

The Union Press

SESSION HAPPENINGS

The session met on November 11, 2020. The meeting was called to order with prayer by acting moderator, Rev. Tom Milligan of Little Britain EPC.

We discussed the use of the EPC Book of Order and Leadership Training Guide to familiarize the new officers that will be installed in 2021 with church policies. We will need to find an EPC Minister to install them as Rev. Milligan has services the same time as Union. We will look into this.

The minutes of the previous meeting and the treasurers report were reviewed and approved. We have now paid all of the 2020 benevolences that were on this year's budget. It was agreed that we should include a donation in the 2021 Benevolence budget to support the EPC's Mission program known as Mission 2025.

The nominating committee has finished work on the 2021 officers. There will need to be an additional auditor for year 2022 found. The worship committee has pulpit supply lined up through the end of 2020. Rev. Scott Phillips will be doing most of the Sundays. We are working towards establishing a more regular pulpit supply agreement with Scott. Elaine Swinehart will be doing the December 20th communion service and Mick Chase will lead the Christmas Eve service. Due to a recent uptick in Covid 19 spread we have decided to keep services short and may suspend Sunday School again temporarily. We will emphasize that masks be worn.

The budget committee reported that they have begun work on the 2021 budget and should have a preliminary version available for the next



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The Due Date for the February Newsletter is January 17th.

session meeting to view. The pastor search committee is still working but have had very limited response.

Permission was given for Brad and Angie White to use the kitchen for a fund raiser they are holding to help defray the expenses of a baby they are adopting. Brad is the grandson of Edna Chase Yarnell and the nephew of Mick Chase. Angie is the sister of Todd Brown who has served as a pulpit supply for us several times. We were pleased to be able to help them out.

The session voted to close the trustee checking account. Most expenses are paid now with credit card and the session must approve all major expenses so it was felt there was no need for the account. The money from the account was placed in the building fund. We have loaned Chestnut Level the costumes from our Christmas Pageant so they can hold a drive through Nativity scene.

The meeting closed with prayer for all the members and friends of Union Church who are experiencing health problems.



UNION APPOINTS STATED SUPPLY PASTOR

The session of Union Presbyterian Church is pleased to announce that while the search for a permanent minister is ongoing, they have appointed an interim minister. Rev. Scott Phillips has been a frequent pulpit supply for Union the last couple months. He has agreed to serve on a continuing basis through at least next June offering Union a consistency we have been lacking. While Elaine Swinehart, Mick Chase and Todd Brown have served us extremely well the past year, we lacked the feeling of having a regular minister. Because of other commitments they could not supply the visits, calls and other services a regular minister provides. Scott will fill this void for us. Both Union and Scott still search for full time ministry positions. When Scott cannot be here, we can still count on Elaine and Mick for pulpit supply.

Scott Graduated from Lancaster Bible College with a ministry degree in 2008 and Capital Seminary with a Master of Divinity in 2016. A graduate of Solanco, he is the son of Gerald and Judy Phillips. Licensed in the Evangelical Congregational Church, he served as pastor at Ebenezer ECC Church in Brownstown from 2016 to 2020.

Scott and his wife Mary have been married 22 years and have 3 children, 11-19 and live near Witmer east of Lancaster. Mary works for The Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences.

Hello Union Church!

One of my favorite books of the Bible is the book of Esther. It's definitely in my top 66! The book of Esther tells the story of how God used Esther to protect His people as they were living in exile in Persia. Queen Esther is hesitant at first to get involved, but her cousin Mordecai encourages her with a short speech that includes what is probably the most familiar verse in the book:

"And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14)

Back at the beginning of 2020 I could have never foreseen all that has taken place, both in my life and in the world, during this calamitous year. And yet, God is still sovereign and still sits on the throne. He is great, and He is good. And, I believe that he has brought us together for such a time as this.

I am excited to see what He will do over these next few months and am looking forward to getting to know each of you. I am also praying that the day will soon come that I will be able to see the bottom half of your faces! I plan to be in the church office a couple of days each week and will be happy to visit with you either in person (with all appropriate safety measures) or over the phone.

Scott Phillips



January

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day	2
3 10:00 Worship – Scott Phillips	4 NO Trustee Mtg	5	6 Epiphany	7 10:00 Deacon Mtg	8	9
10 10:00 Worship – Scott Phillips	11 1:00 Bible Study 7:00 Bible Study	12	13 7:00 Session Mtg	14	15	16
17 10:00 Worship – Scott Phillips	18 MLK Jr. Day	19	20	21	22	23
24 10:00 Worship – Scott Phillips	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 10:00 Worship – Scott Phillips 10:45 Congregational Meeting & Installation Service						

FOOD BANK

Individual-size cereal boxes, juice boxes, diced tomatoes, canned fruit- all sizes and varieties, tomato and chicken noodle soup, canned chicken, chicken Rice-a-Roni, Tuna Helper, mayonnaise, canned peas, baked beans, egg noodles, and Ramen noodles.

