



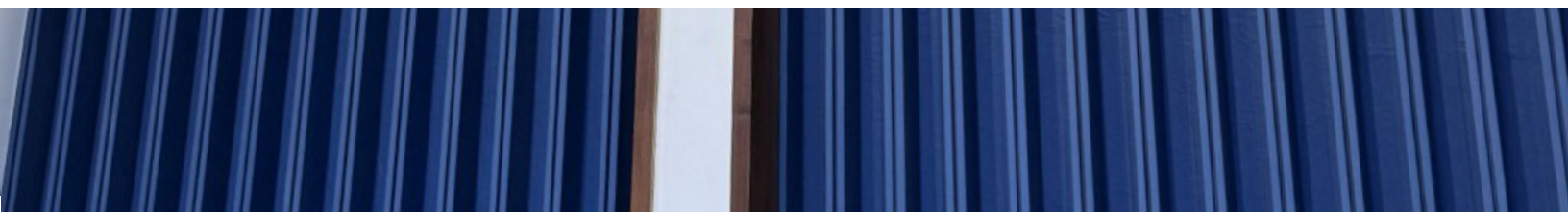
# NAPLES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 20, 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

*Give Me Jesus*  
Dr. Bryan Ijames, soloist

Arr. Moses Hogan

## RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Creator God, you welcome us into your home.

**All: You receive us and serve us, and we receive your grace.**

One: You sit with us and share quiet moments.

**All: You speak your Word to us, and we are changed.**

One: You feed us with the energy of your love, and give us courage.

**All: So we sit with you; we listen to you; eager to go forth with your good news into this world.**

## \*OPENING HYMN

*For All the Faithful Women*

NICEA

**For all the faithful women who served in days of old,  
To you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told.  
They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave.  
To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your power to save.**

**We praise your name for Miriam, who sang triumphantly  
While Pharaoh's vaunted army lay drowned beneath the sea;  
For Ruth, who left her homeland and ventured forth in faith,  
Who pledged to serve and worship Naomi's God till death.**

**We sing of busy Martha, who toiled with pot and pan  
While Mary sat in silence to hear the word again.  
We praise the other Mary, who hastened to the tomb  
And found her Lord arisen, dispelling doubt and gloom.**

**Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas, who served the sick and poor.  
Her hands were cups of kindness, her heart an open door.  
O God, for saints and servants, our fervent prayer we raise,  
That, faithful in your service, our lives may sing your praise**

## INVOCATION

**ALL: From the haste and pressure of the world, we come into your gentle silence. From the loneliness of our separate cars and houses, we come into your presence. From the noise and shouting of the world, we come to listen to your voice. Speak to us, God. Beloved, sit with us and change our hearts. Amen.**

## TIME FOR CHILDREN



## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*Be Thou My Vision*

Kyle Pederson

Sanctuary Choir • Miguel Coates, clarinet • Cesar Perez, piano

### PASTORAL PRAYER

### MUSICAL RESPONSE

*The Lord's Prayer*

Albert Mallotte

Dr. Bryan Ijames, soloist

### SCRIPTURE

Luke 10: 38-42

Dr. Becky

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

### SERMON

*The Dishes Can Wait*

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams

### OFFERTORY

*The Call*

Randall Stroope

Sanctuary Choir • Cesar Perez, piano

### \*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 #486

*Have Thine Own Way, Lord!*

ADELAIDE

### \*BENEDICTION

### +POSTLUDE

*Tuba Tune in D Major*

C. S. Lang

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.

## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, Senior Minister  
Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Director of Music  
Sanctuary Choir  
Dr. Bryan Ijames, soloist

Cesar Perez, piano  
Miguel Coates, clarinet  
Hunter Reum, Production Specialist — Producer  
Colton Townsend, Production Specialist — Audio  
Landon Townsend, Production Specialist — Video

NURSERY CARE: Elena Fernandez

SERVING AT ARBOR TRACE: Judy Baer

SERVING AT BENTLEY VILLAGE: Judy Varty

STEPHEN MINISTER: Kathleen Devitt

PORTICO GREETER: Nancy Holcomb, Catherine Waterman, Louise Taylor

USHERS: Mary B Fisher (head), Carol Berglund, Bob Brown, Christine Buol, Jane Lane, Bill Rumpf, Roger Terry and Sandy Terry

GATHERING PLACE STAFF: Samantha Santarosa, Administrative Assistant | Ray Gangl, Custodian

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 by Dr. Cayce Benton,  
Kerry Benton, & Jeanie Harrington in loving memory of Robert J. Sanator & Eddie Harrington.

