



Contact

September 2025

University Presbyterian Church Newsletter for church members and friends

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Church Staff

Mamie Broadhurst
Pastor
mbroadhurst@upcbr.org

Erin Tolar
Pastor
etolar@upcbr.org

Caralyn Durham
Office Manager
cdurham@upcbr.org

Ross Cawthon
Choir Director
rcawthon@upcbr.org

Christopher Cunningham
Organist
ccunningham@upcbr.org

Ethel Felder
Day School Director
upcdayschool@upcbr.org

Robert Gourgues
Custodian

Jerry Trahan
Clerk of Session
upc-clerk@upcbr.org

A l o n g t h e W a y

The poem of the week on September 1 was "Where I'm From" by George Ella Lyon. It got me to thinking about where I'm from...

Where *I'm* From

I am from wicker furniture,
from Cheerwine and an attic fan.
I am from the side porch and the cold place
(bridges to the outside world).
I am from the magnolia tree
and the weeping willow
that is gone now but still holds my best friend's secrets.

I'm from family reunions and rapid fire sneezes.
I'm from Moma and Popa -
from Sunday dinners

 hanging spoons from our noses
 and angling to sit away from Unky Bill.

I'm from you better straighten up and fly right
and a face without freckles is like a night without stars.
I'm from the Old Rugged Cross,
from a Tarheel born and a Tarheel bred,
from tobacco country and bootstrap money,
from pecan pie and paper plates.

I am from beating the county commissioner in the milking contest
 even though the whole town bet against the mayor,
from sneaking down the hall to see Christmas surprises,
and being sung to sleep.

I'm from the love of my whole family -
who feared I might get less love than I deserved
but who, instead, made sure I got more.

Where/What/Who are you from?

(We'd love to see your poems, and if this is not your usual way of expressing yourself, you can see a template [here](#) that may help. It's what I used!)

Bendiciones,

September...

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 **Labor Day** - Day School and Church Office Closed
9:00 a.m. Art Guild - Sanctuary
Noon VIVA Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 2 8:30 a.m. Nurture Committee - Zoom
10:00 a.m. Day Circle - Parks Wilson Room
7:00 p.m. UPC Book Group - 1846 Glendale Ave
7:00 p.m. VIVA Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary & Choir Room
- 3 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Drive
7:00 p.m. UPC Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 4 11:00 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Library
5:00 p.m. VIVA Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
7:30 p.m. VIVA Recital - Sanctuary
7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 5 5:00 p.m. Youth Group Lock-In - Fellowship Hall
- 6 6:30 p.m. LSU vs. LA Tech @ LSU (*PARKING*)
- 7 **13th Sunday after Pentecost** *Communion, Deacon Ordination/Installation*
9:30 a.m. Church School
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
12:15 p.m. Church School Teacher Orientation & Lunch - Fellowship Hall
2:00 p.m. Bella Voce Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
No Youth Group
- 8 10:45 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
11:30 a.m. Membership Committee - Conference Room
7:00 p.m. Huntington's Disease Support Group - Conference Room
- 9 4:30 p.m. Worship Committee - Zoom
6:00 p.m. Bella Voce Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
7:00 p.m. Mission & Peacemaking Committee - Zoom
7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library
- 10 9:00 a.m. Faith and Community Small Group - Parks Wilson Room
10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Drive
5:00 p.m. Property Committee - Zoom
7:00 p.m. UPC Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 11 11:00 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Library
6:30 p.m. Day School Committee - Zoom
7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 13 6:30 p.m. LSU vs. Florida @ LSU (*PARKING*)
- 14 **14th Sunday after Pentecost**
9:30 a.m. Church School
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary (*Live Streamed via Facebook & upcbr.org*)
4:30 p.m. Youth Group
- 15 7:00 p.m. Les Sirens Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 16 9:30 a.m. Helping Hands - Conference Room
6:00 p.m. Bella Voce Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Committee - Zoom
- 17 9:30 a.m. Day School Chapel - Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Drive
7:00 p.m. UPC Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 18 11:00 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Library
7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 20 6:45 p.m. LSU vs Southeastern @ LSU (*PARKING*)

Office News

Holiday Closure

The Day School and Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 1 for the Labor Day holiday.

