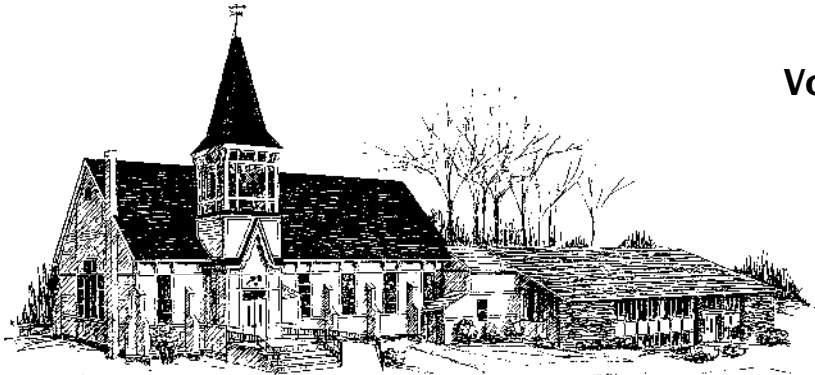


# Good News

**The Monthly Newsletter of the People of  
HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
GUILDERLAND, NEW YORK**

Volume 32 No 11



## November 2022

**Worship Services are held on Sunday at 10:00 a.m.**

### **A family prayer**

Lord, behold our family here assembled.  
We thank you for this place in which we dwell  
for the love that unites us,  
for the peace accorded us this day,  
for the hope with which we expect the morrow,  
for the work, the health, the food, and bright skies  
that make our lives delightful  
for our friends in all parts of the earth. Amen

—Robert Louis Stevenson



“So Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”

~Hebrews 9:28

Siblings in Christ,

I am finding it difficult to believe that we are already nearing the beginning of November, and that in a few short weeks, we will be gearing up for the Christmas season. This time of year is my favorite; November is one of my favorite months, if not my favorite. The winds have grown colder; our neighbor's wood burning stove greets me with the sweet smell of a fire every morning when I leave, and every evening when I return. It is time for hot mulled cider, thick flannel shirts and wool socks, and anticipation of the holiday season, though that craziness won't arrive for a few weeks. But this is also the beginning of a season of family, shared purpose, and community, which I love and appreciate most.

As we enter November, we also come to the end of the church calendar year. On Sunday, November 27, we will celebrate the first Sunday of Advent, which is actually the beginning of a new year in our liturgical tradition (interesting note: this year is about as early as Advent ever begins, but while the season might feel a little longer, don't procrastinate on your Christmas shopping!). Not only are we entering a season of hope and joy, but of new beginnings made possible through Jesus Christ.

As we look toward a new church year, I want to encourage all of us to look at how we make the church a part of our lives. Is it something we “do” once a week? Or is it a lifestyle and a worldview that we actively participate in? Is it something we claim in word only? Or is it a way we live in the world?

We know who Jesus calls us to be, and that is sometimes really hard, especially when other demands are placed on our already stretched-too-thin time. With that in mind, I'd like to refer you to an old children's sermon I remember hearing when I was young:

Laid out on a table, next to a quart-size mason jar, was a rock, some large stones, some small pebbles, and some sand. The minister went ahead to tell us that the rock was God, the large stones our family and friends, the pebbles small, but important things like school and sports, and the sand was everything extra in our lives. He went ahead to put the sand in the jar first, then the pebbles, then the stones, and what we noticed was that there was no room left in the jar for the rock.

However, when we emptied it all out to start over, if we put the big rock in first, then the larger stones, then the pebbles, and ending with the sand, everything, remarkably, fit.

See, if we start with God, putting God first and foremost, everything else falls into place. Everything else just fits! It sometimes takes a concerted effort, especially at first, but once we get in the habit, things get easier, and our lives are much richer and fuller because of it.

Now, I'm not one for New Year's Resolutions, but that's something I could get on board with trying. Will you join me?

Grace and peace,  
~Pastor Kyle

A blessed thought

Gratitude consists in a watchful, minute attention to the particulars of our state, and to the multitude of God's gifts, taken one by one. It fills us with a consciousness that God loves and cares for us, even to the least event and smallest need of life.

It is a blessed thought, that from our childhood God has been laying his fatherly hands upon us, and always in benediction; that even the strokes of his hands are blessings, and among the chiefest we have ever received. When this feeling is awakened, the heart beats with a pulse of thankfulness.

