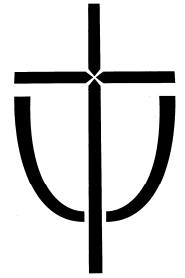


# Still Speaking



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

April 2019

## The Inside Scoop

### Newsletter Deadline

*Our next newsletter will be published  
the week of **May 8, 2019.**  
The deadline for that newsletter is  
Friday, **May 3, 2019.***

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In the early church, the Sunday after Easter was celebrated as Bright Sunday. It was a day of silliness and practical jokes. People would wear silly hats, play games, dance, and even have water fights. The idea was that, in the resurrection, God had played the ultimate joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. In Easter, God got the last laugh, and so should we. After the profundity of the Last Supper, the devastation of the passion and crucifixion, and the unfathomable glory of the resurrection, we need some laughter.

In recent years, some churches are resurrecting this practice, which they're now calling "Holy Humor Sunday." Much like Bright Sunday centuries ago, Holy Humor Sunday celebrates the utter madness, the utter joy, the sheer glee, that death does not have the last word. Human sin and brokenness is not the end of the story. God, and within that love and hope, are the strongest forces in the universe.

Since this winter has seemed so long, the prayers you have written and shared have been so deep, we're going to celebrate Holy Humor Sunday the Sunday after Easter this year, April 28. Wear your goofy hats and mismatched socks, ask Ray if you can accompany him on kazoo, come prepared to share a joke in coffee hour, and experience the levity that is warranted because God, through Jesus, triumphed over sin and death.

In order to get there, though, we have some powerful worship, commemoration, serving, and praying to do:

In our Passion/Palm Sunday worship, we'll begin with the children of the church dancing joyously up the aisles to a traditional Israeli folk song as they distribute palm branches, then a series of church members will offer a readers' theater of reflections on the last week of Jesus' life.

On Maundy Thursday, we will gather in Pilgrim Hall for an Agape Meal, or love meal, by integrating a simple soup supper into a celebration of Communion. The people gathered around each table will serve one another Communion, then we'll share a simple soup supper as we answer discussion questions about Communion, the Last Supper, and Jesus' final commandment: to love one another. (Did you know that is where Maundy Thursday gets its name — the "mandatum," or commandment, to love one another?)

*(continued on page 2)*

**Lectionary Readings****April 14 — Palm Sunday**

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 • Luke 19:28-40  
(Liturgy of the Palms)  
Isa 50:4-9a • Ps 31:9-16 • Phil 2:5-11  
Luke 22:14-23:56 or Luke 23:1-49  
(Liturgy of the Passion)

**April 18 — Maundy Thursday**

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14  
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

**April 19 — Good Friday**

Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
Psalm 22 • Hebrews 10:16-25 or  
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9  
John 18:1-19:42

**April 20 — Holy Saturday**

Job 14:1-14 or Lam 3:1-9, 19-24  
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16 • 1 Peter 4:1-8  
Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42

**April 21 — Easter Sunday**

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 65:17-25  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
1 Cor 15:19-26 or Acts 10:34-43  
John 20:1-18 or Luke 24:1-12

**April 28 — 2nd Sunday of Easter**

Acts 5:27-32  
Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150  
Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

**May 5 — 3rd Sunday of Easter**

Acts 9:1-6, (7-20); Psalm 30  
Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

**May 12 — 4th Sunday of Easter**

Acts 9:36-43  
Psalm 23  
Revelation 7:9-17  
John 10:22-30

*(continued from page 1)*

This year on Good Friday, we will be blessed by the offering of a beautiful choral cantata presented by a combination of our chancel choir and that of West Side Moravian Church. Following the cantata, we will celebrate a Tenebrae, or service of shadows, in which the light in the sanctuary will symbolically diminish as we read the story of Jesus' passion and crucifixion. I am moved to tears each year when the final reader proclaims, "Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom."

Theologically, Saturday is the day of silence, the day of Jesus' entombment. Practically, it is the day of the Astor Neighborhood Association Easter Egg Hunt. Gather with our neighbors for the hunt, or contact Jon if you'd like to help staff Union's face painting table.

After the silence of Saturday, after the Lenten scriptures on reconciliation and forgiveness and repentance, after Ash Wednesday's reminder of our mortality and finitude, we will gather on Sunday to marvel at the most incomprehensible mystery in the universe — Jesus' resurrection, in which God triumphed over the grave. Our early service in Bagby Chapel will include a celebration of Holy Communion, and our later service of glorious praise will include a brass quintet.

