



NAPLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 2, 2026 | 10 AM

An Open and Affirming Congregation

A WISE for Mental Health Congregation

Mission: To love God and all our neighbors as God loves us.





THE WORSHIP OF GOD

IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP, PLEASE SILENCE YOUR ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Sonja Phillips, Minister of Congregational Care

PRELUDE

Moderato from Five Pieces for Two Cellos and Piano
Egor Antonenko and Isabel Sanchez, Cello • Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Piano

Shostakovich

CALL TO WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN #138

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

GROSSER GOTT

INVOCATION

Rev. Rich Kirschner

ALL: In the darkness of night and the brightness of day, you, O Loving God are present to us. As we wrestle with situations which seem to drain us of our energy; as we struggle to find out who you call us to be, you reach out to us with reassurance of empowerment and courage for the days ahead. Calm our spirits and prepare our hearts and lives to receive your awesome grace. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Jeanne Snedeker, Director of Youth and Children's Education

PASSING OF THE PEACE

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Be Thou My Vision
Sanctuary Choir • Egor Antonenko, Cello

Arr. Dan Forrest

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 32: 24-30

Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans[c] and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved."

SERMON

Resilient Faith

Rev. Sonja Phillips, Minister of Congregational Care



OFFERTORY

Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown

David L. Mennicke

Sanctuary Choir • Arianni Antonacci, Soloist • Egor Antonenko, Cello

LORD'S SUPPER

This is the table that Jesus has prepared for us. All are welcome. Come not because you must, but because you may. Come, not because you understand, but because you are understood. Come, not because you deserve a place, but because Jesus invites you, just as you are. Come, friends, to receive the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Come to share in the joyful feast of the people of God. If you would like to receive home Communion, please contact Molly Baker at mbakerlex@gmail.com.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORD'S OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

II. Andante cantabile from *Cello Sonata No. 2, Opus 81*

Nikolai Myaskovsky

Egor Antonenko, Cello • Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Piano

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: We thank you God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #405

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

*BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

Liebesfreud (Love's Joy)

Fritz Kreisler

Egor Antonenko, Cello • Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Piano



If you would like a word of prayer or quiet conversation, stop by the parlor for a visit with today's Stephen Minister. The parlor is to the right as you are leaving the sanctuary.

Special Fellowship

TODAY, 11:00 AM | GATHERING PLACE

Join us today as we celebrate **Jane and Kevin Barry's 53rd wedding anniversary!** In honor of this special milestone, they have graciously sponsored this morning's fellowship reception and warmly invite the congregation to join them for refreshments and celebration following the worship service.

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Rev. Sonja Phillips, Minister of Congregational Care
Rev. Rich Kirschner, Guest Liturgist
Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Director of Music
Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Pianist
Jeanne Snedeker, Director of Children and Youth Education
Sanctuary Choir
Arianni Antonacci, Soloist
Egor Antonenko, Cello
Isabel Sanchez, Cello

STEPHEN MINISTER: Jean Lemmon

WELCOMERS: Kathy and Mike Book

USHERS: Jennifer Rainey (Head Usher), Ronnie Bellone, Carol Berglund, Kathryn Bettis, Jim Borden, Becky Cutts, Kathleen Devitt, Mary Beth Jones, and Bill Rumpf.

Hunter Reum, Production Specialist - Producer
Clayton Townsend, Production Specialist - Audio
Thomas Hartland, Production Specialist - Audio
Lincoln Townsend, Production Specialist - Video
Lexii Clemons, Production Specialist - Video
Christian Pyles, Production Specialist - Video

NURSERY CARE: Elena Fernandez

SERVING AT ARBOR TRACE: Bobby Ray & Sara Nonken

SERVING AT BENTLEY VILLAGE: Carole Russell

GATHERING PLACE STAFF: John Greer, Fellowship Support | Raymond Gangl, Facilities Manager | Samantha Santarosa, Membership Coordinator & Pastoral Assistant

Throughout 2026, the ministry of our pianist in worship has been graciously underwritten by Ronnie Bellone and Jennifer Rainey.

This Sunday's chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God by Kevin and Jane Barry, in joyful celebration of their 53rd wedding anniversary.

Volunteer at the Bargain Box - Help Reach its Goals: Open More Hours and Saturdays!

3906 TAMiami TRl E, NAPLES, FL 34112

Why Do I Volunteer at the Bargain Box? - Louise Brown

"I like working at the Bargain Box because I see it as a win, win, win! It's a win for those who have items they no longer need, it's a win for people who find quality items at affordable prices, and it's a win for Naples UCC, as every purchase helps support our outreach ministries and the work of the church."

