



# Contact

May 2019

University Presbyterian Church Newsletter for church members and friends

## Inside

- **Calendar** p. 2-3
- **Circle News** p. 3
- **CE Sunday** p. 4
- **Diaconate Update** p. 6
- **Plastic Bag Drive** p. 7

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## From My Window

I met last night with the Task Group that is looking at our organizational structure as a result of the Moving Forward process we've been in for more than a year now. They are working faithfully and hard. The lenses through which the Session encouraged all of us to think about every step of this process came up in the discussion. Those lenses are God's call to us, stewardship, and leadership. You can read a bit more about them in an article on page eight of this edition of *Contact*. These lenses are certainly important to any change, including change to our organizational structure, that we might move toward. After a bit, though, the particular goals of the group's conversations about structure came up and then they were off like lightning, honing down what they are trying to accomplish. They are still in process but one of the goals they came up with struck me as particularly wise and has stuck with me.

One of the goals they articulated last night is avoiding over organization, otherwise known by that axiom "keep it simple, stupid." Of course, this group's members are certainly not stupid but bring great gifts to their task, and neither is the ministry of this lively congregation simple. But it is incredibly easy to fall into the thinking that more is always better - more layers of structure, more specific requirements or expectations, more regularity to how we do things. Of course, there's a theological and spiritual element to this as well.

Recently I've re-read the spiritual classic *A Testament of Devotion* by Thomas Kelly. It is a very short text of great depth that has withstood almost a century of readers and changes in the world. In it, paraphrasing Oliver Wendall Holmes\*, Kelly refers to the simplicity on the other side of complexity when it comes to our faith and how we live it out. There is so much wisdom in that thought - wisdom for our lives of faith and wisdom for how we do things.

This morning I found myself contemplating how we might best embody - and even organize ourselves around - in our life together as the body of Christ in this place - some of the things that are on the other side of complexity? Things like:  
Acceptance/Welcome/Inclusion/Collegiality  
Kindness/Love/Patience/Forgiveness  
Encouragement/Permission/Space for creativity and mistakes/Vulnerability  
How might we make a container, if you will, of our shared life that can make space for these things?

Sometimes in the midst of planning, thinking, questioning, organizing, working, and doing, these things get downplayed or even forgotten. Judging by the excitement on the faces at the meeting last night, I doubt that will happen this time.

With love and trust in the Spirit in the process,

\* Holmes said, "For simplicity that lies this side of complexity, I would not give a fig, but for the simplicity that lies on the other side of complexity, I would give my life."

# May...

- 1 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel  
11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga - Parks Wilson Room  
6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 2 7:00 p.m. Day School Art Show - Fellowship Hall
- 3 10:00 a.m. Aphasia Support Group - Conference Room
- 4 9:00 a.m. Huntington's Disease Walk - Highland Road Park
- 5 3rd Sunday of Easter** - *Patti Snyder preaching, Communion*  
8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:45 a.m. Church School  
10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
11:00 a.m. Worship  
12:15 p.m. Called Session Meeting (*Examination of New Elders*) - Conf. Rm.  
2:30 p.m. Youth Group @ Alex Box Stadium
- 6 2:45 p.m. Staff Meeting  
5:00 p.m. Worship Committee - Conference Room
- 7 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Conference Room  
10:00 a.m. Day Circle/PW Picnic - Parks Wilson Room  
Noon AIAnon - Library  
3:15 p.m. Daisy Scouts - Conference Room  
6:30 p.m. UPC @ LSU Baseball - Alex Box Stadium  
7:00 p.m. UPC Book Group - 287 Baird Drive
- 8 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga - Parks Wilson Room  
12:30 a.m. Technology Committee - Library  
5:00 p.m. Property Committee - Conference Room  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9 6:00 p.m. Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall
- 12 4th Sunday of Easter/CE Sunday** *Betsy Irvine preaching*  
*SUMMER SCHEDULE STARTS*  
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 a.m. Worship
- 13 2:45 p.m. Staff Meeting  
7:00 p.m. Huntington's Disease Support Group - Conference Room
- 14 Noon AIAnon - Parks Wilson Room  
12:30 p.m. Day School Committee - Conference Room  
7:00 p.m. Mission & Peacemaking Committee - 6630 Boone  
7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library
- 15 6:30 a.m. Day School Chapel  
11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga - Parks Wilson Room  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 16 3:00 p.m. UPC & Day School @ Knock Knock Museum (*until 7:00 p.m.*)  
5:30 p.m. Personnel & Administration Committee - Conference Room
- 19 5th Sunday of Easter**  
*Patti Snyder preaching, Ordination/Installation of Elders*  
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 a.m. Worship  
11:15 a.m. UPC Crawfish Boil - Courtyard/Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. Session Meeting - Conference Room
- 20 **CONTACT ARTICLES DUE** (*June/July Edition*)
- 21 9:30 a.m. Helping Hands - Conference Room  
Noon AI-Anon - Parks Wilson Room  
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Committee - Conference Room
- 22 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga - Parks Wilson Room  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

