



Contact

March 2023

University Presbyterian Church Newsletter for church members and friends

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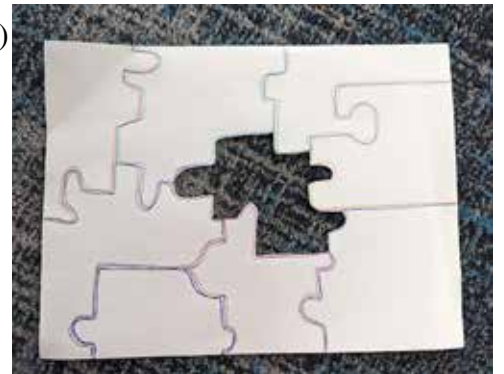
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From My Window

Last month I was at a continuing education event at which one of the tasks was to create a “Rule of Life.” I associate Rules of Life with St. Benedict, but the practice of having a set of guidelines and commitments that direct your life has been around much longer than that. They are meant to be living documents, ones that change as your life changes, and, while they can be helpful at any time, they are even more so when a lot of things are changing. Let’s just say the timing of my week (planned over a year ago) was fortuitous, or perhaps providential.

As I considered how to express my core values and how to best live congruent with them, what came to me was not words but an image. I can (and did) use a lot of words to explain that image, but when it is on my wall, all those words are in there, and as I look at it they wash over me in waves. (One gift of visual art it seems to me - is just to take that page of words and hold them all for you in one place.) The gift of the week, for me, was to have the time to intentionally step back and create this compass, if you will, to guide and ground my focus in the days to come.



While you don’t have to be a Christian to create a Rule of Life, as Christians we have a lot of teachings to pull from that can help guide and ground our focus. In the church year, the season of Lent offers a chance to step back and examine ourselves and what we value; to consider how, or whether, we are living in ways that reflect those commitments. There’s never a bad time to do it. It’s just a matter of taking time to do it - which is no easy feat.

If the idea interests you as an individual, I’m game to talk more about it. As a church we’re probably going to need to do some of that reflection as well in this upcoming time of transition. It is a parting gift from Patti to us really; a chance to reaffirm who we are and how we wish to be in the world. It’s fortuitous, or, perhaps, providential.

Bendiciones,

March...

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 9:45 a.m. Day School Chapel - Sanctuary
6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 2 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom
5:30 p.m. "Our Money Story" Small Group - Mamie's house
5:30 p.m. "Dealing with Racism" Small Group - 10943 N. Shoreline
7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 5 2nd Sunday in Lent Communion**
9:45 a.m. Church School
10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Facebook
2:00 p.m. Youth Group @ Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless, 153 N. 17th St.
5:30 p.m. DMA Choral Conducting Recital Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 7 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Conference Room & Zoom
10:00 a.m. Day Circle - Parks Wilson Room
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
5:30 p.m. DMA Choral Recital - Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Worship Committee - Zoom
7:00 p.m. UPC Book Group - Zoom
- 8 9:00 a.m. "Faith and Community" Small Group - 1848 Glendale
10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Drive
5:00 p.m. Property Committee - Zoom
6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 9 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom
5:30 p.m. "Our Money Story" Small Group - Mamie's house
5:30 p.m. "Dealing with Racism" Small Group - 10943 N. Shoreline
7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 10 7:00 p.m. Firepit Stories Fellowship Event - UPC Courtyard
- 12 3rd Sunday in Lent**
9:45 a.m. Church School
10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Facebook (Live)
4:30 p.m. Youth Group - Courtyard/Fellowship Hall
- 13 11:30 a.m. Membership Committee - Library
7:00 p.m. Huntington's Disease Support Group - Parks Wilson Room
- 14 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
6:00 p.m. Mission & Peacemaking Committee - Zoom
7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library
- 15 9:45 a.m. Day School Chapel - Sanctuary
6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 16 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom
5:30 p.m. "Our Money Story" Small Group - Mamie's house
5:30 p.m. "Dealing with Racism" Small Group - 10943 N. Shoreline
7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 18-19 Youth Group Camping Trip @ Feliciana Retreat Center

Office Notes



Sunday, March 12

(set your clocks ahead one hour the night before!)



