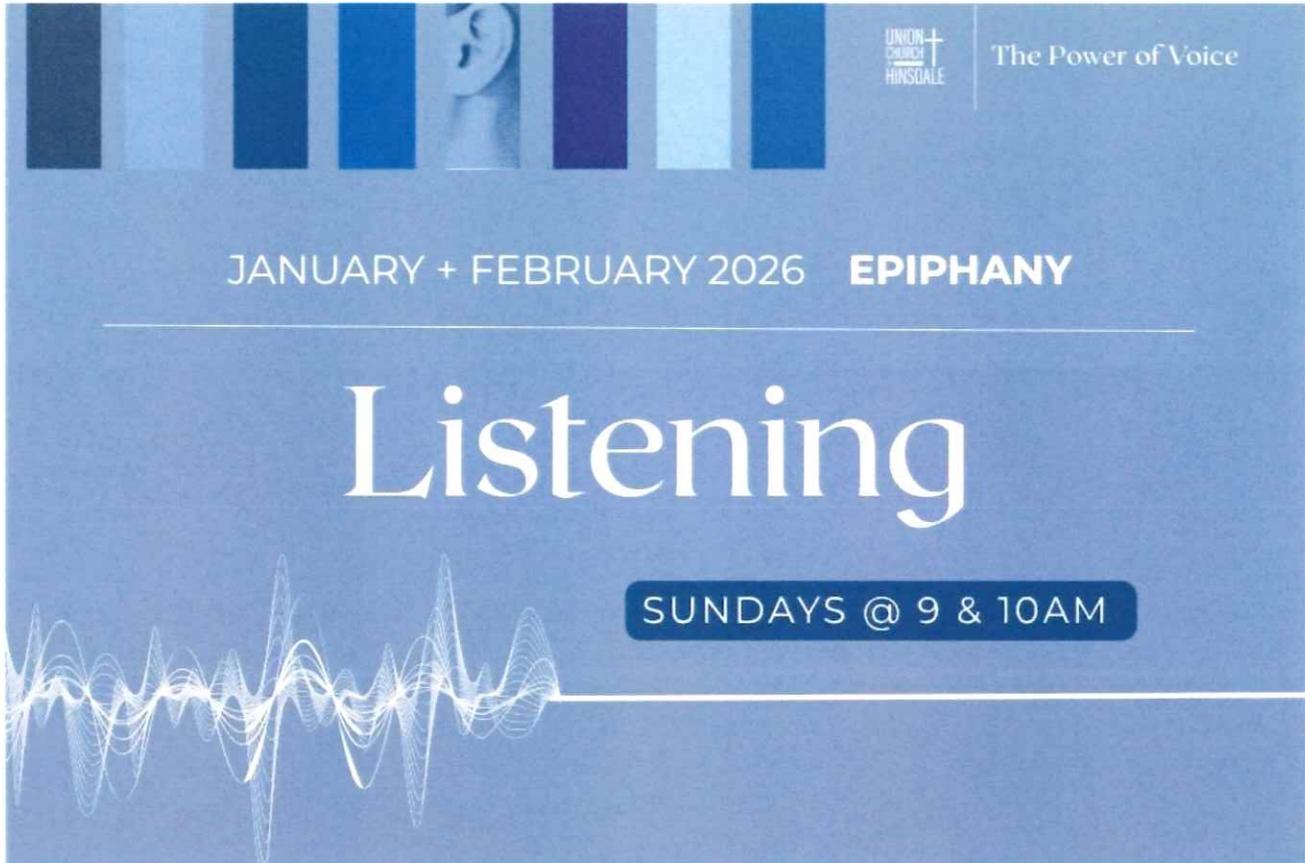


UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

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



UNION CHURCH HINSDALE
The Power of Voice

JANUARY + FEBRUARY 2026 EPIPHANY

Listening

SUNDAYS @ 9 & 10AM

Without Jesus and Moses: Foundations of Native American Spirituality

4th Sunday after Epiphany
10:00 A.M. Worship Service
February 1, 2026

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 know we have power, and we use that power to make the world more like Jesus would want it to be.

