

UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

137 S Garfield Ave., Hinsdale, IL 60521 • United Church of Christ



Jesus Is Born!

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m

December 24, 2024

Our Welcoming Statement, adopted January 28, 2024:

We are all called by God as disciples of Christ. We affirm & welcome all persons as precious to God, just as they are. As a community of faith, in the service of God, we are enriched by our differences including diversity of gender identity and expression, age, marital & economic status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, race, and physical & mental abilities and qualities. We affirm that the Holy Spirit gathers us as a congregation in which all persons are invited to participate equally in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings, concerns, & joys of our community of faith. We pledge to love, encourage, & support one another as the Body of Christ.

What are we all about at Union Church?

Living lives of love for God and all people.

You are welcome here!



YOU WILL NEED A CANDLE TO LIGHT LATER IN THIS SERVICE. THEY ARE AVAILABLE AT THE ENTRIES, OR FROM AN USHER.

* = Those who are able and willing, please stand

PRELUDE

Christmas Eve/Sarajevo 12/24
Ollie Townsend - Piano

O'Neill, Kinkel, Leontovich

WELCOME

Grant Glowiak

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

* HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
3 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py mor - ning,

come ye, O come ye to Beth - - le - hem;
sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - - ry given;

Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

* LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Kelly, Charlie, Jack, and Ella Thayer

Concluding with...

Leader: We thank you, God, for your gift of Jesus Christ to the entire world. We thank you for the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love. And we thank you for the time granted us to spend with family and friends.

People: Help us all to do our part to bring peace and goodwill to our families, our churches, our neighborhoods, and the world. Let your Spirit fill this room, and through the words and music we hear tonight may each of us feel the warmth of your infinite love. Gloria! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

* HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;

And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

*** PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: The peace of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, born for us this night, be with you.

People: And also with you.

To strengthen us as a community of reconciliation in Christ, please greet each other, with one saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and the other responding, "And also with you."

*** GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end: Amen! Amen!*

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20

Robb Knuepfer

***HYMN # 139**

The First Nowell
Stanzas 1 & 2

SCRIPTURE READING

Jesus Is Born

A MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS HOPE

*** HYMN**

What Child Is This?
Stanzas 1 & 3

1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest on Ma-ry's lap is sleep-ing?
2. Why lies He in such mean es-tate, where ox and ass are feed-ing?
3. So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come peas-ant, king, to own Him;

Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tians, fear: for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en-throne Him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing:
 Nails, spears, shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir-gin sings her lul-la-by.

haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Ma-ry!
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Ma-ry!
 Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Ma-ry!

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

OFFERTORY – HYMN # 154

Go Tell It on the Mountain

For e-giving, head to www.hinsdale.church. Tap 'Menu,' then select the 'Live Generously' tab, and tap 'Make a Contribution.' Or text "GIVEUCH" to 73256.

We'd love to get to know you! If you are visiting and would like a follow-up conversation with our clergy or church staff, please leave your name & contact info in the black friendship pads found at the end of the pews.

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING



HCSfamilyservices
 EMPOWERING FAMILIES. CHANGING LIVES.
TOGETHER WE THRIVE.
 Since 1937

On this holy night, we encourage you to give to this year's special Christmas Offering, either for our

local partner agency HCS Family Services or for Union Church. HCS Family Services is a compassionate not-for-profit organization which has been serving 360 neighbors weekly in need since 1937. Their work is to prevent food insecurity and create an improved quality of life for the people we serve and their families.

As a nonprofit, HCS Family Services is dependent upon the generosity of food & financial donations and the manpower of 400+ volunteers to support its mission. Last year, local retail partners donated 400,000+ pounds of food through the Food Rescue program to stock the food pantries. There are many opportunities to volunteer during the week on the website.

For every \$1.00 donation the pantry can purchase \$8 in groceries. Please give generously to help the families who need food support. Also, paper and plastic grocery bags are collected in the bin inside the north entrance.