Congratulations to the winners of our annual Soup & Pie competition, Rich Cooper and Audrey Cogburn. Thank you to all who participated. In spite of the rain, a good time was had by all who braved the elements to attend.



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

Contact Ellen Morgan for info

March 7 [The Bohemians](#)
by Jasmin Darznik
Meeting on Zoom

April 4 [Don't Make Me Pull Over](#)
by Richard Ratay

LNK LOVE

March...

Here are some fun, funny, inspirational, or thought-provoking links for you this month. (If you open this online there are hotlinks embedded, but links you can type in are just below in case the hotlinks don't work or you are receiving this on paper!)

- Sometimes we aren't quite ready for the thing we want to pray for. This is a lovely short video of the prayer before the prayer, specifically about forgiveness. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ufy4w0kcGDI>

- The Little Women Tournament: a different kind of March Madness. <https://www.mcsweeneys.net/articles/meg-jo-beth-and-amy-march-madness-key-matchups-in-the-ncaa-little-women-tournament>

- Justina Miles is a vision to watch as she signed Rihanna's Super Bowl half-time show. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L4996X5hUZ8>

- Two fine acapella groups sing Billy Joel's "Lullaby" together. The lyrics are likely meant to be from a parent to a child, but you can imagine them from God to us as well. Hear the promise: "I promised I would never leave you and you should always know, wherever you may go, no matter where you are, I never will be far away." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUumh6vgRhE>

- It turns out that Los Angeles County will offer a unicorn license to responsible owners. Check out this kid's letter to the LA Department of Animal Control. Thanks to Christine Kooi for this one. <https://twitter.com/Goodable/status/1601384509559427072?s=20>

- The allure of nostalgia... Were the good old days always just the days when we were young? <https://threadreaderapp.com/thread/1343413467781320704.html>

- Have you ever wondered if you can vote from jail? The answer is...sometimes. Here's a quick read about what it's like and how difficult it can be. <https://bit.ly/3xKeg6b>

19 4th Sunday in Lent

- 9:45 a.m. Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Facebook (Live)
- 12:30 p.m. Stewardship & Finance Committee - Conference Room
- 21 9:30 a.m. Helping Hands - Conference Room
- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Committee - Zoom
- 22 9:00 a.m. "Faith and Community" Small Group - 1848 Glendale
- 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 23 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
- 1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom
- 5:30 p.m. "Our Money Story" Small Group - Mamie's house
- 5:30 p.m. "Dealing with Racism" Small Group - 10943 N. Shoreline
- 5:30 p.m. Personnel & Administration Committee - Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 25 9:00 a.m. TBR Mental Health Workshop - Parks Wilson Room

26 5th Sunday in Lent

- 9:45 a.m. Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Facebook (Live)
- 1:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting - Conference Room
- 28 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Zoom
- 29 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 30 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
- 1:00 p.m. "Visio Divina" Small Group - NOT MEETING TODAY
- 5:30 p.m. "Our Money Story" Small Group - Mamie's house
- 5:30 p.m. "Dealing with Racism" Small Group - 10943 N. Shoreline
- 5:30 p.m. Personnel & Administration Committee - Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room

PCUSA YAV Program Accepting Applications

YAV is currently accepting applications for their 2023-24 program! The Young Adult Volunteer program, a ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), is an ecumenical, one-year service opportunity for young adults ages 19 to 30. For nearly three decades, YAVs have listened for God's call in their lives, while serving alongside partners at sites in the United States and around the world. If you know of any young adults ages 19 to 30 who want to explore their Christian identity through a social justice lens, encourage them to apply! We will be accepting international site applications until March 1 and national site applications until June 1st. Apply here: yav.pcusa.org/accounts/login/?next=/application/personal.

Presbyterian Historical Society of the Southwest

At their 2023 gathering on March 24 and 25 at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church in New Orleans, Paul Hoffman will be one of the guest speakers. Paul will recount how hurricane Katrina opened a new avenue of the stewardship of UPC facilities and a few things we learned about having a shelter and facility for others coming to help with rebuilding. This event is open to the public. For more information contact James Currie at jjcurrie152@gmail.com or call (832)566-9082.



