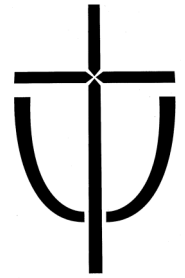


# Still Speaking



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

**Spring Forward!**  
**Daylight Saving Time Begins**  
**Sunday, March 14**

March 2021

## Calling All Cinephiles: Another Way to Observe Lent (or Women's History Month)

### The Inside Scoop

#### Newsletter Deadline

Our next newsletter will be published  
the week of **April 14, 2021.**

The deadline for that newsletter is  
**Friday, April 9, 2021.**

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I like movies. Even more, I like studying movies. One of the classes I teach at the seminary in Philadelphia is titled Faith and Film. Every year I pick a theme. One year it was "Jesus Movies." Last year it was "Apocalypse and Sacrifice." This year it's "Women, Globalization and Christianity."

I'd invite you to join the class as an auditor, but that's above my pay grade! Instead, I thought I'd let you know a little bit about how the class runs, and what we're watching so that if you'd like, you might follow along on your own. We're not having our Sunday evening "Soup and Movies" this Lent, so I hope this gives you an alternative. The filmography follows below:

- 1915: **Hypocrites** (U.S./Europe--Protestant/Ascetic Catholicism)  
Available in DVD or streaming at Amazon Prime
- 1920: **Within our Gates** (U.S./African American)  
Widely available in DVD or streaming at Amazon Prime
- 1947: **Black Narcissus** (UK, India, Tibet--Roman Catholic)  
Widely available on DVD/Blu-Ray or streaming at Amazon Prime
- 1989: **Where the Spirit Lives** (Canada; Anglican--Indigenous)  
Available free on YouTube
- 1990: **The Handmaid's Tale** (U.S./Protestant--Dystopia)  
Widely available (Be sure to get movie directed by Volker Schlöndorff)
- 1995: **Dead Man Walking** (Roman Catholicism; U.S.) Widely available
- 1998: **Beloved** (U.S./African American Protestant-Indigenous)  
Widely available.
- 2008: **Pray the Devil Back to Hell** (Nigeria; Protestant-Muslim-Indigenous)  
Widely available.
- 2015: **Gayby Baby** (Australia; Protestant/Catholic)  
Available on Amazon Prime

(continued on page 2)

## Lectionary Readings

### March 14 — 4th Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22  
Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

### March 21 — 5th Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16  
Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

### March 28 — Palm Sunday

(Liturgy of the Palms)  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Matthew 21:1-11 or John 12:12-16  
(Liturgy of the Passion)  
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Mark 14:1-15:47 or  
Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)

### April 1 — 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 2 — 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 3 — Holy Saturday

Job 14:1-14 or  
Lamentations 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 4 — Easter Sunday

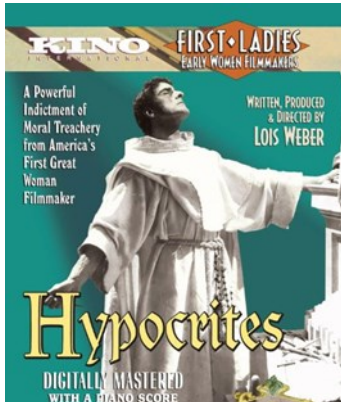
Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43  
John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

### April 11 — 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133  
1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

(continued from page 1)

As you can see, I take a historical approach (the original list of contenders had 36 titles. I HAD to narrow it down!) I picked films that would be readily available, trying to cover somewhat women's participation in Christianity in diverse contexts and settings (truth be told, the U.S. gets too much attention). Students are required to write "theological reviews" of six films.



This week they wrote on *Hypocrites*, a stunning film by Lois Weber, who was America's highest paid producer until D. W. Griffith directed his racist *Birth of a Nation*. Griffith's movie was the first "blockbuster" film in U.S. history, and it was based on a book called *The Klansman* (hint: he's not a bad guy). And if it surprises you that a blatantly racist movie generated America's first film blockbuster, well....

Anyway, I have a few textbooks that I ask students to read—notably James Monaco's *How to Read a Film*, which provides some great tips for understanding how movies are put together (which enhances viewing A LOT), and John Lyden's book *Film as Religion*. I also assign readings to accompany each film (usually brief academic articles or reviews).

