



NAPLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 5, 2025 | 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

A Simple Song from Mass

Leonard Bernstein

Dr. Bryan Ijames, soloist • Dr. Alexandra Carlson, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN #113

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

MARION

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Jeanne Snedeker, Director of Youth & Children's Education

PRAYERS FOR GUATEMALAN MISSION TRAVELERS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

How Can I Keep from Singing

Sarah Quartel

Sanctuary Choir • Stephanie O'Neill, soloist

Given in memory of his wife, Karol, by Pablo Pick.

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Jim Moseley, Interm Minister for
Congregational Care and Mission

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

By the Waters of Babylon

Jewish Melody

Stephanie O'Neill, soloist

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 137

By the rivers of Babylon—there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion. On the willows there we hung up our harps. For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

How could we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

Remember, O Lord, against the Edomites the day of Jerusalem's fall, how they said, "Tear it down! Tear it down! Down to its foundations!" O daughter Babylon, you devastator! Happy shall they be who pay you back what you have done to us! Happy shall they be who take your little ones and dash them against the rock!

SERMON

God Can Take It

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams

OFFERTORY

Lord Jesus, Life-Giving Bread

Timothy Shaw

Sanctuary Choir



LORD'S SUPPER

At this table all are welcome guests of Jesus, our host. It is our tradition to hold the bread and cup until all are served and then we commune together here. Our offering includes individual cups of grape juice and gluten-free bread. Please place your cup in the pew back, as it will be collected after the service. **The choir received Communion before worship.**

If you would like to receive home Communion, please contact Molly Baker at mbakerlex@gmail.com.

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

The Love of God

Eric Nelson

Sanctuary Choir • Dr. Bryan Ijames, conductor • Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, organ

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 #549

I Love Your Kingdom, Lord

ST. THOMAS

*BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

Herr Gott, dich loben alle wir (Old 100th)

Johann Pachelbel

Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, organ



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.

Celebrate 50 Years of the Bargain Box!

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Join us as we celebrate the 50th year of the Bargain Box Mission! Celebrate our past with special presentations, break bread together, mingle, and set our intention for the future of this mission! All are welcome; brunch-style food will be served with beverages. There is no charge, but if you are inclined to make a donation to this celebration of the Anniversary and retirement of our long-standing manager, it will go towards a special Board of Mission and Outreach gift that will be announced on October 12th. Donations may be made on the church website or by calling the Church office. **Kindly RSVP for the Celebration by October 8, 2025** by scanning the QR code or by calling the church office at (239) 261-5469.



PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister

Rev. Jim Moseley, Interm Minister for Congregational Care
and Mission

Jeanne Snedeker, Director of Youth & Children's Education

Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Director of Music

Dr. Alexandra Carlson, pianist

Dr. Bryan Ijames, soloist/conductor

Sanctuary Choir

Stephanie O'Neill, soloist

Taylor Matthews, Production Specialist — Producer

Colton Townsend, Production Specialist — Audio

Landon Townsend, Production Specialist — Video

NURSERY CARE: Elena Fernandez

SERVING AT ARBOR TRACE: Bobbie Ray & Sara Nonken

SERVING AT BENTLEY VILLAGE: Joe Rickard

STEPHEN MINISTER: Leigh Hindman

GREETERS: Deb and Bob Marini

USHERS: Jennifer Rainey (head), Ronnie Bellone, Carol Berglund, Kathleen Devitt, Becky Earney, Jill Golle, Merrilee Hornbuckle,
Tom Hornbuckle, Roger Terry, and Barb Wolf

GATHERING PLACE STAFF: Samantha Santarosa, Membership Coordinator | Ray Gangl, Custodian

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

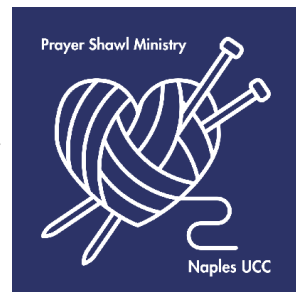
This week's Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God by the Bramley family in loving memory of
Christopher W. Bramley.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

OCTOBER 7, 1 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.



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! 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. Jeanne. 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 — Nursery care for infants through 4 years old is available each Sunday morning beginning at 9:30 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! — **SPLASH!** meets weekly on Wednesdays. As we welcome arriving families, snacks will be available in Nelson Hall from 3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. for those interested. Our program time will be between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. Join us for faith-filled activities, music, games, and snacks with Ms. Jeanne.



YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL — Students 6-12th grade are invited to meet weekly on Sundays at 11:15 a.m. in Nelson Hall, room 200, for our Sunday morning gathering. Working through our new curriculum, "RE:FORM" we will explore, discuss, and reflect on our faith journey together.

