



Contact

November 2024

University Presbyterian Church Newsletter for church members and friends

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Each week we light a candle as the church service begins to remember God and remind ourselves that we can always talk to God (whether we have a candle to light or not). At the end of the service when we blow out the flame we do so proclaiming that God is everywhere, as we watch the smoke curl and rise. Sometimes the kids laugh a little bit because I ask the same question every week, but that's part of the purpose of ritual - to know what's coming and what to do. These days there is often far more uncertainty in our lives than we are comfortable with, so it is helpful to have something familiar, something tethering, something you can count on when things otherwise feel a bit chaotic.

In many ways our whole worship service is meant to provide that comfort, though there is often challenge woven into the fabric of it as well. Knowing that you will have a chance to confess and be forgiven, that there will be prayer and singing, and read scriptures which have bound God-seekers for centuries - all of that is meant to help bring you back to a centering place that will restore you before sending you out again to love the world with all you've got. Our worship service is itself a ritual, one that tethers us to one another, to God, and to the love, grace, and hope we need to sustain us.

But that doesn't have to happen only in church.

In the run up to Election Day, I have found myself getting anxious more often, with worry holding an unhealthy sway over me. For the last month, to pull myself back to a more centered place, my family and I have been praying at dinner time, specifically about the upcoming elections. Each night we light a candle (to remind us of God) and we use a resource from the United Church of Christ that offers us short but expansive prayers that range in topic from the election process to electoral candidates, from our neighbors to ourselves, from our words to our actions. In moments when anxiety about the future has taken hold, these prayers and this whole ritual have helped me stay grounded in the truth of God's ongoing presence - yesterday, today, and all the upcoming tomorrows.

None of us know what will happen on election day, and (given our last election experience) we can't be sure of what will happen after that day either. What we can know is that regardless of the outcome on November 5th, God will continue to be and to work among us, and there will be work to do. With that in mind I invite you to pray this prayer for the first day of November along with me and mine.

Friday, Nov 1 - Comforting Spirit, remind us that through all the ages you are God. Today, tomorrow, and the day after the election. Wrap us in the protection of your love as we press forward into tomorrow. Amen.

Mamie

November...

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 9:00 a.m. Requiem Dress Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 3 24th Sunday After Pentecost - Communion, All Saints' Day Observed**
- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
- Noon Diaconate Meeting - Conference Room
- Noon Church-wide Work Day/Youth Group - UPC Facility
- 4 10:45 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 5:00 p.m. APNC - Location TBD
- 5 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Zoom
- 10:00 a.m. Day Circle - Parks Wilson Room
- 6 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel - Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Dr.
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 7 11:00 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 9 TBD LSU vs. Alabama @ LSU (*PARKING*)
- 10 25th Sunday After Pentecost**
- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
- 1:30 p.m. Music Club of Baton Rouge Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Group
- 11 11:30 a.m. Membership Committee - Library
- 5:00 p.m. APNC - Location TBD
- 7:00 p.m. Huntington's Disease Support Group - Conference Room
- 12 7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library
- 7:00p.m. Mission & Peacemaking Committee - Zoom
- 13 9:00 a.m. Faith & Community Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
- 10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Dr.
- 5:00 p.m. Property Committee - Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 14 11:00 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
- 5:00 p.m. Bella Voce Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Day School Committee - Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 15 6:30 p.m. Bella Voce Recital - Sanctuary
- 16 10:00 a.m. Transitions Small Group - Conference Room
- 17 26th Sunday after Pentecost**
- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
- 12:30 p.m. Stewardship & Finance Committee - Conference Room
- 12:30 p.m. Church Picnic & Kickball - BREC Kenilworth Park Pavillion
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group @ Church Picnic
- 1:30 p.m. Music Club of Baton Rouge Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 18 10:45 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 5:00 p.m. APNC - Location TBD
- 19 9:30 a.m. Helping Hands - Conference Room
- 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Committee - Zoom
- 20 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel - Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Dr.
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

Office News

Church Calendar

In order to prevent conflicts, please check with the church office for availability **before** scheduling an event.

•CONTACT DEADLINE

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the deadline for article submissions for the December/January edition of Contact is Monday, November 18.

•OFFICE CLOSURES

The Church Office and Day School will be closed Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29 in observance of Thanksgiving.

•SUNDAY FLOWER DONATIONS

Spots for Sunday Flower Donations for 2024 are all reserved. Available dates for 2025 will be published in December bulletins. Thank you for making Sunday services so beautiful.



