

Reaching UP

United Presbyterian
Church

1701 E. Second Street
Bloomington, IN 47401

812 -332-1850

<http://upcbloomington.org>

Christmas Fellowship!

Each year for more than two decades, Souheil and Alejandra Haddad have hosted a Christmas Dinner and Party in their home for the people of United Presbyterian. It's an act of love and it has become a tradition for the UPC congregation. You know Christmas is right around the corner when the Haddad's announce this annual celebration. Over 80 people gathered this year at the Haddad home on Saturday, December 16 for wonderful home made food, fun and fellowship.



Alejandra greets Brenda and Linda. The entire Like clan was there! Alejandra laughs with Bob & Sue.



Lissette and Allen enjoyed dinner. Aida greeted Bob and Julie and Gerrit Jan (left) and Benjamin paused for a moment with Miriam. All the photos on this page are courtesy of Souheil Haddad.

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From the Pastor's Pen ...



Happy New Year! One year ago, in our newsletter I referred to the month of January as the month of “doorways.” Do you know why January has this connection? The month January, the first month of the New Year comes to us from the old Julian calendar. The month gets its name from the Roman deity of Janus, the god with two faces. With one face looking towards the past, and one face looking toward the future. Janus was known to the Roman people as a god of transitions, beginnings, doors and doorways. It is understandable that Gaius Julius Caesar chose to honor Janus with being the first month of the New Year...in a way looking past at the previous year, and looking forward to the New Year at hand.

Not much has changed since the days Caesar. We are still a people who look back at the past, while looking toward the future, as life itself is a constant moving phenomenon. Nothing remains the same, ever...Even this newsletter that you are now reading is in constant transition...the paper is already yellowing and the ink is already fading. Let us embrace new beginnings and the transitions as they come to us. Let us learn from the past and take those findings into the future to help build a better world for all of humanity.

May you all have a blessed year, filled with the peace and love of Jesus Christ

Pastor John

How to Get Involved



Reaching UP

If you are interested in contributing articles or helping to put together the Reaching UP newsletter, please contact Andy Hill at andy@andyhill.us

Nursery Attendant

We are needing volunteers to staff the nursery from 9a-11a immediately. Please let Karen know if you are interested at klike@earthlink.net.

Volunteering with Sunday School

We are always looking for loving people willing to teach once a month in Sunday School or help in the nursery. Please contact Karen Like at klike@earthlink.net for more information.

Utilize Scrip

UPC receives a percentage from the merchant for each gift card purchased. Place and purchase your order the last Sunday of the month & pick up the following Sunday.

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 sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hall.

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.

Youth in Action (and everyone is invited to join)

We still need your support to nurture our youth. We are looking for a person to teach the teens once a month (most likely the 4th Sunday of the month). Curriculum is provided but could use some supplements provided by your personal touch. This is a 1-2 hour commitment a month.



We also need someone to help in the nursery. There is an opening the 3rd Sunday of each month. This is a 2 hour commitment from 9-11am. Also someone to cover the occasional 5th Sunday as well as substitute when needed. These positions are critical in creating a calm consistent atmosphere in the nursery.

If you are interested in volunteering or getting involved with UPC youth contact Karen Like (klike@earthlink.net) or Melanie Mathis-McBride (susieq_msm@yahoo.com).

It's that time again.....

Summer Camp Time

Grades 2 – 2018 Grads

Visit Pyoca.org to register online

(Camps do fill quickly so to get the best date available for you and your camper register soon.)

January Birthdays and Anniversaries



Jan 3 Liz Root

Jan 5 John Swanson

Jan 10 Chelsey Parker

Jan 11 Stephanie Haddad

Jan 19 Christabel Nyarko

Jan 23 Karen Like

Jan 25 Virginia McCartney



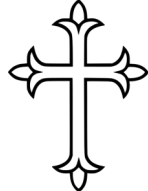
Financial Report

November was much better than October; we came close to breaking even for the month. Our expenses were \$10,799.47 and our income was \$10,473.49 giving us a net cash flow of negative \$325.98 for November. Our year to date total was negative \$18,087.13. We are counting on a good month in December to bring us closer to the break-even point for the year.