## Office Notes

### •Holiday Closure

The Church Office and Day School will be closed May 27 for Memorial Day.

### •Sunday Flower Donations

Memorial Flower Donation envelopes for 2019 are available in the pews for you to fill out to reserve flowers for 2019 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.



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

May 7 [Caroline, Little House](#)  
Revisited by Sarah Miller

Jun 4 [A Gentleman in Moscow](#)  
by Amor Towles

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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# Taizé

## Sung Prayers

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

**Wednesday, May 1,  
at 6:00 p.m.  
in the Sanctuary**

### conGRADulations!

Congratulations to the following upon their graduation and best wishes as they embark upon the next phase of their life journey.

- **Alexander Campbell**, son of Leslie Green and Griff Campbell, will be graduating from Baton Rouge Magnet High School and plans to attend LSU in the fall, with an undecided major focused in Science and Engineering.
- **Rosa Campbell**, daughter of Leslie Green and Griff Campbell, will be graduating from Northwestern State University of Louisiana with a BA in Theatre. She will be working for the Hampstead Stage Company based in Farmstead, NH, starting in late May.
- **Megan Knapp** will be graduating from BRCC with a degree in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ultrasound). She plans on seeking employment.
- **Grace Meier**, daughter of Junita and Armin Meier, will be graduating from Baton Rouge Magnet High School and plans to attend Southeastern Louisiana University in the fall.
- **Dustin Moree**, son of Caralyn Durham, will be graduating from Woodlawn High School and enlisting in the Marines.

## May...

- 26 6th Sunday of Easter** - *Patti Snyder preaching*  
9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 a.m. Worship
- 27 Memorial Day** - **Day School & Church Office Closed**
- 28 Day School Closed for Teacher Planning**  
Noon AIAnon - Parks Wilson Room  
7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library
- 29 Day School Closed for Teacher Planning**  
11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga - Parks Wilson Room  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 30 6:00 p.m.** Community Dinner - Fellowship Hall

### Circle News! Presbyterian Women (and Men)

Please come join the fun and fellowship in the next several meetings and activities now through summer:

#### Tuesday, May 7: UPC Circle's Lesson & Picnic Lunch!

Meet at 10:00 in Parks Wilson Room: Lesson 8, "God With Us as the Holy Spirit," led by Lorinda Sealey; the Birthday Offering (PCUSA-wide) will be collected. At 11:00 we'll enjoy a nice lunch in the courtyard. Bring a side, salad, or dessert. We may have guests from nearby church circles (PSL "Cluster"). Contact Linda Walker for more information.

**Tuesday, June 4:** Meet at 10:00, Park Wilson Room. Barbara Hoffman will lead discussion of Lesson 9, "God With Us." Peggy C. has offered to host. This is our last meeting until September, at which time we'll begin a new Bible study: *Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments*.

**July 25 - 27:** Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Women event in Tulsa, OK. Contact Peggy Carroll if you'd like to go!

