



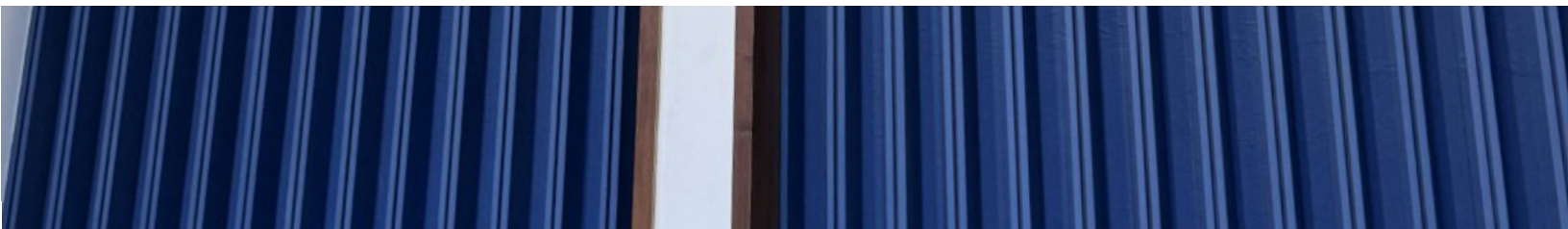
# NAPLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 10, 2026 | 9 & 11 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

*"Mélodie," Opus 42* Tchaikovsky  
Askar Salimdjanov, Violin • Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Piano

## CALL TO WORSHIP

## \*OPENING HYMN #16

*The God of Abraham Praise*

LEONI

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (9 AM)

Jeanne Snedeker, Director of Youth & Children's Education

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11 AM)

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams & Kathleen Devitt, Deacon

**Congregational Response: We, the members of Naples United Church of Christ, welcome you with joy into our communion and fellowship. We pledge to you our support, our help and our prayers, that you may evermore increase in the knowledge and love of God. We promise, with God's help, to walk with you in Christian love, to aid you as we can, and to bind ourselves together in the common task of building here upon this earth the realm of God.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

## MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*A Mother's Prayer* Arr. Tom Fettke and Thomas Grassi  
Isabel Sanchez, Soloist • Askar Salimdjanov, Violin • Sanctuary Choir

## PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Jim Moseley

## MUSICAL RESPONSE

*The Lord's Prayer* Albert Malotte  
Tori Hyman, Soloist

## SCRIPTURE

Genesis 18: 10-14

Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I be fruitful?" The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son."



## SCRIPTURE

Genesis 21: 1-6

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me."

## MUSICAL RESPONSE

*And Sarah Laughed*

Anonymous

Dr. Cayce Benton, Soloist • Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Piano

## SERMON

The Mother of Laughter

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams

## OFFERTORY

*Méditation on Thaïs*

Massenet

Askar Salimdzhanov, Violin • Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Piano

## HONORING OF REV. JIM MOSELEY

### \*CLOSING HYMN #496

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

SHOWALTER

### \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Jim Moseley

### +POSTLUDE

*Allegro from Sonata for Violin and Piano, No. 2 in A Major*

J.S. Bach

Askar Salimdzhanov, Violin • 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.

## RETURN TO ONE SERVICE

MAY 17, 10 AM | SANCTUARY

As our congregation shifts into the rhythm of summer, Naples UCC will return to one worship service **starting May 17** when we will gather at **10 a.m.** Whether you're a year-round member, a seasonal neighbor, or visiting, all are welcome to join us. For those of you that have returned up north, be sure to stay connected with us by joining for worship online through our website. Stay up-to-date on the life of the church throughout the summer by joining our email list. If you don't already receive our weekly Eblast, please sign up through the church website at [naplesucc.org](http://naplesucc.org) or by calling the church office at (239) 261-5469.

## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister  
Rev. Jim Moseley, Interim Minister for Congregational Care  
Jeanne Snedeker, Director of Youth & Children's Education  
Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Director of Music  
Sanctuary Choir  
Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Piano  
Askar Salimdjano, Violin

Dr. Cayce Benton, Soloist  
Tori Hyman, Soloist  
Isabel Sanchez, Soloist  
Taylor Matthews, Production Specialist - Producer  
Hunter Reum, Production Specialist - Video  
Thomas Hartland, Production Specialist - Audio

**NURSERY CARE:** Elena Fernandez

**SERVING AT ARBOR TRACE:** Bobbie Ray

**SERVING AT BENTLEY VILLAGE:** Karyn Murphy

### 9 AM

**STEPHEN MINISTER:** Jean Lemmon

**WELCOMERS:** Helen Roth and Michele Carney

**USHERS:** Kathleen Devitt (Head usher), Carol Berglund, Becky Earney, Nadine Lormestoire, Bill Rumpf, Roger Terry and Sandy Terry.

