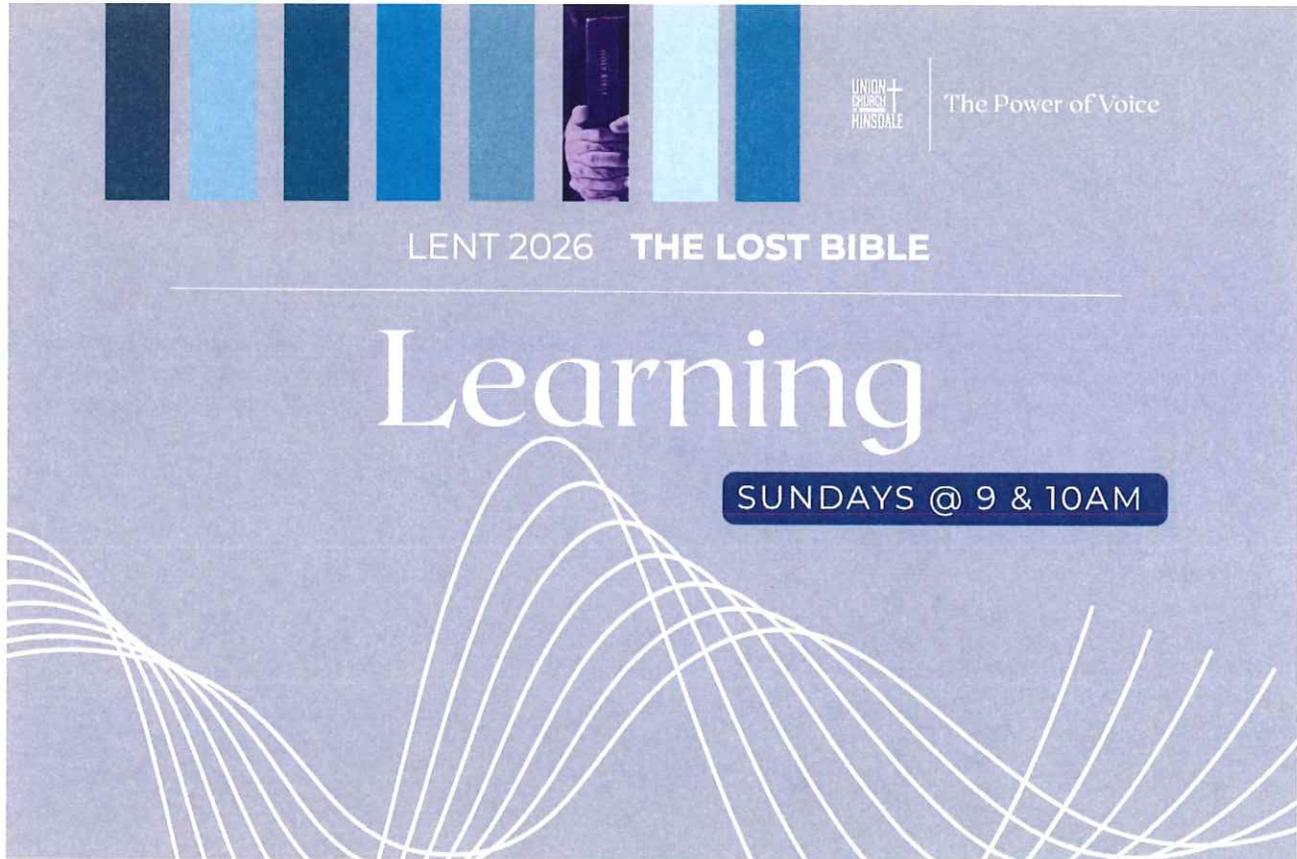


# UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

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



## ***Seeing Is Believing***

Third Sunday in Lent  
10:00 A.M. Worship Service  
March 8, 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 are a thinking church, so we ask questions to discern  
What really matters in life.***

***You are welcome here!***



**GATHERING MUSIC**

**WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY**

Rev. Grant Glowiak

**PRELUDE**

*How Great Is Our God*

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come, seekers and questioners, bringing both faith and doubt.

All: **Come, for the Holy One meets us in our searching as much as our certainty.**

One: We gather to look with fresh eyes for the presence of God among us.

All: **We gather to listen for the word that stirs our spirits awake.**

One: Open our hearts to wonder, our minds to truth, our eyes to the Divine.

All: **Let us worship God, who is revealed in light, in mystery, and in us.**

**\* HYMN #18**

*Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer*

**\* INVOCATION PRAYER**

Holy One, you who dwell within and around us, closer than our very breath—open our eyes to your presence already in our midst. In our confidence, steady us; in our questioning, meet us with grace. Gather our scattered thoughts, calm our restless spirits, and awaken us to the love that guides, holds, and sustains us. May this time of worship attune us to your wisdom, and help us trust that you are here—always— in our believing, in our wondering, and in our becoming. Amen.

