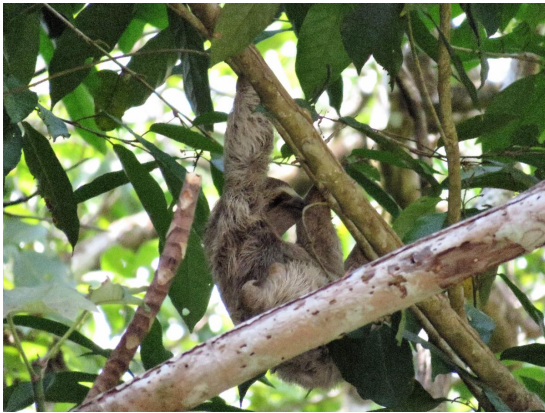


*March 18, 2023*

*From the Pastor*



So many folks have asked about the best parts of our recent trip to Costa Rica. This picture sums it up. The older I get, the more I deeply appreciate time to soak up the Creator's amazing work. This sloth was climbing in the trees where we were staying and was photographed by a friend of 34 years. Blessings upon blessings! It's also a reminder of how the busyness of life can't interfere with the joy-filled and

hard business of living.

One of my greatest challenges is to have "margins" built in to my schedule to allow life to happen and to soak up this hot mess of a beautiful life. This past week is a perfect example of how I overbooked my schedule - with fabulous things - but didn't leave room for life to happen and for the Spirit to dance. That's why the newsletter is coming out late on Saturday night rather than Friday morning. I am very aware of the Spirit's invitation to leave room in the busyness to live, and I suspect that I'm not alone on this path.

Our text for worship tomorrow speaks to the Spirit's invitation to God's expansiveness and to embrace the Spirit's openness beyond our petrified (hardened not afraid) theologies and what we think we know. In preparation for worship, I invite you to read and to pray about John 9:1-41. There's a LOT happening in this story! With whom do you identify in the story? Who gets on your nerves? Then, spend some time praying about how the Spirit might be using this text to inform, to challenge, to comfort us as individual disciples 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**

Lenten devotions for children and adults are available in the narthex. Please contact the [church office](#) if you would like to have a copy emailed or snail mailed to you.

## Order Easter flowers now

You may purchase tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and/or lilies in honor or memory of someone or to the glory of God. You may purchase these beautiful flowers by signing up on the sheet in the narthex or by clicking [here](#) to order through the church office. The flowers cost \$15 each and can be taken home after the Easter service. A dedication page will appear in the Easter bulletin. The proceeds help support our summer youth conferences.



### CHRISTIAN LGBTQ+ AND ALLIES COMMUNITY GROUP

High School Students and Caregivers  
can connect and create community in a safe and  
supportive space (Groups meet separately)

Thursday, March 23rd 6:30 pm

It can be difficult for those in the LGBTQ+ community and those who love them to find safe spaces to be true to their identities as humans and as Christians or faith explorers. Parents meet in the Youth Room. Teens meet in i.imagine hangout room. Use the lower level entrance, and signs will point the way. More info? Parents, call/text Amanda Hopper 859-

640-4177. Teens, call/text El Hopper 859-240-6797. Of course, you can also contact Pastor Lisa. Parents of young adults are welcome as well. Please pass info along to anyone who might be interested.

## Abraham's Pantry Update

Abraham's Pantry has officially been serving our neighbors for over a year now! The pantry exists to assist families and individuals through emergency situations by providing 3 days of meals and hygiene and cleaning products upon request and availability. In 2022 Abraham's Pantry served 325 individuals - 70% of which were children under the age of 18.



In order to better assist those in need we are transitioning to a Meal Kit system instead of random food donations. Meal Kits are dinner recipes serving 4-5 people using only shelf stable ingredients, and costing about \$10-\$12 to supply. Similar to thanksgiving bags you may pick up a bag in the narthex, use the attached shopping list to fill the bag with the needed items, and return to church in the shopping carts located in the Narthex or outside the church office. If you would rather help "fill in the gaps" you may pick up a tag listing single items from the narthex and return at your convenience. We also are always thankful for \$20 Kroger gift cards.

Volunteering in the food pantry is easy! Sign up on the church website to pack, sort, and fill requests on Mondays and Thursdays.

If you have any questions or have a shelf stable recipe that you would like to

share, you may reach out to members of the food pantry committee: [Sharon Fedders](#), [Laura Pears](#), or [Ollie Seidman](#).

PS - This week Abraham's Pantry served 6 families with 29 people including 16 children.



### Mark Your Calendars:

City of Union Easter Egg Hunt at UPC – Saturday, April 1st 8:30am

Palm Sunday ~ Sunday, April 2nd

Congregational mtg after worship to elect officers

Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship ~ Thursday, April 6th 6:30pm

Darkening the Sanctuary ~ Friday, April 7th 12pm (noon)

Good Friday Tenebrae Worship ~ Friday, April 7th 7pm

Easter Potluck Breakfast & Egg Hunt ~ Sunday, April 9th 9am

Celebration of the Resurrection! ~ Sunday, April 9th 10am

Community Easter Celebration ~ Sunday, April 16th 6pm

Please RSVP for Maundy Thursday by Monday, April 3rd. You may RSVP in the narthex, by contacting the church office, or by clicking [here](#). We will share a meal of traditional foods of Jesus' day then worship at table together.

### Schedule for This Week

4th Sunday of Lent  
Sunday, March 19th

10am Worship

Nominating Committee after  
worship

3pm Iglesia Pentecostales  
Palabra de Vida

Monday, March 20th

9am Yoga

6:30pm Session

7pm Boy Scouts

Tuesday, March 21st

6:30pm Cub Scouts

Wed, March 22nd

9am Yoga

8pm AA

Thursday, March 23rd

6:30pm LGBTQ+ Group  
for Teens and for Parents  
Iglesia Pentecostales  
Palabra de Vida



### BIRTHDAYS

3/18 - Cheryl Martinez

3/20 - George Wood

3/23 - Mary Lu Funyak

3/26 - Teresa Gieske

3/28 - Katelyn Detwiler

3/30 - Luke Hillman

3/31 - Spencer Zembrodt

4/3 - Chelsea Fry

4/4 - Pat Gilliland

4/7 - Parker Lastivka

4/10 - Holly VonLehman

4/13 - Ellie Fry, Lori Ruwe

4/14 - Ollie Seidman

4/16 - Dave Stenner

4/17 - Ken Kenkel,

Jacque Sherwood,

Trevor Stenner

4/19 - Kim Fry



### 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

Friday, March 24th

9am Yoga

Saturday, March 25th

7pm Abraham's Pantry Mtg  
@ Islamic Center NKY



donate an additional 2.75%  
to cover the processing  
costs.

### ANNIVERSARIES

**5th Sunday of Lent**

**Sunday, March 26**

9am K-5 Sunday School  
10am Worship

3pm Iglesia Pentecostales  
Palabra de Vida

NKY Youth Group  
Bowling Outing  
Leave UPC @ 5:15pm  
Return @ 8pm

3/25 - Brian & Shannon  
Eggleston  
3/28 - Kurt & Kristin  
Lintelman  
4/11 - Russ & JoAnna  
Houchins

**Union Presbyterian Church**

10259 US Hwy 42  
Union KY 41091

Contact Us

