Ph.D. for this position.

Dr. Pahl is overwhelmingly qualified to step into this role. He has been a professor of church history for years, has published widely, and has extensive experience with community outreach.

In addition to teaching, Dr. Pahl has been a youth minister and has written a book on youth ministry. He has long standing life experience with children, including raising three of his own and coaching youth sports for many years.

Dr. Pahl's passion for and wide experience with community involvement will allow him to hit the ground running. His gifts will complement Pastor Bridget's and help take Union's ministry to a new level.

Although the primary responsibilities of the Minister of FF/CE are education and outreach, they also include leading worship about once a month. While not an ordained pastor, Dr. Pahl has substantial experience with leading worship and preaching.

Raised Lutheran, Jon's theology is progressive. Common Ministry plans to recommend Jon be licensed by the N.E. Association UCC which will empower him to celebrate the sacraments. He is currently a member of Christ Congregational UCC in Clintonville.

We believe Dr. Pahl would be an excellent addition to our church staff.

The Search Committee

Ben VerGiesen (chair), Liz Gregg, Todd Kane, Barbara McClure-Lukens, Deb Rose, McKenna Stueck, and Julie Harder

The Common Ministry of
Union Congregational United Church of Christ hereby calls a

Special Congregational Meeting

on March 18, 2018 in the sanctuary
immediately following worship
for the purpose of recommending

Dr. Jon Pahl, Ph.D.,

to the position of

Minister of Faith Formation and Community Engagement

Extreme Makeover Work Camp

The Extreme Makeover Work Camp at Moon Beach will be held the week of May 20-26, 2018. Union Church has a group of dedicated workers who attend each year. Work involves general clean-up and set-up for the coming camp season as well as current construction projects. Workers with all levels of skill are needed. Please talk to Chuck or Helen Krueger to find out more about the camp.

To sign up for the work camp, visit www.ucci.org. Click on:

Moon Beach
Event Calendar

6211-Extreme Makeover Camp-MB

Priscilla Circle Meets March 27

Members of Priscilla Circle will gather at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27 in the English Room.

Holy Week at Union Church

Palm Sunday—March 25

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation

10:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Procession;
Worship in Sanctuary



Maundy Thursday—March 29

7:00 p.m. Worship with
Holy Communion in the Sanctuary



Good Friday—March 30

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service in the Sanctuary



Easter Sunday—April 1

8:00 a.m. Easter Worship with
Holy Communion in Bagby Chapel

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast in Pilgrim Hall

No Faith Formation

Nursery available for both Easter services

10:00 a.m. Festival Service of Worship in the Sanctuary



Immigration: Learning More

Our church's Visioning process led to the creation of several teams charged to take action in moving our ministries forward. The Advocacy Team has been charged to propose a new advocacy issue (immigration) and then lead the congregation in becoming effective, faithful advocates on the issue. The team has been engaged in many activities over the last 18 months including holding a cultural competency conversation (August 16), conducting a survey of our congregation (fall 2017) and providing information on speakers, gatherings and meetings in the community.

What can you do? Here is a list of activities that can help you become better informed on the topic of immigration.

- Visit the Estamos Aqui exhibits at the Neville Public Museum (ends March 31).
- Attend the "Immigration 101" presentation by Jon Sesini, an immigration attorney, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday, March 12 at the Fr. Ken DeGroot Center at St. Willebrord Church.
- Visit the Immigration section of the UCC website.
- Read Matthew 25 and Leviticus 19 for inspiration on how to treat the stranger among us.

Union Church to Host NEA Annual Meeting All Hands On Deck!

Please plan to join us Saturday, April 28, as Union hosts the NE Association Annual Meeting. We will need greeters to help our guests find their way around our building from 8 to 9 a.m., adults to staff the childcare room (paid), and we will need help with setting up, serving, and cleaning up lunch. All church members and friends are invited to attend the meeting, too, which will focus on how our northeast Wisconsin churches can help one another to "Be the Church." An invitation (see below) was sent out via email on March 1.