For more info or to volunteer visit the HCS website: <https://www.hcsfamilyservices.org/>. To donate towards our Christmas offering, please visit our webpage, hinsdale.church, click on the 'Live Generously' tab, then select 'Make a Contribution.' After hitting the 'Donate' button, find and select "Christmas Offering-HCS Family Services" on the dropdown menu. You may also send in a check made out to the church and put "Christmas Offering" in the memo line. For both online or check, if you want to split amounts between the church and HCS Family Services, just put that in the memo line on the giving page or on the check.

All gifts placed in the gold color envelopes will go to HCS Family Services. All other gifts will go to UCH.

Thanks for giving to the life and work of Union Church!

* PRAYER OF GRATITUDE (*in unison*)

Holy God, your love for us is perhaps clearer this night than on any other. You became one of us, that we might become one with you. We thank you for this amazing gift, and we are pleased to show our gratitude by giving our gifts to help spread your love. Help us always be a blessing to others, in whom Christ lives today. Amen.

* SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Silent Night

We spread the light of Christ among us and sing Silent Night together.

If using a real flame, please tip your unlit candle into the upright lighted candle of your neighbor.

1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight!
 3. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light

Round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child. Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild,
 Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n - ly hosts sing: Al - le - lu - ia,
 Rad - dient beams from thy ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

Sleep in heav - en - ly peace Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ, the Sav - ior is born! Christ, the Sav - ior is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN

Joy to the World

Stanzas 1, 2, & 4

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; let all their songs em -
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in - fest the
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

Chords: D, A7, D, G, A

King. Let ev - ery heart pre - pare him
 ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -

room, and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
 heaven and na - ture sing,

* POSTLUDE

Hallelujah Chorus

G.F. Handel

Merry Christmas!

STAFF AND WORSHIP LEADERS

*(h = he/him/his, s = she/her/hers, t = they/them/theirs)**

- | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|
| Associate Minister – Grant Glowiak (h/t) | Dir. of Audio & Visual Media – Adam Nakutis (h) | Section Leaders |
| Associate Minister – Robb Knuepfer (h) | Dir. of Handbells – Elizabeth Jung (s) | Jess Koehn (h) |
| Dir. of Christian Education – Penny Johnson (s) | | Coleman Dziedzic (h) |
| Dir. of Music and Worship – Stephen C Edwards (h/t) | | Dei Nikoi (s) |
| | | Tierra Whetstone-Christian (s) |
| Ushers – Vicky Hurst, Kathryn Sjoholm, Barb and Emily Herber | | Trap Set – Kalyan Pathak (h) |
| | Guitars – Andrew Sudhibhasilp (h) and James Lang (h) | |
| | Bass – Ben Dillinger(h) | |

