

# UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Newsletter for church members  
and friends

February 2017

# CONTACT



Last evening I attended one of our new community suppers with Hospitality Hall guests. The table was spread (no surprise) with plenty of delicious choices made by UPC folks who'd signed up to do so; the prayers of thanksgiving were heartfelt, the seating arrangement a beautiful mix of guests and hosts, the conversation lively, and the laughter plentiful. We lingered after the meal for more than an hour, savoring the time together and discovering shared interests and common friends, telling stories and building the bonds of community.

It's good to savor things.

Recently we've been savoring the history of this congregation. Rather than celebrating our 75th anniversary like we're at a fast food drive in, we're taking our time with each decade, like courses in a fine meal. We're paying attention to various elements of how folks here have shared life and faith with one another, telling stories, sharing pictures...relishing the blend (if you will) of flavors and spices.

It's good to savor things.

At the end of February I will be heading off on a sabbatical. It will give me a chance to savor things a little more - to savor my family, long-time colleagues, and friends; to savor time for reading and reflection without the need to quickly assimilate, teach, preach, or make decisions; to savor new places and people who are living out of and into their faith with a bend toward the hospitality that you and I so tend toward; and to revisit some places and people who have contributed to the ambrosia that is my life and calling.

It is good to savor things.

There is more of the savory to come. There are more decades to celebrate and give thanks for in the history of this wonderful church. While I'm on sabbatical you will be engaged in savoring one another's gifts and the leadership of your officers - including Mike. And before you know it, it will be Lent and you will be savoring together the time in small groups and other venues to slowly drink in the tradition of Christian hospitality and chew over the ways we might live into our future and in some new ways build even deeper and wider bonds of community.

It is good to savor things.

Savoring things stirs up gratitude of the kind you feel after a good meal shared with friends, of the kind you feel when you are part of a place with as faithful a history as this one, of the kind you feel when you make space for one another to venture and grow, to stop and think, to take your time. I know it may sound crazy, but I'm already excited about returning from my sabbatical as June turns to July and finding out about what this time has given you and sharing what your gift of time has opened in me. I imagine a cornucopia of stories, a table spread with lots of laughter and insight too.

Taking the time to savor is a good thing. Spiritually it is crucial. As we make time and space for each other and for ourselves, we discover the kind of hospitality that is more than just being polite, the kind that is both given and received, and modeled after God's welcome, respect, and love of us all.

My prayers stay with you.



## FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 1 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel  
 Noon Staff Meeting  
 Noon UPC Fun Club - BJ's Restaurant - Mall of Louisiana  
 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary  
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room  
 3-4 6:00 p.m. Officers Retreat - Feliciana Retreat Center

### **5 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Patti Snyder preaching, Anniversary Celebration ('80s)*

- 8:30 a.m. Worship  
 9:45 a.m. Church School  
 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 Noon Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary  
 12:30 p.m. VBS Planning - Conference Room  
 4:30 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous - Library  
 6 11:30 a.m. Membership Committee - Conference Room  
 7 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Conference Room  
 10:00 a.m. Day Circle - Parks Wilson Room  
 Noon AIAnon - Dorm Living Area  
 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Committee - Conference Room  
 7:30 p.m. UPC Book Group - 2285 Cedardale  
 8 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel  
 Noon Staff Meeting  
 Noon UPC Fun Club - BJ's Restaurant - Mall of Louisiana  
 5:00 p.m. Property Committee - Conference Room  
 6:00 p.m. Hospitality Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall  
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

- 9 Noon Widows Support Group - Parks Wilson Room  
 12:30 p.m. Day School Committee - Conference Room

### **12 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

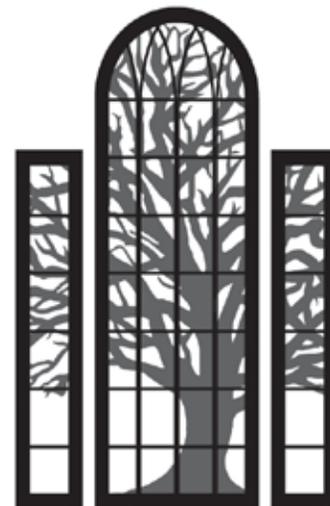
*Alex McNeil preaching, Anniversary Celebration ('90s)*