Firepit Stories

Friday, March 10

7:00 p.m. in the Courtyard

Warmed by a number of fire pits, The UPC Society for Uplifting Narratives and Pyromania (the Fellowship Committee) invites everyone in the congregation to share life stories appropriate to the contemplative nature of Lent.

WORSHIP FOR LENT AND HOLY WEEK



Taizé March 1 - March 29
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Sundays March 5 - March 26
11:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday April 2
11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service
7:30 p.m., April 6
A Service of Word and Sacrament centered on the events of this sacred evening

Good Friday Service
7:30 p.m., April 7
The Service of Tenebrae (the extinguishing of lights)

Easter Sunday April 9
A Service of Word and Sacrament
Please join us for this celebration of resurrection life! The PC(USA) One Great Hour of Sharing collection will be taken. Everyone is encouraged to bring flowers to add to the cross. There will be no Church School, but an Easter potluck brunch will be held at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Members of the congregation are encouraged to bring their favorite brunch items to share! During brunch, the children will gather for our annual Easter Egg hunt.

Storytelling Throughout Lent and Beyond...

This Lent we will focus on storytelling in various forms. Each Sunday, we'll hear parables that Jesus told his disciples and learn from them during worship. Each Friday, a story prompt will come to your email with an invitation to reflect on one parable and to put your reflections into words. The Visio Divina small group will reflect on the parables by creating art. Small group discussions will focus on our own contemporary stories involving money and the trauma from our nation's story of racism. Firepit Stories, a fellowship event on March 10, will feature life stories appropriate for Lent.

We would like to share some of these reflections, whether written or as visual media, with the congregation for reflection during the Easter season. If you would like to share some of your Lenten reflections with others, there are two ways to submit theme. Look for the pink submission box in the Welcome Center where you can place them. Or you may send submissions via email to upclentenwriting@gmail.com. We welcome both written submissions – in any format you choose – and visual media such as drawings, paintings or photos. Items may be submitted through Easter. If you have questions, contact



The Violence of the Cross and Children: Some Thoughts in Lent

by Traci Smith

To read more by Traci Smith go to <https://tracismith.com/>

On the walk to school a few months ago my five-year-old son, Samuel, asked me a question. Samuel is my second born, sandwiched between my talkative oldest and the attention-grabbing youngest. A classic middle child, he usually keeps a low profile, preferring to keep his thoughts to himself. On this day he surprised me by letting me know what was going on inside his head. "Is that the cross Jesus died on?" he asked quietly, pointing to the rooftop steeple of the local Methodist Church. As a pastor who has written on children and faith formation for years, one might assume that I would have had an easier time with this moment when it came up as a parent, but I was caught off guard, and the question pointed to a deeper one: *how can we talk about the cross with children in ways that are developmentally appropriate?* This, I realized is an even more profound challenge when it's your own child.

Five-year-old Samuel is in the stage of faith James Fowler termed "Intuitive-Projective" That is to say, everything we say about faith to Samuel, he takes literally, projecting his own experiences of the world. If we were to tell Samuel that the Spirit is like the wind, he would be likely to understand that the Spirit is the wind. This isn't necessarily problematic. After all, what a great way to see the Spirit at work in the rustling of trees and the waving of the flag? If we were to tell him that Jesus lives inside our hearts, he might have a picture of a tiny man living inside his chest. This might be more problematic, particularly if he were to have heart surgery. Would Jesus be okay in there? a child might wonder. Since my son has heard Jesus died on a cross, and he walks past a cross every day, he naturally assumed the two are part of the same, literal story. Children who are in intuitive-projective stage of faith are incapable of understanding and rationalizing symbols the way adults do. They have not yet reached a stage of psychological or spiritual maturity whereby a cross is a symbol of new life and resurrection, and because of this, we ought to reexamine our approach when teaching the death and crucifixion of Jesus.

If we agree that torture and violence should not be front and center for children during the Lenten season, what approach might we take? How might conscientious ministry leaders talk about the cross with young children? Consider these tips:

- **Stick to simple facts:** *Jesus died on a cross and was laid in a dark tomb. Everyone was sad and missed him. Three*

days later, the dark tomb was open and empty and there was light and joy. The resurrection is a mystery of our faith. There is no need to linger on details about whipping, lashing, nails, blood or torture.