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## New Summer Offering: Gentle Yoga with Jodi

WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH AUGUST 20, 4 PM, MCSPADDEN HALL

This summer, take a midweek pause for your mind, body, and spirit. Join certified Yoga Instructor, Jodi, for a peaceful hour of Gentle Yoga designed to help release stress, restore balance, and reconnect with your inner calm. This class is open to all levels—whether you're brand new to yoga or returning to your practice. A chair will be available for those who prefer or need added support but please be sure to bring your own mat. This is a free offering of fellowship and wellness open to all—members and friends alike. Please register in the Gathering Space or by calling the church office at (239) 261-5469. We look forward to moving and breathing together. Namaste.

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## Clothing Donations Needed This Summer!

The Bargain Box is in urgent need of clothing donations—and we'd love your help!

**Here's how you can make a difference: Donate Gently Used Clothing.**

We are especially in need of men's and women's clothing in all sizes. Women's purses and handbags are also in high demand! Summer is our slowest season for donations, and we can't do it without your support. Whether you're donating clothes or spreading the word, you're making a real impact in our community. Donations can be dropped off in the shed on the NUCC campus or directly at The Bargain Box store: 3906 Tamiami Trail E, Naples, FL 34112. To learn more, contact George at [george@bargainboxnaples.com](mailto:george@bargainboxnaples.com) (239) 262-3802

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## Social Soirée

TUESDAY, JULY 29, 4 PM, OFF CAMPUS

Looking for some summer fun with your Church family? Our next Social Soirée will take place at Old Vines Naples at Mercato, 9105 Strada Place, Suite 3125, Naples, 34108. Membership is not necessary to attend this event. Please feel free to bring all your friends and family. We hope to see you there! Sign up in the Gathering Place or by calling the Church office at (239) 261-5469.



## 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. **During the months of June and July our children will worship with us. Regular children's programs resume in August.** Please reach out to the church office if you have any questions or would like more information about upcoming events.

**NURSERY CARE CONTINUES THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER!** — 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! CHILDREN & YOUTH** — SPLASH! and Children & Youth Choir will resume in the fall. We meet on Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Join us for faith-filled activities, music, games, and snacks with Ms. Jeannie. Rehearsal for the children/youth choir with Dr. Becky begins at 4:45 p.m. in Beverly Hall.



## Caregiver's Support Group Summer Group Lunch

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2 PM, OFF CAMPUS

The Caregiver's Support Group meets every other Friday year-round to support those caring for loved ones. Join us on Friday, July 25 at 2 p.m for a group summer lunch out together. For details and to RSVP, please contact Joan Millon at [joanmillon6@gmail.com](mailto:joanmillon6@gmail.com). There will be no meeting that day. 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!

## PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

### Upcoming Events

#### Informational Meet & Greet

##### Curious? Join us August 10

A time to learn, ask questions and meet the leadership and the senior minister. The Meet & Greet takes place following the 10:00 a.m. service, in Nelson Hall, room 104. Enjoy free refreshments!

#### Joining Sunday Opportunity

##### Become a member on August 24

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 [membership@naplesucc.org](mailto:membership@naplesucc.org).



## UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS

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

### TODAY



#### Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

11:15 AM • July 20 📍 Sanctuary

### MONDAY



#### Mahjong

1:00 PM • July 21 📍 N-104

### WEDNESDAY



#### Gentle Yoga with Jodi

4:00 PM • July 23 📍 McSpadden Hall

### FRIDAY



#### Caregiver's Support Group: Group Lunch

2:00 PM • July 25 📍 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)

### Next Sunday

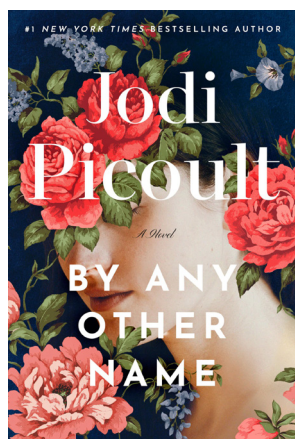
Sunday, July 27, 2025

Worship Service | 10 AM

Rev. Dr. Mark Williams, preaching

Luke 11: 1-13

Knock Knock, Who's There?



## NUCC Summer Book Club

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2 PM, N-104 & ZOOM

Our Summer Book Club continues with a book titled *By Any Other Name* by Jodi Picoult. Moving between Elizabethan England and modern-day Manhattan, *By Any Other Name* is a beautifully written, compelling novel that explores the theme of identity and the ways in which two women, centuries apart, are both forced to hide behind another name. Jodi Picoult is a prolific American novelist who has published more than 28 novels and short stories, selling around 40 million copies worldwide. We welcome all for a lively discussion, even if you have not read the book! **Not in town? We invite you to join us on Zoom.** Meeting ID: 838 2027 0433, Passcode: book

# Men's New Chapters

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 10:30 AM, N-101

Led by retired minister and NUCC member Rich Kirschner, this men's group explores current events and their impact on daily life through thoughtful, engaging discussion. **Together, they seek deeper understanding and ways to make a positive difference.** The group will not meet on Monday July 21 or 28, but will reconvene on Monday August 4. Please contact Rich Kirschner for details at [rdkirschner@gmail.com](mailto:rdkirschner@gmail.com).

