

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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Week of December 3, 2023

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.

Sunday (12/3) First Sunday of Advent

- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Group

Monday (12/4)

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 5:30 p.m. Worship Committee - Zoom

Tuesday (12/5)

- 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Zoom
- 10:00 a.m. Day Circle - Parks Wilson Room
- 7:00 p.m. Book Group - 1725 S. Eugene
- 7:00 p.m. BRACE Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Wednesday (12/6)

- 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel - Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Drive
- 11:00 a.m. TBR Monthly Luncheon - Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

Thursday (12/7)

- 11:00 a.m. Soul Feast - Parks Wilson Room
- 1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room

Friday (12/8)

- 10:45 a.m. LSU Lab School Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Saturday (12/9)

- 9:00 a.m. Christmas Crafting - Conference Room and Library
- 1:00 p.m. Linda Green Visitation - Fellowship Hall
- 2:00 p.m. Linda Green Memorial Service - Sanctuary (*reception following*)
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Christmas Concert - Unitarian Church

Sunday (12/10) Second Sunday of Advent

- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
- 12:15 p.m. Caroling (*see announcement*) - starting in Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. LSU Lab School Choir Christmas Concert - Sanctuary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Learn more about us by reading our monthly church newsletter, the Contact.

Copies are available in the back of the church and Welcome Center,

or you can find Contact on our web site, www.upcbr.org.

Check us out on Facebook, too! (<https://www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian>)

TREE TRIMMING

We will decorate UPC's outdoor Christmas tree today, 10:30-11:00 a.m. and after worship. Make or bring a weather-proof ornament which represents something about your self or family. Clear plastic ornaments are available for you to take home and decorate to bring back throughout December.

LIFE & FAITH CLASS

During Advent, the Visio Divina small group will lead the Life & Faith class. On December 3, Lauren Cooper will lead a session exploring an Advent reading using Lectio Divina, which means "divine reading." On December 10, Melanie Driscoll will lead a session on Visio Divina, using visual images and scripture. Both sessions allow an opportunity to experience these forms of meditation. Art supplies will be provided for the Visio Divina session. On December 17, Robin McCulloough-Bade will conclude the series with "How Does a Weary World Rejoice" as we approach the darkest night of the year. The class meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Parks Wilson room.

END OF THE YEAR BOOKKEEPING

We are rapidly counting down to the end of 2023. **Please have all check or reimbursement requests for the 2023 budget into the church office by Tuesday, December 19.**

SUNDAY NURSERY

Check your calendar! On December 17th can you be a nursery helper? If not then, what about in January? Sign up on the table at the back of the sanctuary or online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0444ABAA2DA5FF2-sunday1>

BOOK GROUP

The UPC Book Club will meet December 5, Tuesday, 7:00 pm. 1725 S. Eugene. The discussion book will be The Shrines of Gaiety by Kate Atkins. The January book will be The Big Door Prize by M.O. Walsh. All are welcome. Contact Ellen Morgan for information.

BIRTHDAYS (December 3-9)

3 Kathy Perry; 6 Mona Truluck; 7 Gina Costello and Friedrich Pilly;
8 Bunny Heroman and Hattie Knapp

IN MEMORIAM

Linda L. Green who died November 24



OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you would like monthly offering envelopes for your 2024 pledge, please let Caralyn know (cdurham@upcbr.org) and she will make some for you.

HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

UPC is excited to participate Hope for the Holidays, a program run by Presbyterian Children's Home and Services (PCHAS), to provide holiday gifts for children in our community. If you would like to participate, sign up in the Welcome Center before and after service. Monetary donations in lieu of choosing a name will be accepted. Donations will be used to purchase gifts for any unclaimed names. If all children are claimed, collected funds will be donated to PCHAS to support their work.

Please place your gifts, wrapped or unwrapped, in a single bag, such as a tall garbage bag. Make sure to 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 be wrapping gifts for those who choose to make use of this service. **The deadline to drop off gifts or make a donation is Sunday, December 17.**



Online giving is available...

