

# *The Network... a Publication of University Presbyterian Church*



## *June 2021*

### **Message from our Pastor**

Since March of this year, UPC has been publishing reprints in our monthly church newsletter of articles by *The Washington Post* columnist, Michelle Singletary. The Community Committee found her 10-part series on the economic realities facing by African Americans so compelling that it reached out to *The Washington Post* and got special permission to reprint the articles in our newsletter. This is a wonderful privilege granted to our congregation!

I encourage you to take the time to read her article each month in this newsletter. Each article offers insights into the challenges, history, and present realities that contribute to the economic racial inequalities in our nation. The information Ms. Singletary shares moves us beyond misconceptions and superficial assumptions to a place of greater understanding. And understanding the issues people face and the role we might even unknowingly play in perpetuating these issues, is the first step in the journey toward change and justice.

Blessings,

Tracy

# Update

**The Session of UPC has altered some of UPC's  
Covid protocols and practices...**

Beginning Sunday, May 23rd:

- Masks will be **optional** during worship services for those who are fully vaccinated, and **required** for those who are not yet vaccinated.
- Masks will still be **required** in the building during weekday business hours. Food Pantry volunteers and clients and members coming to the Church Office during weekdays must wear a mask in the building.
- In addition to the Ramp Entrance and the Front Entrance, worshippers may once again use the Parking Lot Entrance, elevator and 2nd floor corridors on Sunday mornings to access the sanctuary and the 2nd floor restrooms.

## Adult Class for June

The title for the Adult Class during June could be one of several options:

"Jesus' Greatest Hits"

"A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven"

"The Most Popular Sermon in the World"

All of these titles accurately describe the Sermon on the Mount which is what we will be exploring during the 5 weeks in June.

Tracy will lead the class in exploring these biblical texts using the book *Sermon on the Mount* by Amy-Jill Levine. Dr. Levine is a Jewish New Testament scholar who invites us to hear the Jewishness of Jesus' words and to understand them in light of the world in which Jesus lived.

You do not need to purchase the book to join the class but you are certainly welcome to do so if you wish. You may, however, find it helpful to read the Sermon on the Mount beforehand. It can be found in the Gospel of Matthew chapters 5-7.

The class will meet every Wednesday in June at 1 p.m.  
The Zoom link is emailed each week. All are welcome!!!

## Worship Column

### **Sunday June 6**

*2nd Sunday after Pentecost*

1 Sam. 8:4-11 (12-15)  
16-20 (11:14-15) and Ps. 138;  
Gen. 3:8-15 and Ps. 130;  
2 Cor. 4:13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35

### **Sunday, June 13**

*3rd Sunday after Pentecost*

1 Sam. 15:34-16:13 and Ps. 20;  
Ezek. 17:22-24 and Ps. 92:1-4, 12-15;  
2 Cor. 5:6-10 (11-13) 14-17; Mark 4:26-34



### **Sunday, June 20**

*4th Sunday after Pentecost*

1 Sam. 17:17: (2a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49 and Ps. 9:9-20; or  
1 Sam. 17:57-18:5, 10-16 and Ps. 133;  
Job 38:1-11 and Ps. 107:1-3, 23-32; 2 Cor. 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41

### **Sunday, June 27**

*5th Sunday after Pentecost*

2 Sam. 1:1, 17-27 and Ps., 130;  
Lam. 3:22-233 and Ps 30; 2 Cor. 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43



“A father is neither an anchor to hold us back nor a sail to take us there, but a guiding light whose love shows us the way.”

- Unknown

“The older I get, the smarter my father seems to get.”

- Tim Russert

## *June birthday wishes go out to...*



- |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 1  | Thomas Somerville  |
| 2  | Timothy Harbison   |
| 6  | Dennis Erickson    |
| 7  | Susan Beyer        |
| 11 | Priscilla Stevens  |
| 21 | Sabina Burker      |
| 24 | Clark Whitefield   |
| 26 | Zain Shirazi       |
| 26 | Russell Whitefield |
| 30 | Roger Dahl         |

## **Volunteers Needed!**

Would you like to help beautify the sanctuary on a Sunday morning with chancel flowers...sign up on the bulletin board.

We are looking for volunteers who would like to read the lectionary on Sunday...sign up on the bulletin board.

**Food Pantry:** Working through the Food Bank of WNY and supported by individuals, local religious organizations and community groups, UPC's all-volunteer pantry provides nutritious food to those individuals and families in our local area who struggle with hunger and food insecurity, helping them to supplement their food resources in a manner that is respectful and caring.

The food pantry at UPC is currently in need of volunteers to work in the pantry from 11:30-4:00 pm on Tuesday and Thursdays. Volunteer may choose 2, 2.5, or 4.5 hours shifts on whichever days in the month they're available. Please contact the church office (716-836-7660) if you are interested in helping.

## What's Happening in

# JUNE



Tuesday, June 1	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	
Thursday, June 3	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	
Friday, June 4	5:30 pm	Taize Service	
Sunday, June 6	10:00 am	Worship Service Youth Group Field Trip	
Tuesday, June 8	10:00 am	Zoom Shared Youth Support Team	
	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	
Thursday, June 10	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	
	7:00 pm	Zoom 100th Anniversary Meeting	
Sunday, June 13	10:00 am	Worship Service	
	7:30 pm	Zoom Deacon's Meeting	
Tuesday, June 15	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	
	2:00 pm	Zoom Ministry to Community Committee Meeting	
Wednesday, June 16	7:00 pm	Session	
Thursday, June 17	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	
Sunday, June 20	<i>Father's Day</i>		
	10:00 am	Worship Service	
Tuesday, June 22	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	
Thursday, June 24	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	
Sunday, June 27	10:00 am	Worship Service	
	5:00 pm	Youth Group @ North Presbyterian	
Monday, June 28	2:00 pm	Mobile Food Pantry @ Trinity Methodist	
Tuesday, June 29	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	



*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, June 4th from 5:30 to 6:00 PM.**

**A Taizé Service of Prayer, Music, and Meditation**

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

(The Taize' Service in July is scheduled for Friday, July 2, 2021)