So I encourage you this Lent, as a different kind of devotion, perhaps, to check out some of these films and see what they have to say to you about Christianity, women, and globalization. The first two films, in particular, are silent films that pack a pretty big wallop in their critical take on how Christianity works for (and impedes) women (and *Within Our Gates* is also a critique of *Birth of a Nation* by the most prominent African American filmmaker of the silent era, Oscar Micheaux).

There's a logic in the sequencing, moving from films that highlight the troubling side of women's participation in Christianity, to perspectives that highlight Christianity's liberating potential including beyond gender binaries.

Finally, if you're interested in this kind of thing, there's a great (free) online journal called *The Journal of Religion and Film*, published out of the University of Nebraska. It's an excellent place to visit to get new ideas for films to view. And you'll find scholarly (but accessible) articles and reviews that highlight various aspects of any movie listed. The most recent edition has dozens of reviews of films from the recent Sundance Film Festival (online, of course).

Studying movies that tackle spirituality and religion can be a wonderful way to deepen your faith and to see the world with new eyes—which is kind of what Lent is all about, after all.

In Christ,  
Jon Pahl, Ph.D.

## Holy Week with Union Church

Worship will be accessible via Facebook Live  
on the Union Congregational United Church of Christ page  
or on our YouTube channel which can be accessed from [www.unionucc.com](http://www.unionucc.com).



### Palm Sunday—March 28

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
10:00 a.m. Worship

### Maundy Thursday—April 1

7:00 p.m. Agape Meal within Worship



### Good Friday—April 2

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Worship in the Shadows



### Easter Sunday—April 4

10:00 a.m. Joyful Easter Worship  
11:15 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour (get link in This Week at Union)



No Faith Formation, No Adult Education on Easter Sunday

### Second Sunday of Easter—April 11

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion  
11:15 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour (get link in This Week at Union)

## Opening Our Hearts: Our Lenten Series Continues



Looking for a spiritual practice to nourish your heart and soul this season?  
Join us on the final two **Wednesdays in Lent (7 p.m.)** as we Open Our Hearts in a breadth of ways:

March 17—Opening Our Hearts To The Old Testament's Merciful God with Julie Harder

March 24—Opening Our Hearts To Racial Justice with David Hassel

The Zoom link for this series will appear in your This Week at Union email.

## Union Now Has An Instagram Account

Instagram



Do you connect  
with others through Instagram?  
Union now has an Instagram account!  
Please follow us @unionucc.

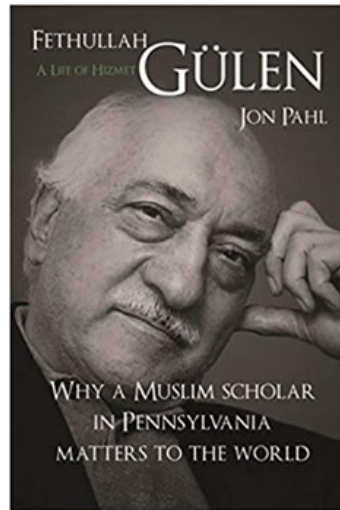
And, if you're not already doing it, follow us on Facebook@unionucc. In addition to hosting our live weekly worship service and sharing reminders of upcoming events, we'll be adding more interactive and social content around faith, love, inclusion, gratitude, the community, and more.

## Visitation Ministry

The Visitation Ministry is looking to revitalize its efforts to provide outreach to congregants. Since we're unable to visit people in their homes right now, we're hoping to establish relationships in which members are paired up for monthly check-ins – in healthy, socially distanced ways. By visiting regularly via phone (or perhaps other means if possible), our hope is to nurture the spirits of our members and provide a means for them to maintain a strong connection to our church community.

Interested in being trained to be a visitor OR interested in having a visitor assigned to you? Contact Lou Norsetter at [lnorset0629@gmail.com](mailto:lnorset0629@gmail.com) or 920-497-4410.

## Adult Education for Spring



As we continue our anti-racism work in Adult Education, we'll shift gears a little bit to expand our work. The schedule is getting full, and exciting. Do plan to join us at 9 a.m.

Our recent conversation with Wil Gafney about her book "Womanist Midrash" was full of prickly insights into the patriarchal (and misogynist) legacy of Scripture, while also lifting up the strength of the women in the Hebrew Bible—once you start paying attention.

After we wrap up our study of Dr. Gafney's book, in two more weeks, we'll take a couple of Sundays to introduce you to the anti-racism work of Fethullah Gulen. You don't need a copy of the book, which is available easily online, but

if you have one it would be helpful. Jon Pahl receives no royalties from the book. Ten percent of each copy goes to a nonprofit called "Advocates for Silenced Turkey."

