

Reaching UP

United
Presbyterian
Church

Town Hall Meeting



On February 8th, 2015, UPC's congregation, under the leadership of the Strategic Planning Task Force, came together in a town hall meeting to start an in-depth conversation of faithful listening. The group was divided into 6 tables and were each given scriptures to review and practice listening to God through scripture

and prayer. The tables then presented what they were able to hear from these scriptures in relation to what is God's desire for our church. The scriptural references were:

EPHESIANS 4:1-3; COLOSSIANS 3:12-17; HEBREWS 13:1-3, 20-21; MATTHEW 5:13-16 ; MATTHEW 28:16-20 and 2 TIMOTHY 1:6-12.

The participants then reported on what they heard from the scriptural references and then shared pleasant memories of UPC and the building blocks those represent (more information on this can be found on page 5.)



In closing, participants were asked to make a commitment to continued prayer on these questions: 1) What are we hearing through prayer? 2) What is God leading our church to be and do in the years ahead? 3) What type of leadership will we need to accomplish what God is leading us to be and do? 4) What are our major challenges at UPC?



Please join us as we continue to work towards Our Process In Calling a Pastor on March 1st after service. Food will be provided.

Inside this Edition

2	Letter from the Pastor
3	Letters to the Church
3	Birthdays and Anniversaries
3	Youth Group News
4	How to Get Involved
5	Financial Report
5	Step 2
6	Lent Schedule
7	Calendar
8	Pi Day
8	Fellowship Hour

Letter from the Pastor



This week marks the beginning of our Lenten journey. Ash Wednesday (February 18) through Easter Sunday on April 5. It was Pope Benedict XVI who observed, "*Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and in this way to know the fundamental truth: who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life...*"

I once heard someone say that Lent is a time to re-focus our priorities and to decide what will be first in our lives. Tonight during our Ash Wednesday service, I will call us to observe a season of Holy Lent. Many may decide to give up chocolate, meat, or soft drinks during the weeks ahead. Giving up items in order to observe a Holy Lent is admirable, but must be accompanied, as well, with the observance of a process of examination. Using Pope Benedict's directive might be a preferred path. What better place to discover *who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life* than scripture! Jesus said, "Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny themselves, take up their cross each day, and follow in my steps." -Luke 9:23

Denying self might include giving up some things during the coming weeks, but may I suggest that we add things as well. Perhaps a renewed attempt to read a passage of scripture each day might be a welcome Lenten addition. It could be a Psalm, a selection from the gospels, or even a selection from Paul's instruction to the churches found in Romans, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians or Colossians. Spend some intentional time during these days praying for a variety of people – your family, those with whom you come in contact throughout the week, or even those with whom you disagree. Prayer is a great healer of the various illnesses that affect our lives. Lent reflects a great opportunity of both giving up and claiming new priorities. In closing, a former Episcopal bishop recommends that during Lent we...

*Fast from criticism, and Feast on praise;
Fast from self-pity, and Feast on joy;
Fast from ill temper, and Feast on peace;
Fast from resentment, and Feast on contentment;
Fast from jealousy, and Feast on humility;
Fast from pride, and Feast on love;
Fast from selfishness, and Feast on service;
Fast from fear, and Feast on faith.*

Arthur Lichtenberger, presiding bishop - Episcopal Church 1958-1964:

Blessings,
Reverend Mitchell J. Coggin
Bloomington, Indiana
March 2015

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.

Letters to the Church

To United Presbyterian Church,
Greetings on this snowy Monday evening! My name is Laura Noell, and I am a member at the Reformed Presbyterian Church here in Bloomington. I'm writing to you to invite you and everyone at United Presbyterian Church to join us for an evening of music on Saturday, March 7th.

The Genevans, the 50-person choir of Geneva College from Beaver Falls, PA, will be performing a concert at the Bloomington Reformed Presbyterian Church at 302 East 1st Street at 7:00 pm on March 7th. The choir will be on their annual spring break tour and are passing through Bloomington on their way to Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. This is their 77th concert season, and following their theme this year, "Tell the Good News," they will be singing a program highlighting crucial passages from the Gospels, Psalms, and Isaiah. Their repertoire includes classical sacred music as well as familiar upbeat spirituals and even some special pieces commissioned just for the choir.

I am a Geneva alumna, and was blessed to have been a part of the Genevans while I attended Geneva, so I am very excited that we have the opportunity to have the choir come to Bloomington!

We would love to have folks from the United Presbyterian Church join us for the concert!

Thank you for your attention! I hope to see you at the concert.

Thank you again,
Laura Noell

Hello friends!

