

*The Network... a Publication of
University Presbyterian Church
March 2022*



Marking 20 Years of Faithful Service

In recognition of Tracy's 20th anniversary with University Presbyterian Church, we asked her to write a brief biography of her life and her journey of being called to be ordained as a minister. Undoubtedly you will find it to be very enlightening and informative as we learn more about her road to be our pastor at UPC. Thank you Tracy for your leadership and direction for the past 20 years and God bless you as we look toward many more future years together.

"I was born and raised in the desert of Tucson, Arizona. My twin sister and I were the youngest of four children. We loved playing outside in the Arizona sun and roaming the desert. Church involvement was a major element of my family's life. My parents were very involved in a local Presbyterian church and my siblings and I were all active in the church's youth group. Each summer we would attend the Presbyterian church camp in northern Arizona. I loved reading books and as a child imagined that I would grow up to be an author—or maybe an archeologist!

A formative part of my youth was the year I spent after high school as an exchange student in Italy. I learned what it's like to be a stranger in a strange land, to learn a new language, and to think about the world and its people in a much broader way.

I never considered becoming a pastor until I was in college where the campus chaplain was my first role model of a woman in ministry. The other significant influence on my decision to become a pastor were two friends I made when working in Washington, D. C. following college. For two years I worked in a non-profit educational organization. Groups of high school students traveled to the nation's capital where the other instructors and I used the city itself as a classroom to teach about government and civics. It was while working at this organization that I became friends with two other instructors who were each contemplating going to seminary to become pastors. The three of us would talk a lot and from these conversations I began to seriously contemplate becoming a pastor. I knew I enjoyed teaching and I knew I wanted to serve God in some way. But there are many ways to serve God in our lives and I needed to sort out whether becoming a clergy person was the path for me.

I did eventually decide to pursue ministry and received my Masters of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. After graduating, I was ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and moved to Buffalo, NY to serve as the Associate Pastor at Central Presbyterian Church. I remained at Central for approximately 4 years when I then became the Interim Pastor at North Presbyterian Church in North Tonawanda. It was during my time at North that I married my husband Timothy Wadkins, an Episcopalian and a professor at Canisius College. I remained at North for three years before coming to serve as Pastor at University Presbyterian Church. It is hard to believe that 20 years have flown by since arriving at UPC shortly after the birth our first child, Zachary. Our daughter Abby followed two years later.

These twenty years at UPC have been full and enriching. I have so enjoyed collaboration with church members in planning enriching worship services, addressing local needs, and growing in our faith through actions of justice. I count myself exceedingly fortunate to have a fantastic colleague like John Novak. I cherish the many opportunities I've had to travel for both church and personal purposes: to El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Tanzania, and my sabbatical to Australia. I recall the major events the members of UPC and I have shared together: the downsizing of our church's usage of the building and the corresponding renovations, the celebration of our centennial anniversary, and of course, the significant challenge of the pandemic. In every case, members stood up and stepped forward to meet the need.

Among all my memories over these twenty years, the ones that are most special to me are the quieter moments when I have witnessed our members welcoming the stranger, extending generosity, and caring for one another with grace, patience, and love. Those are the occasions that mean the most to me. And I am grateful for this shared journey!"

Shalom,

Tracy



Worship Column

Wednesday, March 2

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isa. 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17;
2 Cor. 5:20b-6:10; Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21

Sunday, March 6

1st Sunday in Lent

Deut. 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16;
Rom. 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

Sunday, March 13

2nd Sunday in Lent

Gen. 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27;
Phil. 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

Sunday, March 20

3rd Sunday in Lent

Isa. 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8;
1 Cor. 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

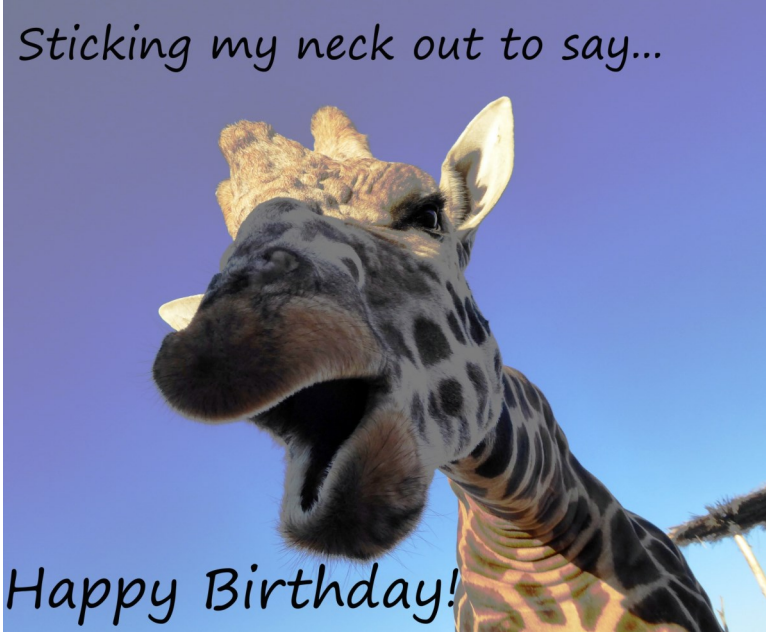
Sunday, March 27

4th Sunday in Lent

Josh. 5:9-12; Psalm 32;
2 Cor. 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



March birthday wishes go out to...