Friends, you've shared a lot with me this winter — about joy and relationship and disconnectedness and estrangement, about the unrivaled joy of holding a newborn grandchild and about loved ones' depression and addiction, about the diminishment of age and the wisdom of years. My prayer for you this month is that you will take the time to immerse yourself in the stories and rituals of our faith, and in doing so come to understand even more deeply the power and grace of our God and your place in the continually unfolding story of Jesus' love.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Bridget

## Priscilla Circle Meets April 23

Members of Priscilla Circle will gather at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23 in the English Room. Pat Shafer will talk about On the Mark Dyslexia Clinic and the work it has been doing this past year. Wendy Christian will be our hostess. Join us!

**Our Attendance**

March	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
1st Sunday	110	113
2nd Sunday	72	112
3rd Sunday	108	153
4th Sunday	110	165
5th Sunday	155	--
<b>Totals</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>543</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>111.0</b>	<b>135.8</b>

## **Volunteers Needed for Synod 32**

In June, we in the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ will host General Synod 32 in Milwaukee! We need people to sign up to volunteer! Opportunities include greeters, guides, registration, word processing for committees, floor stewards, ushers, exhibit hall support, and more. Find volunteer info and sign up at [www.wcucc.org/synodvolunteer](http://www.wcucc.org/synodvolunteer).

## **Quarterly Meeting April 28 after Worship**

Stay after worship on April 28 for our first quarterly meeting. In these meetings we will help congregants stay current on the church's finances and share the status of fundraising projects to close our budget deficit. Additionally, each ministry will take a turn once throughout the year to share some highlights of their work.

## **Church Camp Scholarships Available!**

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

Union has 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.

## **JOSHUA Working for Justice In Brown County and Wisconsin**

I am providing this update as your representative on the JOSHUA Board.

JOSHUA currently has three task forces that focus on justice issues: Prison Reform, Affordable Housing, and Environmental Justice. This update will focus on Prison Reform. Steve Hartman and I have been active on this task force.

The Prison Reform task force is focused on finding alternatives to continued jail expansion such as bail reform and treatment alternatives. We are especially concerned about situations in which low income and mentally ill persons are adversely affected. We are working with Sheriff Delain to make sure that families can afford to communicate with incarcerated loved ones and that those communications are as humane and supporting as they can be. The sheriff recently proposed to the county board that face to face visits be replaced with communication using electronic tablets. Steve, a pastor who does prison ministry, the co-chair of the task force, and I recently met with the sheriff explaining task force concerns that separating loved ones from inmates as well as the costs to inmates and loved ones to use electronic visits are not consistent with humane and restorative justice principles. He told us he would take our concerns into consideration since he was still at the planning stages.

JOSHUA is a member of WISDOM, a state-wide alliance of faith-based justice organizations. We support WISDOM's state-wide initiatives. Some of those that focus on prison reform include:

Reduce prison population by one-third in the next two years by:

- Increasing TAD (Treatment Alternatives and Diversions) by \$15 million.
- Reviewing all parole-eligible people and release those who are overdue.
- Ending crimeless revocations (annually over 3,000 people on probation, parole or extended supervision enter prison for infractions that do not involve new convictions). Over the last five years, seven Midwest states have taken steps to close prisons and reduce levels of re-incarceration. Funds saved can be used for alternative treatments at a much lower cost.
- Ending the use of solitary confinement for more than 15 days. More than 15 days is considered torture by the United Nations.

Wisconsin must:

- Stop placing mentally-ill prisoners in solitary.
- End long-term placement in solitary, which in some cases has been decades.
- Document the number of days inmates spend in solitary to immediately reduce by 50% the number of days served in solitary.
- Initiate a process that will end solitary confinement of more than 15 days.

Feel free to talk to me if you have questions or would like to get involved in JOSHUA's activities.

—Jeff Gibson

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## Who's Graduating?



We would like to recognize our 2019 graduates in our June newsletter. Please let the church office know (437-9266 or [office@unionucc.com](mailto:office@unionucc.com)) if you will be a 2019 graduate (high school, college) and what type of degree (associate's, bachelor's, master's, doctorate, etc.) you have earned. We would like to say congratulations and give others a chance to do the same!

## Used Book Sale May 5 and May 12

Your donations for the used book sale have been flowing in! Thank you. Keep them coming. The sale is held before and after church on May 5 and 12 in Pilgrim Hall.

