

Contact

December 2020
January 2021

University Presbyterian Church Newsletter for church members and friends

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Church Staff

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From My Window



This is the time that I am most aware of the mismatch of the church year and the calendar year. Because Christianity was the dominant religion when the United States was founded, the rhythms of our life culturally are fairly well matched to the rhythms of the church year - but not right now.

Right now, culturally and calendar-ly (I know that's not a word - welcome to having me as a pastor) we are winding down and wrapping up:

December is the end of the year;
Year-end sales for all sorts of things will be advertised soon;
Days are shorter and we head indoors earlier.

And yet, for Christians, the year is just beginning:

Advent is the start of the church year;
Our stories in scripture begin again and we look at them with new eyes;
The birth of Christ - new life - is our closest and coming celebration.

It's a bit of a time smash - beginnings and endings are all laid over one another at the moment.

My family is feeling that time smash particularly strongly right now:

We are ending one journey and beginning a new one;
We are preparing to move to a new house by packing up our old one;
We are eating last meals from favorite spots (take-out, don't worry) and wondering where we'll become new regulars;
We are saying good-bye to one community and wondering how we safely say hello in a new one.

We are going and coming.
We all are.

So if, at the moment, you're not sure whether you're up or down, heads or tails, in or out, topsy or turvy, ending or beginning - that's probably just about right, and you're not alone. We're certainly there with you, and we're taking comfort in the promise that God is too. An alpha and omega, first and last, everywhere and nowhere, human and divine, three and one kind of God can manage the complications of a beginning and ending time smash, and I'm deeply grateful for that.

Richard, Nora, and I look forward to being in Baton Rouge. We look forward to meeting you all whenever and however we are able to do so. We look forward to hearing your stories and your restaurant recommendations (still take-out). We look forward to learning how to pronounce the street names and figuring out just how many times one street can change names. And we look forward to learning how to navigate this ending and beginning with you.

Bendiciones (Blessings) -

December...

Meetings times/locations are subject to change.
Please check with your group leader for confirmation and information on how to log into Zoom meetings.

- 1 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Zoom
10:00 a.m. Day Circle - Zoom
- 2 9:30 a.m. "Into the Light" Small Group - 1545 Patrick Dr.
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (for more info dwalters@upcbr.org)
- 3 11:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Zoom
- 6 Second Sunday in Advent** - Patti Snyder preaching
UPC Christmas Tree decorating begins
9:30 a.m. "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study - Zoom
9:30 a.m. "The Music of Advent" Small Group - Zoom
11:00 a.m. Worship - Facebook (Live)
11:45 a.m. Post Service Fellowship - Zoom
- 7 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Zoom
5:00 p.m. Worship Committee - Zoom
- 8 1:30 p.m. "Visio Divina" Small Group - Zoom
7:00 p.m. Mission & Peacemaking Committee - Zoom
- 9 9:30 a.m. "Into the Light" Small Group - 1545 Patrick Dr.
12:30 p.m. Technology Committee - TBA
5:00 p.m. Property Committee - Zoom
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (for more info dwalters@upcbr.org)
- 10 11:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Zoom
- 13 Third Sunday in Advent** - PLEDGE DEDICATION SUNDAY
Patti Snyder preaching
9:30 a.m. "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study - Zoom
9:30 a.m. "The Music of Advent" Small Group - Zoom
11:00 a.m. Worship - Facebook (Live)
11:45 a.m. Post Service Fellowship - Zoom
1:00 p.m. Session Meeting (cancelled due to COVID Phase 2 restrictions)
3:00 p.m. Christmas Story Pageant - UPC Parking Lot
- 14 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 15 1:30 p.m. "Visio Divina" Small Group - Zoom
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Committee - Zoom
- 16 9:30 a.m. "Into the Light" Small Group - 1545 Patrick Dr.
12:30 p.m. Day School Committee - Zoom
3:30 p.m. Stewardship & Finance Committee - Zoom
5:30 p.m. Personnel & Administration Committee - Zoom
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (for more info dwalters@upcbr.org)
- 17 11:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Zoom
- 20 Fourth Sunday in Advent** - Betsy Irvine preaching
Christmas Joy Offering
9:30 a.m. "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study - Zoom
9:30 a.m. "The Music of Advent" Small Group - Zoom
11:00 a.m. Worship - Facebook (Live)
11:45 a.m. Post Service Fellowship - Zoom
- 21 **Day School Closed** (through January 1)
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Zoom
- 22 1:30 p.m. "Visio Divina" Small Group - Zoom
- 24 Christmas Eve - Church Office Closed**
5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols Service - Facebook (Live)
- 25 Christmas Day - Church Office Closed**
- 27 1st Sunday After Christmas** - Patti Snyder preaching
11:00 a.m. Worship - Facebook (Live)
11:45 a.m. Post Service Fellowship - Zoom
1:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting - Zoom
- 31 New Year's Eve - Church Office Closed**

