

# Contact

March 2024

University Presbyterian Church Newsletter for church members and friends

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On the first Sunday of Lent, I read the following prayer as our benediction to send us out on our 40-day journey with Jesus with these journeying words written by the Trappist monk and theologian, Thomas Merton:

My Lord God,  
I have no idea where I am going.  
I do not see the road ahead of me.  
I cannot know for certain where it will end.  
Nor do I really know myself,  
and the fact that I think I am following your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you.  
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.  
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.  
And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,  
though I may know nothing about it.  
Therefore will I trust you always  
though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.  
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,  
and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

Not quite halfway through Lent now, we continue our journey toward Jerusalem with Jesus. If you did not commit to any particular practice of attention toward God this season (giving something up, taking something on, prayer or devotional time, etc.) there is nothing that says you can't start now. And if you did say you would do something but haven't really kept up with it, try again - there's no shame in starting over.

And that last four lines of the prayer? They're beautiful but, while I believe them, I'm not sure I always live up to them. So, let's just call it aspirational - fake it 'til you make it, or do your best and you'll get better - the same as Lenten disciplines. They all take practice. Practice may not actually make perfect in this case, but God doesn't care about perfect. God cares about you.

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.*

- 2 10:00 a.m. Transitions Small Group - Conference Room
- 12:00 p.m. NAJAMA Food Care - Fellowship Hall
- 3 3rd Sunday in Lent Communion**
- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
- 12:30 p.m. Churchwide Conversation & Lunch - Fellowship Hall**
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group @ Churchwide Conversation
- 4 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotional Small Group - 9445 W. Van Place
- 5 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Zoom
- 10:00 a.m. Day Circle - Parks Wilson Room
- 5:30 p.m. Worship Committee - Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. UPC Book Group - 1725 Eugene
- 6 9:45 a.m. Day School Chapel - Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Lenten Devotional Small Group - 1545 Patrick Dr.
- 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 7 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
- 1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom
- 5:30 p.m. Lent In A Box Family Dinner & Activity - Fellowship Hall
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 8 6:30 p.m. Firepit Stories - UPC Courtyard
- 9 10:30 a.m. Streaming Training - Fellowship Hall
- 10 4th Sunday in Lent**
- 9:45 a.m. Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Group
- 11 6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotional Small Group - 9445 W. Van Place
- 7:00 p.m. Huntington's Disease Support Group - Conference Room
- 12 8:00 a.m. Louisiana Interchurch Conference - Sanctuary & FS Hall
- 7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library
- 7:00 p.m. Mission & Peacemaking Committee - Zoom
- 13 9:00 a.m. "Faith and Community" Small Group - 1848 Glendale
- 10:00 a.m. Lenten Devotional Small Group - 1545 Patrick Dr.
- 5:00 p.m. Property Committee - Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 14 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
- 1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom
- 5:30 p.m. Lent In A Box Family Dinner & Activity - Fellowship Hall
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 17 5th Sunday of Lent**
- 9:45 a.m. Church School
- 10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
- 12:30 p.m. Stewardship & Finance Committee - Conference Room
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Group
- 18 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 11:30 a.m. Membership Committee - Library
- 5:00 p.m. Moises Chirinos Voice Recital Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Lenten Devotional Small Group - 9445 W. Van Place

## Office Notes



### Sunday, March 10

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

#### CLOSURES

The Day School and Church Office will be closed on Friday, March 29 in observance of Good Friday. The Church Office will also be closed on Monday, April 1 for the Easter Holiday.

#### INQUIRER'S CLASS

Have you been visiting lately and have some questions about UPC? Are you wondering how to join this fabulous community and get more involved than you already are? Do you wonder what Presbyterians believe and how we organize ourselves? Would you just like to meet some new people and see their names on name tags so they're harder to forget?

All these things can be yours if you are able to join our Inquirer's Class this spring. We are still working out the specific dates, but we hope to gather on Sunday mornings for about four weeks in March to talk about Presbyterianism, UPC, our own stories, and whatever else comes up. Please let Mamie know if you are interested in learning more.

#### IDENTIFIED GIVING STATUS 2023

*(as of 2/28/2024)*

**Received Pledged giving: \$111,380**

*(19% of \$571,278 pledged)*

**Received Unpledged giving \$4,357**

**TOTAL GIVING RECEIVED: \$115,737**

*Thank you for your generous contribution!*



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

Contact Ellen Morgan for info

Mar 5 Crow Lake by Mary Lawsen



Would you like to be a part of our Sunday streaming ministry?

