



NAPLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 19, 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. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace from Moments of Music

Gwyneth Walker

Miguel Coates, Clarinet • Isabel Sanchez, Cello • Cesar Perez, Piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN #501

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

INVOCATION

Rev. Sonja Phillips, Minister of Congregational Care

ALL: Creator God, in you we live and move and have our being. You have been with us through good times and difficult times. You give us strength to face the challenges around us. You offer us rest for our bodies and souls when life seems too demanding. We turn to you for wisdom this day, trusting we will find the peace and comfort we long for in your presence. We praise you for all you offer us in your great faithfulness. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister

PASSING OF THE PEACE

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

The Gate of Heaven

Craig Courtney

Sanctuary Choir • Victor Galarza, Soloist • Isabel Sanchez, Cello

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 28: 10-19

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

SERMON

Down the Ladder

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister



OFFERTORY

Jacob's Ladder
Sanctuary Choir

Arr. Brandon A. Boyd

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER 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

We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

JACOB'S LADDER

1 We are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, we are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der,
 2 Ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er, ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er,
 3 Rise, shine, give God glo - ry, rise, shine, give God glo - ry,

we are climb-ing Ja-cob's lad-der, bear-ers of the cross.
 ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er, bear-ers of the cross.
 rise, shine, give God glo - ry, bear-ers of the cross.

*BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary
Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Organ

John Stanley



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
Rev. Sonja Phillips, Minister of Congregational Care
Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Director of Music
Sanctuary Choir
Victor Galarza, Soloist
Miguel Coates, Clarinet
Isabel Sanchez, Cello
Cesar Perez, Piano

STEPHEN MINISTER: Carole Russell

WELCOMERS: Deb and Bob Marini

USHERS: Jennifer Rainey (Head Usher), Ronnie Bellone,
Mary Fisher, Mary Beth Jones, Bill Rumpf,
Sandy and Roger Terry, and Barb Wolf.

Taylor Matthews, Production Specialist - Producer
Thomas Hartland, Production Specialist - Audio
Landon Townsend, Production Specialist - Video
Hunter Reum, Production Specialist - Propresenter

NURSERY CARE: Sara Both

SERVING AT ARBOR TRACE: Bobbie Ray

SERVING AT BENTLEY VILLAGE: Louise Brown

GATHERING PLACE STAFF: John Greer and Hunter Reum, Fellowship Support | Raymond Gangl, Facilities Manager
| Samantha Santarosa, Membership Coordinator

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 Allison McCarthy.
In loving memory of her father, whose 91st birthday would have been June 30th.

Reminder: Anwyn Watts Benefit Dinner Today

TODAY, 6:00 PM | MCSPADDEN HALL

Join us this evening as we gather in celebration of Anwyn's remarkable recovery and show our love and support for the Watts family. **A suggested \$25 cash donation will be accepted at the door**, with all proceeds benefiting the Watts family. We look forward to sharing a meaningful evening of fellowship and encouragement together.



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? - Katy Serr

"I have worked at the Bargain Box for years and enjoy every day. It exposes me to a whole side of Naples that is outside of my normal activities. This opportunity allows me to give back to the community through our Church. Oh! And we have a lot of fun as well."

A mission of the Naples United Church of Christ

Bargain Box THRIFT STORE & BOUTIQUE



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 the team!

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Upcoming Events

Join Naples UCC Anytime

While the Membership & Growth Committee will be on hiatus during July, we would be happy to connect with you and help you begin the membership process.

For more information about becoming a member, contact Samantha Santarosa in the Gathering Place or email her at samantha@naplesucc.org. We look forward to welcoming you into the Naples UCC family!

Stay Connected this Summer!

Whether you're spending the summer in Naples or away for the season, you can stay connected with Naples UCC. Join us for worship each Sunday through our livestream on our website, and keep up with church news and upcoming events by reading our weekly eBlast. **Not receiving the e-Blast?** Contact Samantha Santarosa or call the church office 239-261-5469 to get signed up and stay connected wherever you are.

UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS

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

TODAY



Choir Rehearsal

11:15 AM • July 19 • Sanctuary



Anwyn Watts Dinner Fundraiser

6:00 PM • July 19 • McSpadden Hall

MONDAY



Mahjong

1:00 PM • July 20 • McSpadden Hall

TUESDAY



Prayer Shawl Ministry

1:00 PM • July 21 • Parlor

FRIDAY



Caregivers Support Group

2:00 PM • July 24 • Parlor

Next Sunday

Sunday, July 26, 2026

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams

"Faithful to Leah"

Genesis 29: 15-28

PRAYER LIST

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

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
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.