You are cordially invited to attend the 56th Annual Meeting of the Northeast Association of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ

Being the Church

Saturday, April 28, 2018 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Union Congregational United Church of Christ
716 Madison Street, Green Bay, WI 54301 Phone#: 920-437-9266

Join us for a day of worship, fellowship and business with our brothers and sisters of the Northeast Association. Our day will highlight the local church and the variety of ministries we find there. We will hear from local congregations as they continue to find new and innovative ways to minister to the wider community, proclaim the gospel and 'Be the Church.'

Registration begins at **8:30am** and our day of assembly begins at **9:00am**. Lunch will be provided by our host church. The day will conclude at approximately **2:00pm**. Childcare will be available for infants through sixth grade. Advance registration is **\$10 per person** and **\$12 per person** after that date and at the door. Costs include refreshments and lunch. Advance registrations must be received in the Conference Office by **April 8th**. We are pleased again to offer this registration fee waived for retired clergy and their spouses and Members-In-Discernment. We hope you will join us. Please send registrations along with payment (made payable to **Northeast Wisconsin Association UCC**) to: Wisconsin Conference UCC, 4459 Gray Road, De Forest, WI, 53532 or on-line registration ([NE Annual Meeting](#)). For a paper copy of the registration form, click [here](#).

In mid April, you will receive (1) printed copy of the White Book which will contain advance materials and agenda. We will also be sending an electronic "pdf" version for your distribution.

Peace,
Rev. Andi Wolf, Moderator
Northeast Wisconsin Association, United Church of Christ

Souper Cooks March 22

We're back for another round of cooking and serving at NEW Community Shelter, 301 Mather Street. Our schedule for Thursday, March 22 is for prep (9:00 a.m.) and serve (4:45 p.m.) We need six people for cooking and six for serving. If you're a veteran cook or volunteering for the first time, here's what you can expect:

The food preparation begins at 9:00 a.m. We make Mac N Cheese, salads and two large cakes. We generally rely on six people to devote about an hour (sometimes a little longer depending on how fast the water boils) to complete all this work. Yes, it can be done in an hour with a small crew.

We begin serving the meal at 4:45 p.m. Our dishes are brought from Nesco roasters to serving trays. The hot food line begins at 5:00 p.m. We generally see 160 to 200 people per meal; about 5:30 the line is open for seconds and some people return. By 5:45 our work is usually finished.

Clean up? Not for us. That task belongs to the shelter; some residents have clean up assigned as their work tasks. We simply smile and wait for our next dinner, usually the following month.

If your schedule permits, join us for morning prep, or swing by after work for a very rewarding volunteer activity. Sign up by contacting Lou Norsetter at 497-4410 or 217-1911 or by contacting the church office 437-9266. Thank you for your participation.

Church Camp Scholarships Available!

Our wonderful church camps at Moon Beach and Pilgrim Center are accepting registrations for summer programs. Visit www.ucci.org and click on "register" to see the wide variety of camps available for children, youth, and families.

Union's Gifts and Memorials Ministry has set aside a limited amount of funds to serve as need based scholarships, with the hope that all Union members who want to attend church camp are able to do so. Application forms are available at Union Central or by contacting the church office. Forms are due to the church office by May 15.

**Invite
A Friend
To Church!**



Easter Flowers

Contributions for the Easter altar can be sent to the church office along with this form. The cost of a lily is \$20.

- Please send your contribution by Sunday, March 25.
- Flowers may be taken home after 10 a.m. Easter service.
- If you are able to help water our Easter flowers, please contact the church office (437-9266) or make a note below. Thank you!

Flower Order

I/We will provide flowers for the Easter Altar.

Dedication _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Check enclosed \$ _____

Ecumenical Partnership for Housing (EPH) Wish List

- Area Rugs – we have gone to laminate floors, so gently used area rugs add warmth and comfort to our homes.
- High chairs – we have a need for two high chairs. We could also use a few booster seats for younger children.
- Gently used 32 - 48 inch flat screen TV's (no converter boxes).
- We could use a volunteer to help with office cleaning. About two hours once a week.
- Do you have a car? Interested in assisting families with transportation? Let us know, and we'll guide you through the process of completing a background check.
- We are again in the market for a single family home or duplex for our long-term supportive housing program. If you are thinking of selling and would like your home to be used in ministry with homeless families, you will be providing a pathway to self-sufficiency for a family in our community!