Don't forget to set your clocks back on November 3



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

- Nov 5 NO BOOK GROUP
- Dec 3 The House of the Seven Gables
by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- Jan 7 Little Fires Everywhere
by Celeste Ng

All Saints' Sunday Special Music

On November 3, UPC will be observing All Saints' Day, a commemoration of the departed, in a special worship service at 11:00 a.m. The music for this day is the *Requiem* by renowned English composer, John Rutter. The choir is hard at work preparing for this, and will be accompanied by viola, saxophone, oboe, timpani, harp, glockenspiel, and organ. Please join us in worship as we remember those who have left us recently or long ago.

Our UPC Saints:

Linda Green 10/9/1937-11/24/2023
 John Earle 8/10/1925-12/17/2023
 Drew Trahan 11/7/1993-3/25/2024
 Lilly Bridwell-Bowles
 11/22/1947-6/24/2024
 John Tyler 9/10/1936-7/25/2024
 Kathryn Barry 3/9/1927-10/29/2024

November...

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|---|
| 21 | 11:30 a.m. | Day School Thanksgiving Feast - Fellowship Hall |
| | 7:30 p.m. | New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room |
| 22 | 11:30 a.m. | Day School Thanksgiving Feast - Fellowship Hall |
| 23 | TBD | LSU vs Vanderbilt @ LSU (<i>PARKING</i>) |
| 24 | | Christ the King/Reign of Christ |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Church School |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship - Sanctuary (<i>Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org</i>) |
| | 1:00 p.m. | Stated Session Meeting - Conference Room (<i>Tentative</i>) |
| | 1:00 p.m. | NAJAMA Food - Fellowship Hall |
| | 1:30 p.m. | Music Club of Baton Rouge Rehearsal - Choir Room |
| | | No Youth Group |
| 25 | 5:00 p.m. | APNC - Conference Room |
| 26 | 11:00 a.m. | LSU Chamber Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary |
| | 7:00 p.m. | NAMI - Conference Room & Library |
| 27 | 9:00 a.m. | Faith & Community Small Group - Parks Wilson Room |
| | 10:00 a.m. | Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Dr. |
| 28 | | THANKSGIVING DAY - Church Office and Day School Closed |
| 29 | | Church Office and Day School Closed |
| 30 | TBD | LSU vs. Oklahoma @ LSU (<i>PARKING</i>) |

Day School

University Presbyterian Church
Day School
Open Enrollment
AGES
 3 months - 4 years
 Come **GROW** with us!
 225-344-8077
 www.upcbr.org

The Day School had a big month in October highlighted by the opening of the new infant care room, and slots are filling up. Also during October the Day School had wonderful teaching and supervised play and picture days, Fire Prevention Week, Fire Fighter/Fire Truck visit, Wear Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness, a Book Fair, Trunk or Treat Day, and, of course, Halloween Parties. Everyone had a great time at the Day School this month!

In other news:

The Day School will have its annual Thanksgiving Feast on Thursday, November 21 and Friday, November 22 in the Fellowship Hall. We need volunteers to help prepare the plates and drinks from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon each day. If you are available to help, please email the day school office at upcdayschool@upcbr.org by Monday, November 18 to indicate the time and day you are available.

As an elective, the Day School is looking into offering a marshal arts class for the students. One of the teachers graduated and received her CDA and another of the teachers has begun her classes.

The Day School is opening another infant room in January. If you would like to help stock the room, the wishlist can be found at the following links:

Amazon <https://www.amazon.com/registries/guest-view/2EROLVYTKEPMV>

Walmart <https://www.walmart.com/registry/TR/edb24eab-9104-49f1-8e0e-b34bf1680011>





PARKING

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Almost there... only three more home games to go! The remaining home game schedule is:

November 9	Alabama
23	Vanderbilt
30	Oklahoma

Parking starts about 4 hours before kickoff. It's a fun and easy way to raise money, so come join in the fun! Contact our parking organizers Peggy Carroll (225-485-8485) or Griff Campbell (225-571-4054) for information or to add your name to the list of helpers.

