

May 22, 2026

From the Pastor



This Sunday is one of my favorite Sundays of the year. It is PENTECOST! It is the end of Eastertide. Pentecost occurs fifty days after Easter - Yes, you have to count Easter as well in order to get 50 days - and is known as the birthday of the Church. No, it's not the birthday of UPC. Pentecost is considered the birthday of the whole Christian church because that is when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples and those gathered in Jerusalem.

Pentecost is a great day of celebration and rejoicing in the church, and we are going to worship and celebrate in style on Sunday! Red is the liturgical color of Pentecost symbolizing the Holy Spirit. Worshipers are invited to wear RED (or orange or yellow - flame colors) this Pentecost Sunday to acknowledge the Holy Spirit's presence in their lives.

To prepare for this Sunday's worship, I encourage you to try to put yourself in the shoes of early believers. Jesus had been crucified then resurrected. He appeared many times after his resurrection and instructed believers to share this good news with the world. Forty days after the resurrection, Jesus ascended into the heavens and returned to God. Now, the disciples and other believers were just hanging out in Jerusalem waiting to "receive power" (Acts 1:8).

It's been a week and half since you last saw the Risen Christ or heard about others' seeing him. Are you still confident that you will receive power or are you starting to consider other options? Are you excited about the future - anxiously looking everywhere for signs that power is coming? Are you thinking about going home and picking up your life where you left it three years ago? Do you sense God's presence around you or do you feel abandoned and afraid?

Now, read Acts 2:1-21. What the what?!? What are you thinking and feeling? Do you believe your eyes and ears? What do you do? How do you respond?

After we soak in a little Spirit, I'm doing something I've NEVER done in almost 27 years of ordained ministry. I'm preaching from the book of Numbers. Surprised?!? Me, too. But, that Holy Spirit, she's a wily one. Curious? Read Numbers 11:24-29 and ponder where the Spirit may be leading us. Click [here](#) for the worship bulletin. Worship is streamed on the [UPC website](#) and [YouTube](#) channel.

PS

We need some Pentecost Preparation fairies on Saturday afternoon to assist with getting some things ready for Sundays celebration. We'll get started in the sanctuary around 4pm. The narthex doors will be unlocked. Come early and enjoy the NKY African Festival. (See article below)

NKY African Festival Saturday, May 23rd 12pm – 4pm

KAWA (Kentucky African Women Alliance) is coming back to UPC for a 2nd year in a row to offer their festival to the community. The festival includes African music and dance, traditional African food, cultural performances, handmade crafts and fashion, and more. The family-friendly fun is for all ages. We had a blast last year! Bring your family & friends.



Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 31st

We want to celebrate with ALL the graduates – preschool, kindergarten, elementary, middle school, high school, college, advanced degrees, whatever. Please send the [church office](#) a picture of your graduate (baby pic and current pic for high school seniors) and all the pertinent info. Church membership not required for celebration. If you're celebrating someone close to you, we want to celebrate with you.

Called Congregational Meeting & Info Session after Worship Sunday, May 31st

The purpose of the called congregational meeting is to fill Erin Kieffer's unexpired term on Session. Erin resigned from her position in order to more fully focus on family needs. Laura Pears is the nominee for the Class of 2027. Following the brief meeting is an update on UPC's financial challenges and time for questions and answers.

NKY Pride Sunday, June 7th

Plans are underway. UPC has a spot in the parade and a booth at the festival. If you'd like to help plan (esp. if you have float ideas) and/or want to join the fun, sign up in the narthex or on the [website](#).



Union Presbyterian Church

Quarter Auction

Thursday, June 11th
doors open at 6pm
bidding starts at 7pm

Florence Lion's Club
29 Lacresta Drive
Florence, KY 41042

Bring your quarters & cash and win awesome prizes including gift baskets, gift certificates and more!

FREE admission!
Paddles are \$2 each or 3/\$5
Raffles! Dollar Boards! Split the Pot! Vendors!



Concessions available for purchase. Please, no outside food or drink.

Quarter Auction Thursday, June 11th

Join us at the Florence Lions Club as we raise money for UPC. Bring your friends to enjoy an evening of Quarter Auction fun. Never been to a Quarter Auction? Imagine auction meets raffle meets game of chance plus concessions, vendors, split-the-pot, door prizes, raffle and lots of laughter. Doors open at 6pm. Auction begins at 7pm. Admission is free. Paddles are \$2 or 3/\$5. Bring your quarters and cash to win awesome prizes including gift baskets, gift certificates and more.

Mark your calendars now for Vacation Bible School July 6th – 9th 6:30pm – 8pm

Plans are underway for an amazing time of learning and fellowship for our K-5th graders and their families. Contact [Bethany Brewer Ball](#) or [Heather Dern](#) if you would like to be involved.

Opportunities to Serve

As the Body of Christ, we all have gifts, talents and abilities to share. Lending a hand to help lead Sunday worship or caring for our facility is one simple but important way to serve Christ and each other. Brochures with more info are available in the sanctuary. You may sign up on [the SignUp Genius website](#).



Schedule for This Week

Pentecost Sunday Sunday, May 24th

9:30am Choir Warm-Up
10am Pentecost Worship
w/ Officer Ordination &
Installation

Sunday School after worship for
K-3rd, 4th - 7th & adults

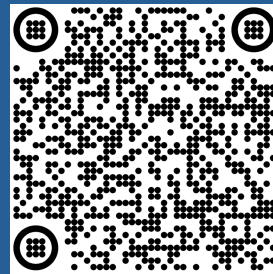
Monday, May 25th
MEMORIAL DAY
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Wednesday, May 27th
9:30am Chair Yoga
8pm AA



BIRTHDAYS

5/26 - Chelsea Tolle
5/28 - April Merkel
5/31 - Brennen Ball
6/4 - Devon Golden
6/5 - Kevin Ball
6/10 - Donna Shupe
6/11 - Phil Ruwe
6/15 - Sarah Huddleston
6/16 - Asher Pears
6/19 - Hamilton Clouse
6/22 - Mark Highland



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

Friday, May 29th
9:30am Chair Yoga

6/24 - Neva Martin

account, savings account, credit card or debit card and is secured through Global Payment Services which integrates with Servant Keeper, our membership program.

**Graduate Recognition
Sunday**
Sunday, May 31st
10am Worship



After worship, called congregational meeting and information session

ANNIVERSARIES

5/29 - Romanus & Yani Wirasakti
6/3 - Gwen Coleman & Mark Highland
Bob & Jacque Sherwood
6/9 - Ed & Sue Dobrzykowski
6/12 - Vince & Laura Buckley
6/18 - Kevin & Holly Hillman
Bill & Kathy Martin

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 percentage to cover the processing costs.

Union Presbyterian Church

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Union KY 41091

Contact Us



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