

UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

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



Sharing the Abundance

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 A.M. Worship Service
November 23, 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 aim to grow in kindness
and generosity with all people***



You are welcome here!

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Asher Yatzar
WE

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

PRELUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

arr. Karl-Elert

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Celebrate and rejoice all you people of Jesus, for the Lord our God is doing a new thing!

All: **The old order is gone, everything is new!**

One: Illness, disease and crying and mourning, shall be as a distant memory! Hatred and war shall cease from the earth.

All: **God is alive in the universe! God lives in our hearts!**

* HYMN #417

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

* INVOCATION PRAYER

God, we acknowledge distance between that which is and that for which we long. In the time in which we wait, watch, and work for the New Heaven and New Earth, we pray you be near to us in our journey of service and contemplation. We release our tensions of the now and trust you for that which is to come. 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

All Things New
Chancel Choir

Elaine Hagenberg

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 #391

In the Midst of New Dimensions

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

Melissa Mann

SERMON

Sharing the Abundance

Ashley Logan

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

* HYMN

God of the Impossible

* BENEDICTION

* REPRISE

FLOWERS - Today's flowers are given in loving memory of Marty Eisel by the Eisel Intorcia family.

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 – Joel Pundmann, Virgil Oostendorp, Barbara Parsons

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

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

The second week of our Unabashed Gratitude pledge campaign featured Carton Berg, the head of our Buildings and Grounds. Building and Grounds is part of Trustees and consists of 6 dedicated members. There are an additional 4 members that help with landscaping/gardening. We also have a full-time Buildings and Grounds Supervisor.

Some interesting facts about our building:

There are **8** entrances

Our building is **98%** LED lighting

1 industrial kitchen and **4** kitchenettes

4 staircases connect all **3** floors of the building

The Sanctuary has **43** pews

23 sinks are dotted throughout the building including 1 child size in the Education wing.

As a congregation, we have Unabashed Gratitude for the time and effort that is needed to maintain our building and grounds. Keeping the lights on, snow shoveled, flowers planted, is needed to ensure that members and guests feel welcome and appreciate the beauty of our Union Church.

Union Church
2025 Generosity Campaign
Unabashed Gratitude



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!

CHURCH NEWS

SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Senior Minister Search Committee wrapped up their multi-week training on Sunday, November 9th, and elected the following positions:

Co-Chairs - Trayce Biancalana, Chris Chacko, Lavina Gross

Chaplains - Jake Haunty and Anne Langguth

Secretary - Jake Haunty

Corresponding Secretary - Tom Shively

Co-Communicators - Chase Culbertson and Anne Langguth

Karen Botsoe and Joel Pundmann will support each member in their roles and contribute meaningfully to the search process.

Each member is excited to embark on this journey and now moves on to Search & Call Meetings with Rev. Shernell Edney Stilley of the Illinois Conference United Church of Christ, who oversees pastoral transitions. Please continue to keep the entire committee in your prayers.

FOR EVERYONE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! "UNION EXPRESS" WINTER EVENT

Help us make UCECP's "Union Express" winter event on Friday, December 12 truly magical for our families! We're seeking volunteers for:

- Set-Up: 2:00-4:00 PM
- Event Stations (crafts, treats, and more): 4:00-6:00 PM
- Takedown: 6:00-7:00 PM



Please use the QR code on the right to choose the volunteer spot (or spots) that fit your schedule and interests. All assistance is greatly appreciated. Please contact Marissa Schultz, Marissa.c.schultz@gmail.com with any questions.

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](mailto:Melissa.Barnes.Mann@gmail.com), melissamann403@gmail.com, Laurie McMahon, lauriekmcmahon@gmail.com, or Sharon Olsen, olsen.sharon@gmail.com. May the cards be with you!

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.



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Qualified Charitable Distributions A Tax-Smart Way to Support Union Church

What is a QCD?

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA to an eligible charity. If you are 70½ or older, a QCD allows you to make tax-free donations, even if you don't itemize deductions.

Key benefits

- **Reduce your taxable income.** By donating directly from your IRA, the distribution is excluded from your taxable income, which can lower your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI).
- **Satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).** For those aged 73 and older, a QCD can count toward your RMD for the year.
- **Lower Medicare premiums.** Reducing your AGI may help lower your Medicare premiums.
- **Give without itemizing:** Since the gift is a tax-free distribution, you get the full tax benefit of your donation even if you don't itemize deductions.
- **Make a larger gift:** By using your IRA, you can turn otherwise taxable funds into a powerful, tax-free gift that benefits Union Church.

Important details

- **Eligibility:** You must be 70½ or older at the time of the distribution.
- **Limit:** The annual limit for QCDs is \$108,000 per person in 2025.
- **Direct transfer is required:** The funds must be transferred directly from your IRA administrator to the charity. You cannot withdraw the money yourself first.

How to get started

Contact your IRA administrator to initiate a direct transfer to Union Church. It's a simple process that can maximize your giving and your tax benefits.

Church Information- Union Church of Hinsdale, 137 South Garfield, Hinsdale, IL, 60521. EIN: 36 220896. You may contact Gaby Gleason or Scott or Scott Wentzel at Union Church for more information. Call 630.323.4303 or email, ggleason@uchinsdale

Please consult with a qualified financial advisor or tax professional to determine if a QCD is right for your financial situation.

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.



ON ADVENT SUNDAYS...

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

ONLINE | REV. TIM RHODES

Sundays | 6:00 - 7:15 p.m.