Church Calendar

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

REALM Church Database

Have you moved in the past few months or changed your email or phone number? Summer is busy and sometimes things fall through the cracks. Please check your Realm profile to make sure all your contact information is listed and up to date. If you need a Realm login, please contact the church office.

Inquirer's Class

Have you been visiting lately and wondered:

What does it mean to be a Presbyterian?

What is some of UPC's history?

How can I get more involved in this fabulous place?

Who are some of the other people in this community, and how did they come to be here?

We will do our best to answer those questions and others in our Inquirer's Class this fall. We will gather on Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall starting on September 28th and end the last Sunday of October. (It's really only four weeks total. We will join in the Pancake Breakfast on October 5th because... pancakes!).

During the class we'll talk about Presbyterianism, UPC, our own stories, and whatever else comes up. You may decide to become a member of the church as we come to a close, or you may come to the class just to learn more. Either is great. Please let Mamie know if you are interested in participating. And if this month won't work, don't worry, we'll do this again in the spring.

Join the Worship Committee

The Worship Committee is looking for new recruits from the congregation to help us in the important work of ensuring that the way we glorify God is decent and in order. We are made up of staff, choir folk and congregants and have fun together planning weekly and seasonal worship. Worship has lots of moving parts and needs lots of volunteers, so we welcome all the help we can get. If you are interested, contact Mamie, Erin or Christine Kooi (cjkooi@hotmail.com).

TBR Delegates Assembly

You are invited to the annual Together Baton Rouge Delegates Assembly on September 16, 6:00-7:30 p.m., at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 1414 Sora St. We'll hear about ongoing TBR projects and a new campaign focused on Thrive! (the City-Parish's tax initiative to be voted on November 15) We will also be invited to a meeting of member institutions in our area of the city in October for more information about what we're voting on and to discuss in small groups what our concerns are if Thrive passes--and if it fails.



Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, September 11

7:00 - 8:30 a.m.

Boudreaux's Catering
(2647 Government St.)

Tickets are on sale now!

Re-imagine, Renew, Rise:

Enhancing the Interfaith Federation

- Re-imagine-- to create new avenues for peace and dialogue
- Renew - to commit to our aspirations and mission
- Rise -- to work together for the good of all.

Seats are \$25 per person. Tickets are available online at our website (<https://givebutter.com/5WrYNz>) or by calling the office at (225)267-5600.

September...

21 15th Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:00 a.m. Blood Drive - Bloodmobile
- 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
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Group
- 22 10:45 a.m. Staff Meeting - Library
- 23 6:00 p.m. Bella Voce Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 7:00 p.m. NAMI - Conference Room & Library
- 24 9:00 a.m. Faith & Community - Parks Wilson Room
- 10:00 a.m. Day Circle II - 1545 Patrick Dr.
- 7:00 p.m. UPC Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room
- 25 11:00 a.m. "Soul Feast" Small Group - Library
- 6:30 p.m. Don't Cook Night - Albasha on Bluebonnet
- 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal - Choir Room

28 16th Sunday After Pentecost

- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 9:30 a.m. Inquirers Class - Fellowship Hall
- 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 7:00 p.m. Les Sirenes Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
- 30 6:00 p.m. Bella Voce Choir Rehearsal - Choir Room

Who's on First?

Now that Erin is here and there are two pastors at UPC again, when should we talk with her, and what if I get it wrong? Good questions.

First, Erin and Mamie are both grateful for the opportunity to accompany you in and through some of the most profound transitions - baptism, the birth of a child, marriage, illness, divorce, and death. We are also glad to know about the more ongoing, daily life kinds of things that happen as well. They help us feel connected to you, they inform our personal prayers, and shape the way we do ministry. There are, however, some things for which it is better to go to Erin for helpful information and action. *Both of us are off on Fridays, but you can call either of us that day if you have an emergency.