- 8:30 a.m. Worship  
 9:45 a.m. Church School  
 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 Noon High School Youth Group  
 4:30 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous - Library  
 7:00 p.m. *Out of Order* documentary screening - Fellowship Hall  
 13 7:00 p.m. Huntington's Disease Support Group - Library  
 14 Noon AI-Anon - Sr. High Room  
 7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library  
 7:00 p.m. Mission & Peacemaking Com. - 6630 Boone  
 15 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel  
 Noon Staff Meeting  
 Noon UPC Fun Club - BJ's Restaurant - Mall of Louisiana  
 5:00 p.m. Christian Ed. Adult Ed. Subcommittee - Library  
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room  
 17 5:30 p.m. Young Adult Social - 3839 Claycut Rd.  
 18 8:00 a.m. Day School Teacher Training - Fellowship Hall

### **19 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Patti Snyder preaching, Anniversary Celebration ('2000s), Shower of Stoles*

- 8:30 a.m. Worship  
 9:45 a.m. Church School  
 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 12:15 p.m. Stewardship & Finance Committee - Conference Room  
 4:00 p.m. Middle & High School Youth Groups  
 4:30 p.m. Overeaters Anonymous - Library  
 6:30 p.m. Session Meeting - Conference Room



## **UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF**

- Patti Snyder.....psnyder@upcbr.org  
*Senior Pastor*  
 Mike Watson.....mwatson@upcbr.org  
*Associate Pastor*  
 Caralyn Durham.....cdurham@upcbr.org  
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*Day School Director*  
 Jill Clemmons .....jclemm1@lsu.edu  
*Clerk of Session*

**The University Presbyterian Church CONTACT is printed monthly. Articles may be submitted electronically to [cdurham@upcbr.org](mailto:cdurham@upcbr.org) or turned in to the church office no later than the 20th of each month. To be removed from the mailing list, please contact the church office.**

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# OFFICE NOTES



## PRAYER LIST.....

Please contact the church office if you have a prayer request you would like printed in the Sunday bulletin. Also, please remember to update your prayer concerns.

## WHAT'S THAT YOU SAID?.....

Hearing assistance devices are available in the hall outside the Sanctuary. Please feel free to borrow one if you have a difficult time hearing in church and return the device to the table when the service is over.

## DAYCIRCLE.....

The PW Day Circle meets on February 7 to continue the study of "Who is Jesus." Linda Walker will lead a discussion of Lesson 6, Hebrews. Jan Boydstun is providing refreshments. Please join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Parks Wilson room.

## WIDOWS SUPPORT GROUP.....

Our Widows Support group will meet on Thursday, February 9, at noon in the Parks Wilson Room. Feel free to bring a brown bag lunch. This is a relaxed time of conversation that flows with whatever is needed. If you have any questions, please call Peggy Carroll (726-7856).

## SUNDAY FLOWER DONATIONS

Memorial Flower Donation envelopes for 2017 are available in the pews for you to fill out to reserve flowers for 2017 Sunday Services. Available dates for donation can be found in the Sunday bulletins or by contacting the church office. Place your completed envelope in the offering plate, and we will take care of the rest. Thank you for making Sunday services so beautiful.

## NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?.....

Rides to Church is a program of UPC sponsored by the Nurture Committee. Its primary purpose is to provide transportation for those who require assistance in getting to and from church services and church functions. Volunteers working with program coordinator Patti Meredith will give rides when requested. If you would like a ride to church or if you would like to volunteer to give rides, please contact Patti at 901-201-9864 or pfmeredith@aol.com.

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR *continued*

### 20 MARCH EDITION CONTACT ARTICLES DUE

- |    |            |   |
|----|------------|---|
| 21 | 9:00 a.m.  | Presbytery Meeting - Lakeview Presbyterian, New Orleans |
|    | 10:00 a.m. | Helping Hands - Conference Room                         |
|    | Noon       | Al-Anon - Parks Wilson Room                             |
| 22 | 9:30 a.m.  | Day School Chapel                                       |
|    | Noon       | Staff Lunch   |
|    | Noon       | UPC Fun Club - BJ's Restaurant - Mall of Louisiana      |
|    | 7:00 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room                            |

### 26 Transfiguration

- Patti Snyder preaching, Anniversary Celebration (2010 and beyond), Communion*
- |    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
|    | 8:30 a.m.  | Worship   |
|    | 9:45 a.m.  | Church School                                     |
|    | 10:00 a.m.   | Choir Rehearsal                                   |
|    | 11:00 a.m.   | Worship   |
|    | Noon   | Caregivers Support Group - Parks Wilson Room      |
|    | 12:15 p.m.   | Anniversary Potluck Celebration - Fellowship Hall |
|    | 4:30 p.m.  | Overeaters Anonymous - Library                    |
| 27 | MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY - DAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED |   |
| 28 | MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY - DAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED |   |

The session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, February 5, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to hear a report on the 2017 budget, address changes in the terms of call for our pastors, and elect the 2017 Congregational Nominating Committee.