TRANSITIONS

Linda Melancon with Legacy Estate & Elder Law of Louisiana LLC will return to Transitions on Saturday, November 16, with Part 2 of *How to Protect Your Family and Leave a Lasting Legacy: A Primer on Basic Estate Planning in Louisiana*. The meeting will be from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Conference Room. All are welcome regardless of whether they were able to be at her first presentation. For more information contact: Lori Tucker at ljtucker70@gmail.com or Beth Paskoff at Bpaskoff@lsu.edu.

UPC Fall Picnic and Third Annual Kickball Grudge Match!!!



The UPC Society for the Promotion of "Sportsmanlike" Conduct (SPSC, AKA the Fellowship Committee) dares you to attend the Fall Picnic at BREC's Perkins Road/Kennilworth Park, Pavilion 1 (7122 Perkins Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, although we'll be meeting at the parking lot at Kennilworth) on Sunday, November 17 at 12:30 PM. This will be a potluck picnic; SPSC will provide drinks, cups, plates, plastic-ware and similar items. SPSC also will provide the recreation and entertainment, namely the UPC Third Annual Kickball Grudge Match between the Saints and the Sinners. Draft picks will be held at the park, after which participants will sign medical waivers and the action will begin.

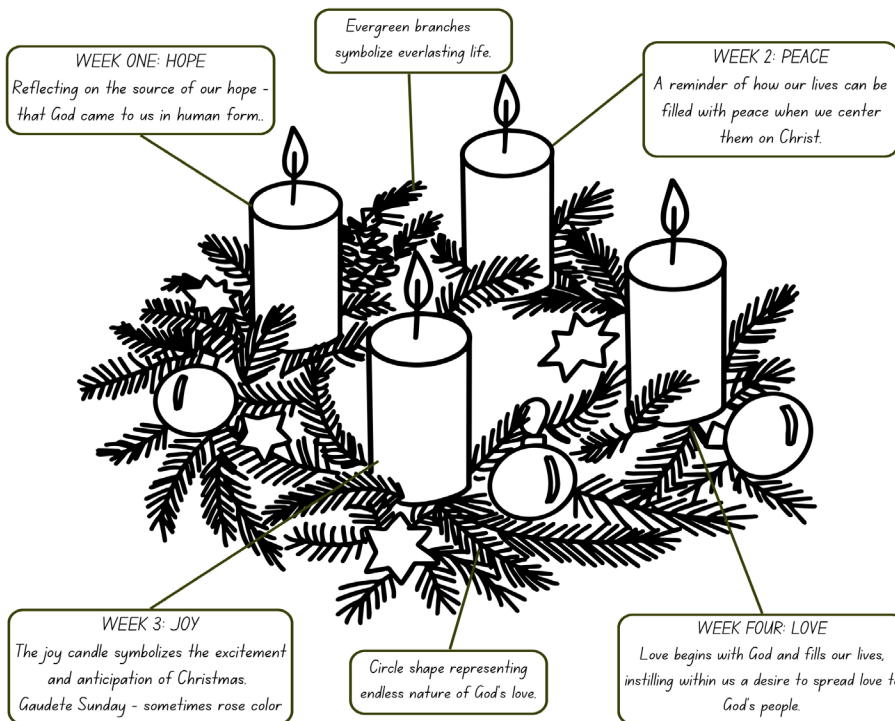


SPOTLIGHT on FAITH FORMATION AT HOME

TELL ME ABOUT THE

advent wreath

Traditionally, an Advent wreath is composed of greenery with four purple (or three purple and one pink in honor of Gaudete Sunday) candles, representing the four Sundays leading up to Advent. The centerpiece is traditionally a white candle, symbolizing the birth of Christ.



During the Advent season, candles represent the growing light of Christ's presence, which is soon to arrive and illuminate the darkness of our world. More than just a symbol, Advent is about living a Christ-centered life that brings hope, peace, joy, and love to a world in need.

It isn't quite time for Advent yet (this year it actually does begin on December 1), but we wanted you to have some heads up so you can get an Advent wreath together at home! It doesn't need to be fancy - it can even just be five candles (the four noted here, and one Christ candle for Christmas Eve, and on through Christmas if you wish). They don't even have to be purple (or blue) and pink - just something to allow your focus to settle a little in this busy time of year. If you want to skip the real flames because your kids are small and the idea of flames+kids worries you then construction paper is your friend! There are a lot of easy ideas on Google for homemade wreaths, but all you really need is a green circle and 5 rectangles. You can add a paper "flame" each week. Take some time over Thanksgiving and get ready to get ready for Christmas!