- **Avoid violent images and symbols when choosing children's resources.** A large percentage of the materials marketed to parents for children's use during Lent and Easter is poorly done and developmentally inappropriate. Resurrection Eggs, coloring books and children's books often focus on thorns, crosses, nails and whips. It's mind-boggling. Under no other circumstance would we give five year olds a coloring page with a man whipping another man. Yet, in the context of faith, many permit it, particularly during Lent and Easter. It is not developmentally appropriate for a pastor to hold up nails during a children's message and talk about how they were driven into the hands and feet of Jesus, and yet I've seen this very thing, more than once.
- **Be at peace with not telling the whole story.** As parents we do this all the time in other areas of life. Take math, for example. In our house we have a number chart on the wall, displaying the numbers 1-100 because our children are learning basic addition and subtraction. Our children refer to it all the time when talking about addition and subtraction and counting by fives and tens. Next, I'm sure, will come multiplication and division and fractions. At some point they'll have a greater respect for the fact that the numbers 1-100 are a mere fraction of the numbers they could know, and that numbers extend to the thousands, millions, and billions, but right now we're focusing on the basics. "The basics" when it comes to Christian faith do not need to include the violent details of the cross. Instead, the basics of the Christian faith are these: Jesus is alive. God made the world and everything in it. God's love is powerful. God is with us all the time, even when we are sad and lonely. A good focus for a Maundy Thursday or Good Friday children's lesson is one about God being with us when we are sad and lonely. Another good and relevant message is that God's love is powerful.

Death is a reality of life. Resurrection is absolutely essential to Christian faith. Putting the violent details of the torture of Christ in their proper place is not only good parenting and ministering, it's good theology, too. A blessed Lent and Holy Week to all!

Faith Formation

Lenten Small Groups

Our Story of Money - at Mamie's House

(contact Mamie or the office for address)

Thursdays starting March 2 at 5:30 p.m.

This small group led by Mamie Broadhurst and Lori Pilley will offer new insights into the way we think about stewardship. Money is one of the biggest topics of discussion in the Bible, but it can be hard to talk about. Join in a conversation about the stories we have about money - personally and as a community. How does the story we tell ourselves or each other impact our life together? Is there a need to reimagine or transform our thinking about that story? Can we do that...?

Dealing with Racism: Pathways to Mending Hearts and Bodies

10943 N Shoreline Ave

Thursday evenings 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., March 2 – 30

Enter our "brave space" for discussion and exercises based on the book My Grandmother's Hands by Resmaa Menakem (purchase of book is suggested but not required). The author "introduces an alternative view of what we can do to grow beyond our entrenched racialized divide..." You may wish to bring something to write in. We'll begin each meeting casually with light snacks. Please feel free to contact Virginia Davis (vwdlcs@gmail.com or (text only) 225-938-3665) or Linda Walker (lstdwalk@bellsouth.net or (text only) 225-936-6268) for more information or directions. Space is limited.

Faith and Community - 1848 Glendale Ave

2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. (ongoing)

Faith and Community will meet again on Wednesday, March 8 and 22 at 9 a.m. at Stuart Irvine's home, 1848 Glendale Avenue. All are welcome to join us as we continue to explore a wide range of topics concerning faith and community. We look forward to sharing ideas and conversation.

Soul Feast - Parks Wilson Room

Every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. (ongoing)

In this ongoing small group, Mary Mikell and Betsy Irvine will continue to illuminate how our spiritual concerns are affected by the different stories we encounter in books, poetry, and articles.

Visio Divina - Zoom

Every Thursday at 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. (ongoing)

(Visio will not meet on March 30 or April 6)

This ongoing small group uses a process of lexio divina (a form of meditation listening to a specific biblical text) to fuel reflection and quick art project in response to the text and professional paintings/art based on them.

During Lent, Patti Snyder will be focusing on a special kind of storytelling, parables. Through "reflection and quick art projects" this group will explore these often paradoxical stories. New folks are welcome into the group and no artistic skill is needed to join. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85078993685?pwd=dTVpT1piRng4QXFxQkF3QWtta2RRUT09> Meeting ID: 850 7899 3685 Passcode: 302459

Adult Church School

9:45 - 10:45 a.m. Sundays

Gathering of Parents

Welcome Center (ongoing)

Parents of all ages are welcome to come have a cup of coffee and a donut and enjoy some lively conversation during this church school time. Various topics will be discussed.

