



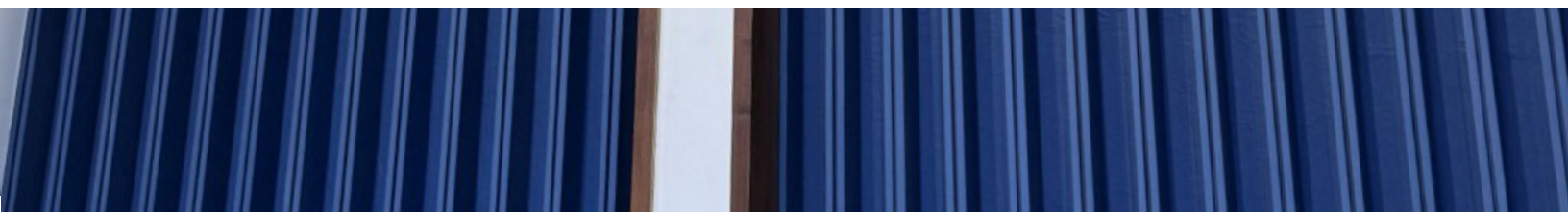
# NAPLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 27, 2025 | 9 & 11AM

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. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister

## MISSION MOMENT

Board of Mission and Outreach

Susan Pezullo

## PRELUDE

*Steal Away*

Arr. Brazel Denard

Cantabile • Dr. Bryan Ijames, conductor

## CALL TO WORSHIP

### \*OPENING HYMN #312

*Christ is Alive!*

TRURO

## INVOCATION

Dr. Kathy Book, Liturgist

**Ever near God, gather us together in your love. Draw us in to see the wounds of the world. Give us the strength to bear witness. Turn to us when we doubt. Grant us the courage to proclaim what we have seen. Strengthen our resolve to collaborate. Open our hearts to your possibilities. Amen.**

## TIME FOR CHILDREN (9 AM)

Jeanne Snedeker, Director of Christian Education

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

## MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*Pie Jesu from Requiem*

Webber

Ingrid Carlson and Emir Bilen, soloists

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## MUSICAL RESPONSE

*The Lord's Prayer*

Albert Malotte

Dr. Bryan Ijames, soloist

## SCRIPTURE

John 20: 19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.



SERMON

*Wounded Ministry*

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams

OFFERTORY

*Because of Him*  
Sanctuary Choir

Arr. Mack Wilberg

\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN #310

*Thine is the Glory*

JUDAS MACCABEUS

\*BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

*Praise His Holy Name*  
Cantabile • Dr. Bryan Ijames, conductor

Keith Hampton



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.

## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister

Dr. Kathy Book, Liturgist

Jeanne Snedeker, Director of Christian Education

Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Director of Music

Sanctuary Choir

Cantabile, Men's Choir from FGCU

Dr. Bryan Ijames, conductor

Ingrid Carlson and Emir Bilen, soloists

Taylor Matthews, Production Specialist — Producer

Owen True, Production Specialist — Audio

Jacob Falco, Production Specialist — Video

Cantabile consists of tenors and basses selected by choral placement hearing at FGCU. The choir performs 2-3 times a semester and occasionally tours locally for performances. Cantabile focuses on the joy of singing and the camaraderie established when basses and tenors share to create that sound. The energy is high, and the enthusiasm is great.

NURSERY CARE: Elena Fernandez

SERVING AT ARBOR TRACE: Bobbie Ray

SERVING AT BENTLEY VILLAGE: Marcia Davis

STEPHEN MINISTER: (9 AM) Carole Fay | (11 AM) Nancy Davis

PORTICO GREETER: (9 AM) Geoff Murphy and Karyn Murphy | (11 AM) Mike Book

USHERS (9 AM): Roger Terry (Head Usher), Carol Berglund, Jim Borden, Christine Buol, Hugh Clark, Kathleen Devitt, Bill Rumpf, Sandy Terry and Barb Wolf

USHERS (11 AM): Jennifer Rainey (Head Usher), Ingrid DeBellis, Bill Durell, Becky Lambert, Jane Lane, Sally Pendleton, Terry Pendleton and Hank Temple

THE GATHERING PLACE: Ray Gangl, Custodian | Jill Golle, Director of Community Life & Programs

Throughout 2025, the ministry of our pianist Dr. Alexandra Carlson has been graciously underwritten by Ronnie Bellone and Jennifer Rainey.