LINK LOVE

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

- In the world's largest cypress forest, in Big Cypress Bayou near Lake Caddo in Texas, Surf Durrani captures beautiful autumnal colors. <https://www.thisiscolossal.com/2024/01/surf-durrani-caddo-lake/>

- The US Surgeon General recently issued a new health advisory about parental stress. Short form: There's a dangerous amount of it these days. You can read a short article about it here <https://cnn.it/4e78w9H> or listen to a half hour podcast on the same subject here <https://nyti.ms/3Af7eLA>.

- A quick, fun game to see if you can pick out which thing came first. Then, whether you are right or wrong, you can learn more about either option if you're interested. <https://artsandculture.google.com/experiment/what-came-first/ZQGBUPEfEE3bVg>

- We begin the month with All Saints Day, remembering those we have lost. Kelly McMasters writes her own obituary every year, and she has (most years) since she was 12 years old. Rather than a maudlin exercise, it became somewhat of a spiritual discipline (not exactly her words). What should absolutely go in your obituary...this year's version, at least? <https://nyti.ms/3ZJH3qX>

- A podcast episode with strategies that can help your child develop a deeper understanding of gratitude — into their teen years - and the potential impact of gratitude on mental health. <https://www.gse.harvard.edu/ideas/edcast/23/11/how-raise-grateful-children>

- A lovely piano/cello duet of "In the Bleak Midwinter" - performed by brother and sister, Sheku Kanneh-Mason and Isata Kanneh-Mason. (This is a little early, but there's always so much to fit in the next Contact! Just listen to it late in the month...) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UfsbnewzIVE>

- Drone photography has its own awards, and this collection of prize winners and commended photos from 2023 are excellent. I was particularly moved by Ramadan in the Ruins (People), terrified by Highline (Sports), and charmed by Upside Down (Nature). How about you? <https://droneawards.photo/gallery/2023>

Youth Group

October Highlights:

It began with the Blessing of the Pets with University Methodist as well as planning to help with Halloween at month's end. We made lunches for the Baton Rouge Community Refrigerator (Instagram: brcommunityfridge), served at the pancake breakfast, and helped with the Halloween parking lot extravaganza. Kids and youth received their pledge cards, and were the first to return them this year! Thanks y'all! It is never too late to join youth group. You're always welcome!

November Schedule: ** note alternate time and/or location

- 3 Church Work Day with Property Cte - immediately following worship - ** (Youth serve lunch and then eat and work with the Cte and Volunteers)
- 9 LSU vs. Alabama - High School Youth Parking
- 10 Spiritual Discipline - Giving - Advent Angel/College Care Packages
- 17 Kickball/Church Picnic - immediately following worship - BREC Perkins Rd. **
- 23 LSU vs. Vanderbilt - High School Youth Parking
- 24 4th Sunday, NO YOUTH
- 30 LSU vs. Oklahoma - High School Youth Parking

There are only three more chances for 8th-12th graders to volunteer for parking to get funding help for summer trips, and they are all this month!



THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE INVITES EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE



CHURCH WORK DAY

NOVEMBER 3 • FOLLOWING 11:00 a.m. WORSHIP • ALL AGES WELCOME

Mission & Peacemaking



UPC supports Iris at Annual Fundraiser

In October, UPC joined Iris Domestic Violence Center's "Ummasking Domestic Violence" gala fundraiser as a sponsor to help our long-time partner organization raise funds for new programming and tools to expand their services. Their goal is to be able to share a warm and welcoming space with any adults, kids, and teens who need to escape from violence and rebuild their lives in safety. Iris Director, Patti Joy Freeman, spoke about how the organization is filling their new, greatly expanded facility space and what they offer to survivors - from their emergency shelter wing, to the new 6-12 month on-site transitional housing wing, new children's program, a full legal department, and services to support re-location. If you are interested in learning more about Iris you can visit www.stopdv.org, or contact Melanie Driscoll and stay tuned for more opportunities to connect with Iris and support their work.



UPC at the TBR Unity 2025 citywide assembly of congregations and community organizations on October 22.

Post-Hurricane Helene Disaster Recovery: Thinking of UPC Satellite Community in NC

Many UPC members know folks in North Carolina who have been affected by Hurricane Helene. According to the FEMA website as of Oct 15: 28 counties are eligible for aid. 600 roads are closed (100 on/near interstate, state and federal highways). And 6,900 sites exist where roads and bridges are damaged.

