

# Contact

April 2024

University Presbyterian Church Newsletter for church members and friends

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A couple of weeks ago I was in a workshop about family participation in church, and the presenter kicked off the whole thing by reminding us that, while they knew we wanted to do our best, it was important to remember that no matter what we do as congregations, religious institutions are secondary in the faith formation of children and youth. It is not church but home where most religious understanding is imparted (whether officially or unofficially).

That's not exactly breaking news, but I know it may feel a little overwhelming for parents who already have a lot going on. The good news is that faith formation is happening all the time, often below our conscious awareness. As adults pay attention to the regular work of life (task lists, carpool, homework, and extracurriculars) our priorities, values, and deep convictions about life, love and truth are on full display. We are always modeling for our children how we decide on a course of action, how we understand our place in the world, and the responsibility we feel for others. Kids are always learning from us.

At the same time, as with anything, communication is key. It is important to spend some time intentionally talking about or practicing our beliefs in order to help our kids understand and be able to put words to the reasons behind how and why we do the things we do. We volunteer to help at an event, but why? We choose to go give money to someone who asks, or we choose not to do so, but why? We have our kids go to church school or worship or youth group, but why?

Not all things need to be explained though - some things can just be done together. If it's not part of your practice currently it will require a little effort to get it into your routine, but what you do doesn't have to be hard. Some things can be wrapped in to your regular life. For instance:

- **Pray before eating together.** Maybe you find one prayer and say/sing it all the time. Maybe you roll a prayer cube and swap readers to read it before a meal.
- **Read a bible story after dinner together.** If you haven't done it before now this may work more easily with little kids, but sharing one story a day can be done with any age. I'm glad to share options for good story bibles for younger elementary kids.
- **Practice a Daily Examen before bedtime.** (Check out the "Spotlight on Family Formation" on page 6.)

You don't have to do all of these things, but try something that feels authentic to you. Faith formation that is rooted at home in the course of your regular life is much more likely to stick than anything we teach once a week at church, so give something a go for a while and see what happens. Easter season is the perfect time and know we're all here to back you up!

Bendiciones,

*Mamie*

# April...

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 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED (Easter Holiday)
- 2 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Zoom  
10:00 a.m. Day Circle - Parks Wilson Room  
7:00 p.m. UPC Book Group - 1725 Eugene
- 3 10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Dr.  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 4 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room  
1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom  
7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 6 12:00 p.m. NAJAMA Food Prep - Fellowship Hall
- 7 **2nd Sunday of Easter - Communion**  
9:30 a.m. Church School & Inquirer's Class  
10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room  
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)  
No Youth Group (*spring break*)
- 8 11:30 a.m. Membership Committee - Library  
7:00 p.m. Huntington's Disease Support Group - Conference Room
- 9 5:30 p.m. Worship Committee - Zoom  
7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library  
7:00 p.m. Mission & Peacemaking Committee - Zoom
- 10 9:00 a.m. "Faith and Community" Small Group - 1848 Glendale  
5:00 p.m. Property Committee - Zoom  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 11 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room  
1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom  
4:30 p.m. Personnel & Administration Committee - Zoom  
7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 14 **3rd Sunday of Easter**  
9:30 a.m. Church School & Inquirer's Class  
10:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room  
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)  
12:00 p.m. Called Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary  
4:30 p.m. Youth Group (*come in paint clothes!*)
- 15 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 16 9:30 a.m. Helping Hands - Conference Room  
6:30 p.m. UPC @ LSU Baseball - Alex Box Stadium  
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Committee - at LSU Baseball game
- 17 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel - Sanctuary  
6:30 p.m. Day School Committee - Zoom  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary Balcony
- 18 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room  
1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom  
7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 20-21 TBA Youth Group Camping Trip
- 21 **4th Sunday of Easter**  
9:30 a.m. Church School & Inquirer's Class  
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
- 22 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 23 7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Zoom
- 24 9:00 a.m. Faith & Community - Parks Wilson Room  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

## Office Notes

### CLOSURES

The church office will be closed on Monday, April 1 for the Easter Holiday.