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Upcoming Events

Informational Meet & Greet TODAY, 11:00 AM | N-104

A time for those interested in membership at NUCC to learn, ask questions, meet the leadership, and our ministers. The Meet & Greet takes place following the 10:00 a.m. service, in Nelson Hall, room 104. Enjoy free refreshments! Walk-ins are welcome!

Joining Sunday Opportunity

Let's make it official! Join us October 19

You may join either publicly or privately. Public joining will occur during the 10:00 a.m. service. For additional information, find Samantha Santarosa in the Gathering Place today or email her at samantha@naplesucc.org.

Become an Usher or Greeter!

Are you looking for a meaningful way to serve your church family? We are inviting volunteers to help usher or greet at the Narthex doors. This is a wonderful opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all who enter and be a part of creating a spirit of hospitality in our worship space. Whether you're a longtime member or new to the congregation, your presence and smile can make a big difference!

If you're interested, please contact:

Roger Terry – rogerterry1@gmail.com or

Jennifer Rainey – raineyjmd@yahoo.com

Next Sunday

Sunday, October 12, 2025
Bargain Box 50th Celebration

Worship Service | 10 AM

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams

"Four Layers of Mission"

Acts 1: 8

Bargain Box Celebration Luncheon to follow
Worship at 11 AM in McSpadden Hall.

UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS

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

TODAY



Informational Meet and Greet

11:00 AM • October 5 N-104



Youth Sunday School

11:15 AM • October 5 N-200



FGCU Choral Concert

3:00 PM • October 5 Sanctuary

MONDAY



Mahjong

1:00 PM • October 6 N-104



Christ's Insights on Poverty w/ Rev. Jim

1:00 PM • October 6 N-207

TUESDAY



WISE Education Program

11:00 AM • October 7 N-104



Prayer Shawl Ministry

1:00 PM • October 7 Parlor

WEDNESDAY



Walk & Wonder

8:30 AM • October 8 Seagate Beach



Bible Study with Pastor Mark

9:00 AM • October 8 N-207



Men's New Chapters

10:30 AM • October 8 N-101/Zoom



SPLASH! (3:30 - 4:00 PM ARRIVALS)

4:00 PM • October 8 N-203



Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

7:00 PM • October 8 Sanctuary

THURSDAY



Environment Subcommittee Meeting

10:00 AM • October 9 N-104

FRIDAY



Shy Wolf Sanctuary Tour

9:00 AM • October 10 Shy Wolf



Grace Place Food Pantry

12:30 PM • October 10 Grace Place

Pastor Mark's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 9 AM | NELSON 207

Join Pastor Mark for an 8-week Bible study on the Book of James. James offers us a glimpse of what authentic, embodied, real faith for everyday people might look like. Come to discuss & debate. This Bible study will not be dogmatic, but always open to a wide spectrum of opinions and interpretation. Bring your favorite Bible and an open mind. During this session, we will discuss James 1: 19-27 - *The Power of Words*.



W.I.S.E. for Mental Health: Meeting & Education Program

OCTOBER 7, 10 & 11 AM

NELSON 104 & ZOOM

10 a.m. - The WISE for Mental Health Team Meeting

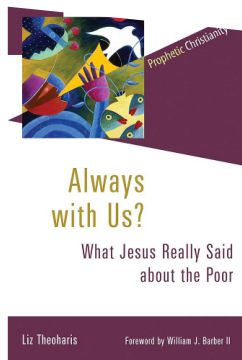
11 a.m. - Check-in and Support

If you would like to be part of the WISE ministry at NUCC, please join us for the 10 a.m. meeting, all are invited to join us for the 11 a.m. check-in and support program.

(Zoom ID: 843 4648 4094 | Password: WISE)

Pastor Jim's 7-Week Study

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1 PM | NELSON 207



Join Rev. Jim Moseley and our Board of Mission and Outreach members for a 7-week study titled, "Christ's Insights on Poverty". The study will be shaped around Liz Theoharis's insights from *Always with Us? What Jesus Really Said About the Poor*. Each week we will delve into a different perspective of poverty. See the NUCC calendar to view them beforehand.

Volunteer Opportunity: Grace Place Food Distribution

OCTOBER 10 | GRACE PLACE

Join NUCC members for a fun afternoon and help serve families in need on the 2nd Friday of the month from 12:30 - 4:30 pm. Help with setup, food distribution and clean up. Sign up in the Gathering Place on Sundays. For additional information, contact Sara Morgan at saramorgan644@gmail.com. (Grace Place, 4300 21st Ave SW, Naples, FL)

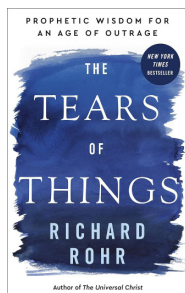


Men's New Chapters

OCTOBER 8, 10:30 AM | NELSON 101

Join us weekly for reading and discussion! Our current read is *The Tears of Things* by Richard Rohr. If you are interested in joining, reach out to Rich Kirschner, rdkirschner@gmail.com.

