



TRINITY & NORTH UNION NEWSLETTER

January 2024

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Current Sermon Series *"Bloodlines: The Genealogy of Jesus"*

January 07 - "From Old Testament Prophecies"

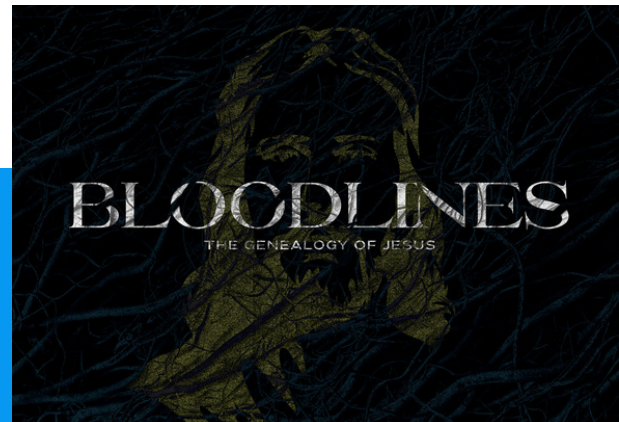
January 14 - "From David"

January 21 - "From Abraham"

January 28 - "From Foreign Women"

February 4 - "From the Exile and Back"

February 11 - "From God's Master Plan"



Service Times:

Sundays

8:00 Trinity Worship in The Gate (Room 20)

9:15 Trinity Worship in the Sanctuary and Online Worship

10:45 North Union Worship in the Sanctuary

419-238-9541



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northunionchurch.org



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Pastor's Pen

Your One Thing for 2024

"But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body."

-1 Corinthians 12:18-20

Several years ago, my father and mother in-law asked me what I wanted for Christmas. So, I requested one of those pocketknives that has everything on it that you can imagine: can and bottle opener, pliers, tweezers, toothpick, nail file, screwdriver heads, and a knife. This all-in-one multitool thing claimed that it could do anything. If there was a need for a tool, this thing has what you need, but here's the problem. None of the tools on this multitool pocketknife worked very well. The blades were dull, the screwdriver heads were too small, and everything else was very hard to use. This multitool pocketknife was very versatile, but it didn't do anything well. I ended up throwing that multitool pocketknife in a drawer somewhere. Each tool in my toolbox is a lot better than that multitool pocketknife.

It reminded me of my life and the typical life of a Christian. We want to do everything. We want to be involved in a lot of things. We want to serve God in lots of ways. So, we wear a lot of hats. We juggle a lot responsibilities, but by trying to do so many things, we are not doing each of those things the best we can. God knew that we can't do everything, and so the Holy Spirit gives each of us specific yet different gifts with the understanding that it will take all of us together to do all the work of ministry.

So, instead of focusing on doing a lot in 2024, let us instead focus on our one thing. What is your one thing that you can do for God? Resolve to make a deep impact by doing your one thing in 2024. Do it to the best of your ability, and you're make a tremendous difference for the Kingdom in the coming year through the grace and power of the Holy Spirit! Amen!

~Pastor David



Pastor David To

419-306-5509

pastordavidto@gmail.com



Kid's Ministry News

January Nursery Helpers at Trinity:

January 7th-

9:15am: Deb Knodel & Kathy Neal

January 21st-

9:15am: Cindy Gardner & Anna Dunlap

January 14th-

9:15am: Robin & Phil Farris

January 28th-

9:15am: Gracie Price & Aryn Proctor

Children's Sunday School at Trinity:

All little ones 2 and under are welcome to stay in the nursery during the Sunday School time so that their parents can go to class more easily. Thank you to the Next Level & Sojourner's Classes for providing the volunteers so that we can do this!

All children in preschool through 5th grade are welcome to join us in Sunday School at Trinity as we continue to grow our faith and friendships.

Children's Sunday School is a continuation of what the kids are learning during Children's Church. Each week, they will read the bible story together using a book or a Children's Story Bible. They will also do a craft or activity.

The Children's Sunday School Class is led by a rotation of teachers.

