

The Disciple

A Publication of
Unionville Church

Volume 17 Issue 1

JANUARY 2026



Pastor's Corner

During the Christmas advent season, we considered the names of Jesus as we followed biblical figures to Bethlehem. Using Isaiah's prophecy, we thought about Jesus as the "Wonderful Counselor," a heaven-sent advisor who sheds light on everything. This aspect of Jesus was reaffirmed during his ministry years, as we discover how Jesus is the light of the world and the wisdom of God. Jesus is not just light for our path in life but the path itself—the way.

Through the story of Joseph, who was visited by an angel, we looked at another name for Jesus: Immanuel. He is God with us, God on our level, and God on the earth. It seems difficult or rare to see God, but we have God here with us in Jesus. Jesus explained to his disciples that if they have seen him, then they have seen the Father.

Both Joseph and Mary were told separately to name their baby "Jesus," which means "the Lord saves" or "Yahweh is salvation." Before he is even born, the two people who would raise Jesus in their home begin to understand the mission of Jesus: to rescue people. Jesus would save people from their sins and restore them to right relationship with God.

The names of Jesus grow in meaning as we hear and consider them. Think of the value of having the wisdom from God, the presence of God and deliverance from all the sin that comes with being human. The more we get to know Jesus, the more dimensions we uncover.

I periodically read the book of Hebrews to hear the profound names and authority of Jesus. Of course he is the Son of God, but the author of Hebrews explains how Jesus is also our high priest, pioneer, apostle, forerunner, guarantee, builder, minister and shepherd.

Let 2026 be a year that you gather together names of Jesus. Use devotional times, Bible studies or worship services to make a list of the names of Jesus. Write them down gradually in a journal as you go through the year. Or, instead, try a faster method. Take some time when you can't be interrupted and read the book of Hebrews in a translation that really speaks to you. Read it in one sitting or a chapter per morning for 13 days. Keep a sheet of paper near your Bible for each of the names, titles or adjectives for Jesus. After you write down each name, ask the Lord how he would like to reveal himself to you in 2026. After you have finish Hebrews, ask the Lord how he would like to reveal himself in our church and in our communities this year.

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PRAYER CHAIN

Begins In The Church Office

(724)843-0862

Prayer concerns for our Church Family & Friends...

General Health

Those with viral illnesses

- Jenny Bailey
- Joyce Henk
- George Peffer
- Walt Ketterer
- Bob Vucinic
- Tracy Vucinic

Surgery & Procedures

Shirley Wigal

Cancer Treatments

- Addie
- Bernadette
- Rick
- Grandma Oma
- Mary Beck
- Lin Carpenter
- Jessica Castelli
- Kevin Castelli
- Wayne Davis
- Craig Dietrich
- Valerie Dietrich
- Holden Eckman
- Barney Higgins
- Mark Hoenig
- Billie Kaiser
- DS Deborah Killian
- Heidi Lois
- Wayne Loschinskey
- Shane Miller
- Sue Presto

- Kristen Russ
- Mary Stantry
- Kristina Webb

Extended Care

- Troy Baker
- Cody Boors
- Carolyn Ewing
- Margaret Ewing
- Michelle Furguele
- Mary Ann Mencher
- George Peffer
- Petie Petrik
- Janet Pfaff
- Tim Shane
- Alice Short

Mourning Loss

Mark Schetlin Family

Our Church

Pastor Barry and Family
Church Family

Home Touch

- Joe Biddle
- Bim Brightwell
- Carol Bubb
- Don & Nancy Deutsch
- Linda Eiler
- Pat Elick
- George & Carol Flickinger
- Sylvia Hendrickson
- Elmira Hollingshead

- Lee Jenkins
- Thelma Miller
- George Peffer
- Janet Pfaff
- Tim Ramsey
- Amie Ritter
- Rhonda Sharp
- Walter & Carole Young

Missionaries

- Karl & Deb Crossman
- Hosanna Industries
- Franz Payoute
- Darlene Rimer
- Skybacher Ministries

Praise

- For the New Year
- Simon Edward Kinkade



Names will appear on the prayer list for four consecutive weeks with the exception of the Home Touch and Extended Care lists. The Extended Care list is for those with Chronic Illnesses who may need prayer long term. From time to time, if we have not received an update on a person or if a person has been doing well, they may be removed until we are asked to put them back on with an update to their condition.

Prayer Chain

If you or anyone you know would like to be added to the prayer list or to either the telephone or email prayer chain, please contact Linda or the church office.