*You're Invited*  
*Sunday, February 26, 2017*

Please join us for a potluck lunch following the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, February 26th to conclude the official 75th Anniversary Celebrations at UPC.

- A main course of ham/turkey will be provided.
- Bring your favorite dish from one of the eight decades to share.
- Dress in your favorite decade.
- Be entertained by our youth with their "Back to the Future" skit.

## Youth Group

Senior High and Middle School youth began the year out in service by working with the youth of the Presbytery of South Louisiana at Okra Abbey – an urban farm and new worshipping community in New Orleans. We look forward to many more opportunities for service in the year ahead.

### Upcoming Events

**February 5th**, time TBA: Black History Month event for middle school and senior high

**February 12**, 12-2pm: Senior high conversation on gender identity with Alex McNeill (*guest preacher from More Light Presbyterians*)

**February 19**, 4-6pm: Anniversary Skit Planning with Ava Haymon

**February 26**, noon: Anniversary Skit at the church potluck

**March 5**, no youth group scheduled

**March 10-12**, Youth Retreat at Feliciana (Youth Sunday Planning)

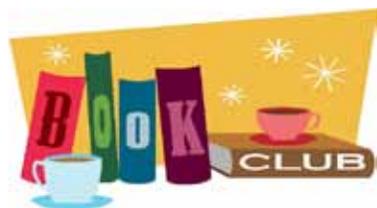
**March 19**, 4-6pm: Youth Sunday Planning

**March 26**, Youth Sunday!

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## Adult Church School Classes Combined on February 26th

Join us in the Sanctuary at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, February 26th as we discuss what's ahead in the future for UPC. We'll hear a final update on Patti's sabbatical and what is in store for her and for UPC the following four months. (*See also "Sabbatical News" announcement on page 5*)



The **UPC Book Club** meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.  
2285 Cedardale

### February 7

A Man Called Ove

by Fredrik Backman.

## Christian Education at UPC 2016-2017

### Pre-K and Kindergarten (*Ages 4 - Kindergarten*) Room 105

Godly Play helps our children to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language, and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Join us on Sundays as we play together.

*Teachers: Pat Strain, Griff Campbell, Betty Shelton, Linda Green*

### Elementary (*Grades 1-5*) Room TBD

Feasting on the Word for children is a lectionary based curriculum that connects with the church's lectionary cycle. Once a month, this class will focus directly on worship and music. This class will help connect the worship experience in a meaningful way with what is going on in church school. *Teacher: Betsy Wilks*

*Shepherds: Linda Walker, Mary Mikell, Maggie Richardson*

### Middle School (*Grades 6-8*) Library

We will be using a new service-learning-based approach that will combine lessons from church school into youth group activities, which will occur monthly. The Middle School offering will be used in conjunction with the service learning projects. We will use the Faith Practices curriculum produced by the United Church of Christ.

*Teachers: Kelly Kerr, Jill Clemmons*

### Senior High (*Grades 9-12*) Gather in Welcome Center

The Senior High church school class continues its tradition of faith conversation walks to a caffeinated holy place (Highland Coffees). We will be following the Feasting on the Word lectionary cycle Bible studies, along with periodical topical conversations.

*Teachers: Kurt Ozier, Kelley Massengale, Ed Peterson, Cynthia Peterson*

### Adult Bible Study Class *Conference Room (122)*

In February, the adult Bible Study class will continue its journey through Brian McLaren's "We Make the Road by Walking." These classes follow the church year through exploring different Scripture readings as they relate to the roads we all walk in our lives. This class is group facilitated and all are welcome to join at any time.

### Adult Parks Wilson Class *Parks Wilson Room (108)*

*Created in God's Image: A Class on Gender Identity*

Scripture reminds us that we are "all are one in Christ Jesus." Following the mandate of Christ's loving justice for all people, we will be spending a few weeks exploring gender identity in all its forms and how the church is called to be present in the lives of those facing discrimination.

#### Jan. 29 Understanding Gender Identity

Assistant professor Catherine Jacquet of the LSU History department, a specialist in US history and the history of sexuality, will begin our series by leading a discussion on understanding gender identity.

#### Feb. 5 Gender Identity on Campus

A panel composed of members of Spectrum, an organization of LGBTQ students at LSU, will talk about their experiences with questions and issues of gender identity.