### 11 AM

**STEPHEN MINISTER:** Craig Johnson

**WELCOMERS:** Deb and Bob Marini

**USHERS:** Kathleen Devitt (head usher), Ronnie Bellone, Jim Borden, Charlotte Bramley, Jen Rainey Joe Siderio and Judy Siderio.

**GATHERING PLACE STAFF:** Samantha Santarosa, Membership Coordinator | Ray Gangl, Facilities Manager | John Greer, Assistant Custodian

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 Sara Both, in honor of Mother's Day, with gratitude for the love, strength and faith of mothers everywhere.

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## Chancel Flower Dedication

We have available dates for our Chancel Flower Dedications! A wonderful opportunity to celebrate, honor, or remember a loved one. We will feature your message in the Sunday bulletin and on our livestream. For up-to-date availability, or if you have any questions, please contact Sara Both, at [sara@naplesucc.org](mailto:sara@naplesucc.org), or call (239)261-5469. We hope you will participate in this thoughtful tradition!

## Anthem Dedication

Did you know that you can donate an anthem in memory or in honor of a loved one? Every time the anthem is sung, the dedication will appear with the anthem in the bulletin. To learn more about donating an anthem, please contact our Director of Music, Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf by email at [becky@naplesucc.org](mailto:becky@naplesucc.org). It is the gift that keeps on giving!

# PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

## Upcoming Events

### Joining Sunday Opportunity

**Become a member on June 24**

We will have both private and public joining on Sunday, June 24. Private joining will occur at 10:30 a.m. and public joining during the 11:00 a.m. service.

Those wishing to retain their membership in a northern church are invited to join as Associate Members. For additional information see Samantha in the Gathering Place or contact her at [samantha@naplesucc.org](mailto:samantha@naplesucc.org).

### Informational Meet & Greet

**June 14, 11:15 AM | N-104**

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

## Heading North? Stay Connected!

Wherever you are, you can remain part of the Naples UCC community. Join us for our live-streamed services, follow us on social media, and subscribe to our weekly e-blast on our website: [www.naplesucc.org](http://www.naplesucc.org).

## Graduation Recognition

**MAY 17, 10:00 AM | SANCTUARY**

We look forward to honoring this year's graduates on Sunday, May 17 during the worship service. If you have a graduate who will be present with you that day and would like to have them recognized, please submit their name to Samantha Santarosa at [samantha@naplesucc.org](mailto:samantha@naplesucc.org) by **TODAY**, or you can call the church office at (239) 261-5469.

# UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS

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

## TODAY



### Youth Sunday School

10:15 AM • May 10 • N-200

## MONDAY



### Mahjong

1:00 PM • May 11 • N-104

## WEDNESDAY



### Walk & Wonder

8:30 AM • May 13 • Pelican Bay South Berm



### Men's New Chapters

10:30 AM • May 13 • N-101



### Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

7:00 PM • May 13 • Sanctuary/Beverly Hall

## FRIDAY



### Caregiver's Support

2:00 PM • May 15 • N-101

## Next Sunday

**Sunday, May 17, 2026**

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams

"Wait Well"

Acts 1: 6-14

## New Horizons

**MAY 17, 10:00 AM | SANCTUARY**

Join us next Sunday at our 10:00 a.m. service as we welcome Dr. Linda Cuning of New Horizons of Southwest Florida, recipient of a \$39,650 Naples UCC grant supporting local students through after-school programs! Thank you so much for your support and generosity.

New Horizons of Southwest Florida provides free after-school and summer programs that empower at-risk youth in the community through academic support, enrichment activities, and character development.

## 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 9:00 a.m. worship service. Children are encouraged to come forward for the **Children's Message**, 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 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.

**UPCOMING EVENTS** — All children and youth are invited to our **Summer Jam on Sunday, May 17**. We'll honor our graduating seniors, celebrate the upcoming summer, and the end of another school year. We'll also have a preview of our new program year beginning in August! Parents, please **join us following the worship service for our final Family Café** of the school year. Enjoy refreshments and fellowship upstairs in Nelson Hall. Sunday school continues through the month of May, then we'll take a summer break for June and July. All families are invited to worship together during this time (nursery care for children up to age 4 is always provided).

**YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL** — Students 6-12 grade are invited to join us each Sunday at 10:15 a.m. for fellowship and meaningful discussion about following Jesus and what that means today. We gather in Nelson Hall room 200. All are welcome!