Erin is now the prime point person on staff for all things Faith Formation. Whether it is Church School, Youth Group, small groups, seasonal programs, book studies, or what have you - she's your gal. She is also the key staff person for Fellowship activities. It is both of those committees that help guide and make the magic happen as well, but Erin is a part of the formula for success. Mamie and Erin both participate in the Nurture and Worship Committees (we'll both be leading worship regularly), and we are both part of Session meetings.

As Erin gets started she may not know some answers right away, but make sure to talk to her anyway - she might know, and she can find out what she needs to know. If you forget and ask Mamie something by mistake, she'll gladly point you across the hall (or forward you down the interwebs) - no worries. We'll all be finding our way for a little bit, and the good news is that we may find better answers by asking the questions than we would if we didn't.

**OCTOBER CONTACT
DEADLINE
SEPTEMBER 22**

LINK LOVE

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

- A "Where I'm From" poem is not so hard to write. We'd love to see yours... You can see some more examples and a template by following this link. Bring them (or send them) to us!
<https://bit.ly/3UeiSwX>

- Watch Ben Folds compose a song for an orchestra while on stage at the Kennedy Center in 10 minutes. It is fascinating to watch and listen to his process.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BytUY_AwTUs

- An LSU freshman (now a sophomore) and her friend created a new proof for the Pythagorean Theorem while in high school in New Orleans. This article gives a summary and a link to hear more on 60 minutes.
<https://tinyurl.com/46tbsht>

- Here's a short National Geographic video about feather stars and the little sea creatures that live and hide in them. Ocean life seems to be where God did some of God's most creative work.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OyketithVWg>

- The Northern Lights are enchanting, and while it may be the case that no photograph can truly capture what can be seen... these do a mighty find job. Good job, God.
<https://tinyurl.com/dtzyewzh>

- Free the Playgrounds! Read about "natural playgrounds" and their attempt to re-create some of the joys of unstructured outdoor play.
<https://tinyurl.com/37nj8vem>

- Earlier this year James Harrison died at age 88. His nickname was "The Man with the Golden Arm" because his blood had a rare antibody that helped protect approximately 2.4 million babies in Australia after he donated 1,173 times. This month you too can donate on Sunday, September 21, right in our very own parking lot. Rare antibody or not, when you give, it's golden. <https://bit.ly/457sUpL>

Youth Group

We're back! Youth group started the year with an informal gathering during the Fish Fry on Kickoff Sunday, and a pool party/parent meeting at the Costello's house on the 24th. Any of our 6th through 12th graders are always welcome to join in the fun - we'd love to have you whether you've never come before or you've come a hundred times.

Samantha Hartmann and Alvin Raetzsch are our awesome youth group advisors this year. They have already done a lot of planning to help us start the year well, so we're excited to see everyone again and get "in the swing of things."

Here is our September calendar of events. Take special note that we're starting September with a lock-in on the 5th (Friday night into Saturday morning)!

September

- *5 Lock-in! (no youth group on Sunday)
- 6 LSU vs. Louisiana Tech: High School Youth Parking
- 13 LSU vs. Florida: High School Youth Parking
- 14 Youth group: likely a volunteer activity; keep an eye out for details!
- 20 LSU vs. Southeastern LA : High School Youth Parking
- 21 Youth group
- 28 4th Sunday: NO YOUTH

We "usually" meet from 4:30-6:00 p.m. the first three Sundays of the month. However, as you can already see, we sometimes adjust the plan due to special events like lock-ins. Make sure to check the schedule so you don't end up with a "bonus" drive to church. We're ready for a year full of fun, faith, service, learning, and relationship building: full steam ahead!



GET READY FOR LSU GAME DAY PARKING AT UPC!

