

CONSIDER...

THE UNION
CHURCH
NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2015

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About Us...

- All who seek and serve the love of God are ministers of Union Church
- Gail Wolford, Moderator
- Rev. Kent Gilbert, Pastor
- Rev. Rachel Small Stokes, Associate Pastor
- Gabriel Evans, Director of Music Ministries
- Dave Kobersmith, Church Administrator
- Pearl Marshall, Handbell Director
- Carrie Jadud & Alvera Perman, Jubilee & Joyful Noise Choir Directors
- Joan English, Office Administrator
- Chris & Grace McKenzie, Youth Directors
- Bea Chasteen, Dorie Isaacs, Jennifer Shelton, Childcare
- Heather Richardson, WCSC Director

Holy Week at Union Church

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 7:30 pm service in the sanctuary. "Maundy" comes from the Latin "mandatum," meaning "commandment." On this night when Jesus met with his disciples for his last supper, he gave them a new commandment, "that you love one another." During this special service we will share communion and recount the story of Jesus' betrayal and arrest, and darken the sanctuary, as we retell the story of his crucifixion.

Our service will begin with hand and foot washing at 7:00 pm (for those who wish).

Good Friday, April 3, regular morning meditation at 8:00 am in Cowan Chapel,

12:15 pm A service is offered by the Berea

Ministerial Association. Gather at 12:15, Union Church sanctuary. This midday worship service recounts Jesus' last hours.

Holy Saturday, April 4, 8:30 am Gather with Pastors Kent & Rachel as we clean and prepare the sanctuary for our Easter guests. We'll dust the pews, and prepare the decorations, and spruce up the outside as we welcome a joyful Easter. If you are participating in the Easter processional, we'll rehearse that too, at 10:00am.

Easter Sunday, April 5, 6:45 am Sunrise Service, White's Memorial. The Ministerial Association hosts this all-church celebration of Easter Morning as the sun rises. The service will be held at White's Memorial Presbyterian Church, and all are invited to stay

afterward for breakfast. Let's share worship, song, and prayer with all our neighbors.

9:30 am Easter Activities for kids, beginning in Room 101 and moving on to the Easter Egg Hunt!

10:30 am Celebration of the Resurrection! Join to recall the joy and hope of that first Easter Morning, and to renew yourself by recalling that God's love is not reserved in that long-ago time. This is a lovely



time to invite guests, new neighbors, and any who've ever wondered what Union Church is about!

The Next Family Faith Day will be down on the farm!

On Sunday, April 19, from 3-5 pm, all are invited to a spring tour of Debbonnaire Kovacs' four-acre paradise at 773 Big Hill Rd, half a mile down Prospect from the church. There's plenty of parking.

Hike along the creek (possibly play in it, weather permitting), check out new growth in the vegetable, herb, and flower gardens and in the orchard, walk the labyrinth, climb trees, hike the perimeter, and snack on the patio.

Most importantly, meet and pet SaraBeth the donkey, Willow, Holly, and Ivy, the goats (try goat milk!), Budai and Sapphire, the cats, and Fairywinkle and Pixie, the Chihuahuas. Throw grain to the chickens and watch the ducks play in their little pool. There will be baby chicks, and if you're really, really lucky, there may be baby goats!

THE UNION CHURCH NEWSLETTER
April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays!

- 2 Bob Bates
- 2 Marlene Payne
- 2 Jane Stephenson
- 8 Ashley Hammond
- 10 Carol Shaffer
- 11 Sayer Kobersmith
- 12 Joan Bates
- 12 Della Walters
- 13 Jeff From
- 15 Eli Hayden

- 15 Brooke Mecham
- 16 Annie Sims
- 19 Madalyn Dodson
- 20 Howard Carlberg
- 22 Shirley Carlberg
- 22 Ella Garrett
- 24 Sam Franklin
- 26 Sebastian Clavere
- 27 Bryce Carlberg
- 27 Joe Jagers
- 27 Susan Doring Zook

Anniversaries

- 1 Cheyenne & Richard Olson
- 6 Steve & Ann Rhodes
- 9 Dorie & Tom Hubbard
- 13 Thana & Steve Connelly
- 18 Bob & Carol Shaffer

If we don't know your birthday or anniversary, we want to! Or if we've made a mistake please call or email the office.



News of the Family

"Union Church welcomes all followers of Christ and works with all who work with Him; respecting each person's conscience; working by love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."

New members are received every second Sunday (next chance: April 12), and you are very welcome here!