January's leaders are:

January 7-**Rachelle Bagley**

January 14-**Nancy Eberle**

January 21-**Doreen Krugh**

January 28-**Marie Markward**

Trinity's Children's Church:

January's Memory Verse:

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." ~Isaiah 41:10~

Focus of this Month: Moses

January 7-

Bible Story: Miriam

Leaders: Amy Prichard & Marie Markward

January 21st-

Bible Story: Moses, Part 2

Leaders: Nancy Eberle & Gracie Price

January 14th -

Bible Story: Moses, Part 1

Leaders: Nancy Eberle & Malinda Mackie

January 28th -

Bible Story: Moses, Part 3

Leaders: Amy & Jay Prichard



Kid's Ministry News

North Union's Children's Church:

January's Memory Verse:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." ~Jeremiah 29:11~

January 7th-

Communion Sunday-Children stay in service with Activity Bags

January 21st-

Bible Story: "Wolves in Sheep's Clothing" (Matthew 7:15-30)

Leader: Nancy Eberle

January 14th -

Bible Story: "Dogs Lick Lazarus' Sores" (Luke 16:19-31)

Leader: Vicky Racster

January 28th -

Bible Story: "King David Prays" (Psalm 59:1-10)

Leader: Nancy Eberle

For any questions about the Children's Programs:

Please contact: Nancy Eberle in the church office or Amy Prichard 419-513-0735.

Join Us For Our Annual Training: Global Methodist Church is requiring that we do our trainings again.

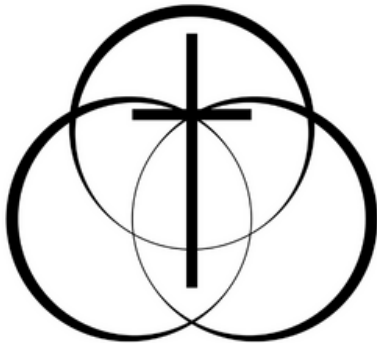
Sunday, January 21

11:45 am North Union Sanctuary

Tuesday, January 23

6:30 pm Trinity Sanctuary

You only need to attend one.



ALL who are currently working with or plans to work with children or youth in 2024 must attend regardless of when you trained in 2023
Children's Church, Nursery, Sunday School, VBS, Kid's Club, Pre-teen Group, Youth Group, Special Events

If these dates or times do not work for you, please contact Nancy Eberle to reschedule.



Youth Ministry News

Trinity and North Union Global Methodist Churches

Youth Schedule

January 2023

January 3rd- 6:30-8:00 pm at Trinity

Pizza Taste Test

Who has the best cheese pizza in town?
Dominoes? Pizza Hut? Klosterman's? Nicko's? Wild Willys?

January 10th - 6:30 to 8:00 pm meet at Trinity

Kids' Party Games Night

January 17th - 6:30 to 8:00pm at Trinity

Family Feud

January 24th-6:30 to 8:00pm at Trinity

Game Night

January 24th-6:30 to 8:00pm at Trinity

Tournament Night

Uno. Tenzi. Pairzi. And more!

For any questions about the Youth Programs, please contact
Ruth To, 614-607-3533, ruthto14@gmail.com

Financial Reports

**North Union
Finance Report
December 2023
(December 3-24)**

Offering: \$4060.00

**Trinity
Finance Report
(November 10-December 10)**


Income: \$29,209.76
Expenses: \$19,019.32



Trinity & North Union Information, Reminders, & Upcoming Events

Join us! **The CHOSEN Bible Study**

Taking a brief "Pause"
We will restart on January 25
Season 3, Episode 6




Upcoming Meetings:

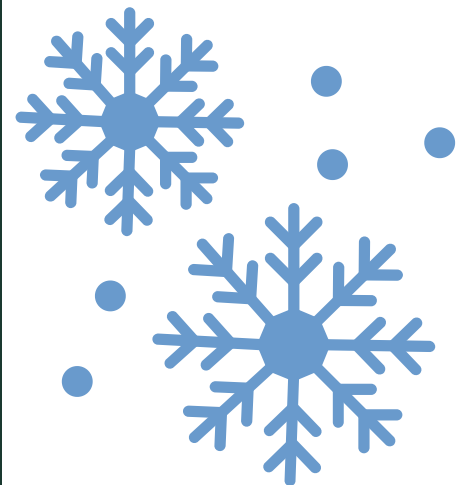
- Friday, January 5-10:00 am..... Trinity Missions Committee
- Monday, January 8-7:00 pm..... North Union Ad Council
- Thursday, January 11-7:00 pm..... Trinity Trustees
- Monday, January 15-7:00 pm..... Trinity Ad Board
- Monday, January 22-7:00 pm..... Joint Ad Board @ Trinity
- Monday, January 29-7:00 pm.....SPRC @ Trinity

Alexa, take down the Christmas decorations.

Since Alexa can't do it, we have to...

**Sunday, January 7th
@ 11:30 am
(after Sunday School)**

Thanks!



Prayer Concerns

Our members and friends who are home-bound:

Ruth Frysinger Joe Sheldon
Janet & Dale Schaad

Our members and friends who are in Hearth and Home:

Richard & Carolyn Good Wendy Howell

Our members and friends who are in Van Crest:

Helen Bowersock Cindy Jones
Dean Froelich Joan Adams

Our members and friends who are in Homestead at Towne Center:

Margaret Evans Jane Harter
Dolores Keysor

Our members and friends who are in Country Inn Enhanced Living Center:

Lois Schoonover

Those Serving Around the World:

Brooks Ludwig-Marines

To add prayer concerns to our list:

- Contact the church office
- Write it on the Yellow Cards from the pews and put it in the offering box
- Contact Pastor David

To be added to the "Prayer Chain Text Alerts", please contact the church office at the number or email below.

Recent Prayer Concerns:

- Ben Price**-surgery for bone spurs on spine
Miranda Barnes' mother-Lymph node cancer
Ruth Girod-hospitalized for internal bleeding
Lynda Fontenot- third heart attack; Surgery is scheduled in January
Nancy Crawford-Fell, testing to find out why
Stephanie Meffered -(Rick Eberle's co-worker) Lump on breast
Micah Rager -(friend of Sammi Sellers). In and out of hospital; doctors trying to find out what is wrong and right treatment

Prayer Concern Updates:

- **Warren & Linda Kramer**-are doing much better
- **Bob Harter**-his counts are in the normal range again!
- **Ruth Girod**-is at Van Wert Manor for rehab. She is doing better after a week long stay in the hospital.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Joel Frysinger-Health Issues
 Ruth Frysinger-Health Issues
 Noah Girod
 Ed Schlenker-Health Issues
 Tom Short-Healing
 Delores Myers-Healing
 Anna Dunlap-Healing



Nancy Eberle

Church Office Administrator

419-238-9541

trinitychurchofvanwert@gmail.com or
northunionchurchofvanwert@gmail.com



Birthdays & Anniversaries

January Birthdays:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1- Larry Webb
Rita Carter
Kahlil Breese
Carla Speelman | 17- Elaine Tomlinson
Lauren Gross
Joe Gardner |
| 2- Amanda Newbauer | 18- Anthony Mengerink |
| 4- Bill Shepherd | 19- John Foster
Philip Yackee |
| 6- Lisa Wortman
Dolores Keysor
Gamaliel Hernandez | 20- Imogene Ridenour |
| 7- Janet Mohr
Janice Adams
Chloe Dettrow | 21- Linda Miller
Finley Krugh |
| 8- Rodney Bevington | 22- Leigh Short |
| 10- Stephanie Bulington
Branley Davis
Jayden Nihiser | 23- Kathy Cooper
Kurt Tomlinson |
| 11- Stacey Schlenker
Marshal Healey | 24- Colleen Hoghe
Laura Clementz |
| 12- Brooks Mosier | 25- Katie Wells
Joey Overmyer |
| 13- Bob Houser | 26- Bryan Long
Bob Stanley |
| 15- Ella Marie Ream | 27- Cassie Welker |
| 16- Eric Klinker
Luke Girod | 30- Kristin Girod-Helmick |
| | 31- Megan Pardon |



January Anniversaries:

- 7-**Jim & Rose Cox
- 11-**Gene & Linda Miller
- 19-**Ray & Imogene Ridenour
- 28-**Kent & Jane Schmid



Please contact the church office if you know of a birthday or anniversary that needs added, deleted, or edited on our list. We love sharing the good news of weddings, babies & grandbabies. Please let us know so we can share your good news.