It's football season again, which means it is parking season again! Each fall we open our parking lot on LSU home game Saturdays to raise money for youth, education, and mission projects. The upcoming home game schedule is as follows:

September	6	Louisiana Tech (6:30 p.m. kickoff)
	13	Florida (6:30 p.m. kickoff)
	20	Southeastern LA (6:45 p.m. kickoff)
October	11	South Carolina
	25	Texas A&M
November	15	Arkansas
	22	Western Kentucky



Parking cars is a fun and rewarding way to show UPC's hospitality to fans from near and far. The more volunteers, the better! Join us for this exciting opportunity to serve. Game times may vary due to TV schedules, but volunteers typically arrive 4-5 hours before kickoff and finish about an hour before the game starts. **Contact our new parking organizer, John Ward, at 225-505-4418 to learn more or sign up.**



GIVING STATUS 2025 (as of 8/27/2025)

Received Pledged Giving: \$400,224 (68% of \$586,337 pledged)

Received Unpledged Giving: \$11,879

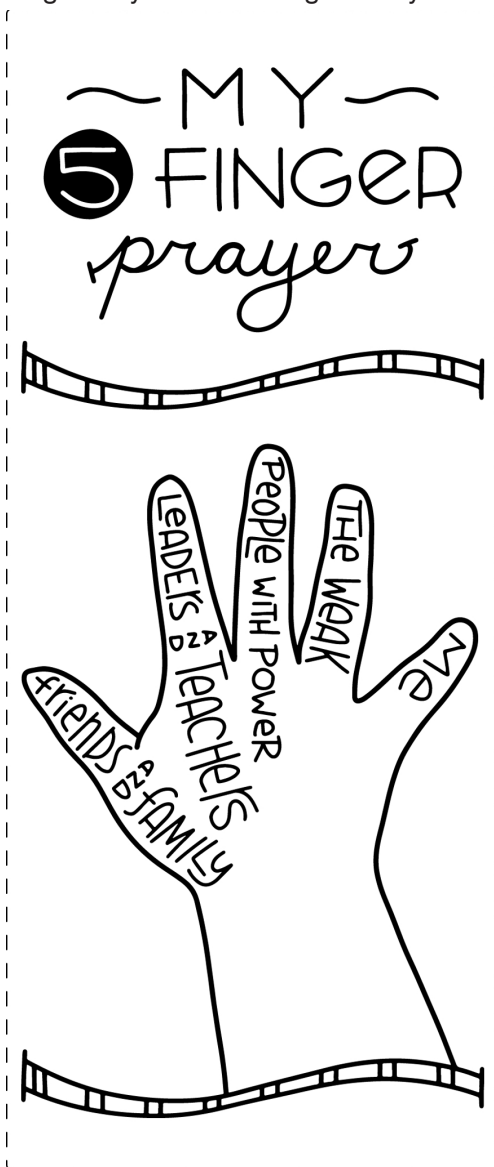
TOTAL GIVING RECEIVED: \$412,103

Thank you for your generous contributions!



SPOTLIGHT on FAITH FORMATION AT HOME

Part of faith formation is engaging in spiritual practices. Prayer is a particularly important practice to engage with regularly, as what we ingrain into our daily and weekly routines becomes ingrained into us as well. If you ever feel “stuck,” the Five Finger Prayer model is a good way to start.



MY 5-FINGER PRAYER

THUMB: God, thank you for my friends and family. Protect them and give them joy. Heal those who are sick or having a hard time.

POINTER FINGER: God, thank you for my leaders and teachers who point the way for me to go. Give them rest and clear minds.

MIDDLE FINGER: God, thank you for the people with power. Give the police, government and military wisdom, strength and open hearts.

RING FINGER: God, strengthen those who feel weak, those who are struggling or in need. Help me to see them and offer help when I am able.

PINKY: God, help me learn your ways, surround me with good friends and strengthen me in mind, body and spirit.



