

## What's Going On? Here's How to Know!

Union Church is actively seeking to embody the life and ministry of Christ. Ministry projects abound, as do the tasks that support and serve them. Since each member here is a minister of the church we felt it was important to try more ways to help us all know about them, especially to connect ministers to ministries. Please contact the designated persons to learn more and get involved!

Project/Idea	What's Happening?	Who to Contact
New Board Structure Pilot	<p>The newly constituted Church Council had its first and very productive meeting April 19. Discussion on building and staffing needs were the central focus, as were possible time-lines for solutions to our deteriorating porch and other structural issues. A vote was taken to substitute the words "Church Council" for "Trustees" in current policies for the length of our pilot.</p> <p>A special called Church Council meeting was set for May 3 to discuss specific recommendations and a possible Congregational Meeting.</p>	Betty Hibler, Chair of Church Council OR any board member.
"Build the Vision" Ministry Plan	<p>This week, a second architect firm was interviewed and a small group visited local projects by this firm. Proposals from both firms are being reviewed and one will be recommended this week to Church Council.</p> <p>Implementation of our ministry plan includes badly needed attention to our physical building and looking at added staff. Structural issues to be addressed are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Badly corroded front porch supports</li> <li>• registers throughout the building</li> <li>• Choir platform reinforcement</li> <li>• Accessibility to all floors for all people (Elevator)</li> <li>• Inadequate class and meeting room space, office</li> </ul>	Betty Hibler, Chair of Church Council, Marlene Payne, Moderator; Jean Boyce, Immediate Past Moderator.
Small Group Ministry	<p>Our purpose is to create connections within the congregation that lead to faith development and exploration through a variety of trained lay leaders and interests. 5 small groups met through Lent and have had very positive experiences to share. These groups are now adding members and new leaders are being sought to meet the interest. Training/apprenticeship is available, as are opportunities to join a welcoming, friendly group!</p>	Wyndee Holbrook, Director of Faith Development

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Mission and Service Opportunities	<p>Thanks to all who helped with Park Cleanup April 24!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Union Church will lead services at Luther Lockett Correctional Facility eve of May 14. We can take 10 people, but we must have names by April 28.</li> <li>• A few spaces are available for a trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, MS in October 24-30.</li> </ul>	<p>For Prison Trip: Jeff From, 985-1276</p> <p>Biloxi: Doug Hindman, Chair of Mission and Service.</p>
Youth Service Trip to Minnesota	<p>Late June, the youth group will be traveling to Moorhead, MN for a Habitat for Humanity Project and fellowship with First Congregational UCC, where former intern Mark Pettis is now pastor. Money, volunteers, and chaperones are needed to help the group raise funds so all can go.</p>	Deborah Payne, Youth Director
Youth Room Refurbishment	<p>Using funds from a bequest of Ann Stephenson, Room 302 is getting new paint, new carpet, and some more comfortable furniture!</p>	Deborah Payne, Youth Director
Service Sign Up Board	<p>A new bulletin board has been installed in the sanctuary, specifically to inform and solicit service and ministry. Welcomers, ushers, those wishing to provide flowers, as well as sign ups for service trips will be here. Under our new governance, we rely on all of us taking a turn or two! Please check it out!</p>	To Post: Joan English, church office.