Our **"Give-a-Christmas"** mission project was a huge success this year. A BIG Thank You to everyone that provided presents or donated money. The presents and the gift cards have been delivered with huge grins from children & tears from a parent. Special thanks to **Anna Dunlap, Cheryl Gehres, Cheryl Mendenhall, Cindy Gardner, Barb Pendergast, Robin Farris, & Nancy Eberle** who prepared the stars, organized the gifts and presented them to the families. We were able to help **9** families this year! Thank you for your generosity!



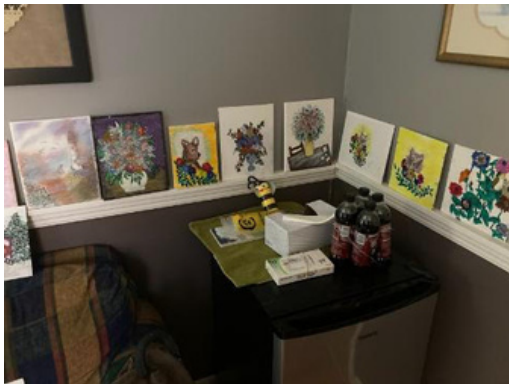
Shut In Spotlight

In 2024, each month we will "Spotlight" one or a couple of our Shut In's or Members living in nursing homes.

This month's "Spotlight" is Dale & Janet Schaadt.

Dale & Janet have several health issues that keep them at home other than doctors' appointments. They love to have visitors and phone calls. They really enjoy the monthly bags they receive (and the visits) from the Caring Friends committee.

Janet has recently began to paint. She looks at a picture and then paints it. She said that her legs might not work very well but her brain and arms are still going strong.



Volunteer Spotlight

In 2024, each month we will "Spotlight" a group of our volunteers.

This month's "spotlight" is Trinity's Ad Board & North Union's Ad Council

The Ad Board and Ad Council are the governing boards of our churches. They make the decisions on how we run our church, money spent, and other decisions. The board members represent other committees who report to the Ad Board on needs, suggestions, & requests. The boards meet typically every other month. They come together to decide on partnership issues 2-3 times a year (or as needed).

Members of Trinity's Ad Board:

- Phil Farris-Chair
- Hall Block
- Jeff Collins
- Mary Collins
- Rick Eberle
- Robin Farris
- Randy Gardner
- Kelly Gross
- Lisa Stemen
- Bill Swank
- Joan Swank
- Pastor David-staff
- Nancy Eberle-staff

Members of North Union's Ad Council:

- Don Mosier-Chair
- Del Free
- Connie Hart
- Susan Mosier
- Vicky Racster
- Joy Short
- Judy Wortman
- Pastor David-staff
- Nancy Eberle-staff





Mission News

Trinity's Food Pantry Focus

The Focus for January is SOUP.

Thank you for your donations in December.

Of course, any monetary donations, other items, and plastic bags are always appreciated, too!



Trinity's Mission Outreach – Looking Back and Looking Ahead



The members of the Missions Committee (Melissa Clay, Mary Collins, Anna Dunlap, Danny Dunlap, Ruth Girod, Carol Hennis, Warren Kramer, Ben Price, Sue Price, Amy Prichard, Diane Shinn, Larry Webb, Deb Yackee, and Pastor David) would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your mission support in 2023. We would also like to explain how our mission program works for those of you who may be unaware of this process.

Mission offering is divided into designated and undesignated money. Each month the money that you designate for a particular missionary or organization is sent in full. Money that you designate for a fund known as Share and Care is kept so that it is available to help Trinity families that may need assistance. The Missions Committee meets monthly to decide how the undesignated money will be used based upon current needs of the missionaries/organizations. Some of the undesignated money is carried over each month so that it is available when needed.