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

Contact Ellen Morgan for info

- Sep 2 [A Girl of the Limberlost](#)
by Gene Stratton-Porter
- Oct 7 [Becoming Duchess Goldblatt](#)
by Anonymous

Psalmtember

In 2009 a guy named Jake Parker started a drawing challenge for every day in October and called it “Inktober.” Now there are people all over the world taking part through art classes in school or just on their own. Feel free to gear up for that next month, but you’re also invited to start getting in the groove this month, in any medium you wish, with Psalmtember.

Rev. Marcus Hong, a Presbyterian pastor who works at Louisville Seminary, loves to make art inspired by the Psalms, and each year he creates a prompt list to go along with the psalms he selected and issued an invitation for folks to join him. The “rules” are simple.

Read the psalm.

Make some art.

If you’re game to post what you make online, he’d love to see it (use the hashtag #psalmtember2025) and we would too! You can tag us (#upcbr) or even put it up on our Facebook group page.

PSALMTEMBER 2025

Sep 1	Ps 91	DWELLING	Sep 16	Ps 106	WILDERNESS
Sep 2	Ps 92	MELODY	Sep 17	Ps 107	WANDER
Sep 3	Ps 93	ROARING	Sep 18	Ps 108	CLOUDS
Sep 4	Ps 94	DISCIPLINE	Sep 19	Ps 109	GAUNT
Sep 5	Ps 95	KNEEL	Sep 20	Ps 110	DEW
Sep 6	Ps 96	SPLENDOR	Sep 21	Ps 111	CONGREGATION
Sep 7	Ps 97	WAX	Sep 22	Ps 112	UPRIGHT
Sep 8	Ps 98	JUDGE	Sep 23	Ps 113	HEAP
Sep 9	Ps 99	PILLAR	Sep 24	Ps 114	SKIP
Sep 10	Ps 100	PASTURE	Sep 25	Ps 115	IDOLS
Sep 11	Ps 101	HAUGHTY	Sep 26	Ps 116	BOUNTY
Sep 12	Ps 102	OWL	Sep 27	Ps 117	EXTOL
Sep 13	Ps 103	EAGLE	Sep 28	Ps 118	BEEES
Sep 14	Ps 104	GARMENT	Sep 29	Ps 119	LAMP
Sep 15	Ps 105	STRANGERS	Sep 30	Ps 120	COALS

*We are currently running low on medium size vases.
If you have any that you would like to donate, please bring them
to the Parks Wilson kitchen.
Thank you.*



Presbyterian Women

Join our Facebook group PW of UPC, Baton Rouge

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

Presbyterian Women invite YOU to the Parks Wilson Room on Tuesday, September 2nd at 10:00 a.m.

(Additional days and times possible. Contact Peggy or Julie if interested)

To join us for the study of Lesson 1, "Mary Magdalene, the Tower"

ALL ARE WELCOME

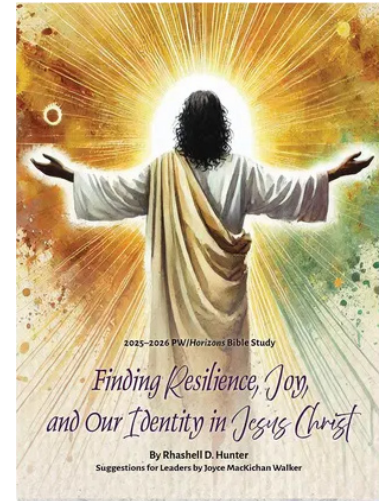
Barbara Hoffman will lead the lesson.

"Finding Resilience, Joy, and our Identity in Jesus Christ"

2025-2026 Presbyterian Women Bible Study

"In the last several years we have experienced stress and change. We have seen changes in our churches, families, work, sociopolitical environments, and even our relationships...Our lives are different than before...In the midst of it all, it is hard not to be consumed by conflict and anguish...but there is a path that offers healing and the ability to spring back into shape. There is a way that leads to joy and resilience. The way is by connecting to the One who sustains us in times of anxiety and confusion, our Savior Jesus Christ...In this Bible Study, we will explore resilience."