—H.E. Manning

**LITURGISTS**

Nov. 6      **Elena Delhagen**

Nov. 13     **Steve Smith**

Nov. 20     **Campus Ministry**

Nov. 27     **Betty Deitz**

**TECH TEAM**

Nov. 6      **Kyle Hall**  
**Audrey Hall**

Nov. 13     **Meredith Eberz**  
**Jack Eberz**

Nov. 20     **Liz Egan**  
**Declan Egan**

Nov. 27     **Diane Irwin**  
**Hugh Stevens**

**COUNTERS**

Nov. 6      **Liz Egan**  
**Carolyn Sarbello**

Nov. 13     **Bill Hasselbarth**  
**Hannah Hunter-Harris**

Nov. 20     **Peggy Gardam**  
**Billy DeBarthe**

Nov. 27     **Laura Smith**  
**Peter McKinney**

**“When it comes to life,  
the critical thing is whether  
you take things for granted  
or take them with gratitude.”**

**—G.K. Chesterton**



*Happy Birthday to*

**Mickey Nieman – Nov 4**  
**Declan Egan – Nov 6**  
**Oscar Hasselbarth – Nov 23**  
**Michael Hall – Nov 24**  
**Betty Deitz – Nov 27**  
**Dianna Newman – Nov 27**

*Happy Anniversary to*

**Charlotte & Bill Hasselbarth – Nov 11**

If you would like your birthday, anniversary, or some other special occasion printed in the "Good News", please notify Ann McKinney at (518) 488-7195 or email me at: [ANNANDPETERMCKINNEY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ANNANDPETERMCKINNEY@GMAIL.COM)

If you see that an incorrect date is in the "Good News", please let me know.  
 Thanks! *Ann McKinney*

To the HUPC Tech Team,

THANK YOU for your wonderful Zoom connection for this past Sunday's worship! A friend and I, unable to attend our regular church's service due to "technical difficulties", signed on to HUPC. We felt well cared-for! We saw and heard the entire service, and enjoyed the panoramic view of the sanctuary during the postlude. I was the last to sign off, and I loved seeing the congregants at the rear of the sanctuary conversing and admiring the baby! The thoughtful camera operator kept the camera on until after I left.

Gratefully,  
 Irene Harbison  
 (friend of Carol Scott)

## Mitten Tree – Sunday, November 20 to Sunday, December 11

From Sun, Nov 20 - Sun, Dec 11, we will be collecting new (handmade or purchased) gloves, mittens, scarves and hats for the New Faith Program for Women at the Capital City Rescue Mission, the Family Life Center at the Schenectady City Mission, the Guilderland Food Pantry and Brian Nitsky's Living Resources Group Home, where there are 5 adult men. Donations can be placed on the "Mitten Tree" in the back of the Sanctuary, in the Food Pantry Collection box outside of the Christian Education Building, in the box at the top of the stairs in the Christian Education Building and at CeCe's Wool in Hamilton Square



Rae Rau will be setting up her loom in the Sanctuary from Oct 30 to Dec 11 to weave scarves for the Mitten Tree during worship services. She is willing to teach anyone interested to join in the weaving.

Thank You in Advance from Presbyterian Women

## Presbyterian Women's (PW) News – All Women are Welcome

All women are invited to participate in any *Presbyterian Women's* activity at any time. There is no need to make a commitment to join the organization. For questions about *Presbyterian Women*, contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or [chasselbarth@hotmail.com](mailto:chasselbarth@hotmail.com). We meet in the lounge, with a zoom option.

Our Nov Circle Meeting is on Tues, Nov.15 from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. We will be discussing Lesson 4, *Ruth and Loyal Love* from the Bible Study *What My Grandmother's Taught Me, Learning From the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*. Bring a bag lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided. Extra Study books are available.



## Volunteer Opportunities

The Mission Team announces the next volunteer opportunities at the Regional Food Bank to sort donated food:

**Thu Nov 17 5-6:30**

**Thu Dec 15 5-6:30**



**Regional  
Food Bank**  
OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

We will have up to 9 slots available, first come, first served. NO sandals or open toe shoes!  
We are working in a warehouse.

A good opportunity to serve the community, and the work is not difficult. If you are interested, please contact Wayne Gannett to sign up at [jgannett@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jgannett@nycap.rr.com).

