

UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

137 S. Garfield Avenue, Hinsdale, IL 60521 • UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hit the Ditch!

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 A.M. Worship Service
July 13, 2025

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 & 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!



PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

Rev. Robb Knuepfer

PRELUDE

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

Knapp

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: What is life with God?

All: To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

One: What is life with neighbor?

All: To bring presence, abundance, and grace to life.

One: Let us worship with the God who believes and trusts in us and abides with us.

All: Let us share our belief and trust in the God who abides with us.

*** HYMN # 473**

Blessed Assurance

*** INVOCATION PRAYER**

Moving God, we reside in your presence this day as a guiding force in our lives. We desire to know you so our works and our ways may be enlivened by your Spirit. Help us, challenge us, guide us so we may live your presence in the world. Amen

*** RESPONSE # 756**

Glory to God

***Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!***

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

PRAYER SONG # 769

Hear Our Prayer, O God

***Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God;
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.***

PASTORAL PRAYER, ENDING WITH PRAYER WE LEARNED FROM JESUS

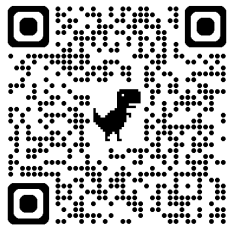
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Imagine

John Lennon

OFFERING



Zelle (preferred)

Please memo designated fund/special offering

*At this time, also please sign
and pass the Attendance Sheets – they help us care for members & welcome visitors.*

*For e-giving, use the QR code on the right for Zelle (no transaction fees),
the QR code on the left to give through Realm, or text "GIVEUCH" to 73256.*

Thank you for contributing to the life & work of Union Church!



MISSION MOMENT

UCH Banned Book Library

Carissa Kapcar

*** HYMN # 448**

Take My Life, Let It Be

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:25-37

Janet Birchenough

SERMON

Hit the Ditch!

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

* HYMN

I Refuse

* BENEDICTION

* REPRISE

FLOWERS - Today's flowers are given by Moss and Shelley Cartwright in loving memory of Dorothy K. Baker.

STAFF AND WORSHIP LEADERS

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

Bridge Pastor – Timothy C. Rhodes (h)

Dir. of Christian Education – Penny Johnson (s)

Section Leaders

Associate Pastor – Grant Glowiak (h/t)

Dir. of Audio & Visual Media – Adam Nakutis (h)

Jess Koehn (h)

Associate Pastor – Robb Knuepfer (h)

Dir. of Handbells – Elizabeth Jung (s)

Coleman Dzedzic (h)

Dir. of Music & Worship – Stephen C Edwards (h/t)

Organist – Oliver Townsend (h)

Tierra Whetstone-Christian (s)

Ushers – Barbara Herber, Emily Herber, Judy Cochran

Trap Set – Kalyan Pathak (h)

Guitar – Andrew Sudhibhasilp (h)

Bass – Ben Dillinger(h)

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

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Is it helpful for your child to move around? Consider sitting near the Narthex (under the balcony) and using that space. Also, help yourself to the red activity bags hanging in the Narthex designed to educate and engage the youngest amongst us.

Although we will not have Sunday School for elementary school children during the summertime, there is always Sunday School & nursery care for younger children (under 5) in classroom 129 on the lower level. We're glad you're here!

We welcome children and their energy in all aspects of worship! Don't hesitate to ask an usher for help in finding any of these.

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Join us to help the Peoples Resource Center meet its goal of providing 1200 school-supplied backpacks to neighbors in need in DuPage County. Our goal is to collect enough supplies to provide 25 fully equipped backpacks for children K-5.

Please leave your donations in the box located in the Gathering Place, or you can access our Amazon wish list through the link in the weekly email and have items sent directly to the church, attn. Erin Norton.

You can also help us assemble what we collect after the 9:00 a.m. and/or 10:00 a.m. services on Sunday, July 20. Deadline to deliver supplies is July 18.

Items needed (more items are on the wish list):

- New Kids backpacks. (17-inch, bright color with fun prints appreciated)
- Colored Pencils – 12 pack size
- Post it notes
- Elmers Glue sticks



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.

Gendered restrooms are located just off The Gathering Place – 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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN OF A CERTAIN AGE

Sunday, July 20, after 10:00 a.m. worship

Claudia Moffat, UCH Member, will teach us how to Tie Dye! She has socks, shawls, and infinity scarves to purchase. Or you can bring what you want to Tie Dye. We will be outside in her backyard weather permitting, so put on sunscreen and grab your favorite hat! If it's raining, we will be in her garage. No food or beverages will be served. Her address is 6123 Washington Street, Downers Grove. Her home is near 63rd and Main Street. All are welcome!!! The purpose of WOACA is fellowship, friendship, & fun. Email Melissa Barnes Mann melissamann403@gmail.com for more info!



FORMER PASTOR SARAH EDWARDS

died Sunday, June 29, 2025.

A celebration of life is planned for Saturday, July 26 at 1:30 p.m. EDT at Preston Pointe Retirement Community, NC.

Rev. Sarah served here at Union Church as an Associate Pastor from 1993-1998.

If you would like to send your condolences to Sarah's family, please send to 1995 NW Cary Parkway, Apt. 417, Morrisville, NC.