- 1 Lori Lopinski
- 5 David Bartley
- 5 Patricia Grisante
- 8 Arthur Cookfair
- 11 Cindy Hickey
- 12 Elaine Swaine
- 13 Kathy Hallborg
- 13 Timothy Moorhouse
- 15 Scott Horton
- 16 Karen Guggemos
- 17 Jim Grisante
- 17 Maxine Green
- 22 William Guggemos
- 23 Claudia Weiss
- 28 Kyle Townsend
- 30 Tracy Daub



Remember to set your clocks ahead before you go to bed on March 12!

March 1 Tuesday 12:00 pm Food Pantry Open

March 2 Wednesday *Ash Wednesday*
7:00 pm Worship Service

March 3 Thursday 12:00 pm Food Pantry Open
7:30 pm Choir

March 4 Friday 5:30 pm Taize

March 6 Sunday 9:30 am Choir
10:30 am Worship Service
5:00 pm Youth Group Bowling

March 8 Tuesday 10:30 am Zoom Youth Team Meeting
12:00 pm Food Pantry Open

March 10 Thursday 12:00 pm Food Pantry Open
7:30 pm Choir

March 12 Saturday *Set clocks ahead before going to bed*

March 13 Sunday 9:30 am Choir
10:30 am Worship Service

March 15 Tuesday 12:00 pm Food Pantry Open
2:30 pm Zoom Community Committee Meeting

March 16 Wednesday 7:00 pm Session

March 17 Thursday 12:00 pm Food Pantry Open
7:30 pm Choir

March 20 Sunday 9:30 am Choir
10:30 am Worship Service

March 22 Tuesday 12:00 pm Food Pantry Open

March 24 Thursday 12:00 pm Food Pantry Open
7:30 pm Choir

March 27 Sunday 9:30 am Choir
10:30 am Worship Service
TBD Youth Group Sub Sale @ North

March 28 Monday 1:30 pm Mobile Food Pantry @ Trinity Methodist Church

March 29 Tuesday 12:00 pm Food Pantry Open

March 31 Thursday 12:00 pm Food Pantry Open
7:30 pm Choir



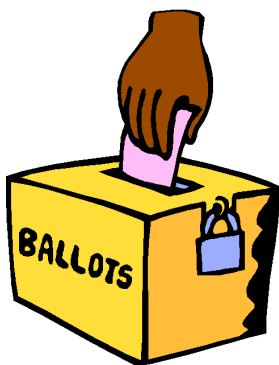


Please Join Us!

**Ash Wednesday Service
with Imposition of Ashes
March 2, 2022 at 7:00 pm**

Lenten Bible Study

The Adult mid-week Bible study continues with our exploration of the Gospel of John. The upcoming weeks will include Jesus' passion story and the Easter experience. We meet via Zoom at 1 p.m. each Wednesday. A link is sent to the congregation early each week. All are welcome!



Results of 2022 Congregational Vote

Pastor Compensation: 52 ballots returned as approved, 3 not approved.

Pastor's Compensation approved.

Election of Deacons & Elders: 53 ballots returned as approved, 3 left blank.

Deacons & Elders voted in.

Easter Flowers

Would you like to help beautify the sanctuary with flowers for Easter this year?

We will be offering lilies and tulips. They are **\$ 10 per pot.**

Please complete the form below and return it to the church office with payment by **April 3rd.** In the Memo section of your check write Easter Flowers.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Dedication: _____

of Lilies _____

of Tulips _____

Plants may be taken home after the Easter worship service



Looking for Volunteers

The Capen Garden Walk seeks volunteers. We have openings for our committee, which meets monthly. We also need volunteers to assist at our annual Garden Walk, which will be Saturday-Sunday, July 16-17, 2022, and our Plant & Seed Exchanges on Saturday, May 21 and Saturday, September 24. You can help with a few small tasks, or get more involved - it's your choice. The Capen Garden Walk is described at <http://ourheights.org/gardenwalk/>. To volunteer, contact committee chair Linda Young at capengardenwalk@gmail.com.



Too many of us lead hectic lives.

Our communities are filled with violence and suffering.

Our personal pain and struggles can overwhelm us.

How do we respond? How can we cope?

University Presbyterian Church welcomes Christians from all traditions to unite in a special contemplative worship experience as we seek spiritual strength for the living of our days. Based on the style of worship practiced in the Taizé Christian community in France, these services offered on the First Friday of each month provide an oasis at the end of the week for all who are weary, troubled, or rushed. Special music from guest musicians, meditative songs, prayers, candles, and scripture readings allow each of us to find a quiet place of prayer and spiritual centering.

Please join us on Friday, March 4th from 5:30 to 6:00 PM.

A Taizé Service of Prayer, Music, and Meditation

www.upcbuffalo.org

(The Taize' Service in April is scheduled for Friday, April 1, 2022)