You are welcome here!



PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

PRELUDE

Soon and Very Soon

Crouch

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Our God and Creator asks, "How will you live the life I have given to you?"

All: Like a still, deep pool in the desert, we will live in a way that reflects God's love back onto our common world.

One: Our God and Creator asks, "How will you walk this path I have given to you?"

All: Like the creatures of the forest, we will walk in a way that respects all life created by God's hand.

One: Our God and Creator asks, "How will you reach out to the world beyond yourselves?"

All: Like the branches of a sapling, we will strive to reach beyond the safe and the familiar, touching the world in God's name.

One: Let us worship our common God.

*** HYMN # 575**

O For a World

*** INVOCATION PRAYER**

Creator of all tribes, peoples and hues, gather us from the four directions that we might live and love as your children. Let us be a blessing to every path we may cross and help us to remember we all are connected through the endless circle of life and creation. Unite our hearts with your love so we may love all people. Amen.

*** RESPONSE**

Sing Alleluia to the Lord

Linda Stassen

***Sing alleluia to the Lord! Sing alleluia to the Lord!
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia, sing alleluia to the Lord***

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

PRAYER SONG

Come and Fill Our Hearts

Taizé

***Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia.***

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

Your Grandmother's Sorrow

Buchholtz

William Buchholtz (Algonquin/Metis) - Woodland Cedar Flute
(This is an original composition he wrote recently in honor of a bullied Native Trans boy who took his own life.)

CHILDREN DEPART FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

* = Those who are able and willing, please stand

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

* HYMN

River of Life

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2:43-47

Diane Oostendorp

INTRODUCTION OF ANDREW JOHNSON

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

SERMON

Without Jesus and Moses: Foundations of Native American Spirituality

Andrew Johnson

SERMON ANTHEM

Morning Song

arr. Green

Chancel Choir, William Buchholtz (Algonquin/Metis) - Woodland Cedar Flute

* COMMUNION HYMN #547

Amazing Grace
(stanzas 1, 2, and 5)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER, OFFERING, AND A TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

All are welcome at the Communion table. All means all. Please take a piece of bread and a cup. You may partake of the elements either before or after returning to the pew. Those not coming forward will be served in the pews.

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

Thanks for giving to the life of UCH!

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is right and our greatest joy.....

COMMUNION SONG

God of Justice

* PRAYER OF GRATITUDE (*in unison*)

We thank you, O God, for giving us your grace through the visible signs of this bread and vine, uniting us with Christ, and helping us become the body of Christ for the world. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall join with all nations and peoples in the joy of your eternal realm. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

* HYMN

Today Is the Day

BENEDICTION

REPRISE

FLOWERS - Today's flowers are given by Gail Weber in loving memory of her father, Richard Dosier, for his Groundhog's Day Birthday.

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)	<u>Section Leaders</u>
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)	Adam Fane (h)
Dir. of Music & Worship – Stephen C Edwards (h/t)	Organist – Oliver Townsend (h)	Jess Koehn (h)

Ushers –Virgil Oostendorp

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 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. Don't hesitate to ask an usher for help!

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.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE "HANG IN THERE" CURRENT EVENTS GROUP

Today, February 1, 11:15 a.m., in the Kitchen Classroom

Feeling the need to connect with others as we all navigate our way through what can be disorienting current events? This group began coming together last February (happy 1-year anniversary!) to do just that. We will meet monthly on the first Sunday of each month. Feel free to join us anytime!