## PRAYER LIST

Angelo Anello	Walter Grieb	Jack Neller
Merrikay Bailey	David Hocking	Gerry Nonken
Lilibet Bana	Kate Hutchinson	Gary Pint
Cathleen Boeck	Jamie Jacquart	Margaret Pint
Nikos Carli	David Johnson	Shannon Peterson
Karin Ciesla	William Jones	Kathy Reno
Patricia Cloutier	Bobbie Juster	Gabrielle Emily Ridout
Thomas Coates	Kris Kirschner	Darrel Siebert
Parce Dewey	Chloe Konsker	Joanie Toren
Precilla Dewey	Marla Koshgarian	Anwyn Watts
Jack Downs	Sue Lindbloom	Ben Wigginton
Laurie Fowler	Patricia Manzano	
Sally Giglio	Nancy Maxwell	
Richard Gilbert	Trey McGregor	
Andrew Gillis	Bob McLennan	
Jim Gilmore	Gordon Mounts	
Doty Gridley	Betty Mounts	
Fred Gridley	Diane Myers	

To add or remove a name, please email [samantha@naplesucc.org](mailto: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.

# Gratitude For Pastor Jim

TODAY, DURING FELLOWSHIP TIME | GATHERING PLACE

Pastor Jim's final Sunday with us is **TODAY**. Following both services, he will be in the Gathering Place to greet and spend time with everyone—an opportunity to share your appreciation and well wishes in person.

In honor of his ministry, the church will be making a meaningful gift to Friends of the Everglades, reflecting a cause close to his heart. Those who would like to contribute are invited to donate to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

You are also encouraged to write a note or card of gratitude. These can be brought with you that Sunday or sent to the church office, and we will ensure they are delivered to Pastor Jim.



## Mother's Day Offering

TODAY | 9 & 11 AM SERVICES



**BABY BASICS**  
of Collier County  
*Because every baby deserves the basics*

This Mother's Day, as we give thanks for the love, sacrifice, and strength of mothers, we're also invited to put that love into action. Our Mother's Day special offering supports Baby Basics of Collier County—a lifeline for hardworking families with young children who don't qualify for government cash assistance but still struggle to make ends meet.

For many, even something as essential as diapers can become an overwhelming expense. Without a steady supply, babies can suffer from discomfort and health issues, and parents are forced into difficult choices—like buying food or keeping their child clean and dry.

Through Baby Basics, more than 600 babies each month receive the diapers they need across 14 sites in Collier County. This support eases financial stress and helps families focus on other essentials. In fact, 97% of families say they are better able to meet their basic needs because of this program. Still, the need is greater—an estimated 1,500 babies in our community qualify for assistance.

This ministry is about more than diapers. It offers dignity, encouragement, and a reminder that no family is alone.

This Mother's Day, we invite you to give generously. Your offering will help care for babies and support families right here in our community.



DONATE NOW!



Mother's Day Offering - 2026

## Mahjong

MAY 11, 1:00 PM | N-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. Free, and all are always welcome!



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## Caregiver's Support Group

MAY 15, 2:00 PM | N-101



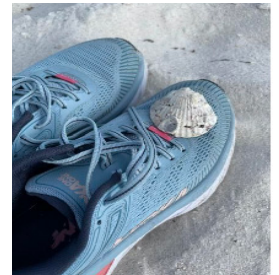
The Caregiver's Support Group meets every other Friday year-round to support those caring for loved ones. Whether you're a caregiver, a past or future one, or seeking resources, all are welcome. Church membership is not required, and discussions remain private. Bring a friend who may benefit! For more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

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## Walk & Wonder

MAY 13, 8:30 AM | PELICAN BAY SOUTH BERM

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 Naples UCC community. On Wednesday, May 13 enjoy a walk along the Pelican Bay Berm beginning at the Naples Grande to the Butterfly Garden near the Commons Tram station. Meet in the church parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Anticipate our return to church by 10:00 a.m. Contact Merrill Noble at [mwnoble56@gmail.com](mailto:mwnoble56@gmail.com) if you have questions or plan to attend for the first time.



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## Men's New Chapters

MAY 13, 10:30 AM | N-101

Please note that Men's New Chapters will hold its final meetings of the season on May 13, and 20. Following these sessions, the group will take a summer break and resume meeting in October. Discussions will focus on readings related to church, life, and spirituality. If you have not received the reading materials or would like to be added to the email list, please contact Rich Kirschner at [rdkirschner@gmail.com](mailto:rdkirschner@gmail.com).

# Keep the Heart of the Bargain Box Beating This Summer!

A mission of the Naples United Church of Christ

**Bargain Box** THRIFT STORE & BOUTIQUE

3906 TAMIAMI TRL E, NAPLES, FL 34112

As the season winds down, our mission is picking up speed—and we need you to help us keep up the momentum. We are looking for friendly faces to join our team for shifts on **Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.**

## Current Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Hospitality & Cashiering:** Be the face of the shop! Welcome customers and manage the register.
- **Donation Transport:** Help move “new-to-us” treasures 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: Our Summer Lifeline

Your gently used items are the pulse of our store. Every donation ensures we can continue serving our community throughout the summer months.