Please call 920-676-3779 or email ephmanager1@gmail.com if you can help. Thanks!

Union Church Calendar

March 11, 2018—April 16, 2018

March 11 Sunday

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Daylight-Saving Time Begins

8:30 a.m. Youth Choir

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation

9:00 a.m. Second Sunday Series:
Littigs re: Cuba

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

5:00 p.m. Movie: "Up"

March 13 Tuesday

5:00 p.m. Stewardship Ministry

5:30 p.m. Inreach Ministry

6:30 p.m. Common Ministry

6:30 p.m. Adult Gay-Straight
Alliance

March 14 Wednesday

5:45 p.m. Dinner

6:15 p.m. PF & YCA

March 15 Thursday

5:30 p.m. Handbell Ensemble

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

March 17 Open House

2 to 4 p.m. Meet Jon Pahl, Ph.D.

March 18 Sunday

8:30 a.m. Youth Choir

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

Special Congregational Meeting
after worship

5:00 p.m. Movie: "The Butler"

March 19 Monday

5:30 p.m. Worship Ministry

5:30 p.m. Advocacy Team

March 21 Wednesday

5:45 p.m. Dinner

6:15 p.m. PF & YCA

March 22 Thursday

9:00 a.m. Souper Cooks

5:30 p.m. Handbell Ensemble

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

March 25 Palm Sunday

8:30 a.m. Youth Choir

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

March 26 Monday

6:00 p.m. Saudade

March 27 Tuesday

1:00 p.m. Priscilla Circle

March 28 Wednesday

NO YOUTH GROUPS

March 29 Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Worship in the sanctuary
with Holy Communion

March 30 Good Friday

7:00 p.m. Worship in the sanctuary

April 1 Easter Sunday

8:00 a.m. Worship in the chapel

8:30 a.m. Breakfast in Pilgrim Hall

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

No Faith Formation on Easter Sunday

April 3 Tuesday

Spring General Election

April 4 Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Men's Breakfast Group

NO YOUTH GROUPS

Dates and times

for the April meetings of
Outreach and Worship Ministries
have yet to be determined.

April 5 Thursday

5:30 p.m. Handbell Ensemble

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

April 8 Sunday

8:30 a.m. Youth Choir

9:00 a.m. Second Sunday Series:
K.C. Williams

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

April 10 Tuesday

4:00 p.m. Education Ministry

5:00 p.m. Stewardship Ministry

5:30 p.m. Inreach Ministry

6:30 p.m. Common Ministry

6:30 p.m. Adult Gay-Straight
Alliance

April 11 Wednesday

5:45 p.m. Dinner

6:15 p.m. PF & YCA

April 12 Thursday

5:30 p.m. Handbell Ensemble

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

7:00 p.m. New Member Class

April 13 Friday

7:00 p.m. Lakeland University
Choir in Concert

April 15 Sunday

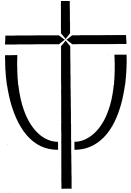
8:30 a.m. Youth Choir

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation

10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary

April 16 Monday

5:30 p.m. Advocacy Team



Union Congregational
United Church of Christ
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Green Bay, WI 54301

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Are You Interested in Learning More About Union Church?



On Thursday, April 12 and Wednesday, April 18, our New Member Ministry will host Inquirers Classes for those who are interested in knowing more about Union Church and membership. On April 12, we will meet in the English Room of the church at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be provided. On April 18, we will meet in Pilgrim Hall at 5:30 p.m. for dinner with the Union Church youth groups, adjourning to the English Room for the balance of our time together.

These classes are a way to introduce those interested in Union Church to who we are and what we believe – as Christians, as the United Church of Christ, and as a part of Union Church. If you need child care, please call the church office (437-9266). We will conclude by 8:30 p.m. on the 12th and by 7:30 p.m. on the 18th. On Sunday, April 29, we will receive those who choose to covenant with our congregation into membership.

For further information or to sign up, please call the church office.

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

Steven B. Hartman

Pastor of Visitation

Sandy Polarek

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>