

*The Network... a Publication of  
University Presbyterian Church  
September 2021*

Message from our Pastor

Flexibility and adaptability have been key elements to managing pandemic life. For the last year and a half, we've had a lot of experience exercising our flexibility and adaptability. And it appears we are not yet done with the work-out. While we had hoped to resume certain congregational activities this Fall, due to the rise of Covid-19 in our region, especially the Delta variant, UPC is having to yet again adapt our plans to ensure our congregation's safety and well-being.

For the present moment, the UPC Session has implemented the following decisions which will be **reviewed on a monthly basis**:

—returned to a mask policy in worship regardless of vaccination status

—placed a hold on the resumption of Sunday morning Christian Education classes, the Early 9 a.m. service, the return of the Choir in worship, and the holding of Coffee Hour following worship

—approved the continuation of a single worship service **at 10 a.m. until further notice.**

I share in the disappointment that many of you may feel regarding the delay in these activities. Nevertheless, there is still much to look forward to this Fall, including many wonderful soloists and instrumental music in worship, the resumption of Zoom Bible study classes Wednesdays at 1 p.m., and most especially, **the greatly anticipated 100th Anniversary celebration which kicks off on November 7 with a special worship service followed by a celebratory banquet.**

Please know that UPC is still carrying out the ministry and business of the Church. UPC is still active in serving the community through the Food Pantry. The Community Committee is pursuing other community needs we may respond to, including the expected arrival of Afghan refugees in our region. The Session is pursuing ways to enhance our online streaming of worship services with upgrades to our audio and visual technology. Our congregation remains engaged and active even as we adapt to ever-changing pandemic realities.

Shalom,

Tracy

## Adult Education Class

UPC's online Adult Education Class will resume on **Wednesday, September 8 at 1 p.m.**

Using the book *Great Prayers of the Old Testament* by the esteemed scholar Walter Brueggemann, Tracy will lead the class in exploring examples of biblical prayers and how these ancient prayers can help make prayer come alive for us today. The prayers examined in this series express joy and lament and show the depths of human experience and the grace of a loving God who hears everything and takes every prayer to heart.

Everyone is welcome to attend. The Zoom link is emailed each week a few days in advance of the class.

### ***Please remember...***

Have you changed your phone number or address? Has anyone moved out of your residence? Please remember to report the changes to the church office so that we can keep accurate records.



### **Liturgists Needed**

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the front narthex.

### **Chancel Flowers**

Check the flower sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex. There are lots of open Sundays for flower placements.

### **Relief for Haiti**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has had long-standing partnerships in Haiti for decades. These meaningful relationships enable us to come alongside communities affected by disaster in the immediate aftermath, as well as support communities planning multi-year, long-term recovery projects.

Most recently, PDA is responding to the devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake that struck Haiti the morning of August 14, 2021 that has resulted in the loss of more than 1,200 lives. Working closely with Presbyterian World Mission, our traditional partners on the ground and ACT Alliance, PDA is responding to emergency needs such as WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), emergency power generators, shelter, food, first aid and more. We remain committed to the long-term recovery.

If you wish to make a donation to this relief effort, you can place your gift in a pew envelope and write "Haiti" on the envelope, or make a check out to "University Presbyterian Church" and write "Haiti" in the memo line. We will send your contribution to the PDA.

## Worship Column

### **Sunday, September 5**

*15th Sunday after Pentecost*

Prov. 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Ps. 125;  
Isa. 35:4-7a; Ps. 146; James 2:1-10  
(11-13) 14-17, Mark 7:24-37

### **Sunday, September 12**

*16th Sunday after Pentecost*

Prov. 1:20-33; Ps. 19; Isa. 50:4-9a,  
Ps. 116:1-9; James 3:1-12;  
Mark 8:27-38

### **Sunday, September 19**

*17th Sunday after Pentecost*

Prov. 31:10-31; Ps. 1; Jer. 11:18-20;  
Ps. 54; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a;  
Mark 9:30-37

### **Sunday, September 26**

*18th Sunday after Pentecost*

Esth. 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Ps. 124;  
Num. 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29;  
Ps. 19:7-14; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50



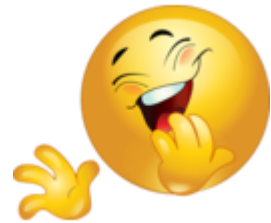
*Grace is the absolute goodness of God poured  
generously upon you with kindness to heal your wounds...  
with power to renew your strength...  
with hope to restore your soul...  
with love to make your life new.*

*September birthday wishes go out to...*



17 Jeremy Hoechst  
19 Josef Beamer  
25 Barbara Moran  
26 Marietta Bratton  
29 Joseph Beamer

### **Church Chuckles**



Three girls are in the schoolyard bragging about their mothers.