#### Feb. 12 Gender Identity and the Church

We will be joined this day by our guest preacher, Alex McNeil, Executive Director of More Light Presbyterians. Alex will lead a discussion on our denomination's past, present, and future ministry with LGBTQ folks, with particular focus on gender identity. We will also learn about the work More Light Presbyterians has been doing in our denomination.

#### Feb. 19 Gender Identity and the State

We will be joined this day by LSU Law students and Dr. Robert Lancaster, who will lead a discussion on legal challenges facing LGBTQ people, with particular focus on gender identity.

## Alex McNeill to Preach February 12

Alex Patchin McNeill, executive director of More Light Presbyterians and grandson of the late Paul Burns, is the first openly transgender person to head a main-line Protestant organization, a life-long Presbyterian, and a nationally known educator and advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) Christians. He has trained hundreds of Christians to become community leaders through the Institute for Welcoming Resources and the Reconciling Ministries Network. He played key roles organizing faith communities for the passage of Amendment 10A in the PC(USA), and for marriage equality legislation in Maryland. McNeill has also campaigned for ballot measures and legislation to promote LGBTQ rights. His journey to ordination is currently being chronicled in the documentary, *Out of Order*. Alex holds a Master's of Divinity from Harvard Divinity School and a Bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. He currently lives in Asheville, NC, with his wife and three dogs.

## Out of Order Screening at UPC

"*Out of Order* is a ground breaking feature documentary revealing the complex and painful struggles faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) faith leaders as they confront entrenched bigotry and work to build loving support within their churches."

We have a unique opportunity to host a screening of this new documentary on Sunday, February 12th, at 7:00 p.m. We will be joined by our guest preacher that day, Alex McNeill, who also happens to be in the cast of this movie. We'll have popcorn and a brief discussion with Alex after the movie. Hope you can join us!



On Sunday, February 19, 2017, as part of our anniversary celebration, we will display a portion of the Shower of Stoles. The Shower of Stoles is a collection of over a thousand liturgical stoles from gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons from twenty-four denominations in five countries. Each stole contains the story of a person who is active in the life and leadership of the faith community. As we celebrate the gifts and calling of our new leaders, we remember all who serve God through the church and those who have been excluded from service because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

## UPC Young Adult Social

"What is a young adult," you ask? It's not so much about a defined age as it is a state of life. If you feel like you identify as a young adult, we hope that you will join us for a fun evening of getting to know one another better. Mike and Melody will be hosting a get-together on Friday, February 17, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at their home: 3839 Claycut Road. This gathering is Mardi Gras themed. We'll have heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine, and some non-alcoholic beverages. Feel free to bring your own drink to share. We hope you will consider dropping by! Contact Mike with any questions (mwatson@upcbr.org).

## Lenten Small Groups

UPC Lenten small groups begin the first week of March. We will be reading "Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition," by Christine D Pohl. Groups will meet on a variety of days and times each week, so join the one that works best for your schedule! Sign-ups will begin in mid-February. Interested in leading a group? Let us know! Contact Mike if you are interested or have any questions (mwatson@upcbr.org).

## Sabbatical News

As most of you know, our own Patti Snyder was awarded a Lilly Clergy Renewal Grant. She will be on sabbatical from March 1 through June 30. We are fortunate to have Rick Pitcher assisting Mike Watson in her absence with pastoral care, Sunday sermons, and general work of UPC. If you are interested in learning of Patti's plans and the plans for church activities during her sabbatical, come join us in the Sanctuary on February 26 at 9:30 a.m. for information and conversation.

## Open Tables

The UPC Fellowship Committee is pleased to announce our next Open Tables event at Curbside Burgers (<http://curbside-burgers.com/>) on Friday, March 24, at 6:00 p.m. Curbside is located at 4158 Government, St. (Mid-City's Capital Heights neighborhood, next to Calandros) and the phone number is 225-478-8349.



Remember when you wistfully thought, "When I fall in love..."? What were the possibilities? Have they come true? Are you still dreaming, still wistful? The men of NOGMC have been looking through their library of love songs and poetry to interpret your dreams. They will take you on walks through fields of gold, falling autumn leaves, and the sound of silence. As time goes by and you can finally say "I love you", don't you think to yourself, "What a wonderful world?"

Join us on Friday, February 10th, in New Orleans at the UNO Performing Arts Center Recital Hall and on Saturday, February 11th, in Baton Rouge at the Unitarian Church of Baton Rouge, 8470 Goodwood Boulevard, for a night of love songs and poetry. Bring someone you love, someone you could love, or someone who needs love. Advance tickets are available for \$18 and tickets at the door for \$20. (Our music and poetry of love are included in the ticket price. The love you bring? Priceless.) Both shows begin at 7:30 p.m.

