



10259 US Hwy 42  
Union, KY 41091  
(859) 384-3255  
Reverend Lisa Stenner, Pastor

*January 18, 2025*

### *From the Pastor*

Friends, please take of yourselves and each other in this dangerously cold weather! Just a reminder that UPC activities will continue as planned as long as emergency officials deem it safe to be out and on the roads. We will always choose to be good stewards of public health and will adjust activities 1) if emergency officials recommend it and/or 2) if road conditions in our area are unsafe. As you know different governments oversee different road conditions; and while a county road may be cleared and safe, a state road may not. Changes and updates will be available on WLWT in case of closure and on the website, social media and email in the event of adjustments.

This Sunday is the 2nd Sunday after Epiphany and the Sunday before MLK, Jr. Day of Remembrance and the inauguration. How might the Spirit be inviting us to consider how our public and private lives as disciples influence and inform each other? What are the ramifications for us as individual disciples and as a family of faith?

With those questions in mind, I invite you to prepare for worship by reading and praying about Psalm 36:5-10. The psalmist reminds the hearers of God's steadfast love and provision. How does this challenge and/or comfort folks living in a broken and hurting world? How do we understand the nature of God and God's provision in the midst of suffering?

Then, read and pray about 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. How would the original hearers of the text been influenced by their understanding of God's constant provision and the reality of suffering? How do your understandings about the nature of God color how you experience the text? Given our historical context on the cusp of an inauguration and the remembrance of the life and ministry of MLK, Jr, how might the Spirit be challenging and/or comforting us as individual believers and as a faith family?

Click [here](#) for the worship bulletin. Worship is streamed on the [UPC website](#) and [YouTube](#) channel.

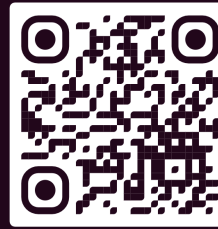
*Peace, Pastor Lisa*

*PS*

## 2025 Budget & Financial Pledges

Everything we have, everything we are is a gift from a good and generous God. Pledging to return a portion of what we've been given back to God is an act of courageous gratitude. Our financial gifts are essential to continue the ongoing operations and ministries of the church and to meet the needs of our growing congregation.

SCAN ME



You may click [here](#) or scan the QR code to submit your pledge form for our shared worship and work in 2025. Automated giving is very helpful in maintaining a consistent income flow. You may set up automated giving through your bank or by contacting [Lori Russell](#) in the church office.

Session will finalize the 2025 budget and present it at the congregational meeting on January 26. The draft budget includes a 3% overall increase in expenses. Please prayerfully consider what is your response of gratitude to all that God has done and is doing in our community and the world.

### Help care for our unhoused neighbors by donating books and/or headphones!

Because Boone County does not have a shelter, unhoused neighbors are placed in a local hotel during life threatening cold. Folks may be sharing a room with people they do not know. Anxiety is high, and patience is strained. Guests who cannot get along are exited from shelter. Having something to do - like reading a book - and being able to tune out other people with headphones can lower anxiety and keep the peace.

**Books for adults - particularly crime, suspense and thrillers - and headphones that can plug into a cell phone can be dropped off in the narthex and in the office vestibule in the back of the building.** Thank you in advance for your generosity that helps keep our neighbors safe during this cold.



### Welcome Tara Stewart to the UPC Family!

Our Session hired Tara Stewart as UPC's custodian just before Christmas. Tara works primarily during the day; however, you may occasionally see her in the evening. Be sure to introduce yourself and welcome her onboard.

From Tara, *"My name is Tara Stewart, I am married to my husband, Wiley Stewart, and we have a soon to be 7 year old son, Brantley Stewart. We love God, our family, and our country. Just recently found our first home in*



*Florence and it has been a pleasure getting to know the neighborhood."*

## From Pastor Chris

The Rev. Chris Torrey has already begun ministry with Union Presbyterian Church. He's been meeting with various leaders, planning for worship and Lenten studies, and learning his way around the building. Pastor Chris' first Sunday with us will be February 2nd when he and Pastor Lisa will lead worship together. A reception following worship will give you the chance to introduce yourself. Remember, there are more of us than there are of him, so continue to introduce yourself.

Below is Pastor Chris' introduction of himself:

*I retired in June of 2017, giving me a six-year head start on my wife, Dawn. We continue to enjoy learning what it means to be retired together. We own a lovely home in New Richmond, Ohio, on a bluff looking over the village to the river and Kentucky beyond. We've taken several trips, accomplished some projects together, and found a partnership in gardening and mowing.*

*Our families often are the center of our attention. Dawn has a son in professional theater, based in Indianapolis but glad to appear elsewhere, including a summer stock job last summer in New Hampshire. Dawn's daughter and her husband live in Lexington. My daughter lives north of Cincinnati and has two children. My son and his wife recently moved to Indianapolis.*

*Last summer we hosted a family reunion of my father's family. What a joy to get several generations together! Since Dawn's retirement we've traveled a few times for gatherings in her family. Much of our time together at home, with Milo and Raven, our two dogs, is simply enjoying the peace and quiet of our lovely home.*

*I've been deeply involved in church since childhood. I felt called to professional ministry through church camping, especially at the Presbyterian Church Camp in New Hampshire. That led to seminary in Boston and Edinburgh, Scotland, then to serving churches in Massachusetts, Michigan, California, and Northern Kentucky.*

