



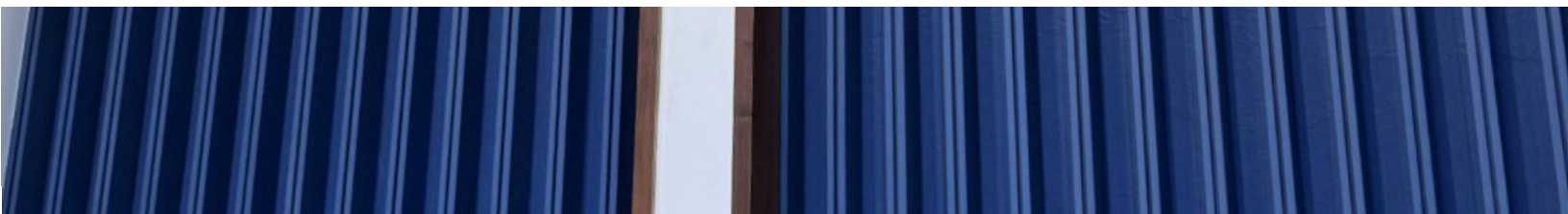
NAPLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 6, 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

Aria
Terrance McGlon, Saxophone

Eugène Bozza

CALL TO WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN #298

The Day of Resurrection!

LANCASHIRE

INVOCATION

Rev. Sonja Phillips, Minister of Congregational Care

ALL: God of the covenant, you are ever faithful. You called all creatures into being, and you care for each one. Send your grace upon your people gathered here, that we may follow your ways of truth, and walk in the paths of steadfast love, proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Covenant Prayer
Sanctuary Choir

Karen Marrolli

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 9: 8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

SERMON

Rainbows Don't Have Asterisks

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister

OFFERTORY

A Covenant Prayer
Stephanie O'Neill, Angelina Sozio, Pamela Jimenez, Madison Fullarton, Soloists

Dan Forrest

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.



INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORD'S OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD

Think of Me and Remember

Joel Raney

Mara Bryan, Pamela Jimenez, and Madison Fullarton, Soloists

SHARING OF THE CUP

Communion Prayer

Larry Shackley

Angelina Sozio, Stephanie O'Neill, Erasly Isalgue, Isabel Sanchez, Jasson Velez,
Miguel Coates, Michael Miller, and Mario Mendoza, Soloists

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

Deep in the Shadows of the Past

SHEPHERDS' PIPES

(From the Glory to God hymnal)

1 Deep in the shad-ows of the past, far out from set - tled lands, some
2 While oth-ers bowed to change-less gods they met a mys - ter - y, in -
3 From Ex - o - dus to Pen - te - cost the prom-ise changed and grew, while
4 For all the writ-ings that sur-vived, for lead - ers long a - go who

no-mads trav-eled with their God a - cross the des - ert sands. The
vis - i - ble, with - out a name: "I AM WHAT I WILL BE"; and
some, re - mem - ber - ing the past, re - cord - ed what they knew, or
sift - ed, cop - ied, and pre-served the Bi - ble that we know, give

dawn-ing hope of hu - man-kind by them was sensed and shown: a
by their tents, a - round their fires, in sto - ry, song, and law, they
with their let - ters and la-ments, their proph - e - cy and praise, re -
thanks, and find its sto - ry yet our prom - ise, strength, and call, the

prom - ise call - ing them a - head, a fu - ture yet un - known.
praised, re - mem - bered, hand - ed on a past that prom-ised more.
cov - ered, kin - dled, and ex - pressed new hope for chang-ing days.
mod - el of e - merg - ing faith, a - live with hope for all.

*BENEDICTION

+POSTLUDE

Sonata for Eb Alto Saxophone and Piano (Movement II)

Arr. Sigurd M. Rascher

Terrance McGlon, Saxophone

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

Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Pianist

Sanctuary Choir

Taylor Matthews, Production Specialist - Producer

Thomas Hartland, Production Specialist - Audio

Lexii Clemons, Production Specialist - Video

Hunter Reum, Production Specialist - Propresenter

STEPHEN MINISTER: Jean Lemmon

WELCOMERS: Deb and Bob Marini

USHERS: Kathleen Devitt (Head Usher), Carol Berglund, Jim Borden, Mary Fisher, Mary Beth Jones, Ed Kaulbars, Bill Rumpf, Susanne Tezanos and Cheryl Turner.

NURSERY CARE: Elena Fernandez

SERVING AT ARBOR TRACE: Bobbie Ray and Sara Nonken

SERVING AT BENTLEY VILLAGE: Joe Rickard

GATHERING PLACE STAFF: Janine Rahaim and John Greer, Fellowship Support | Raymond Gangl, Facilities Manager

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 Kathleen Marr in memory of Kathleen's beloved husband Bruce Marr.

Bargain Box Monthly Donation Drive!

SEPTEMBER 20, 9:30 AM | PORTICO

Join us for our monthly focus drive on **September 20 at 9:30 a.m.** Naples UCC will be collecting **Women's & Men's clothing**, and accessory items before the service. Please bring your donations to the drop-off table in the Portico.

We want to express our deepest gratitude for your incredible support throughout the summer months!

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Hospitality & Cashiering: Be the face of the shop! Welcome customers and manage the register.
- Donation Transport: Help move donations from the Naples UCC shed to the Bargain Box.
- Curation & Sorting: Help us inspect, organize, and prep incoming donations.
- Display & Merchandising: Get creative! Help stage and style items to make the sales floor shine.