* Go to <https://tinyurl.com/ymabnh5t> for a guide to gender identity terms

Poinsettia Flower Dedications

In loving memory of...	Given by...
Loved Ones	Kathy Anderson
George and Margaret Buchanan	JoAnn and Richard Beck
Wilfred and Lucy Beck	JoAnn and Richard Beck
Mary and Bernard Berg	The Carlton Berg Family
Ruth and Cecil Scarratt	The Carlton Berg Family
Our Loved Ones	The Sharon Bodziak Family
Bob and Lydia Cooke	Stuart and Cyndi Breslow
Loved Ones	Judy and Will Cochran
Ken and Ginny Froelich	Cindy and Patrick Coseglia
Fred Cue	Elaine Cue
Dr. Lowell W. Culver	Anke Culver and Family
Dave Hood	The Erdmann family
Sis and Tom Erdmann	The Erdmann family
Bill Erikson	Vivi-Anne Erikson
Frank and Cornelia Allgire	Fran Evans
Carmen Freda	Stephanie Freda
Doris Schupp	Stephanie Freda
Alan and Joan Hurst	The Hurst and Glowiak Family
Steve Glowiak	Grant, Anna and Alan Glowiak
Lois R. Sack	Lavina S. Gross
W.B. Martin Gross	Lavina Gross
Louisette Leibundguth	The Ron Herber Family
Our Loved Ones	The David Hess Family
Paul Nelson	The Hopkins Family
Marty Eisel	Kathy Eisel Intorcica and Family
Our Parents	Dave and Marilyn Johnson
Bill Keller	Barb Keller and Family
Jean Kiyosaki	Kim and Mike Kiyosaki
Dawn Feller	Kim and Mike Kiyosaki
Gaylen Klein	Matt Klein and Family
David Wodrich	Cindy and Jim Klima and Darlene Wodrich
Our Parents	Jonathan and Diane Knight
Aileen and Paul Jensen	Abby and George Lombardi
Irv Clarke	Lolly and Steve McDonnell
Eleanor and Dee Patterson	Lolly and Steve McDonnell
Bob McMahan	Laurie McMahan
My mother, Phyllis Ann Toy Schmalz	Kimberly Schmalz Ochsenschlager
Bernard and Margaret Oostendorp	The Jung, Hester, and O'Hare grandchildren and great grandchildren
Edward and Frances Forsek	The Jung, Hester, and O'Hare grandchildren and great grandchildren
Arlene E. Niemi	Barbara Parsons
Cynthia J. Ellis	Barbara Parsons
Tina's Parents and Sister	Tony and Tina Porterfield
Tony's Parents	Tony and Tina Porterfield

Timothy C. Pyle	Carol Pyle and Family
My beloved husband, Bob Reiland	Ann Reiland
Lowell and Merilynn Frame	The Riemer Family
Gramma Ruby	The Riemer Family
Loved Ones	The Riemer Family
Matt Derrington	The Jay and Joel Riemer Families
The Christensen Family	Marilyn and Craig Schaefer
Family and friends	Cathy and Paul Schultz
Eric (son, brother, husband, dad)	Kathryn Sjolholm
Andy (dad, grandpa)	Kathryn Sjolholm
Grandparents (Nana, Papa, Edna, Grandmother, Grandfather)	Kathryn Sjolholm
Frank Swan	Sue Swan
Sally Barnard	Her sister, Sue Swan
Daisy and Dick Pletcher	Chris and Danny Pletcher and Jeff Stinehelfer
Albert and Beverly Tarabour	The Tarabour Family
Charles and Shirley Cunningham	The Tarabour Family
Mark Cunningham	The Tarabour Family
Our Parents	Janet Taylor Wilson and Bill Wilson
Andrew C. Scott	His Loving Family
Don Finlay	In gratitude for his loving care of our church grounds
In honor of...	Given by...
Beth Saphir	Maria and Joe Coyne
Betsy Early	Robert and Barbara Early
Liam Anthony Sullivan	Grandma and Grandpa
Our Whole Family	Jim and Mary Sue Honigschimdt
Our Parents	Kim and Mike Kiyosaki
Our Grandchildren	Kim and Mike Kiyosaki
Gertrude Koehn	Bruce and Janet Birchenough-Koehn
Ginny and Dick Lombardi	Abby and George Lombardi
Ron and Lucy Hilt	Cathy Schultz
Mary Sue Honigschimdt	In gratitude for her leadership as moderator (and in so many other ways!)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SIGN UP FOR NEW PASTOR LISTENING SESSIONS!

Following a strong response to the New Pastor Survey, we are now ready to discuss a few questions in small group meetings. These Listening Sessions will add to our understanding of the congregation's vision for the church and traits we seek in our next senior pastor.

The Listening Sessions will be gatherings of 6-12 people where we will each offer thoughts in response to a few questions. It is important that we hear many points of view from all generations. The January meeting days and times include mornings, afternoons and evenings, on weekdays and weekends. Most gatherings are in person but a few are on Zoom. Some of the meetings in the church even offer childcare with snacks!

