

# Reaching UP

## Ordination and Installation of New Officers



On January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 UPC ordained and installed our newly elected deacons and elders. Nancy Truelove, Ed Hitchcock and Jan Berend Heitink were installed as deacons. Andy Hill was ordained and Karen Like were installed as Elders.

On this day, Nancy Truelove accepted a role as Deacon representative for the 2015 nominating committee. Jan Berend Heitink took the role of Deacon co-

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chair (with Sue Lorimer), and Ed Hitchcock became the deacons treasure.

Andy Hill accepted the position as vice chair on the 2015 nominat-

ing committee at his first session meeting. Karen Like continues to serve session in all her previous roles. This group is a pillar of hope this group brings with their love of serving, and willingness to listen to the call.

UPC is grateful for the willingness of these members to accept these positions of leadership and service. In fact, servant leadership is exactly what is required in these positions. Let us take the time to thank them personally and openly. Please pray that they will be granted wisdom and courage as they lead our church.



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## Letter from the Pastor



One primary responsibility during our interim process is to help us understand where UPC is going, why such a direction is important, and how to get there. Planning can be challenging in any congregation, where people share a common faith and values but may have very different preferences and needs. Planning does not center on problem solving. Planning is conversation because it truly is dialogue. People explore their differences and their perceptions. People risk saying what they believe to be important. The talk is full of stories, memories, and hopes—the kind of conversation that strengthens and transforms people. Conversation is holy because, at its best, it is about a people’s understanding of their identity as a faith community, their sense of purpose, and their relationship with God. Though the holy conversation may take a multitude of shapes and directions, at its heart that conversation

centers around three critical formation questions:

- ◆ Who are we?
- ◆ What has God called us to do or be?
- ◆ Who is our neighbor?

At UPC we must come together to talk about our identity, purpose, and future, and to develop consensus and a commitment to act.

One of the intriguing stories in Hebrew Scripture of Exodus, refers to “pitching tent.” When the Israelites wandered in the desert, they moved when the pillars of cloud and fire moved; that is, when they had a clear sense of direction. When they were not sure about their next step, they “pitched tent” and waited to discern the next steps of their journey. This suggests that discernment does not operate on a knowable timetable. Instead, the plan and the path were developed within a discerning relationship with God. They were not able to rush ahead directly to the Promised Land. Their lingering in the desert demanded a high level of trust in God, both that their journey had purpose and that manna would be provided each morning to sustain them on the way. In the wandering in the desert, it is clear that it was the journey much more than the destination that shaped the people. Had Moses been a better planner and pathfinder and discovered a straight route to make the trip to the Promised Land in a matter of months instead of wandering for years in the desert, the people may not have been changed when they arrived. They might have arrived much the same as they left Egypt—as a slave people. It was the journey—when they had to ask questions of how they would form community and what was important about their relationship to God—that shaped them into a nation.

Consider the following truths as they relate to our own strategic planning process as holy conversation:

- ◆ Change happens through conversation.
- ◆ A planning process provides direction and structure for conversation.
  - ◆ Planning is about making decisions.
  - ◆ Congregations have short attention spans.
- ◆ Planning, when well done, will bring people to points of disagreement and competing preferences.
  - ◆ Planning is about finding more than agreement.
  - ◆ Planning depends upon structure.

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Planning is a holy and structured conversation among multiple partners—the congregation, the leader, the tradition and texts of the faith, and the discerned will of God. The leader seeks a way to ask important questions appropriate to the congregation in a way that allows all parties to the conversation to be as natural and authentic as possible.

And now for the UPC family, on February 8, we will “Pitch Tent” together for a holy conversation following worship and Fellowship Time. Together we will share the stories that will make us laugh and cry. We will rediscover who we are as we remember who we have been and what (and who) have been important to us. All are welcome. All are needed. All are invited. This first critical step of our Strategic Planning process needs each of you to “pitch tent” with us and join us for this Holy Conversation. Looking forward to seeing you there and hearing your stories.