New this year, the Fictionista group, which has been evaluating the library's fiction collection, will offer their well-read expertise. Look for the "Fictionistas Recommend" bookmarks in the sale books and a table with some of Union's more interesting fiction offerings.

Also on display will be pictorial excerpts from a new adult picture book that Union Church has acquired called Undocumented. Author and illustrator, Duncan Tonatiuh, developed the idea for the book while at Parsons School of Design in New York City and after volunteering at a Mixtec (one of Mexico's indigenous tribes) worker's center. Tonatiuh (ton nah tee YOU) was born in Mexico and educated in the United States. His art combines modern and Mixtec styles.

## "Gayby Baby" Screening with the Human Rights Campaign

Fellowship 5:30 p.m. Dinner 5:45 p.m. Movie begins at 6:15 p.m.

Wednesday, April 24, 2019 in Pilgrim Hall



The Australian documentary "Gayby Baby" follows children of LGBTQ parents as they grow up on the other side of ordinary. This is a film for young and old that shows how love and a sense of humor can help kids conquer all obstacles.

We will screen this film with members of Green Bay's Human Rights Campaign. As the largest national lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer civil rights organization, HRC envisions a world where LGBTQ people are ensured of their basic equal rights, and can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community.

## Adult Education Offerings in April

### Second Sunday Series, April 14

Guests from Habitat for Humanity and Thrivent Financial will speak with us about our partnership with Habitat and how to leverage relationships between Habitat and Thrivent for financial benefit to the homeless and to Union Church. Come join us at 9:00 a.m. in the Bagby Chapel.

### How Do I Help Homeless Children?

Sunday, April 28

New EPH director, Julie Aderhold, will show us how to answer that question through the Ecumenical Partnership for Housing. We will also learn about our own Jubilee House. See you at 9:00 a.m. in the Bagby Chapel.

# Holy Week at Union Church



## Palm Sunday—April 14

- 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
- 10:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Procession;  
Worship in Sanctuary



## Maundy Thursday—April 18

- 7:00 p.m. Agape Meal: Holy Communion  
with Simple Soup Supper in Pilgrim Hall



## Good Friday—April 19

- 7:00 p.m. Choir Cantata and a Tenebrae  
“Service of Shadows” in the Sanctuary



## Easter Sunday—April 21

- 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

## Easter Egg Hunt, April 20

April 20—10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Union's Outreach Ministry will have a face-painting table at the Annual Astor Association Easter Egg Hunt, which will be held at St. James Park on Saturday, April 20. Visitors can arrive at 9:30 a.m. to sign in and visit with neighbors. The egg hunt will start at 10 a.m. and the event will end at 11.

## Easter Breakfast

April 21—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 will be gratefully accepted.

# Immigrant Advocacy Teach-In: From Compassion to Action

Saturday, May 4, 2019  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (lunch included)

How can we be advocates for immigrants to Green Bay  
(and beyond), and how can we motivate others to be allies?

## Keynote Speakers



**Rev. Noel Anderson**  
United Church of Christ and Church  
World Service Grassroots Coordina-  
tor for Immigrants' Rights



**Gabriella Parra, JD**  
Immigration Attorney,  
Milwaukee, WI

## Worshop/Breakout Session Leaders

- **Stacie Christian**, PhD, UWGB Pride Center
- **Sr. Melanie Maczka**, Executive Director, Casa ALBA Melanie
- **Luca Fagundes**, JD, Immigration Attorney in Green Bay
- **Dina Duarte**, Bilingual Victim Advocate, Sexual Assault Center, Family Services
- **Elvita Erdmann**, Hispanic Coordinator, FSNEW
- **Kevin Warych**, Captain, Green Bay Fire Department
- **H. James Smet**, Co-Coordinator, Migration Advocacy Network
- **Dr. Hector Rodriguez**, Citizenship Class Teacher: "Immigrant to Citizen"

The day concludes with a "Latin Jazz" service celebrating **Cinco de Mayo** featuring Rissel Peguero (piano), Matt Hillman (guitar), Andrew Bader (bass), Dr. Bill Sallak (drums) and Dr. Jon Pahl (sax).

\$10 to reserve a place. To register, send your name, email, phone number and check or credit card info to [office@unionucc.com](mailto:office@unionucc.com) or Union Church, or call 437-9266.



## Your Church Library

by Cathy Putman

Union Church is a congregation that supports justice seeking. Here are a few stories of change in process – ultimately seeking dignity for ourselves and others as we seek a better world.