If you wish to help, monetary gifts are the best choice right now. Many agencies can acquire quantities in bulk more efficiently than we can send from afar.

UPC, through the Mission & Peacemaking committee selected two groups to receive funding to make a greater impact. We are sending the remaining \$2467.63 in Local & Worldwide funds to the hurricane fund of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and \$2000.00 in Other Food Security funds to World Central Kitchen. While we could earmark our donation for a specific region, both organizations do work in many places - meaning that many across the affected states will receive support and relief.

That said, many of you have expressed concern and a desire to help. In deciding where to donate, and in conversation with UPC members who have family and other specific connections in North Carolina, we have created a short list of trusted partners in the affected regions. This list is not meant to be limiting, but is short to keep it from being overwhelming.

Recommended by NC friends of Mamie Broadhurst:

- Black Mountain Presbyterian Church: <https://bmpcnc.org/>
- BeLoved Asheville is filling trucks and taking critical supplies into the community: They are a small, community non-profit: <https://www.belovedasheville.com/>
- Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church: <https://gcpcusa.org/> Pastor Marcia Mount Shoop is a college friend of Melanie Driscoll
- Nechama commits to long-term crisis response and is approaching the needs for the 2024 hurricane season by working to address damage from both Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. They are the partner that stayed in our Fellowship Hall during their early response to the Great Flood of 2016. <https://nechama.org/updates/hurricane-miltons-arrival/>

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, our regular partner, has helped us and our friends in Lake Charles and across many disasters:

<https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hurricane-helene/>

- List of relevant codes - by which money is designated by PDA:
 - General Disaster Relief: DR000148
 - US Hurricanes: DR000169

World Central Kitchen is distributing food and meals in the affected area:

<https://wck.org/> Their tanker truck can make multiple deliveries per day, delivering up to 100,000 gallons of water per day - that is more than 1 gallon per day for every person in Asheville, NC. <https://wck.org/en-us/news/helene-water-tankers> They partner with local chefs (keeping them solvent) and are working in NC, GA, FL, and TN.

This is a great resource, more geared to helping people send goods to distribution sites and to volunteer at such sites. Recommended by Kent Walker:

<https://www.supportingwnc.com/>

Citizens Times article recommended by Peggy Reily:

- How to help Asheville, North Carolina storm and flood victims: Where to donate, what to do (and what not to) <https://www.citizen-times.com/story/news/2024/09/29/north-carolina-buncombe-flood-victims-how-to-help-donate/75441389007/>



Presbyterian Women

Join our Facebook group PW of UPC, Baton Rouge

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

Presbyterian Women at UPC includes ALL

MEETINGS:

Presbyterian Women Circle will meet Tuesday, November 5 in the Parks Wilson Room at 10:00 a.m. We will discuss Lesson 3, "Food Justice" from "Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation".

Peggy Carroll's carport group will also meet on Wednesday morning, November 6, at 10:00 a.m., to study the bible lesson.



Helping Hands
 Helping Hands, a sewing ministry of UPC, will meet on Tuesday, November 19. **Sewing skills are not essential.** Bring a brown bag lunch and join us at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.



2024 THANK OFFERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with *many thanksgivings to God.*

—2 Corinthians 9:11–12

About the Thank Offering

Each year Presbyterian Women heeds the call of Paul to "supply the needs of the saints" through the PW Thank Offering. This grant making program originated in 1888 with one generous woman, Eliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio, when she urged everyone to give one dollar over and above their usual contribution to mission. Since then, organizations in the United States and around the world have benefitted from the overflowing of thanksgiving to God shown by Presbyterian women through their offerings.

Eliza called upon women to give a "thank offering to her Lord" and today we continue to answer that call through support of the PW Thank Offering. When we come together to pool our money as Presbyterian Women, we can make a much greater impact than we can on our own.

For more information on the 2024 Thank Offering recipients, read the Summer issue of *Horizons* magazine or go to presbyterianwomen.org/thank.

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Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc.
 100 Witherspoon Street
 Louisville, KY 40202
presbyterianwomen.org




A Special Thank You from Okra Abbey

Okra Abbey extends a heartfelt thank you to Barbara Hoffman and the Presbyterian Women of University Presbyterian Church for their generous contribution to the Grace and Greens meal on September 18. Barbara provided a delicious recipe and all the canned ingredients needed to serve 50 people. The meal was a hit, and we're so grateful for the support that makes gatherings like these possible. Thank you for helping us continue to serve our community with love and nourishment!