Office Notes

Vacation Schedules

Caralyn Durham will be out of the office on December 15 and 28-31. Betsy Irvine's last day will be December 31. Mamie Broadhurst will start as Co-Pastor on January 1.

Day School and Office Closures

The Day School will be closed from December 21 - January 1.

The Church Office will be closed on December 24, 25, 31, and January 1.



The **UPC Book Club** meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

Contact Ellen Morgan for info.

Jan. 5 Malinche by Laura Esquivel

Feb. 2 Caste, The Origins of our Discontent by Isabel Wilkerson

The University Presbyterian Church CONTACT is printed monthly. Articles may be submitted via email to 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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CHURCH

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Next Steps for Our New Pastor

from the Pastor Nominating Committee

The Pastor Nominating Committee is excited to welcome our new co-pastor, Mamie Broadhurst, soon, and we hope you are too! We wanted to share a reminder of the next steps in this process.

- Mamie will be accepted into the Presbytery of South Louisiana.
- There will be an installation service, where she will be officially installed as our co-pastor.
- She will sign a covenant with the congregation, similar to Patti's covenant with the congregation.

Mamie will begin doing planning work during the month of December, and her official start date is January 1.

The congregation will also need to vote to change Patti's call to that of a co-pastor. This meeting will be announced once it is scheduled.

Thank you all for your patience during this process, and we look forward to stepping into the future of UPC with our two co-pastors!



Hope for the Holidays

The Christmas season is here! In spite of Covid-19, UPC and the Mission and Peacemaking Committee, in cooperation with the Presbyterian Children's Home and Services, will again conduct our annual project to buy Christmas gifts of local children. This year, because of Covid, we will conduct Hope for the Holidays online.

To select a child to shop for, go to the following website: <https://www.signup-genius.com/go/4090F4BAEAB22A2FD0-christmas>

There you will find a list of available children, their gender, and age. Once you make your selection, click on the email link for either Lorinda Sealey or Jim Hanifen to tell them who you've selected. They will then send you a list of suggested gifts that the children's parents have provided. Then go shopping! Details on how and where to return your wrapped gifts will be sent in another email once those details have been worked out.

The deadline for sign-up is December 13. The deadline for drop-off is December 15.

Thanks for participating in this, our 30th year, of Hope for the Holidays!

January...

1 New Year's Day - Church Office Closed

3 Epiphany Sunday

9:30 a.m. "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study - Zoom

11:00 a.m. Worship - Facebook (*Live*)

11:45 a.m. Post Service Fellowship - Zoom

4 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Zoom

5:00 p.m. Worship Committee - Zoom

5 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Zoom

10:00 a.m. Day Circle - Parks Wilson Room

1:30 p.m. "Visio Divina" Small Group - Zoom

7:00 p.m. UPC Book Group - Zoom

6 9:30 a.m. "Into the Light" Small Group - 1545 Patrick Dr.

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (*for more info dwalters@upcbr.org*)

7 11:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Zoom

10 Baptism of the Lord

9:30 a.m. "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study - Zoom

11:00 a.m. Worship - Facebook (*Live*)

11:45 a.m. Post Service Fellowship - Zoom

1:00 p.m. Session Meeting (*tentative pending change in COVID restrictions*)

11 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Zoom

12 1:30 p.m. "Visio Divina" Small Group - Zoom

7:00 p.m. Mission & Peacemaking Committee - Zoom

13 9:30 a.m. "Into the Light" Small Group - 1545 Patrick Dr.