### **Loaded: the Disarming History of the Second Amendment**

Author Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz brings an historical perspective to this fast paced, well-argued book. She looks at the circumstances which warranted an individual right to bear arms in the Bill of Rights and how those circumstances built a culture of white male citizen strength based in outright land ownership. These armed citizens responded to challenges to their land – from slave uprisings to Native American tribal warfare – by the formation of voluntary militias and over time initiated a change in the meaning of gun ownership. Dunbar-Ortiz says gun rights and gun control activists ignore these historic uses of guns and the unacknowledged white supremacist underpinnings of the Second Amendment. It's a book to read to shake up your views about gun control no matter which side you support.

### **Protestants Abroad** by David A. Hollinger

Hollinger's introduction succinctly summarizes the systemic change in American parochialism brought by Protestant missionaries and their families. "The Protestant foreign missionary project expected to make the world look more like the United States. Instead it made the United States look more like the world. ... Missionaries, their children, and their closest associates became conspicuous players during the middle decades of the twentieth century in the Foreign Service, universities, foundations, churches, literature, journalism, the military and several reform movements." In these fields, the missionary-connected promoted multicultural programs and brought to the fore alliances with people of color in the global sphere. Hollinger, a much praised historian for his scholarship and eloquence, shows how America slowly became a more educated and sometimes more tolerant partner in world affairs.

### **Beyond \$15: Immigrant Workers, Faith Activists, and the Revival of the Labor Movement** by Jonathan Rosenblum

The industrial labor movement propelled an historic improvement in worker wages in first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The writer was an organizer for the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) from 2011 to 2014 when a coalition group re-energized the union fight and secured a living minimum wage for Seattle's Sea-Tac Airport workers. This book is the inside story of that fight for long term power in negotiation and at the ballot box. The outcome of higher wages was more time -- to spend with families, to make better quality meals, to go to school, to go to church, a few reasons why six states since 2016 have approved a \$15 minimum wage.

A similar story is told in the adult picture book **Undocumented** by Duncan Tonatiuh which will soon be featured in a display in Pilgrim Hall.

**Factfulness**, recommended by Jon Pahl in a recent sermon, is now in the library. For those who would like to learn more about Dietrich Bonhoeffer after hearing Michael Luken's talk, take a look at Charles Marsh's biography, **Strange Glory**. All books mentioned here are in the basket under the window in the church library.

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## A Message from Gifts & Memorials Ministry

We are always thankful  
for the generosity  
and forethought  
of our members  
who have gone before us  
as they envisioned the future of  
Union Congregational  
United Church of Christ.  
Their legacies continue to grace us  
through gifts left in their wills  
which have helped us to remain  
a vital and vibrant congregation.

We, too, can invest  
in the future of vital ministries,  
enabling Union to reach out  
with Christ's love  
to future generations.

**Please consider including  
Union Church in your will.**

Thank You!

## Altar Flowers

Please consider  
providing flowers  
for the altar in  
memory of a loved  
one or in celebration of a special  
event. These dates are available  
for you to provide flowers:



**May 5, 12 and 26**

Please call the church office at  
437-9266 or sign up on the board  
next to the office if you'd like to  
provide altar flowers. Thank you.

## Church Rummage Sale is May 17 & 18

Donations and volunteers are being sought for Outreach's rummage sale at Union Church! The two-day sale is Friday, May 17 (8 a.m. to 2 p.m.) and Saturday, May 18 (8 a.m. to noon). One volunteer is needed each morning and afternoon to assist with customers, and at least six volunteers are needed to quickly pack up leftover items on Saturday, May 18 at noon, and then to take the items to a thrift shop or non-profit of your choice. Volunteers, please sign up on the rummage sale volunteer sheet in Pilgrim Hall. Your donations of clean and gently used kitchen items, home decor, purses, sporting goods, DVDs and CDs, yard stuff, small furniture and vintage and antiques can be brought to the classroom behind Bagby Chapel starting on Sunday, May 12 through Thursday, May 16. Please — NO clothing, televisions, printers, computer items. Questions? contact Christie Reese or Stacie Christian. Thank you for your support!