We are doing well down here in Mississippi, ya'll need to come visit sometime. The boys are doing well in school. They love their teachers and have made so many friends. Andy is blossoming at University of Mississippi Medical and is still able to spend a lot of family time with us. I just took a job at the elementary school that the boys attend as the "upper" computer teacher, teaching 3rd-5th grade computer classes and helping them research and take tests. This is a busy time of year for the kids and I fell into a fun job! We have great neighbors and great weather-although the snow is missed by the boys-and only the little boys. Andy and I have been enjoying working outside in shorts or t-shirts through the holidays. We do get cold spurts but it warms up with the sun quickly.

We hope all of you are doing well and we miss you. We have not found a church home yet- but our love for all of you and our Lord is still as strong as ever.

Big hugs!
The Notebaerts
Andy, Angie, Logan, Collin and Carter

The Reaching UP team, just wants to thank everyone who has been willing to make submissions for Reaching UP. It is wonderful to see how our church is moving, growing, and supporting others in the community. Please keep the love and submissions coming!

Thank you again,
The Reaching UP team



March Birthdays and Anniversaries

7 Leina Joseph
8 Michelle Heitink
8 Alexander Ferenczy
9 Bud Wyman
10 Bob & Sue Lorimer
Anniversary

10 Juliana Spir
23 Rachel & Joe Loop
Anniversary
23 Gladys Bartholomew
30 Travis Bauer

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

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 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 upcblooming-

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 Bob 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 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. 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 March 1st.

Financial Report

We're off to a good start for 2015, although not as good as last year. We took in a total of \$16,858.50 for the month and our expenses were \$14,463.67, giving us a positive cash flow of \$2,394.83 for January.

INCOME					EXPENSES	GAIN/LOSS
	OFFERING	MISSION	FUND R.	TOTAL		
JAN.	16,828.50	0.00	30.00	16,858.50	14,463.67	2,394.83
TO DATE	16,828.50	0.00	30.00	16,858.50	14,463.67	2,394.83

We are well into positive territory, due mainly to the fact that some people give in January for the entire year. That makes January look good, however the amount of positive cash flow was much higher in January of last year.

It's that time of year, again, when we need to ask you to pay your per-capita, if you are able. The amount for 2015 is \$29.33 per member.

Don Root, Stewardship Chairman

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS Our Process In Calling a Pastor At United Presbyterian Church

First Step: February 8 Town Hall Meeting

We Remembered our Past....We Celebrated our Assets

Our Building Blocks

SOCIAL EVENTS
Ethnic Food fair
Fellowship Hour
175th Anniversary Celebration

**IMPORTANT PAST
PROGRAMS
AND PROJECTS**
Language Partners.

**CONNECTIONS
AND SHARED
VALUES**
All Members Supported
Still Here –Through Divorces,
Fires & Split

Strong Church Family
Welcoming of Community
Groups

**STAINED GLASS WIN-
DOWS,
ANDERSON PARLOR,
THE PIANO,
CROSS FROM LEBANON**

NEW COMMITMENTS
Homeless Shelter

**SAVE THE DATE –
Sunday, March 1
After Fellowship Hour
for Step Two of
Process**

COMMON THREADS
Common goal – Band Together to Complete Tasks
We are growing with new, active people, in church
Diversity of age and marital status
Similar yet different values
“We agree to disagree”

2015 United Presbyterian Church Lent Worship Schedule

Psalms of Lent

First Sunday in Lent, February 22, 2015 – 10 a.m.

Led by Reverend Mitchell J. Coggin; Liturgist Reverend Sarah Cochran
Chancel Choir with Dr. Sarah Moon Stamey on piano/organ; Guest Artist Claire Solomon on cello
Wednesday, Feb. 25 – 7 p.m. Led by CRE Alejandra Haddad; Dr. Moon Stamey on organ

Second Sunday in Lent, March 1, 2015 – 10 a.m.

Led by Reverend Mitchell J. Coggin; Liturgist Elder Billy Rhoades
Holy Communion; Chancel Choir, Dr. Sarah Moon Stamey on piano/organ
Wednesday, March 4 – 7 p.m. Led by Rev. Sarah Cochran; Dr. Moon Stamey on organ

Third Sunday in Lent, March 8, 2015 – 10 a.m.

Led by Reverend Mitchell J. Coggin; liturgist Deacon Lou Malcomb
Chancel Choir with Dr. Sarah Moon Stamey on piano/organ
Wednesday, March 11 – 7 p.m. led by Reverend Robert Lorimer; Dr. Moon Stamey on organ

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 15, 2015 – 10 a.m.

Led by Executive Presbyter Reverend Susan McGhee; Liturgist Gerrit Jan Heitink; Chancel Choir with Dr. Stamey, piano/organ; Guest Artist Suyeon Ko, flute
Wednesday, March 18 – 7 p.m. *The Music of Lent* Rev. Coggin; Dr. Moon Stamey on organ and piano

Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 22, 2015 – 10 a.m.