Please use the QR code or the link in the Thursday email to reserve a spot that works for you. Once 12 slots in a meeting are reserved, that meeting will be closed. For childcare needs, email Penny Johnson pjohnson@uchinsdale.org so she can make arrangements in advance. If you prefer to have someone help you sign up, call Adriana in the church office at 630-590-6689.

To see all the information relating to our search process, check out the 'Transition' tab on our homepage.

Thanks to all who are participating in this important work!

The Discovery Team



WE'D LOVE TO SEE & DISPLAY YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS! IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Please include Union Church (137 S. Garfield, Hinsdale, IL 60521) on your mailing list this year and count us among your family and friends. We will display all the cards that we receive on the bulletin board in the Gathering Place for the congregation to enjoy together and be reminded of our connections, friendships and shared life here together at UCH over the winter season.

UCECP AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MITTEN TREE

We are collecting **new** mittens, hats & scarfs for our mitten tree at the top of the main stairs. Your donations will help support the children of our Mission Ministries. UCECP families can send their donations with their child, and they will personally place their items on the tree. Members & friends of UCH, you may also place your items on the tree or bring them to Adriana in the church office to place on the Mitten Tree. Thank you for helping to spread kindness and warmth during this winter season!

OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

In observance of Christmas, the office will be closed on Christmas day and on Thursday, December 26. We will resume regular hours, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 27.

The office will also be closed on New Year's Day and will resume regular hours on Thursday, January 2.

Have a blessed and joyous Christmas and new year, everyone!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

There is always Sunday School and nursery care for children five and under in classroom 129 on the lower level.

We won't have Sunday school today for older kids because, well, it's Christmas Eve! As always, we welcome children & their joyful energy in our worship services. You may ask the ushers for a red activity bag & feel free to use the Narthex (through the glass doors under the balcony) for extra space if you/your child wants to move around during the service.

RESTROOMS

To find the gender-neutral restroom, exit through the main doors of the Sanctuary into The Gathering Place. Follow the glass doors on your left until a hallway opens on your left. It is a few steps down that hallway on your right.

We also have larger gendered restrooms through the main doors and to your right, off The Gathering Space – complete with changing tables on the lower and main levels.

DON'T MISS A THING!

Keep up with all our upcoming events by following us on Facebook & Instagram and subscribing to our weekly newsletter.

Head over to www.hinsdale.church, and click on the 'Connect' button for more info!

NEED SOMETHING ANNOUNCED IN THE BULLETIN, MIDWEEK EMAIL, OR ONLINE?

Send your text to communications@uchinsdale.org. Subject line "Email Blast."



9:00 A.M. WORSHIP FOR FAMILIES WITH LITTLE ONES

This family-friendly service in the chapel embraces the busy energy of young children. It is held every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in our Chapel with wonderful live guitar and piano. In fact, you'll usually find a familiar face leading the worship music: Cole! Cole led this year's VBS and also teaches the UCECP music class. We embrace movement and busy curious little minds at this 25 – 30 minute service. While it is designed as a teaching opportunity and introduction to Christian worship for young children, we welcome anyone of any age or family stage.

Union Church is a *thinking church*.

Together we ask questions and explore the world beyond ourselves. We aim to grow in kindness and generosity with ***all people***.

CARE MINISTRY

We're Here for You

We are creating a new ministry at Union Church: *The Care Ministry*. We are elevating the former, long serving Care Team to a Ministry at UCH to demonstrate the importance we all place on offering compassion, time and support to home bound church members and people who are in need. This is even more important in this holiday time and in this time of transition. Pastor Robb Knuepfer will be our Pastoral Care Advisor. Adding a new Ministry will be voted on at our Annual Meeting, January 26th.



The mission of the Care Ministry is to offer compassion, time and support to church members in need.