## PRAYER LIST

Burke Anderson  
Joyce Agnew  
Joyce Asmus  
Lilibet Bana  
Meb Bergwall  
Thom Carley  
Pam Clayson  
Thomas Coates  
Carol Dlouhy

Jack Downs  
Fred and Doty Gridley  
Walter Grieb  
David Johnson  
Irma Johnson  
Carolyn Keller  
Dudley Lyons  
Gordon Mounts  
Betty Mounts

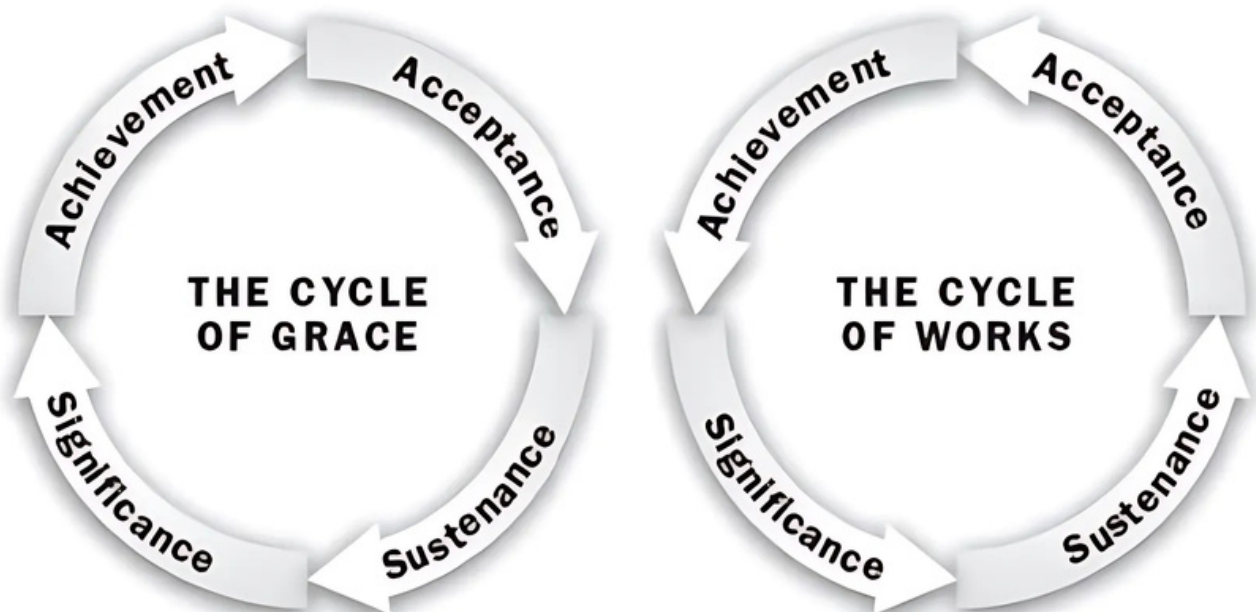
Gerry Nonken  
Kathleen Puffenberger  
Doris Raymond  
Gabrielle Emily Ridout  
Judy Siderio  
Jan Stowell  
Barbara Swidler  
Joanie Toren  
Atila Zolcsak

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

## Graphic from Pastor Mark:

Below is a visual illuminating a concept that Pastor Mark will be referencing in his sermon today. The Cycle of Grace and The Cycle of Works is a concept that originated in the writing of Swiss Theologian Dr. Emil Brunner.





# 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](http://www.naplesucc.org)



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



[youtube.com/NaplesUCC](https://youtube.com/NaplesUCC)

## STAFF

### Minister

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Pastor Relations Team:  
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Elena Fernandez, Nursery Caregiver

Raymond Gangl, Custodian  
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### Music

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[becky@naplesucc.org](mailto:becky@naplesucc.org)

Dr. Alexandra Carlson, Pianist  
[alexandrac@naplesucc.org](mailto:alexandrac@naplesucc.org)

### The Bargain Box Thrift Store

Jorge (George) De La Roche,  
Store Manager  
[george@bargainboxnaples.com](mailto:george@bargainboxnaples.com)

Sandy Goldstein, Manager Emeritus  
[sandy@naplesucc.org](mailto:sandy@naplesucc.org)

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Email or call the church office



Cash, Check, Credit Card  
by calling the church office



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and follow prompts