This Sunday's Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God.

+ Kindly remain seated



# A Message from Pastor Mark

Naples UCC Family,

As another exciting and meaningful season of church life winds down at Naples UCC, I wanted to let you know about a new direction in our search for a Minister for Congregational Care and Mission. After careful consideration, a consensus decision has been made to look for an interim minister to fill this role in the near future. This decision was arrived at based on the concurrence of the Search Committee, the Executive Committee, and the Senior Minister. Together, we discerned this course of action to be both wise and prudent.

While we had all hoped to have a candidate to present to the congregation by now for the settled position, that candidate was not identified in spite of the diligent efforts of our Search Committee. Because ministers do not generally look for new positions in the summer, we have decided to stop the current search to allow time for the Executive Committee to retain an interim minister to serve our congregation in the near term.

This decision will also allow our church's leadership the time needed to re-examine our profile, to better analyze the "market," and to re-draft our ministry job description based on what we learned in recent months. Our leadership team plans to complete these critical tasks prior to starting a new search, likely to commence in the early fall. To that end, we have already begun work on these initiatives with the Florida Conference of the UCC, and we will continue to work with them and others to better position ourselves to find just the right candidate to serve our awesome church. I will be sure to keep the congregation posted on developments as they happen.

With significant gratitude, I give thanks to the Search Committee for their diligent efforts and hard work.

In Christ,

*Rev. Dr. Mark Williams*

Pastor Mark

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## Volunteer Needed to Coordinate Cans For Communion

Naples United Church of Christ is looking for a volunteer to coordinate the Cans for Communion food donations, which support Grace Place's Food Pantry. Nonperishable food items are collected from our congregation once a month on Communion Sunday. These donations are picked up by Grace Place and distributed to eligible individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.

Coordinator responsibilities include scheduling six volunteers for each service on the first Sunday of the month (October through May), bringing boxes to the church for packing donated food, and communicating with Grace Place staff. The Coordinator does not need to lift heavy boxes and will have the support of a dedicated team of volunteers who currently assist with receiving and packing donations on Communion Sundays.

**If you have a heart for helping those in need, please consider becoming our next Coordinator.**

To learn more or express interest, contact Sara Morgan at [saramorgan644@gmail.com](mailto:saramorgan644@gmail.com).

## WE ARE CALLED TO BE AN INTERGENERATIONAL CHURCH

### Children & Youth Ministry

**SUNDAYS** —We are so happy to have families with young children in our midst! Regular Sunday morning activities for children 4 years and older take place during the school year. Children are encouraged to come forward for the *Time with Children*, then go to Sunday school with Ms. Jeannie. Coloring activities and worship resources are available on the family table in the Narthex. Please reach out to the church office if you have any questions or would like more information about upcoming events.



**NURSERY CARE IN NELSON HALL** — Nursery care for infants through 4 years old is available each Sunday morning beginning at 8:30 a.m. in Nelson Hall, room 203 (the building across the Gathering Place). Please sign in with our nursery staff. Our former space located next to the sanctuary is still available to you as a Wiggle Room. Feel free to utilize that space if you wish to stay with your child.

## SPLASH! Children & Youth

**WEDNESDAYS, 3:30 PM - 5 PM, N-203**

SPLASH! and Children & Youth Choir meets every Wednesday with faith-filled activities, music, games, and snacks. Rehearsals with Dr. Becky run from 4:15–5:00 p.m. in Beverly Hall. Drop in anytime between 3:30–5:00 p.m., and Seagate Elementary pick-up is available!