Thanks to all who drew pictures, created compassionate messages and wrote lovely words in both Spanish and English upon the pillowcases dedicated for the children in Puerto Rico at the April meeting. The Helping Hands group and our Circle cooperated in this effort; and thanks to Barbara Hoffman who taught several of us to stitch the "burrito" method of making a pillowcase. Thanks also to many who purchased cases, or stitched more at home. Completed ones were submitted at the Spring Gathering, and final deadline is mid-July, before the Synod PW Gathering.

### Helping Hands

Helping Hands will meet again on Tuesday, May 21. We will be making items for those in need. Sewing skills are not essential. We have many projects that don't involve sewing. Bring a brown bag lunch and join us at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

### Caregivers Support Group

The Caregivers Support Group at UPC meets on the last Sunday of the month right after church. It is available for church members who are caregivers to elderly parents, friends, or adult children. The next Caregivers meetings will be on Sunday, May 26. If you have any questions or would like to have a particular topic of interest scheduled for a meeting, call Jane Smith at 225-315-4946.

### This summer in Hospitality Hall we welcome...

- May 4-11 Central Michigan University
  - May 25 - June 1 Presbytery of the Pacific
  - June 9-15 First Presbyterian Church, Charleston, IL
- Watch your bulletins for Hospitality Dinners, usually scheduled for 6:00 p.m. the Thursday of a group's stay, and sign up to bring a dish so we can show them good ol' UPC southern hospitality.



## Pastor Nominating Committee Elected

At our congregational meeting on March 24, the congregation voted to elect seven members to a PNC to search for a second pastor. The 2019 congregational nominating committee received 63 nominations for the Pastor Nominating Committee through the deadline on April 7th. As charged, they considered - from the nominations - the following factors: Length of time in the church, Age, Gender, Sexual Orientation, and Ethnicity. At the congregational meeting on April 14, the following individuals were elected to the PNC to search for a second pastor to be either a co-pastor or an associate pastor:

Mary Mikell

Ava Haymon

Joe Skillen

Kelly Kerr

Samantha Hartmann

Edward Peterson

Frances Sullivan-Gonzalez

Presbytery of South Louisiana Committee on Ministry (COM) member, Chip Chiphe, from Scotlandville First Presbyterian Church will be the COM liaison with our PNC. Please remember to thank our PNC for their willingness to serve and pray for the Spirit's guidance in their work together!

## CE SUNDAY

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 12! This is a special Sunday when we honor all of the wonderful people who have taught our children, youth, and adults for the past year. We will also honor the hard-working youth advisors of our Middle and High school youth groups.

Christian education is one of the ways we nourish one another in the faith and teach about our tradition and mission as a church. Education is more than the hour between the 8:30 and the 11:00 service. Christian education also includes our Bible studies, small group studies, youth group, and mission trips. Christian education is at its very core a process of spiritual formation.

In addition to the many people who have served as teachers, assistants, group facilitators, and shepherds, we also take this time to recognize the children and youth who are in transition from kindergarten to elementary, from elementary to Middle school (5th grade moving to 6th), those moving into high school, and, of course, our graduating seniors. We mark these transitions with special gifts to remind everyone that we are part of a living and always learning body of Christ in the world.

To honor our many teachers, the CE committee will plant two additional fruit trees at the edge of the UPC parking lot. The fruit trees will not only provide us with delicious satumas and lemons (some day!) but also serve as a reminder of the sustaining power of education in the church. Please join us on Sunday, May 12.

The Christian Education Committee is also on the look out for new teachers to join the ranks of the current honorees! Please let Courtney Dumas, Peggy Carroll or Betsy Irvine know of your interest in teaching. There is a wide array of ages and classes of children, youth, and adults who will welcome you with open eyes, ears, and hearts.

As a reminder, Sunday May 12 is the first Sunday of our summer single service starting at 10:00. Be sure to come and reunite with ALL our members as we worship and celebrate as one body!

