

# UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Newsletter for church members  
and friends

February 2018

# CONTACT



Maybe its because Lent begins with the imposition of ashes on Valentine's Day this year, but I've got love on the mind –

the kind of love that acknowledges it's human limitations and yet jumps in full hearted with flowers, chocolate, and effusive poetry anyway;

the kind of love that will go the distance of Lent's 40 days or 40 years of marriage or friendship.

Maybe it's because love so often gets represented as and is confused with just one kind of desire, but I've got love on the mind –

the kind of love that does not wish to possess or control, but to respect;

the kind of love that's not just about bodies but that takes all of who we

are, including the willingness to put our physical selves out there for others;

the kind of love that applauds truth being spoken;

the kind of love that bends in asking and offering forgiveness;

the kind of love that is sometimes expressed in passion but always in compassion.

Maybe it's because we are entering the journey toward the cross, where love found its most profound expression, or because I'm anticipating hearing, once again, the Holy Week proclamation of Jesus' "new" commandment that we love one another, but I've got love on the mind.

Roberta Bondi, a scholar of early church monastic communities, suggests that the leaders of these communities agreed both that there are many paths toward love; in other words, "what "keeps me from being able to love is probably very different from what hinders you," and that "despite society's pressures, love is the goal of the Christian life and humility is what it takes to bring us toward it." Indeed, "love and humility provide human beings with a realistic and powerful way of disarming such a violent society as theirs and ours. "

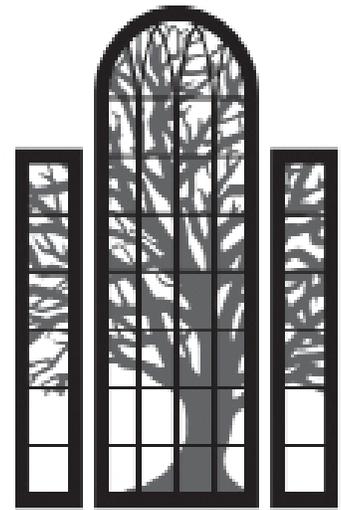
Maybe some deep reflection on love as well as some intentional choices that reflect love's humility would be a good discipline for this Lent? Just a thought.

With love,

<sup>1</sup>Bondi, Roberta; To Love as God Loves: Conversations with the Early Church (Fortress Press, Philadelphia, 1987) pp 10-11.

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 2-3 6:00 p.m. Officers Retreat - Feliciana Retreat Center  
 3-4 9:30 a.m. Youth Mission Planning Retreat - Feliciana Retreat Center
- 4 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*Ron Sutto preaching, Ordination/Installation of New Officers*  
 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
- 5 11:30 a.m. Membership Committee - Conference Room  
 5:00 p.m. Worship Committee - Conference Room
- 6 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Conference Room  
 10:00 a.m. Day Circle - Parks Wilson Room  
 Noon AIAnon - Library  
 Noon TBR Lunch - St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church  
 3:00 p.m. Daisy Scouts - Conference Room  
 5:30 pm. University Outreach Committee - Conference Room  
 7:00 p.m. UPC Book Group - 287 Baird Drive
- 7 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel  
 Noon UPC Fun Club - BJ's Restaurant - Mall of Louisiana  
 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary  
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 8 1:45 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 11 Transfiguration - Betsy Irvine preaching**  
 8:30 a.m. Worship  
 9:45 a.m. Church School  
 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12 MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY - DAY SCHOOL & CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  
 13 MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY - DAY SCHOOL & CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- 14 Ash Wednesday**  
 Noon UPC Fun Club - BJ's Restaurant - Mall of Louisiana  
 12:30 p.m. Technology Committee - Library  
 5:00 p.m. Property Committee - Conference Room  
 5:30 p.m. Personnel & Administration Committee - Library  
 6:00 p.m. Taizé (*will include the imposition of ashes*) - Sanctuary  
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 15 1:45 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 16 5:00 p.m. Mak/Irvine Wedding Rehearsal  
 17 5:00 p.m. Mak/Irvine Wedding
- 18 1st Sunday in Lent - Patti Snyder preaching**  
 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. Session & Diaconate Retreat Follow-up - Fellowship Hall  
 6:30 p.m. Session Meeting - Conference Room
- 19 MARCH EDITION CONTACT ARTICLES DUE**
- 20 9:00 a.m. Presbytery Meeting - First Presbyterian Church, Scotlandville  
 10:00 a.m. Helping Hands - Conference Room  
 Noon AI-Anon - Parks Wilson Room  
 12:30 p.m. Day School Committee - Conference Room  
 7:00 p.m. Mission & Peacemaking Committee - 6630 Boone
- 21 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel  
 Noon UPC Fun Club - BJ's Restaurant - Mall of Louisiana  
 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary  
 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room



## UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

- Patti Snyder.....psnyder@upcbr.org  
*Senior Pastor*
- Betsy Irvine.....birvine@ladeltacorps.org  
*Temporary Part-time Pastor Associate*
- Carolyn Durham.....cdurham@upcbr.org  
*Administrative Secretary*
- Donna Thrasher.....dthrasher@upcbr.org  
*Financial Secretary*
- Stuart Dameron.....stuardameron@gmail.com  
*Choir Director*
- Anne Maverick.....gblgk@cox.net  
*Organist*
- Terry G. Iyasere.....upcdayschool@yahoo.com  
*Day School Director*
- Jeff Perry.....jperry@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.**

**UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**  
 3240 Dalrymple Drive  
 Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
 (225)383-0345  
 (225)383-3495 Fax  
[www.upcbr.org](http://www.upcbr.org)

# OFFICE NOTES



## WELCOME BETSY IRVINE!

Patti asked me to write a short introduction of myself to all of you here at UPC. My first reaction was to say "Oh surely not! If they don't know me by now..." until it occurred to me that many people in the church have no idea who I am, where I came from and what I am doing. I am a minister member of the Presbytery of South Louisiana serving as a "Member-at-large," (a somewhat peculiar title for one who preaches and moderates the sessions of small churches with no permanent pastor). For close to 20 years, my day job has been as Director of an Americorps program. After eight weeks of "retirement" from community work, I was overjoyed to be asked to assist Patti and other UPC leaders during this time of leadership transition.. My title (longer than my own name) is Temporary Part-time Pastor Associate, which is to say that my job is to assist with the pastoral leadership of UPC. I will provide staff support to several committees (notably, Christian Education and Youth Fellowship, University Outreach and Fellowship), occasional preaching, and assist with pastoral calls as needed. I look forward to getting to know some of you for the first time and reviving friendships of many years. Peace, Betsy

## 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.

### IN MEMORIAM

**Charlie Ho**, who died on  
January 8, 2018

**Kemper Bornman**, who died on  
January 8, 2018

## FEBRUARY CALENDAR *continued*

- 22 1:45 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Hospitality Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall
- 25 2nd Sunday in Lent** - *Patti Snyder preaching*
- 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
- 27 Noon AIAnon - Parks Wilson Room
- 7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library
- 28 Noon UPC Fun Club - BJ's Restaurant - Mall of Louisiana
- 4:00 p.m. LA Playground Project 20th Anniversary - Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

## MARCH CALENDAR

- 1 1:45 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Hospitality Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall
- 4 3rd Sunday in Lent** - *Youth Sunday*
- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Church School
- 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 a.m. Worship

## Anyone know what those officers did up at Feliciana Retreat Center February 2-3?

It's no secret; your church officers were at the Feliciana Retreat Center on February 2-3 discussing the ministry and mission of UPC and how we carry it out. With the departure of Mike Watson, it's time to take stock. We were led in our conversations by Anne Philbrick.

Ann was born and raised in suburban Philadelphia. She grew up in the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church where she was baptized, confirmed, and eventually ordained to the ministry of word and sacrament. She went to college in New York and North Carolina, received her Master of Divinity degree from Princeton and later her Doctor of Ministry degree from McCormick Theological Seminary. She has served churches in Madison, WI and Carnegie, PA; served on presbytery staffs in Washington DC and Baltimore, MD; and did consulting for 8 years before serving on the national level of our denomination as Associate for Vital Congregations. She is currently back to doing independent consulting and coaching.