12:30 p.m. Technology Committee - TBA

5:00 p.m. Property Committee - Zoom

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (*for more info dwalters@upcbr.org*)

14 11:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Zoom

17 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study - Zoom

11:00 a.m. Worship - Facebook (*Live*)

11:45 a.m. Post Service Fellowship - Zoom

18 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - Day School & Church Office Closed

19 1:30 p.m. "Visio Divina" Small Group - Zoom

6:30 p.m. Fellowship Committee - Zoom

20 9:30 a.m. "Into the Light" Small Group - 1545 Patrick Dr.

12:30 p.m. Day School Committee - Zoom

3:30 p.m. Stewardship & Finance Committee - Zoom

5:30 p.m. Personnel & Administration Committee - Zoom

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (*for more info dwalters@upcbr.org*)

21 11:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Zoom

24 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study - Zoom

11:00 a.m. Worship - Facebook (*Live*)

11:45 a.m. Post Service Fellowship - Zoom

1:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting - Zoom

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31 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 a.m. "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study - Zoom

11:00 a.m. Worship - Facebook (*Live*)

11:45 a.m. Post Service Fellowship - Zoom



UPC T-SHIRTS!

The UPC Committee for Excellence in Fashion (aka the Fellowship Committee) is pleased to offer a new Official UPC T-shirt for the low price of \$10.04. To get your hands on this highly collectable shirt, follow the link below to select your quantity and size on the CustomInk website. Orders can be placed through December 20, 2020. All orders will be shipped to the church office in early January and then distributed by the Fellowship Committee. If you do not live in Baton Rouge and want to order a shirt, please contact Matt McGraw at matt-mcgraw@sbcglobal.net so that shipping arrangements can be made.

<https://www.customink.com/g/vhh0-00cc-9nwly>



In November UPC members participated in an Advent event where they made Advent candle holders. Above are some of the amazing works that came out of the project led by Lilly Bridwell-Bowles.

Thank You!

Choir Masks

Hooray for Helping Hands sewists, who made singers masks for the choir. They are comfortable and roomy and great for singing! THANK YOU Barbara Hoffman, who coordinated the effort, Beverly Smiley, Bizza Britton, Mary Michael, and Anne Maverick.

600 Masks

Thanks to the efforts of Bizza Britton, Peggy Carroll, Barbara Hoffman, Julie Launey, Mary Mikell, Peggy Reilly, Karen Paterson, Beverly Jones, Sydney McGraw, Kathy Poche, Patti Snyder, Linda Walker, and Amy Vidrine, Helping Hands made over 600 cloth masks for Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center amidst Covid19. Ramping up in early April to meet this community need, and continuing through August 15, kits of materials were assembled weekly, distributed contact-free from Barbara's front porch, collected and delivered with help from Joyce Moreland and Frances Sullivan-Gonzalez. Currently Helping Hands is making 25 singers' masks for the UPC choir. Under Covid19 restrictions, preparations and sewing took place in individual homes. We look forward to the time when we may once again gather in the Zoom for fellowship as we use our hands and hearts to care for others.

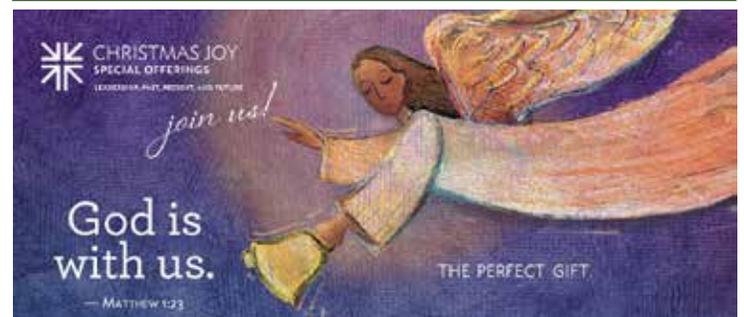
Poinsettia Project

Since we have no UPC sanctuary to decorate this Christmas, the Committee on Faith Formation will deliver poinsettias to our church family to decorate your home and to remind you that we are all connected throughout this holiday season and beyond. If you would like to contribute to the project, please send your check to the church and indicate it is for the "Poinsettia Project" in the memo line.



IN MEMORIAM

Mary Timmons, who died on November 26.



Advent and Christmas at UPC

Advent, the season of preparation for Christ's birth, begins this year on Sunday, November 29. Each Sunday morning in Advent we will virtually gather, light the Advent candles symbolizing one of the Christian themes relating to the coming of Christ into the world – hope, peace, joy and love, hear the Word proclaimed, and lift our prayers for each other and the world.