*You are cordially invited to celebrate 101 years of ministry and mission of the*

### *Church Of The Way Presbyterian*

*And the retirement of the  
Reverend Ted Roeling*

*Saturday, May 4, 2019      2:00-4:00 PM*

*Broadmoor Presbyterian Church,  
9340 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70815*



UPC Day School Art Show

May 2, 2019 • 7:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall

# Keeping You Connected

## Are You Ready for Some BASEBALL?

Your Fellowship Committee is sponsoring UPC night at Alex Box Stadium, Tuesday, May 7, 6:30 p.m., LSU vs. LA Tech. All tickets for this game are \$ 4.00 each. UPC will be sitting in section 123, at the far end of the left-field side. Tickets are available by contacting Barbara Hoffman at [bhoffman2652@gmail.com](mailto:bhoffman2652@gmail.com).

## Knock Knock Event For Church and Day School

On Thursday, May 16, the UPC Day School has reserved the Knock Knock Children's Museum for a special event for the Day School children, parents, and staff and the UPC congregation is invited to join them in experiencing this new, exciting opportunity for children in the Baton Rouge area. If you have not been to this museum yet – and you can only go with children – now is your chance. The event is from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. You will also get the opportunity to meet and interact with Day School families and staff and learn more about our award-winning day school, one of the best in Louisiana.

## Team Hope Walk for Huntington's Disease

Join us Saturday, May 4, at Highland Road Park. Registration starts at 9:00 a.m. to participate in a gentle walk in the park with refreshments and prizes. Sign up at [www.hdsa.org/thwbatonrouge](http://www.hdsa.org/thwbatonrouge). Now in its 10th year, the walk has grown with new family teams joining each year, and last year's walk raised over \$20,000! Many thanks to UPC, the core group, for its continued success. UPC members Anne and Cathy Paterson were diagnosed with this degenerative brain disease. "It is a devastating disease because it robs you of who you are." We are pleased with the increased awareness in the community as research advances rapidly to new treatments and a cure. The HD support group meets at UPC at 7:00 p.m. the second Monday of every month. For information or questions, please contact Ed or Linda Green or Karen Paterson.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### UPC Food Ministry

Many UPC folks have volunteered to provide meals to folks who may be recovering from surgery or illness or welcoming a new baby into their home. If you know of someone who has a need, please contact Rev. Patti Snyder or Pat Ho. If you wish to volunteer for the food ministry, please contact Pat Ho.



### Spring Cleaning at Feliciana Retreat Center

Even though we have a new chef, a janitorial crew and a maintenance team, we still need and appreciate our volunteers who help maintain the property. Spring cleaning will be done on May 18. Please RSVP at [felicianaretreat@aol.com](mailto:felicianaretreat@aol.com), so we will know how many meals to prepare (6 p.m. dinner on Friday night, breakfast at 8 a.m. and lunch at noon on Saturday). With your help, FRCC will be ready for all the summer camps!

## See The Many Ways UPC Volunteers Help Their Members and Families, Their Church, Their Community, and Missions

As you walk from the UPC parking lot into UPC you will see a long banner that has all the many ways UPC volunteers are helping their members and families, UPC, its missions, and our community. Please look over all that we do! It is so awesome to see all the many ways we contribute in volunteering our time and energy.

The "UPC Moving Forward" process identified that our members would like more information about our various UPC volunteer opportunities as well as be able to participate in one time volunteer opportunities. As you are able to see from the banner in the hall, we have a large number of varied volunteer opportunities and many one time opportunities for you to peruse.

Some of you may see volunteer work that you did not know about that looks interesting to you. Please leave a sticky note with your name and contact information on the activity you are interested in and someone will contact you. Or contact the Chairperson of the Committee overseeing this volunteer effort to learn more about it. Prayerfully consider volunteering in these worthwhile efforts.



## UPC Crawfish!

**May 19**

**after the 10:00 Service!**

\$10 per plate, \$30 max per family!

**BE THERE!**

*(Brought to you by the UPC Minimalism Institute  
AKA The Fellowship Committee)*



**Are you collecting change at home?  
UPC will be collecting coins to  
support the Presbyterian Hunger  
Program, Cents-ability, on the first  
Sunday of every month through May.**



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.