### QUARTERLY GIVING STATEMENTS

Quarterly giving statements will be e-mailed on April 3. Please check to make sure your giving records match ours and let Caralyn know if you see any discrepancies. If you want to make any adjustments to your pledge, you can do so at any time.

### TABLES

Have you borrowed one or more of our folding tables or stacking chairs? If so, please return it (or them) as soon as you are able... no questions asked!

### VASES NEEDED

The flower brigade is once again looking for vases of all shapes and sizes. Please bring your donations to the Parks Wilson Room kitchen.



**Called Congregational Meeting**  
**Sunday, April 14**  
**Immediately following worship**  
For the purpose of electing officers for the class of 2027 and receiving the 2024 budget. This meeting will be in person only.

## MAY CONTACT DEADLINE APRIL 22

**IDENTIFIED GIVING STATUS 2023**  
*(as of 3/26/2024)*

**Received Pledged giving: \$160,177**  
*(28% of \$571,278 pledged)*

Received Unpledged giving \$6,296  
**TOTAL GIVING RECEIVED: \$166,473**  
*Thank you for your generous contribution!*



The **UPC Book Club** meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. @ 1725 Eugene St. Contact Ellen Morgan for info.

Apr 2 The Frozen River  
by Ariel Lawhon

May 7 The Women  
by Kristin Hannah



UPC really turned out for the 2024 TBR Delegate's Assembly on March 19!



## ARE YOU READY FOR SOME LSU BASEBALL?

Your Fellowship Committee is sponsoring the annual UPC night at Alex Box Stadium, Tuesday, April 16, 6:30 p.m., LSU vs. UNO. All tickets for this game are \$ 5.00 each (special pricing for groups at midweek games). UPC will be sitting in section 101, rows 1 and 2. Purchase your tickets before or after the worship on Sunday, April 7 and 14. Email Bill Crummett at [bill.crummett@centre.edu](mailto:bill.crummett@centre.edu) if you have any questions.

## April...

- 25 10:30 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
- 1:00 p.m. Visio Divina - Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Mens Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 28 5th Sunday of Easter**
- 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*)
- 1:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting - Conference Room
- No Youth Group
- 29 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library



## RESURRECTION PRACTICES

- 1 Hang a Rainbow Prism
- 2 Plant Vegetables
- 3 Compost Food Scraps
- 4 Make Something New from Your Trash
- 5 Give Flowers to Your Neighbors
- 6 Look for Butterflies
- 7 Read John 21:1-17



The time between Easter and Pentecost is an opportunity to think about Easter not just as one day, but as a whole season. Do one of these activities this Spring and experience the Risen Christ in a new way.

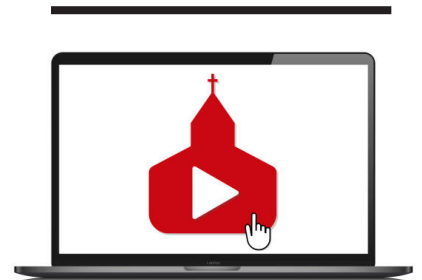


[www.TraciSmith.com](http://www.TraciSmith.com)

## INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW

**Yes! You can still be a part of the Inquirer's class, even if you missed the first meeting!**

On March 24th we had an overview of Presbyterianism - history and theology - but there's still a lot more to discuss. On April 7 we'll talk about UPC's history and ways to get involved, and we'll learn more about each other and how we came to be at UPC on April 14. We'd still love to have you join in the conversation if you are interested, just come to the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning on the 7th!



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

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

If so, then we have the job for you!!

We have a member of our A/V team moving in May and will definitely need an extra person (or two or three) to fill the void. Please contact Tom Shelton at [tcselton1950@gmail.com](mailto:tcselton1950@gmail.com) or Mamie Broadhurst if you are interested in joining this worthwhile ministry.

# Day School



## DAY SCHOOL

# ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

ages 1 - 4 years



Registration has opened for summer and fall terms!

### Upcoming Dates of Importance:

April 8-12 Week of the Young Child\*

May 2 Annual Art Show, 7:00 p.m.

\* University Presbyterian Day School is happy to announce we will celebrate the Week of the Young Child with a special theme and activities for the children, teachers, and parents each day.