(724)843-0862

(724)544-6758

Happy Birthday To You...



- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 01/01 Chris Ziter | 01/13 Diane Fash | 01/26 Wayne Boyd |
| 01/02 Emily White | 01/13 Melissa Greggs | 01/26 Audrey Lawrence |
| 01/04 Amanda Chaousy | 01/15 Christina Guay | 01/27 Charles Brightwell |
| 01/05 Jordyn Moehrle | 01/15 Denise Myers | 01/29 April Beige |
| 01/07 Jackie Simpson | 01/16 Lila Houy | 01/30 John Calve |
| 01/07 Paulene Roncevich | 01/17 Matt Currey | 01/30 Sloane Salter |
| 01/08 Beauden Dappenbrook | 01/21 Lucas Turner | 01/30 Linda Eiler |
| 01/09 Mike Loschinsky | 01/22 Phyllis Schultheis | 01/30 Rob Dappenbrook |
| 01/10 Madison Knopp | 01/23 Amy Smail | 01/31 Alice Ketterer |
| 01/12 Donald Zajac | 01/24 Joss Lynn Castor | |
| 01/12 Samantha Shrum | 01/26 Aaron Dawson | |

*We enjoy being able to share your special dates.
 Please, if we overlook you or someone you know,
 let us know so that we can add the special date to our records.
 Please hold all these special people in prayer this month.*



Sunday Worship following a Youth Group Lock-in!

JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 1 Happy New Year!
- Jan 3 Community Breakfast
- Jan 4 Sunday Worship, Sunday School, Kids' Club & Youth Group
- Jan 6 Sewing Ladies
- Jan 7 Adult Bible Study
- Jan 8 Adult Bible Study
- Jan 11 Sunday Worship, Sunday School, Family Service Night
- Jan 13 Sewing Ladies, Right Now Media Teams Meeting
- Jan 14 Adult Bible Study
- Jan 15 Adult Bible Study
- Jan 18 Sunday Worship, Sunday School, Kids' Club & Youth Group
- Jan 19 Pantry Set-up
- Jan 20 Sewing Ladies, Compassionate Ministries Food Pantry
- Jan 21 Adult Bible Study
- Jan 22 Adult Bible Study
- Jan 24 Youth Group @Current
- Jan 25 Sunday Worship, Sunday School, Kids' Club & Youth Group
- Jan 26 Newsletter Deadline
- Jan 27 Sewing Ladies
- Jan 28 Adult Bible Study
- Jan 29 Adult Bible Study

Please hold all our events in your prayers.



Looking Forward

- Feb 7 Community Breakfast
- Feb 17 Compassionate Ministries Food Pantry
- Feb 18 Ash Wednesday Worship
- Feb 20 Lenten Fish Fry
- Feb 27 Lenten Fish Fry

This Calendar of Events is complete as of the newsletter writing, however dates may be added.

Keep an eye on the weekly bulletin announcements for additions.

YOUTH GROUP

Wendy Kline & Tiffani Keil

The youth would like to thank you all for your support with their cookie fundraiser. It was very successful with baking over 125 dozen cookies. We were able to provide holiday bags to 28 Beaver County inmates each with 1 dozen cookies, full size candy bars, several other sweet treats and a card signed by each of our youth. We also provided 2 large cookie trays for the jail guards.

The lock-in was filled with pounds of sugar, flour, and butter, not to mention games, card signing, fun, and laughter. We had 20 youth in attendance this year, truly a blessing. We all managed to cram into the youth room for a movie and sleeping.

We are looking forward to our annual retreat, Current, at the end of January. We will spend the day with 100 other youth hearing testimonies, playing games, going to Elevate Trampoline Park, and enjoying a Christian band. This will be our 3rd year attending and we look forward to a different speaker and how this year's testimony will touch our hearts and guide us to the Lord. For some youth this is their 3rd year, some their 2nd and some their 1st. It is always amazing to experience the plans made by the youth who plan and organize this event every year.

We are wishing you all a very blessed 2026, full of faith, family, and fun!



YOUTH

Wednesday morning Bible Study from 10:30 to 12:00

Please join us for Bible Study starting up again on January 7th. We have decided to start studying the Minor Prophets beginning with Hosea. We will continue to work straight out of God's word so no book is needed other than your Bible!

We look forward to more people joining us and a new and blessed New Year!

Thursday Evening Bible Study from 7:00—8:00

The Unionville Church Thursday Bible Study meets at 7:00 pm! The topic is "Uncommon Grace" with videos by Michael Kelsey and taught by Pastor Barry.