As of November 30, the Missions Committee had distributed \$27,000+ to missionaries and organizations. Add to this the items that you have brought to support various mission projects throughout the year, and you know why Trinity is known as a "mission-minded church."

Ask God how He wants you to be involved in Trinity's mission outreach in 2024. No matter how you get involved, you will be blessed in return!

North Union's Mission Outreach – Looking Back and Looking Ahead



North Union Members also helped with Missions in 2023. Most of their help was for local ministries. We collected items for the food pantry for our quarterly food pantry months, served & provided food for Bread and Bowl, volunteered at the Food Pantry, designated Fifth Sundays as "Mission Sundays" (donating to Families of Addicts, Langdyn House, Sheriff's Auxiliary Christmas for the Kids), took "Love Offerings" for guest missionary speakers, collected brownies for the Salvation Army's Christmas Meals, participated in "Give-a-Christmas", and

donating money from our annual 127 Yard Sale to area ministries.

Thank you for your help in 2023 and we look forward to continuing to help in 2024.



Mission News

Getting to Know Those That We Support

We would like to familiarize you with both the organizations and the missionaries that were supported by Trinity's congregation, financially and otherwise, in 2023. This month we will focus on the organizations that were supported in 2023 and will likely continue to be supported in 2024. Next month we will focus on the missionaries that were supported in 2023 and will likely be supported again in 2024. If you don't see an organization or a missionary that you think is deserving of our support, it only means that there was no support given through the church in 2023. At any time, you may designate your mission offering to an organization or missionary of your choice, regardless of whether it is listed, as long as you let us know how to properly direct the money that you give.

LifeWise Academy Van Wert Crestview Wings of Joy Bible Center Lincolnview Bible Board



Van Wert County is very blessed to have Christian education programs in all 3 school districts.

Operation Back to School



This is a community outreach that was started in 2016 by 1st UM Church to provide school supplies to needy families. This effort is supported by other area churches, businesses, and individuals.

Salvation Army



The Salvation Army serves the community in a variety of ways, running a food pantry and offering clothing vouchers, financial assistance, and worship experiences.

Van Wert Cooperative Ministry

Food Pantry

Bread and Bowl meals



Various local churches work together to meet the needs, primarily nutritional, of people in the community. The food pantry is open three days a week and is available to qualifying families once a month. Every Friday night, Bread and Bowl meals are served at 1st UM to anyone who is in need of a nutritious meal and fellowship.



The Cooperative Ministries Food Pantry depends on both monetary donations and donations of items. Monetary donations are used to purchase items both locally and from the West Ohio Food Bank. You can give a monetary donation through your mission offering (just designate "food pantry" on the back of your envelope). You can also purchase items, bring them to church, and place them on the table near the Mission Center. The **focus** for January will be **SOUP**. Of course, other items, as well as plastic bags, are always appreciated too!

Council on Aging Senior Center



The COA provides valuable assistance to our area senior citizens. Transportation, particularly to medical appointments, is probably the COA's main service, but it also offers nutritious meals, activities, and informational assistance to seniors.



Mission News

PLC Health Clinic



Now a licensed clinic, the former Pregnancy Life Center is able to offer limited obstetric ultrasounds and STD testing in addition to the support that was already available to families affected by unplanned pregnancies. Clients are encouraged to choose life – either parenting or adoption – rather than abortion. Clients who choose to raise their children can take classes to guide them in their parenting skills, and they can earn “baby bucks” to buy items at the Baby Store.

Langdyn House



The PLC Health Clinic’s vision of a home for single pregnant adult women was birthed out of the growing need for safe housing for displaced pregnant women in our community. Upon completion, Langdyn House will provide a home for moms-to-be and moms and their babies and a comprehensive support plan including case management, individual counseling, group therapy, family mealtime fellowship, and skills coaching.

YWCA



YWCA programs and services provide women, children, and families with opportunities to improve their lives and increase independence. The facility provides safe, stable housing (emergency and long term) for survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault. The YWCA also serves as a legislative advocate and holds events throughout the year to bring awareness to the needs in our community.