Are you interested in computers, video, or sound mixing?

Or are you just curious how the magic happens?

If so join us on Saturday, March 9, 10:00 a.m. till noon in the Fellowship Hall for an introduction on how UPC live streams its service every Sunday morning. Our fantastic team of experts would love for you to join them. Questions? Contact Tom Shelton at [tcshelton1950@gmail.com](mailto:tcshelton1950@gmail.com)

## March...

- |                           |            |   |
|---------------------------|------------|---|
| 19                        | 9:30 a.m.  | Helping Hands - Conference Room   |
|                           | 6:00 p.m.  | TBR Delegate Assembly - Unitarian Church, Goodwood Blvd.                  |
|                           | 6:30 p.m.  | Fellowship Committee - Zoom   |
| 20                        | 9:45 a.m.  | Day School Chapel - Sanctuary   |
|                           | 10:00 a.m. | Lenten Devotional Small Group - 1545 Patrick Dr.                          |
|                           | 6:00 p.m.  | Taizé - Sanctuary   |
|                           | 6:30 p.m.  | Day School Committee - Zoom   |
|                           | 7:00 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary Balcony                                       |
| 21                        | 10:30 a.m. | "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room                              |
|                           | 1:00 p.m.  | Visio Divina - Zoom   |
|                           | 5:30 p.m.  | Lent In A Box Family Dinner & Activity - Fellowship Hall                  |
|                           | 7:30 p.m.  | New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room                       |
| 22                        | 5:00 p.m.  | Moises Chirinos Voice Recital - Sanctuary                                 |
| <b>24 Palm Sunday</b>     |            |   |
|                           | 8:30 a.m.  | Blood Drive - Bloodmobile   |
|                           | 9:45 a.m.  | Church School   |
|                           | 10:30 a.m. | Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room  |
|                           | 11:00 a.m. | Worship - Sanctuary ( <i>Live Streamed via Facebook &amp; upcbr.org</i> ) |
|                           | 12:15 p.m. | Youth Jambalaya Fundraiser ( <i>tentative</i> )                           |
|                           | 1:00 p.m.  | Stated Session Meeting - Conference Room                                  |
| 26                        | 9:30 a.m.  | Staff Meeting - Library   |
|                           | 6:00 p.m.  | Lenten Devotional Small Group - 9445 W. Van Place                         |
| 26                        | 7:00 p.m.  | NAMI - Conference Room & Zoom   |
| 27                        | 9:00 a.m.  | Faith & Community - Parks Wilson Room                                     |
|                           | 10:00 a.m. | Lenten Devotional Small Group - 1545 Patrick Dr.                          |
|                           | 7:00 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room  |
| <b>28 Maundy Thursday</b> |            |   |
|                           | 10:30 a.m. | "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room                              |
|                           | 1:00 p.m.  | Visio Divina - Zoom   |
|                           | 6:30 p.m.  | Maundy Thursday Worship - Sanctuary                                       |
|                           | 7:30 p.m.  | New Orleans Gay Mens Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room                        |
| <b>29 Good Friday</b>     |            |   |
|                           |            | Day School & Church Office Closed   |
|                           | 6:30 p.m.  | Worship - University United Methodist Church Sanctuary                    |
| <b>31 Easter Sunday</b>   |            |   |
|                           | 9:30 a.m.  | Easter Potluck Brunch - Fellowship Hall                                   |
|                           | 11:00 a.m. | Worship - Sanctuary ( <i>Live Streamed via Facebook &amp; upcbr.org</i> ) |

# Churchwide Conversation

## "The Future"

Where are we going and how do we get there?

Immediately after worship you are all asked to stay for a conversation, led by the Center for Healthy Churches/Pneumatrix, about "the future of UPC" - Where are we going and how will we get there? The program will begin at 12 and end at 2. A light lunch will be provided to keep you going! We need your input for this to be successful, so please stay and share. Child care will be provided for those from infant through 1st grade. Children 6-12 should accompany their parents. Those 13 and older can either go with their parents or join any group as families deem appropriate. Gluten free and vegetarian options will be available for lunch. Attendance at the first meeting is not necessary for you to attend this meeting. We want to hear from you!

Sunday  
**March 3**  
12:00 - 2:00 p.m.