## Save the Date: Second Annual Silent Auction

Save the date of Saturday, September 21 (6 to 8 p.m.), for the second annual silent auction fundraiser for Union Church! We are seeking donations of theme baskets; some clean and gently used vintage and antique items; quality art and gift items, and gift certificates from you or businesses that you utilize. Great ideas for theme baskets include holiday, date night, children's, readers or media, food, pets, and garden, or your special creation! If you are seeking donations from businesses, you can pick up the donation request form from the Union church office which assists with receiving donations from businesses. More details in the near future! Questions about your donation ideas can be answered by Ben VerGiesen and Stacie Christian. Thank you!

## Our Church Family



# Union Church Calendar

April 14—May 15, 2019

## HOLY WEEK

at UNION CHURCH

### April 14 Palm Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
- 9:00 a.m. Second Sunday Series:  
Habitat and Thrivent
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. COMSA Hijabi Party  
for Women at the YWCA

### April 16 Tuesday

- 1:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

### April 17 Wednesday

- 5:30 p.m. Dinner Church
- 6:15 p.m. PF & YCA

### April 18 Maundy Thursday

- 7:00 p.m. Holy Communion with  
Simple Soup Supper in  
Pilgrim Hall

### April 19 Good Friday

- 7:00 p.m. Choir Cantata and  
Tenebrae in the sanctuary

### April 20 Holy Saturday

- 9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt  
at St. James Park
- 1:00 p.m. Proud Theater

### April 21 Easter Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Worship with Holy  
Communion 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 23 Tuesday

- 12:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 1:00 p.m. Priscilla Circle  
NO CHANCEL CHOIR

### April 24 Wednesday

- 5:45 p.m. Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. PF & YCA
- 6:15 p.m. Screening "Gayby Baby"  
with Green Bay's Human  
Rights Campaign

### April 27 Saturday

- 1:00 p.m. Proud Theater

### April 28 Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: EPH
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary
- 11:15 a.m. Quarterly Meeting

### April 30 Tuesday

- 12:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

### May 1 Wednesday

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group
- 5:45 p.m. Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. PF & YCA

### May 4 Saturday

- 8:30 a.m. Union Advocacy Day
- 1:15 p.m. Latin Jazz Service of  
Readings and Prayers

### May 5 Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Ed
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary  
Used Book Sale  
before and after worship

### May 7 Tuesday

- 12:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 4:30 p.m. Outreach Ministry
- 5:00 p.m. Worship Ministry
- 5:30 p.m. Bell Choir
- 6:30 p.m. Education Ministry
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

### May 8 Wednesday

- 4:00 p.m. Pastoral Relations
- 5:45 p.m. Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. PF & YCA

### May 9 Thursday

- 5:00 p.m. New Member/Inreach  
Ministry
- 6:00 p.m. Common Ministry

### May 11 Saturday

- 1:00 p.m. Proud Theater

### May 12 Good Shepherd Sunday

#### HOUSING OFFERING

- 9:00 a.m. Faith Formation
- 9:00 a.m. Second Sunday Series
- 10:00 a.m. Worship in the sanctuary  
Used Book Sale  
before and after worship

### May 14 Tuesday

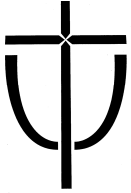
- 12:00 p.m. Bible Study

### May 15 Wednesday

- 5:45 p.m. Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. YCA

## Saudade

Saudade, our grief support group, is re-visioning itself. Watch here for our new developments.



Union Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
716 S. Madison Street  
Green Bay, WI 54301

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## Jazz Ministry at Union Church



The Jazz Ministry Team (Julie Macier, David Hassel, Seong-Kyung Graham, Andrew Bader, and Jon Pahl) is pleased to announce a number of exciting initiatives that will incorporate jazz into our community life this spring. Please join us!

**Saturday, May 4: 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.**

*Latin Jazz Service of Readings and Prayers*

This service will conclude the workshop we're having on Immigration Advocacy, as we celebrate Cinco de Mayo, too!

**Sunday, May 19: 10:00 a.m. *Latin Jazz Sunday***

Same service as above (with additional liturgy to fit our Sunday patterns, including congregational singing!) as part of regular Sunday worship.

**Sunday, June 30: 10:00 a.m.**

*Duke Ellington 4th of July Celebration*

This is a reprise of last year's well-regarded service.

### **Union Congregational United Church of Christ**

716 S. Madison Street  
Green Bay, WI 54301  
e-mail: [office@unionucc.com](mailto:office@unionucc.com)  
(920) 437-9266

#### **Rev. Bridget M. Flad Daniels**

Senior Minister

#### **Dr. Jon Pahl**

Minister of Faith Formation  
and Community Engagement

#### **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>