## **29th Annual Sounds of CommUNITY Concert**

*Let Our Prayers Rise Up in Song*

**Sunday, May 5, 4:00 p.m.**

Wesley United Methodist Church  
544 Government St. Baton Rouge

*Freewill Donation*

*Reception follows*

## **House of Worship Disaster Preparedness Training**

**Thursday, May 9, 9 – noon**

(8:30 am – Registration)

Red Cross Center

4655 Sherwood Common Blvd

*Learn how to prepare your house of worship for these times—for active shooters, arson, flood, and hurricanes. Training and resources will be provided by EBR Homeland Security and Preparedness.*

*RSVP by May 6*

## **Peace Network Music: Universal Language of Peace**

**Tuesday, May 14, noon – 1:30 p.m.**

East Baton Rouge Library

7711 Goodwood Blvd

*Calling peace-makers and peace-builders! Help create a local network of those who are committed to waging peace. Option: bring sack lunch.*

*RSVP by May 10*

## **Ramadan Dinner**

**Friday, May 17, 7:00 p.m.**

Islamic Center of Baton Rouge  
285 E Airport Ave.

*You are invited to break the Ramadan fast with local Muslims. You do not need to fast during the day. There is limited seating, so please RSVP early.*

*RSVP by May 13*

*For more info and to RSVP go to:  
IFEDGBR.COM or 225-267-5600*

# **Diaconate Update**

## **Congratulations to those who were elected to the Diaconate at our Congregational Meeting on April 14:**

As you likely know, after significant consideration and input, the Session recently voted to retain the office of Deacon and for the role of the Deacons to be that of “shepherds” for the congregation.

After a time of preparation, examination by the session, and ordination/installation (as is required for new officers) the following individuals:

*(Class of 2021)* Beth Paskoff, Kelly Kerr, Pat Ho, Frances Sullivan-Gonzalez, Robbie Phillabaum, Amybeth Mainord

*(Class of 2020)* Lori Tucker, Kenton Cooper

*(Class of 2019)* Michael Strain, Ed Britton

will join

*(Class of 2020)* Lois Kuyper-Rushing, Andy Maverick, Faimon Roberts

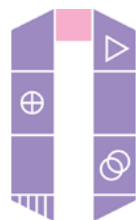
*(Class of 2019)* Richard Kilgore, Nan Patt, Pat Wright

as the first Diaconate to serve in this model.

Later this year each Deacon will be assigned to an equal number of congregation members or families.

Deacons will be in contact with the folks assigned to them at least once per month. The amount and nature of this contact will be determined by the desires of the congregation members. If individuals or families could use a pastoral visit or some other type of assistance that the church offers, the deacon will relay that need to the appropriate persons. Further details of this process will evolve and the congregation will be kept abreast of the developments. Please keep our new deacons in your prayers. You will be in theirs!

Our Board of Deacons under their new call will be preparing this summer for a start up of the new program in the fall! Watch this space for more news!



**Shower  
OF Stoles  
PROJECT**

Pentecost Sunday, June 9  
At University Presbyterian Church

The Shower of Stoles Project is an extraordinary collection of liturgical stoles and other sacred items representing the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people of faith. These religious leaders have served in over thirty denominations and faith traditions and come from six countries on three continents.

This collection celebrates the gifts of LGBT persons who serve God in countless ways while also lifting up those who have been excluded from service because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. The Project bears witness to the huge loss of leadership that the Church has brought upon itself because of its own unjust policies. The collection tours constantly around the country, being exhibited in local congregations, universities and seminaries, and regional and national denominational gatherings.



# Mission & Peacemaking

## Plastic Bag Collection Drive

LSU is hosting the annual conference of the National Association of College and University Residence Halls (NACURH) in early June. As a philanthropy project, the participants at the conference will cut and weave plastic bags into plastic mattresses for the homeless; The conference organizers have asked us to participate in a plastic bag drive to generate materials for their project and we have agreed. We believe that collecting and recycling plastic bags are important steps towards reducing garbage and caring for God's creation.

We are also aware of our need to continue striving to be better stewards of the earth's resources. We need to stop buying goods in throwaway packaging and yes, ultimately, we need to stop using plastic bags. But until we've all reached that point, we will gladly collect your plastic bags so that they may be recycled for this worthy cause – namely, to weave mattresses for the homeless. There is a box in the hallway for you to deposit your plastic bags. The collection will continue until May 15. Thank you for cooperating with us in caring for God's creation.

