

UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

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



Unabashed Gratitude

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 A.M. Worship Service

November 16, 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.

As Union Church, one of our core commitments is:

***We love children and youth, and we seek to raise them with
a curious, generous, personal and socially-engaged
Christian Faith***

You are welcome here!



PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

PRELUDE

Victory in Jesus

arr. Bartlett

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Morgan Saviano

One: We gather this day to give thanks to the Lord.

All: For surely God is our salvation! We will trust and not be afraid!

One: We gather this day to draw water from the well of God's love.

All: For surely the Lord is our strength and our might!

One: We gather this day to make known God's deeds among the nations.

All: So that all may know the comfort of God.

One: We gather this day to sing praises, and call on the name of Lord.

All: Let us shout aloud and sing for joy, for the Holy One is in our midst!

* HYMN #273

Praise with Joy the World's Creator

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Gaylen Saviano

God of salvation, join us this day, and pour out your courage upon your people. Lead us in the paths you would have us walk, and grant us your wisdom when the road splits. Embolden us in times of uncertainty, comfort us in times of fear, and give us strength for the day's journey, whatever it may hold. Amen.

* RESPONSE # 793

Holy, Holy

Argentine

***Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, God.***

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

PRAYER SONG

Hear Our Prayer, O God

***O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.***

PASTORAL PRAYER, ENDING WITH A 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

Total Praise
Chancel Choir

Richard Smallwood

CHILDREN DEPART FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

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!



Zelle (preferred)

Please memo designated fund/special offering

* = Those who are able and willing, please stand

MISSION MOMENT

Gratitude Video

* HYMN

Asher Yatzar

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 21:5-19

Anna Hennessey and Adelaide Saviano

SERMON

Seize the Opportunity

Rev. Grant Glowiak

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

* HYMN

Today is the Day

* BENEDICTION

* REPRISE

FLOWERS - Today's flowers are dedicated to our wonderful parents. Love, Carlton and Bonnie Berg.

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)

Manda Gervase (s)

Associate Pastor – Robb Knuepfer (h)

Dir. of Handbells – Elizabeth Jung (s)

Tierra Whetstone-Christian (s)

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

Organist – Oliver Townsend (h)

Adam Fane (h)

9:00 a.m. Worship Leader – Bree Gordon

Jess Koehn (h)

Ushers – Jane Grimm, Kirk Grimm, Vicky Hurst, Debbie Hopkins

Trap Set – Kalyan Pathak (h)

Guitar – Andrew Sudhibhasilp (h)

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

Bass – Ben Dillinger(h)

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.

GENEROSITY CORNER

UNABASHED GRATITUDE

This week we highlighted the Parish Life Ministry. Jim Jung gave us a wonderful overview of his experience and work with the ministry.

Here are some facts about the Parish Life Ministry:

- Parish Life has 9 members.
- They hid 1200 plastic eggs for the Easter egg hunt.
- Throughout the year at coffee hour over 2000 cups of coffee are served.
- Over 100 popsicles were provided to 4th of July parade attendees.
- During the June All Church Picnic Potluck church members ate 150 hotdogs and enjoyed some delicious side dishes and desserts provided by members.
- The Golden Appreciation luncheon served 50 of our members this year and has been a staple at UCH for so long that no one remembers when it started!

We VERY MUCH APPRECIATE the dedication of all Parish Life members who host a multitude of fellowship opportunities. We have unabashed gratitude for this group of people that help UCH connect and celebrate our common commitment to be a welcoming, open and affirming congregation.

Union Church 2025 Generosity Campaign Unabashed Gratitude



ELEANOR'S CHRISTMAS STOCKING DONATION INFORMATION

Please help the Ministry for Change to fill 540 stockings for the students at Graves School in Summit, IL. Please deposit the following items in the designated boxes in the Gathering Place before Sunday, November 30:

- Left-over wrapped Halloween candy
- Children's toothbrushes (must be individually wrapped)
- Travel size toothpaste



Please scan the QR code on the right for our Amazon wish list to purchase. *These items can be shipped directly to the church. Please check the church shipping address when you order.*

Thank you to Claudia Moffat, Kathy Eisel, Kathy Anderson, Gail Weber and Nancy Sullivan for making **56 stockings** for the Eleanor's Christmas Stocking Project last Friday. A special thank you to Claudia for providing all the sewing machines, fabric and the other equipment. We still need more stockings. If you are interested in sewing, please contact Jane Grimm, jgrimm723@comcast.net. She has the stocking pattern and fabric. All you have to do is sew!

