

Union Church at Brimfield,

# ON EAGLE'S WINGS

February 2025



*“They that wait upon the Lord shall  
renew their strength; they shall  
mount up with wings as eagles; they  
shall run, and not be weary; they  
shall walk, and not faint.” Isaiah  
40:31*

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**GOD IS STILL SPEAKING! ;**



# Pastor's Corner

## Our Stories

As we begin a new year, and we just had our annual meeting, now we can focus on looking forward to see what God has in store for us this year. I believe that it is an important question to ask ourselves each year. I have said that faith has both a personal story and a communal story.

**The Personal story** is how God is working in our lives. How he is using the events of our daily life to bring us into a deeper relationship with him. How he uses those people that he has put into our lives to show us his magnificent plan for us, and He uses us to show them His plan for them. He allows us to see His presence and know that he is always with us no matter what we are going through. Our personal story plays out everyday, every situation, and in every event. It is always drawing us deeper into His Love.

**The Communal story** is how God is working in and through the Body of Christ here on earth. The Church. It is How God has chosen to reveal Himself to us. We are called to become like Christ is the way that we serve one another, the way that we relate to one another and the way that we talk to one another. How is it that God is calling us to be a representative body here on earth. If Union Church wasn't here what would the community miss? What is it that they would remember? Do we realize the honor and privilege that has been given to us as we became members of His Body, the universal church.

God is doing amazing things in both stories and we have the opportunity to experience him in both. The personal story is our responsibility to grow into. We can go throughout our day and not recognize what God is doing, or we can participate and see all that God is doing and experience him in a new way. It is through our personal story that our love for God shapes our lives.

Through our Communal story we are called into relationship both with God and with one another. It is through these relationships that our faith is fed and shared. It is through our relationships that we experience God and His love at work in our world. It is also through these relationships that God will use us to be his instruments of his Love, joy, hope and peace to the community that God has put us in. As our faith is shared it grows and the community both experiences God and sees what God is doing in and through us.

**This is going to be the year to focus on our Stories.**

May God bless you.

*Rev. Stephen W. Barch*

Rev. Stephen W. Barch

## From the Moderator- February 2025

Thanks to everyone who attended our annual meeting. We had a quota and were able to conclude the meeting. We had many good reports giving us the update on all the news of our church.

Our Trustees have been busy making the budget and working on all the projects around our church that need attention. They were able to help Pastor Steve figure out his pension and insurance issues. We appreciate all they do.

Our Worship Care team works on many of the activities of our church. Our communion service is always prepared. The team assists Pastor Steve in all the special events and services that we have.

Our Wider Service committee holds many great events throughout the year. Pancake/Sausage day will soon be coming up. Watch for the details. Rock and Roll Bingo is a fun event that will be March 9. Allison has worked getting a nice banner made to display at our events outside of the church. We hope to have it ready for Rock and Roll Bingo.

The Women's Fellowship makes the Community luncheon once a month. Thanks to all those who help with this great outreach.

We have been blessed with many children coming to our services. Our Sunday School is up and running with all the young ones. If you would like to help with the Sunday School, let us know. We can always use more help.

We filled most of the committee positions at our annual meeting. Thanks to Dylan Sollenberger for offering to work as a delegate to our association meetings. We still have an opening for a Youth Delegate. If you are interested, please let us know.

Our next Leadership Meeting will be February 16<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM. We welcome anyone who would like to attend.

As always, keep anyone suffering in any way in your prayers. Pray for our country and our leaders and pray that the truth will be known.

Faithfully submitted,  
Coleen Martin



## **WORSHIP CARE TEAM**

The Worship Care Team met December 3rd. Our members are Joyce Carlson, Bev Johnson, Tonja Gunter, Sue Savage, Jane Strevils, & Ginny Emerick.

Our Annual Meeting was Sunday, January 19, 2024 following Worship. We had a pretty good turnout. Thank you to all who stayed and participated in our discussions.