Please keep us in your prayers and watch for ways, in the coming weeks, that you can join in the conversation.

## IDENTIFIED GIVING STATUS *(as of 1/31/2018)*

Budget weekly amount needed - \$9,795  
Year-to-Date Giving amount actually received - \$27,024  
Year to Date Budget amount needed - \$39,180

## This Month in Hospitality Hall...

Feb. 17-24 Westminster Presbyterian Church, Boardman, OH  
**Please join us for the Hospitality Community Dinners on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. when groups are staying in the dorm. If you can bring a dish and stay for dinner, please sign up on the sheet in the Welcome Area.**

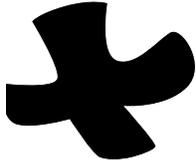
# EXPERIENCE

the stillness

the music

the prayer

for a whole new season



## Taizé

### Sung Prayers

in the form of the ecumenical  
prayer community in Taizé, France

Taizé services are held every  
Wednesday during Lent  
at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.  
*Make Taizé a part of your Lenten  
preparation.*

## Christian Education at UPC 2018

The Church School Offering for the 2017-2018 school year will be dedicated to The One-Stop Homeless Services Center right here in Baton Rouge. This organization provides legal aid, medical care, job counseling, and housing assistance, as well as a safe place where homeless men and women can shower, do laundry, use a computer, rest, and relax.

### Pre-K and Kindergarten (Ages 4 - Kindergarten)

Godly Play helps our children to explore their faith through story, gain religious language, and enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play.

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

### Elementary (Grades 1-5)

Whirl Classroom. Each week, kids watch an animated Bible story video, talk about the story, read their Bible Storybook or Bible, and try a creative leaflet activity. Every third Sunday of the month, members of the Worship Committee join the class to introduce our children to various elements of our worship service.

Teachers: Alicia Lewis, Bizza Britton, Libby Witte, and members of the Worship Committee  
Shepherds: Linda Walker, Mary Mikell, Maggie Richardson, Paul Wallace

### Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Spice Rack covers a large variety of topics and scripture lessons throughout the year, along with engaging crafts and activities.

Teachers: Linda Babin, Eleanor Canon, Barbara Gray, Randy Nichols, Amy Vidrine, Mary Wardlaw

### Senior High (Grades 9-12)

Feasting on the Word Coffee walks to our caffeinated holy place (Highland Coffees) continue. Get your mugs ready!

Teachers: Kristin Savicki, Morgan Kelly, Edward and Cynthia Peterson

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

January 7 - February 11: We Make the Road by Walking continues in the group-facilitated Bible Study class. Join us for rich conversation and community building.

February 18 - March 25: The Bible study class will be doing Patricia Tull, An Acceptable Fast: An Adult Lenten Study

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

January 14 - February 11

#### Vocational Education: The Idea and Practice of Christian Vocation.

Panels made up of UPC members from various fields and professions will lead us in a discussion of Christian vocation: Jan 14: The Idea of Vocation in History and Theology; Jan 21: The Arts; Jan 28: STEM; Feb. 4: Business and Law; Feb. 11: Health.

February 18 - March 25

Betsy Wilks coordinates a six-week exploration into childhood trauma and the process of recovery.

### 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.

### 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.

**MARCH  
CONTACT DEADLINE  
FEBRUARY 19**



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.



The **UPC Book Club** meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.  
287 Baird Drive

**Feb. 6** **Victoria by Daisy Goodwin**

## TBR Happenings

Together Baton Rouge invites you to get involved this year with members of other churches and civic organizations throughout the Baton Rouge community to partner around member-driven initiatives to help build a better city and parish. 2017 was a year of action for the organization on many fronts, most especially regarding police and tax reform, flood matters, and local (and state) governmental transparency. While 2018 promises to continue much of those efforts, at TBR's December 2017 Assembly, we ratified an action to get back to our 'roots,' so to speak, by organizing our members through 'house meeting' campaigns. House meetings are like mini-town hall meetings where individuals from each church (and across churches/member institutions) come together to share the concerns and stories nearest and dearest to them.... and to listen, an opportunity to move eventually from empathy and compassion towards action and passion. More than that, these meetings are how we deepen our emotional and relational bonds with each other and with friends from our sister churches/institutions.

