

University Presbyterian Church

Welcome! May you find strength, joy, and a new challenge here. If you would like more information about membership or the program, mission, and fellowship of the church, speak to the pastor as you leave worship today or visit our website, www.upcbr.org.

Learn more about us by reading our monthly church newsletter, the Contact. Copies are available in the back of the church and Welcome Center throughout the month, or you can find Contact on our web site, www.upcbr.org. Follow us on Facebook, too (<https://www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian>).

LIFE OF THE CHURCH November 28, 2021



Sunday (11/28) 1st Sunday of Advent

- 9:45 a.m. "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study - Conference Room
- 9:45 a.m. "Home" Parks Wilson Class - Parks Wilson Room & Zoom
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Facebook (*Live*)

Tuesday (11/30)

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 5:00 p.m. Faith Formation Committee Meeting - Zoom

Wednesday (12/1)

- 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

Thursday (12/2)

- 11:00 a.m. Soul Feast Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
- 1:00 p.m. Vision Divina Small Group - Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. TBR Gala - EBR River Center Branch Library
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room

Sunday (12/5) 2nd Sunday of Advent

- 9:45 a.m. "Feasting on the Word" Bible Study - Conference Room
- 9:45 a.m. "Home" Parks Wilson Class - Parks Wilson Room & Zoom
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Facebook (*Live*)
- 11:50 a.m. Christmas Tree Decorating - Courtyard
- 1:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting - Zoom
- 4:30 p.m. High School & Middle School Youth Group - Fellowship Hall



CLOSE to
HOME

Advent Devotionals & Calendars

Advent Devotionals and Calendars are now available. Copies can be found in the Welcome Center or by requesting a digital copy through the church office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For meetings, classes, and events, Zoom links may be found on our website (www.upcbr.org), on Realm (onrealm.org), or by contacting a group leader.

THANK YOU CANDLE LIGHTERS!

Thank you to the middle school youth who are helping to light the advent candle this morning.

HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Thanks to all who participated in the Hope for the Holidays program, run by Presbyterian Children's Home and Services (PCHAS), to provide gifts for children in our community.

If you chose a name, the deadline to drop off your gifts or contribute toward the Youth Group's shopping trip is immediately following the service on Sunday, Dec. 5. Please place your gifts in a tall plastic kitchen or lawn/leaf bag. Close the bag and attach a label with the child's name. You may drop off your gifts either in the Welcome Center before and after services, or contact Samantha Hartmann at 832-387-7343 to arrange drop-off. The Youth Group will wrap any unwrapped gifts.

Volunteers needed for Sunday Nursery

A Nursery is provided during worship for those younger than 1st grade. Whether or not you have a child who is eligible for the nursery, please consider giving some of your time to the youngest among us! To sign up go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0444ABAA2DA5FF2-sunday>

BIRTHDAYS *This Week (November 28 - December 4)*

30 Tristyn Bemis, Cindy Hartgerink, and Cheri Strain,
1 Alexander Gochnour, 3 Kathy Perry, 4 Veronika Stubblebine

Christmas Tree Decorating

Die Kommission Tannenbaum von UPC (aka the UPC Fellowship Committee) is organizing a Christmas Tree Decoration in the Courtyard on December 5, 2021 immediately following Worship Service. Cider will be served. Children of all ages are invited to decorate a simple craft ornament for the tree or you may bring your own. If you can't make it on that day, you are welcome to bring an ornament on another day and share a picture of it being hung on our outdoor tree. Hope to see you there!

IDENTIFIED GIVING STATUS 2021 *(as of 11/23/2021)*

Received Pledged giving: \$428,831

Received Unpledged giving \$37,542

TOTAL GIVING RECEIVED: \$466,373

Currently we have only received 83% of the total pledged for 2021.

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!

GOING ALL IN

Thanks to everyone who helped with our annual campaign: the presenters of the Stewardship Minutes, the people who delivered the pledge card/pancake breakfast packages, Caralyn Durham for her office expertise and our co-pastors who provided the “Going All In” theme and the framework for the campaign.

*Robbie Phillabaum and Mary Stevens, co-chairs
Beth Paskoff, Stewardship and Finance Committee*

Pledge Update

As of 11/22/21 we have received 85 pledges totaling \$465,404. It's not too late to make your pledge to UPC's Annual Stewardship Campaign. Log into your church Realm account or fill out a pledge card, found in the pews, to make your pledge today. Every pledge, no matter the size, will help UPC's ministry in 2022!

Ways To Pledge

Paper pledge cards are available in the pews, the periodical racks around the church, and by contacting the church office. In addition to the paper pledge card, you can make your pledge online using Realm! Just 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; fill in how often you would like to pledge from dates 1/1/2022 to 12/31/2022 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!

Giving Reminder

If you give electronically through Realm and you have changed your pledge amount, remember to change your banking information at the beginning of the year. Realm doesn't automatically adjust the amount for you.