Faithfully,

Pastor Mitch

(article adapted Holy Conversations: Strategic Planning as a Spiritual Practice for Congregations, copyright © 2003 by the Alban Institute)

# Thank You!

## Day On Instead of Day Off

You probably won't notice it so much just walking into the church since we were good at hiding our clutter but our Day On Instead of Day Off endeavor to clean the church was very successful! Every storage area was emptied, reevaluated, and organized. You can actually walk into the old fire hazard boiler room, there is room in the pantry for new items that we will actually use, you can find supplies for the pulpit, and you can find office supplies. These are just a few of the tasks that were completed. Many other projects are now well on their way like creating an archive, cleaning the office, organizing an actual storage space so things aren't stuffed anywhere there is room, and building a storage area for auxiliary group supplies to keep the clutter out of the parlor and office.

Thank you to Karen, Alexander, Noah, & Thomas Like, Stephanie, Logan & Racheal Worden, Mitch Coggin, Allen Pease, Judie Iverson, Andy Hill, Lamis Turk, and Leina & Rohan Joseph. Thank you for spending your day beautifying the church. Your labor of love is appreciated

## Are you interested in going to Pyoca this summer?

Registration is open online ([http://www.pyoca.org/camp\\_info.htm](http://www.pyoca.org/camp_info.htm)) and some of the more popular themes fill up fast. The church offers scholarships upon request so the fun awaits anyone that is excited to go. See Karen Like if you need more information.

February 1 the UPC youth will once again be participating in the nation-wide Souper Bowl of Caring effort. They will be taking monetary donations as you exit the sanctuary to give to the Monroe County United Ministries. Please make a donation and support the community. Arrangements are being made to possibly hand deliver the check so the youth can tour the facilities and see your dollars in action.

## How to Get Involved

### Sunday Morning

### Anytime

#### **Volunteering with Sunday School**

Do you love children? Are you excited about crafts and kids/teens? The Sunday School teachers would love to have you assist them. Please contact Karen Like [KLike@earthlink.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 email the church.

#### **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 will begin using our classrooms for their weekly meeting space. It would be wonderful to be able to provide them with the fellowship of mentors and food. If you have any snack items, or want to sponsor an evening meal on a Wednesday night at 7:00 please email the church at [UPCBloomington@gmail.com](mailto:UPCBloomington@gmail.com). Individual snack items could include: chips, popcorn, cookies, crackers, veggies, pop, water, juice boxes, and candy. Meals could be pizza, sandwiches, soups, burgers.

Let's welcome this group with warm and open arms, in true United Presbyterian fashion.



### Schedule of Involvement

#### **Sunday School Teaching Schedule**

Sunday school classes are taught during church the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month. 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 February 1st.

## Link your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card to United Presbyterian Church!



Kroger's new system for charitable giving is called "Kroger Community Rewards". It is simpler than their previous rewards programs. All you need to do is to link your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card to United Presbyterian Church. Kroger will donate

quarterly to our church based upon how many people link their Kroger Plus cards to our organization, and their purchases. Every time you shop, you earn rewards on almost anything. Alcohol, tobacco, postage stamps, fuel, are excluded.

Sign up online, or see Stephanie in Fellowship Hall after church with your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card.

### Here's how to link your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card:

Grab your Kroger Plus shopper's card, or sign up for a card at any Kroger's store.

Go to [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards)

- If you have created a Kroger Plus online account, click on "Sign In", otherwise click "Create an Account"
- Follow the instructions the site gives you until you are able to edit Community Rewards
- Click on "Edit Kroger Community Rewards" information and input your Kroger Plus card number.
- Select "United Presbyterian Church" (#10535)

Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 800-576-4377, select option 4 to get your Kroger Plus card number. Let us know if you have any questions!