**\* RESPONSE #756**

*Glory to God*

Jacques Berthier

***Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God, Let all sing praise, let all sing praise!***

**INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER**

**PRAYER SONG**

*Hear Our Prayer O Lord*

Whelpton

***Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord;  
Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us your peace.***

**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**

*Kyrie*  
Chancel Choir

René Clausen

**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**

Guatemala Mission Trip  
(SEE BACK PAGE)

Hugh Robinson

\* = Those who are able and willing, please stand

\* HYMN

*By Faith*

SCRIPTURE READING

*Selections from the Gospel of Thomas*

Julie Moser

SERMON

*Seeing Is Believing*

Rev. Dr. Robb Knuepfer

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

\* HYMN

*We Are*

\* BENEDICTION

REPRISE

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FLOWERS - Today's flowers are given in memory of loved ones by Nadine and Dan Woodle.

### 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)

Jess Koehn (h)

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

Organist – Oliver Townsend (h)

Ushers – Lucy Kapcar and Chris Kapcar

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)

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### 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.

### FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Senior Minister Search Committee is nearing completion of our church profile and hope to have it finalized in the next week or two. Each member has put in significant time and effort to get the profile to this point, and we are confident it will reflect our church and congregation in a wonderful light. It will also draw in the best candidates possible. Please continue to keep the entire committee in your prayers.

### UPCOMING AND ONGOING UCH EVENTS

#### SANDWICH MAKING FOR THE NIGHT MINISTRY

*Sunday March 15, and every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 11:15 a.m., in the Kitchen Classroom*



## SPIRITUAL LIGHT: REFLECTIONS ON THE WINDOWS AT UNION CHURCH

*Wednesdays during Lent*

As you prepare for this time of devotion, you may wish to light a candle and pause for a moment of quiet, allowing yourself to enter a spirit of peace and reflection and welcome God's spiritual light into your life during this sacred season.

Each Wednesday during Lent, we invite you to explore the beauty and meaning of the stained-glass windows at Union Church through a brief YouTube devotion found by using the QR code in each Sunday's bulletin or through the link sent to your email each Wednesday during Lent at noon.



## YOUTH BELL CHOIR

*Sunday, March 15, 10:45 to 11:30, in the Bell Room*

Ready to make some noise?

Students in 6th to 12th grade are invited to join our bell ringing group! Whether you've never touched a bell before or you already love music, you are welcome - no experience required.

Come check it out, try something new, and be part of a group that creates something powerful together.

Interested? Contact Elizabeth Jung, UCH Bell Director, at 630-688-1706 or [ejugster88@gmail.com](mailto:ejugster88@gmail.com) for more information. Don't miss your chance to jump in and ring with us!



## VBS: ALL ABOARD! COME RIDE THE PEACE TRAIN

*June 22 to 26, 12:45 to 3:00 p.m., at Union Church of Hinsdale*  
**Registration opens TODAY!**

Get ready for a week of fun, friendship, and faith at Union Church of Hinsdale's VBS! This year, we're hopping on the Peace Train to explore what it means to live as peacemakers. Each day, kids will:

- Discover inspiring Bible stories
- Learn how God's peace includes everyone
- Practice kindness, courage, and compassion
- Play games, enjoy snacks, and create arts and crafts

From God's promise of peace to sharing it in the world, your child will learn that peace isn't just something we talk about — it's something we live!



## WORSHIP MINISTRY

### EASTER FLOWERS

*March 20 order deadline*

*\$20 per plant*

With Easter we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Each year, to add visual joy and beauty to our Easter service, we adorn the sanctuary with Easter flowers. If you would like to purchase an Easter flower to adorn our sanctuary and/or donate a plant in the name of a loved one, see the following.

There will be members of the Worship Ministry in the Gathering Place on March 15 to take your order. If you are unable to make it in person, you have the option to complete your order online! Please follow the QR code and select 'flowers' from the dropdown menu. In the memo line, please indicate whether the plant is in memory or in honor of, the names (one dedication per plant please), who the plant is given by, and whether you will be donating your flower(s) to homebound members or taking them home after the April 5 Easter service. "



**Volunteers are needed to help deliver flowers to our homebound friends.** Your help would be greatly appreciated.

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.*

UNION  
CHURCH  
OF  
HINSDALE

# COOKING UP A CAREER

OUTSIDE THE 9-5

SUNDAY | MARCH 15

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

IN THE YOUTH ROOM



## How Julianne started a business at 22...

*After graduating college and working in the restaurant industry, Julianne took a leap and started her own personal chef business at 22. In this talk, she opens up about taking risks, trusting her instincts, and how food became the foundation of her career.*