Led by Reverend Mitchell J. Coggin; Liturgist Deacon Ed Hitchcock; Chancel Choir with Dr. Sarah Moon Stamey on piano/organ; Guest Artist Chelsea Carlson on harp
Wednesday, March 25 – 7 p.m. Led by Rev. Mitchell J. Coggin; Dr. Moon Stamey on organ

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2015 – 10 a.m.



Led By Rev. Mitch Coggin; Liturgist Elder Karen Like
Procession of Palms Chancel Choir, UPC Children, Elder Like and Reverend Coggin, The laying of the palms by the children and teens of UPC; Dr. Sarah Moon Stamey on piano/organ, Guest Artist Keanu Cover on trumpet

Maundy Thursday, Tenebrae Holy Communion Service

April 2–7 p.m. Led by Rev. Coggin; Dr. Stamey, organ. Tenebrae is Latin for shadows. Via scripture and music the passion story is recreated. Twelve candles are extinguished until the sanctuary is in darkness.


Good Friday, April 3 – Noon Led By Rev. Coggin; Dr. Moon Stamey, piano/organ; Soloist Marcé Chastain

Easter Sunrise Service, April 5, 2015 – 8 a.m.

Led by Alejandra Haddad, CRE; liturgy in various languages; Dr. Moon Stamey on organ

Easter Breakfast – 8:30 a.m. Hosted by the Fellowship & Worship Committees in Fellowship Hall

Easter Morning Worship, April 5, 2015 – 10 a.m.



Led by Reverend Mitchell J. Coggin; Holy Communion, Chancel Choir directed by Dr. Sarah Moon Stamey; Guest Artists Keanu Cover & Andrew Boylan on trumpet

Fellowship Hour & Easter Egg Hunt – Following Easter Worship Service

What's Happening in March?

~ March 2015 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Deacon's Sunday 9am Choir Practice, Adult Study 10am Worship, Holy Communion 11am Fellowship 11:30 Strategic Planning Town Hall Meeting	2	3 12:15 Bible Study	4 6pm Book Study 7pm Lenten Service, Alejandra Haddad 7-9pm UKirk 8pm Overeaters Anonymous	5 6pm Self Realization 8pm Campus Group	6 11:45am Men's Lunch 5:30 Women's Beginners Meeting 7:00pm Temple Shir Tikvah	7 11am Overeaters Anonymous
8 9am Choir Practice, Adult Study 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	9 5:15 Kiwanis	10 12:15 Bible Study	11 6pm Book Study 7pm Lent Service, Rev. Bob Lorimer 7-9pm UKirk 8pm Overeaters Anonymous	12 6pm Self Realization 8pm Campus Group	13 11:45am Men's Lunch 5:30 Women's Beginners Meeting 7:00pm Temple Shir Tikvah	14 11am Overeaters Anonymous
15 9am Choir Practice, Adult Study 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	16	17 12:15 Bible Study 7pm Session	18 6pm Book Study 7pm Lent Service, Music of Lent 8pm Overeaters Anonymous	19 6pm Self Realization 8pm Campus Group	20 11:45 Men's Lunch 5:30 Women's Beginners Meeting 7:00pm Temple Shir Tikvah	21 11am Overeaters Anonymous
22 9am Choir Practice, Adult Study 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	23	24 12:15 Bible Study	25 6pm Book Study 7pm Lent Service Rev. Coggin 7-9 UKirk 8pm OA	26 6pm Self Realization 8pm Campus Group	27 11:45am – Men's Lunch 5:30 Women's Beginners Mtg 7:00 Temple Shir Tikvah	28 11am Overeaters Anonymous
29 Palm Sunday 9am Choir Practice, Adult Study 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	30	31 12:15 Bible Study 6pm Book Study				

Second Annual . . .

π Day at UPC!

What is Pi Day? The number π is a mathematical constant that is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter and is approximately equal to 3.14159. It has been represented by the Greek letter " π " since the mid-18th century, though it is also spelled out as "pi" (/paɪ/).

Now, in the early 21st Century, many people celebrate PI as *Pie Day* on March 14th. Since that is not a Sunday this year, UPC will celebrate on March 15th at Fellowship Hour with a . . .

Grand pie buffet!

All are invited to sign up in the Narthex to bring their favorite pie. If you are not a pie maker, but would like to see your favorite pie on the buffet, let Lou Malcomb or Allen Pease know what your favorite is and they will try to accommodate.

Last year we had such fun with this that we decided to again . . . celebrate *Pi* with *Pie*!



Your Help is Needed

From the Fellowship Committee

The fellowship Committee is always requesting volunteers to host a fellowship hour. You can sign up with other friends, or let the fellowship committee know you just want to add something. There are sign up sheet downstairs and if you have any questions please feel free to email the church at UPCBloomington@gmail.com.