These folks joined on March 8!



Chad Runyon
 200 Courtland Ave., Apt. 4
 Berea



Judith Singleton
 145 Holly Hill Dr., Berea



Sarah Miller
 1630 Mason Lake Rd. Berea
 sarah12960@gmail.com



Jasmine Beltran
 192 Westwood Dr., Berea
 jazzyj1796@gmail.com

4th

Sunday info session! If you're thinking about joining, but have some questions, come to a new membership info session! Anyone wanting to know more about Union Church or wanting to explore church membership, as well as new members who have not been able to participate in a previous meeting, are invited to come to the classroom two doors past the church office immediately following worship for conversation with the Pastors and

the Community Life and Growth Board – April opportunity: April 26.

Dr. Klara Welsh passed away on March 18, at 94. Her life was celebrated here at church on March 26. She became a United States citizen in 1957 and was married in 1958 to the then-associate Dean of Labor, Benjamin Tibbetts Welsh—in Union Church's parlor. Mrs. Welsh enjoyed the friendship of other members of the Welsh clan, and spending time near the ocean.

After retiring from academic work, she enjoyed painting classes and water color painting. She was active in the Berea branch of AAUW, the Berea Woman's Club, the Alliance Francaise and the American Association of Teachers of French.

Kroger Rewards! We heard from Kroger that Union Church supporters - 39 households - who shopped at Kroger between 12/01/2014 and 02/28/2015 have contributed to a donation of **\$239.46!** Thank you!!

Absolutely painlessly, just by shopping where we usually shop & buying what we usually buy! We will be receiving a Kroger check in this amount around the end of March. If you have any questions, or would like to sign up, please visit www.krogercommunity

From the Associate Pastor

I often think of myself as a Lent junkie. I love the prescribed opportunity to slow down, to refocus, to devote. But I have to admit that this Lent has felt long. Encompassing two snowpocalypses (snowpocalypsi?) and lots of difficult and sometimes devastating events in families I care about deeply, Lent has made its point. I feel I've contemplated enough, thank you.

And here we are at Holy Week, where all the drama gets heightened, and the shadow of the cross looms large. When this newsletter arrives at your home, we will be fully entwined in the story of Jesus' last supper, betrayal and death.

It's no wonder that a lot of churches skip this part. For many, it is good enough to allow a hint of the passion (crucifixion) story on Palm Sunday, and then jump right on ahead to the joy of Easter.

For me, though, the joyfulness of Easter rings hollow if I haven't allowed myself to feel the depths, even when I think I'm weary of them. There's not a specific formula for how that has to happen: sometimes I need moving music and contemplation; sometimes all-night vigils and meditations on scripture; sometimes whatever is plaguing me and those I love is depth enough, and really feeling those feelings that

erupt during trying times is crucifixion enough.

I value Maundy* Thursday and Good Friday not because I like to dwell in suffering, but because as a human engaged in life on this planet I do often dwell in suffering. I am a Christian for many reasons, but one of them is that I need a God who is willing to do whatever is necessary to understand what it is like to live in human, fallible, pain-ridden flesh. A God who gets it.

The Depth and Height of Holy Week

And, I need a God who has the power to rise from that state and into one of wholeness, pulling me alongside. Pulling all of us alongside. Opening our eyes to new revelations, new possibilities, new cracks of light breaking through our darkness.

I need a God of Good Friday, and a God of Easter.

As you meditate this holy week, whether it is on the suffering of Jesus or simply your own suffering, I invite you to let yourself feel all of it.



Then, allow yourself the hope that this is not the end – that beyond the suffering, beyond the despair, beyond the tomb, is life once again. We will be here to smile and sing forth that possibility with you until you can begin to feel it, all through the Easter Season.

Thanks, God, for understanding, and for leading the way into new life. Amen.

An Easter peace to you all,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel".

Rev. Rachel

* For those playing along at home, "Maundy" comes from the latin word for "mandate," or Jesus' mandate at the last supper that we should all love one another. Good idea, right?

Bible Reading for April

April 5

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
John 20:1-18

April 12

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

April 19

Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

April 26

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18



Personal Ecology Workshop Series

Pat Gailey will conduct a 6 week class on Personal Ecology on Wednesday nights beginning **April 8**. Class will be run from **6:30-8:30** in the Office Level Classroom at Union Church. Materials will be provided. The class will be in a workshop format with some presentation, some discussion, and some activities to help apply what is learned to personal situations. Sharing is invited, but not required.

