

UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

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



Walking the Wobbly Way

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 A.M. Worship Service
August 9, 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!

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

PRELUDE

Marche Gothique

Koury

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: People of God. Christ calls us from the safety of the shoreline into the adventure of faith.

All: We come with our hopes and our fears, trusting that Christ is already waiting for us.

One: When the winds of life rise and the waves seem too great,

All: we choose courage over fear, trust over certainty, and faith over despair.

One: Let us worship the One who commands the wind and the sea, who strengthens the weary, and who calls us into abundant life.

All: With grateful hearts, open spirits, and renewed courage, let us worship God!

*HYMN #49

Ask Me What Great Thing I Know

HENDON

*INVOCATION PRAYER

Faithful God, you come to us in every season of life—on quiet shores and in restless seas, in moments of confidence and in times of uncertainty. When the winds of fear rise around us and the waves of worry threaten to overwhelm us, remind us that Christ is near, speaking words of courage, peace, and hope. Open our eyes to recognize your presence in this time of worship. Open our hearts to trust you more deeply than our fears. Open our hands to receive your grace and to share your love with a world longing for peace. When our faith feels strong, keep us humble and grateful. When our faith falters, take hold of us with your steady hand and lift us again. Teach us to follow where Christ leads—not because the way is easy, but because your love is faithful and your promises endure.

Gather us into your Spirit today. Still the storms within us, strengthen us for the journey before us, and shape us into a people who reflect the courage, compassion, and hope of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*RESPONSE

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 #769

Hear Our Prayer

***Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God;
incline your ear to us, 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

Clarinet

Amanda Gronlund

* Please rise in body and spirit

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

UCC Global Ministries: Lebanon

*HYMN #438

*When Peace Like a River
(It Is Well with My Soul)*

VILLE DU HAVRE

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 14.22-33

Julie Moser

SERMON

Walking the Wobbly Way

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

*HYMN #400

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

REGENT SQUARE

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Would you like to sponsor a floral arrangement for a Sunday service in the Sanctuary? The beautiful flowers could be to celebrate an anniversary, birthday, special event, in memory of a loved one – or just because! Please contact Gail Weber, the Altar Flower Coordinator, at gailweb@att.net for additional information and to reserve a date for 2026.

STAFF AND WORSHIP LEADERS

Bridge Pastor – Timothy C. Rhodes (h)

Associate Pastor – Grant Glowiak (h/t)

Associate Pastor – Robb Knuepfer (h)

Dir. of Christian Education – Penny Johnson (s)

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

Dir. of Handbells – Elizabeth Jung (s)

Organist/ Interim Director of Music– Oliver Townsend (h)

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

Ushers – Joel Pundmann, Michael Kucera, Gail Weber

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

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Union Church welcomes 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. It's got a little table, chairs, toys, and a collection of books. 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 children Kindergarten – 5th grade, Sunday School will resume on August 16. There is always Sunday School & nursery care for younger children (under 5) in classroom 129 on the lower level.

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.

ONGOING MONTHLY EVENTS

SANDWICH MAKING AND PACKING FOR THE NIGHT

MINISTRY

August 16, after 10:00 a.m. worship, in the Dining Room

BEGINNER'S MAHJONG

Thursday, August 20, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., in Rowell Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Senior Minister Search Committee continues to push ahead with in-person interviews and eventual full day meetings with potential candidates, sharing meals and making sure we know them and they know us. We still believe the group we have includes our future Senior Minister and hope to conclude in the coming couple of

THIS FALL, UNION CHURCH FANTASY FOOTBALL IS BACK

If this is your first time, you may be asking: What makes this league different from any other league? Instead of a 'buy-in,' when you sign up for this league you are committing to hosting (or co-hosting) at least one Monday Night Football game for the other players in the league. How you host is up to you. You can go all in and host it at your home with made-from-scratch tailgate fare, or you can just pick the bar everyone meets at. You can even host it at the church and order pizzas if you want! If you go the "host at the church route" please contact Adriana Kieffer to make sure there is a room available.



We're going to shoot for 12-team leagues (pending how many people sign up). If you're interested, please sign up using the QR code **no later than Tuesday September 1**. The drafts for all leagues (done online but gathering in person is encouraged) will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday September 8.



COMING IN SEPTEMBER

SOULCRAFT: THE ART OF LIVING

New sermon series starting Sunday, September 6



SPOTLIGHT: SEMESTER AT SEA

Sunday, September 20, 11:15 to 12:30 p.m., in Rowell Hall

To kick off our Soulcraft: The Art of Living yearlong theme, we can't think of a better presenter than our beloved UCH member, June Scott. In September, our sermons are focused on building community, and June did just that when she participated in a Semester at Sea program as a Lifelong Learner.

Come learn about June's time on the cruise ship and adventures with students of all ages. From the Taj Mahal to a cooking class in Thailand, to the dining room on the ship, and sunset yoga on top of the deck, she has wonderful stories to share of the wonderful community she formed at sea.