### **Other Ministries:**

**Choir Practice for Lent** will begin soon. Please see Connie for more info.

**Grief and Loss Group** every Tuesday from 3:00pm—4:30pm

**Adult Bible Study** every Tuesday 6:30pm to 7:45pm

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Ash Wednesday** ~ March 5th Service @ 6:30pm

**Palm Sunday** ~ April 13th Service @ 9am

**Maundy Thursday** ~ April 17th Service @ 6:30pm

**Good Friday** ~ April 18th Service @ 6:30pm

**Easter Sunday** ~ April 20th Service @ 9am

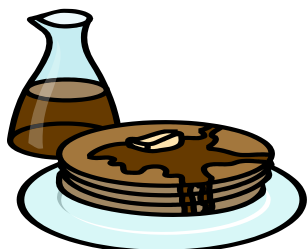
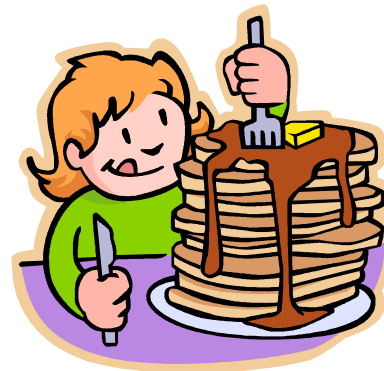


**Our Next Meeting will be February 9th @ 8am**

**WIDER SERVICE TEAM**

**Team Members are :** Allison Porter, Coleen Martin, Jim Martin, Constance Monk, Lori Porter, & Tonja Gunter.

- We are checking the calendar for an open date for Pancake and Sausage Day. We will bring the details to you soon.
- Tara is working on the college packets. She is looking for new or extra ideas to put in them each time.



**B I N G O**

14	24	44	53	68
7	28	31	54	73
2	26	★	51	67
3	22	39	57	75
9	20	37	50	71

Please like our FACEBOOK page  
 union church at brimfield  
 Please LIKE, COMMENT & SHARE  
 our posts to help get us out in the  
 Community

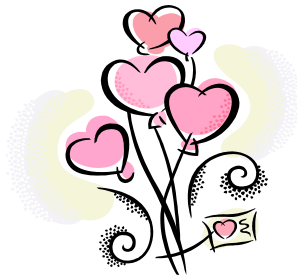
Rock N Roll BINGO will be March 9th at 2pm at Burnzee's Bar and Grill in the back room.  
 \$10 a card which you will play all 10 games with that card.  
 If you would like to donate to this event, we will need prizes for the BINGO winners. Like gift cards or lotto tickets.  
 Questions contact Allison



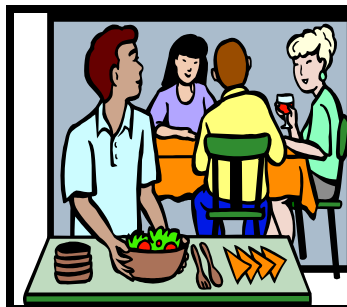
We need to make sure we count our blessings.  
 Life can be difficult, but our Lord is in control.  
 He's taking us through these trying times for a reason.  
 Feeling gratitude is extremely important.  
 Thank God everyday for all the blessings he has given us.

**Grief & Loss Group meets  
 Tuesday afternoons from  
 3pm ~ 4:30**

**Adult Bible Study meets  
 Tuesday evenings from  
 6:15 ~ 7:30**



*Happy Valentine's Day*



**The Union Church  
 Luncheon will be held  
 Tuesday,  
 February 11 at noon.**

**Birthdays**

- 1- Heath Monk
- 3- Tim Siegel
- 6- Chris Morgan
- Rachel Blodgett
- 11-Joe Kuck
- 13- Anthony Blodgett
- 15- Tim Tucker
- 17- Betty Pacey

**FEBRUARY**

- 22- Jenny Harmison
- 26-- Sydney Barton
- 27—Lexi Johnson

**Anniversaries**



*Our Mission Focus for the Month of*

***FEBRUARY***

***NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE***



**Neighborhood House Association**, established in 1896, is dedicated to providing a Safe Haven with comprehensive services that meet the social, emotional and material needs of individuals and families from infancy to the elderly. The common goal of all services is to enhance the quality of life and foster independence of those served. Neighborhood House was founded as a settlement house. It began with a church service in September of 1896. Poor immigrants could find refuge and receive many of life's necessities. A 1910 census report showed that 2/3 of the residents in the Eighth Ward (the South Side) were either foreign born or of foreign parentage. Fourteen different languages were spoken and immigrants had settled in this area to find their freedom and fortune. Neighborhood House will continue to provide the core comprehensive services that began in 1896. We will remain in constant communication with our citizens, service recipients, and community leaders. We have the unique ability to continually assess the needs of the community and to promptly initiate specialized comprehensive programs to meet identified needs.