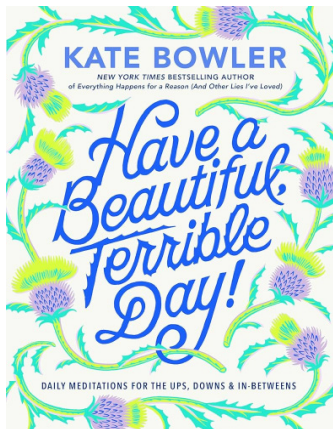
## LENT IN A BOX!

### CALLING ALL KIDS (AND THEIR PARENTS)

Come eat and play together as we have dinner (provided) and unpack a new box each week that has a Lent activity for us to do together. Open to all, this is geared toward kids/youth whose parents still live at home with them. We'll be in the Fellowship Hall on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. for about an hour, starting on February 22nd. Friends and family are all welcome. Contact Meredith Veldman ([hyveld@gmail.com](mailto:hyveld@gmail.com)) with any questions or to let her know you will join!

## LENTEN DEVOTIONAL Small Groups

Pick up a copy to read alone or join one of our small discussion groups. Groups will meet starting February 14 and run through Holy Week.



### **Mondays 6:00 p.m.**

Hosted by Jill Kerr  
9445 W Van Pl

### **Wednesdays 10:00 a.m.**

Hosted by Peggy Carroll  
1545 Patrick Dr

You can also sign up here ([katebowler.com/seasonal\\_devotional/have-a-beautiful-terrible-lent/](https://katebowler.com/seasonal_devotional/have-a-beautiful-terrible-lent/)) to get daily prompts delivered straight to your inbox.

## worship for holy week

**Palm Sunday March 24**  
11:00 a.m.

### **Maundy Thursday Service**

7:30 p.m., March 28  
A Service of Word and Sacrament centered on the events of this sacred evening

### **Good Friday Service**

6:30 p.m., March 29 with and at  
University Methodist Church, next door  
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 take part in our annual Easter Egg hunt.

## And What about Lent?

Another way to think about "giving something up for Lent" is simplifying, decluttering, making some space for God to fill. This Lent, Faith Formation would like to invite you to make some space for yourself to encounter God in the presence of other seekers. Why not commit—just for Lent (through Mar 29) - to joining one of the following?

- the Bible study church school class - every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room
- the Life and Faith church school class - every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Parks Wilson Room
- the Faith and Community small group - 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Parks Wilson Room.
- Taize services - Wednesdays from the 14th (Ash Wednesday) through March 20th from 6-6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary
- the Soul Feast small group - Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. in the Parks Wilson Room
- Visio Divina - every Thursday on Zoom 1:00-2:30 p.m. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88426746848?pwd=YjdZeDc1WGJSNHhzcmNMRWFMLy9LUT09> Meeting ID: 884 2674 6848 Passcode: 960537

## Easter Sunday Brunch and Egg Hunt

Our annual Easter Potluck Brunch will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday starting at 9:30 a.m. Members of the congregation are encouraged to bring their favorite brunch items to share.

Older and younger children will be invited from our Easter brunch to the playground in two groups beginning at 10:00 a.m. Volunteers are needed to assist - let Meredith Veldman know if you are interested in helping!

**We hope to see you there!**

**One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering Online Now through March 31 and in person on March 31**

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](http://presbyterianmission.org/give-oghs)



**Firepit Stories**  
**Friday, March 8**  
**6:30 p.m. in the Courtyard**

**The UPC Society for Effective Storytelling through Responsible Pyromania (AKA the Fellowship Committee) is sponsoring a Fire Pit Night at our courtyard on Friday, March 8 at 6:30 PM. S'mores, other snacks and beverages will be provided. In return we ask you to bring a story starter (fire extinguisher optional).**

**UPC Blood Drive March 24**

Beth Paskoff has been coordinating blood drives at UPC since 2004. In that time UPC members have donated more than 470 units of blood, and have impacted the lives of more than 1500 patients. Some of the people helped were members of our church or their families. Most of them were people we've never met, but we are glad to know that UPC can help to save lives.