Join us on Wednesdays throughout the season! Please check the calendar or weekly e-blasts for future updates.



Volunteer Opportunity: Habitat for Humanity Build Day

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 8 AM - 12 PM | MAJESTIC PLACE COMMUNITY

Come join fellow NUCC members for a purposeful and fun day. No experience is needed and all abilities welcome! Come Saturday, October 18 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. First time volunteers, please register at:

<https://vhub.at/nucc/> or sign up in the Gathering Place on Sundays. For more information contact Judy Varty at judyvarty@gmail.com. (10405 Majestic Circle, Naples)

Walk & Wonder

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 8:30 AM
SEAGATE BEACH

Join members and friends for fellowship, prayer, and walking in nature. The Walk and Wonder group eagerly welcomes family members, friends, and especially newcomers to the NUCC community. On Wednesday, October 8 enjoy a walk along Seagate beach and the boardwalk that leads to the Naples Grande. Meet in the church parking lot at 8:30 am. Anticipate our return to church by 10:00.

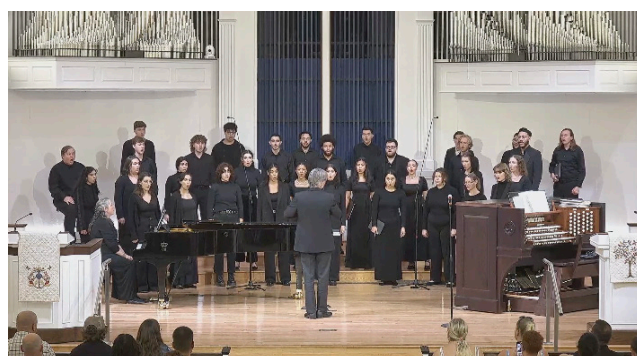


Contact Merrill Noble at mwnoble56@gmail.com if you have questions or plan to attend for the first time.

FGCU Choral Concert

TODAY, 3 PM | SANCTUARY

Please join us in welcoming the FGCU Chamber Choir and University Choirs under the direction of Dr. Trent Brown and Bel Canto and Cantabile under the direction of Dr. Bryan Ijames. Recognized for their remarkable versatility, these ensembles perform choral music from the Renaissance to newly commissioned works by American international composers. This is a FREE concert and features many of our section leaders. Bring your family and friends and enjoy an afternoon of great choral music!



PRAYER LIST

CONDOLENCES: Condolences to Beth Curry and Taylor Curry Stokes on the passing of Daniel Stokes, on September 23, 2025.

Lilibet Bana
Thom Carley
Colleen Clark
Pam Clayton
Robert & Patricia Cloutier
Elizabeth Curry
Taylor Curry Stokes
Thomas Coates
Neil Constantine
David Crawford
Jack Downs
Sally Giglio
Fred and Doty Gridley
Walter Grieb

Kate Hutchinson
David Johnson
Irma Johnson
William Jones
Christi K.
Marla Koshgarian
Merline Kovacik
Stew Lambert
Bill Livingood
Tony Loring
Dudley Lyons
Gordon Mounts
Betty Mounts
Jack Neller

Gerry Nonken
Ryan Pehrson
Susan Richards
Gabrielle Emily Ridout
Judy Siderio
Kyra Spurgeon
Barbara Toms
Joanie Toren
Mo Winograd
Ken Yamashita
Atila Zolcsak
Kim Z.

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.



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.



www.naplesucc.org



facebook.com/NaplesUCC



[#Naplesucc](https://www.instagram.com/Naplesucc)



youtube.com/NaplesUCC

STAFF

Minister

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

Rev. Jim Moseley, Interim Minister
for Congregational Care and Mission
jmoseley@naplesucc.org

Pastor Relations Team:
MWpastorsupport@naplesucc.org

Administrative

Jim Asmus, Assistant Custodian

Tony Falco, Director of Technology
tony@naplesucc.org

Elena Fernandez, Nursery Caregiver

Raymond Gangl, Custodian
raymond@naplesucc.org

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

Kiersten Heilbron, Marketing Specialist
Susan Melick, Events Coordinator

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

Janine Rahaim, Receptionist
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

Sandy Goldstein, Manager Emeritus
sandy@naplesucc.org

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Weekly Offering
Envelopes



Stocks and IRAs
Email or call the church office



Cash, Check, Credit Card
by calling the church office



Text 'NAPLESUCC' to 73256
and follow prompts