Reach out to **George De La Roche** at 239-262-3802 or in the Gathering Place with **Samantha Santarosa**. We'd love to have you on our team!

A mission of the Naples United Church of Christ
Bargain Box THRIFT STORE
& BOUTIQUE



Save the Date! Nelson Hall Renovation Ribbon Cutting

We're delighted to share that the renovation of Nelson Hall is complete! This fall, Nelson Hall will be ready to welcome back our ministries, activities, and gatherings as we return to our regular schedule. Join us on **Wednesday, October 7, at 8:30 a.m.** for a special Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at The Gathering Place as we celebrate this wonderful renovation and the renewed use of Nelson Hall with our church family!

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Upcoming Events

Naples UCC Orientation

August 13, 4:00 p.m. | Nelson Hall 104

Curious about our church's history, ministries, and how we're organized? Join us for a fun and informative Orientation, now open to everyone! Explore the story of Naples UCC, meet the people and ministries that make our church thrive, enjoy a guided campus tour, and ask questions along the way. Refreshments will be served. Space is limited to 20 participants, so sign up with Samantha in The Gathering Place or email samantha@naplesucc.org.

Informational Meet & Greet

August 16, 11:15 a.m. | Nelson Hall 104

A time for visitors to learn, ask questions and meet our ministers. The Meet & Greet takes place in Nelson Hall 104, following the 10:00 a.m. service. Walk-ins are welcome!

UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS

Visit www.NaplesUCC.org to view our full calendar.

TODAY



Special Fellowship

11:00 AM • August 2 The Gathering Place



Choir Rehearsal

11:15 AM • August 2 Sanctuary

MONDAY



Mahjong

1:00 PM • August 3 Nelson Hall 104

FRIDAY



Caregivers Support Group

2:00 PM • August 7 Parlor

SUNDAY



Snowball Mountain Challenge - Children Camp

10:00 AM • August 9 Nelson Hall 207

Next Sunday

Sunday, August 9, 2026

Rev. Sonja Phillips

"Blinded by Fear"

Matthew 14: 22-33

PRAYER LIST

Angelo Anello
Merrikay Bailey
Lilibet Bana
Cathleen Boeck
Mary Catherine
Tom Carley
Karin Ciesla
Patricia Cloutier
Thomas Coates
Ann Culshaw
Ken Cyrus
Jack Downs
JT Ellis
Laurie Fowler

Mary Frazier
Leah Gartell
Sally Giglio
Richard Gilbert
Andrew Gillis
Jim Gilmore
Doty Gridley
Fred Gridley
Walter Grieb
Patsy Hanson
David Hocking
Kate Hutchinson
Jamie Jacquart
David Johnson

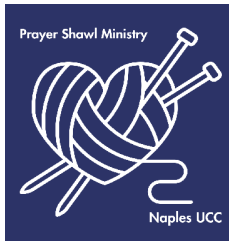
William Jones
Bobbie Juster
Chloe Honda (Konsker)
Marla Koshgarian
Sue Lindbloom
Patricia Manzano
Nancy Maxwell
Sam McCullough
Trey McGregor
Bob McLennan
Gordon Mounts
Jack Neller
Gerry Nonken
Gary Pint

Margaret Pint
Shannon Peterson
Kathy Reno
Riddle-Somers Family
Kinley Roby
Gabrielle Emily Ridout
Fred Schneeberg
Darrel Siebert
Louise Taylor
Sara Treiser
Joanie Toren
Anwyn Watts
Marsha Whitlock
Ben Wigginton

To add or remove a name, please email samantha@naplesucc.org.

Names stay on the list for four weeks. To keep your loved one's name on the list longer, please reach out with an email.

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our Prayer Shawl Ministry will take a summer break during August and will return in September. We hope you'll enjoy the rest of your summer, and we look forward to gathering again to create shawls that bring comfort to others. We hope you'll join us when we return in September!

WE ARE CALLED TO BE AN INTERGENERATIONAL CHURCH

Children and Youth Ministry



SUNDAYS — We are so happy to have families with young children in our midst! During the worship service, children are invited forward for a **Children's Message**. Coloring activities and worship resources are available each week on the family table in the Narthex.