**Who needs blood?**

- Whole blood: trauma and surgery patients
- Red cells: pediatric patients, sickle cell patients
- Platelets: cancer patients, or heart surgery or transplants
- Plasma: patients with burns, in shock, or with clotting disorders

*If you have donated in the past, you have the thanks of the hundreds of people you have helped. We are getting ready for our next blood drive on Sunday, March 24. Please contact Beth Paskoff at [bpaskoff@lsu.edu](mailto:bpaskoff@lsu.edu) if you have questions or want to sign up.*

# Mission & Peacemaking

Hello UPC! It's your Mission and Peacemaking committee, checking in on goals and plans for 2024. Last year, some things we were grateful for included work within long-standing partnerships – like continuing UPC's decades-long commitment with our partner church in Cuba, helping them serve their community by ensuring clean water, repairing the essential pastoral tool of a functioning church vehicle, and supporting their ability to serve meals for vulnerable seniors. We were also grateful for new initiatives, like freeing many of our neighbors in Louisiana from thousands of dollars in medical debt, through our donation drive for RIP Medical Debt. We are glad of how this and other work is helping us to live in to our commitments as a Matthew 25 church, to eradicate systemic poverty, and dismantle structural racism. What will we – all of us – discern and do this year?

First off – come talk about it! There are a couple of important conversations coming up where your presence and your voice are essential. Within our UPC community, please come join the Churchwide Conversation on March 3rd where we will talk about our vision for the future at UPC. And on March 19th, we want to welcome you to join the UPC delegation at the 2024 Together Baton Rouge Delegates Assembly, where we will learn and engage with congregations around the city about collective efforts to address concrete issues in our community, large and small.

Second, stay tuned! We are working with our community partners, old and new, to look for ways UPC can engage with and support good work with our neighbors this year. Want to join with people of all faiths to feed the hungry? Then look out for the chance to sign up for UPC's week of serving at the Holy Grill this summer. Want to support the health and wellness of our neighbors living with HIV? Then look out for opportunities later this year to volunteer with our new partner, Family Service of Greater Baton Rouge. Want to show up and show God's love for our neighbors at Baton Rouge Pride, or at LORI's World Refugee Day? We'll have the chance to do that, too. Are there other partners or projects – old and new- that you would be excited to see UPC work with? Let us know! Your Mission and Peacemaking committee is always welcoming of new ideas, and new members – contact the chair (Kristin at [klsavicki@gmail.com](mailto:klsavicki@gmail.com)) or treasurer (Melanie at [MelanieDriscoll3@gmail.com](mailto:MelanieDriscoll3@gmail.com)), or any M&P member, with your ideas or for more information.

## Help Represent UPC at TBR's Annual Delegates Assembly

**6 p.m., MARCH 19, Unitarian Church of BR**

Every year, member institutions of Together Baton Rouge meet to review our progress, set goals, and pledge our commitment to each other in the year ahead. Two years ago UPC had one of the largest delegations, and this past year we hosted one of the largest TBR luncheons since before Covid. Please let Mary Mikell or Rick Moreland know if you can help represent UPC at the Delegates Assembly this year. 6:00 p.m., MARCH 19, Unitarian Church of BR.



## Ramadan

Ramadan is an annual celebration in Islam of the revelation of the Qu'ran to the Prophet Muhammad. As with Easter it is not a fixed date but rather moves around according to the moon. (Easter is the first Sunday after the full Moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox. If the full Moon falls on a Sunday then Easter is the next Sunday. This is why you just look it up. Ramadan takes place in the ninth month of the Islamic calendar after the first crescent moon of the month appears.) This year Ramadan begins on March 10th and continues through April 9th.

Most families observe Ramadan with fasting, prayer, and charitable deeds. Children, sick people, the elderly, and pregnant women are allowed to skip fasting. Fasting Muslims don't eat or drink between sunrise and sunset during Ramadan, so most families get up early to enjoy a pre-dawn meal (suhoor) and then gather again once the sun is down for a large meal (iftar). Fasting is meant to remind Muslims of people who don't have enough to eat and to spur them toward doing good deeds. The end of Ramadan is called Eid-al-Fitr (or just Eid - said like "Eed" - April 10th this year); the "Festival of Breaking the Fast." People often give children sweets and enjoy a big celebration. It is appropriate to say "Eid Mubarak" (Blessed Eid) to any of your friends or colleagues who celebrate that day.



## Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services<sup>SM</sup>

*Christmas is always a special time of year for the families we serve. Because of your generosity this holiday season we were able to make Christmas special for our families. The children we served were overjoyed with their gifts. Their eyes gleamed when we delivered the packages and you could feel the excitement that they would experience on Christmas Day opening their presents in complete awe and wonder. We are so thankful for Samantha Hartman and UPC for working to make our Angel Tree a success! Together we are changing lives, families and our community. May God continue to bless all your ministries and the many people you touch in His name.*

*-Mavis Matthews*

*Child and Family Specialist, Baton Rouge*





## 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

#### MARCH

**Tuesday, March 5th at 10:00 a.m.** This PW Circle is meeting in the Parks Wilson Room. We will study Lesson 7, "An Ethiopian Eunuch Encounters the Good News of Jesus", of "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts." Lorinda Sealey will lead the lesson.

**Wednesday, March 6th at 10:00 a.m.** The PW Circle 2 that meets on Peggy Carroll's carport will meet and will also study Lesson 7, "An Ethiopian Eunuch Encounters the Good News of Jesus", of "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts." Peggy's address is 1545 Patrick Drive.



## Day School

- ✿ February was a month of celebrations. We celebrated Black History Month, Mardi Gras, Valentines' Day, Presidents' Day and Dr Suess. All of those celebrations produced beautiful art projects that will brighten up Fellowship Hall in May at our Art Show. We ended the month of February as we posed for individual and class school pictures.
- ✿ Registration was opened for the summer and fall terms. It was time to say goodbye to our Mothers' Day Out and Morning Only Programs in order to expand our all day program. This will be better at meeting the needs of our community in today's world.
- ✿ The church has set up a committee which is searching for a new director when Terry Iyasere retires in at the end of May. Contact Peggy Carroll for information.

## LINK LOVE

*Some fun, funny, inspirational, or thought-provoking links for you enjoy this month.*

- A video reflection using the Stations of the Cross, put together by Pádraig Ó Tuama. It is a 20-minute guided meditation that is led by the author following a series of 3 images per station. <https://www.padraigotuama.com/news/stations2020>
- Whether or not you are a gardener, here is a lovely short essay on the excitement spring brings. Leaning toward Easter we too can resonate with her comment, "We who garden, garden because we hope." <https://rabbitroom.com/2023/04/a-detour-towards-hope>
- Did you see Oppenheimer? Did you know that, in the film, when they look at building a town for the Manhattan Project workers, the backdrop wasn't Los Alamos but actually the PC(USA)'s own Ghost Ranch? <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/oppenheimer-sets-all-eyes-on-ghost-ranch/>
- This art by Sergi Cardenas is so good and surprising. As with Easter, all is not always as it seems. You can see more of his work by clicking his name at the top of the comment section on the right. <https://www.instagram.com/reel/Cq8HH2slaN3/?igshid=NzJjY2FjNWJiZg%3D%3D>
- This video takes a couple minutes to reach its potential, but when it does, it makes a powerful one. Namely, that when we focus on belief over belonging, we're doing more harm than good. Feels true not only for Conspiracy Theories but for conversations about religion and faith as well. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VEkzweBJPM>
- In 2021 Durham, NC wiped out \$2.7 million of traffic debt. Why would they do that? This article has your answer. <https://nextcity.org/urbanist-news/durham-nc-just-finished-erasing-2.7-million-in-traffic-debt>

# Youth Group

## February Highlights

At the tail end of January youth were invited to be part of the Pneumatrix church wide conversations (and that's coming again as we start March). February had us rushing out to a parade in Mid-City and helping clean up at Bluebonnet Swamp. We were catching beads and picking up trash - fine Mardi Gras and Lenten activities. It's never too late to join in any youth group activities, so any kid between 6th-12th grade is welcome any time!

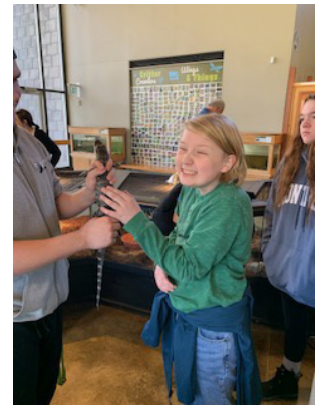
## March Schedule

- 3 Lunch and talking about UPC's Future  
- *immediately following worship*
- 10 Planning together - 4:30 at UPC
- 17 Painting God's Doors
- 24 Possible Jambalaya Fundraiser  
- *immediately following worship*
- 31 No Youth Group - EASTER