Living the Word – Adult Bible Study rotating leaders

Conference Room (ongoing)

If you are interested in looking at the Bible stories we will be focusing on during the worship hour, join in this lively discussion group for people of all ages and levels of Bible knowledge. January 29 - February 22 we will talk about what matters most to God, and how we are called to respond as disciples.

Parks Wilson Class

Conference Room and on Zoom

In March the Parks Wilson adult church school class will continue its series of sessions on the challenge of climate change. On the final Sunday of March we will host a remote visit from Prof. Dominique Arel of the University of Ottawa, who will talk to us about the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Join us in person or via Zoom at 9:45 a.m. <https://lsu.zoom.us/j/2765203639>

**APRIL
CONTACT
DEADLINE
MARCH 20**

IDENTIFIED GIVING STATUS 2023

(as of 2/22/2023)

Received Pledged giving: **\$135,869**

(24% of \$567,995 pledged)

Received Unpledged giving \$7,133

TOTAL GIVING RECEIVED: \$143,002

Thank you for your generous contribution!

Mission & Peacemaking

UPC Conversations on Anti-Racism

Participants in Mission and Peacemaking's UPC House Meeting series last summer identified dismantling racism as a key area of interest for us as we look to fulfilling our mission as a church; we know that we want to work to identify, interrupt, and dismantle racism and racist structures that impact our families, community, and society.

Continuing this conversation, in January and February the Parks Wilson adult church school class organized a six-week long series on questions of racism and anti-racism. During the first four weeks we watched a curated series of recorded webinars called "First Steps to Dismantling Racism" sponsored by the Network for Dismantling Racism, with which the Synod of the Sun helped to organize. It provided basic instruction about the concept of anti-racism, in which systemic and personal racism is not passively ignored but actively resisted. The classes offered education and strategies around interrupting racism at the interpersonal level in conversations, as well as how to identify and combat racism at the institutional and structural level.

As a congregation, we then watched together the independent film "At the River," a film memoir of the segregated Deep South in the 1960s -- a time when the tensions surrounding integration were intense. In this film, Filmmaker Carolyn Crowder interviews numerous Presbyterian pastors who faced opposition to integration in their own congregations and the surrounding community. Crowder, who was a child at the time, also shares her memories of growing up as a child of segregationist parents and coming to a different viewpoint than theirs. This historical and also personal look at a critical juncture of the civil rights movement highlights issues relevant to people of faith and Christian congregations today.

The wrap-up of the series featured a visit from Chip Chiphe of Scotlandville Presbyterian Church, who is on the Presbytery of South Louisiana's task force on race and reconciliation. He shared with us both some of his own experiences as a Black Presbyterian in Louisiana, as well as some of the ongoing work of conversation and instruction that this group is engaged.

A Lenten small group on "Dealing with Racism: Pathways to Mending Hearts and Bodies" will be continuing this conversation in another way, through discussion and exercises based on the book *My Grandmother's Hands* by Resmaa Menakem.

The Parks Wilson sub-committee and the Mission and Peacemaking committee will both be looking at opportunities for further congregational work on antiracism, and welcome input and suggestions from the congregation about future work we can do to educate ourselves and put our faith in action.



Coping, Care, and Recovery for the Community (CCRC) Workshops

UPC is partnering with Together Baton Rouge and the LSU School of Social Work to address mental health equity in Baton Rouge through a new community initiative. As one of the initial churches in this initiative, UPC will host a series of three workshops – Coping, Care, and Recovery for the Community (CCRC) – designed to facilitate learning and group discussion about mental health, supporting others in distress, and coping strategies. **For UPC, the series starts Saturday, March 25, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** with two follow up 90 minute sessions, each one month apart. Participants will complete questionnaires before each to help evaluate the program. The workshops will be held in the Parks Wilson room.

Future workshops will be held across the city in other TBR faith and community-based groups. All workshops will be facilitated by a trained community facilitator and at least one member of the specific hosting group.

This is an exciting new initiative for our church and our community. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Mikell or Rick Moreland. To sign up and for additional information, contact Andrea Lavergne at mentalhealthequitytbr@gmail.com.