LECTIONARY PASSAGES

January 3rd

Epiphany Sunday

Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20;
Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9) 10-18

January 10th

Baptism of the Lord

Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29:1-11;
Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

January 19th

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20);
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

January 24th

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12;
1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

January 31st

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111:1-10;
1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28



JAN. BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Kenny Miller
- 4 Daryl Supplee Sr.
- 6 Annie Thompson
- 7 Trey McCardell
- 12 Rodney Whiteside
Pat McCardell
- 14 Jane Walker
- 15 Verna Mae Walton
- 17 James Vasco II
- 18 Debra Greenleaf-Campbell
Chase Carter
- 19 Delsa Wrigley
- 20 Kent Hastings
- 21 Paul Shivery III
- 24 Megan Ferguson Sirera
- 26 Daniel Greenleaf
- 27 Branden Shoemaker
- 30 Daniel Stoner

JAN. FLOWERS

- 3 Marty & Judy Greenleaf
- 10 (Still Available)
- 17 (Still Available)
- 24 (Still Available)
- 31 (Still Available)



The flower calendar for 2021 is on the bulletin board in the main lobby. Please choose the dates you would wish to provide flowers in the sanctuary vases.



I want to thank the congregation and the Deacons for your cards and concerns regarding my health. I also want to thank the Deacons for the poinsettia. ~Hazel Shoemaker

Dear Union Family, Mother would like me to thank you for remembering her on the holidays with your kind notes and flowers. ~Edna Yarnall

Union Church, Thank you for your continued support of New Hope! Your partnership is such a blessing. Please continue to pray for us as we seek to provide affordable and professional counseling to our community. God Bless, Amy Huber and the New Hope Board

Dear Union Family, Thank you for your prayers and cards during my recovery following my surgery. Your kindness and thoughtfulness are greatly appreciated. ~Janet Stewart

Union Church, Thank you for your thoughtful sympathy cards and prayers with the lose of my father. ~Rose Brendel



WINTER WEATHER CONDITIONS AND SUNDAY SERVICES

It is the opinion of session that except in extreme conditions (heavy ice, a foot of snow and more coming, etc.) that the decision to attend church services should be a personal decision based upon your own conditions and abilities. One person may be a mile down a main road and the next person has to come 5 miles over notorious back roads. We feel that in general, we will hold a service for whoever can come. If a minister does not show up, we will pray and sing songs and make the best of it and probably dismiss early. That being said, we may foresee that conditions dictate that no one should be on the roads. In that condition we may cancel church. WGAL has changed their policy and will only broadcast Church closings on the internet and not TV. WDAC will broadcast but not many people have radios in their house anymore. The current answering system at UPC does not lend itself to remote answering system changes. If the only option is getting cancellations on the internet, the easiest way is for us to disperse the information directly via "The Union eNews" which comes out weekly. If you are email capable, you will get cancellations that way. If you do not currently get emails but are capable please email the church to get added to the list. (at upc@epix.net). If you cannot get email, we will also use the phone prayer chain ONLY if canceled. If you are not on either, figure out which one you want on and call Julie at 717-529-2000. (Tue/Thurs 9-2).

But above all, keep in mind it is a personal decision. Do not feel that if Church is not canceled that you must put your safety at risk by trying to attend. No one will think less of you for being safe.

Yet we also want the building to be open for anyone to worship who can safely get here.

~Your Session.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Giving for November: \$11,706 **November Expenses: \$6,058**
(Keep in mind that a full-time pastor will add about \$6000 per month to exp.)
Sunday School collection for the Glovers: \$43

Union Presbyterian Church
5637 Street Road,
Kirkwood, PA 17536



THE UNION PRESS

January 2021



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 31st following the service to review the Annual Report and receive the budget. There will be a short service after the meeting to install new officers.

Union Presbyterian Church Presents Online Christmas Organ Concert

Union Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood is providing Christmas music online this year in keeping with Covid safety measures. Organist Bob Trimble has recorded a variety of religious and classic Christmas songs with Union's rare restored 80-year-old theater pipe organ. The concert can be listened to by going to the Union web page at www.unionpres.com and clicking on the organ music blocks on the home page. Previously recorded Easter and Patriotic Concerts are available there also.