May God be with her husband, Randy, her daughters Emily and Inga, and the rest of her family and friends.

UNION CHURCH MEN'S SOFTBALL WEEKLY RECAP



guys no less, so we feel pretty good about that. We're building a program here, and that takes time. Fostering a culture of winning doesn't happen overnight, but I'm confident we're headed in the right direction."

Player highlights included great offensive production from Colin Dowling and Sam Scaletta (returning from a knee injury), Michael Ott turning 2 double plays at second base, and Chris Weil (in his debut for the season) catching a flyball in left then throwing a frozen rope to first to pick off the runner who didn't tag up. Special thanks to Diane and Virgil Oostendorp for being the first fans not directly related to a player to attend a game!

Next week's game on 7/16 is a rematch against York Tavern at 8:30 pm at Veeck Park.



Sunday, Nov 2 @ 11:15 a.m. (In-Person in Rowell Hall)

and/or

Wednesday, Nov 5 @ 7:00 p.m. (ZOOM)

Questions/RSVP to Joel Pundman, joelpundman@gmail.com
or Carissa Kapcar, ckapcar@uchinsdale.org

Save the Date
Welcome Sunday
Nov 16 @ 10:00 a.m.

We are an **open and affirming** Congregation.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

JULY - SEPTEMBER WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

The Worship Ministry is looking for scripture readers and ushers! Please check out the QR code to look for a Sunday that works for you. Questions? Please email Randy Weimer at Randy.weimer@gmail.com.



JULY - SEPTEMBER GREETING VOLUNTEERS

The Membership ministry is looking for greeters before 10:00 a.m. Sunday services! Greeting is a wonderfully low-maintenance way for you to help out and get involved at UCH. It's a great way to connect with other members of the church and is a **very low time commitment**, as we only ask you to arrive fifteen minutes before a usual 10:00 service. Check out the QR code to look for a Sunday that works for you.



Everyone Welcome!



Worship for the whole family

ABOUT THE 9:00 a.m. SERVICE

This kid-approved service is held at **9:00 a.m. in the Chapel**. And if you're running late - that's ok! Who actually gets places on time with kids in tow? Like God, we give grace. It's a brief (25-30 minutes), casual service intended as a first step towards worship for children. We embrace movement, curious little minds, and music at this service. Everyone welcome!

Meet us here!



SAVE THE DATES:
OCTOBER 3 & 4



GENEROUS. OPEN. CONNECTED.

We are an *Open and Affirming* congregation.



hinsdale.church

137 S. GARFIELD ST. HINSDALE, IL

Join us!

your family is welcome here!

UNION
CHURCH
OF HINSDALE
EST. 1848



Back-To-School Sunday (10:00 a.m.) & Backpack Blessing (9:00 a.m.)

Sunday, August 24

Wear your favorite school colors and bring a backpack or work bag to church to be blessed for a year of productivity and safety ahead!

**Kick-Off Sunday
& Sunday School starts!**
**Sunday, September 14
@ 10:00 a.m.**



PET Blessing

Sunday, September 7

9:00 a.m. + 10:00 a.m.

*Bring your pet, a photo of your favorite furry friend, or a stuffed animal for a special blessing!
Both services will be outdoors.*

Fall Children's Chimes

Practice: September 24 & October 1 @ 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

Performance: October 5 @ 10:00 a.m.

Open to age 4+, come on by to scheduled practices to give it a try! This is a gentle and safe way for young children to have a first performance experience.



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137 S. GARFIELD ST HINSDALE, IL

PART OF AN ADULT EDUCATION
SERIES AT @UNION CHURCH

U.C.C. 101

Confirmation CliffsNotes

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

11:15 a.m. in Rowell Hall

What do we believe?

What does it mean to be a part of Union Church of Hinsdale and a part of the United Church of Christ (UCC) denomination?

Come learn more in a confirmation fast track as presented by Rev. Grant Glowiak.

This is a collaboration between the Christian Education and Membership Ministries and meant for current members, as well as those considering joining and wishing to learn more about our church.

It's good for *all of us* to learn more about who we are as a congregation and denomination!

**Save the Dates: Fall New Member Orientation
November 2 and November 5**

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***.

Join us.

You
Tube

Instagram

Facebook

hinsdale.church

UNION
CHURCH
OF
HINSDALE

Coming in October 2025!

BANNED BOOK LIBRARY

UNION
CHURCH
HINSDALE

Banned books empower us to reckon with truths that demand our loving accountability.



Help Us Build a Banned Book Library

Inspired by the service project at the UCC denominational synod, we are building our own banned book library. The library will open in October for “Banned Books Week” and during a month-long study we as a church are planning on intellectual freedom.

We hope you'll consider contributing to the UCH Banned Book Library!

Monetary donation will be accepted to purchase books from local independent bookstores

-or-

Buy your own favorite banned book and bring it to the church offices or on Sunday morning so we can add it to the library

How is creating a Banned Book Library sacred work for these times?

“In the United Church of Christ, we know that as people called to build a just world for all, we need each other's stories and experiences to live into the fullness of the Body of Christ. We believe that banned books have a special vocation, a particular calling in our faith communities: to help expand and enliven the image of God and empower us to reckon with truths that demand our loving accountability.”



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