## Camp Agape: 3rd-12th graders

Camp Agape is a local camp run by folks in our Presbytery for grades 3-12 (completed). This camp is a week long (June 16-22, 2024) and is held at Feliciana Retreat Center in Norwood, LA. Campers are divided into cabins by age and have lots of traditional summer camp fun, including: rock wall climbing and a zip line, archery, canoes, swimming, hiking, 4 square, gaga ball, arts and crafts, and more. Campers will use the week to dive deeper into their faith as well with either indoor or outdoor worship every day. The camp is memorable for its daily energizers and huge indoor games! Older campers experience off-site adventures like tubing and hiking to local waterfalls. Meals are eaten camp-style together outside or in the dining hall.

Prices and additional information will be available soon, though in recent years it has been about \$500 for the week. You can talk with Sadie Knapp, Nora Broadhurst Williams, or Jude Raetzsch about their experience as well.



## Faith Formation

### CHURCH SCHOOL

**Life & Faith:** Daria Antonovskaya, a young Ukrainian, will speak about her perspectives on her homeland at 9:30 a.m. March 10 during the Life & Faith class in the Parks Wilson room.

**ADVENTURE AWAITS!**

# Camp Agape 2024

<b>INTRO CAMP</b>	<b>FULL WEEK CAMP</b>
1st - 3rd Graders	3rd - 12th Graders
June 14 - 16	June 16 - 22

Details and registration at [asburylafayette.org/campagape](http://asburylafayette.org/campagape)

**APRIL  
CONTACT  
DEADLINE  
MARCH 18**



## 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](mailto:cdurham@upcbr.org).

Lois Liggett • Gary Meise • Ruth Bivins • Gerard Klein  
 Alan Williams • Kathy Poché • Melanie Driscoll • Cheryl Whitting  
 Our Cuba Partners • Kathy Rossman • Mickey Rose Braud Zaitoon  
 Lynn Nichols Dull • Fay Coco • Cody Lucero

- **Mary Wardlaw** upon the death of her sister, Ruth Mitchell, on February 24
- **Jeremy Walters**, son of a friend of Susan Seifert's, in rehab at OLOL
- **Linda Law Clark and family**, upon the death of her uncle, Richard Law on February 2 and the sudden death of his oldest daughter, Gale Law Rickert, on February 19
- **Eddie Sylvester**, brother of Anne Cramer, facing treatment for thoracic aneurysm
- **Ellen Morgan**, dealing with lingering fever
- **Prosper Ngabonziza**, faculty co-worker of Kathy Perry, recovering from a stroke
- **Ella Rein Wheeler** who fell and **Koreen Walker** receiving treatment for leukemia, friends of Barbara H, Peggy C, Julie L., and Deanna B.
- **Al and Jane Meador**, brother-in-law and sister of Lee Jenkins, as Al has been discharged from the hospital to a Rehab unit in Laurel, Mississippi
- **Angela Simpson**, sister of Tom Shelton's son-in-law, at the end of her life
- **Julio Pina**, nephew of Jan Risher and Julio Naudin, with multiple brain tumors
- **Michael Babin**, diagnosed with cancer, former student of Faimon Roberts
- **Clara Larson**, sister of Karen Paterson, recovering from a broken kneecap
- **Thyra Sealey**, Lorinda's sister, undergoing diagnostic testing
- **Corrie Hale's Dad, Conrad**, diagnosed with inoperable cancer on his spine
- **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, with Lewy-Body dementia
- **Jo and her family**, friends of Robbie Phillabaum, experiencing difficult times
- **Hugh Huffman**, friend of Rosemary John, undergoing treatment for cancer
- **Mark McCulloch**, relative of Brannon Costello, recovering from serious burns
- **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**



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

*This fund allows our Co-Pastor 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.*

## Stay Connected!



&



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See us Sundays on Facebook for a live broadcast of our worship service!

[www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian)

<https://www.instagram.com/universitypresbr/>

**The University Presbyterian Church CONTACT is printed monthly. Articles may be submitted via email to [cdurham@upcbr.org](mailto:cdurham@upcbr.org) or turned in to the church office no later than the 20th of each month. To be removed from the mailing list, please contact the church office.**

**UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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 Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
 (225)383-0345  
 (225)383-3495 Fax  
[www.upcbr.org](http://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:  
<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 above)

# March Birthdays

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

**\*\*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

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3240 Dalrymple Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802



Change Service Requested