We don't deserve anything good from God, yet God gives us undeserved kindness. Common grace, as an expression of the goodness of God, is every favor falling short of salvation.

Common grace is a significant missing link in modern understandings of Christianity. We have so compartmentalized our lives into spiritual and secular that we miss out on the endless opportunities God gives us to consciously receive and intentionally reflect His goodness.

Join us!

UNIONVILLE'S GOT TALENT

Was an awesome night of talent from all ages, but it's always exciting to see so many of our children and youth participating! Thank you to everyone who shared your special gifts and to those who came to enjoy the evening!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026*Heather Salter***Unionville VBS 2026: Rainforest Falls!
June 7th–11th, 2026**

Get ready... Rainforest Falls is coming, and VBS will be here before we know it! This summer, our kids will step through the mist into a world overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and vibrant creatures. Beneath a canopy alive with chattering birds and howling monkeys, children will dive into a lifelong adventure of discovering the true nature of God.

Throughout the week, we'll explore what it means to be rooted in a relationship with God - our Creator, our Guide, and our safe place in life's storms. Each day will encourage kids to trust in His steady presence, grow in their faith, and see how deeply they are known and loved.

As we begin dreaming up the stunning world of Rainforest Falls, we need your help gathering supplies to transform our church into an immersive rainforest experience! Items we are collecting include (but are not limited to):

- Styrofoam blocks
- Trees of any kind (except pine)
- Tissue paper (all colors, especially green)
- Brown packing paper
- Boxes of all sizes
- Round plastic catering containers (like veggie trays)
- Ropes
- Canvas or blue drop cloths
- Fishing line
- Carpet tubes
- Hula hoops

**Donations can be brought to the church starting in the new year!**

We also ask that you be in prayer about how you might serve during VBS week. Whether you help decorate, teach, guide groups, prepare snacks, or support behind the scenes - your time and heart make a tremendous difference. VBS is one of the most rewarding weeks of our year, and there is nothing quite like watching kids light up as they learn about God's love.

Thank you so much for your support, your prayers, and your willingness to serve.

We cannot wait to begin this adventure together in Rainforest Falls 2026!



Thanks to everyone who came out to spread some Christmas cheer to the residents of the Brighton Rehab and Wellness Center! We traveled through the facility singing carols. The residents sang along and some reminisced over days gone by. It was a very moving evening. Thanks Pastor Barry for bringing along your guitar to keep us all in tune, thanks to Jimmy Miller who served as a make shift music stand, thanks Sharon Miller for organizing the event, and thanks to Santa Claus for gracing us with yet another special visit!

FAMILY SERVICE NIGHT

Join us Sunday, January 11th—6:00-8pm

We will be volunteering at
COMMUNICYCLE

1214 Pennsylvania Ave., Monaca, PA 15061

**We will be fixing bikes that will be given away to those in need of a bicycle!
You do not need to have any specific skill sets, they will teach you!
This was a favorite service event of the year, last year!**

*Please plan to be there and bring along a friend.
We will meet at the Communicycle Facility.*

Family Service Nights are All Church Events
Mark your calendar and plan to join us!!



FINANCE - GENERAL FUND 2025

MONTH		INCOME		EXPENSES		SURPLUS/DEFICIT
JANUARY		\$ 13,201.93		\$ 13,574.56		\$ (372.63)
FEBRUARY		\$ 12,947.92		\$ 14,315.35		\$ (1,367.43)
MARCH	*	\$ 24,336.57		\$ 15,377.65		\$ 8,958.92
APRIL	*	\$ 22,947.29		\$ 15,935.37		\$ 7,011.92
MAY		\$ 15,087.02		\$ 17,712.62		\$ (2,625.60)
JUNE		\$ 15,350.67		\$ 20,826.69		\$ (5,476.02)
JULY		\$ 15,127.00		\$ 15,125.92		\$ 1.08
AUGUST		\$ 21,193.15		\$ 25,054.77		\$ (3,861.62)
SEPTEMBER		\$ 12,899.30		\$ 12,020.30		\$ 879.00
OCTOBER		\$ 14,240.50		\$ 10,558.90		\$ 3,681.60
NOVEMBER		\$ 17,144.31		\$ 14,558.91		\$ 2,585.40
DECEMBER						
YEAR TO DATE		\$ 184,475.66		\$ 175,061.04		\$ 9,415.22

Every year, churches face moments when giving and ministry don't perfectly align, but the good news is that God always provides through faithful people like you. As we review our ministry year, we're deeply grateful for your generosity, which has sustained worship, outreach, and care for our community.