If you need support, please contact Adriana in the Church office (you will be directed to the right person)
630-590-6689 or AKieffer@uchinsdale.org

In an Emergency, contact our Pastoral Care Ordained Minister Rev. Robb Knuepfer
312-927-8913 or rknuepfer@uchinsdale.org

THIS SUNDAY, DEC. 29, ENJOY A CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-A-LONG AT BOTH OUR 9 & 10 AM SERVICES!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNION CHURCH EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVE - *WHAT IS THE LATEST WITH OUR SUMMIT PROJECT?*

The UCECI team has continued to work diligently as we seek to secure a location for a quality full day preschool in Summit. We have identified a potential building available for purchase in Summit. An initial environmental inspection has been completed on the property. Considerable work has been done to examine the financial feasibility of the site and to investigate a possible property tax exemption. We continue to research the feasibility of the property from a business perspective to ensure the preschool would succeed. Completion of this work will determine the possibility of seeking congregational approval prior to submitting an offer to purchase the property. We look forward to sharing more information with you at a future date.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING ELEANOR'S CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS A SUCCESS

Thank you to everyone who helped make Eleanor's Christmas Stockings a huge success this year. In two events the Gather & Grow kids, the Sunday School kids and members the Congregation and friends stuffed 517 stockings for Stepping Stones (assists women who were sex trafficked and their children), New Life (assists new immigrants), and the Pre-K, K and 1st Grade at Graves Elementary School in Summit. The Ministry for Change also stuffed 50 Holiday backpacks for homeless youth served by the Night Ministry. A big thank you to all of you who donated to the stocking project. You helped make this Christmas a little brighter this year for 567 needy children and youth.

The stockings were sewn by our stocking makers: Fran Evans, Sharon Bodziak, Kathy Anderson, Becca Anderson, Claudia Moffat, Elizabeth Krainc, Nancy Sullivan, Tracey Wolfgang, Jane Grimm and Elizabeth Jung. Other project helpers included: Trayce Biancalana, Diane Oostendorp, Christy and Randy Weimer, Carol Stoldt, Penny Davey, Anke Culver, George Lombardi, June Scott, Vicky Hurst, and James Lang. A special thank you to super helpers Zoe and Heather Manning, Kirk Grimm, Abby Lombardi and Ann Reiland who helped with the preparation and stuffing. Thank you all! This project couldn't have been done without your help. Apologies if I left anyone off by mistake.

If you'd like to help with the project or sew stockings next year, please contact Jane Grimm jgrimm723@comcast.net.



ZOOM WINTER AUTHENTIC WOMEN DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesdays starting January 8 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

We are a friendship group of gals of diverse ages and backgrounds interested in continuing growth in life! We use a non-fiction book as our "springboard" for discussion, read ~30 pages/week, and employ Jacki Peterson Sluder as our moderator to give the discussion structure and keep us on subject. Email Suenibeck@comcast.net for more information. This winter's selection is *Think Again: The Power of Knowing What You Don't Know* by Adam Grant.

Intelligence is usually seen as the ability to think and learn, but in a rapidly changing world, there's another set of cognitive skills that might matter more: the ability to rethink and unlearn. It's an invitation to let go of views that are no longer serving us well and prize mental flexibility, humility, and curiosity over consistency.

UNION CHURCH EXPLORES

THE THEOLOGY OF MUSIC IN WORSHIP



UNION
CHURCH
OF
HINSDALE

WINTER SERMON SERIES | SUNDAYS @ 9 + 10 A.M.



GREAT WAY TO GIVE: GIFTING APPRECIATED STOCK

Making a gift of appreciated stock can be a great way to support the church financially, either to fulfill your “pledge” for the year, or to make an additional donation. The benefits to the member include avoiding capital gain taxes, getting a charitable deduction based on the fair market value of the stock on the day of the gift, and satisfying pledges or making donations without any out-of-pocket cash payments. Union Church of Hinsdale maintains a brokerage account for the convenience of members who choose to fulfill their pledges by gifting shares of appreciated stock. Find a link in the weekly email for FAQ’s.