This year our members and friends are also encouraged to develop a brief daily (or occasional, if daily seems out of reach) practice of worship at home. You may wish to develop your own practice or join with others in using “Discerning God’s kairos in the midst of our daily chronos” a free devotional resource emailed to you each week. We hear often these days that we are living through unprecedented times. Our experience of time has been altered in recent months. Our routines and rhythms, milestones and rituals, are upended. As we enter the liturgical season of Advent, when we are to eagerly prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ and also anticipate his return, how will we mark this time? What will we do to be good stewards of our time? We will explore being aware of God’s presence in the moment even as we anticipate Jesus’ incarnation. These devotions will seek to help us recognize God’s kairos time within and working through our challenging chronos time.

Worship

First Week in Advent - HOPE

November 29 - First Sunday in Advent

11:00 Worship

Traditional service celebrating the themes of the season. Communion will be served. Patti Snyder preaching.

Second Week in Advent - PEACE

December 6 - Second Sunday in Advent

11:00 Worship

Traditional service celebrating the themes of the season. Patti Snyder preaching.

Third Week in Advent - JOY

December 13 - Third Sunday in Advent

11:00 Worship

Traditional service celebrating the themes of the season. Patti Snyder preaching.

Fourth Week in Advent - LOVE

December 20 - Fourth Sunday in Advent

11:00 Worship

Traditional service celebrating the themes of the season. Christmas Joy Offering will be collected. Betsy Irvine preaching.

December 24 - Christmas Eve

Christmas Eve Service of Lessons & Carols

5:30 p.m.

A family-friendly service that centers on the story and music of the season. Watch your email and FB for the possibility of special service details.

December 27 - First Sunday of Christmas

11:00 Worship (no church school)

January 5 - Epiphany

11:00 Worship

Not to worry, distribution of traditional stars will be involved, watch your email and FB for details!

Education

The Music of Advent

David Walters, leader

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom every Sunday in Advent

During Sunday School in Advent, we will be exploring several larger musical works that tell the Christmas story - Missa puer natus est by Thomas Tallis, The Messiah by George Frideric Handel, The Christmas Oratorio by Charles-Camille Saint-Saëns, and Die Weihnachtsgeschichte by Hugo Distler. This will not only be a musical tour through the ages, but also an exploration of how these different composers addressed the coming birth of Jesus specifically. Join us for some lively discussion and some truly excellent music! <https://lsu.zoom.us/j/95282554072>

The Christmas Story Pageant

December 13 - 3:00 p.m.

Join us to hear The Christmas Story come to life in the UPC Parking Lot on December 13th from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. “Journey to Bethlehem” will have eight stations. As each family unit travels from one station to the next they will hear the Christmas Story as told by people who were there. Everyone will be expected to wear masks and stay socially distanced.

Fellowship

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING IN THE COURTYARD

December 6-13

Families and individuals are invited to bring an ornament and help decorate our outdoor Christmas tree.

The tree will be set up near the entrance to the church courtyard and you may come at any time starting on December 6 to hang your ornament. Your ornament may show something you are especially thankful for this holiday season or you may bring any ornament of your choosing, handmade or bought. Because we are unable to display our beautiful chrismon ornaments on this tree, you are invited to consider making a chrismon for the outside tree. (See page 8 for more information on chrismons) Snap a picture and post to the UPC Facebook page as a way to celebrate this season together!

Day School

UPC Day School earns spot on Louisiana Honor Roll

Congratulations to our UPC Day School for once again earning a spot on the Louisiana Department of Education's Honor Roll as a result of high performance in the 2019-2020 school year, which is determined by classroom observation. The Day School's performance rating remains at the High Proficiency level. The next and final level up is the Excellent level, which the school is striving for.

Our Day School's outstanding reputation will work to our advantage when the economy starts to rebound, and demand for day care increases. But right now, attendance at the Day School remains at about 51% of capacity and will probably remain that way for a while. It may be well into 2021 before the Day School gets back to 95% capacity, which is our traditional goal.