### **Dates to remember:**

#### **February 6**

*Monthly Luncheon, 12 p.m., St. Paul the Apostle, Topic: House Meetings, Team Updates*

#### **February 26** (tentative)

*House Meeting Training (rescheduled due to weather cancellation), 6 p.m., Place TBA*

#### **February 7 and 21**

*Metro Council Meetings, 4 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall*

#### **March 13**

*Monthly Luncheon, Place TBA*



## Lent 2018

*This Lenten season join in on one or all of these special offerings:*

### **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 February 14th for Ash Wednesday and concluding on March 21st. Enter and leave the space as you feel led. Scripture passages will be related to the discipline of love.

### **Spiritual Direction/Companionship**

If you are taking on or letting go of something during this Lenten Season, perhaps you'd like an opportunity to discuss your Lenten journey? Patti Snyder welcomes the opportunity to sit down with you during Lent so that you might listen together for how the Holy Spirit is moving in your life. Contact Patti to schedule an appointment.

### **Lenten Small Groups**

UPC Lenten small groups begin the third week of February. The reflections will use Old Testament scholar Patricia Tull's "An Acceptable Fast: An Adult Lenten Study." Tull begins each session by locating biblical verses in their original context and then exploring a key Lenten theme related to the text. Themes include: voice gratitude, take the long view, choose well, accept responsibility, welcome to the future, and trust God in times of conflict. Each session ends with a meditation on how the text speaks to our modern situation.

A leader's guide accompanies each handout and assists a facilitator in leading a 45-minute class utilizing the week's handout. A take-home question for reflection is also provided each week for participants' home Lenten meditation. Groups will meet on a variety of days and times each week, so join the one that works best for your schedule! Signups are now available in the Welcome Center or by contacting the church office. Please contact Betsy Irvine if you have any questions ([birvine@ladeltacorps.org](mailto:birvine@ladeltacorps.org)).



*Denise Anderson, one of the co-moderators of the PCUSA attends the Momentos de la asamblea del XI Sínodo SET, febrero 1-3, 2018 at Iglesia Presbiteriana-Reformada en Cuba.*



*Congratulations to Suzanna Arévalo who is headed to seminary! Suzanna is a member of our partner congregation in Cuba who has been the primary person operating the clean water system that we installed.*

Dear UPC Family,  
Thank you so much for your prayers, love, and support over the past year. Words cannot express the gratitude we feel to be a part of such an incredible community of faith.  
Love, Darlene, Gus, Harry & Aden  
Roland



## Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services<sup>SM</sup>

*We at Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services (PCHAS) want to sincerely thank our University Presbyterian Church family for your generosity this holiday season. Our families have been overwhelmed with your kindness and are so appreciative for the Christmas gifts received and for making Christmas special for their children. Because of your gifts, our children and families got to enjoy the magic of the holiday season. Again thank you for your support of our program.*

*With Gratitude,*

*Mavis Matthews, Child and Family Specialist  
PCHAS-Baton Rouge, LA*

# 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**

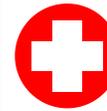
**Kent Walker • Henry Lanius • Gerri Ward • Val Johns**

