



**UNION**  
**CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Disciples of Christ

May 2024



**May 5**

*Life Together: Up not Down*  
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

**May 19**

*Life Together: Growing in the Spirit*  
Acts 2:1-21, Galatians 5:22-23

**May 12**

*Life Together: Here, There, & Everywhere*  
Acts 1:1-11

**May 26**

*Life Together: A Call to Collaborate*  
1 Corinthians 12:4—13:13, Acts 2:42-47

## Vacation Bible School



**June 3-6**  
**5:30-8:30 PM**

Get ready for some summer fun at Camp Firelight! Campers, aged 4 through those who have completed 6th grade, come join Sam, Lumen, and the whole gang as we learn to face our fears while trusting God. We will have stories, games, snacks, and so much fun! You can sign up online: [www.unionchristianchurch.net/vbs](http://www.unionchristianchurch.net/vbs).

# The Prayerful Pause

By Pastor Heather Webb



Dear Beloved Union Family,

As I sit down to pen this message, Paul's words in his letter to the Philippians come to mind: **"I thank my God every time I remember you."** Indeed, I thank God for each of you and for your unwavering support, love, and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery.

Thank you for the encouraging cards, messages, and texts. The thoughtful gifts and gift cards were also such kind gestures that really encouraged us. You showed and shared God's love with our family so beautifully, and I am grateful to have such a loving church family!

**Most of all, I am thankful for your prayers over the last several months! The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guarded my heart and mind in Christ Jesus during an uncertain time, largely because I knew I was being lifted up by a loving community that truly practices what it means to bear one another's burdens.**

**Yes, I thank my God every time I remember you! I wonder, who do you want to thank God for in this season of your life? Who has supported you, encouraged you, or walked with you in a stormy season, pointing you to God's love? I hope you will take some time to thank God for the brothers and sisters whose loving actions help us experience God's love and care.**

**As we move forward together, may God show us how to continually support and encourage each other in times of trial, in seasons of joy, and in the in-between times, too.** Thank you, dear Union family, from the bottom of my heart. May God continue to bless Union Christian Church and our shared ministry together today, tomorrow, and always.

With all my love and deepest gratitude,  
Pastor Heather

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## Bible Book of the Month: 1 Corinthians

Overview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiHf8klCCc4>

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## Church Office Closed



The church office will be closed on Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day. Please take a moment to honor the memory of service members who have sacrificed their lives.



## Courageous Youth & Cool Kids

It's hard to believe summer is approaching and we only have one more month of regular meetings! We will have a few summer events as well as some "Meet up Mondays" for our Courageous Youth. We look forward to celebrating an end of the year party at Rush Trampoline on Sunday, May 19! Mrs. Holly will send out more specific details in our text groups and email.

It has been a wonderful year of fun, fellowship and growing in our faith!! We are incredibly thankful to those who provide snack suppers and for all of you at Union for your continued support!! We love you!!

### **Sunday, May 5**

Cool Kids 4:00-5:15 PM • Courageous Youth 5:00 – 6:15 PM

### **Sunday, May 12**

No Meetings (Mother's Day)

### **Sunday, May 19**

Rush Trampoline Park End of the Year Party

### **Sunday, May 26**

No Meetings

## Congratulations to Our Graduates

*Union will celebrate our graduates on Sunday, May 12.*

### **Brooks Carston Ruark**

Son of Kim Whitehead and Raymond Ruark  
Grandson of Alan and Ann Thomas  
Graduating from North Oconee County High School



### **Austin Eades**

Son of Bryan and Angie Eades  
Grandson of Patsy Orr  
Graduating from Georgia Piedmont Technical College  
Associates in Recording Arts



# Vacation Bible School!

Union will hold our Vacation Bible School  
**June 3-6, from 5:30-8:30PM**, daily.