### Employment Opportunity:

The church is accepting applications for a new DS Director who will begin after Terry Iyasere retires at the end of May.

### We appreciate our teachers!

Teacher Appreciation week is May 6-10 and teachers are developing their wish list of items they would like but may not be able to purchase through the Day School budget. Please look at the items on the list and contribute to this opportunity.

# Youth Group

### March Highlights

March included participating in the congregation-wide conversation with Pneumatrix about the future of the church as well as gathering funds and enjoying a Bowl-a-Thon to support the erasure of medical debt for folks in Louisiana who need it. The Bowl-a-Thon funds kicked the whole church over our year-long goal of \$5000 which will retire over \$500,000 of debt! (Thanks to all who have donated across the year; you don't have to stop!)

### April Schedule

- 7 No Youth Group - Spring Break
- 14 Painting God's Doors at UPC - 4:30pm
- 20-21 Camping! (Saturday-Sunday)
- 28 No Youth Group - 4th Sunday



### CELEBRATING OUR GRADS

If you are graduating in May, please let us know. We would like to celebrate this momentous occasion with you! High School grads, please include your future plans. College grads, please indicate your degree and future plans. Please turn this information in to the church office by April 22.



# 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!*

The PW Mini Retreat heralded as a Success! Plans are underway for another one day retreat this fall. Be on the lookout for details.

## 2 CIRCLE MEETINGS to choose from

### APRIL

**Tuesday, April 2nd at 10:00 a.m.** This PW Circle is meeting in the Parks Wilson Room. We will study Lesson 8, "Lydia Encounters Jesus in Worship", of "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts." Lorinda Sealey will lead the lesson.

**Wednesday, April 3rd at 10:00 a.m.** The PW Circle 2 that meets on Peggy Carroll's carport will meet and will study the same lesson. Peggy's address is 1545 Patrick Drive.

## Presbytery of South Louisiana PW Spring Gathering

Broadmoor Presbyterian Church,

Saturday, April 20th, 9:30 – 1:00

Installation of new officers including Julie Launey as PWPSL Moderator and continuation of Pat Wright as PWPSL Treasurer

Worship with offering to benefit Evergreen Life Services.

\*\*\*\*Mission Project: Items for Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services: silverware, plastic cereal bowls and drinking cups, twin sheets, kitchen items that families might use in starting over in a new life. For those of you who are downsizing, PCHAS can use the items you no longer need. There will be a container in the UPC Welcome Center to receive donations. \*\*\*\*

# LINK LOVE

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

• John Gorka's song "Let Them In" is based on a WWII era poem written by Elma Dean. It is a song that goes out to all the soldiers who went out but did not come home as well as to all those who remember them. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqtGAMoRbC8>

• Tired of your lawn? Wondering about how to help the earth and increase biodiversity? Here's one solution for two problems! <https://www.discovermagazine.com/environment/how-to-turn-your-yard-into-a-wildlife-oasis>

• An interesting article about the power of language and the use of "it" to talk about the natural world. The author of Braiding Sweetgrass, Robin Wall Kimmerer, argues that a change in terms might transform our relationship to the environment. <https://bit.ly/3TmRprT>

• A 24-minute podcast with Dwayne Betts' - a poet who was incarcerated at 16 but found his love of literature while in prison. Since his release he has gotten his law degree, is studying for his PhD in law, and has established the Million Book Project to get establish libraries in prisons because, he says, "Words are a pathway to freedom." It is quite a resurrection story. <https://www.aspeninstitute.org/podcasts/freedom-libraries-the-million-book-project/>

• This London bookstore sells recipe books and draws people in by cooking a fresh meal from one of those books each day. Brilliant! (And it reminds me a little of the Kind of One Book/One Community read in East Baton Rouge this year - Tasting History - check it out!) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19Ma5GiGFqC>

• What began in 2002 as Robert Shetterly's personal portrait project has grown into an organization which hopes to foster and inspire "a profound sense of citizenship" by exposing students at all levels to portraits, quotes, biographies, and related resources built around these "Models of Courageous Citizenship." <https://americanswhotellthetruth.org/>