**Betty Campbell • Gerard Klein • Jonathan Lewis**

**Joyce Kuyper • Cathy Laufer • Pat Kennedy • Dorothy Bankston**

**Judy Eubanks • Charles Grenier • Bettye Burford**

- **Phyllis Pederson**, friend of Jane Smith, undergoing treatment for breast cancer
- **Becca Bartlett**, beginning breast cancer treatment
- **Phil Quartararo**, undergoing treatment for Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma
- **Glen Kilgore**, brother of Richard, recovering from heart bypass surgery
- **Elizabeth Roberts**, recovering at home from surgery
- **Rebecca Day**, wife of Jeff Day, oncology patient
- **Fred Kuntz**, uncle of Christine Kooi, with liver cancer
- **Joanne Ernest**, cousin of Christine Kooi, with breast cancer
- **Alisia Moree**, former Mother-in-Law of Caralyn Durham, with advanced stage four stomach and ovarian cancer, undergoing chemotherapy
- **Marieke Vanhaelen**, aunt of Christine Kooi, recovering from a serious bicycle accident
- **Yvonne Bienvenu**, step-daughter of Betty Armstrong, undergoing chemotherapy for ovarian cancer
- **Joyce Dotson**, friend of Kenton Cooper, undergoing chemotherapy
- **Katie Nelson**, mother of Bizza Britton, with Alzheimer's
- **Dean Kerr**, father of Kelly Kerr, recovering from a heart cath procedure
- **Patricia Johnson and Chris Hayes**, friends of Mary Wardlaw, undergoing chemo
- **Jack Maloney**, friend of Mary Wardlaw, recovering from a quintuple bypass surgery
- **Nena, Milla, and Norma**, three elderly women members of our sister church in Cuba
- **Doug Bachmann**, friend of Erin Garton, who suffered a stroke
- **Tal Broyles**, friend of Ann Miller, diagnosed with lung cancer and undergoing chemotherapy
- **Jean Wall**, friend of Jane Smith, undergoing chemo treatment
- **Doug Curry**, friend of Mary Wardlaw, with cancer
- **Barbara Gant**, friend of Dianne Garton, with bone cancer
- **Joellen Hawkins**, Aunt of Emily Cogburn, with Alzheimer's
- **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
- **Lois Liggett**, mother of Sarah Kennedy
- **Marla Kerr-Lawson**, Kelly Kerr's sister
- **Edna Faust and her son Gregory**, friends of Kay Lindsey
- **Nic and Rachel Ciraldo**, friends of Griff Campbell, and their son, **Luca**, who has kidney cancer
- **All families affected by Huntington's Disease**
- **All hospice patients and their families**
- **All those who suffer with mental illness and emotional disorders**
- **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 OPEN
- 2 OPEN
- 3 OPEN
- 4 OPEN
- 5 OPEN
- 6 OPEN
- 7 Jerry Trahan
- 8 OPEN
- 9 OPEN
- 10 Jane Smith
- 11 OPEN
- 12 Carl Motsenbocker
- 13 Alicia Lewis
- 14 Andreas Giger
- 15 Nan Patt
- 16 Daniel Burch
- 17 OPEN
- 18 Cordell Haymon
- 19 June Klimash
- 20 OPEN
- 21 OPEN
- 22 Lee Jenkins
- 23 OPEN
- 24 OPEN
- 25 Patti Meredith
- 26 Barbara Gray
- 27 Edward Peterson
- 28 Bizza Britton
- 29 Leslie Green
- 30 Bunny Heroman
- 31 OPEN

**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                              | 14 Cheryl Walker<br>Hasten                          | 25 Dana Trahan         |
| 3 Margo Brault  | 18 Stephen Hoffman                                  | 26 Christopher Carroll |
| 6 Ellen Gochnour<br>April Whitting                      | 20 Miles Freeman<br>Graham Nichols<br>Ashley Reeves | 27 David Atwood        |
| 7 Barbara Gray<br>Robbie Phillabaum<br>Shannon Stafford | 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 Jones<br>Elizabeth Roberts               |                        |
|   | 23 Cheryl Giles<br>Joyce Moreland                   |                        |

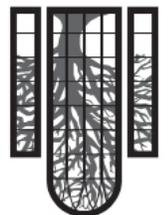
**PEOPLE ARE  
HUNGRY!!  
DONATIONS  
ARE NEEDED!!  
The Greater  
Baton Rouge  
Food Bank  
needs your  
help!**

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

University Presbyterian Church  
3240 Dalrymple Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802



Change Service Requested