Dr. Rhasell Hunter, Bible Study author



Bible Study 2025-2026 Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ

*2025-26 PW/Horizons Bible study
by Rhashell D. Hunter*

In this Bible study, we will explore resilience. This is modeled for us by several biblical characters, gospel and epistle writers, as well as Jesus.

The Bible study is also about joy. How do we find joy in a chaotic world? Christian joy may be different from how a lot of people define joy.

Synod of the Sun Presbyterian Women Triennial Gathering

In July, Julie Launey and Peggy Carroll, both from UPC, as well as Bertha Hinojosa from Broadmoor Presbyterian Church, Baton Rouge, attended the Synod of the Sun Presbyterian Women Triennial Gathering in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Workshop topics included Fred Rogers Institute and Discussion of Presbyterian Women 2025-26 Bible Study by the author, Dr. Rhashell Hunter. Participants were also given the opportunity to visit the amazing Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas. Attendees were inspired by worship, singing, and plenaries.

Photo of our attendees at the front of the First United Presbyterian Church sanctuary.



Helping Hands

Helping Hands, a sewing ministry of UPC, will meet on Tuesday, September 16. **Sewing skills are not essential.** Bring a brown bag lunch and join us at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room.

Faith Formation Fall 2025

*As individuals and as a church community, we are always forming and reforming our faith.
It's what makes us Presbyterians and what enlivens our understanding and our response
to God's love for each of us at this time and in this place.*

To encourage our faith-forming journey, we offer these classes on Sunday morning this fall...

For Children and Youth:

Babies - kindergarten: in the nursery

- 1st-7th - Act Up! - 2nd floor in Room 204 -Each month, this class will study a different Bible story and create a unique way to tell that story as part of our worship service.
- 8th-12th - Follow Me - 2nd floor in Room 206 -Fall themes for this curriculum-based class include spiritual disciplines, joy, following Jesus, and hope.

For Adults:

Bible Study

This group uses the "Living the Word" curriculum which follows the Narrative Lectionary used in worship. Themes for this fall include: "God Provides Blessings", "Encountering the Messiah", and "God's Kingdom Revealed". Class volunteers lead the round table discussion on scripture that will be preached on in worship. Meet in the Conference Room.

Bless This Mess!

This adult discussion is a class for adults who are raising young people, babies through college-age. We discuss issues and concerns that come up for "kids these days" in the context of their (and our own) spiritual formation. The format is democratic and flexible, depending on the needs and whims of those present; in the past, we have had book studies and discussed podcasts.

. This class will meet on the 2nd floor in Room 208.

Digging Deeper

This class explores various topics using a lecture and discussion format. This class meets in the Parks Wilson Room near the Sanctuary.

- "Leading the Church in Early Christianity"

This Digging Deeper series will continue surveying different types of leadership that early Christians practiced. Some leaders held institutional positions, such as bishops, priests, deacons, and other clergy members. Other leaders were "charismatic" and did not rely on an official role for their authority. These were folks like apostles and prophets, teachers and philosophers, confessors and martyrs, and monks and mystics. This makes the early centuries of Christian history a "Wild West" when it comes to religious authority, and therefore super fun!

August 31: Authority during Persecution (ca. 100–300 C.E.)

September 7: Religious Authority in a Christian Empire (300–400 C.E.)

- "Welcoming the Stranger: Louisiana, America, the World"
This series will feature representatives from LORI (Louisiana Organization for Refugees and Immigrants), LA AID (Louisiana Advocates for Immigrants in Detention), and our very own UPC members. These classes will shed light on the serious challenges facing immigrants detained right here in Louisiana, share how UPC members have been involved in serving this community, and discuss opportunities to contribute to this effort.

