

Reaching UP

United
Presbyterian
Church

Fifteenth year of home-made ethnic food...

The UPC Ethnic Food Fair makes its 15th annual return on Saturday, September 27, 2014 from 5 to 7 p.m. The event is presented indoors and outdoors by United Presbyterian Church on the church grounds. The Ethnic Food Fair includes recorded ethnic and popular international music and the 15th consecutive year of serving a wide variety of home-made ethnic food.

Many
Ethnic
Dishes

The Ethnic Food Fair is now a tradition at UPC since it was founded in 2000 by Travis and Elfrida Bauer. Their purpose was to illustrate the congregation's diversity while expanding upon fellowship opportunities. The congregation of UPC has embraced and fortified that purpose each of the past years of the Ethnic Food Fair. The focus is on the opportunity for friends and members of UPC to prepare and share food from their native countries, including regions of North America. This makes it possible for people to enjoy the various *tastes from home* with the knowledge that the dishes were lovingly made by their very own neighbors.



The 2014 UPC Ethnic Food Fair co-chairs are Vera Heitink, Lou Malcomb and Allen Pease.

Foods from five continents will be served representing many nations including Colombia, Germany, Holland, Indonesia, Italy, Jordan, Korea and the United States. Congregants who prepare the dishes will also serve, making it possible for attendees to ask questions about the ethnic dishes. Adding to the interest, foods representing several nations will be grilled on the spot. Appetizers, entrees, side dishes and desserts will be served indoors. A beverage station along with table and chair dining will be set up on the parking lot creating a sidewalk café atmosphere. Ethnic Food Fair Committee co-chairs Heitink and Malcomb note that dishes from more than 20 nations have been featured in the past as well as many regional dishes from the United States.

**Volunteers
Needed!**

Volunteers are needed for staffing on the day of the event as well as to decorate, set-up, sell tickets, clean-up and, most importantly—cook! Anyone is welcome to join in the fun by helping. The Ethnic Food Fair is successful each year because of the quality of the UPC volunteers. If you're interested in helping in any way, please contact one of the co-chairs—they would love to hear from you. Each of their phone numbers and emails are listed in the church directory or give them a holler at any Sunday morning Fellowship Hour!

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If you would like to submit an article to be featured on the front page of Reaching UP, please don't hesitate. Send your submission to UPCBloomington@gmail.com.

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Letter from the Pastor



SAVORING OR SUFFERING

Recently I saw an amazing video of a guy in New York seeing a limited edition train for the first time. This guy gleefully screams and provides commentary for what he feels is an incredible and awesome sight. For those accustomed to seeing trains, it leaves one to wonder how glee over such a common sight could become so elevated. But the truth is, very few of us can honestly say they we feel that excited over much of anything. (Well, perhaps a grandchild.) Certainly not over a train passing. It becomes quite easy to become more grouchy than gleeful. Just mad at everything! Mad at the politicians who don't legislate as we may desire. Mad at industry, education or even our own underachieving sports team. But also mad when everywhere you turn, someone is complaining. Eventually it's time to get off the Anger Merry

Go Round, stop pointing fingers and say, "God what are you trying to teach me?"

And then it dawns on us: Loving something like this guy loves trains is the secret to happiness. It's also the secret to humanness.

I believe we were created to build, strategize, love, scheme, obsess, and innovate. For this guy, limited edition trains probably keep him awake at night. In a world where so many can't even name one positive thing they are passionate about, there is something beautifully human about these guys excitement over trains. The excited train guy from New York gives us a small glimpse into the great capacity for joy and excitement we as humans have the ability to experience. But it also gives us greater capacity for a different focus. A focus less on what we can't control and more on what we can enjoy, even savor. A greater focus happens when savoring the joy that Jesus described when He said, "I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly." Do you think abundant life even squeals at trains!

When we played as children, it wasn't just about the end result, it was about absorption: being so caught up in a delightful activity that we lost all sense of or care about time. Absorption held us in the joy of make-believe or putting things together. Whatever we did, the fuller thrill was the process, not the end result. How do I know this is true? Because often after finishing one make-believe role, we'd quickly begin another; and, soon after building something, we'd take it apart to build something else. The deeper thrill was in the doing, the exploration, the play itself. Remember to savor the learning on the way to the solution. This is the absorption I watched as a parent when my son would gather his friends for an after-dark game of Capture the Flag. They would spend hours priming the woods near our house for maximum efficiency in hiding from the enemy team in the dark. Their camouflage duds needed to be clean (even when venturing into the muddy woods!) So concerned were they about preparing for the game, playing the actual game seemed almost an after-thought. This is because they weren't concerned with the finishing (or the winning), they were enjoying the set up and the savoring. What if life were like that for us? What if we weren't concerned with how we finish but how we live? What if our focus was upon savoring rather than suffering through on countless things we can do nothing about? "I have come that you might have life, and have it abundantly." The glee that comes when an adult squeals at a train passing might not be your style, but perhaps you could slow down enough to savor a few of the blessings too easily missed while in our angry rants. Something to think about....AND SAVOR.

Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Mitch

Monthly Newsletter of United Presbyterian Church, 1701 E. Second Street—Bloomington, IN 47401. Editors: Membership Committee: Lou Malcomb, Jeremiah and Elaine Hubbard. Andy Hill is Webmaster. Submissions are accepted.

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Of course, volunteers are needed to buy tickets and eat the food! Co-chair Pease reports that the event has sold out “. . . every year of the past ten years.” Attendees are urged to get their tickets in advance. This is an event that is perfect for sharing with friends, relatives, neighbors and co-workers.

Tickets are on sale during any Sunday Fellowship Hour or during church office hours: Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 9 to 11 a.m. Admission is \$12 for adults and \$7 for college students and children six and older. Children five and under are free. Proceeds from the annual event benefit the programs, missions and activities of United Presbyterian Church. For details, see any of the three co-chairs or contact the church at 332-1850.



Sunday School News

We will be starting the Fall Sunday school schedule with a few changes. It has been decided that we need to provide the youth with a better understanding of church, not just Bible stories. Sunday school will only meet the second and third Sunday of the month. Otherwise, after the children's sermon the youth will be asked to return to their families. This will take some adjustment for everyone. We understand the younger children will not be sitting still and paying full attention during the whole service. It is asked that families sit in back to cause less visual and vocal disruption. And the youth will be removed to the narthex if needed.

We will also be having an elementary class (pre-school through 6th grade) and teen class (middle and high school). We need to reach out to our older youth more to get them involved. If they are together in Sunday school we can discuss youth events, they may be more comfortable participating in the service in the choir, through special music, assisting with collection, liturgist, etc.

It will take everyone's effort to bear with some distractions during the service. Also if you are interested in teaching once every few months having discussions with the older youth or making crafts with the younger kids I am sure it will be more fun for them to have someone besides their mom teaching them. This will help build a sense of community and family. Contact Karen at klike@earthlink.net if you are interested in volunteering.

New Pianist

Beginning September 14, Dr. Sarah Moon will be our organist/pianist and choir director. Sarah has her doctorate in Organ Performance and Literature; her Masters in Music in Historic Performance; her Bachelors in Music in Organ Performance. Her doctorate is from IU the other degrees from Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 Angie & Andy Notebaert Anniversary 3 Don Root 3 Carol Watt 3 Ruth Young 11 Erin Bremer Johnson 11 Logan Notebaert

15 Betty Chipman 15 Alexander Isamu Like 17 Yasmina Haddad 20 Bud & Lucinda Wyman Anniversary

27 Billy Rhoades 29 Vera & Gerrit Heitink Anniversary

If you would like to make additions to the birthday and anniversary calendar please email: upcbloomington@gmail.com .
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How to Get Involved

Sunday Morning

Anytime

Volunteering with Sunday School

Do you love children? Are you excited about crafts? The Sunday School teachers would love to have you assist them. Please contact Karen Like KLike@earthlink.net for more information!

Fellowship Hour

Fellowship Hour is a time to share with one another over coffee and snacks. Everyone is invited to attend. It is held immediately following the Sunday worship service. Fellowship hours can be hosted by groups, families, or individuals. If you feel led to serve in this way, a signup sheet is in the fellowship hall.

Guest Performers

Throughout the year we have many special guest performances to enhance our worship experience. If you have a musical talent and are interested in sharing it with the congregation, please contact bloomington@gmail.com

Video and Sound Systems

If you are interested in learning how to operate the sound system or help in taping the weekly worship sessions please contact Don Root at rootd@msn.com.

Offering

Would you like to help in counting the offertory?: You do not need to sign up for a yearly commitment. Or if you are interested in collecting the offertory please let ob Lorimer at lorimer9@gmail.com know.

Utilize Scrip

When Scrip cards are purchased UPC receives a percentage from the merchant. The Scrip table will only be set up on the last Sunday of the month to accept order forms and payments. The purchased cards will be available to be picked up the following Sunday!

Little Red Wagon

The little red wagon is waiting to be filled with canned goods and hygiene products for Monroe County United Ministries. For more information ask one of our Deacons.