Advent Book Discussion

Join Rev. Tim Rhodes every Sunday evening in Advent via Zoom for a discussion on the book *The First Christmas*.

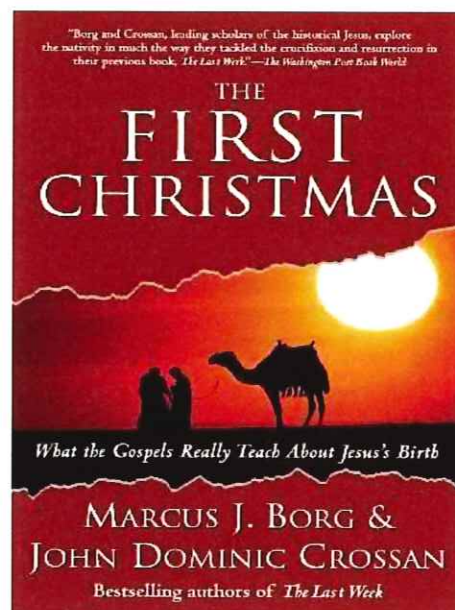
Two top Jesus scholars, Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan, join forces to help readers see the real Christmas story buried in the familiar Bible accounts and offer a clear and uplifting message of hope and peace.

Sundays | 6:00 - 7:15 p.m.

**NOV 30
DEC 7**

**DEC 14
DEC 21**

RSVP to Adriana in the church office for the Zoom link, sign up in the Gathering Place or simply tear off the RSVP note below and put it in the offering basket. We have a few copies of the book in the church office for \$10, or they are available on Amazon.



We are an *Open and Affirming* congregation.

GENEROUS. OPEN. CONNECTED.

Name:

Email where you'd like the Zoom Link sent:



*The Women's Association
of Union Church presents*

The Annual Silver Tea
SOUNDS OF THE SEASON


Wednesday, December 3rd at 1pm

*Cantate shares a selection of holiday songs
in the Sanctuary*

*Followed by the Silver Tea with tea, coffee,
punch & sweets in Rowell Hall*



*The free will offering will be
donated to the
HCS Food Pantry*



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SUPER AGERS

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 7

IN YOUTH ROOM

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!



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ALLEGREZZA PRESENTS

A HOLIDAY
Spectacular

MAGNIFICAT

*"He has brought
down the powerful from
their thrones and has
lifted up the humble"*

The Magnificat, Luke 1:46-55

DECEMBER 5TH

7:30 PM

HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH
1218 W. ADDISON STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60613

DECEMBER 7TH

3:00 PM

THE UNION CHURCH
OF HINSDALE
137 S. GARFIELD STREET
HINSDALE, IL 60521

TICKETS ONLINE & AT THE DOOR
ALLEGREZZASINGERS.COM

The Music Ministry presents

Music Sunday

December 14 , 2025

Christmas
JOY

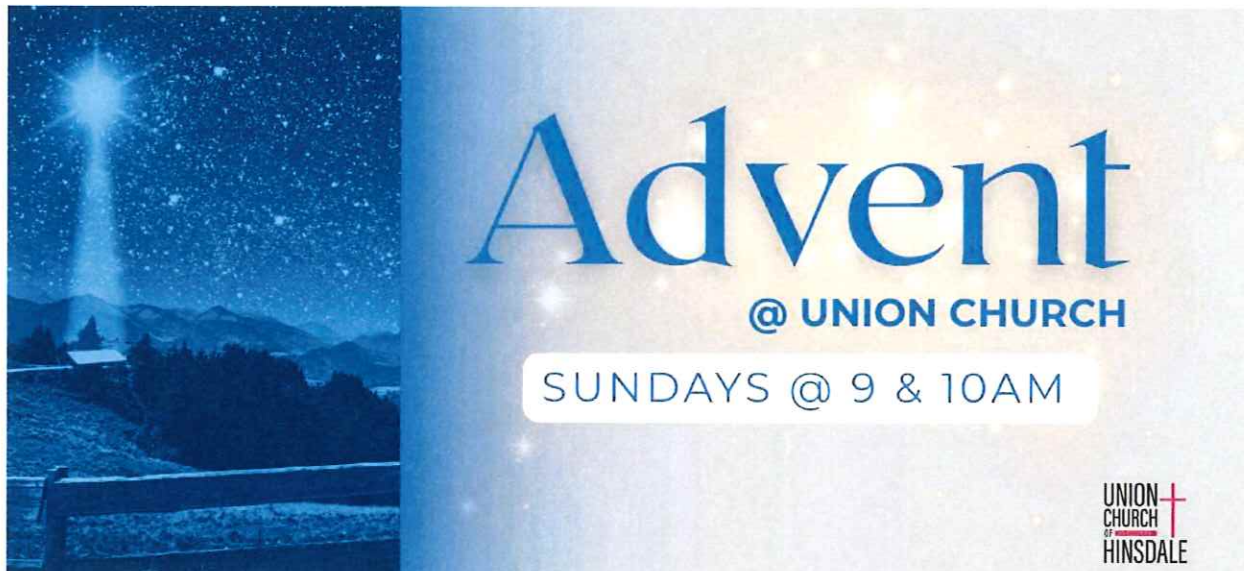
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
137 S Garfield • Hinsdale, IL

Featuring Children's Chimes,
Chancel Choir, Union Bells, Cantate!,
Fourtissimo, WE, Brass, and more.

www.hinsdale.church

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Season of Advent at Union Church!



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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