Session Highlights

In November the Session considered several items relating to the arrival of our new co-pastor, Mamie Broadhurst. One big change that church members will notice is that Patti's office will soon be moved to the present library space, right opposite the office now used by interim pastoral associate Betsy Irvine. The library will be where Patti's office is.

The session approved several events for the holiday season, taking care to provide for physical distancing during the pandemic. Called meetings of the session to review requests for the use of our church facilities occur twice a month or as needed. Such requests must conform to the guidelines for safe facilities use approved last month. Those guidelines may be found on Realm under the group University Presbyterian Church -> Files or by contacting the church office.

Stewardship & Finance

PLEDGE DEDICATON SUNDAY - DECEMBER 13

2020 Contributions Deadline

Contributions must be received in the church office or postmarked by 12/31/20 to be reflected on your 2020 Contribution Statement. Stock donations must be in UPC's name on 12/31/20 to be counted as a 2020 donation. If you have questions about your pledge status, please log into your Realm account at www.onrealm.org or contact Caralyn in the church office or email cdurham@upcbr.org.

Pledge Update 2021

As of 12/2/20 we have received 32 pledges totaling \$276,500... that is 71 pledges short of last year's total, but of course many have only recently received their pledge cards by mail. Please prayerfully consider making your pledge to UPC's Annual Stewardship Campaign. Pledge cards can be mailed to you upon request (via phone 225-383-0345 or email to cdurham@upcbr.org), or you may pledge by logging into your Realm account. The church's budget in 2021 will require significantly more in pledges for the year in order to continue our current mission pathways. Please make your pledge today for the future ministry of UPC in 2021!

How to Pledge in Realm

Log into your Realm account at onrealm.org. Once you are in your profile, go to GIVING, then +PLEDGE, and a new pledge window will appear. Choose the GENERAL FUND for 2021; fill in how often you would like to pledge from dates 1/1/2021 to 12/31/2021 and how much you would like to pledge. Realm will calculate the yearly total for you. When you are done, click SAVE PLEDGE. It's that easy!

IDENTIFIED GIVING STATUS 2020 (as of 12/02/2020)

Received Pledged giving: **\$446507**
Received Unpledged giving \$21,542
TOTAL GIVING RECEIVED: **\$468,049**

Currently we have received only 89% of the total pledged for 2020. If you are behind on your pledge, please consider bringing it up to date before the end of the year. If you want to check your giving status, log into onrealm.org or contact the church office. Thank you!

Offering Envelopes for 2021

Offering Envelopes for 2021 will be only available by request. Boxes can be modified for weekly or monthly. Please contact the church office if you would like a box mailed to you.

5 WAYS TO GIVE



IN PERSON

Drop your gift into the offering plate on Sunday



MAIL

Mail your gift to: University Presbyterian Church
3240 Dalrymple Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802



ONLINE

<https://onrealm.org/UniversityPresb15909/give/now>
or through your REALM portal under GIVING/+GIVE



MOBLIE APP

Realm Connect is available for download at iTunes and Google Play (uses your onrealm login)

UPC BR 75

TEXT

Text UPCBR and your amount to 73256
(as shown at left)

Mission & Peacemaking

Outreach to St. Anthony's Home

Social distancing and other restrictions in response to the COVID 19 Pandemic have created many challenges to in-person interactions with agencies UPC serves, including St. Anthony's Home. Sponsored by Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, St. Anthony's Home is an assisted living residence for people requiring support as a result of disabilities associated with HIV/ AIDS. St. Anthony's Home has been in operation for 23 years. Over the past 15 years or so, UPC has supported this program through a budget line item and by sponsoring various outreach programs such as local fishing trips and picnics, restaurant and movie outings for residents and UPC members, and by providing seasonal decorations.

This year has been different. To prevent COVID-19 infection among its residents, all outings have been cancelled and inside visitors are not currently allowed at St. Anthony's; this means no interaction with volunteers, family or friends. After consulting with St. Anthony's director and social worker about the best way to let the residents know that they are not forgotten, members of the Mission and Peacemaking (M&P) Committee decided that a treat of a non-institutional take-out lunch delivered to St. Anthony's would provide a welcome change in their routine menu, and a holiday decorations craft project would be a fun activity for the residents.