Donations Needed: Each donation helps transform generosity into meaningful support for our community.

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



PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Upcoming Events

Join Naples UCC Anytime

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

For more information about membership, 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!

Office Closed

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | NAPLES UCC

Naples UCC offices will be closed on Monday, September 7, in observance of Labor Day. We'll see you back in the office on Tuesday!

UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS

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

TODAY



Snowball Mountain Challenge - Children's Camp



10:00 AM • September 6 📍 Nelson Hall 207



Section Leader Rehearsal



11:15 AM • September 6 📍 Sanctuary

MONDAY



Office Closed - Labor Day



9:00 AM • September 7 📍 Naples UCC

WEDNESDAY



Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal



7:00 PM • September 9 📍 Sanctuary

Next Sunday

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Rev. Sonja Phillips

"The Slow Work of Forgiveness"

Genesis 50: 15-21

PRAYER LIST

Condolences to the Tiede family for the passing of Delores Tiede on August 26th, 2026.

Denise Acampa
Lilibet Bana
Cathleen Boeck
Mary Catherine
Thom Carley
Patricia Cloutier
Thomas Coates
Ann Culshaw
Carol Dlouhy
Jack Downs
JT Ellis
Mary Frazier
Leah Gartell
Sally Giglio

Richard Gilbert
Andrew Gillis
Doty Gridley
Fred Gridley
Walter Grieb
Patsy Hanson
David Hocking
Kate Hutchinson
David Johnson
William Jones
Bobbie Juster
Chloe Honda (Konsker)
Marla Koshgarian
Sue Lindbloom

William Lindsay
Patricia Manzano
Sam McCullough
Trey McGregor
Warren McHale
Bob McLennan
Gordon Mounts
Jack Neller
Gerry Nonken
Shannon Peterson
Kathy Reno
Riddle-Somers Family
Gabrielle Emily Ridout
Kinley Roby

Pamela Rose & Family
Judy Siderio
Darrel Siebert
Robert Stuart
Louise Taylor
Joanie Toren
Kevin Villalobos
Neida Villalobos
Anwyn Watts
Linda Wilkinson
Llewellyn Williams
Atilla Zolzseck

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! 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 203. Please ask a deacon for directions.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL — Our **Snowball Mountain Challenge** is coming to a close! We've had an exciting time exploring our faith and how God empowers us to share our gifts, to be brave, to try our best, and to pray in all situations. We've strengthened friendships and our faith along the way. All Kindergarten-5th grade students are warmly invited to join us this morning in Nelson Hall 207 for our final challenge as we learn the importance of offering hope. Come join the fun!

Our regular Sunday morning schedule resumes next **Sunday, September 13th** with the **Children's Message** in worship. Children can then join Ms. Jeanne upstairs in Nelson Hall for a brand-new program on Gratitude. Following Psalm 107, we will give thanks to the Lord through music, games and creative movement.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL — Sunday morning gatherings for students 6-12th grade begins next **Sunday, September 13 at 11:00 AM** in Nelson Hall 201. We will gather for fellowship and to discuss our growing faith. Join us for **"Echo the Story"** an opportunity to explore the Christian story so far... and to find out how we can continue that story through our own faith lives.

Mahjong

SEPTEMBER 14, 1:00 PM | NELSON HALL 104

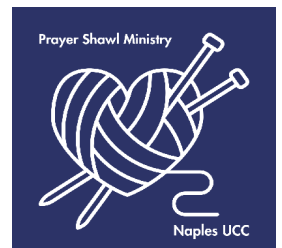


Challenge your mind, one tile at a time. Mahjong is the perfect blend of fun and focus. Join us for Mahjong on Mondays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Nelson Hall 104. Free, and all are always welcome!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

SEPTEMBER 15, 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.





Social Soirée

SEPTEMBER 15, 4:00 PM | SEASONS 52

Join NUCC friends and family at this month's Social Soirée to Seasons 52, 8930 Tamiami Trail North, Naples, FL at 4:00 p.m.

This gathering is a great place to have fun & fellowship after a busy day! Please sign up in the Gathering Place by September 14 or by scanning the QR code. Call the church office at (239) 261-5469 with any questions. Hope to see you there!

Caregivers Support Group

SEPTEMBER 18, 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.



Our Newest Mission Partner Awarded \$10,000 Grant

Under the guidance of the Board of Mission and Outreach, Naples UCC awarded a \$10,000 grant to **Cultivate Abundance** as part of our Immokalee Support Fund efforts.

Founded in 2018, this small but impactful organization addresses food insecurity in Immokalee by providing fresh, nutritious, and culturally preferred food to local families. To date, it has shared 261,949 pounds of food, representing 822,989 servings and 120 varieties. Each Friday, approximately 350–400 households, often reaching nearly 1,200 individuals, receive fresh produce at Misión Peniel. Most recipients are farmworker families with roots in Haiti, Guatemala, and Mexico. Food is grown through the organization's gardens and sourced from small-scale local growers throughout Southwest Florida.

Beyond food distribution, the organization empowers families to grow their own food by providing seeds, soil, containers, and hands-on gardening support. Food is not only received, it is shared, exchanged, and grown together. Its work emphasizes food as more than sustenance—it represents culture, dignity, identity, justice, and community. <https://www.cultivateabundance.org>





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

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markw@naplesucc.org

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sonja@naplesucc.org

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Tony Falco, Director of Technology
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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

John Helfer,
Assistant Store Manager

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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