- via the GIVE tab on our website (www.upcbr.org)
- by texting "upcbr (space) and then the number of dollars" to 73256
- by scanning the QR code

Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies.

Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.

IDENTIFIED GIVING STATUS 2023 (as of 11/29/2023)

Received Pledged giving: \$503,955 (89.5% of \$562,955 pledged)

Received Unpledged giving \$53,516

TOTAL GIVING RECEIVED: \$557,471

Thank you for your generous contribution!

Your support of UPC and its missions is greatly appreciated.

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 • Gerard Klein
John Earle • Alan Williams • Kathy Poché • Melanie Driscoll
Our Cuba Partners • Kathy Rossman • Mickey Rose Braud Zaitoon
Lynn Nichols Dull • Fay Coco • Cody Lucero**

- **The Greens and their family** upon the death of Linda on November 24
- **Pat Ho**, facing brain surgery
- **Dauda Sesay**, Executive Director of LORI and his people in Sierra Leone, especially his mother, where there was an attempted coup and continued political unrest
- **Clauda Singelmann**, sister-in-law of Lorinda Sealey, in Germany recovering from a bad fall which resulted in a broken pelvis and a muscle tear in her thigh
- **Sherry Olds**, upon the death of her brother, Earl Ray
- **Corrie Hale's Dad, Conrad**, diagnosed with inoperable cancer on his spine
- **Barbara Sims**, recovering from hip replacement surgery on November 15
- **Donna Crumpler**, mother of Tavia, beginning radiation treatment for breast cancer
- **Joanne**, sister of Peggy Carroll, with cellulitis in her leg
- **Paul James**, friend of John Earle, with lung cancer
- **Tiffin White**, UPC Day School teacher, diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor
- **John Graff**, friend of Collier Roberts, with terminal bone and prostate cancer
- **Pat Strain**, recovering from wrist surgery
- **Hugh Huffman**, friend of Rosemary John, recovering from surgery for esophageal cancer
- **David Klimash**, brother of Victor, recovering from open heart surgery
- **James and Gloria Snowden**, Ethel Felder's parents, after recent hospitalizations
- **Cheryl Whitting**, on dialysis awaiting a kidney transplant
- **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
- **Ruth Mitchell**, sister of Mary Wardlaw
- **Jo and her family**, friends of Robbie Phillabaum, experiencing difficult times
- **Rev. Adelaida Jiménez and the efforts toward peace in Colombia**
- **All those affected by war - Ukraine, Middle East, and beyond**
- **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**



CRAFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 9
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room
& Library

Project materials and ideas will be provided or bring your own project to work on... you can even bring your Christmas cards to work on!

Middle Schoolers through adults are welcome to join the crafting fun.

Babysitting provided
please let us know how many children and their ages you plan to bring by contacting Suzanne Trahan at suzannetrahan@cox.net

*The best way to spread
Christmas cheer is
singing loud for all to hear!*

Join us for a light lunch and caroling!

Sunday, December 10
Fellowship Hall

(following worship)

Caroling to UPC homebound will follow.
Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Carpooling is available.

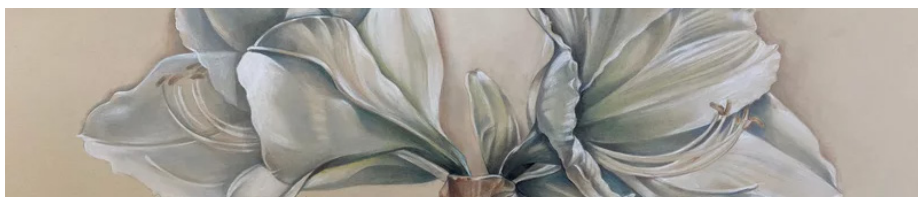


Sponsored by the UPC Fellowship Committee



The amaryllis plants this season have been provided by:

- Virginia and Elizabeth Davis in memory of Harry F. Davis, M.D.
- Faimon and Elizabeth Roberts in memory of their parents
- Linda and Doug Walker in memory of their parents Joe and Charlotte Stoddard and Ted and Esther Walker
- The Burch Family
- Donald and Nan Patt in memory of Kathryn and Jim Ivey and Theresa Gasquet
- Pam Bartlett in memory of Cathy and Anne Paterson
- Jeff and Kathy Perry in memory of Malcolm and Florence Reynolds and Leonard and Doris Perry
- Bizza and Ed Britton in memory of Katie and Henry Nelson and Phine and Orland Britton
- Mark Berko in memory of his father, Charles Eugene Berko
- Eleanor Canon with love for the people of UPC
- George and Pat Strain in memory of Herb and Dorothy Jordal and Bob and Maryann Strain
- Anonymous in memory of Cathy and Anne Paterson
- Peggy Carroll in memory of her sisters
- Rick and Rosemary Goodell in memory of their parents
- David and Margaret Bach
- Susan Seifert in memory of Lillian and Kelsie Bolner
- Pat Wright in memory of Leonard and Muriel Hammar
- Paul and Barbara Hoffman
- Lori Tucker in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Tucker
- Gary Meise in Memory of Kelly Kerr
- Beverly and Lamar Jones
- Christine Kooi in memory of Anne and Cathy Paterson
- Suzanne and Jerry Trahan in memory of Bradley Glass and Robert McQuilkin
- Mary Wardlaw in memory of Anne and Cathy Paterson
- Dave and Julie Launey in memory of their parents, D.B. and Mary Davis, John and Jackie Launey
- Rosemary and Chacko John in memory of their parents, Joseph and Jessie John and Rhoads and Dorothy Speck
- Necia Lanius in memory of Madge and Henry Lanius
- Larry Moss and Sherry Olds in memory of Firman Ulmer, Jr., Ben Dawkins III, James McNew, and Pansy Jolley
- Rick Bowles and Lilly Bridwell-Bowles in memory of Will and Lorne Bowles and Norman and Hilda Sasser
- Jill Clemmons in memory of Kelly Kerr
- Lorinda Sealy in memory of Cynthia and Rex Sealey
- Nora, Mamie, and Richard in celebration of Kit Broadhurst and Margaret and Bob Williams, and in memory of Mamie's father, David



The amaryllis plants this season have been provided by:

- Beth and Paul Paskoff in memory of Ruth Paskoff, Dorothy Mehalick, and Richard Mehalick
- Diana and Larry Reynolds in memory of Mike and Sandy Prusoff and Larry Sr. and Georgia Reynolds
- Linda and Ed Green in memory of Jim Wells, Edna and Leslie Ledbetter, and Nola and Ernest V. Green
- Leslie Green and Griffin Campbell in memory of Betty and J. Griffin Campbell and James D. Wells
- Peggy Sheets in memory of Anne and Cathy Paterson
- Lois Kuyper-Rushing and Steven Rushing in memory of their parents
- Karen Paterson in memory of Anne, Catherine, and Neil Paterson
- Ellen Morgan and Susan Ourso in memory of their parents and siblings

Small Groups

Transitions

The Transitions Group meets on Saturday mornings from 10 -11:30 a.m. On December 2 we will wrap-up the book we've been using, then take a break until January when we will have a series of speakers. Everyone is invited to attend any or all of these sessions. Please contact Lori Tucker (LJTucker70@gmail.com) or Beth Paskoff (bpaskoff@lsu.edu) if you have any questions.

Faith and Community

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

All are welcome to join us as we explore a wide range of topics concerning faith and community. We look forward to sharing ideas and conversation. This group currently meets in the Parks Wilson Room.

Soul Feast

Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. in the Parks Wilson Room
Readings from various writers in spirituality.

Visio Divina

This 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. No artistic skill is needed to join. This group meets via zoom from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. each Thursday.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88426746848?pwd=YjdZeDc1WGJSNHhzcmNMRWFMLy9LUT09>
Meeting ID: 884 2674 6848 Passcode: 960537