## Cuba Mission: Can you help?

UPC and La Iglesia Presbiteriana Getsemaní entered a partnership over 25 years ago! We've sent youth groups there for international mission experiences. We've donated money, medicine, toys, office supplies, Vacation Bible School materials, baseballs and gloves, a Living Waters for the World water filtration system, tools, and more. But mostly, we have forged friendships over the years and have seen how God comforted and strengthened the members of that small church in the most desperate of times. Hearing their stories, we all have gained some insight to what faith is. Some easy ways we enhance our partnership with our sister church Getsemaní, San José de los Ramos are listed below. If you are interested in helping, please check the activities you are interested in and turn in this form to the church office.

Your interest and help are needed to create a strong partnership. Please contact the Mission & Peacemaking Committee soon! (Questions? Contact chairperson: Chris Whittington, [chris@whittingtonlawfirm.com](mailto:chris@whittingtonlawfirm.com) or Linda Walker, [Lstodwalk@bellsouth.net](mailto:Lstodwalk@bellsouth.net).)

NAME _____
PHONE NO. _____
EMAIL _____
<input type="checkbox"/> email prayer lists and other church news
<input type="checkbox"/> recognize both US and Cuban holidays with cards & emails
<input type="checkbox"/> take photos of UPC people/events
<input type="checkbox"/> organize collection of supplies (OTC meds; LWW system materials; office/educational supplies, etc.) annually
<input type="checkbox"/> write CONTACT articles
<input type="checkbox"/> stay informed through news items - advocacy groups, PCUSA Cuba Partners Network, government(s) advisories, news media, and post on UPC facebook, website, bulletin boards
<input type="checkbox"/> translation (knowledge of Spanish)
<input type="checkbox"/> support action that may arise from initiatives proposed by our sister church
<input type="checkbox"/> donate [monetary donations support UPC's Cuba Mission budget: for supplies needed for projects at our sister church; transportation to insure that at least one person could visit our sister church each year; hosting Cuban visitors; annual dues to the PCUSA Cuba Partners Network, and more]
<input type="checkbox"/> host Cuban guests
Also, but not as "easy".....
<input type="checkbox"/> travel with UPC groups to Cuba
<input type="checkbox"/> train with, and support, Living Waters for the World (installed in countries all over the world)

## Hidden Figures Screening and Discussion at LSU

The UPC Outreach Committee is launching an initiative of taking church members to LSU campus events of particular significance. We will begin on March 17 with a viewing of the movie *Hidden Figures* at the LSU Union Theatre, followed by a panel discussion on "Women in Science." Admission is free and the event is open to LSU students, faculty, staff, and the community. If you are interested, please contact Cynthia Peterson ([cbpeter@lsu.edu](mailto:cbpeter@lsu.edu) or 223-4025). We will conclude the semester with a "Masterworks Concert," also at the LSU Union Theatre, on April 28, featuring Paul Groves (one of the leading tenors of our time) and the LSU A Cappella Choir in works by Leonard Bernstein and Hector Berlioz. Tickets are \$17. If you are interested, please contact Andreas Giger ([agiger1@lsu.edu](mailto:agiger1@lsu.edu)). There will also be signup sheets in the Welcome Center about two Sundays prior to each event.

### Committee Chairs Announced for 2017

Christian Education - Meredith Veldman  
 Children's Subcommittee - Paul Wallace  
 Youth Subcommittee - Amy Vidrine  
 Adult Subcommittee - Jon Cogburn

Day School - Daniel Burch & Linda Benedict

Membership - June Klimash

Mission & Peacemaking - Chris Whittington & Carl Motsenbocker

Personnel & Administration - Cordell Haymon  
 Technology Subcommittee - TBA

Stewardship & Finance - Jerry Trahan

Worship & Music - Leslie Campbell

University Outreach - Andreas Giger

Fellowship - Bizza Britton & Doug Walker  
 Flowers Subcommittee - Peggy Carroll

Nurture - Jane Smith

Property - Ed Green

Clerk of Session - Jill Clemmons

Vice Clerk of Session - Jeff Perry

Moderator of Deacons - Kelly Kerr

**MARCH CONTACT DEADLINE FEBRUARY 20**

# HOSPITALITY HALL

## UPC Hospitality Hilton!

Three fabulous work crews stayed in UPC's Hospitality Hall in January. The ages of the voters ranged from 18 to 80! In interviewing each group of volunteers as they leave, we have found that they love the community dinners most. They love the warmth of the UPC members they meet. They enjoy all that Baton Rouge has to offer. They are amazed at the amount of damage Storm 2016 did and how little national coverage it received. They adore the homeowners they are serving. They have provided more than \$10,000.00 worth of free labor!