### In Memoriam Richard Burkhart

March 28, 1934 – January 2, 2015

Richard Burkhart passed away at the age of 80 early Friday morning, January 2, at the Meadowood Health Pavilion. He is survived by his wife Phyllis Merry Burkhart, his sons Jim and Richard, stepsons Richard and Charles, stepdaughters Jill, Gina and Tia, six grandchildren and seven step-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and his first wife Gertrude (mother of Jim and Richard).

Funeral services were 7 p.m. on January 5, 2015 at Allen Funeral Home in Bloomington. The Reverend Mitchell J. Coggin presided and visitation preceded the funeral service. Refreshments were provided during visitation by the UPC Deacons. Nearly 30 UPC friends and members attended the funeral. Richard was

## February Birthdays and Anniversaries

3 Nancy Truelove  
8 Joe Stubenrauch  
9 Reem Deeb  
10 C. Allen Colwell

16 Betty Craig  
23 Jeremiah Hubbard  
23 Rohan Joseph

If you would like to make additions to the birthday and anniversary calendar please email:  
[upcbloomington@gmail.com](mailto:upcbloomington@gmail.com).



# Financial Report

We did quite well in the month of December. We took in a total of \$21,916.50 for the month and our expenses were \$14,905.37, giving us a positive cash flow of \$7,011.13 for December, and a negative cash flow of \$879.38 for the year.

INCOME					EXPENSES	GAIN/LOSS
	OFFERING	MISSION	FUND R.	TOTAL		
NOV.	16,872.50	3,137.00	1,907.00	21,916.50	14,905.37	7,011.13
TO DATE	141,610.08	11,956.16	11,734.02	165,300.26	166,179.64	-879.38

Even though we didn't quite break even for 2014, we did well considering how far behind we were a couple of months ago. Our recovery was brought about by some very generous donations in the month of December. Thanks to those who were able to contribute extra to make it possible to cover nearly all of our expenses for the year.

Don Root, Stewardship Chairman



## Letter to the Editor

Merci Beaucoup! Danke Schon! Muchas Gracias! Thank You! Spasibo! Grazie! Gee Tanks! A World of Thanks!

Friends,  
Thanks to each of you for the generous Christmas gift! We so appreciate your kindness as well as the love and affirmation you have shown throughout the past year.

It is a pleasure to journey together in these important days in the life of UPC and to each of you we say, "Thanks!"

Continued blessings,

## Apologies from the Editors (again)

Miriam has two brothers not just one that have a beautiful tradition of honoring their mother through a Christmas poem.

### *Christmas in Heaven*

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below,  
With tiny lights like heaven's stars reflecting on the snow.  
The sight is so spectacular please wipe away that tear,  
For I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.  
I sent you a special gift, from my heavenly home above.  
I sent you each a memory, of my undying love.  
After all, love is a gift more precious than pure gold.  
It was always more important in stories Jesus told.  
Please love and keep each other as my Father said to do.  
For I can't count the blessings or love He has for you.  
So have a Merry Christmas and wipe away the tear.  
Remember, I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

In loving Memory of

***Merle Michael***

Entered into the Kingdom of Heaven on December 12, 1999

From her children,

***Miriam, Paul, and Richard Michael***

## Let's Celebrate the Joys and History of UPC on February 8, 2015

This will be during church and afterwards with a Pitch In!

Please bring a token: an object, a photo, or a symbol to present at the pitch in. The token will be shared through your memories and placed around the fellowship hall to show the history of our church in a timeline. So ideas could be: marriages, anniversary parties, baptisms, holidays, bible studies, group outings, ect.

This gathering will be a celebration and mechanism to get conversation starting on what we as a body see as our joys and strengths.

Here is a breakdown of some of our history. This is only to get thoughts flowing!