ADULT CHURCH SCHOOL 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Sundays

1. **Feasting on the Word - Adult Bible Study**
Group led bible study centering on the lectionary texts for each Sunday. Held in person in the Conference Room.
2. **Parks Wilson Class**
During the Advent season, the Parks Wilson class will explore the theme of "Home." What is home--how do we make it, lose it, regain it? From Sunday Nov. 28 through Sunday Jan. 9 we will consider the idea of home through various contexts: poetry, public housing, refugee resettlement and disaster assistance. Please join us either in person at church or via Zoom for this series of classes. This will be a hybrid class that will meet both in the Parks Wilson room and via Zoom. <https://lsu.zoom.us/j/2765203639>

Small Groups

Held on various days, at diverse times, and in a variety of locals (all either virtual or outside at this time) UPC's small groups for adults will begin this week.

Soul Feast

Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. Parks Wilson Room (*ongoing*)

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

Visio Divina

Thursdays at 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Zoom

This group engages together in contemplative reading of scripture texts and sharing reflection and our own artistic responses to text related pieces of art. We will be using a series of images from A Sanctified Art paired with biblical texts about Old Testament characters to ignite our time together. Curious? Join us and see if this group is for you! <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87918082267?pwd=a1M4OUgzellOT-W52UU43QW8xMUdMQT09> Meeting ID: 879 1808 2267 Passcode: 325964

ADMIT ONE	TOGETHER BATON ROUGE	THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2 EBRPL RIVER CENTER BRANCH LIBRARY 250 NORTH BLVD, BATON ROUGE, LA 70802 6 PM - 8 PM
	<i>10th Anniversary</i> GALA	<i>10 years</i> STRONG <i>10 years</i> FORWARD ↗
Don't forget to reserve your seat at this year's gala! Tickets are selling quickly. Individual tickets and institutional ticket packs can be purchased at: https://www.togetherbr.org/gala21		

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 • Gerard Klein • Melanie Driscoll • Alan Williams • Kathy Poché
Our Cuba Partners • Kathy Rossman • Jeanette Hanifen • Fay Coco**

- **Johnny**, uncle of Matt McGraw, in the hospital with COVID and pneumonia
- **Caralyn Durham**, facing retina surgery on December 8
- **Emily Delaney**, Steve Rushing's sister, continuing to recover from surgery
- **Bill Hammond**, friend of Mary Stevens, with a torn aorta
- **Kay Lindsay**, starting breast cancer treatment in December
- **Kelly Kerr**, with an injured back following a fall
- **Ronnie Fenasci**, recovering at home from open heart surgery
- **Ethan and Emily Strain**, family of George and Pat Strain, with COVID
- **M. Kennedy**, child of Sarah and Jerry Kennedy, recovering from surgery
- **Paul Hoffman's sister, Sharon, and her family**, dealing with a diagnosis of terminal cancer
- **Jordan Amirkhani**, granddaughter of Amybeth and Wes Mainord, with complications after a cornea surgery and facing more surgery
- **Eric**, friend of the Britton family, facing the prospect of a kidney transplant
- **Jazmon**, friend of the Britton family, at St Jude receiving treatment for a brain tumor
- **Trey Setzer**, grandson of Robbie Phillabaum, recovering from knee surgery
- **Amy Braymer**, diagnosed with Metastatic Thyroid Cancer
- **Carl Stoddard**, brother of Linda Walker, evaluating neck pain options
- **Dirk Ficca**, friend of Mamie and Richard, who is in a very precarious health situation.
- **Linda Clark**, recovering from major oral surgery
- **Jean Roberts**, Samantha Hartmann's aunt, with stage 4 ovarian and colon cancer
- **Nancy Pensis**, aunt of Linda Clark, making decisions regarding cancer treatment
- **Jordan Sealey**, nephew of Lorinda Sealey, with neurological symptoms of unknown origin
- **Eric**, friend of Lorinda Sealey, who is dealing with a cancer diagnosis in his family
- **Carmen Rodriguez**, friend of Cindy Tyler, with stage 4 colon cancer
- **The Dominguez family**, friends of Kathy Rossman, who are going through difficult times
- **Linda Mathis**, sister of Ron Garton, with stage 4 pancreatic cancer
- **Bae Landry**, father-in-law of Janet Whyde, with cancer
- **Linda Clark's family** who are going through difficult times
- **Judith Gooch**, friend of Pat Ho, and her daughter Jennifer and granddaughter Evelyn
- **Misha Gottesman**, two-year-old nephew of Peggy Carroll, 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
- **Anne Bender**, friend of Pat Ho, undergoing cancer treatment
- **Ginger Zipperer**, friend of Darla O'Connor, with stage 4 lung cancer
- **Marla Kerr-Lawson**, Kelly Kerr's sister, undergoing chemotherapy
- **Ralph Simone**, friend of Darla O'Connor, undergoing treatment for bladder cancer
- **Joellen Hawkins**, Aunt of Emily Cogburn, with Alzheimer's
- **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**