This year's outreach to St. Anthony's is truly a UPC-wide effort. On November 10, Karen Foote and Mike Olinde delivered 20 take out lunches from Jason's Deli to St. Anthony's residents and staff on behalf of UPC. Also delivered to each resident with personal greetings from members of the M&P Committee were fabric postcards made by UPC's Circle and Helping Hands and purchased as a fundraiser for Huntington Disease Society of America. In early December, M&P will deliver designs, supplies and instructions for making holiday ornaments as part of the Faith Formation Committee's Christmas craft project. Our overarching message to St. Anthony's residents and staff is "We're thinking of you, you are not forgotten, UPC cares".



POT & PANS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

If you shop at Albertson's, please collect the current Master Chef stickers awarded for your purchases. Bizza Britton is collecting the stickers to trade in for as many pots & pans as possible, between now and January 26. International students have limited resources to set up housekeeping. They can borrow items from loaner closet for small fee, and when they leave, turn items back in for small refund. It really helps them get settled while at LSU. Let's help! There will be small container marked MASTER CHEF STICKERS in mailbox closet/ or mail to 1222 Kimbro Dr 70808 or call/text Bizza for pickup: 225.456.4568.



Mike Olinde and Dorothy Williams, Social Worker at St. Anthony's

Thank You!

We appreciate your generous contribution to the Peace and Global Witness Offering. This year's offering total was \$970. This amount exceeds last year's offering of \$801. As is customary, 50% of this offering goes to PCUSA, 25% goes to the Presbytery of South Louisiana, and the remaining 25% goes to a local benevolence, which this year will be IRIS Domestic Violence Center of Baton Rouge. We are pleased to contribute to this worthwhile cause. The Pandemic, has created increased stressors, which historically have been shown to lead to an increase in family violence and domestic abuse. This small contribution is in addition to our annual contribution of \$1000. Thanks again for your generosity.



NONPERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS NEEDED!

The LSU Food Pantry offers prepackaged bags of food for students to pick up. To do so, the LSU Food Pantry needs your help. We'll collect non-perishable food items at the church every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. until further notice. There is a bin inside the door closest to the church office where you can leave your donations. Especially needed are protein items (beans, tuna, chicken, and meat sauce), vegetables, and cereals. Please no sweets and no pet food!

Faith Formation

WINTER 2020-21

The Music of Advent

David Walters, leader

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom every Sunday in Advent

During Sunday School in Advent, we will be exploring several larger musical works that tell the Christmas story - Missa puer natus est by Thomas Tallis, The Messiah by George Frideric Handel, The Christmas Oratorio by Charles-Camille Saint-Saëns, and Die Weihnachtsgeschichte by Hugo Distler. This will not only be a musical tour through the ages, but also an exploration of how these different composers addressed the coming birth of Jesus specifically. Join us for some lively discussion and some truly excellent music! <https://lsu.zoom.us/j/95282554072>

Feasting on the Word- Adult Bible Study

Rotating leaders

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom (ongoing)

For each lectionary text, participants will find brief essays and discussions concerning the biblical texts. One review states, "A very helpful resource for those who use the lectionary in their weekly church services. I love that each passage is broken into theological perspective, pastoral perspective, exegetical perspective and homiletical perspectives. Having each perspective side by side discussing the passage for the week is very helpful."

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81701086436?pwd=Y255a0dwK0NkSVhseEhzaWVwMWRFRdz09>

Meeting ID: 817 0108 6436 Passcode: 369663

Visio Divina - "Faces of Faith"

Patti Snyder, leader

Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom

This small group uses a combination of the processes of 'lexio divina' (divine reading) and 'visio divina' (divine seeing) to reflect on one scripture passage and an accompanying piece of artwork each week. The process is guided and requires no experience. We share a contemplative/prayerful practice that includes time for individual reflection and group sharing. Please contact Patti Snyder for class login information.

Bible Study - God's Promise I Am With You

Peggy Carroll, leader

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.

"God's Promise I Am With You", takes us on a journey through old and new scripture to consider circumstances in which God articulated God's most frequent promise of presence. Held in-person and led by Peggy Carroll at 1545 Patrick Drive on Wednesday mornings at 9:30. For information contact Peggy: 225-726-7856 or peggpc@yahoo.com.