We have more groups scheduled in the months ahead. The first group in February will be led by Melody Watson's dad from Boardman, Ohio. By February we hope to have a full time Americorps staff member in the shelter office. We are now being called the Hilton of Host Sites! We appreciate all of you who have brought food and eaten dinner with the groups, donated supplies to the dorm, and welcomed the unfamiliar faces you've encountered! As our flood mission continues, please continue to be the face of hospitality for UPC.

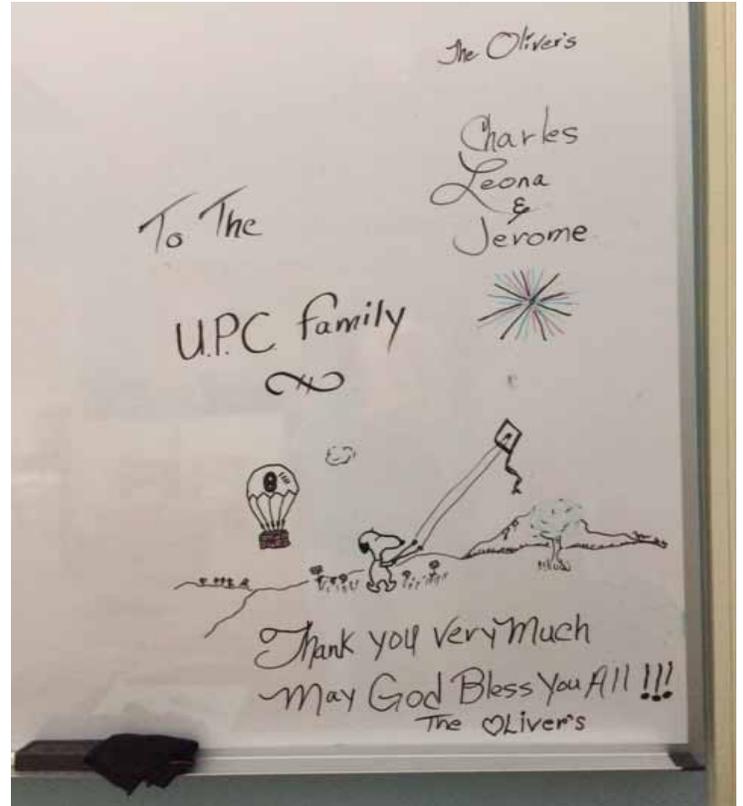


Above: group from Protestant Campus Ministry, Albany, NY  
Below: group from Trinity Presbyterian Church, Fairhope, AL



## "Louisiana Movies" Needed

Our groups of guests in the Hospitality Hall have put out a request. They would like a small collection of movies about or filmed in Louisiana! They'd heard *Pitch Perfect* was filmed right on campus! What about *Hurricane on the Bayou* or *Hurricane: Walking on Dead Fish*, *Kingfish*, *Everybody's All American*, etc...? Look through your library of movies and/or documentaries and see if you have something suitable to donate. Leave them for Nieca or in the volunteer lounge off the Parks Wilson room.



Above: A note from the Oliver's, one of our families who lived with us after the flood.

Below: group from Cornell Protestant Chapel, Ithica, NY





## The Back Fence

- Congratulations to Ed and Bizza Britton upon the birth of a granddaughter, Bradie Phine Battle, on January 25th.

*Do you have an announcement for "The Back Fence?" Send your great news to Carolyn at [cdurham@upcbr.org](mailto:cdurham@upcbr.org) by the 20th of every month.*

### Missing a Mattress?

In cleaning out the shelter office for our new volunteer coordinator, Neica Braziel, we found some inflatable mattresses that had been donated. If you'd like to have yours back, please come by the shelter office during the Community Dinners, or on Sunday morning ask Mary Mikell or Eleanor Canon to open the office for you.

## IN MEMORIAM

- **Tyke Olinde**, who died January 4, 2017
- **Nancy McCracken**, who died January 15, 2017

## SAVE THE DATE

### Vacation Bible School 2017

Save the date! Our intergenerational VBS will be in the evenings, starting Sunday, June 11th and running through Tuesday, June 13th.

## Lent 2017: Making Room

*"If there is any concept worth restoring to its original depth and evocative potential, it is the concept of hospitality. It is one of the richest biblical terms that can deepen and broaden our insight in our relationships to our fellow human beings." -HENRI NOUWEN*

Join us this Lenten season as we unpack the meaning of hospitality together through worship, prayer, and discussion. As we make space for God, we will make space for one another. Let this time of self-reflection and room-making be a time to experience new ways God may be speaking to you this year.