Kids age 4 through completed 6th grade,  
Pack your bags and plan to join us at Camp  
Firelight! We will join Sam, Lumen, and the  
whole gang as we learn to face our fears  
while trusting God. We will have stories,  
games, snacks, and so much fun! Sign up  
online ([unionchristianchurch.net/vbs](http://unionchristianchurch.net/vbs))  
or use the form below.



## VBS Registration Form

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

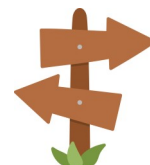
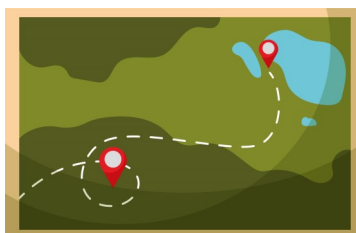
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

May we photograph your child? \_\_\_\_\_

Any Special Needs or Requests? \_\_\_\_\_



# Volunteers We Need You

Union will hold our Vacation Bible School **June 5-8, from 5:30-8:30PM**, daily. We have many areas where we will need help, from class leaders to area leaders. There is a place for everyone to help. Sign up on the form below or online ([unionchristianchurch.net/volunteer](http://unionchristianchurch.net/volunteer)).



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_



Area of Interest: Check all that apply.

Decorations

Bible Time

Preschool

I will help wherever needed!

Music Support

Crafts

Recreation

## Be A Hero Donate VBS Supplies



In addition to volunteers, we need some supplies to make our VBS a memorable and meaningful experience for the campers at Camp Firelight. If you would like to donate craft, recreation, and science supplies, we will soon have an Amazon list where you can order needed items. Look at the upcoming Midweek Updates for the Amazon wish list link.

**Trust God  
to Go  
with Us!**

**Trust God  
to Lead  
the Way!**

**Trust God  
to Share  
Wisdom!**

**Trust God  
to Give  
Us Peace!**

**Trust God  
to Spark  
Joy!**

# Pentecost Offering

The Disciples Pentecost Offering supports Disciples new church development. Planning, nurturing and sustaining new congregations is part of the Disciples' vision. This offering supports the specialized ministry of new church development through both regional and general programs. Gifts for this offering are divided equally between the region in which they are given and the general New Church Ministry. You can give to the Pentecost Offering anytime during May by using the offering envelopes in the Gathering Space or giving online.



## Safety Minute

To ensure you have a safe and secure environment while at Union Christian Church, we have a team of Safety and Security Volunteers who work regularly behind the scenes and diligently each Sunday. You can assist our team by making sure your cars doors are locked, your valuables are secure, and you can watch out for fellow church members. Thank you for helping to keep us all safe.



Young adults, grab your **green jacket** and come **clubbing** with Union! In honor of the recent Masters Tournament, we are having a **par-tee** at Top Golf on Tuesday, May 28. Meet at Union at 5:30 PM, and we will **drive** together. Even if golf is not your cup of **tee**, **putt** on over for some great fellowship. Of **course**, friends are always welcome!



## Family Promise Update

Our next Family Promise Host Week begins on Mother's Day, May 12, and concludes on May 19. The second shelter family moved into the refreshed Magnolia Terrace duplex on April 30. This family is a single mom with 3 kids, 2 boys, and a girl, ranging in ages between 7 and 11. She has transportation, so we do not anticipate needing a van driver during our week since the first shelter family, a mom and 15 year-old son, has transportation as well. We will be providing 3 meals for each family on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

We are also looking for two Saturday afternoon volunteers for the FPA Day Center housed within Athens First Baptist from 1:00—5:00 PM. We will have activities available at the Day Center to interact with the kids while the parents use the laundry and computer resources. FPA staff will be available on Saturdays for a while as volunteers are familiarizing themselves with the layout of the Day Center.

We look forward to our regular volunteers being able to jump back into more regular service. We welcome new volunteers who want to get involved with Family Promise and help those families with children in our community who are battling the crisis of homelessness. We can make a difference with our Union hospitality.