CAMERATA CHICAGO ORCHESTRA PRESENTS: VALENTINE'S ROMANCE

Sunday, February 15, 3:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary

Enjoy a romantic evening with the wonderful violinist Yi-Jia Susanne Hou on Valentines Day Weekend serenading you with the Carmen Fantasy by Sarasate, the romance for violin and orchestra by Beethoven and love inspired works by Kreisler. Conducted by Maestro Drostan Hall, Camerata Chicago will also delight you with the celebrated Hungarian Dances by Brahms and the famous Intermezzo from the opera Cavalleria Rusticana by Mascagni.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHERE FAITH MEETS AI

Sunday, February 8

AI provides this biography of Artificial Intelligence: AI traces its evolution from ancient myths (Talos, Golems) and early mechanical concepts (Pascal's calculator, Da Vinci's knight) through foundational theories (Turing Test in 1950), the coining of the term "Artificial Intelligence" at Dartmouth in 1956, the first expert systems (DENDRAL, SAINT), and key milestones like Deep Blue (1997) and AlphaGo (2016). The modern era is defined by deep learning, GPUs, Large Language Models (LLMs like GPT-3/4), and generative AI, transforming it from a niche research field into ubiquitous technology impacting daily life through virtual assistants, search, and creative tools.



A new tradition



Trivia Mixer

Union Church Membership

Thursday, Feb 12
6-8 p.m.

*(We'll start **AT 6 p.m.** so please be on time!)*

Neat Kitchen | Westmont

Cost is \$25 & includes food

Do you see familiar faces in the church pews each week, catch a name on an email or new member bio and think to yourself, "Gee, I'd like to get to know them better..." Well, here's your chance! **Join us for a NEW Union Church tradition and have some fun this winter: a Trivia Mixer!**



Registration is required and space is limited to 50 people.

Scan the QR code or call the office to register and you'll be placed on a team!

Remember it's a mixer - so everyone will be mixed up and not necessarily with people you know well, but working with their teammates to answer trivia questions.

Get ready to share your trivia knowledge and have some fun, while getting to know your fellow (new and old) Union Church members.

Everyone welcome!



GENEROUS. OPEN. CONNECTED.

We are an open and affirming Congregation.



hinsdale.church



UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

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Report of Annual Meeting

Many thanks to all who participated in last Sunday's Annual Meeting, in person and online. Your presence was important and appreciated. New ministry members were elected, proposed Constitutional changes were approved, and the 2026 budget was approved.

Moderator Penny Davey celebrated Union Church's 160 years of faithfulness. We continue to care for others abundantly, create a sense of community, and value quality early childhood education. Though we are in a transition between senior ministers, Union Church is strong, and our vibrant spirit is alive! Because we are in transition, we are using this time to get much in order.

Our senior minister search is a top priority for 2026. Other goals are the implementation of the preschool task force recommendations, the development of building maintenance and funding plans, and the celebration and promotion of connections between generations of church members.

Treasurer Christy Weimer reported that we ended the year in solid financial position. Our 2025 budget anticipated a modest loss of about \$24,000 whereas the actual loss was \$9,400. Even so, pledges, our largest source of income, were below budget in 2025 and we are yet significantly short of our pledge goal for 2026. All members' financial participation is needed to keep up with rising expenses. Completion of pledges for 2025 is still welcome! If you have not yet pledged for 2026, now is the time!

Search Committee Co-Chair Lavina Gross complimented the selection of such a diverse and dedicated team. They are committed to carry out their mission as quickly and expeditiously as possible.

New 50-year members Jackie Al-Ubaidi, Bonnie Berg, Carlton Berg, Beth Dickerson, Vicky Hurst, Dick Martin and Jeff Stinehelfer were recognized along with the many other 50+ year members for their long-term commitment to Union Church!

If you have not yet read the Annual Report of 2025, you may find a copy to take home on the welcome desk as you walk into the Gathering Place. If there are no copies available, please email Adriana Kieffer, akieffer@uchinsdale.org, or call 630-590-6689, to ask for a copy.