Personal Ecology is a model of wellbeing based on Fritjof Capra's deep ecology web of life, and is focused on wellbeing across all dimensions of human experience, from physical to spiritual.

Pat is a licensed occupational therapist and educator with expertise in application of theory, pediatrics, technology, psychology, and wellness. Fee: \$10 per session. Fees will help defray cost, including space and utilities. Please contact Pat at 859-985-9599 or pgailey@jppgailey.net for registration.



April 8: Introduction to Personal Ecology: Learn what keeps us alive and flourishing; apply scientific principles to create a productive, pleasurable, and sustainable life.

April 22: Authenticity, Expression, and Healthy Relationships: Discover how your unique patterns impact your words, actions, relationships, and challenging life events.

April 29: Connecting Dimensions through Meaning: Learn how to assess blocks in your creative process, and how to create the kind of energy needed to move through them.

May 6: Expanding Authentic Capacity: Discover new directions for potential growth and dip your toes into the pool of new awareness.

May 13: Naming the Beast: Learn more about the multidimensional nature of the stressors in your life and lay out a multidimensional plan to keep you balanced.

May 20: Taming the Beast: Discover how daily life—work, play, and other occupations—can be fine-tuned to keep you healthy and flourishing.

Who We Are and What We Believe...

We, the People of Union Church, seek to live out our discipleship to God as a community inspired by Jesus' transforming love. As a gathering of those seeking to boldly and creatively embody Christ's life and ministry, we commit ourselves to work and fellowship that makes the radical and inclusive love of God, the beloved community proclaimed by Jesus, and the continuing inspiration of the Holy Spirit visible and real to all. As one in body with Christ, we commit ourselves to acts of:

- ◆ Unbounded Hospitality to Build a Beloved Community of Christ
- ◆ Thoughtful, Inspirational and Intentional Faith Development
- ◆ Passionate Worship
- ◆ Risk-Taking Mission and Service
- ◆ Extravagant Generosity and Care in Our Stewardship

*Read What we think each of these mean to us at our website:
www.union-church.org/mission-statement/*

All Are Welcome!

In keeping with Union Church's inclusive Christian tradition and its emphasis on the dignity and worth of all people, the congregation values and embraces diversity. Employment, membership, and participation in any church activity is open to all without regard to ethnicity, race, skin color, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability or religion.

Union Church Leadership, as of our 162nd Annual Meeting March

OFFICERS

Moderator: Gail Wolford

Vice Moderator & Chair of Church Council:
Doug Hindman

Treasurer: Shirley Carlberg

Financial Secretary: Patti Smithson

Clerk: Jean Boyce

ADMINISTRATION BOARD

Eric Dodson*, Lauri McVicker, Krystin Porter,
Marty Hensley

COMMUNITY LIFE AND GROWTH BOARD

Kevin Burke*, Betty Hibler, Alice White, Annriette
Stolte, Susie Ritchie

FAITH DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Kim Kobersmith*, Alvera Perman, Ashley
Cochrane, Barb Taylor, David Bellnier, Jane
Mecham

FINANCE BOARD

Bill Srsic*, Hazel Morris, Rob Hayden, Laurinda
Pool, Volunteer: John Stanley

MISSION AND SERVICE BOARD

Jessica Holly*, John Payne, Jenny Bromley, Austin
Godden, Laura Howard

NOMINATING BOARD

Sarah S. Broomfield, Carla Gilbert, Kevin Burke,
Ashley Cochrane, Susan Doring Zook, Michelle
Hayden

NURTURE AND CARE BOARD

Leslie Small Stokes*, Rebekah Easton-Hogg, Merry
Kay Winter, Melissa Neal, Dana Rousey

PASTORAL RELATIONS BOARD

Eef Fontanez, Debbonnaire Kovacs, Dodie Murphy,
Susan Doring Zook, Wyndee Holbrook, Tom
Frazier

PROPERTIES BOARD

Bill Stolte*, Steve Boyce*, Sally Hindman, Paul
Smithson, Jack Marshall

WORSHIP BOARD

Maya Todd, Abigale Embry, Dodie Murphy,
Heather Lundy, B.J. Godby, Sue Peterson Blyth

* indicates Board chairperson, if known

HONORARY LIFETIME DEACONS

Honorary Lifetime Deacons are designated after long experience and service to the church. Any member of the church may nominate candidates to the Church Council at least one month before the March annual meeting.

An Honorary Lifetime Deacon will be assigned no specific obligations, but may hold active office in the church.