## Together Baton Rouge Update...

Together Baton Rouge held its annual Delegates Assembly this past March at University Baptist Church with over 300 attendees representing 35 Member Institutions, including delegates from UPC. The focus of the Assembly was commitment to a summer Civic Academy campaign in each institution to deepen relationships with each other and TBR (and to broaden our institutional base) surrounding issues and initiatives at the heart of TBR's mission. These Academies include Criminal Justice and local Police Reform, Health Care and Healthy Food Access, Education, and Economic Development, as well as exploratory Academies around Early Childhood Education, the Flood, and TBR itself.

So just what is a Civic Academy? Essentially an Academy is a gathering of people who have a common concern about an issue affecting Baton Rouge. It starts by asking what got us to this point (with a research-driven presentation), then asking us to share stories about how and why it may affect us, our friends & family, and our community. Through these stories, we act institutionally and organizationally with the other faith-based and civic institutions of Together BR.

At the Assembly, our delegates committed to sponsor a **Civic Academy for June 30th on Health Care and Healthy Food Access**---so be on the lookout for upcoming information regarding Academy details.

Meanwhile, TBR has been actively engaged in the current legislative session, specifically organizing to keep decisions regarding the Industrial Tax Exemption Program in the hands of local decision-making bodies, an initiative TBR worked with Governor Edwards to support beginning in 2016. TBR also plans to organize Citizen Assemblies later this year in preparation for the upcoming Gubernatorial and Legislative elections. Though TBR has been here now for nearly nine years, many UPC members haven't. This is a great year to get involved, to deepen ties with our sister congregations and our relationships with each other. Check the weekly and monthly calendar for upcoming events.



**We want your plastic bags!**

Help us keep our world cleaner by donating any unwanted or unused plastic bags!

**DROP THEM OFF IN THE DESIGNATED BOXES**

DISCOVER YOUR INNER LEADER!  
JOIN THE GREAT EXPEDITION AS A VOLUNTEER!!!



Contact:  
CONF\_VOLUNTEER@NACURH.ORG

Dear Members of The University Presbyterian Church:

We want to thank you all for your wonderful hospitality. We always feel welcome. We enjoyed the Ash Wednesday Service as it was different from our normal service. We look forward to returning next year to continue the process of rebuilding lives in Baton Rouge.

Sincere Thanks,  
Gerald Dodson Dave Thalman  
Paul Lewis Russell Low  
Jimmy Swisher  
"The 5 Crazy Uncles"

**JUNE/JULY  
CONTACT  
DEADLINE  
MAY 20**

## SAVE THE DATE!!

### VBS

Come join us this summer for VBS With a Twist!



**Who?** Adults, Youth, Children

**What?** A new twist on VBS beginning with lunch and followed by activities to learn about how God has created us in His image to do His works through our skills/talents.

**When?** June 2 and 9 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Where?** Fellowship Hall

**Why?** Because we want to learn more about ourselves and how we can help those less fortunate than we, including the hungry.

### Holy Grill

Once again we will be serving lunch at the Holy Grill the week of June 11-15. Please watch your bulletins and the June/July edition of Contact for information on how to sign up to volunteer.

### PRIDE FEST

Saturday, June 16, is Pride Fest 2018 at the River Center from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. UPC is looking for some volunteers to help staff a table at Pride Fest and help with table set-up on Saturday prior to the start of the event. Let the church office know if you are able to help.

### ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Combat the heat at our annual Ice cream Social! It's the best homemade ice cream around! Sunday July 14 following the 10:00 service.

### FISH FRY

Know what is better than UPC fellowship and fried fish? NOTHING! Join the fun on Wednesday, August 14.

## Moving Forward

### LENSES THROUGH WHICH WE SEE

Just as a refresher.....these are the lenses through which all of our work in Moving Forward is being viewed. As we move toward a new model of work for the Diaconate, search for a second called pastor, and consider a reorganization of how we are organized they seem timely to remember...