## Cornerstone Campus Ministry - Food and Faith Program

### Food & People Needed

**Tuesday, November 15, 6 pm - 7:30 pm**

*Food and Faith* is a program of the Cornerstone Campus Ministry at the Interfaith Center on the UAlbany Campus. Hamilton Union will be providing a meal on Tues, Nov. 15. Donations of main dish, side dish, beverage, and dessert for 15 are needed, plus people to visit with the students. If you would like to help, there will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the Sanctuary by Oct 23 or contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or [chasselbarth@hotmail.com](mailto:chasselbarth@hotmail.com). Food needs to be brought to the kitchenette in the Christian Education Building, in a disposable container, labeled "Campus Ministry", by 5 pm that night. If you would like to eat and visit with the students, a carpool will leave the church at 5:15 pm or come right to the Interfaith Center at 6 pm.

After the dinner, Rev. Kyle Delhagen will lead a casual worship program.



## Cornerstone Campus Ministry – Bake Sale Orders Due Sunday, November 13

Cornerstone Campus Ministry will be hosting its Annual Bake Sale to raise funds for its January Mission Trip. The funds we raise help underwrite the cost of the trip.

The Bake Sale will be done by Pre-Order only. There will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the Sanctuary from late Oct – Nov. 13. The baked goods will be delivered to the church on Nov 20. The baked goods will be sold for a donation.



## MAKING CONNECTIONS BIBLE STUDY

The Making Connections adult bible study group has resumed, and will meet on Monday afternoons at 1 P.M on Zoom. Come join the group for a lively and informative discussion.

When: Monday at 1 PM (October 31 through June 28)

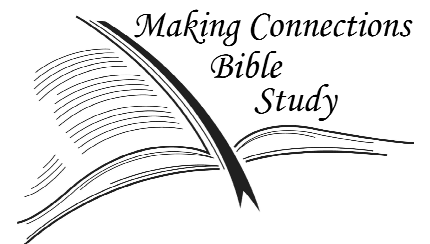
Where: Zoom Meeting ID: 829 5227 6592      Passcode: 609425

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82952276592?  
pwd=U1hudkdXTGFRVm9QRHRQZ1JleUZaQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82952276592?pwd=U1hudkdXTGFRVm9QRHRQZ1JleUZaQT09)

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### **Hamilton Union Supports a Cornerstone Campus Ministry Peer Minister Position**

*For several years Hamilton Union has supported a Peer Minister position for the Cornerstone Campus Ministry. The Mission and Social Witness Committee budgets \$500 each year for this mission. There are ten such positions. Each is responsible for a specific aspect on the Campus Ministry such as Spiritual Formation (Bible Study and Small Group Leaders), Mission/Community Service, Outreach, Special Events, Worship, and Administrative/Office Work. This year we're supporting the Food and Faith Coordinator, Maria Villacreses Valarezo. Below is note from Maria.*

Thank you for supporting my position in Cornerstone. My name is Maria Villacreses Valarezo. I was born in Ecuador and came to the USA unexpectedly for college. I am a sophomore majoring in Human Biology (pre-med track). I joined Cornerstone as a freshman, and it was the only organization where I felt at home. This year, I am honored to be the Food and Faith Coordinator in Cornerstone. College can be very stressful at times but being part of Cornerstone has meant living many moments full of laughter, happiness, and good company. Cornerstone will always put a smile on your face as they have done with me since I began my journey at UAlbany.

**Happiness is like manna; it is to be gathered in grains and enjoyed every day. It will not keep; it cannot be accumulated; nor have we got to go out of ourselves or into remote places to gather it, since it is rained down from heaven, at our very doors.**

—Tryon Edwards

**Men’s Socks and Laundry Detergent Needed  
Continuous Collection**

Men’s white athletic socks (medium – extra-large) plus laundry detergent are being collected for *The Capital Area Council of Churches Emergency Overflow Shelter*.

There is a collection box at the top of the stairs in the Christian Education Building. Donations can also be left in the deck box in front of the Christian Education Building. If you put detergent in the deck box, please label it for “the Interfaith Shelter”.