*We can see the steeple of Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church out our window as we look toward the river. While retired from full-time ministry, I've remained active, preaching at Cranston, serving in brief ministry assignments in three other churches in this presbytery, and participating in various ministry opportunities. I look forward to being with you at Union Presbyterian Church!*

## Souper Bowl Sunday is February 9th We want to break our record!

In 2024, we collected 1093 food items and over \$1100! What will happen in 2025?!? In addition

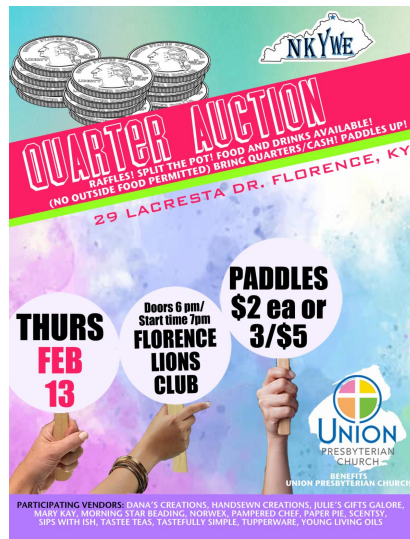
to accepting monetary donations after worship on Souper Bowl Sunday, we're collecting these shelf stable (no need for refrigeration) foods until Feb.9th. Please place your donations in the narthex or in the office vestibule on the appropriate side. One side is "Men". The other side is "Women".



This drive is stocking Abraham's Pantry and sharing with Gallatin County CAC. Please share:

- Canned pastas (spaghettios, ravioli, etc.)
- Hearty soups \*14oz canned fruit
- Shelf stable milk \* 5oz shelf stable pepperoni
- Shells and cheese dinner (no milk needed)
- Boxed cereal \*Paper towels

Donated items will be counted each week then stocked in Abraham's Pantry. The totals will be posted in the narthex so everyone can see how the competition is progressing. The competition winners will have bragging rights for a whole year. (BTW, the women are 4 time champions.) Of course, the real winners will be our food insecure neighbors who will benefit from your generosity!



**Donations needed for Quarter Auction** on February 13<sup>th</sup> The proceeds benefit camps, conferences and retreats. We need donations of 15-20 items such as cool jewelry items; baskets of food treats, bath goodies, etc; supplies for a family game night or movie night. Auction items can be dropped off in the vestibule or church office. We'll store them until the auction.

## Congregational Meeting & Lunch Sunday, January 26th

The meal will be prepared by the Deacons. No need to bring anything but yourself. This annual meeting is for the Session to present the 2025 Budget, for the congregation to approve Pastor Lisa's 2025 terms of call, and to elect



the 2025 Officer Nominating Committee. In the PC-USA, the Session approves the budget and is presenting it to the congregation for information. The Session recommends the pastor's terms of call; however, the congregation calls the pastor and is the body that must annually approve the pastor's terms of call. Finally, the Session presents names for the Officer Nominating Committee with a representative from the Music Program, the UPSeniors group, the Session, the Deacons, and a member at large. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor provided that the person nominated has already agreed to serve. The 2025 Officer Nominating Committee will help our congregation discern who the Spirit is leading to serve as Deacons and Elders in the class of 2028.

## Do you love children? Do you love Jesus?

### Combine those loves and sign up to teach Sunday School!

Our K-5th graders meet at 9:15am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. We use a fabulous curriculum from Illustrated Ministry that does not require a lot of preparation. All the supplies and snacks are provided. Click [here](#) for the SignUp Genius to grab your Sunday with our incredible kiddos.

#### Schedule for This Week

**2nd Sunday after Epiphany**  
**Sunday, January 19th**  
9:30am Choir Warm up  
10am Worship

3pm Resplendor de Gloria

**Monday, January 20th**  
Church office closed  
for MLK Remembrance  
9am Yoga  
6pm Boone County Pride mtg  
7pm Session  
Boy Scouts

**Tuesday, January 21st**  
12:30pm Florence Woman's  
Club  
6:30pm Cub Scouts

**Wednesday, January 22nd**  
6:30pm Choir Practice  
8pm AA

**Thursday, January 23rd**  
7pm Resplendor de Gloria

**Third Sunday after Epiphany**



#### BIRTHDAYS

1/22 - Richard Sloan  
1/26 - Iris Daniel  
1/27 - Michael Frost,  
Ray Merkel  
1/30 - Nancy Shupe  
1/31 - Drew Scott  
2/1 - Tim Lastivka  
2/3 - Joanie Kenkel  
2/4 - Peggy Schadler  
2/7 - Heather Dern  
2/8 - Henry Clouse, Cathy  
Kowalski  
2/10 - Dave Claar  
2/11 - Ainsley & Braeden  
Brown  
2/12 - Sue Arts  
2/13 - Preston Scott  
2/16 - Marin Ball  
2/20 - Harper Gilbert



#### Online Giving

You may give online or via text through the [UPC website](#). You can make a one time gift or set up a recurring gift. You may make a memorial or honorary gift and even pay for youth conferences. The online transaction processes the gift from your checking account, savings account, credit card or debit card and is secured through Vanco Payment Solutions.

UPC does not receive the total amount of your gift due to processing fees. At the end of the transaction, you will be asked if you wish to donate an additional 2.75% to cover the processing

Sunday, January 26th

9:15am K-5th Sunday School

9:30 Choir Warm up

10am Worship

After worship Congregational  
meeting and lunch



costs.

ANNIVERSARIES

3pm Resplendor de Gloria

2/14 - Joe & Holly  
VonLehman

**Union Presbyterian Church**

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Union KY 41091

Contact Us



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