2026



JANUARY

Sun, Jan 4: Epiphany Sunday
Sun, Jan 4: Current Events Group
Mon, Jan 5: Union Bells Rehearsals Resume
Wed, Jan 7: Chancel Choir Rehearsals Resume
Thu, Jan 8: Mahjong Meet-up
Sun, Jan 18: Sandwich Making for the Night Ministry
Sun, Jan 25: Annual Meeting
Sat, Jan 31: Leadership Retreat

FEBRUARY

Golden Circle worship at KBH
Sun, Feb 1: Current Events Group
Thu, Feb 5: Mahjong Meet-up
Thu, Feb 12: All-church trivia
Bible Sunday - Children's Chimes
Sun, Feb 15: Sandwich Making for the Night Ministry
Wed, Feb 18: Ash Wednesday, 7:45 - 9:45am drive thru,
12 - 12:15pm Ash Imposition, 7pm Chapel
Wed, Feb 25: Lent online reflections (Wednesdays in
Lent, posted by noon) "Spiritual Light The
Windows of Union Church"

MARCH

Sun, Mar 1: Current Events Group
Wed, March 4: Lent online reflections
Thu, Mar 5: Mahjong Meet-up
Wed, March 11: Lent online reflections
Sun, March 15: Sandwich Making for the Night Ministry
Wed, March 18: Lent online reflections
Wed, March 25: Lent online reflections
Sun, Mar 29: Palm Sunday, 9 & 10am
Golden Circle worship at KBH

APRIL

Thu, April 2: Maundy Thursday, 7pm Sanctuary
Thu, April 9: Mahjong Meet-up
Fri, April 3: Good Friday, Online
Sat, April 4: Parish Life Easter Egg Hunt,
10am Gathering Place
Sun, April 5: Easter Sunday, 9 & 10:30am Sanctuary
Sun, April 12 & 19: Worship in the Woods at 9am
Sat, April 18: Mystery Dinner Theatre Event
"Midnight at the Masquerade"
Sun, April 19: Sandwich Making for the Night Ministry
Golden Circle worship at KBH

MAY

Sun, May 17: Sandwich Making for the Night Ministry
Sun, May 24: Pentecost
Sun, May 24: Bike Blessing at 9am
Golden Circle worship at KBH
Sun, May 31: Music Sunday
New Member Classes

JUNE

Golden Circle worship at KBH
Sun, June 7: Church Picnic
Mon, June 22 - Fri, June 26: Vacation Bible School
Sun, June 28: VBS Sunday

JULY

Sat, July 4: Parish Life 4th of July Parade
Golden Circle worship at KBH

AUGUST

Golden Circle worship at KBH
Bells Resume
Sun, Aug 23: Backpack Blessing 9am / Back-to-School
Sunday School Colors / Root beer floats 10am

SEPTEMBER

Chancel Choir Rehearsals Resume
Sun, Sept 13: Outdoor Pet/stuffed animal Blessing, 9 & 10am
Sat, Sep 19: Beer and Brat Party
Sun, Sept 20: Kick off Sunday / Sunday School Resumes
Confirmation Kick-off

OCTOBER

Fri, Oct 2 - Sat, Oct 3: Resale
Sun, Oct 4: World Communion Sunday / Children's
Chimes Performs
Sun, Oct 18 & 25: Worship in the Woods at 9am
New Member Classes

NOVEMBER

Sun, Nov 1: All Saints / Remember our Loved Ones, 10am
Wed, Nov 18: Pageant Rehearsal & Chimes Practice
Thu, Nov 26: Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

Sat, Dec 5: Rudolph's Boutique
Wed, Dec 2, 9, 16: Pageant Practice Rehearsal
Christmas Music Sunday (and Chimes performs)
Sat, Dec 19: Pageant Dress Rehearsal, 10am
Sun, Dec 20: 10am service only - Pageant
Wed, Dec 24: Christmas Eve
Sun, Dec 27: 10am service only



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.