Thank You from Presbyterian Women

**Personal Care Items Needed by UAlbany’s *Purple Pantry*  
Continuous Collection**

We’re collecting personal care items for both men and women for *The Purple Pantry*, the food pantry on the UAlbany Campus. Personal care items are seldom donated and/or are available from the *Food Bank*. Items needed are toothpaste, facial tissues, deodorant, shampoo, soap, contact solution, cotton swabs, & razors. Feminine care products are also needed.



Please place your donations in the basket at the top of the stairs in the Christian Education Building or in the collection box in front of the Christian Education Building, with a note saying they are for *The Purple Pantry*.

Thank You from Presbyterian Women

## Session Highlights - October, 2022

We are bringing back the “Session Highlights” newsletter item in order to keep the congregation better informed of the important business Session is taking and pursuing on everyone’s behalf. If anyone has questions or comments on anything reported here, please feel free to speak with any Session member, Pastor Kyle, or Clerk of Session, Bruce Williamson.

At their October 9 meeting, Pastor Kyle reported the Guilderland "Interfaith Council" recently met to discuss “rebranding” the group to be more inclusive and to start planning the return of the December Community Advent Service. This service of songs and readings is scheduled for December 4, again at Christ the King Catholic Church. Stay tuned for more details.

Session discussed the upcoming “Harvest Celebration” being planned, to be held after worship on October 30. This community event will feature hot dogs, a fire pit and toasted marshmallows, and a chili cook-off. The community will be invited and more information will be forthcoming.

Pastor Kyle noted he is working on reinvigorating HUPC’s “Faith Formation” Team, formerly called “Christian Education”. He is looking for anyone interested this initiative, aimed at all ages, to join in the discussions and planning. If you have an interest, please let Pastor Kyle know directly.

On the Property front, Session is happy to report the mold remediation work in the Sanctuary basement are has been completed. This was a major project and expense, paid for through the recent gift from the Hallenbeck family.

The next Property priority for using remaining Hallenbeck funds is the replacement of the (cracked) sanctuary entrance steps, the (non-compliant) accessible ramp and the (sticking) sanctuary outer door. Session is seeking an architect, designer and/or contractor to plan out the necessary work so it can be bid out to contractors. (This is proving to be a challenge. If anyone has any suggestions of firms that could assist us, please let Pastor Kyle know.). We anticipate this will be an expensive project and may exceed the remaining Hallenbeck funds.

A third priority discussed is the replacement of the roadside sign. The Town of Guilderland recently revised their sign regulations and prohibited any new “electronic signs”. This means our only option is to replace the existing, movable-letters sign with a similar type of sign. A couple of sample designs and cost estimates have been provided to Session and the estimates run between \$12,000 - \$14,000 for a similar sign. This project is currently on hold, dependent on available funding after the front entry project is completed.

Session also moved to have the non-functioning water fountain in the education building hallway removed, with the feed and drain lines capped. The plan is to replace it with a Deacons’ information table.

Regarding Property, Session is currently without a Property Team leader, which poses challenges given the number of property-related issues we face with an aging infrastructure. Several people have stepped up to take lead on certain major projects or handle minor issues, but we really need someone who can serve as Team Leader. Session is asking everyone to consider helping out with this critical function and notes there are folks in place willing to assist, so it’s not a “one-person job”.

## A Service for the Longest Night

Sunday, December 18, 4 pm

In-person and on Zoom

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.” ~Matt. 5:4

“I need Christ, not something that resembles Him.” ~C.S. Lewis, *A Grief Observed*

We know that Advent can be a season of immense joy. Advent can be a season of laughter, hope, and loved ones gathered together. Advent can be a season of light, fireplaces, and candles in windows.

However, for many of us, we know that Advent can also be a season of pain, a month-long walk down memory lane that leaves us aching, a series of traditions that just don't fit the way they used to.

So on Sunday, December 18th, we will gather to carve out sacred space - space for grief, space for memories to run free, and space to remember loved ones lost. We will gather together to testify to the darkness of the tomb and the darkness of the womb, believing that God is with us, not only in the light, but also through the longest nights.

You are invited to bring all that you are - your anger, your doubts, your sorrow, your hope, your prayers, and your memories. Bring them all and simply let them be, just as they are, in the presence of God. All are welcome into this space for calm, quiet, and healing.