UKirk

UKirk is in need of assistance with transportation, food donations, speakers, and mentors. If you are interested, please contact Elaine at NPlane01@aol.com

Friendly Visitors

Do you like socializing at Fellowship Hour? Our congregation has many individuals that would love to have someone come visit them and share the good news with them. Some are homebound, and others are in nursing homes. Please contact the church at Upcbloomington@gmail.com. if you are interested in spreading cheer with a visit.



Schedule of Involvement

Sunday School Teaching Schedule

Teaching Schedule: Pre-K – 6th grade on September 21st will be Leina Joseph. The teen class will be taught by Michelle Heitink. During the remaining Sundays, children and teens will stay in the Sunday Service.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Served by the Moderator and Elders the first Sunday of each month & certain other occasions. Holy Communion will be served on September 7th.

Financial Report

July was our worst month this year, so far. We took in a total of \$10,084.40 for the month and our expenses were \$16,439.03, giving us a negative cash flow of \$6,354.63 for July, and a negative cash flow of \$7,836.74 for the year-to-date.

IN-					EXPENSES	GAIN/LOSS
	OFFERING	MISSION	FUND R.	TOTAL		
JULY	8,919.28	400.00	765.00	10,084.40	16,439.03	-6,354.63
TO DATE	82,384.61	5,857.16	5,287.17	93,528.94	101,365.45	-7,836.74

So far this year, our finances have followed a pattern similar to last year, with the exception of the months of February and April, where our cash flow was far less than last year. This has left us behind where we were last year at this time by \$14,779.15

The drive to collect school supplies for underprivileged families was successful again this year. We were able to deliver two large boxes of school supplies to the collection center on July 28th. This was another record year for the project. Thanks to the cooperative efforts of several churches in town, 604 backpacks filled with school supplies were handed out to underprivileged children. I'm sure God was smiling that day along with 604 happy children.

Letter to the Editor

Dear UPC,

I just wanted to let you know that you can go ahead and remove my email address from your lists. I'm moving with my husband, Joe, to Toronto, Canada, soon and won't be around town any longer - except to come back for occasional visits of course!

Thanks so much for everything UPC has done for me and for my family over the years. You were all wonderful to my dad, his second family really, and I'll always be very grateful to the UPC community.

Best,

Kimberly Stephans
1508 S. Maxwell St.
Bloomington, IN 47401
[812-322-8993](tel:812-322-8993)

SOON TO BE:
1030 King St. West #704
Toronto, Ontario M6K 1E6

Thank You

Thursday, August 28 at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall the Worship Committee hosted an old fashioned Spaghetti Dinner that benefited UPC's music program. The dinner included Fazoli's spaghetti with meat sauce, Fettuccini Alfredo, tossed salad, bread sticks and all the pasta and salad fixings imagined plus dessert and milk or coffee.

There WAS More! The Worship Committee will also be conducting a Silent Auction to benefit the music program throughout the month of August. Thank you to everyone who participated in this wonderful event!

What's Happening in September?

~ SEPTEMBER 2014 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday Evening Schedule: 6:00pm Overeaters Anonymous 8:00 pm – AA Cam- pus Group	1	2 12:15 Bible Study 6pm Book Study	3 8pm Overeaters Anonymous	4 6pm Self Realization 6:30pm AA Women's Group 7pm Schizophrenic's Anonymous (SA) 8pm AA Campus Group	5 11:45am – Men's Lunch 5:30pm – AA Women's Beginners Meeting 7:00pm – Worship service Temple Shir Tikvah	6 11am Overeaters Anonymous
7 Deacon's Sunday 9am Adult Study 10am Worship and Communion 11am Fellowship	8 5:15 Kiwanis	9 12:15 Bible Study 6pm Book Study	10 8pm Overeaters Anonymous	11 6pm Self Realization 6:30pm AA Women's Group 8pm AA Campus Group	12 11:45am – Men's Lunch 5:30pm – AA Women's Beginners Meeting 7:00pm – Worship service Temple Shir Tikvah	13 11am Overeaters Anonymous
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27 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	28	29 12:15 Bible Study 6pm Book Study	30 8pm Overeaters Anonymous			

Spiritual Growth Opportunities Adults and College Students For Children

Youth Sunday School (Pre-school through sixth grade)
Following dismissal from worship

College Students and Young Adults

UKirk – Various activities check out www.iukirk.com

9 A.M. on Sundays in Anderson Parlor
12:15 P.M. on Tuesday Bible Study with
Reverend Mitch in the Fellowship Hall
6 P.M. on Tuesdays Book Study , in
Fellowship Hall