## Tiny SURVIVAL GUIDE

**PROTECT YOUR MORNINGS**  
[or whenever you wake up]  
less cortisol, more intentionality

**GO OUTSIDE**  
[or look outside]  
perspective, context + something larger than this

**BE ACTIVE**  
[avoid stagnation]  
in body, mind, spirit

**CULTIVATE RELATIONSHIPS**  
those that are edifying + healthy

**NURTURE GRATITUDE**  
what is one thing, right now,  
that is going well?

**DETOX**  
if navigating addictions  
be wise + safe

**SPEND TIME WITH ANIMALS**  
↓ stress hormones, ↑ comfort

**SIMPLIFY**  
[less is more]  
be mindful of decision  
fatigue + cognitive overload

**ADMIRE ART**  
the gift of feeling transported

**LAUGH**  
pure humor = a sustaining force

**FOSTER HUMILITY & EXTEND GRACE**  
self-righteousness  
+ hubris = unhelpful

**SLEEP**  
to cleanse + repair brain + body

**CLARIFY INTENTIONS**  
how can i refrain from causing harm,  
how can i contribute meaningfully?



# SPOTLIGHT on FAITH FORMATION AT HOME

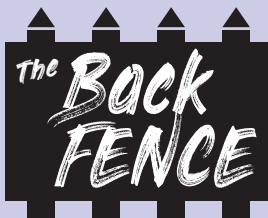
## Daily Examen

The Daily Examen is an ancient way to reflect on your day. To practice it, answer four questions. As a family (or in a group) you can go through the questions one at a time, or you can have each person answer all four questions before moving on to the next person.

- 1. Was there something memorable that happened to you today?** Or, if you could remember one moment from today by taking a picture in your mind, what would it be? Describe the picture in your mind with as much detail as you can.
- 2. Was there a time when you felt close to God (or the Spirit) today?** If nothing comes to mind immediately, consider these questions: did you see something beautiful today? Was someone particularly kind to you or someone else today? Did your heart feel at peace at any point today?
- 3. Was there a time when you felt far from God (or the Spirit) today?** If nothing comes to mind immediately, consider these questions: Was there a time when you felt sad or lonely today? Did you witness anyone acting in a way that was unkind? Did you feel anxious or unsettled today?
- 4. What are you grateful for today?** It doesn't have to be just one thing, and it might be deep and profound (for the love of my friends and family) or something that delighted you but you might ordinarily pass over (like the smell of cinnamon rolls).

End your time with a few seconds of silence, maybe just as long as a few deep breaths, and then say "Amen."

*Thanks for this explanation of the daily examen from Traci Smith in her book [Faithful Families](#).*



On March 20, 2024 the Baton Rouge Area Foundation honored **Cordell Haymon** with the Marcia Kaplan Kantrow Baton Rouge Visionary Award. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jROBQiyffD8>

# 2023 Annual Reports

## Fellowship

*Submitted by Barbara Hoffman, chair*

- In 2023, Fellowship sponsored several events, including the Soup and Pie luncheon, Fire Pit Story night, Easter Brunch, Baseball at the Box, Hot Dog and Ice Cream Social, Trick or Treat, Christmas Tree Trim, and Christmas caroling.
- Three Don't Cook Nights, and a walk/picnic at Burden Gardens were also sponsored.
- Fellowship supported/assisted other UPC organizations to hold: Patti Snyder's Retirement party in April, the church school teachers and helpers lunch in August, the potluck lunch with the visiting Cuban Peacemaker in September, and the Stewardship Pancake breakfast.
- Fellowship participated in the UPC Activities Fair. It also revived the use of Wild Card volunteers to assist with individual events, prepared and posted photo instructions for use of the dishwasher and the range in the big kitchen, and provided financial support for an ad hoc crafting event in December. The committee also revised its Job Responsibilities.
- The UPC youth helped with several events including the Soup and Pie luncheon and Trick or Treat.

## Property

*Submitted by Doug Walker & Dave Launey, co-chairs*

It was another very busy year, with a lot of hard work done by the entire committee. The members spent 374 hours of their time repairing/maintaining many of the items that would normally require outside companies to do the repair. And an additional 84 hours of supervision.