PACK SANDWICHES TO HELP THE NIGHT MINISTRY

Today, November 16, 11:15 in the Dining Room

If you are looking for a powerful way to make an impact, even with limited time, look no further! Part of the Night Ministry's mission is to provide approximately 150 sack lunches monthly to children and families in need. This is where Union Church can help!

Volunteering less than 2 hours of your time, you can be part of the team that buys, assembles or delivers these lunches, this does not have to be a monthly commitment; sign up for the months that work for you!

This is a great family activity for kids of all ages or a way to gather those service hours. Please use [this link](#) to sign up or simply join us in the Dining Room on Sunday!

FOR EVERYONE

THE HELEN MEHLER MEMORIAL BRIDGE GROUP

Every Friday, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., in the Gathering Place

The HMMBG is restarting **this Friday, November 14, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 p.m. in The Gathering Place**. All levels of Bridge Players are invited, and each person is asked to donate \$5.00 per week and the money will be donated to our beautiful church. We will NOT play on Friday, November 28 or Friday, December 26.

For more information, please email Melissa Barnes Mann, melissamann403@gmail.com, Laurie McMahon, lauriekcmahon@gmail.com, or Sharon Olsen, olsen.sharon@gmail.com. May the cards be with you!

HHS BAKE SALE

Saturday, November 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Hinsdale Humane Society (21 Salt Creek Lane)

'Tis the season for baked goods! And why not make a life-saving difference for animals in need too?

All proceeds from the bake sale will go to provide vital emergency care through the Hinsdale Humane Society's Zach Leathers Emergency Medical Fund. Named in memory of life-long Union Church member Zachary Leathers, this fund helps cover urgent care for animals in need of special treatments or procedures upon arrival.

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTHS

We welcome children and their energy in all aspects of worship! We're glad you're here!

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.

For Sunday School, Children K - 5th grade will begin in the Sanctuary with their families. Later, the children will leave and go upstairs to our Sunday School space, returning before the last song. There is always Sunday School & nursery care for younger children (under 5) in classroom 129 on the lower level during the 10am service. You may drop off children before the service.

Don't hesitate to ask an usher for help!

RUDOLPH'S BOUTIQUE: NOW COLLECTING TREASURES AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



December 6, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the Dining Room

At Rudolph's Boutique, children can shop to find Christmas gifts for their families and friends. We are collecting new and gently used items that will bring a smile to someone's face when a child proudly presents their gift. Collection bins can be found in the Gathering Place outside of the Sanctuary.

Youth helpers: We are also looking for middle schoolers and high schoolers to assist our young shoppers while parents/guardians enjoy coffee and snacks upstairs in the Gathering Place. Adult helpers, we need your help with setup, sorting items, gift wrapping, and checkout. Please scan the QR code on the left for volunteer signups.

SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE

Senior Minister Search Committee members are currently dedicating themselves to important training. This investment is invaluable for a smooth search process. We appreciate each member's dedication. We honor the time that the process takes when individuals with already full lives commit their personal hours and energy on behalf of all of us.

HELPING WITH HOLIDAY UNCERTAINTY

With holidays right around the corner and uncertainty looming for a lot of families we ask - If you have the means and willingness to help "friends" of Union Church provide a Thanksgiving meal or Christmas gifts to their families, please email Adriana Kieffer, akieffer@uchinsdale.org. This will either be a donation of food or money and will be a wonderful gift to a family in need.

MUSIC

ALLEGREZZA PRESENTS: MAGNIFICAT

Sunday, December 7, 3:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary

Allegrezza's upcoming Holiday Spectacular centers on Magnificat, chosen for its beauty and now imbued with themes of justice, courage, and grace. The concert imagery reflects Mary's song—a powerful yet tender plea for justice—honoring immigrant mothers' resilience and connecting to America's symbol of hope. At its core is Luke 1:52: "He has put down the mighty from their seats and exalted the humble," reminding us that compassion can overcome power. The event is framed as art in action, calling for empathy and solidarity. Attendees can support this mission by attending the concert, with proceeds benefiting the National Immigrant Justice Center to promote dignity and hope for those seeking safety and belonging.