One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering Online Now through April 9 and in person on April 9

Started in 1949, OGHS is a long-standing ecumenical effort aimed at raising funds to provide relief and reconstruction for communities in the aftermath of disaster. What started as an hour-long radio appeal has evolved over the years and has become the most participated-in offering in the PC(USA). Today, projects supported by One Great Hour of Sharing are underway in more than 100 countries.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) Receives 32% of funds raised

- Works within communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters

Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) Receives 36% of funds raised

- Takes action to alleviate hunger and its systemic causes and helps create access to healthy food for entire communities

Self-Development of People (SDOP) Receives 32% of funds raised

- Invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues

There are three ways you can give: • through your congregation • text OGHS to 20222 to give \$10 • presbyterianmission.org/give-oghs

Youth Group

February Highlights:

February began with the chance to talk a bit about structural racism and the challenges of systems that are set up to favor one set of people over another. Youth then participated in the church wide showing of "At the River," a documentary exploring the experiences of white Presbyterian pastors in the south during the Civil Rights Movement. A big group headed to the LSU women's basketball game against Mississippi State and even got recognized on the big screen and had a photo on the court after the game!

March Schedule

- 5 Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless - 2-4pm at 153 N. 17th St.
- 12 Youth Sunday Planning - 4:30 at UPC
- 18-19 Camping Trip at Feliciana Retreat Center
- 26 No Youth Group - 4th Sunday



Presbyterian Women

Join our Facebook group PW of UPC, Baton Rouge

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/340272321019732>

PW at UPC has expanded beyond women only to include ALL!

2 CIRCLE MEETINGS to choose from

Tuesday, March 7th at 10:00 a.m. The PW Circle will meet in the Parks Wilson Room. We will study Lesson 7, Sabbath and Self-Care, of Celebrating Sabbath, Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight. Julie Launey will lead the lesson.

Wednesday, March 15th at 10:00 a.m. The PW Circle that meets on Peggy's carport (1545 Patrick Drive) will study Lesson 7, Sabbath and Self Care, of Celebrating Sabbath, Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight. Peggy Carroll will lead the lesson.

Presbyterian Women in Mission

Project Vida Early Childhood Development Center received \$170,000.00 PW Birthday Offering in 1996. They provided day care for children, while training volunteers to offer care in their own homes; educational opportunities for other adults who wished to work as home daycare providers; and training and support for parents to avoid abuse and neglect.

The roots of Project Vida go back a decade before the day care was established , to another recipient of a Birthday Offering Grant: a network of joint border ministries of the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico and The Presbyterian Church USA . In 1986 they received \$487,300 from the offering. By 1990, the network included Project Vida. In the years since receiving the Birthday Offering Grant Project Vida has expanded to include after school enrichments for children and youth, ages 6 to 18. Participants receive homework assistance, enrichment activities, community service projects and college readiness programs. The Project provides a safe space in a border area where their families lack documentation. All services are provided without regard to immigration status

*Mark your calendars!
UPC will host the PW Spring
Gathering for the Presbytery of
South Louisiana on April 15th,
9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.*

PSL Presbyterian Women Summer Retreat

Linda Walker has been contacted about a travel opportunity open to all women. The retreat will be held on the west coast of Scotland in June 2023 and meet at the Iona Community's off-grid eco-center – CAMUS – a truly stunning location - Isle of Mull. For more information contact Linda Walker at Istodwalk@bellsouth.net or the Iona Community web site or Valerie Allen vl2allen@btinternet.com

Preparing for Patti's Retirement

If you would like some one-on-one time with Patti before her departure on April 24, please contact her for an appointment. She will do her best to honor all requests.
psnyder@upcbr.org

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 • Tabitha Lewis • Gerard Klein
John Earle • Alan Williams • Kathy Poché • Betty Armstrong
Melanie Driscoll • Our Cuba Partners • Kathy Rossman
Jeanette Hanifen • Lynn Nichols Dull • Fay Coco