#### A. God's Call

Our call from God, to quote our mission statement, is "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." All of the work of the Moving Forward process is an effort to follow the call of the Spirit of Christ. Sometimes this means identifying the systems, traditions, expectations, and fears that keep us from attending to that call. It also means surrounding our work together with prayer, seeking to embody our mission goals and the spirit of the gospel in the community life we are living into, and considering, in our common life as the church, ways we can find the intersection of our place of deep gladness and the world's deepest hunger.<sup>1</sup>

#### B. Stewardship

In essence, stewardship is the ways in which a person or a community uses gifts of material goods, abilities, and time in faithful response to God's self-giving in Jesus Christ and Christ's call to minister and share with others in the world.<sup>2</sup> UPC is greatly gifted. The abundance of experience, passion, faith, expertise, and financial resources within our community of members and friends is astounding. The Moving Forward process is an opportunity to be intentional about the stewardship of those individual gifts in our corporate life. There are also limits that need to be acknowledged. For some those limits are related to time, for others to financial resources, for others finding ways for gifts to be used, and for others not getting burned out. We are encouraged to consider even more broadly than before both what our gifts are and how best to focus their use. This may include fresh avenues of ministry and organization. It also may include letting go of things that are not the best use of our resources. All of this goes hand in hand with our discernment of call and a belief that God's Spirit can "do far more abundantly than we can ask or think."<sup>3</sup>

#### C. Leadership

Leadership, of course, has to do with who will do what. Will certain tasks be taken on by a committee, a pastor, a staff person, by an individual member of the community, or a small group of members and visitors? But leadership is more than simply who is in what role and the assignment of duties. Leadership also has to do with vision, with – as the questions for officer ordination in our Book of Order put it – "energy, imagination, and love." As each of the themes is considered it is important to have in the back of our minds who might provide leadership for new initiatives or changes in our life together. Who is poised to rally folks around an idea? Who sees opportunities that others might miss? Are there folks who have gifts or passions that match our calling but that have gone untapped? Of course these questions go hand in hand with the questions about call and stewardship and are still very much at the forefront of our life together in this moment!

1. Paraphrase from Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC*

2. Retrieved from <https://tifweorg/four-principles-of-biblical-stewardship> (revised)

3. *Ephesians*



# 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 • Dean Kerr • Tabitha Lewis • Don Snyder • Gerri Ward  
Gerard Klein • Jonathan Lewis • Talia Daigre • Bettye Burford  
Cathy Laufer • Pat Kennedy • Lois Liggett • Donna Thrasher**

- **Father and stepmother of Amy Vidrine**, whose home was damaged in the Ruston tornado this week.
- **Joshua**, friend of Lynn Howard, recovering from a serious car accident
- **Mickey Zaitoon**, wife of Samear, recovering from pneumonia
- **Charley Fisher**, having severe back pain
- **Dawn**, Peggy Carroll's granddaughter, in rehab treatment
- **Helen**, Peggy Carroll's sister, undergoing medical tests
- **Robert**, friend of Robbie Phillabaum, undergoing tests
- **Tavia Crumpler**, undergoing chemotherapy
- **Phil Quartararo**, undergoing treatment for Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- **Art**, Cynthia Peterson's brother, diagnosed with cancer
- **Becca Bartlett**, recovering from surgery
- **Betty Crawford**, friend of Robbie Phillabaum, recovering from a stroke
- **Nancy Burns McNeill**, recovering at home after gallbladder surgeries
- **Amy and Bill Heller and Hannah Hoffman** (granddaughter of Paul and Barbara) displaced for several months following a house fire
- **Chenault Taylor**, friend of Olivia Singelmann, diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- **Emily Watts McGrady**, cousin of Eleanor Canon, undergoing treatment for breast cancer
- **Jeanette Hanifen**, Jim Hanifen's mother, recovering from a fall
- **Melanie Driscoll**, with chronic Lyme Disease
- **Nic and Rachel Ciraldo**, friends of Griff Campbell, and their son, **Luca**, who has kidney cancer
- **Ralph Simone**, friend of Darla O'Connor, diagnosed with bladder cancer
- **Kelli Carruth Miller**, friend of Kathy Rossman, undergoing immunotherapy
- **Fred Kuntz**, uncle of Christine Kooi, with liver cancer
- **Joyce Dotson**, friend of Kenton Cooper, undergoing chemotherapy
- **Joellen Hawkins**, Aunt of Emily Cogburn, with Alzheimer's
- **Alan Williams**, brother of Virginia Davis, with Parkinson's
- **Marla Kerr-Lawson**, Kelly Kerr's sister
- **Edna Faust and her son Gregory**, friends of Kay Lindsey
- **Janice Frugé**, friend of Tavia Crumpler and Darla O'Conner, with Stage 4 metastatic lung cancer
- **Pat Tucker**, Lori's sister, going through transitions of aging
- **Frances Sullivan-González's mother's family** in Masaya, Nicaragua, and the rest of the country in this time of civil unrest and political turmoil
- **Norma Fernández and her husband Panchito** from San José de los Ramos.
- **People of the Democratic Republic of the Congo**, facing a new outbreak of the Ebola Virus
- **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, Zorky Crespo Orozco**