You can also call or email our bookkeeper Ann Gleason agleason@uchinsdale.org for additional help.

\$\$ 2024 \$\$

\$80,336

Needed to
meet 2024
budgeted
plan/offering

NEED A MEETING SPACE?

To book a space for your committee, ministry, or group email Adriana akieffer@uchinsdale.org for specific dates & times.

IN CASE YOU FORGOT...HERE ARE OUR CORE STATEMENTS

WHO WE ARE

- We are a thinking church, so we ask questions to discern what really matters in life.
 - We strive to live lives of love for God and all people.
- We know we have power, and we use that power to make the world more like Jesus would want it to be.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

- God is real, and we deepen our faith by taking the time to get to know God better.
- We believe all people are created in the image of God, worthy of love & belonging.
- We love children & youth, and we seek to raise them with a curious, generous, personal and socially-engaged Christian faith.

OUR COMMUNITY

- We aim to grow in kindness and generosity with all people.
- We find meaning, and ultimately peace, through our shared commitment for justice and community outreach.

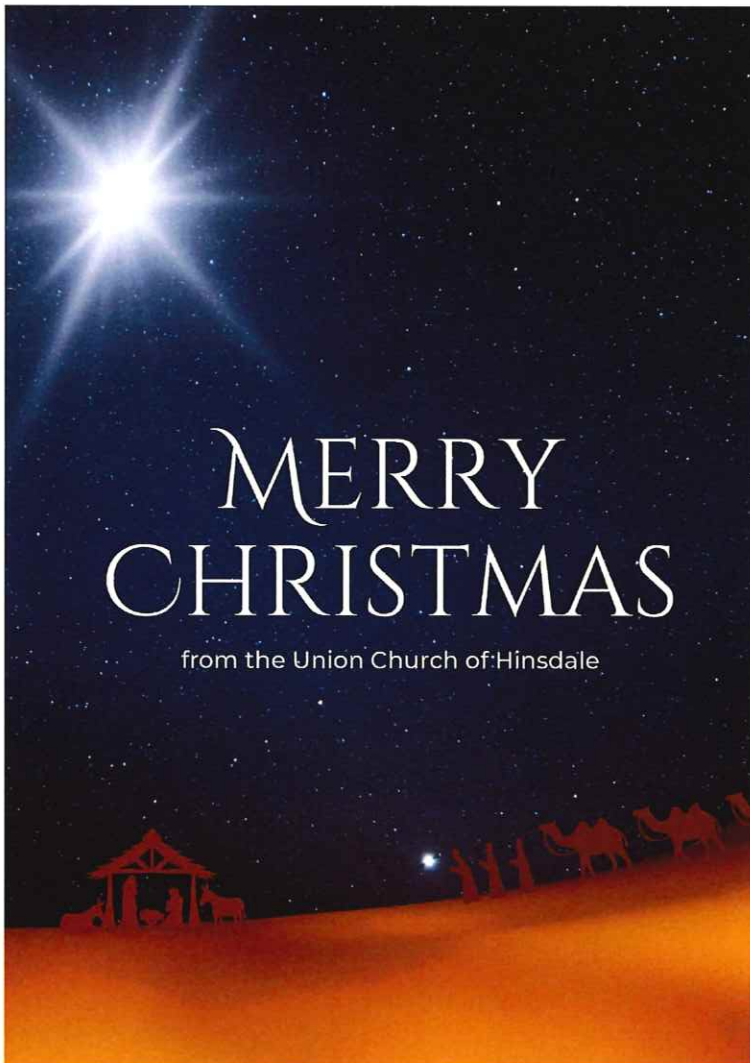
FINANCIAL MANAGER'S YEAR END MEMO:

Here are a few reminders for fulfilling your pledge commitments with as little difficulty as possible:

1. If you will be using stock to pay your 2024, 2025 pledge, please contact Ann at agleason@uchinsdale.org or ext. 6654 when you arrange the gift with your broker. This ensures we know who is making the gift and your desired allocation. To allow time for the paperwork required, you should contact your broker right away for donations you want recorded in 2024. This is the busiest time of year for stock transfers, and you don't want your gift to get lost in the shuffle!
2. A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) allows individuals who are 70½ years old or older to donate up to \$105,000 total to one or more charities directly from a taxable IRA instead of taking their required minimum distributions. The money is a direct transfer to Union Church of Hinsdale that never passes through the hands of the IRA holder. Instead, the IRA custodian can either send an electronic transfer of funds or a check directly to the charity. Please contact your CPA or financial advisor for additional help.
3. Make all checks payable to Union Church of Hinsdale and note on the memo line of your check what you are paying – for example: 2024 pledge, 2025 pledge, Christmas Offering-HCS etc. Any checks with no memo will be presumed as loose offering during Special Offerings, so please make sure to note your checks.
4. Remember that all checks must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2024. All online donations must be made by midnight on December 31, 2024 Central Standard Time. A check deposited in the church offering on Sunday January 5th of 2025 will not be included on your 2024 tax receipt, even if the check is backdated to 2024.
5. Ann will be here during normal business hours on Tuesday, December 31, until 5:00 p.m., to receive any hand delivered payments. Please plan accordingly!

Have a wonderful holiday season!

– Gaby Gleason, Financial Manager



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Carissa
Francisco
Sherry
Rabb
Adam
Ann
Gaby
Amy
Elisabeth
Penny
Josh

...and all your friends at Union!

2025

JANUARY

Sun, Jan 5: Epiphany Sunday
Wed, Jan 8: Chancel Choir rehearsals resume
Wed, Jan 8: Golden Circle worship at KBH
Wed, Jan 15: Gather+Grow Youth Group resumes
Tues, Jan 21: Union Bells rehearsals resume
Sun, Jan 26: Annual Meeting

FEBRUARY

Sat, Feb 1: Leadership Retreat
Wed, Feb 12: Golden Circle worship at KBH
Sun, Feb 23: Bible Sunday - Children's Chimes
(rehearse 2/12, 2/19)

MARCH

Wed, Mar 5: Ash Wednesday, 7 p.m. Chapel,
12 - 12:15 p.m. Ash Imposition
Wed, Mar 12: Golden Circle worship at KBH
Wed, Mar 26: last Gather+Grow Youth Group

APRIL

Wed, April 9: Golden Circle worship at KBH
Sun, April 13: Palm Sunday - Passion Music -
Chancel Choir
Thu, April 17: Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m.
Sanctuary
Fri, April 18: Good Friday, 7 p.m. Chapel
Sat, April 19: Parish Life Easter egg hunt
Sun, April 20: Easter
Sun, April 27: Worship in the Woods, 9 a.m.
Sun, April 27: New member in-person session
Wed, April 30: New member Zoom session

MAY

Sun, May 4: Worship in the Woods, 9 a.m.
Sun, May 4: New Member Welcome Sunday
Wed, May 14: Golden Circle worship at KBH
Sun, May 18: Music Sunday
Sun, May 25: Bicycle Blessing, 9 a.m.

JUNE

Sat, June 1: TBD date for Ecumenical Pridefest
Sun, June 8: Church Picnic, Pentecost,
Confirmation Sunday
Wed, June 11: Golden Circle worship at KBH
Mon - Fri, June 16-20: Vacation Bible School
Sun, June 22: Vacation Bible School Sunday

JULY

Fri, July 4: Parish Life 4th of July Parade
Wed, July 9: Golden Circle worship at KBH

AUGUST

Wed, Aug 13: Golden Circle worship at KBH
Sun, Aug 24: Backpack Blessing 9 a.m.
Back-to-School Sunday 10:00 a.m.



We are an **Open and Affirming** congregation.



BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment.

Care for the poor.

Forgive often.

Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity.

Love God.

Enjoy this life.