### Lenten Small Groups

UPC Lenten small groups begin the first week of March. We will be reading through "Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition," by Christine D Pohl. Groups will meet on a variety of days and times each week, so join the one that works best for your schedule! Sign-ups will begin in mid-February. Interested in leading a group? Let us know! Contact Mike if you are interested or have any questions ([mwatson@upcbr.org](mailto:mwatson@upcbr.org)).

### Adult Parks Wilson Class

Starting in March, the Parks Wilson Class will be experiencing Stories of Making Room through a series of guest class leaders for whom hospitality is a major focus. We will cover a large variety of topics engaging very practical ways we can seek to make room for God and others in our own lives.

### Taizé

Make room in your schedule for Wednesday evening worship in the Taizé style of sung prayer. Services begin at 6:00 p.m. every Wednesday, starting March 1st for Ash Wednesday and concluding on April 5th. Enter and leave the space as you feel led. Scripture passages will be related to our theme of making room.

**THEOLOGY, RACISM, AND CHRISTIAN PRACTICE:  
How Shall We Respond?**

SPONSORS: Saint Mark Presbyterian Church + The Presbyterian Outlook and National Capital Presbytery + Institute of Radical Reconciliation

February 10-11, 2017

THE  
ORIGIN  
OF RACE

Friday 7PM

Presentation by Dr. Willie Jennings followed by questions and answers

Saturday 9AM

- Panel with Dr. Willie Jennings, Dr. Paul Roberts and The Reverend Denise Anderson
- Conversation groups: How shall we respond?
- Future steps

March 30, 2017

THE  
CROSS  
AND THE  
LYNCHING  
TREE

Thursday 7PM  
Dr. James Cone

- Presentation by Dr. Cone with response and discussion

May 2017

EVENT TBD  
WITH CHIEF  
CASSANDRA  
DECK-BROWN

February 10-11 Forum: \$25.00 / person  
March 30 with Dr. James Cone: \$25.00 / person  
Discount Registration for Both Events: \$40.00 / person  
(includes catered reception)

<http://pushpay.com/pay/theologyracismchristianityevent>

Events to be held at Saint Mark Presbyterian Church in Rockville, Maryland • 301-530-8142 • [www.saintmarkpresby.org](http://www.saintmarkpresby.org)

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

See Patti Snyder or Mike Watson for details!

PARKING

Please remember that the parking spaces in front of the education building and behind the Parks Wilson Room are for persons who are handicapped. If you are dropping something off, please do so quickly; then move your vehicle so those who need the space can park.

# Prayer Requests

To add a name, remove a name, or update information on our prayer list, please contact the church office by noon on Thursday at [cdurham@upcbr.org](mailto:cdurham@upcbr.org).

**Ruth Bivins • Tristyn Bemis • Tabitha Lewis • Don Snyder  
Gerri Ward • Betty Campbell • Gerard Klein • Kent Walker  
Joyce Kuyper • Pat Kennedy • Dorothy Bankston  
Judy Eubanks • Charles Granier**

- **Jimmie**, friend of Caralyn Durham, recovering from pneumonia and diagnosed with kidney cancer
- **Alaina Thrasher**, Donna's daughter, with a kidney infection
- The parents of former UPC member Patricia Brown as they experience declining health
- **Lee Wirth**, brother of Karen Paterson, in Florida with returning lymphoma
- **Val and Dan Johns**, friends of Patti Snyder. Dan is in end stage cancer.
- **Barbara Gant**, friend of Dianne Garton, with bone cancer
- **John Harrison Doucet**, 20-year-old distant cousin of Anne Miller, who was electrocuted and is in the burn hospital in Augusta, GA
- **Joellen Hawkins**, Aunt of Emily Cogburn, with Alzheimer's
- **Jitte Vanhaelen**, cousin of Christine Kooi, with bone cancer
- **Talia Daigre**, struggling with mental health issues
- **Melanie Driscoll**, with chronic Lyme Disease
- **Bill Mathews**, friend of Robbie Phillabaum
- **Alan Williams**, brother of Virginia Davis, with Parkinson's
- **Michelle Sager**, mother-in-law of Katie New, in Rocky Mount, NC
- **Lois Liggett**, mother of Sarah Kennedy
- **Marla Kerr-Lawson**, Kelly Kerr's sister
- **Edna Faust and her son Gregory**, friends of Kay Lindsey
- **Beth Whelen**, friend of Debbie Abernathy
- **Nic and Rachel Ciraldo**, friends of Griff Campbell, and their son, Luca, who has kidney cancer
- **Danny Farris and his family**, friends of Robbie Phillabaum. Danny continues to recover from extensive reconstructive surgery.
- **Paige Christian**, cousin of Mike Watson
- **Kyle Craig**, cousin of Melody Watson
- **Cathy Paterson**, who has Huntington's Disease; Karen Paterson, her mother; and all H.D. families
- **Kristi Hammatt**, friend of Katie New, and her daughter dealing with serious heart and lung problems
- **Broadmoor and Scotlandville Presbyterian**, as they move through pastoral transitions
- **All hospice patients and their families**
- **Those with seasonal affective disorder**
- **All those who suffer with mental illness and emotional disorders**
- **Oncology patients of Debbie Abernathy**
- **Men and women serving in the armed forces**
- **Those who are going through separation or divorce**
- **Those who are affected by domestic violence**
- **Those who are affected by alcoholism and addiction**
- **Our partner church, La Iglesia Presbiteriana, in San José de los Ramos, Cuba, and La Pastora, Leticia Ramos Portieles, serving as its interim pastor**