## NUCC Financial Results | March 2025

	March 2025		Year to Date		
			This Year		Last Year
Revenue	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Current Year Giving	\$344,373	\$310,100	\$752,028	\$753,100	\$748,840
Other Revenue	16,876	14,075	71,690	42,225	51,715
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$361,249</b>	<b>\$324,175</b>	<b>\$823,718</b>	<b>\$795,325</b>	<b>\$800,555</b>
Expenses					
Facilities & Utilities	\$12,932	\$17,478	\$49,941	\$49,573	\$32,561
Financial & Insurance	36,909	(419)	77,445	34,524	34,988
Christian Education	1,073	3,037	3,384	8,312	2,162
Membership & Social	1,796	1,517	3,019	4,550	2,823
Deacons & Special Events	557	1,192	3,694	3,775	3,245
Ministers	20,354	21,840	71,505	73,459	99,521
Support Staff	60,797	65,570	180,960	196,711	157,040
Staff Services	18,787	20,665	46,493	63,695	38,908
Office & Technology	12,906	7,816	33,483	23,447	34,792
Music	2,609	14,850	23,515	44,551	40,464
Mission & Ministry Outreach	2,050	15,100	3,619	16,300	2,732
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$170,771</b>	<b>\$168,646</b>	<b>\$497,056</b>	<b>\$518,899</b>	<b>\$449,236</b>
<b>Operating Surplus/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$190,478</b>	<b>\$155,529</b>	<b>\$326,662</b>	<b>\$276,426</b>	<b>\$351,319</b>

### Bargain Box

Sales	\$37,396	\$31,000	\$109,810	\$103,000	\$96,411
Expenses	22,564	27,426	69,374	72,534	66,369
<b>Bargain Box Surplus/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$14,833</b>	<b>\$3,574</b>	<b>\$40,436</b>	<b>\$30,466</b>	<b>\$30,042</b>

Note: The Music Gift Fund supported the Music budget with \$21,059 in March and \$77,148 year to date

# NEW & PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

## Upcoming Events

### Prospective Member Luncheon

May 4

A time to learn, ask questions and meet with the senior minister. Occurs immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service only, in Nelson Hall, room 104.

### Joining Sunday Opportunity

May 11

You may join either publicly or privately. Public joining at the 11:00 a.m. service.

For additional information, contact Membership Coordinator, Chelsea, at [chelsea@naplesucc.org](mailto:chelsea@naplesucc.org)

## 30 Good Minutes

TODAY, 10:15 AM, N-207



This Sunday Rich Kirschner will review the book *Why Religion Became Obsolete* by Christian Smith. This will be a look at converging

forces that have informed the Millennial generation and older ones as well. If you are planning to attend the 11 a.m. worship service, come early at 10:15 a.m. to hear the presentation!

## Next Sunday

### Holy Communion Sunday, May 4

Worship Services | 9 & 11 AM

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams

*One More Than Enough*

John 21:1-14

Sanctuary Choir  
Joy Yanai, cello

# UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS

Visit [www.NaplesUCC.org](http://www.NaplesUCC.org) to view our full calendar.

## TODAY



### Bargain Box Thrift Store & Boutique Drive

9:00 AM to Noon • April 27 • Portico



### 30 Good Minutes

10:15 AM • April 27 • N-207



### Confirmation Class

11:00 AM • April 27 • N-201

## MONDAY



### Mahjong

1:00 PM • April 28 • N-101



### NUCC Book Club

2:00 PM • April 28 • N-104/Zoom



### Volunteer: Youth Haven Game Night!

6:30 PM • April 28 • Off Campus

## WEDNESDAY



### Walk and Wonder

8:30 AM • April 30 • Baker Park



### Men's New Chapters

10:30 AM • April 30 • N-101



### Children's Wednesday Program: SPLASH

3:30 PM • April 30 • N-203

4:15 PM • Children & Youth Choir



### Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

7:00 PM • April 30 • BH & Sanctuary

## FRIDAY



### Caregiver's Support Group: Guest Speaker

2:00 PM • May 2 • N-101

## SATURDAY



### Volunteer: Habitat for Humanity Build Day

8 AM • May 3 • Off Campus

To view all our upcoming events and ways to connect, visit our Online Church Calendar at [www.NaplesUCC.org](http://www.NaplesUCC.org)

# Cans For Communion Collection

SUNDAY, MAY 4, DROP-OFF BEFORE EACH SERVICE, UNDER THE PORTICO

Sunday, May 4 is our final Cans for Communion collection before we pause for the summer. Each week, Grace Place serves over 300 families, and your donations of nonperishable food have made a meaningful impact. Please drop off your items before either service—no glass containers. A list of most-needed items is available at [graceplacenaples.org/food-pantry](http://graceplacenaples.org/food-pantry).

