

University Presbyterian Church

Welcome! May you find strength, joy, and a new challenge here. If you would like more information about membership or the program, mission, and fellowship of the church, speak to the pastor as you leave worship today or visit our website, www.upcbr.org.

CHURCH CALENDAR Week of March 23, 2025

Meetings times/locations are subject to change after printing. Please check with your group leader for confirmation and information on how to log into Zoom meetings.

Sunday (3/23) 3rd Sunday in Lent *Communion*

- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
- 1:00 p.m. NAJAMA - Fellowship Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting - Conference Room
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Group - *Youth Sunday Planning*

Monday (3/24) - CONTACT ARTICLES DUE

- 10:45 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 5:00 p.m. APNC - Zoom

Tuesday (3/25)

- 7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library

Wednesday (3/26)

- 9:00 a.m. Faith & Community - Parks Wilson Room
- 10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Drive
- 6:00 p.m. Taizé - Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday (3/27)

- 11:00 a.m. Soul Feast Small Group - Zoom & Parks Wilson Room
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room

Saturday (3/29)

- 10:00 a.m. Day School Teacher Training - Fellowship Hall

Sunday (3/30) 4th Sunday in Lent *Communion*

- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Group - *Youth Sunday Practice*

EXPERIENCE the stillness... the music... the prayer
for a whole new season

Taizé
Sung Prayers

Every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. March 5 - April 9

Make Taizé a part of your Lenten preparation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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

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

Important Reminder: For cash donations to count toward your pledge or taxes, use an envelope with your name on it. Checks should be payable to University Presbyterian Church (not UPC). Thank you for your support!

BIRTHDAYS (March 23-29)

23 Mary Collier Wilks; 24 Jason New, Katie Strain New, Rachel Urs-Sheffield, and Jack Watson; 26 Gus Britton; 29 Emory Wright

MOTHER'S DAY BAILOUT

Inspired by Jesus' call in Matthew 25, UPC has been examining the cash bail system, which incarcerates individuals before their trial, turning "innocent until proven guilty" into "guilty until proven affluent." Through our study, we've uncovered the profound effect of cash bail on mothers—when detained, they often lose employment, housing, or custody of their children, only to later be found innocent. In response, we are partnering with the YWCA of Greater Baton Rouge and collecting a special offering on March 30th for a "Mother's Day Bailout" to reunite mothers in our community with their families for Mother's Day. Please note "Mother's Day Bailout" in the memo line of your check or select it from the dropdown menu when contributing online.

WOODEN CHAIRS

Several child-sized wooden chairs are up for grabs outside the choir room on the 2nd floor. They'd be ideal for a refinishing craft project! Claim yours before they're donated to ReStore by the end of the month.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL GROUP CANCELED

Due to limited interest, the Sunday night group reading Turning Over Tables has been canceled. We encourage you to enjoy the book at home at your own pace!

FLOWER DONATIONS 2025

The following Sundays are available to reserve celebratory or memorial flowers. Fill out a flower donation envelope found in the pew and place in the offering plate.

Payments may also be made online in Realm (*please note date in the memo line*).

May 4, 11, 18, 25

June 15, 22, 29

July 27

August 10

September 7, 14, 21, 28

October 12, 19

November 9, 23



The flowers this morning are
presented to the glory of God
by Victoria Robertson
in loving memory of her brothers,
Mark and Chris



FAITH FORMATION FALL/WINTER 2024 *Sundays at 9:30 a.m.*

For Adults:

Bible Study

This group uses the "Living the Word" curriculum which follows the Narrative Lectionary used in worship. Everyone is encouraged to weigh in on the class discussion. Meet in the Conference Room.

Bless This Mess

This adult discussion class is aimed at parents of babies through college-age kids, but is open to anyone. We'll be using podcasts and book chapters to spark discussion of what it means for Christians to parent in 2025. This class meets in the "Room of Requirement" (opposite Mamie's office).

Digging Deeper

[NEW CLASS] March 23: Randy Nichols: Update on the current crisis regarding the OneStop Homeless Services Center

March 30: Brad Storin, "Jesus and the Gospels"-- Class 3: Gospel of Matthew and Luke

April 6: Brad Storin, "Jesus and the Gospels"-- Class 4: Gospel of Matthew and Luke continued

April 13: Brad Storin, "Jesus and the Gospels"-- Class 5: Gospel of John

April 20: No class; come to Easter Brunch in the Fellowship Hall!

April 27: Brad Storin, "Jesus and the Gospels"-- Class 6: The Proto-Gospel of James and the Infancy Gospel of Thomas (non-canonical)

May 4: Brad Storin, "Jesus and the Gospels"-- Class 7: The Historical Jesus

IDENTIFIED GIVING STATUS 2025 *(as of 3/19/2025)*

Received Pledged Giving: \$159,192 *(27% of \$582,790 pledged)*

Received Unpledged Giving \$3,992

TOTAL GIVING RECEIVED: \$163,184

Thank you for your generous contributions!

Small Groups

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

We explore a wide range of topics concerning faith and community, and look forward to sharing ideas and conversation. Everyone is welcome. This group currently meets in the Parks Wilson Room.

Soul Feast Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. in the Parks Wilson Room

Readings from various writers in spirituality.



Online giving is available...

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

Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies.

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

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
Fay Coco • Melanie Driscoll • Our Cuba Partners • Lynn Nichols Dull**

- **Millie Townsend**, friend of Debbie Abernathy and Rick Pitcher, who has entered hospice
- **Jerry Kennedy**, as he recovers from knee replacement surgery
- **Janel Worsley Feierabend**, former member of UPC, recovering at home
- **Jerry Landry**, uncle of Kate Midkiff, recovering from open heart surgery and her Aunt Joann and cousin Jared, as well, as they support him in his recovery
- **Pope Francis** - as he is hospitalized battling bilateral pneumonia
- **The Moreland family** after the death of Joyce's sister Dede
- **Warren Goodman**, friend of Mary Stevens, recovering from a splenectomy
- **Sue Kenyon**, recovering from a stroke
- **Gus Britton**, who is now serving in Lithuania. Prayers for peace in the area.
- **John Johnson**, Mary Steven's father, in hospice care
- **René Vanhaelen**, uncle of Christine Kooi, recovering from heart surgery
- **Holly Palughi**, family friend of Darlene Rowland, with recurrent breast cancer
- **Becky**, friend of Patti Snyder, facing surgery for a malignant tumor in her eye
- **Jennifer Crancer**, family friend of Virginia Davis, undergoing breast cancer treatment
- **George Gullett**, friend of the Hoffmans, undergoing cancer treatment
- **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
- **Suzanne E.**, friend of Kathie Pohlman, at home recovering from a stroke
- **Lillian Magruder**, aunt of Leslie Green, in hospice, and Leslie's cousin, Tad, her caretaker
- **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
- **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
- **Hugh Huffman**, friend of Rosemary John, undergoing treatment for cancer
- **The United States of America** during this uncertain time of change
- **Those who are suddenly unemployed or experiencing significant job insecurity**
- **All those affected by the wildfires in California**
- **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**