Stewardship

Because of You...

We are very grateful that 83 households have made financial pledges to the church for 2025. So far we have 9 new pledges, and 32 folks have increased their pledge! Thank you! We know that all who have turned in a commitment have made considered decisions about the ways you are able to support UPC going forward.

We do need anyone who has not yet pledged but plans to do so to turn it in as soon as you are able. We cannot know how to plan for next year without knowing the financial landscape available to us - including whether or not we can responsibly extend a call to an Associate Pastor. If you have given money in the past but are unable to do so this coming year, don't fret, it's ok! It will help if you can let us know that is the case so we can budget responsibly.

Year-End Financial Giving

As we near the end of the year, we want to make sure you know some important details regarding financial gifts to UPC.

Pledges & Gifts - All year end gifts, pledges, special offerings, and designated gifts to UPC should be postmarked by December 31. The office will be closed between Christmas and the new year, so anything delivered in person would need to come in by the 19th to be recognized as charitable gifts for tax purposes in 2024. If you pay your 2025 pledge online in 2024 the church will make sure to fulfill any remaining balance for 2024 before applying the rest to 2025.

Gifts of Stock - Because we believe in being good stewards of what God has entrusted to us, we encourage you to thoughtfully consider the advantages of giving stock to UPC. If you own appreciated stock, it is almost always better to contribute stock than cash. By giving appreciated stock to a charitable organization, you avoid paying capital gains tax on the increased value of the stock. Because you are giving to a charitable organization, your gift is deductible for the market value of the stock at the time it was given. Many of our members have found that giving appreciated stock to the church makes very good sense. Please ask your financial advisor if this is a viable option for you.

If you plan to give securities to the church, the deadline for the Texas Presbyterian Foundation to receive them on our behalf for this fiscal year is Tuesday, December 24th. Please first notify Edward Peterson, our church treasurer, and he can review transfer instructions with you personally. UPC's policy is to immediately sell all stock gifts and deposit the proceeds from the sale into the church bank account.

As always, we are grateful for financial support to UPC in all its shapes and sizes!

Thank you!

Thanks to all who helped make the Pancake Breakfast a success. We are grateful for: our chefs (John Ward, Jerry Trahan, and Mike Olinde), our preparers (Barbara and Paul Hoffman, Kathie Pohlman, and Doug Walker) our servers (Alex, Connor, Josie, Jude, Lote, Nora, Nora, Rowan, Sadie, and Violet), our speakers (Jeff and Kathy Perry, and Mike Strain), our helpers (Lois Kuyper-Rushing and Abigail Midkiff) our cleaner-uppers (Bill Crummitt, Barbara Hoffman, Anita Melon, Kathie Pohlman, Doug Walker, and Gary Meise) and for Peggy Carroll and Beth Paskoff who helped pull it all together.

Thanks also to Caralyn Durham and Robert Gourges who help with the behind-the-scenes magic of everything we do! We truly are better (and only really functional) together.

How to Give in Realm

Log into your Realm account at onrealm.org. *If you don't yet have a realm account, please contact the church office.* Once you are in your profile go to GIVING then +PLEDGE and a new pledge window will appear. Choose the GENERAL FUND for 2025, fill in how often you would like to pledge, from dates 1/1/2025 to 12/31/2025, and how much you would like to pledge. Realm will calculate the yearly total for you. When you are done click SAVE PLEDGE. It's that easy!

REMINDER:

If you change your pledge and have automatic payments sent through REALM, remember to update your bank information. REALM will not automatically do that for you.

How to Pledge Time/Talents

In your REALM account go to SERVING. Under SERVING you will see your "Serving Profile", "Assignments," and "Teams" information. Click on the ••• to edit days and times you are available to volunteer and to add skills. Under the OPPORTUNITIES tab on that page there is a list of available opportunities to get involved with UPC. You can browse by Role (specific task) or by Team (general area). Choose as many as you would like and a leader will be in touch with you. Caralyn can help answer any questions.

IDENTIFIED GIVING STATUS 2024

(as of 10/29/2024 we are 85% through the year)

Received Pledged giving: \$455,793

(79% of \$573,738 pledged)

Received Unpledged giving \$20,594

TOTAL GIVING RECEIVED: \$476,378

Thank you for your generous contributions!