Please contact Patti Clark or Kelly Hansford for ways to get involved.

### Summer Camp

June 10-14 CHI RHO CAMP  
June 17-21 JUNIOR CAMP  
June 17-19 CHRYSALIS CAMP  
June 21-23 GENESIS CAMP  
June 24-29 CYF CONFERENCE  
July 15-19 OASIS Directors

Find out more information or register online:  
[www.gadisciples.org/campers](http://www.gadisciples.org/campers)



### Summer Camp Workdays

Each workday is 9:30 AM—3:30 PM. Please bring lunch and snacks. If you need more information, contact Camp Christian ([campoffice@gadisciples.org](mailto:campoffice@gadisciples.org)).

**Tuesday, June 4**  
**Wednesday, June 5**  
**Thursday, June 6**





## Christian Women's Fellowship

The CWF will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, May 9, at 9:30 AM. All of the ladies in the church are invited to join us.



During the month of May, the Christian Women's Fellowship will bless our neighbor, Oconee County High School, as they end the school year. We are preparing baskets of snacks and other goodies for the teacher and staff break rooms. You can help by donating snacks and praying for all of our local schools—students, teachers, administrators, support staff, and parents. Please bring snacks by May 9, allowing us to get the baskets to our schools before they are done in just a few weeks.

The CWF special persons for May are Cora, Ezra, and Benjamin Sledge (1081 Ridgefield Way; Bishop, GA 30621).

## Elders' Meeting

Union's Elders will meet on Sunday, May 5, at 9:00 AM.

## Church Council

The Church Council will meet on Thursday, May 16, at 7:00 PM.



## Disciples Men

Men, join us for the May breakfast meeting of the Disciples Men at Strickland's (4723 Atlanta Highway, Athens) on Saturday, May 4, at 8:00 AM. We have a wonderful time, and we would love to have you come and fellowship with us.



GriefShare is a support group for those grieving a death. We have a few more meetings in our spring session. You are welcome to join us; we meet on Thursdays through May 23, from 1:30—3:00 PM, in the Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to join our group, you can register online at [www.griefshare.org/groups/180554](http://www.griefshare.org/groups/180554).