**At Neighborhood House, we believe:**

- That all lives are enriched by participation in a compassionate and supportive community
- That the enduring strength of our Neighborhood Community relies on cultivating a spirit of neighborliness and mutual respect among diverse populations
- That Neighborhood House should work to bring groups and individuals together as an inclusive community
- That families require lifelines of support and benefit from community services and programs responsive to their needs
- That children and their families from all socioeconomic backgrounds should have equal access to quality early childhood programs
- That children and teens should have a safe environment for their development in order to foster positive social interactions
- That seniors, including the homebound elderly, need and deserve to be valued as individuals who are important to the fabric of community life
- That an effective settlement house must continually evolve and adapt to the ever changing needs of its community.

**2025 Mission Giving to Date:**

Jan—Blankets+/ TOH : \$ 175.00

**Praise be to God !**

**Programs provided by Neighborhood House include:**

**Child care, Community Outreach, Senior Services, Critter Meals on Wheels, Food Pantries, Meals on Wheels ~ partly funded by United Way.**

**For more info on any of these programs, visit their website:**

**[www.nhpeoria.org](http://www.nhpeoria.org)**

**February 2, 2025**

Greeter  
**Linda Williams**  
Usher  
**Janet Fishel**  
Lay Reader  
**Jeff Barnewolt**  
Children's Story  
**Pastor Steve**  
Sunday School  
**Communion**  
Sound System  
**Rudy Carlson**



*Donuts: Constance Monk*

**February 9, 2025**

Greeter  
**Janet Fishel**  
Usher  
**Jim Martin**  
Lay Reader  
**Kelly Walker**  
Children's Story  
**Pastor Steve**  
Sunday School  
**Tonja Gunter**  
Sound System  
**Tim Siegel**



*Donuts: Ginny Emerick*



**February 16, 2025**

Greeter  
**Ginny Emerick**  
Usher  
**Tim Siegel**  
Lay Reader  
**Jane Strevils**  
Children's Story  
**Pastor Steve**  
Sunday School  
**Coleen Martin**  
Sound System  
**Rudy Carlson**



*Donuts: Mary Anderson*

**February 23, 2025**

Greeter  
**Lori Porter**  
Usher  
**Jeff Barnewolt**  
Lay Reader  
**Janet Fishel**  
Children's Story  
**Pastor Steve**  
Sunday School  
**Emma Blundy**  
Sound System  
**Tim Siegel**




*Donuts: Joyce Carlson*





# FEBRUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship 9:00am	3	4 Grief & Loss Mtg. 3-4:30pm  Bible Study 6-730 pm	5	6	7	8
9 Worship Care Team meeting @ 8am  Worship 9:00am  Trustees mtg 10am	10 	11 Church Luncheon 12p Grief & Loss Mtg. 3-4:30pm  Bible Study 6:30-745 pm	12	13	14 	15
16 Worship 9:00am  Leadership mtg. 10am	17 President's Day	18 Grief & Loss Mtg. 3-4:30pm  Bible Study 6-730 pm	19	20	21	22
23 Worship 9:00am	24	25 Grief & Loss Mtg. 3-4:30pm  Bible Study 630-745 pm	26	27	28	



February 2025

Union Church at Brimfield, UCC



## On Eagle's Wings Newsletter

THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY; THEY SHALL WALK, AND NOT FAINT." ISAIAH 40:31

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Virginia Emerick.....Newsletter Editor

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[www.brimfieldunionchurch.org](http://www.brimfieldunionchurch.org)

Pastor	<b>Rev. Stephen Barch</b>
Sunday Worship Service	<b>9:00 AM</b>
Pastor's Office Hours	<b>Tuesdays 1pm-7pm</b>
Grief & Loss Group	<b>Tuesday Afternoon 3-4:30pm</b>
Adult Bible Study	<b>Tuesday Evenings 6:30-7:45pm</b>
Children's Bible School	<b>During Sunday Worship</b>
Office Hours~	<b>Tuesday 1-6pm</b>
	<b>Friday 1pm-5pm</b>
	<b>Or by appointment</b>