## HOSPITAL VISITS BY UPC OFFICERS

- 1 Chris Whittington
- 2 Marissa Baham
- 3 Meredith Veldman
- 4 Ed Green
- 5 OPEN
- 6 OPEN
- 7 Jerry Trahan
- 8 OPEN
- 9 Gus Rowland
- 10 Jane Smith
- 11 Pat Ho
- 12 OPEN
- 13 Alicia Lewis
- 14 Andreas Giger
- 15 OPEN
- 16 Daniel Burch
- 17 Michael Strain
- 18 OPEN
- 19 June Klimash
- 20 Susan Ourso
- 21 Robin Patty & David Hall
- 22 OPEN
- 23 Kelley Massengale
- 24 Kelly Kerr
- 25 OPEN
- 26 OPEN
- 27 OPEN
- 28 Bizza Britton
- 29 Leslie Green
- 30 Bunny Heroman
- 31 Kathy Poché

**On your chosen date, please remember to contact the church office to check for people to visit!**



**The Pastor's Discretionary Account is currently low on funds. Please consider a donation.**



**Check out UPC on Facebook!**

[www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian)

# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

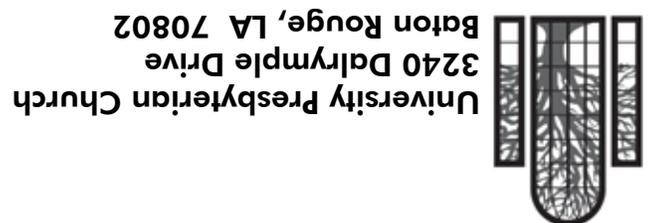
- |   |   |                                   |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| 2 Ron Garton<br>Ian Strain                              | 12 Jack Angert  | 23 Cheryl Giles<br>Joyce Moreland |
| 3 Margo Brault  | 13 Kay Broders  | 25 Dana Trahan                    |
| 4 Dean Angert   | 14 Cheryl Walker<br>Hasten  | 26 Christopher Carroll            |
| 6 Ellen Gochnour<br>April Whitting                      | 18 Stephen Hoffman  | 27 David Atwood                   |
| 7 Barbara Gray<br>Robbie Phillabaum<br>Shannon Stafford | 20 Miles Freeman<br>Graham Nichols<br>Ashley Reeves<br>Greer Rice<br>Timothy Terry, Jr. |                                   |
| 10 Ryan Black<br>Amy Braymer                            | 21 Robin Patty  |                                   |
| 11 Andrew Armstrong<br>Pat Ho<br>Kurt Ozier             | 22 Beverly Smiley Jones<br>Elizabeth Roberts  |                                   |

**PEOPLE ARE  
HUNGRY!!  
DONATIONS  
ARE NEEDED!!  
The Greater  
Baton Rouge  
Food Bank  
needs your  
help!**

Please place your contribution in any of the orange barrels located around UPC or bring it to the front of the sanctuary during service.

**\*\*Please remember to contact the church office if your contact information changes.\*\***

**Mission Statement**  
In response to God's grace,  
University Presbyterian  
Church of Baton Rouge  
seeks creatively – through  
nurture, education, worship  
and community outreach  
– to sustain an inclusive,  
compassionate family of  
faith; it seeks to promote  
spiritual growth by  
awakening souls to God's  
infinite mercy embodied in  
the reconciling love of Christ.  
--Adopted by the Session  
December 1995



Change Service Requested