# Hamilton Union Happenings



# November 2022

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday                             | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday   |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|
|   |   | 1   | 2                                     | 3   | 4  | 5  |
|   |   | Session Meeting<br>(Z)-7:00PM   | Pokingbrook<br>Dancers (FH)-<br>7:00P | PW Coordinat.<br>Team Meeting<br>(L)- 10:00A<br>Choir Practice<br>(FH)-7:00PM |  |  |
| 6   | 7   | 8   | 9                                     | 10  | 11   | 12   |
| Choir Practice (S)-9:30AM<br>Special Worship Service-<br>Arts in Worship, Arts &<br>Poverty<br>Race & Reconciliation<br>Study-11:00AM (L) | Making Connections (Z)<br>- 1:00 PM   |   | Pokingbrook<br>Dancers (FH)-<br>7:00P | Good News Dead-<br>line<br>Choir Practice<br>(FH)-7:00PM                      | <b>OFFICE CLOSED-<br/>VETERANS DAY</b>                             |  |
| 13  | 14  | 15  | 16                                    | 17  | 18   | 19   |
| <b>Presbytery Wide<br/>Service-No<br/>HUPC Service-<br/>10:00AM</b>   | Making Connections (Z)<br>- 1:00 PM<br>Communica-<br>tions Meeting<br>(Z)- 7:00PM | PW Circle Meet-<br>ing (L)- 10:30AM<br>Food & Faith<br>Program (U)- 6-<br>7:30p | Pokingbrook<br>Dancers (FH)-<br>7:00P | Mission Team<br>Food Bank- 5:00P<br>Choir Practice<br>(FH)-7:00PM             |  |  |
| 20  | 21  | 22  | 23                                    | 24  | 25   | 26   |
| Choir Practice (S)-9:30A<br>Worship Service<br>10:00AM<br>Cornerstone Baked Goods<br>delivered<br>Mitten Tree Collection<br>Begins        | Making Connections (Z)<br>- 1:00 PM<br>Finance Meeting<br>(Z)- 7:00PM             |   | Pokingbrook<br>Dancers (FH)-<br>7:00P | <b>OFFICE CLOSED-<br/>HAPPY<br/>THANKSGIVING!</b>                             |  |  |
| 27  | 28  | 29  | 30                                    |   |  |  |
| <b>Choir Practice<br/>(S)-9:30AM<br/>Worship Service<br/>10:00AM-1<sup>st</sup><br/>Sun.of Advent</b>                                     | Making Connections (Z)<br>- 1:00 PM   |   | Pokingbrook<br>Dancers (FH)-<br>7:00P | <b>Key-<br/>(Z)- Zoom<br/>(FH)- Fellowship<br/>Hall</b>                       | <b>(L)- Lounge<br/>(C)- Conference<br/>Room<br/>(S)- Sanctuary</b> | <b>(QR)- Quiet Room<br/>(PL)- Parking Lot<br/>(U)- UAlbany In-<br/>terfaith Center</b> |