## HOSPITAL VISITS BY UPC OFFICERS

- 1 Lois Kuyper-Rushing
- 2 Peggy Carroll
- 3 Doug Walker
- 4 Thomas Shelton
- 5 Betty Armstrong
- 6 Lorinda Sealey
- 7 OPEN
- 8 OPEN
- 9 OPEN
- 10 Jane Smith
- 11 OPEN
- 12 Carl Motsenbocker
- 13 Alicia Lewis
- 14 OPEN
- 15 Nan Patt
- 16 Daniel Burch
- 17 Amy Vidrine
- 18 Cordell Haymon
- 19 June Klimash
- 20 OPEN
- 21 Linda Benedict
- 22 Lee Jenkins
- 23 Pat Wright
- 24 Betsy Wilks
- 25 OPEN
- 26 Barbara Gray
- 27 Edward Peterson
- 28 Bizza Britton
- 29 Leslie Green
- 30 Bunny Heroman
- 31 Andy Maverick

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

## The Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank needs your help!

Please place your contribution in any of the large marked FOOD BANK boxes located around UPC or bring it to the front of the sanctuary during the service.



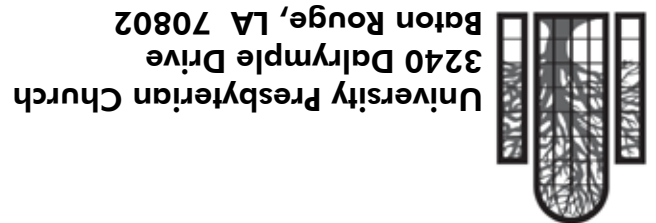
**Check out UPC on Facebook!**  
[www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian)

# May Birthdays

- |   |                                     |    |  |    |   |    |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|----|--|----|---|----|--|
| 1 | Ronnie Fenasci<br>Mary Timmons      | 9  | Garrett Haynie   | 17 | Elizabeth Chapman<br>Karen Foote<br>Cormac Wiedenfeld | 24 | Kay Lindsey  |
| 2 | Juanita McGregor<br>John Richardson | 10 | Lorinda Sealey   | 18 | Lila Kopplin<br>Esther Walker                         | 25 | Judy Dedrick<br>Ann Stone                                |
| 3 | Jimmy Robertson                     | 11 | Stuart Irvine<br>Morgan Patty  | 20 | Rosemary Goodell<br>Albertha Hubchen                  | 28 | Alyssa Bistany Talley<br>Anna Roberts - Wag-<br>genspack |
| 4 | Joseph Nguyen<br>Marcel Shihadeh    | 12 | Bettye Burford<br>Melanie Driscoll                                       | 21 | Caralyn Durham<br>Betty Silvey                        | 30 | Ruth Bivins<br>Steven Hartman<br>Madeline Thompson       |
| 8 | Jeana Esser                         | 15 | Bill Armstrong<br>Joseph Reynolds<br>Valerie Richardson<br>Henry Rowland | 22 | Robert Gourgues<br>Grace Richardson                   | 31 | Jennifer Guidry<br>John Guidry                           |

**\*\*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