John Wesley taught that generosity is both a means of grace and a fruit of faith. When we give, we participate in God's work of transforming lives — including our own.



Giving envelopes are available for anyone who wants them. If you did not receive envelopes and wish to receive them, see Linda Miller.

2025 Giving Statements will be mailed by January's end.

COMPASSIONATE MINISTRIES

Paula Boyd

We would like to “Thank” all the churches, organizations and Individuals who donated to this year’s Christmas giving for our Food Pantry. We gave out to over 60 families; along with their regular food orders they received Little Debbie Cakes, meat, eggs, gift cards and Christmas gifts for their children.

We had a lot of assistance from Oak Grove Church. They handled the “Giving Tree” this year along with food donations and money for the meat we give out. They were very organized and had all the gifts separated and delivered with the corresponding number for the families. It was a “Blessing” for us!!

The Big Knob Grange donated money to our Pantry as well as Little Debbie Cakes for the families. The Boy Scouts Pack 444, Weight Watchers, Heather Salter’s work—Family Chiropractic, New Sewickley Presbyterian Church, Freedom National Honor Society, St John’s Church, along with all the Individuals who donated food or money this month to make our Pantry Clients’ Christmas a “Blessed” one.

We cannot leave out Debby and Mike Catalano for all the grocery shopping and time (many hours invested) they put into the Pantry to make sure all is running smoothly. We also want to thank all our volunteers who show up on Monday to pack all the orders: Jo Shane, Glen Glass, Sue Ann Evans, Elaine Hefner and Paula Boyd. Gary Boyd and Mike Catalano take the food out to the Family Life Center.

Also, a special “Thanks” to all our men who are patient and take the food and gifts out to the cars on Tuesday in the cold weather. Gary Boyd, Wayne Boyd, Glen Glass and Mike Catalano. Also, Janice Glass who comes down that day to help the women with the paperwork. We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge our fearless leader Jo Shane. She is the one on Tuesday who all the clients come in to hug, kiss and to let her know what is going on with them and to wish her a Merry Christmas. Jo’s knowledge and true compassion for all of these clients are what put the compassion into Compassionate Ministries!

As you can see we are a small group, but the numbers are increasing on those who need help. We served 60+ families this month. If you could commit to one day a month to either fill orders (the 3rd Monday of each month) at 10:00 am or if you are a guy who can help out one Tuesday of each month, from 4:00-5:30 pm, it would be helpful. Not only are we small but we are all getting older (though we don’t like to admit it) and it would help to have more hands!! Even if you can’t commit to the Monday’s or Tuesdays, but could fill orders in the evenings or maybe help out with the shopping it would be a great help!! Just see Debby Catalano or myself and we can put you to work!!

“THANK YOU GOD” for all the behind the scenes “Miracles” we see. Debby and Mike can’t spend more than what God brings into the pantry! I just received a call from a woman in New Jersey who was a resident of New Sewickley Township growing up. Her name was Jordan Kronk. She gives her siblings the gift of donations to any organization of their choice for Christmas. One of her siblings wanted money donated to Unionville Pantry, her name is Ruth Anne Spencer. Jordan and I got to talking and she knew Nancy Liston, she graduated with her. I told her that Nancy started Compassionate Ministries. She did not know Nancy passed but it made her feel better about the connection. It is amazing how God ties us all in!! God Bless Us Everyone!!!



On November 20th, Paula Boyd attended the Annual Big Knob Grange dinner with Pastor Barry. Pastor gave the invocation for the dinner and Paula gave a presentation about our Compassionate Ministries. She was then presented a check in the amount of \$752.50 for the pantry.