- **Family of Lois Bray**, relative of Linda Law Clark, after Lois' death.
- **Barbara Hoffman**, recovering from colon resection surgery
- **Sadie Landry**, mother of Dale Landry
- **Cody Lucero**, with continuing testing for abdominal issues
- **John Baker**, retired LSU Philosophy Prof. and former Dean of Students, with kidney cancer
- **Darla O'Connor**, recovering from hernia repair surgery
- **Patti Snyder**, as she prepares for retirement
- **Marla Kerr-Lawson**, Kelly Kerr's sister, undergoing chemotherapy and dialysis
- **Bob Gambrell**, recovering from knee replacement surgery on both knees
- **Stanly Wilder**, recovering from hip replacement surgery
- **Ruth Mitchell**, sister of Mary Wardlaw,
- **Beverly Hodges**, friend of Mary Wardlaw, waiting on test results
- **Helen and Lee**, sisters of Peggy Carroll, in hospice
- **Hailey**, granddaughter of Donna Schlotzhauer, in children's hospital
- **Jason Benedict**, son of Forest & Linda Benedict, awaiting a kidney transplant
- **Nancy Pensis**, aunt of Linda Clark, with end stage cancer
- **Cheryl Whitting**, awaiting a kidney transplant
- **Rev. Adelaida Jiménez and the efforts toward peace in Colombia**
- **Mary Clinkenbeard's mother, Patricia**, as she continues recovering following surgery
- **Bae Landry**, father of Dale Landry, in hospice care
- **Jo and her family**, friends of Robbie Phillabaum, experiencing difficult times
- **Andy Peterson**, husband of Jane Smith's niece, undergoing treatment for Multiple Myeloma
- **Ron Rossi**, friend of Susan Seifert, with aplastic anemia and other illnesses
- **Dina Courrage**, friend of Cindy Rice, battling Lymphoplasmacytic lymphoma
- **RJ LeBlanc**, father of Kathie Pohlman's 'Bonus Daughter,' Nikki, with lung cancer
- **Joellen Hawkins**, Aunt of Emily Cogburn, with Alzheimer's
- **Craig Fisher**, Anita Melon's brother in law, diagnosed with Lewy-Body dementia
- **Mickey Rose Braud Zaitoon**, wife of Samear, who is in declining health
- **Margaret Boyle**, sister of Christine Kooi, with early-stage Alzheimer's disease
- **All those who live in Turkey and Syria**
- **All those affected by war**
- **All those affected by gun violence**
- **All families affected by Huntington's Disease**
- **All hospice patients and their families**
- **All those who suffer with mental illness and emotional disorders**
- **Those who are affected by alcoholism and addiction**
- **Men and women serving in the armed forces**
- **Those who are going through separation or divorce**
- **Those who are affected by domestic violence**



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

This fund allows our Co-Pastors to respond quickly to particular needs of folks within the congregation and in the wider community.

Contributions may be made in Realm, but there is a 10 day delay in processing.

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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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3240 Dalrymple Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
(225)383-0345
(225)383-3495 Fax
www.upcbr.org

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

Give online at:
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UPCBR 75

TEXT

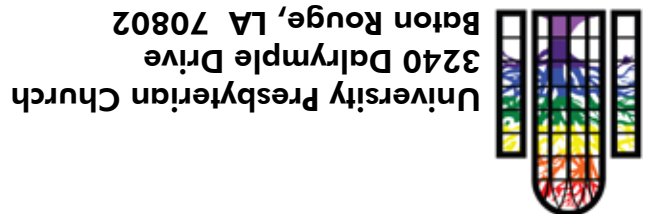
Text UPCBR and your amount to 73256 (as shown above)

March Birthdays

2 Camille Short	10 John Mazoch	19 Michael Purser	23 Mary Collier Wilks
4 Lee Jenkins Samear Zaitoon	12 Tom Shelton	20 George Armstrong Josie Costello	24 Jason New Katie Strain New
5 Matt McGraw	13 Charles Folk-Cruthirds	Adam Knapp Terry Miller	Rachel Sheffield Jack Watson
6 Gabi Perry	14 Salem Fontenot Stafford	21 Adam Howell Andy Maverick	26 Gus Britton
8 Chris Richardson	17 Henry Tyler	22 Faimon Roberts II Aden Rowland	29 Emory Wright
9 Katheryn Barry	18 Linda Babin		30 Rich Cooper

****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