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

**GENEROUS. OPEN. CONNECTED.**

# SPOTLIGHT: IRAN

SUNDAY | MARCH 22

IN ROWELL HALL

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

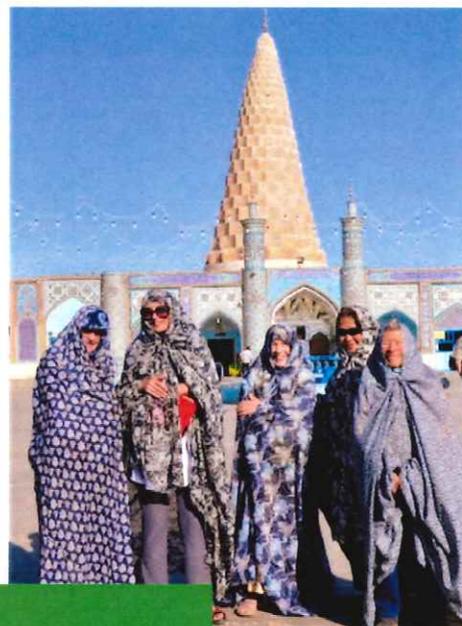
## EVERYONE WELCOME!

*During a trip to Iran 13 years ago, June Scott hiked with a group to a remote village that was so off the beaten path, supplies were brought in by burro.*

*June approached an elderly woman sitting on a doorstep wearing a customary head covering. "She asked if we were Americans, and we said, 'Yes,' "She said, 'You know what? We like Americans. We do not like governments.'"*

*June is considered a Super-Ager, part of The Healthy Aging Care Center at the University of Chicago. She has visited more than 100 different countries in pursuit of her globetrotting passion for experiencing other cultures. She credits her late husband with instilling in her a sense of adventure before he passed away 25 years ago.*

*Learn more about the beautiful country, culture and people of Iran from travel enthusiast and beloved member of Union Church, June Scott who traveled there in 2013.*



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# LENT 2026 THE LOST BIBLE

## Learning

UNION CHURCH  
OF HINSDALE

The Power of Voice

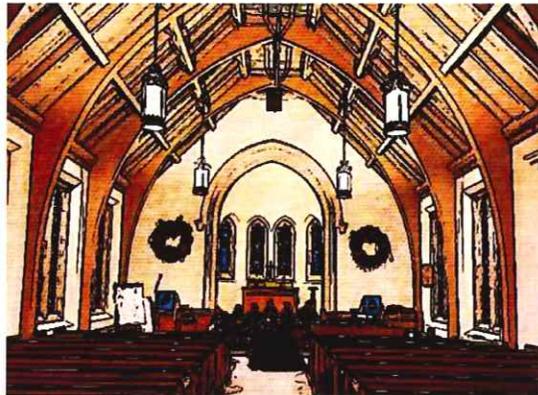
SUNDAYS

9:00 a.m. | Chapel

*Kid-Approved Service*

10:00 a.m. | Sanctuary + Online

*Worship-for-All (optional Sunday School  
+ nursery care available)*



*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**. It's a brief, casual service intended as a first step towards worship for children. We embrace movement, curious little minds, and music at this service.

Wednesdays during Lent  
Feb 25 - March 25

### "Spiritual Light - The Windows of Union Church"

Online reflections on our stained glass windows will be posted on our YouTube by noon on Wednesdays!

## HOLY WEEK

MAR  
29

### Palm Sunday

9:00 a.m. | Chapel  
10:00 a.m. | Sanctuary + Online

APR  
3

### Good Friday

Online Reflections (YouTube)

APR  
2

### Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

APR  
4

### Holy Saturday Easter Egg Hunt

10:00 a.m. | Gathering Place

## EASTER SUNDAY | APRIL 5, 2026

9:00 a.m.  
Kid-Approved Service  
In the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m.  
Worship-for-All  
Sanctuary + Online

UNION CHURCH  
OF HINSDALE

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



# Join Us on a Community Connections Trip to Guatemala

Partnering with Sueños y Esperanzas



Our mission is reducing poverty in Guatemala's Mayan communities through education. Sueños y Esperanzas educates, equips, and empowers Mayan children and youth to build a hopeful future. We help students gain the skills to succeed in school and pursue meaningful careers.

## Our Programs:

- Abejitas (Little Bees): Preparing students for middle & high school
- Parenting Program: Supporting families as children stay in school
- We-Connect Computer Program: Weekly tech classes & computer access

## Trip Details:

- Trip Dates: Oct 31 – Nov 8
- Optional side trip: Oct 28 – Nov 1
- Cost: \$1,850 (includes food, lodging, in country transportation) plus airfare
- Open to ages 13+
- Activities include Home construction, smokeless stove building, various cultural experiences

Watch for details about an informational meeting in May (watch the weekly e-blast)  
Questions? Contact Trayce Biancalana — [Traycebiancs@yahoo.com](mailto:Traycebiancs@yahoo.com)