PLEDGE DRIVE 2025

As of 10/29/24 we have received 83 pledges for a total of \$490,382

Thank you to those who have pledged. If you have not yet made your pledge, please do so by filling out a pledge card or on Realm.

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
 Alan Williams • Kathy Poché • Cheryl Whitting • Kathy Rossman
 Mickey Rose Braud Zaitoon • Fay Coco • Melanie Driscoll
 Our Cuba Partners • Lynn Nichols Dull

- **Carol Barry and Judy Dedrick**, upon the death of their mother, Kathy Barry
- **Vanessa Harris**, sister-in-law of Jonathan Hubchen, undergoing chemotherapy for liver cancer
- **Doug Toothman**, brother-in-law of Jerry and Sarah Kennedy, with liver cancer
- **Lee Wirth**, brother of Karen Paterson, as he continues treatment for lymphoma
- **Victoria Robertson and family**, upon the death of her brother, Mark Brami
- **Cecil Eubanks and family**, upon the death of his son, Christopher, on October 8
- **Suzanne E.**, friend of Kathie Pohlman, at home recovering from a stroke
- **Frances McGraw** (95), grandmother of Matthew McGraw, in the hospital with gallstones and possible onset of dementia
- **Brian Babin**, recovering at home from back surgery
- **Wes Mainord**, recovering from hip replacement surgery at home
- **Lillian McGruder**, aunt of Leslie Green, in hospice, and Leslie's cousin, Tad, her caretaker
- **Patti Aldrich**, neighbor of Patti Snyder, diagnosed with cancer
- **Gabrielle Clune**, friend of Barbara and Paul Hoffman
- **Kathy Barry and her daughters**, as Kathy is cared for by hospice
- **Betty Nelson**, aunt of Bizza Britton, with congestive heart failure and a move at age 96
- **Faye Beroth**, Bizza Britton's aunt with Alzheimer's, and her son, Tom, her sole caretaker
- **Josh Rosenberg and Angelle Bradford** as Josh undergoes radiation and chemotherapy
- **Bill Benton**, uncle of Mamie Broadhurst, in hospice
- **Kathy Kennedy**, Jerry's sister, undergoing chemotherapy
- **Julio Piña**, nephew of Jan Risher and Julio Naudin, with multiple brain tumors
- **Corrie Hale's Dad, Conrad**, with inoperable cancer on his spine
- **Joellen Hawkins**, Aunt of Emily Cogburn, with Alzheimer's
- **Craig Fisher**, Anita Melon's brother in law, with Lewy-Body dementia
- **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 United States as we prepare for the upcoming election**
- **All those recovering from hurricanes Helene and Milton**



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

This fund allows our 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!

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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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 (225)383-0345
 (225)383-3495 Fax
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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



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UPCBR 75

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

November Birthdays

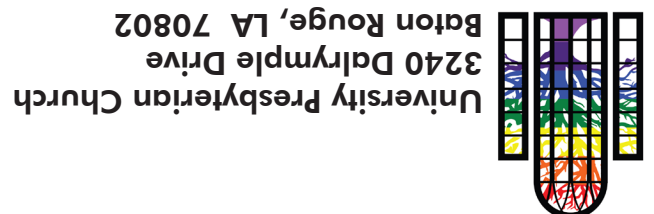
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|----|-----------------------------------|----|---|
| 2 | Necia Lanius
Ian Lewis | 17 | Jack Perry |
| 3 | Ethel Felder | 19 | Gaines Foster
Victoria Robertson |
| 5 | Thelma Berg | 21 | John Grubb
Emerson Juneau
Charles Sabin |
| 9 | Cynthia Peterson
Leah Raetzsch | 22 | Sofia Savicki-Kelly
Jalynn Terry |
| 10 | Eugene Berg | 23 | Candace Wright |
| 11 | Pat Phelps
Gus Rowland | 25 | Margot Pilley |
| 12 | Jerry Trahan | 30 | Cindy Hartgerink
Cheri Strain |
| 16 | Nicholas Knapp | | |

Looking Ahead

- Crafting for Christmas - December 14
 Taizé - December 4, 11, and 18, 6:00 p.m.
 Fellowship Dinner - December 15 (*tentative*)
 Nativity Play & Caroling - December 22 (*tentative*)
 Lessons & Carols - December 24, 5:30 p.m.

Watch your bulletins and email for
 December Fellowship Events!

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