**Ready to jump in?** If you have a few hours to spare and a willing heart, we’d love to meet you. Please sign up with **Samantha Santarosa in the Gathering Place** or **call Jorge La Roche at 239-262-3802** to get started!

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## Summer Jam

MAY 17, 9:00 AM | NELSON HALL

Get ready for a joyful “Summer Jam”, a celebration for our children on Sunday, May 17! We’ll honor our graduating seniors, celebrate the end of an amazing school year, and get a first look at all the exciting things coming in our new program year this fall.

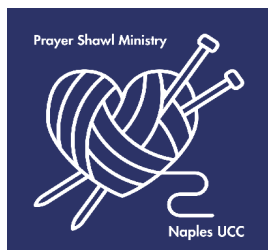
Parents, don’t miss our final Family Café right after worship—come enjoy refreshments, laughter, and connection together in Nelson Hall as we wrap up the season.

Sunday School continues through May before we head into our summer break (June–July). During the summer months, families are encouraged to worship together—nursery care is always available for children up to age 4.

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## Prayer Shawl Ministry

MAY 19, 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.

## Nelson Hall Summer Renovation Update

Thanks to the awesome generosity of our congregation, \$78,500 has been raised toward our renovation of Nelson Hall this summer. The total cost of the renovation project is \$105,000. We are getting closer to our goal!

If you are interested in making a gift toward this project, contact Pastor Mark through the church office. Pastor Mark can answer any questions about the project or about capital giving. Naming/memorial opportunities are still available. So much ministry at Naples UCC happens in Nelson Hall—children’s ministry, educational programming, mission efforts, fellowship events, and community outreach. We all look forward to renewed ministry space that will bless our church’s ministry for many years to come!

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## Golf for Fun!

MAY 22, 9:00 AM | MOORINGS COUNTRY CLUB

You’ll want to join this golf outing—the first of the spring season! Our thanks to Cheryl Turner and Ed Kaulbars for organizing it. Tee times begin at 9:00 a.m., and the cost is \$86.70 for 18 holes, cart, and lunch with soft drinks (other beverages available for purchase).

As always, sign up in the Gathering Area, call the church office, or contact us directly: John at 732-598-2796 ([johnballew1@yahoo.com](mailto:johnballew1@yahoo.com)) or Ron at 239-860-8035 ([ronsansoncam@gmail.com](mailto:ronsansoncam@gmail.com))



Joke of the day: Golf is a game invented by God to punish guys who retired early.

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## Pentecost

MAY 24, 10:00 AM | GATHERING PLACE



Come celebrate Pentecost with us on Sunday, May 24—a joyful day when we remember the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church!

**Wear red** if you can as we fill the sanctuary with color and energy, and stay after worship for a special Pentecost cake in fellowship. A sweet way to keep the celebration going and enjoy time together.

## Take Home A Piece of History!

As we update our chapel, several original wooden pews are available for adoption. Pews are roughly 15ft long with removable cushions. Must be able to pick up.

If you would like to take home a piece of Naples UCC history, please contact Susan Konsker at [skonsker@me.com](mailto:skonsker@me.com) or 631-921-4150.



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## NEXT - Programming Submissions

### DEADLINE JULY 1

As we prepare our upcoming NEXT publication, we invite all committee chairs to share their program updates, events, and plans for the coming season. This is a great opportunity to help the congregation stay connected and informed about all that's ahead.

Please submit your content through the shared form. **No later than July 1** to ensure inclusion in the publication. We look forward to highlighting the exciting work happening across our church!

Contact **Bianca Bellido** at [bianca@naplesucc.org](mailto:bianca@naplesucc.org) if you need assistance.



NEXT - Programming Submissions 2026-2027

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## Social Soirée

### MAY 28, 4:00 PM | COPPER'S HAWK

Join Naples UCC friends and family at this month's Social Soiree to Copper's Hawk, located at 11905 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 May 27, or call the church office at (239) 261-5469 with any questions.

Hope to see you there!



**COOPER'S HAWK™**  
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# 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. Jim Moseley, Interim Minister  
for Congregational Care and Missions  
jmoseley@naplesucc.org

Pastor Relations Team:  
MWpastorsupport@naplesucc.org

### Administrative

Jim Asmus, Assistant 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  
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Susan Melick, Events Coordinator

Janine Rahaim, Director of Community  
Life & Programs  
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Samantha Santarosa,  
Membership Coordinator  
& Pastoral Assistant  
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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

Tori Hyman, Floor Lead

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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