On average, outside companies charge a minimum of ~\$40 per hour. Therefore, Committee members performed ~\$18,300 worth of actual physical work/supervision.

Listed below are some of the high priority tasks that were completed. For a list of all tasks performed by the committee, please contact Doug Walker.

1. Replaced the Kitchen stove.
2. Replaced the Choir Loft AC unit.
3. Installed a window and an AC vent in the new Audio-Visual Room.
4. Replaced the Kitchen garbage disposal.
5. Repaired the Church's slate roofing.
6. Repaired the lock on the South Sanctuary double doors.
7. Completed replacing all Day School windows.
8. Began replacing the Office windows.
9. Numerous plumbing leaks repaired and small diameter pipe replaced.
10. Maintained the courtyard gardens.
11. Continued the Tree Trimming Project.

## Membership

*Submitted by Lois Kuyper-Rushig, chair*

The Membership Committee in 2023 included Mamie Broadhurst, Eleanor Canon (through August 2023), Jill Clemmons, Rosemary John, June Klimash, Lois Kuyper-Rushing, Ellen Morgan, Robbie Phillabaum, Mary Wardlaw. The committee meets twice monthly, once for a business meeting, and once to fold and prepare the Contact for mailing. Membership committee responsibilities include:

- Sending cards to visitors attending UPC worship service.
- Tracking visitors to UPC services
- Organizing and hosting "Inquirers' classes" for visitors interested in joining UPC.
- Baking loaves of fruit bread for new members.
- Introducing new members to the congregation by posting photos on the new member bulletin board.
- Assigning sponsors from the congregation to new members of UPC.
- Reviewing UPC membership rolls, noting members whose attendance patterns have changed in the last three months. Membership passes these names on to their Deacons to check in with them.
- Sending church-a-versary cards to members as they reach 1, 5, 10, etc., years of membership.
- Sending Christmas cards to all members and friends of UPC.
- Maintaining pew racks making sure they are stocked and ready before worship services.
- Organizing greeters to welcome members and visitors to UPC services before Sunday worship.
- Supervising the work of the Columbarium subcommittee which falls under the Membership Committee.
- Folding and mailing Contact.

### Notes from 2023

- The committee welcomed Rosemary John and Jill Kerr to the committee and bid farewell to Eleanor Canon who moved to Alabama in October.
- 14 new members were welcomed to UPC during 2023.
- The committee sponsored a table at Pride Day in the Raisin' River Center on June 22, 2023.
- The committee participated in the Halloween Event in the UPC parking lot on October 29
- The committee organized the Activities Fair held in October.

Website review taskforce was created by Membership in 2023 to review the ten-year-old website for ease of use and to judge whether it welcomes all people to UPC. The task force's work is ongoing.

## Worship and Music

*Submitted by Christine Kooi, chair*

In 2023 the membership of your Worship and Music Committee comprised Leslie Green, Jerry Kennedy (chair until summer 2023), Beth Paskoff, Lori Tucker, Tom Shelton, David Walters (till summer 2023), Ross Cawthon (starting August 2023), Anne Maverick, Patti Snyder (till April 2023), Mamie Broadhurst and Christine Kooi (starting summer 2023). Kelly Kerr, Jill Clemmons and Cordell Haymon also served on the committee until summer 2023.

The committee had a busy year, not least with navigating changes in staff. We bid a fond farewell to co-pastor Patti Snyder in April, as well as to choir director David Walters in the summer. Since August his shoes have been ably filled by our new choir director Ross Cawthon, who was hired by a search committee under Worship's oversight.

The committee's principal task is the coordinating and managing of Sunday worship. Since Patti's retirement in April we have invited at least a dozen guest preachers, mostly from within the Presbytery of South Louisiana, to worship with us on two Sundays per month. Among those who have served in this capacity were Randy Nichols, Rick Pitcher, Tip Tipton, Charlene Heaton, Betsy Irvine, Kathy Lee-Cornell, Matt McGraw, Nanette Cagney, Jackie Cummings and Tom Rhoades. Worship also recruited liturgists, as well as preparers and servers of communion on the first Sunday of each month. Every decoration you have seen in the sanctuary (except for the flowers, which are the responsibility of the ever-capable Flower Brigade) has been the work of the Worship committee.