Bob Bates	Dorie Hubbard
Joan Bates	Tom Hubbard
Dottie Blackburn	Loyal Jones
Ruth Butwell	Nancy Jones
Helen Connelly	Jennie Kiteck
Jerry Cooper	Mary Miller
Richard Drake	Lois Morgan
Joyce Fields	Les Pross
Truman Fields	Ann Rhodes
Joy Frazier	Steve Rhodes
Tom Frazier	Bob Shaffer
Mary French	Larry Shinn
Jan Hamilton	Nancy Shinn
Edith Hansen	Charles Wesley
Joyce Henderson	Betty Wray
Betsy Hoefer	Gloria VanWinkle



April 11 Living the Vision Board Orientation

For all Board Members, new and continuing

Orientation, Planning and Visioning
Union Church Community Room

- 9-11 **New** Board members
 - 11-2 **All** Board members
- A delicious lunch will be served.

Save-the-Dates!

April 2, 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00 pm for foot & hand washing

April 3 12:15 pm Good Friday Service

April 4, 8:30—noon Churchwide Easter cleanup, inside & out

April 4 at noon “Our” Habitat House will be dedicated !

April 4, 4:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt & Potluck at Joan Moore’s

April 11, 9– 2 Board Orientation Session for New and Returning Board Members

April 11 Andy Blyth & friends-Benefit Concert for Habitat for Humanity, Berea Arena Theater

April 11, 5-8 pm Bark for Life -- fundraiser involving dogs for the Madison County Relay for Life. To pre-register and for a schedule of events go to www.relayforlife.org/barkmadisoncountyKY.

April 17 SaraCare Celebration, Union Church

April 19, 3-5 pm The Next Family Faith Day will be down on the farm!

April 26, 2:30 pm Berea Classic Chorale Concert, sanctuary

June 14-18, 5:30 - 8:00 pm Vacation Bible School

July 31-August 2 Church-wide Intergenerational Camping Trip

August 29 Union Church BAZAAR!

Details will follow....

Regular Weekly Happenings

Sundays	9:30 amSunday School for all ages 10:30 amMorning Worship 6:30 pmOvereaters Anonymous, Room 104
Weekdays	8:00 amZen Meditation, Cowan Chapel
Mondays	4:00 pmWomens Spirituality Reading Group, Wayside Room 5:30 pmQiGong, Cowan Chapel 6:00 pmAlAnon meets, Wayside Room 7:00 pmAA, Comm. Room. 7:00 pmClassic Chorale, Choir Room
Tuesdays	9:00 amGED Classes, Classroom 7:30 pmBerea Community Drumming Circle, Cowan Chapel
Wednesdays	Wednesday Nite Live! 5:15 pmJoyful Noise Choir 5:45 pmSupper, donation if able 6:30 pmYouth Group, Jubilee Choir, program 6:30 pmPersonal Ecology Class, see page 4 7:00 pmBell Choir
Thursdays	9:00 amGED Classes, Classroom 12:00 pmBible Study, Conference Room 6:15 pmUnion Church Choir, Choir Rm., 3rd Floor
Fridays	9:00 amWomen's Creative Sewing and Crafts, Comm. Rm.

Other Regularly Scheduled Events

- 1st & 3rd Sundays** 1:30 pm.....ShapeNote Singers, Parlor
2nd & 4th Mons 9:30 am.....Berea Knitters, Classroom
2nd Mondays 10:00 am.....Basket Weaving Group, Community Room
2nd Sundays New Members welcomed
4th Sundays Newcomers' Gatherings after worship

Board Meetings

Check with your Board Chairperson about meeting days and times — since Boards changed at the Annual Meeting, we may not know when Boards meet. Please inform the office for the church calendar — thanks!

- April 1** 4:00 pm Worship Board meets
Sat. April 11 **Board Orientation, see opposite page.**
April 11 2:00 pm Faith Development Board meets
April 13 6:00 pm Administration Board meets
April 14 7:00 pm Mission & Service Board meets
Mon. April 20 7:00 pm Church Council meets

The Church of Christ, Union

CPO 2105
Berea, KY 40404

Phone: 859-986-3725

E-mail: office@union-church.org
Website: www.union-church.org

We'd also love to connect with you
on Facebook (www.facebook.com/UnionChurchBerea) and Twitter
([@UnionChurchKY](https://twitter.com/UnionChurchKY))



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Andy Blyth and Friends**

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ONE NIGHT ONLY: SATURDAY APRIL 11TH, 2015**



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