

# MUSIC

Traditional and inspirational, the Music Ministry at NUCC truly enhances our worship and enriches our lives. Director of Music, Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, recruits outstanding musicians from the Naples Philharmonic as well as artists from all over the nation who look forward to being part of our worship. We invite you to visit [www.NaplesUCC.org/music](http://www.NaplesUCC.org/music) to learn more.

## DR. BECKY WEESE-RUMPF, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

*"As I celebrate my 25th year at Naples UCC, it is a joy to introduce our 2025-2026 Concert Series. Music is a vital part of our worship and a powerful way we connect, inspire, and grow together. If you feel called to be part of this meaningful ministry, I invite you to reach out to me at [becky@naplesucc.org](mailto:becky@naplesucc.org)."*



## DR. ALEXANDRA (SASHA) CARLSON, PIANIST

Dr. Alexandra Carlson joins us in worship on Sundays and in several music offerings throughout the year. An award-winning pianist and recording artist, she is celebrated for her "transcendent precision" and "soulful playing."



## CHRISTMAS MUSIC SUNDAY

SUN, DEC 14 | 9 & 11 AM SANCTUARY

Come kick-off the Christmas season at our special Christmas Music Sunday featuring the Sanctuary Choir and a chamber orchestra. This inspiring service will showcase beautiful Christmas carols interwoven with meaningful scripture and uplifting words. It is a **joyful and moving worship experience** you won't want to miss. Come and share in the wonder of the season!





## INTRODUCTION TO SACRED PLACE

THURS, APRIL 23 | 11 AM BEVERLY HALL

Join Pastor Mark and Dr. Becky for a thoughtful discussion about the composition *Sacred Place*. Together they will explore the selected texts, examining their meaning and significance. The conversation will also delve into how music enhances and deepens the experience of the text, creating a richer, more sacred atmosphere. All are welcome to participate in this engaging and reflective session.

## SACRED PLACE MUSIC SUNDAY

SUN, APRIL 26 | 9 & 11 AM SANCTUARY

The Sanctuary Choir will present *Sacred Place* by Alex Berko. This **powerful 22-minute work reflects on our connection to the earth**. Join us for a profound musical experience that bridges the sacred and secular, the ancient and contemporary, and the personal and communal.



*"These gifts help make every Sunday worship service special at Naples United Church of Christ."*

## MUSIC GIFT FUND SUNDAY

SUN, OCT 26 | 9 & 11 AM SANCTUARY

Join us for Music Gift Fund Sunday, a joyful and entertaining celebration led by our talented choir section leaders. Your support directly funds our gifted musicians who enrich our worship. To contribute, please call the church office or visit [NaplesUCC.org/music](https://NaplesUCC.org/music). Your generosity helps make every Sunday worship service **a rich and inspiring experience** at NUCC.



## SANCTUARY CONCERT SERIES

Each year, the Music Ministry organizes outstanding concerts in the Naples UCC Sanctuary, aiming to evoke joy and deep emotions. For more details on the performances, visit the NUCC website calendar. There is no fee to attend, but at times there may be a free-will offering. Enjoy the Music experience at NUCC this season!

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**SUN, DEC 7 | 4 PM SANCTUARY**

Join Drs. Becky & Sasha for a joyful celebration of your favorite sacred and secular Christmas tunes. Perfect for the whole family with a few delightful surprises. Following the concert, all are invited to share a Christmas dinner together in McSpadden Hall.



### THE FESTIVAL SINGERS OF FLORIDA

**SAT, JAN 31 | 7 PM SANCTUARY**

Under the leadership of **Dr. Kevin Fenton**, the Festival Singers of Florida will be performing: ***"The World Beloved: A Bluegrass Mass."*** Providing community performances of the highest quality, the Festival Singers of Florida are dedicated to engaging and inspiring through impassioned singing, while expanding awareness and appreciation of the choral arts.



### DR. LINDSAY GARRITSON: PIANO CONCERT

**SUN, FEB 22 | 4:30 PM SANCTUARY**

Naples UCC invites you to an exceptional piano performance of Schubert's ***Sonata in G Major, D894*** and Rachmaninoff's ***Sonata No. 2 in B-flat minor, Op. 36.***



### ALICE HONG EGOR ANTONENKO DR. ALEXANDRA CARLSON

**SAT, MARCH 21 | 4 PM SANCTUARY**

The Naples UCC Sanctuary Concert Series will feature Alice Hong, violin; Egor Antonenko, cello; and Dr. Alexandra Carlson, piano, performing ***Piano Trio in A minor*** by Ravel.



## AMIR BILEN: SOLOIST

**SAT, DEC 20 | 4 PM BEVERLY HALL**

Amir Bilen has quickly become a beloved talent in the Naples music scene, known for his heartfelt performances and impressive vocal range. Be inspired by the next generation of musical talent.



## THE NAPLES PHILHARMONIC YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA (NPYJO)

**SUN, APRIL 19 | 3 PM SANCTUARY**

Under the direction of **Brandon Robertson**, the NPYJO will present an exciting program featuring the works of jazz legends. With nearly 25 talented students from Lee & Collier Counties, the concert showcases a strong local commitment to nurturing young musicians.



## TUESDAYS AT TWILIGHT CONCERT SERIES

**TUESDAYS AT 7 PM | BEVERLY HALL**

This concert series is a special offering showcasing talented musicians in the esteemed venue of Beverly Hall. All concerts will begin at 7 p.m. and are followed by a reception in the Gathering Place serving light refreshments with the opportunity to mingle with the performers. Tickets are \$35 per person and may be reserved in advance by calling the church office at (239) 261-5469. Purchase all three for a special invite-only concert.



**JAN 20** | *Mark Teplitsky, flute • Dr. Carlson, piano*

**FEB 10** | *Judy Christy, oboe • Zachary DePue, violin  
John Marcy, cello • Dr. Carlson, piano*

**MAR 24** | *Askar Salimdjanov, violin • Tamila Salimdjanova, piano*