Soul Feast

Mary Mikell and Betsy Irvine

Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. on Zoom

Readings from various writers in spirituality. The group reads essays, books, and poems from a wide variety of authors.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87248796877?pwd=NHVKZWJYVmlzUmpFZHN3eTlpQTdZz09>

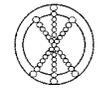
Meeting ID: 872 4879 6877 Passcode: 592271

A Chrismon is a monogram of Christ. All the designs of Chrismon ornaments are symbols for Christ which have been passed down through the centuries of Christian history. All Chrismons are made in combinations of white and gold. White, the liturgical color for Christmas, refers to our Lord's purity and perfection; gold represents the Lord's majesty and glory. At the top of the tree is the Moravian Star, first made in the Moravian settlement at Niesky, Germany, about 1850, a reminder of the star that led the Wise Men to Bethlehem. It also symbolizes the Christ Child of whom the Old Testament prophesied, "A star shall come out of Jacob" (Numbers 24:17). The Risen Christ likewise proclaimed himself as "the root and offspring of David, and the bright and morning star" (Revelation 23:16).

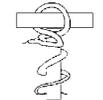
1st Sunday of Advent: HOPE



Sun of Righteousness: An Old Testament prophetic symbol based on Malachi 4:2, "But for you who fear my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings." In order to identify the sun as a Christ symbol, a Christ monogram has been placed in the center.



Six Pointed Star: Based on an Old Testament prophecy from Numbers 24:17, "A star shall come out of Jacob..." this star appears in many forms. One form is made by combining the Greek letter Iota (I) which is the first letter of Jesus, and Chi (X), the letter for Christ. The other is the Jewish Star, also known as the Creator's Star, created by two triangles. It represents that Jesus was born into Judaism, the six days of Creation, and the Trinity.



Serpent on Tau Cross: Prefiguration of the sacrifice on the cross (John 3:14).



Anchor Cross (Cross of Hope): This Child, the hope of the world (Hebrews 6:19).

2nd Sunday of Advent: PEACE



Chi Rho: The most widely known Chrismon in the combination of the first two letters in the Greek form of Christ, Chi (X) and Rho (P). Another name for it is Pax, which is Latin for peace. Sometimes it is shown with the Alpha and the Omega, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. Jesus said "I am the Alpha and the Omega" (Revelation 22:12).



3rd Sunday of Advent: JOY



Latin Cross: Long upright; most widely used form of the cross among Christians.



Celtic Cross: Came from the Isle of Iano; plain cross with circle of everlasting life.



Cross Potent: Also known as the Jerusalem Cross or Crusader's Cross; usually has four small crosses between the arms, the five crosses symbolizing the five wounds of our Lord.

4th Sunday of Advent: LOVE



Lamb: A scriptural symbol for Christ, Lamb of God (John 1:29 and Revelation 21:22). The standing lamb bearing the cross banner of victory signifies the resurrection.



Rose: Messianic promise, the Messiah. Also, our Lord's virgin mother Mary; His human birth or humanity.



Butterfly: Our Lord's Resurrection; Resurrection of those who die in Christ (1 Corinthians 15:20-23).



Cross Triumphant: (Of Victory); Triumph of the Lord over earthly sin. Christ glorified.

Prayer Requests

To add a name, remove a name, or update information on our prayer list, please contact the church office by noon on Wednesday at cdurham@upcbr.org.

**Lois Liggett • Gary Meise • Ruth Bivins • Dean Kerr • Tabitha Lewis
John Earle • Bettye Burford • Gerard Klein • Melanie Driscoll
Kim Kirby • James and Jeanette Hanifen • Alan Williams**