HOME TOUCH

Joe Biddle

902 Eighth Avenue
Freedom, PA 15042

Bim & Deb Brightwell

1290 Route 68
Rochester, PA 15074

Don & Nancy Deutsch

535 Lincoln Blvd
Freedom, PA 15042

Linda Eiler

125 Pflug Road
New Brighton, PA 15066

Pat Elick

1310 Route 68
Rochester, PA 15074

George & Carol Flickinger

1252 Route 989
Rochester, PA 15074

Sylvia Hendrickson

10 Adams Ridge Blvd. Rm A-8
Mars, PA 16046

Elmira Hollingshead

1013 Stockton Ridge
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

Lee Jenkins

1080 Robinson Street
Freedom, PA 15042

Thelma Miller

1281 Route 68
Rochester, PA 15074

George Peffer

114 Lyons Lane
Harmony, PA 16037

Janet Pfaff

103 Burgess Drive
Blue Ridge Apt 2014
Zelienople, PA 16063

Tim Ramsey

724 Druschel Road
New Brighton, PA 15066

Duane Rape

130 Harkins Mill Road
Rochester, PA 15074

Amie Ritter

141 R Harold Street
New Brighton, PA 15066

Rhonda Sharp

951 Route 68
New Brighton, PA 15066

Walter & Carole Young

512 Allola Drive
New Brighton, PA 15066



*Please take a moment to remember our Home Touch Friends
With a note, card, phone call and especially a prayer.*

*If you know of someone who should be added to our Home Touch Friend List,
Please contact the church office.*

*If you would like a visit from our Home Touch Team or Pastor,
please notify the church office.*

Do you have a neighbor, friend, or family member who is having financial difficulties?



Food Pantry Distribution

**January 20th & February 17th
4:00—6:00 PM**

**Questions? Call the Church Office
@724-843-0862**

**Current Food Pantry needs can be found on
Unionville's Website @ unionville.church**

THANK YOU!

We want to thank everyone for coming to our Christmas Open House. It was a frigid and snow-blanketed day. We weren't sure anyone would be able to come. But you did! We had a great time and hope you did, too. It is always a holiday treat for us to have friends from three churches help us celebrate the season.

Nancy is already beginning her plans for next December. We hope the weather will be better and that you'll be able to join us then, too.

We are so very thankful that you chose to spend part of the Advent/Christmas Season with us!

Love,
Dave and Nancy Wilson



A benefit breakfast was held in December in our Family Life Center to benefit Emily Thielman who is in need of a kidney transplant. Thank you to the Trustees who gave use of our facility and also jumped in to help plan, set up, cook and clean up for the event! Thank you to members of Unionville who came out to help and also came out to eat in support of Emily, a Freedom graduate and mother of 2 young girls. Special thanks to Hannah George, friend of Emily, whose vision and organization made for a successful day and to the community whose donations and support helped to raise over \$14,000! Please continue to support Emily with your prayers as she awaits a donor.

Thank You

AM I YOUR TYPE?

Kidney Needed!

**B or O
Blood
Types**

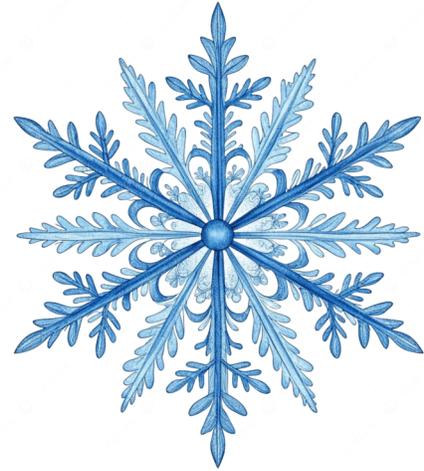


Hello, my name is Emily Thielman. A 34 year old mother of 2 young girls from Pittsburgh, PA.. I'm in end stage kidney failure. I've started peritoneal dialysis and I'm searching for a living donor with B or O blood types. Even if we aren't a match you could potentially match with someone else through a paired exchange kidney donation which would assure I recieved a transplant while you're saving someone else's life.

For more info or questions please email shareyourspareandsavealife@gmail.com

Direct to my Transplant Center: 412-674-GIFT

Community Breakfast
Saturday, January 3rd
8-10 am
\$12 ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET \$12
at Unionville Church

FAMILY LIFE CENTER RENTALS
 We are currently taking Rental reservations.
 Call the Church Office
 At (724)843-0862

Join us for Sunday Worship
 In our Sanctuary @9:30 am
 or virtually. via
 Our YouTube channel.

Pastor Barry is available in his office to meet with you. Stop in and see him.

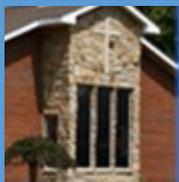
Tuesdays: Noon—3:30PM
Thursday: Noon—3:30PM
Saturdays: Noon—3:30PM

Additional hours available by appointment.

Unionville Church
 1297 Route 68
 (New Sewickley Township)
 Rochester, PA 15074
 724-843-0862

Email: unionville1@comcast.net
www.unionville.church

Pastor Barry Henck
barryhenck@yahoo.com
 (724)518-0035



Unionville Church

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	@unionvillechurch