One of the most important of these Sunday worship tasks is maintaining the livestreaming of worship through our website and Facebook. This has been an important mission, as several visitors have started attending church in person because they first found it through the livestream. The livestream also serves church members who are homebound or live far from Baton Rouge. The technical responsibility for all this has fallen on the able shoulders of Tom Shelton, who both designed the technical set up, trained volunteers in audio and visual tech, and continues to update the technology as needed, including a subscription to fiber-optic internet service this year that has greatly improved the livestream. UPC owes a large debt to Tom his constant effort to make the livestream possible. We would certainly welcome more volunteers to help with the livestream.

Besides Sundays, Worship also successfully oversaw planning for the liturgical year, including planning for Lent, Holy Week, Pentecost and Advent. Taizé services during Lent and Advent have drawn a small but devoted following, including visitors from outside the congregation.

As chair I thank all the members of the committee for their all their efforts, without which a decent and orderly worship of God would not be possible. The committee is always ready to welcome new members, and we invite UPC folks to join us in this necessary and creative work.

# 2023 Annual Reports

## Day School

*Submitted by Peggy Carroll, chair*

This service to the community was started in 1961. It began as a preschool program, 9:00 a.m. - noon. Over the years adjustments to the program have been necessary to match changing community needs. As 2023 comes to an end we find that community needs no longer require the Mothers' Day Out Program. At 47% capacity it is no longer sustainable and will not be offered in 2024.

The main sources of funding for the Day School are tuition and state assistance for low-income families. The church also provides scholarships. During the pandemic we benefited from federal grants which enabled us to operate. Our post-pandemic enrollment has not returned to its previous numbers. At 74% capacity we recognize that it is important to include marketing in our handling of the Day School.

The UPC Day School continues to meet the same high standards it always has. It carries a high proficiency rating of 4 stars with a score of 5.94 out of 7 from the Louisiana Department of Education. Six of our teachers were recognized by the East Baton Rouge Early Childhood Education Department, Early Start Network as "Teachers of Excellence".

Terry Iyasere, who has served as the D S Director since 2006 has formally announced her retirement at the end of May. A search committee comprised of Mamie Broadhurst, Gaines Foster, Lori Pilley, Carolin Purser, Sarah Sabin and Peggy Carroll is hard at work.

The Day School committee which meets the third Wednesday of each month is made up of: UPC Members: Peggy Carroll (chair), Pam Bartlett, Mamie Broadhurst, Linda Benedict, Junita Meier, Lori Pilley, Faimon Roberts and Sarah Sabin. From the Day School: Terry Iyasere (Director), Kenisha Brumfield (staff rep) and a parent rep.

## Nurture

*Submitted by Diana Reynolds, chair*

The Nurture committee met monthly over the 2023 year (except July.) Over the year, the committee has served in UPC ministry through:

- Writing notes each month to members on the Prayer List in the bulletin and quarterly to our kids in college.
- Mailing Grief/Loss books to members who had a loved one die. Books were mailed quarterly for the first year after the death.
- Providing food to members who have had particularly stressful times such as surgery, illness, new baby, death in the family.
- Bringing bouquets to church members each Sunday after worship services, in appreciation or to provide comfort, or just to say we are thinking of you.
- Giving rides to attend church for those members who did not have transportation to worship
- Hosting receptions for the funerals of church members and friends
- Creating Care Teams for church members who needed particular attention during times of specific needs such as illness or surgery.
- Lending medical equipment to others (members and non-members) from our Medical Closet which has wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, and bathroom and shower aids.
- Supporting the work of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) through ensuring that they have monthly meeting space within our church building.