## Youth Haven Game Night!

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 6:30 PM ARRIVAL



**Join NUCC volunteers** in creating a memorable evening while interacting with Youth Haven kids. On Monday from 7 to 8 p.m.;

please arrive at 6:30 p.m. Run children's games with Youth Haven kids. Sign up in the Gathering Place on Sunday or contact Michele Carney, at [mcarney@shcmg.com](mailto:mcarney@shcmg.com). **Join us on Monday, April 28!** (Youth Haven, 5867 Whitaker Rd, Naples, FL)

## Habitat For Humankind: Volunteer Build Day

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 8 AM - 12 PM,

**No experience is needed and all abilities welcome!** Come Saturday, May 3 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. First time volunteers, please register at <https://vhub.at/nucc/> and sign up in the Gathering Place on Sunday. For more information contact Judy Varty at [judyvarty@gmail.com](mailto:judyvarty@gmail.com). (Majestic Place Community, 10405 Majestic Circle, Naples, FL)

## Baby Boomers: Potluck Canceled

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Baby Boomers Potluck Party will be canceled this upcoming Monday, April 28. Please stay tuned for the Fall events!

## PRAYER LIST

Burke Anderson  
Lilibet Bana  
Larry Bennett  
Barbara and Milton Bergwall  
Thom Carley  
Jim Carney  
Thomas Coates  
David Collard  
Jack Downs  
N.R. Friend of Ginny Rich & Family  
Richard Gilbert  
Rosalind Gnatt  
Mary Grieb

Colleen Henning Hensel  
Susan Hilton  
Pam Irwin  
Margaret Jack  
David Johnson  
Irma Johnson  
Marguerite Jung  
Stew Lambert  
Mike and Beth Lebo  
Lily Lesley  
Gay Lindquist  
Garry Lormestoire  
Dudley Lyons

Cathy and Dan McGuire  
Gordon Mounts  
Dominique O'Connell  
Doris Raymond  
Lorraine Sinnott  
Chase Smith  
Ri and Mike Tarnpoll  
Joanie Toren  
Alice Victoria Verela  
JoAnn Wandrey  
Marcia Waugh  
Mickey and Mo Winograd  
Atila Zolcsak

To add or remove a name, contact Darren Paquette by email at [darrenp@naplesucc.org](mailto:darrenp@naplesucc.org).

Names stay on the list for four weeks. To keep your loved one's name on the list longer, please contact Darren Paquette.



# 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

### Clergy Team

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

Darren Paquette, Executive Assistant  
to the Clergy Team  
darrenp@naplesucc.org

### Music Team

Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf,  
Director of Music  
becky@naplesucc.org

Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Pianist  
alexandrac@naplesucc.org

### Administrative Team

Tony Falco, Director of Technology  
tony@naplesucc.org

Raymond Gangl, Custodian  
raymond@naplesucc.org

Chelsea Godwin, Receptionist  
& Membership Coordinator  
chelsea@naplesucc.org

Yuliana Mercado,  
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yulianam@naplesucc.org

Jodi Nienkerk, Director of Financial  
Operations  
jodin@naplesucc.org

Brad Van Houten, Executive Director  
brad@naplesucc.org

### Program Team

Jeanne Snedeker, Director of  
Christian Education  
jeanne@naplesucc.org

Elena Fernandez, Nursery Caregiver

Jill Golle, Director of Community Life  
& Programs  
jillg@naplesucc.org

Susan Melick, Events Coordinator

### The Bargain Box Thrift Store

Sandy Goldstein, Manager  
sandy@naplesucc.org

### Pastor Relations Team

Senior Minister:  
MWpastorsupport@naplesucc.org

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and follow prompts

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