Love INC (In the Name of Christ)



Love INC is a local clearinghouse that is enabling churches, agencies, and volunteers to help people in need. Clients begin here and then are referred to whatever church, agency, or volunteer can meet their needs. There is always follow-up to try to help clients deal with their circumstances so as not to always rely on others for help.

Gideons



Every year Gideon speakers visit local churches to give an update on their ministry. Bulletin inserts are provided so that people can give an offering that will enable the Gideons to print and distribute more Bibles. Throughout the year, cards are available that can be used to furnish Bibles in honor or memory of a person or an occasion.

Haven of Hope



Haven of Hope is Van Wert’s 1st homeless shelter. Its purpose is to help displaced men in Van Wert County by providing a place to stay and ongoing guidance to obtain the resources necessary to embrace the next chapter of their lives. Its mission is to engage with those who come to Haven of Hope and love them into a more independent and productive life by providing for their spiritual, physical, and emotional needs as children of God.

Gospel Music



Each year, people who attend the Van Wert County Fair have the opportunity to hear Christian music in the Music Pavilion at no cost, thanks to donations from various churches and individuals.



JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 10:00 am Staff Meeting 10:45 am Trinity Worship & Music Meeting 7:00 pm Praise Band Rehearsal	3 Youth Group 6:30-8:00 pm	4	5 10:00 am Trinity Missions Committee	6
7 Trinity: 8:00 Worship 8:00 Living Hope SS 9:15 Worship & Online Worship 10:30 Sunday School for all other classes 5:00-6:00 Bell & Vocal Choir Rehearsal North Union: 10:45 Worship	8 7:00 pm North Union Ad Council	9 3:45-5:00 pm Kids' Club 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	10 Youth Group 6:30-8:00 pm	11 7:00 pm Trinity Trustees	12	13
14 Trinity: 8:00 Worship 8:00 Living Hope SS 9:15 Worship & Online Worship 10:30 Sunday School for all other classes 5:00-6:00 Bell & Vocal Choir Rehearsal North Union: 10:45 Worship	15 7:00 pm Trinity Ad Board	16 3:45-5:00 pm Kids' Club 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	17 Youth Group 6:30-8:00 pm	18	19	20
21 Trinity: 8:00 Worship 8:00 Living Hope SS 9:15 Worship & Online Worship 10:30 Sunday School for all other classes 5:00-6:00 Bell & Vocal Choir Rehearsal North Union: 10:45 Worship 11:45 Ministry Safe Training	22 7:00 pm Partnership Meeting of Joint Ad Boards @ Trinity	23 3:45-5:00 pm Kids' Club 6:30 PM Ministry Safe Training @ Trinity 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	24 Youth Group 6:30-8:00 pm	25 7:00 Bible Study @ Trinity	26	27
28 Trinity: 8:00 Worship 8:00 Living Hope SS 9:15 Worship & Online Worship 10:30 Sunday School for all other classes 5:00-6:00 Bell & Vocal Choir Rehearsal North Union: 10:45 Worship	29 6:30 PM SPRC @ Trinity	30 3:45-5:00 pm Kids' Club 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal	31 Youth Group 6:30-8:00 pm			

Trinity & North Union
Churches
220 S. Walnut St.
Van Wert, OH 45891

***MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST WHO WORSHIP
PASSIONATELY, LOVE EXTRAVAGANTLY, AND WITNESS BOLDLY.***

Our Staff

Senior Pastor	Rev. David To
Office Administrator	Nancy Eberle
Financial Accounts Manager	Whitney Sealscott
Trinity Custodian	Terri Schlenker
North Union Custodian	Brenda DeLong
Trinity Worship Coordinator	Amanda Block
Trinity Sound Technician	Matt Saunier
Trinity Choir & Handbell Director	Erica Clay
Trinity Piano Coordinator	Melissa Clay

Contact Us

Trinity Global Methodist Church &
North Union Church
220 S. Walnut St.
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Office Emails:

trinitychurchofvanwert@gmail.com
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trinityvw.org
northunionchurch.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:00-4:30

Friday-CLOSED