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 The Wiggle Room (a temporary location due to Nelson Hall renovations). Please ask a deacon for directions.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL — Our Youth Sunday School program will resume with 5 Sundays of fun, starting **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.

We can't wait to welcome everyone back in August for another wonderful year of learning, laughter, and spiritual growth!

"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.



Mahjong

JULY 20, 1:00 PM | MCSPADDEN HALL

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 the McSpadden Hall. Free, and all are always welcome!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

JULY 21, 1:00 PM | PARLOR

Please join us as we prayerfully knit and crochet beautiful prayer shawls and lap blankets for those who need a warm hug from God. Lessons & supplies are available or bring your own project to work on. Everyone is welcome to participate in this caring ministry. Contact Janet Goodhart at (610) 420-7196 for questions.

Caregivers Support Group

JULY 24, 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.

Naples UCC Financial Results

June 2026

	June 2026		Year to Date		
			This Year		Last Year
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Revenue					
Current Year Giving	161,483	161,000	1,363,450	1,265,000	1,159,419
Other Revenue	7,668	20,517	90,920	107,602	95,069
Total Revenue	169,151	181,517	1,454,370	1,372,602	1,254,488
Expenses					
Facilities & Utilities	\$15,131	\$14,024	\$90,544	\$99,121	\$87,056
Financial & Insurance	45,914	26,813	142,248	102,850	102,899
Christian Education	500	487	16,323	16,872	5,340
Membership & Social	1,855	1,940	13,763	11,638	6,253
Deacons & Special Events	1,025	2,191	6,905	8,548	8,391
Ministers	35,973	47,693	218,982	216,769	129,101
Support Staff	69,149	70,444	434,019	417,632	370,093
Staff Services	15,187	18,753	102,871	117,228	114,598
Office & Technology	7,339	9,384	55,267	56,302	59,443
Music	7,936	8,197	56,672	77,776	52,642
Mission & Ministry Outreach	0	14,561	9,438	36,366	5,169
Total Operating Expenses	\$200,009	\$214,487	\$1,147,032	\$1,161,102	\$940,985
Operating Surplus/(Loss)	(\$30,858)	(\$32,970)	\$307,338	\$211,500	\$313,503

Bargain Box

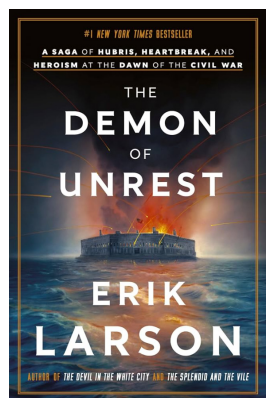
Sales	25,352	19,108	233,867	178,765	184,782
Expenses	24,609	22,603	144,955	136,620	136,294
Bargain Box Surplus/(Loss)	\$743	(\$3,495)	\$88,912	\$42,145	\$48,488

Note : The Music Gift Fund supported the Music budget with \$10,859 in June and \$209,582 year to date.

Bloom lease rental income, net of final real estate agent commission, was \$12,000 in June and \$57,000 year to date.

Naples UCC Book Club

JULY 27, 2:00 PM | ACR



We will be going back in time from the historical fiction of Peggy Guggenheim to the mid 19th century nonfiction world of Abraham Lincoln in the months leading up to the Civil War through **Erik Larson's *The Demon of Unrest*** next month. Our meeting will once again be in the Administrative Conference Room behind the office or on Zoom. The group also decided to read ***The Calamity Club* by Kathryn Stockett** for August. Anyone is welcome, even if you have not read the book!

If you are unable to come in person, join us by Zoom!

Meeting ID: 838 2027 0433

Passcode: book



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 broadcasts, recordings and postings.

STAFF

Minister

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

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

Pastor Relations Team:
MWpastorsupport@naplesucc.org

Administrative

Jim Asmus, Lead Custodian

Bianca Bellido, Communications Specialist
bianca@naplesucc.org

Sara Both, Receptionist
sara@naplesucc.org

Tony Falco, Director of Technology
tony@naplesucc.org

Elena Fernandez, Nursery Caregiver

Raymond Gangl, Facilities Manager
raymond@naplesucc.org

John Greer, Assistant Custodian

Kiersten Heilbron, Marketing Specialist

Maura Kjar, Director of Financial
Operations
maura@naplesucc.org

Susan Melick, Events Coordinator

Janine Rahaim, Director of Community
Life & Programs
janine@naplesucc.org

Samantha Santarosa,
Membership Coordinator
& Pastoral Assistant
samantha@naplesucc.org

Jeanne Snedeker, Director of
Youth & Children's Education
jeanne@naplesucc.org

Brad Van Houten, Executive Director
brad@naplesucc.org

Music

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

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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