# Hamilton Union Happenings

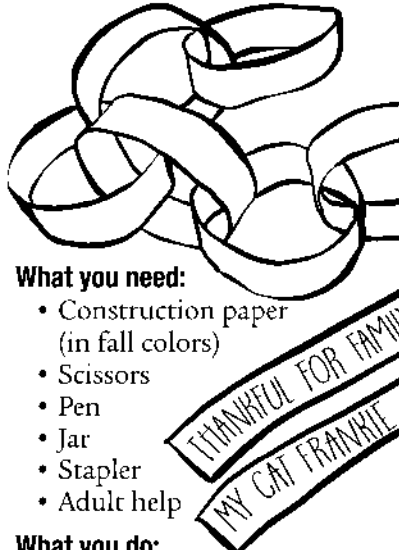


## DRAFT: December 2022

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday                          | Thursday   | Friday | Saturday                                 |
|---|---|---|------------------------------------|--|--------|--|
|   |   |   |                                    | 1  | 2      | 3  |
|   |   |   |                                    | Choir Practice<br>(FH)-7:00PM                            |        |  |
| 4   | 5   | 6   | 7                                  | 8  | 9      | 10                                       |
| <b>Worship Service- 10:00</b><br>2nd Sunday of Advent                                     | Making Connections (Z)<br>- 1:00 PM   | Session Meeting<br>(Z)-7:00PM                                       | Pokingbrook Dancers (FH)-<br>7:00P | Good News Dead-<br>line<br>Choir Practice<br>(FH)-7:00PM |        |  |
| 11  | 12  | 13  | 14                                 | 15   | 16     | 17                                       |
| <b>Worship Service- 10:00</b><br>3rd Sunday of Advent<br>Mitten Tree Col-<br>lection Ends | Making Connections (Z)<br>- 1:00 PM<br>Communica-<br>tions Meeting-<br>(Z)-7:00PM | PW- Christmas<br>Potluck Lunch-<br>eon<br>(L & FH)-<br>10:30A-1:30P | Pokingbrook Dancers (FH)-<br>7:00P | Choir Practice<br>(FH)-7:00PM                            |        |  |
| 18  | 19  | 20  | 21                                 | 22   | 23     | 24                                       |
| <b>Worship Service- 10:00</b><br>4th Sunday of Advent<br>Longest Night<br>Service- 4:00PM | Making Connections (Z)<br>- 1:00 PM<br>Finance Meeting<br>(Z)- 7:00PM             |   | Pokingbrook Dancers (FH)-<br>7:00P | Choir Practice<br>(FH)-7:00PM                            |        | <b>Christmas Eve<br/>Service- 4:00PM</b> |
| 25  | 26  | 27  | 28                                 | 29   | 30     | 31                                       |
| <b>Christmas Day</b>  | Making Connections (Z)<br>- 1:00 PM   |   | Pokingbrook Dancers (FH)-<br>7:00P | Choir Practice<br>(FH)-7:00PM                            |        |  |

# Links of GRATITUDE

Make this meaningful decoration for your Thanksgiving table.

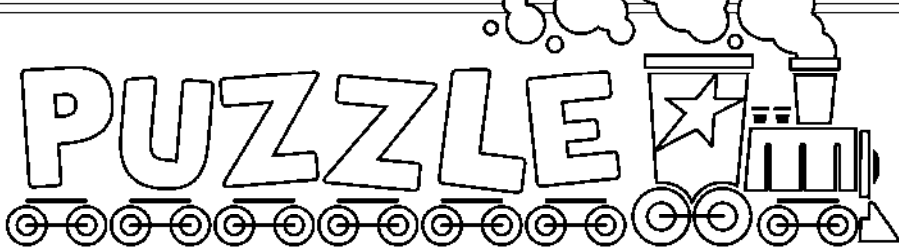


**What you need:**

- Construction paper (in fall colors)
- Scissors
- Pen
- Jar
- Stapler
- Adult help

**What you do:**

1. Cut the paper into strips about 2 inches wide.
2. Place the strips and pen in the jar. Then set it in a prominent place in your home.
3. Throughout November, have family discussions about what you're thankful to God for. Write or draw each item on a paper strip.
4. Make a paper chain by linking and carefully stapling the strips.
5. Keep adding to your decoration and display it during your Thanksgiving meal.




# Puzzles

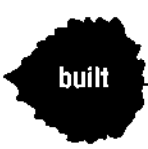
## Piles of praise

Every autumn, the ground is overflowing with leaves. What does Paul encourage us to overflow with?


*Directions: Use the key to match the leaves and complete the Bible passage.*




rooted




built




thankfulness




strengthened




continue




faith



overflowing



Lord



received

So then, just as you \_\_\_\_\_ Christ Jesus as \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_ to live your lives in him, \_\_\_\_\_ and

\_\_\_\_\_ up in him, \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ as you

were taught, and \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7, NIV

Answer: received, Lord, continue, rooted, built, strengthened, faith, overflowing, thankfulness

# **HAMILTON UNION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**2291 Western Avenue**

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Change Service Requested

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*Pastor:*

**revkyle@hamiltonunionpresbyterianchurch.org**

Website: **HamiltonUnionPresbyterianChurch.org**

**hu-pc.org**

Ministers: The People of Hamilton Union

## **Our Staff:**

Rev. Kyle Delhagen, Pastor

Kim Matthews, Administrative Assistant

Carol Scott, Organist & Choir Director

Rae Rau, Director of Handbell Choir

Newsletter deadline for the  
*December* issue is  
*Thursday, November 10*

## GOOD NEWS



Published monthly by the Session, and is available electronically on our website. Copies are also mailed to select church family households, students away from home, and others.

Mark Hutchinson, Editor

Email Address: **goodnewshupc@gmail.com**