NURSERY CARE — Nursery care for infants through age 4 is available beginning at 9:30 a.m. in **Nelson Hall 207**. Please ask a deacon for directions.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL — Our Youth Sunday School program will resume with 5 Sundays of fun, starting **next week, August 9** with a special **Backpack Blessing** and the launch of our new Sunday morning camp experience, **Snowball Mountain Challenge!**

Children and youth can look forward to a fun-filled season of faith, friendship, music, games, hands-on activities, and engaging Bible lessons designed to help them grow in their relationship with God. Exploring themes of courage, kindness, teamwork, and trust as they journey through this exciting new program together.

"SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE" centers on **Philippians 4:13**, a reminder that we are strengthened through the presence and love of Jesus in our lives. The curriculum is designed for students in grades K–5, and youth are warmly invited and encouraged to participate as helpers.

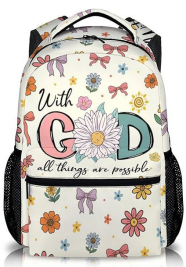
**Starting Next Week
August 9!**

10:00 AM | NELSON HALL



Backpack Blessing - Back to School!

AUGUST 9, 10:00 AM | SANCTUARY



Families, you are invited to be part of a beloved Naples UCC tradition, our **Backpack Blessing** during 10 a.m. worship on **Sunday, August 9**. As we prepare for a new school year, children and youth are encouraged to bring their backpacks to church for a special blessing—a meaningful moment to surround them with love, encouragement, and prayer.



Mahjong

AUGUST 3, 1:00 PM | NELSON HALL 104

Challenge your mind, one tile at a time. Mahjong is the perfect blend of fun and focus. Join us for Mahjong on Mondays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Nelson Hall 104. Free, and all are always welcome!

Caregivers Support Group

AUGUST 7, 2:00 PM | PARLOR

The Caregivers Support Group meets every other Friday year-round to support those caring for loved ones. Whether you're a caregiver, a past or future one, or seeking resources, all are welcome. Church membership is not required, and discussions remain private. Bring a friend who may benefit! For more info, contact Joan Millon at joanmillon6@gmail.com.



Social Soirée

AUGUST 11, 4:00 PM | THE PUB MERCATO

Join Naples UCC friends and family at this month's Social Soirée to **The Pub**, located in Mercato at 9118 Strada Place, Naples, FL at 4:00 p.m. This gathering is a great place to have fun & fellowship after a busy day! Please sign up by scanning the QR code or at the Gathering Place by **August 10**, call the church office at (239) 261-5469 with any questions.



Bring a Friend Sunday

AUGUST 16, 10:00 AM | SANCTUARY

The Membership Committee and Pastor Mark invite you to **Bring a Friend Sunday** as we celebrate the joy of unity. Invite a friend, neighbor, or loved one to experience uplifting music, an inspiring message, and a meaningful celebration of faith, friendship, and belonging. Whether you're a longtime member or a first-time friend, there is a place for you here. Immediately following the service, join us for a special fellowship time—a wonderful opportunity to connect, meet new friends, and enjoy time together. Planning to bring a friend? **Please, sign up in person with Samantha Santarosa** in The Gathering Place or email her at samantha@naplesucc.org. We look forward to welcoming you both!



NAPLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

A Traditional Church
for Progressive People

Naples United Church of Christ strives to show that actions speak louder than words. Our Core Values are: Open and Affirming, Mission-Driven, Powerful Worship, Continuing Generosity, Caring Ministry, Hospitable Fellowship.

We are an **Open and Affirming Congregation**, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person, including persons of every race, ethnic background, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socio-economic background, marital status, and faith background. Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We are proud to be one of more than 4,500+ congregations in the United Church of Christ community.

We are glad you are here! You can dress comfortably and in a manner that makes you feel at ease. Whether it's casual attire or dressed-up, we're happy to welcome you just as you are. Please know that we livestream our Sunday morning worship services and subsequently post video recordings on our website and on the internet, including social media, for later viewing. By attending a service, you acknowledge and consent to appearing in these broadcastings, recordings and postings.

STAFF

Minister

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister
markw@naplesucc.org

Rev. Sonja Phillips, Minister of
Congregational Care
sonja@naplesucc.org

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Tony Falco, Director of Technology
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Elena Fernandez, Nursery Caregiver

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Brad Van Houten, Executive Director
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Music

Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf,
Director of Music
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Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Pianist
alexandrac@naplesucc.org

The Bargain Box Thrift Store

Jorge (George) De La Roche,
Store Manager
george@bargainboxnaples.com

5200 Crayton Road, Naples, Florida 34103 | Office Hours: 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM, Mon - Fri | (239) 261-5469 | info@naplesucc.org



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