## Camp Agape - Feliciana Retreat Center

**June 16-22, 2024**

Register at [campagapeweek.eventbrite.com](https://campagapeweek.eventbrite.com)

Payments & Forms at [asburyLafayette.org/campagape](https://asburyLafayette.org/campagape)

The camps are structured like the school system: elementary school campers attend **Into Camp** and **Explorer Camp**, middle school campers attend **Pathfinders Camp**, and high school campers attend **Adventure Camp**. Within each camp, campers are grouped in the cabins and cottages with others their age and grade in school. Our large facility enables our camps to be housed separately and have independent activities without interaction with other camps, but still join together for activities such as worship.

Activities are age-appropriate for each camp. These activities may include swimming, hiking, canoeing, kayaking, rock wall and zip line, challenge course, archery, four square, gaga ball, arts and crafts, drama, nature activities, cookouts, service projects (includes singing to veterans and/or nursing homes), daily worship, and campfires. Each cabin and cottage has a counselor and may also have a counselor aide.

Information packets may be found in the Welcome Center, by contacting the church office, or by visiting the links above.

Happy Camping!



# 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

- **The family and friends of Drew Trahan**, who died on March 25
- **The parents of Tavia Crumpler** who are both currently hospitalized
- **Chuck Short**, father of Tanner Short, hospitalized for broken bones after a fall
- **Prosper Ngabonziza**, faculty co-worker of Kathy Perry, recovering at home
- **Emily Maverick**, mother of Andy, with recurring heart troubles
- **Martha Adams**, mother of Darlene Rowland, undergoing radiation for breast cancer
- **Anita Melon**, recovering at home from surgery
- **Robert Bayer**, uncle of Caralyn Durham, in declining health
- **N. David Cook and family**, friends of Paul and Barbara Hoffman, as they decide on next steps as he fights cancer
- Linda Clark's friend, **Susan Griffin and her family**, at the sudden loss of her son, Parker
- **Ryan Woodworth**, friend of Caroline Robertson-Newton & Tyler Newton, hospitalized at The Shepherd Center in Atlanta following a debilitating automobile accident
- **Jeremy Walters**, son of a friend of Susan Seifert's, undergoing home therapies
- **Eddie Sylvester**, brother of Anne Cramer, struggling with a difficult health diagnosis
- **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
- **Julio Pina**, nephew of Jan Risher and Julio Naudin, with multiple brain tumors
- **Michael Babin**, diagnosed with cancer, former student of Faimon Roberts
- **Corrie Hale's Dad, Conrad**, 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
- **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!



Facebook Instagram

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

[www.facebook.com/universitypresbyterian](https://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**  
 3240 Dalrymple Drive  
 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)

**UPCBR 75**

**TEXT**

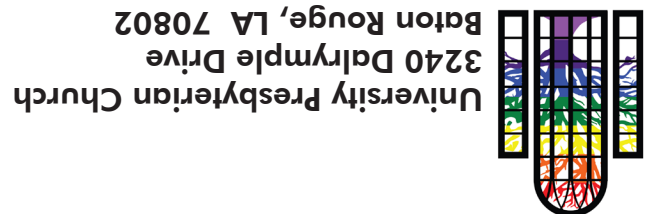
Text UPCBR and your amount to 73256 (as shown above)

# April Birthdays

|   |  |    |   |    |                     |    |                               |
|---|--|----|---|----|---------------------|----|-------------------------------|
| 2 | Maggie Richardson<br>Caroline Wright             | 6  | Stacy Haynie<br>Kate Midkiff                | 13 | Alicia Lewis        | 24 | Jim Hanifen                   |
| 3 | Anna Snyder Kelly<br>Sarah Meier                 | 7  | Jill Kerr<br>Bailey Stoker<br>Diana Wickman | 15 | Barbara Hoffman     | 26 | Betsy Irvine<br>Jerry Kennedy |
| 4 | Bizza Britton                                    | 9  | Daniel Burch<br>Stephanie Launey Short      | 17 | Kathy Rossman       | 27 | Lois Kuyper-Rushing           |
| 5 | Ashleigh Bowles<br>Nora Costello<br>Paul Hoffman | 12 | Braden Stoker                               | 18 | Cheryl Hedlund      | 29 | Judy Persall                  |
|   |  |    |   | 19 | Mary Anne Sheffield |    |                               |
|   |  |    |   | 21 | Patti Snyder        |    |                               |

**\*\*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