# Coming Up at Union!

**GriefShare Spring Session**  
Thursdays, 1:30-3:30 PM

**Vacation Bible School**  
June 3-6

**Disciples Men's Breakfast**  
May 4, 8:00 AM

**Cemetery Workday**  
May 4, 9:45 AM

**Cool Kids & Courageous Youth**  
Sunday, May 5 - 4:00 (Kids), 5:00 (Youth)

**Christian Women's Fellowship**  
May 9, 9:30 AM

**Family Promise Host Week**  
May 12-19

**Memorial Day Preparation (Cemetery)**  
May 18, 10:00 AM

**Cool Kids & Courageous Youth Party  
(Rush Trampoline Park)**  
Sunday, May 19

## May Meetings

**Elders' Meeting**  
May 5, 9:00 AM

**Staff Meeting**  
May 13, 10:30 AM

**Worship Committee Meeting**  
May 14, 6:30 PM

**Church Council Meeting**  
May 16, 7:00 PM

**Columbarium Phase II Meeting**  
May 19, 12:00 PM

## May Serving Calendar

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Alan Hickerson	Patsy Orr	Jonathan Byrd	Annette Saul
<b>Elder</b>	Alan Hickerson	Evelyn Shelnutt	Jonathan Byrd	Patti Clark
<b>Deacon</b>	<b>Lisa Sledge,</b> Mary Brookshire, Lynn Chapman, TBA	<b>Lisa Sledge,</b> Ruth Cook, Lanier Orr, Peter Cook	<b>Lynn Chapman,</b> Lisa Vaughn, Sue Williams, TBA	<b>TBA,</b> Ruth Cook, Kay Smith, TBA
<b>Children's Church</b>	David & Jyoti Webb	Patti Clark	Holly Green	Angie Eades
<b>Children's Helper</b>	Betsy Peck	Holly Green	Kathy Peters	Patsy Orr
<b>Greeter</b>	Mary Brookshire	Kathy Peters	Evelyn Shelnutt	Lynn Chapman
<b>Sanctuary Prep</b>	Larry Allen	Ken Clark	Jonathan Byrd	Ken Clark
<b>Safety Volunteer</b>	Lanier Orr	Ken Clark	Larry Saul	Eric Sherrer
<b>Children's Chat</b>	Heather Webb	Angie Eades	Jonathan Byrd	Patti Clark
	May 7	May 14	May 21	May 28
<b>Meet/Greet Host</b>	Nan Deal	Evelyn Shelnutt	Amy Pritchett	Julian Beckwith

# Prayers of the People

## **Global Prayer:**

First Responders and Disaster Relief Personnel  
Around the World.

## **Community Prayer:**

Students and Teachers

## **Prayers for Health, Healing, and Care:**

Sharon Abbott (Chemotherapy)  
Joyce Aument (Upcoming Tests)  
Ed Berry (High Shoals Rehab)  
Frank Baxter (Cancer)  
Mark Beach (Leukemia)  
Julian Beckwith (Surgery Recovery)  
Mimi Benkoski (Suffered Recent Falls)  
Myla Bennett  
Dawn Blizzard (Car Accident Recovery)  
Leon Boyce (Serious Car Accident)  
Mandie Boyce (Hospitalized)  
Pam Boyce (Health Issues)  
Jason Brown (Hospitalized)  
Renee Brown (Rehab)  
Bonnie Butler  
Jonathan Byrd  
Camp Christian (Upcoming Workdays)  
Annabelle Carter (Under Care for Seizures)  
Abel Cavin (2 year-old with 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns)  
Rainey Collis (2-Year-Old, Surgery Recovery, RSV)  
Jen Crane (Gastroenteritis)  
Doc Crawford (Recovery from Hospitalization)  
Michael, Leah, Charlotte, and Juliette Crenshaw  
Eric David (Broken Pelvis, 7 Years Old)  
Jeannie Dawson (Pain in Legs has returned)  
Nan Deal  
Andra Dickens (Recovery from Hospitalization)  
Jean Dickens (Knee Surgery Recovery)  
Beth Dillard (Health Concerns)  
Devin Driskell (Recovery from Accident)  
Holley Downs  
Myles Embrick (Recovery from Hospitalization)  
Vicky Grey (Health Issues)  
Jackie Freeman (Surgery Recovery)  
Mary Hamby (Surgery Recovery)  
Brandy Harris (Health Concerns)  
Rick Hebert (Lung Cancer Treatments)  
Greg Hindmon (Follow Up After Surgery)  
Mahlon Holland (Transitioned to Assisted Living)  
Shelly House (Anxiety and Depression)  
Nancy Huff (Hospitalized)  
Hannah Hunt (Shoulder Surgery Recovery)  
Jamie Johnson (Surgery Recovery)  
Howard Karloff (Terminal Illness)  
Terry Karloff (Addiction)  
Adam Karloff  
Sari Karloff  
Johnny Lay (Health Concerns)  
John Leonard (Stomach Cancer)  
Rev. Nate Leonard (Recovery from Car Accident)  
Brayden Lord (Oconee Student, Stage 4 Hodgkin  
Lymphoma, Resumed Cancer Treatments)  
Sean Mahan (Surgery Recovery)