Then, member Zoe Harkoff will engage us in the excellent anti-racism work of Fr. Richard Rohr for a couple weeks. Fr. Rohr is a Franciscan priest of the New Mexico Province. He is the founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation and academic dean of the CAC's Living School. An internationally recognized author and spiritual leader, Fr. Richard teaches primarily on incarnational mysticism, nondual consciousness, and contemplation, with a particular emphasis on how these affect the social justice issues of our time.

Finally, for the remainder of spring, with the leadership of our Immigration Advocacy Team, we'll focus on immigration advocacy as anti-racism work, studying local initiatives. We'll have some guest speakers with us. Details to follow. The Zoom link will be in this week at Union.

**Every session is via Zoom, Sundays at 9 a.m.**

- March 14 Wil Gafney, "Womanist Midrash" (Chapter 8-Dominated by David)
- March 21 Jon Pahl, Fethullah Gulen and Anti-Racism (especially Chapter 4)
- March 28 Jon Pahl, Fethullah Gulen and Anti-Racism (especially Chapter 5)
- April 4 EASTER — No Meeting
- April 11 Zoe Harkoff and Jon Pahl on Richard Rohr
- April 18 Zoe Harkoff and Jon Pahl on Richard Rohr
- April 25 Immigration Advocacy as Anti-Racism
- May 2 Immigration Advocacy as Anti-Racism
- May 9 Immigration Advocacy as Anti-Racism
- May 16 Immigration Advocacy as Anti-Racism
- May 23 Wrap-up Session: What We've Learned about Being an Anti-Racist?

## Resuming In-Person Worship

The days are getting longer, temperatures are starting to rise, and Covid-19 virus numbers are starting to fall! Who would have imagined in March of 2020 how radically our lives would change? We all miss worshipping together, and we are looking forward to when we can resume worshipping together in a healthy way.

On the recommendation of Union's Resuming In-Person Worship Task Force, our Common Ministry plans to once again offer worship from our sanctuary when COVID-19 disease activity in Brown County reaches what the WI Department of Health Services calls a low level, and when the trajectory of COVID related hospitalizations in our region begin to shrink.

In the coming weeks, we hope to start reporting where Brown County is in this framework in our This Week at Union email, so that you can watch as we get closer to returning to our building.

At first, worship will be limited to 50 people or fewer on site, by reservation, distanced and masked, and we'll need numerous volunteers to make this happen. Services will be streamed, so all who are not on site will be able to continue to worship with us remotely. Watch your email for details.

## Our Church Family

### A Pair of Fundraisers

#### Heartland Pizza

Every Tuesday, Heartland Pizza donates a portion of its proceeds to a specific organization, and sales on **Tuesday, March 16** will benefit Union. Encourage your friends and neighbors to support Union in this easy way, too!

Over the past 3.5 years they've now given more than \$40,000 to fundraising partners to help make our community a better place to live. Doesn't knowing that make your pizza taste even better?

#### Three Rivers Wreath and Plant Co.

We're again partnering with Three Rivers Wreath and Plant Company to offer mail order bulbs March 1 through April 26. Bulbs are delivered to your door in May, and Union members receive 50% of your purchase price! Our experience last year was that the bulbs are very high quality, but you need to order quickly, as variety wanes as the fundraiser goes on.

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## Support Souper Cooks

Through the generosity of church members, Souper Cooks has continued to make salads once a month for the NEW Community Shelter during the pandemic. The shelter has asked us to make full meals starting in March, and Outreach Ministry is in need of funds as meals for nearly 200 people cost about \$300 monthly. In normal years, these efforts are funded by our rummage sale, bake sales, and other fundraisers.

If you are interested in donating to support Union’s Souper Cooks moving back to full meal prep, please consider donating to the church with "Souper Cooks" noted on your check memo line. You can mail your check to Union Church, 716 S. Madison St., Green Bay, 54301. You can also donate online at [unionucc.com](http://unionucc.com), on-line donate, select Souper Cooks from the drop down. Thank you for supporting this important volunteer work of the church.



## Easter Flowers

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

- Please send your contribution by Friday, March 26.
- Flowers may be taken home after 10 a.m. Easter service.

## Flower Order

I/We will provide flowers for the Easter altar.

Dedication \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## The Brain Center Turns Two

Technically, the Brain Center of Green Bay began in 2017—founded by five area MDs. But the real work began in 2020, when the center received 501(c)3 non-profit status, and began occupying our newly refurbished workspace on the ground floor.