September 14: LORI Representative part 1

September 21: Firsthand insights from Mary Mikell and Christine Kooi

September 28: LORI Representative part 2

October 12 (tentative): LA AID presentation

Small Groups

Small groups continue: Soul Feast (Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.) in the library and Faith & Community (2nd/4th Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.) in the Parks Wilson Room. Contact Jan Risher to start a new group.

We'd love for you to join a class, learn some stuff and meet great people!

We also encourage you to keep your eyes out and your heart open for other faith-forming opportunities that happen outside of Sunday mornings!

Mission & Peacemaking

"I was a stranger and you invited me in... I was in prison and you came to visit me"

Jesus teaches us in Matthew 25 that welcoming the stranger and visiting the imprisoned are some of the opportunities we have to serve God, in any time and place. In these days of exponentially-increasing threats to the safety and well-being of our immigrant neighbors, and with Louisiana playing a significant part in a massive increase in immigrant detention, our opportunities to serve God - right here and now - are very real.

Your Mission and Peacemaking committee has been working to further build our relationships and involvement with partner organizations who support our immigrant neighbors (LORI) and who support and visit immigrants who are detained in Louisiana ICE detention facilities (LA AID). Please join us at Digging Deeper classes in September and October to learn more about what LORI and LA AID are doing, how UPC is working to support them, and how you can play a part.

Day School

The Fall Session at the UPC Day School (DS) began on August 4, welcoming 47 children as of August 14, with more set to join in September. An Open House was held on August 21 from 4–5 p.m., offering a warm introduction to the new term. The DS is also now accommodating some students daily for a set fee, providing support for families with children out of school. We still have room for more students and need your help spreading the word!

This year, East Baton Rouge Parish School District personnel will visit select Day Schools to identify ‘best practices.’ While it’s uncertain if they’ll visit UPC DS, we’re proud of our program’s quality and readiness to showcase our efforts.

We’re thrilled to share that Kaliyah Bryant, our infant class teacher, is enrolled in a new teachers’ institute, enhancing her skills to benefit our youngest learners. CLASS Observations will also commence in September, ensuring continued excellence in our classrooms.

Keep an eye out for the DS’s vibrant new feather flag, and please continue supporting our recycling efforts by bringing plastic bags to the church. Drop them off in the closet across from the office.

Dear UPC,

As Rich and I load up the moving truck and move to the North Carolina mountains, I am full of gratitude for what you all have meant to me. Five and a half years ago, I was drawn to a faith community that was gentle, inclusive, humble, wise, creative, intelligent, fun, and bold. You taught me new ways to see Scripture, God, Jesus, church, literature, history, nature, food, liturgy, justice, and myself. Thanks to you who planned speakers for Sunday School, who taught Sunday School, who participated in Lectio Divina, who brought food, visited, and sent cards when Rich had surgery, those who created extraordinary music, those who read and prayed, those who streamed the service, those who crafted beautiful sermons of hope, grace, and invitation, those who noticed needs and met them. You are a wonderful community, and it’s been a great privilege to know you. You have shaped my faith journey in powerful ways, and I will pass what you’ve given me to my new community.

Much love,
Lauren Cooper
111 J.B. Ivey Lane
Lake Junaluska, NC 28745

Is Hummus Lebanese Soul Food?

The UPC Lebanese Culinary Appreciation Society (LeCAS or the Fellowship Committee) is sponsoring a Don’t Cook Night on Thursday, September 25, at 6:30 pm. Congregation members are invited to meet at Albasha Greek and Lebanese Restaurant (5454 Bluebonnet Road, 225 292-7988, <https://www.albashabluebonnet.com>) to present their pros and cons on whether hummus can be considered a Lebanese Soul Food. Oh, and you get to chow down as well...

Don’t Cook Night

Thursday, September 25 - 6:00 pm
Albasha Greek & Lebanese @ 5454 Bluebonnet Blvd # G
Food, fun, and fellowship! Everyone is welcome!!!