Ann Maxey (The Oaks for Rehabilitation)  
Donnie Maxey (Recovery from Hospitalization)  
Henry Maxey  
Jayne McCluskey (Skin Cancer)  
Angela Madaras (Declining Health)  
Margo McClain (Broken Hip)  
Maxine (Colon Cancer)  
Ann Meeler (Hospitalized, Stroke)  
Becky Montgomery (Continued Health Issues)  
Bailey Moore (Foster Family Needs)  
Kaaren Mosley (Cancer, Hospice)  
Albert Munguia (Addiction Issues)  
David Nelson (Hospitalized)  
Annette Nesler (Awaiting Transplant)  
Jason Oliver (Heart Surgery Recovery)  
Karen Palmour (Cancer)  
Gunner Patterson (3-Year-Old, Medical Issues)  
William Conrad Perlman (Infant, Heart Surgery)  
Kathy Peters  
Johnny Pritchett (Recovering From A Fall)  
Margie Provost (Complications from Cancer Sur-  
gery)  
Linda Rice (Lung Cancer Treatment)  
Lawson Saul (Recovery from Hospitalization)  
Kenneth Savage (Cancer)  
Mason Saxon (Upcoming Brain Surgery)  
Mont Shelnut (High Shoals Health and Rehab)  
Carlton Shelton (Hospitalized, Health Concerns)  
David Simpson (Lung Cancer)  
Mary Short (Hospice)  
Billy Skinner (Cancer)  
Mickey Smith (Surgery Recovery)  
Zane Springer (Infant; Surgery Recovery)  
Ann Stephens  
Troy Tatum (ALS)  
Jacqueline Thomason  
Harry Tracy  
Kim and Brad Tyler (Colon Cancer)  
Reese Waddell (Recovering at Home)  
Patti Wagner (Scleroderma)  
Gene Wengert (Pancreatic Cancer)  
Cathie Wettlaufer  
Lanier Whitehead (Cancer, Hospice)  
Dale Whiting (Health Concerns)  
Kelly and Philip Wood  
Ryan Woodworth (Shepherd Center)

## **Prayers for Those Who Mourn:**

The Family and Friends of Robert Hancock  
The Family and Friends of Margaret Hogan

## **Prayers for Our Military:**

Harrison "Harry" Booth  
Tyler Brown  
McCord Camp  
Charlie Witkowski (Stationed in Poland)

# May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 PM Praise Band 7:00 PM Choir	2 1:30 PM GriefShare  Bryce Barrow	3	4 8:00 AM Disciples Men 9:45 AM Cemetery Workday 10:00 AM Prayer Call
5 9 AM Elders' Meeting 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 4:00 PM Kids 5:00 PM Youth	6	7 9:30 AM Craft Group 6:30 PM All-Church Meet & Greet  Bobby Whitehead	8 6:30 PM Praise Band 7:00 PM Choir	9 9:30 AM CWF Meeting 1:30 PM GriefShare	10	11 10:00 AM Prayer Call
12 Family Promise Host Week 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	13 Family Promise Host Week 10:30 AM Staff Meeting  Mary Brookshire Patti Clark	14 Family Promise Host Week 9:30 AM Craft Group 6:30 PM All-Church Meet & Greet 6:30 PM Worship Committee Meeting	15 Family Promise Host Week 6:30 PM Praise Band 7:00 PM Choir  Brooks Ruark	16 Family Promise Host Week 1:30 PM GriefShare 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	17 Family Promise Host Week	18 Family Promise Host Week 10:00 AM Placing Memorial Day Flags 10:00 AM Prayer Call
19 Family Promise Host Week 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Columbarium Phase II Mtg. 4:00 PM Kids 5:00 PM Youth	20  Benjamin Sledge	21 9:30 AM Craft Group 6:30 PM All-Church Meet & Greet  Betsy Peck	22 6:30 PM Praise Band 7:00 PM Choir	23 1:30 PM GriefShare	24	25 10:00 AM Prayer Call  Ron Deal
26 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship	27 Memorial Day Holiday  Patsy Orr	28 9:30 AM Crafts 6:00 PM Young Adult Hangout 6:30 PM All-Church Meet & Greet	29 6:30 PM Praise Band 7:00 PM Choir	30	31	

Union Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

1130 Union Church Rd.  
Watkinsville GA 30677-4101

# Union Christian Church