- **Frank Vine**, significant other of Virginia Davis, recovering from rotator cuff surgery
- **Dolores Ingraham**, mother of Patti Snyder, moving into skilled nursing
- **Judith Gooch**, friend of Pat Ho, **and her daughter Jennifer and granddaughter Evelyn** who are going through some very difficult times
- **Stuart Dameron's mother**, facing a knee replacement surgery on Dec. 7
- **Karen Paterson's sister, Clare and her husband, Bob**, who both have COVID
- **Barbara Babs**, with heart issues and facing a hip replacement
- **Nan Patt**, beginning chemotherapy
- **Langston Kelly**, three-year-old UPC Day School student, diagnosed with Leukemia and undergoing treatment at St. Jude Children's Hospital in Memphis
- **Pam Fisher**, undergoing chemotherapy
- **Mary Stevens' father** awaiting the outcome of a biopsy
- **Annette and Don Greenland**, long-time friends of Lori Tucker. Annette is in memory care
- **Wes Mainord**, recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- **Johnny Bourliea**, friend of Griff Campbell, recovering from surgery for a brain tumor
- **Misha Gottesman**, two-year-old nephew of Peggy Carroll, diagnosed with leukemia
- **RJ LeBlanc**, father of Kathie Pohlman's 'Bonus Daughter,' Nikki, with lung cancer
- **Kaley Hall**, ten year old niece of John Grubb, undergoing chemotherapy for a pineoblastoma at St. Jude's
- **Anne Dardis**, friend of Pat Strain, recovering from back surgery
- **Donna Crumpler**, mother of Tavia Crumpler, undergoing treatment for colon cancer
- **Anne Bender**, friend of Pat Ho, undergoing cancer treatment
- **Ginger Zipperer**, friend of Darla O'Connor, diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer
- **Marla Kerr-Lawson**, Kelly Kerr's sister, undergoing chemotherapy
- **Gina Tharp**, friend of Ann Miller, undergoing treatment for Stage IV colorectal cancer
- **Terry Calendar**, friend of Wes Mainord, seriously ill following a stroke and with advanced cancer
- Ben Stoker's **Uncle Jody**, with advanced stage cancer
- **Mike and Chip**, friends of Robbie Phillabaum, facing difficult cancer treatments
- **Betty Crawford**, friend of Robbie Phillabaum, recovering from a stroke
- **Ralph Simone**, friend of Darla O'Connor, undergoing treatment for bladder cancer
- **Joellen Hawkins**, Aunt of Emily Cogburn, with Alzheimer's
- **Edna Faust and her son Gregory**, friends of Kay Lindsey
- **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 Cuba church partners, Pastor Josué Montejo, and others in Cuba facing widespread shortages.**



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 Steven Hartmann
- 8 Darla O'Connor
- 9 OPEN
- 10 OPEN
- 11 OPEN
- 12 OPEN
- 13 Mary Mikell
- 14 OPEN
- 15 OPEN
- 16 Beth Paskoff
- 17 OPEN
- 18 OPEN
- 19 Kristin Savicki
- 20 Jennifer Bravinder
- 21 Linda Benedict
- 22 OPEN
- 23 OPEN
- 24 OPEN
- 25 Cordell Haymon
- 26 OPEN
- 27 OPEN
- 28 OPEN
- 29 OPEN
- 30 Junita Meier
- 31 Andy Maverick

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



Check out UPC on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian

**FEBRUARY
CONTACT
DEADLINE
JANUARY 20**

December Birthdays

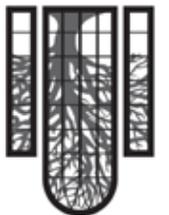
1	Alexander Gochnour	8	Bunny Heroman Hattie Knapp	18	April Armstrong Neviton Barros	27	Jakob Hendrix
2	Ben Fisher					28	Eleanor Canon Audrey Cogburn Danielle Terry
3	Kathy Perry	10	Dorothy Jones Nicholas Patty Jacqueline Samson	20	Steve Whitting		
4	Veronika Stubblebine			21	Pat Strain	29	Claire McKinley
6	Linda Lee Mona Truluck	12	Tobie Irvine	22	Elijah Fontenot Stafford	30	Brett Dietz
7	Gina Costello	15	Kelley Massengale	25	Leslie Green Layne Motsenbocker	31	Silas Irvine Darla O'Connor Amy Phillips
		16	De'Vannon Hubert	26	Cindy Rice Anna-Karin Skillen		

January Birthdays

2	Dawn Simpson	9	Dianne Garton	16	Forest Benedict Lori Hyatt Pilley Darlene Rowland	29	Kathy Poché Jan Reeves
4	Jo Ann Lea	10	Suzanne Trahan			30	Mitch Patty
6	Kathleen Richey Ben Stoker	12	Cordell Haymon Gerard Klein Carl Motsenbocker Jeff Perry	22	Griffin Campbell	31	Albert Adjaottor Donna Schlotzhauer Mary Stevens
7	Betty Shelton			24	Bill Stubblebine		
8	Paul Nguyen	15	Deanna Black Jennifer Bravinder	25	Richard Kilgore Lynne Wallace		

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