The 1st girl says, "My Mom writes a few words on a piece of paper, she calls it a poem, they give her \$50."

The 2nd girl says, "That's nothing. My mom writes a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a song, they give her \$100."

The 3rd girls says, "I got you both beat. My mom writes a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a sermon and it takes 2 people with baskets to collect all the money!"

## What's Happening in September



Thursday, September 2	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Friday, September 3	5:30 pm	Taize
Sunday, September 5	10:00 am	Worship Service
Monday, September 6	<i>Labor Day Holiday ~ Church Office Closed</i>	
Tuesday, September 7	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Wednesday, September 8	1:00 pm	Zoom Bible Study
Thursday, September 9	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Sunday, September 12	10:00 am	Rally Day-Worship Service
	7:00 pm	Zoom Deacons' Meeting
Tuesday, September 14	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
	2:00 pm	Zoom Community Committee
Wednesday, September 15	1:00 pm	Zoom Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Session Meeting
Thursday, September 16	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Sunday, September 19	10:00 am	Worship Service
Tuesday, September 21	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Wednesday, September 22	1:00 pm	Zoom Bible Study
Thursday, September 23	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, September 25	9:30 am	Garden Walk Seed Exchange
Sunday, September 26	10:00 am	Worship Service
Monday, September 27	1:30 pm	Mobile Food Pantry @ Trinity Methodist
Tuesday, September 28	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Wednesday, September 29	1:00 pm	Zoom Bible Study
Thursday, September 30	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open



## DID YOU KNOW?



UPC began as a small congregation founded in 1921 in the growing University Park neighborhood of North Buffalo. The Buffalo Presbytery had recognized the growth toward the suburbs and the need for a church to minister to these developing neighborhoods, including the University of Buffalo, to which UPC established a comprehensive outreach program.

UPC's original wood building was outgrown almost before it was completed. Plans to construct a new church and education building began in earnest in 1927. The sanctuary wing, with classroom and assembly spaces in the basement, was dedicated in 1928. In 1956 construction was completed on the education wing originally envisioned by the church and architects North & Shelgren in 1927. This structure, designed by Fenno, Reynolds & McNeil, balanced the composition of the irregularly shaped site.

UPC's 2015 listing on the National Register of Historic Places recognized the architecture as a "distinctive and substantially intact local example of a Georgian Colonial Revival style church, with a Wren-Gibbs inspired portico, tower and steeple." It also noted that the uncommon V-shaped plan "for the church maximizes its visibility at this angled intersection, orienting the main elevation of the building to the street traffic so that the entry and tower are highly visible when driving north on Main Street."

In addition to UPC's architectural significance, the National Register recognized the importance of the church's ministry and outreach programs in the social history of the community. Among the early efforts were a cafeteria catering to university students run by the Woman's Association and Boy Scout Troop 6, which began meeting at UPC in 1924. In discussing later outreach efforts, the National Register listing highlighted the UPC Food Pantry's more than three decades of service to the community.



# Cinema

F O R

# SAFE HAVEN



JERICHO ROAD  
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

A Fundraiser for Jericho Road's  
**Vive Shelter**

Presented by: **M&T Bank**

## TICKETS ON SALE NOW

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 6:30 P.M.

AT THE TRANSIT DRIVE-IN

6655 S. Transit Road, Lockport 14094



### FEATURING: ET THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL

Join us for dinner and a movie under the stars! Your ticket includes admission to the movie, a boxed Chiavetta's dinner, popcorn, and a drink.

Tickets at

**[bit.ly/cinema4safehaven21](http://bit.ly/cinema4safehaven21)**

Ticket sales close September 21.





*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, September 3rd 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 October is scheduled for Friday, October 1, 2021)