The Peace & Global Witness Offering September 7 - October 5

Our goal for this year’s offering is \$1500, which would exceed the \$1,024 collected in 2024. We encourage your suggestions as we prayerfully discern which local ministry to support this year. **The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected on October 5;** however, online giving is available at any time through (1) the GIVE tab on our website at www.upcbr.org (2) the Realm mobile app, (3) your REALM profile in the Realm website at www.onrealm.org, or (4) by texting “UPCBR [number of dollars]” to 73256. Be sure to specify that your gift is for the Peace and Global Witness Offering.

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 • Ruth Bivins • Cody Lucero • Gerard Klein • Gary Meise
Alan Williams • Kathy Poché • Kathy Rossman • Cheryl Whitting
Fay Coco • Melanie Driscoll • Our Cuba Partners • Lynn Nichols Dull**

- **The family of Dortehea Wilson**, colleague of Jullianne Barron, who died suddenly
- **Crystal Juneau and family**, upon the death of her father, George Brown
- **David Pohlman**, dealing with liver disease
- **The family of Shirley Burris**, upon her death on August 20
- **Jan Risher and Julio Naudin** following their house fire
- **Jack Bagent**, hospitalized after a serious car accident
- **Sarah Kennedy**, recovering at home from successful surgery
- **Peter Wren McGuyer**, nephew of Shannon Couhig & Joanie Cangelosi, deployed in Djibouti Africa with his division of MARSOC
- **David Strain**, George's brother, in rehab recovering from a fall
- **Pat Phelps**, after a car accident
- **Edith Veldman**, Meredith's 95-year-old mother, in hospice care
- **Josh Rosenberg and Angelle Bradford** as Josh undergoes radiation and chemotherapy
- **Carl Stoddard**, brother of Linda Walker, recovering from sarcopenia
- **Warren Goodman**, friend of Mary Stevens, restarting chemotherapy
- **Gretchen Goodrich**, mother-in-law of Kathie Pohlman
- **Ron Veldman**, Meredith's brother, with pancreatic cancer
- **Will**, neighbor to the Walkers, undergoing chemotherapy for bladder cancer
- **Holly Palughi**, family friend of Darlene Rowland, with recurrent breast cancer
- **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
- **Faye Beroth**, Bizza Britton's aunt with Alzheimer's, and her son, Tom, her sole caretaker
- **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
- **Those who are suddenly unemployed or experiencing significant job insecurity**
- **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**

Free Little Food Pantry Summer Guidance

Through September, please avoid donating heat-sensitive foods (including cans) to the Free Little Food Pantry outside the office door. We welcome hygiene items, beverages, and heat-stable foods, preferably single-serve and ready-to-eat. Examples include:

- Shelf stable milk
- Dried fruit
- Granola bars/Rice cakes
- Oatmeal cups
- Chips and crackers
- Nuts and seeds
- Jerky
- Ramen

Stay Connected!



Facebook Instagram

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

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 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

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)






Give the gift of life!

UPC Blood Drive

Sunday, September 21

9-12:00 in the Bloodmobile

Schedule your appointment today at vitalant.org or contact Beth Paskoff!

For more information or to schedule a donation call 877-258-4825 or visit us at vitalant.org
Find us @    IDs are required to donate.



September Birthdays

1 Charlotte New Tyler Rice	11 John Ward	18 Owen Meier	27 Mary Wardlaw
2 Andreas Giger Christine Kooi	13 Julie Launey Amanda Richey	20 Rick Pitcher	28 Susan Ourso
3 Mary Mikell	15 M Kennedy	22 Artie Larson Edward Peterson Nora Broadhurst Williams	29 Alexander Campbell Ed Green
4 Deborah Abernathy Chet Pilley	16 Beth Paskoff	26 John Richardson Evangeline Sabin	30 Laina Fontenot
	17 Margaret O'Donnell		

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

University Presbyterian Church
3240 Dalrymple Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70802



Change Service Requested