HINSDALE MUSIC CLUB

Wednesday, November 19, 10:30 a.m., in the Sanctuary

The Hinsdale Music Club invites members of the Union Church congregation to attend a program of "Holiday Music." Performing will be Vocalists Janet Cole, Jane Laruitsen, Dennis Lauritsen, Brandon Michaels and Joanne Volakakis; Instrumentalists Becca Anderson, Tom Culver, Darcy Lewis, Jerry Zitko and Daniel Ziesemer; and Pianists Patricia Gill, Victor Moreno and Justin Gjata. A combination of solos and ensembles will be performed. Please join us to start your holiday season with beautiful music!

CAMERATA CHICAGO ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR: HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Sunday, December 14, 3:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary

Enjoy the outstanding musical artistry of the Ensemble-in-Residence Camerata Chicago Orchestra and Choir, Ensemble-in-Residence!

- Family friendly performance (approx. 1 hour)
- Hallelujah Chorus - Sing Along.
- Delta David Gier, guest conductor!
- Soloists: Emily Richter, Lauren Decker, Daniel Espinal and Laureano Quant.

Please use the QR code to purchase tickets. UCH members Use coupon code **UCOH** for a **15% DISCOUNT**. Discount for online purchases only.



Season of Advent at Union Church!



Advent

@ UNION CHURCH

SUNDAYS @ 9 & 10AM



9 a.m. in the Chapel

This kid-approved service is held at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Rev Grant leads the service, as a brief, casual service intended as a first step towards worship for children. We embrace movement, curious little minds, and music at this service.

10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

This service brings us together in-person and online each Sunday. The 60-minute service, held in the Sanctuary and streamed on YouTube, is for the entire congregation to come together to celebrate God's love and learn what it means to be faithful followers of Jesus. Children are always welcome in worship.



We'd love to have you
participate in our pageant!

Kids ages 4+
**Christmas
PAGEANT
and Chimes**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

During **10:00 a.m.** Worship

Rehearsals @ 4:00-4:45 p.m.

11/19, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17, 12/20

Dress Rehearsal: Dec. 20 @ 10-11:30 a.m.



Scan the code
to register your
child(ren)!

GENEROUS. OPEN. CONNECTED.




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



hinsdale.church

137 S. GARFIELD ST. HINSDALE, IL

There are many memorable events for you and your family to make the Advent season special at Union Church!



Help stuff stockings for communities served by our *Eleanor's Stockings* mission project. **Sunday, December 7** after both the 9:00 and 10:00 service in the JK room off the Gathering Place. This is a mission project that is good for all ages, young children through adults.



Bring in **mittens, scarves and gloves** to benefit the children of our Mission Ministries!

Rudolph's BOUTIQUE

December 6
@ 10:00a.m.-12:30 p.m.

A holiday boutique shopping experience* for children through 5th grade. Our Youth Elves will help your little ones pick out gifts for family and friends. There will be coffee, cocoa, and a Santa sighting! (*Cash only, gifts are \$3 each)



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hinsdale.church



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

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.



SUPER AGERS

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 7

IN ROWELL HALL

11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

What is a SuperAger?

A SuperAger is an individual over age 80 with memory abilities comparable to those in their 50s and 60s.

Join Dr. Emily Rogalski of the SuperAging Research Initiative and our own Union Church super ager, June Scott, to learn more about this positive and proactive approach to understanding aging.

The University of Chicago is a leading institution in SuperAging research, focusing on individuals over 80 with exceptional memory performance.

The SuperAging Research Initiative, led by Dr. Emily Rogalski, studies these individuals to identify factors that contribute to healthy cognitive aging and potentially prevent or delay Alzheimer's disease.

In essence, the SuperAging research at UChicago is a positive and proactive approach to understanding aging, with the potential to benefit not just individuals but also society as a whole.



June Scott and some of her SuperAger friends!



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

GENEROUS. OPEN. CONNECTED.