It’s been an exciting time of real growth in a ministry that will have considerable impact in Green Bay. Chris Vanden Hoogen was hired as our first Executive Director, and she’s an excellent spokesperson for us. Dr. Luloff continues to work as a “coach” for people dealing with neuro-degenerative diseases, and other coaches have come on board.

Extensive networking and collaboration are putting the Brain Center on the map as a “go-to” spot for busy docs to send their patients for the kind of careful, caring

listening and guiding that takes time they simply don’t have. All services of the Brain Center are free of charge, thanks to generous donors.

If you or a loved one have been diagnosed with a neuro-degenerative disease (Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s, and the like), the Brain Center of Green Bay can help. Contact the staff at: [info@braincentergb.org](mailto:info@braincentergb.org) or by phone at (920) 393-4080. There is also an online “coaching request form” at the Brain Center of Green Bay website: <https://www.braincentergb.org/>.

The agency’s mission is simply “Committed to Making Brains Better,” through Collaboration, Advocacy, Research, and Education (CARE). At year two, the Brain Center of Green Bay is on its way to a strong and vital future of service in our community.

—Dr. Jon Pahl

# Union Church Calendar

March 14, 2021—April 18, 2021

## March 14 Sunday

### One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: Dr. Wil Gafney  
10:00 a.m. Worship

## March 16 Tuesday

NO Bible Study  
5:30 p.m. Bell Choir (rehearsal)  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (Zoom)

## March 17 Wednesday

NO YOUTH GROUPS  
7:00 p.m. Opening Our Hearts:  
Julie Harder

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## March 21 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: Fethullah  
Gulen and Anti-Racism  
10:00 a.m. Worship

## March 22 Monday

4:00 p.m. "The Divine Dance"  
Book Discussion

## March 23 Tuesday

12:00 p.m. Bible Study  
3:00 p.m. Bell Choir (record)  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (Zoom)

## March 24 Wednesday

6:15 p.m. Youth Groups  
7:00 p.m. Opening Our Hearts:  
David Hassel

## HOLY WEEK with UNION CHURCH

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## March 28 Palm Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: Fethullah  
Gulen and Anti-Racism  
10:00 a.m. Worship

## March 30 Tuesday

NO Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

## March 31 Wednesday

NO YOUTH GROUPS

## April 1 Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Agape Meal within  
Worship

## April 2 Good Friday

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Worship in  
the Shadows

## April 4 Easter Sunday

10:00 a.m. Joyful Easter Worship  
11:15 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour

**No Faith Formation  
No Adult Education  
on Easter Sunday**

## April 5 Monday

The Church Office is Closed  
4:00 p.m. "The Divine Dance"  
Book Discussion

## April 6 Tuesday

SPRING GENERAL ELECTION  
NO Bible Study  
4:30 p.m. Outreach Ministry  
6:30 p.m. Education Ministry  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (Zoom)

## April 7 Wednesday

6:15 p.m. Youth Groups

## April 8 Thursday

5:00 p.m. Membership and Inreach  
Ministry  
6:00 p.m. Common Ministry

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## April 11 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: Richard Rohr  
10:00 a.m. Worship  
with Holy Communion  
11:15 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour

## April 12 Monday

12:00 p.m. Stewardship Ministry  
5:30 p.m. Worship Ministry

## April 13 Tuesday

12:00 p.m. Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir (Zoom)

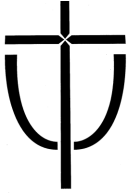
## April 14 Wednesday

6:15 p.m. Youth Groups

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## April 18 Sunday

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation  
9:00 a.m. Adult Ed: Richard Rohr  
10:00 a.m. Worship



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

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## New Member Inquiry Sessions Spring 2021

Interested in learning more about Union Congregational United Church of Christ and discerning whether this is the right church home for you? Our Membership and Inreach Ministry will be hosting two Zoom sessions to help people get to know Union Church, our community, and each other on Thursday, April 22 and on Monday, April 26, both at 6 p.m. It's helpful to participate in both sessions.

If the church is still worshipping exclusively online in May, we will record a zoom Reception of New Members with those who would like to join the church, which will be part of our Sunday, May 9 worship.

Contact the church office at [office@unionucc.com](mailto:office@unionucc.com)  
or 920-437-9266 to register.

### 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

#### **Tim Harder, M.D.**

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>