1833 – 14 members and 2 elders participated in the charter meeting for the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church downtown Bloomington

1834 – Associate Presbyterian Church organized

1836 – Associate Presbyterian Church reorganized with 24 members

1833-1933 -> membership held 37 Woodburns, members of Indiana University's "colony of stern Reformed Presbyterians"

1838-1869 -> Theophilus A. Wylie led Reformed Presbyterian as Pastor

1835-1869 -> William D. Turner led Associate Reformed Presbyterian as Pastor

1839-1843 -> I.N. Laughead led Associate Presbyterian as Pastor

1855-1862 -> John Bryan led Associate Presbyterian as Pastor

1863 -> Associate and Associate Reformed Churches merged to form United Presbyterian Church

1869 -> New Side Covenanters merged with the Churches 1872 -> New church built at 9<sup>th</sup> Street and College Ave

1870-1937 -> UPC had 8 different Pastors

1933 -> Centennial Service

1937-1953 -> UPC had 6 different Pastors

1951 -> Fire at UPC, new church built on 2<sup>nd</sup> and Eastside

1953-1956 -> Franklin H. MacCallister led UPC as Pastor

1957-1961 -> Heinrich Eiler led UPC as Pastor

1958 -> United Presbyterian Church of North America merged with Presbyterian USA to form United Presbyterian Church in the USA, forming both First and United Presbyterian churches in Bloomington

1963-1976-> David E. Faris led UPC as Pastor

1977-1982 -> David B. Brown Jr. led UPC as Pastor

1982-1986 -> David F. Schafer led UPC as Pastor

1986-1987 -> Allen B. Layman (interim) led UPC as Pastor

1987-1990 -> Mickey R. Blair led UPC as Pastor

1990-1991 -> Allen B. Layman (interim) led UPC as Pastor

1992-2013 -> David A. Bremer led UPC as Pastor

2013- present -> Mitch Coggin (interim) leading UPC as Pastor

# What's Happening in February?

~ February 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Deacon's and Souper Bowl Sunday 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	<b>2</b> 5:15 Kiwanis	<b>3</b> 12:15 Bible Study 6pm Book Study	<b>4</b> 8pm Overeaters Anonymous	<b>5</b> 6pm Self Realization 6:30pm AA Women's Group 8pm AA Campus Group	<b>6</b> 11:45am – Men's Lunch 5:30pm – AA Women's Beginners Meeting 7:00pm – Worship service Temple Shir Tikvah	<b>7</b> 11am Overeaters Anonymous
<b>8</b> 9am Adult Study 10am Worship and Communion 11am Pitch In and Town Hall Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 12:15 Bible Study 6pm Book Study	<b>11</b> 8pm Overeaters Anonymous	<b>12</b> 6pm Self Realization 6:30pm AA Women's Group 8pm AA Campus Group	<b>13</b> 11:45am – Men's Lunch 5:30pm – AA Women's Beginners Meeting 7:00pm – Worship service Temple Shir	<b>14</b> 11am Overeaters Anonymous
<b>15</b> 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 12:15 Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Session	<b>18</b> 7pm Ash Wednesday Service-Rev. Coggin 8pm Overeaters Anonymous	<b>19</b> 6pm Self Realization 6:30pm AA Women's Group 8pm AA Campus Group	<b>20</b> 11:45am – Men's Lunch 5:30pm – AA Women's Beginners Meeting 7:00pm – Worship service Temple Shir Tikvah	<b>21</b> 11am Overeaters Anonymous
<b>22</b> 9am Adult Study 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 12:15 Bible Study 6pm Book Study	<b>25</b> 7pm Lent Service-CRE A. Haddad 8pm Overeaters Anonymous	<b>26</b> 6pm Self Realization 6:30pm AA Women's Group 8pm AA Campus Group	<b>27</b> 11:45am – Men's Lunch 5:30pm – AA Women's Beginners Meeting 7:00pm – Worship service Temple Shir	<b>28</b> 11am Overeaters Anonymous

## Study Groups!

### Adults and College Students

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 the Fellowship Hall

### For Children

Youth Sunday School (Pre-school through 12th grade) Following dismissal from the 2nd and 3rd Sunday worship services

### College Students and Young Adults

UKirk – Various activities check out -indiana.com