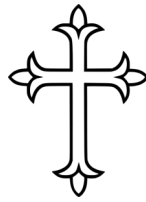
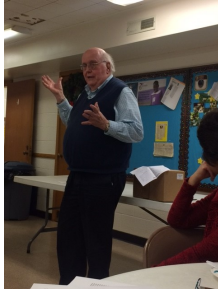
Don Root

UPC Volunteer Opportunities

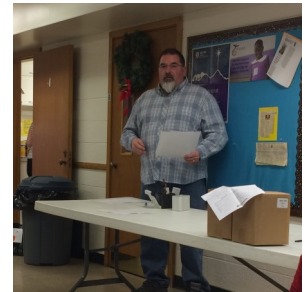
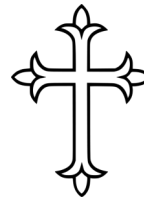
On December the 3rd, UPC participated in their first Volunteer Fair during a church pitchin (a potato bar put on by the fellowship team.) The event was held to provide information on different areas in which individuals could become involved, using specific personal talents. Below is information presented at the fair. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact the individual listed. They will then be able to provide you more information on helpful skills and the training process. These opportunities are not the only areas where volunteering is needed. Throughout 2018 the church will be doing a deeper dive to see additional areas where participation is needed. If you are interested in assisting in this exploration process, please contact Elaine at

<p><u>Chancellor Choir Vocalist</u> Singing in the Choir</p> <p>Time Commitment 1 hour and 45 minutes a week 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. rehearsal every Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. perform during worship service every Sunday</p> <p>Who to Contact Sarah—sarah.m.moon@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Greeters</u> Both at the front door and the door of the sanctuary</p> <p>Time Commitment 30 minutes before the start of service</p> <p>Who to Contact Souheil - haddadsf@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Liturgist</u> Reader for the worship service</p> <p>Time Commitment 1 hour 20 minutes</p> <p>Who to Contact Allen - UPCBloomington@gmail.com</p>
<p><u>Flower and Shrub Assistant</u> Help Maintain Flowerbeds</p> <p>Time Commitment 1-2 hours per season</p> <p>Who to Contact Darian - dmmcbriid@indiana.edu</p>	<p><u>Handyperson</u> Assist with odd maintenance jobs</p> <p>Time Commitment 30 min—2 hours depending on the job</p> <p>Who to Contact Darian - dmmcbriid@indiana.edu</p>	<p><u>Communications Assistant</u> Assist with meeting vendors at the church and obtaining contracts</p> <p>Time Commitment Flexible, as needed</p> <p>Who to Contact Darian - dmmcbriid@indiana.edu</p>
<p><u>Outreach Team Member</u> Assist in bulletin boards, develop communication for visitors and visit new members</p> <p>Time Commitment 1-2 hours per month</p> <p>Who to Contact Andy - andy@andyhill.us</p>	<p><u>Reaching UP Editor/ Assistant Editor</u> Assist or lead the assembly of UPCs publication</p> <p>Time Commitment 4 hours per issue</p> <p>Who to Contact Andy - andy@andyhill.us</p>	
<p><u>Flower Delivery</u> Assist in the delivery of flowers</p> <p>Time Commitment 1-2 hours a week</p> <p>Who to Contact Lou - malcomb@indiana.edu</p>	<p><u>Fellowship</u> Provide food/treats for fellowship hour</p> <p>Time Commitment 1-2 hours the week you volunteer</p> <p>Who to Contact Lou - malcomb@indiana.edu</p>	<p><u>Missions Representative</u> Represent UPC by traveling overseas to His Eyes</p> <p>Time Commitment 1 week</p> <p>Who to Contact Andy - andy@andyhill.us</p>
<p>Prayers—The church is always in need of those willing to pray</p>		

UPC Volunteer Opportunities– Continued



Bob Hammel (left)
and Darian McBride
presenting at the
Volunteer Fair.



Paid Nursery

Attendant

Play with children in a quiet and calm environment. Clean up room after children leave.

Time Commitment

2 hours every Sunday

Who to Contact

Melanie - susieq_msm@yahoo.com

Contribution Counter

Help Count Contributions after service

Time Commitment

30 minutes after service

Who to Contact

Andy - andy@andyhill.us

Interview Team Member

Participated in interviews for contract employees

Time Commitment

10 hours per year

Who to Contact

Elaine - nplane01@aol.com

Nursery Attendant 5th week

Assist Full Time Nursery Attendant on the 5th week of the month

Time Commitment

2 hours on the 5th Sunday

Who to Contact

Melanie - susieq_msm@yahoo.com

Christian Ed Team Member— Youth

Assist with the Youth Events

Time Commitment

Flexible

Who to Contact

Melanie - susieq_msm@yahoo.com

Reviewer

Help review job descriptions and job duties

Time Commitment

5 hours per quarter

Who to Contact

Elaine - nplane01@aol.com

Teen Sunday School Teacher

Facilitate General Discussion with the teen class

Time Commitment

1-2 Sundays per month

Who to Contact

Melanie - susieq_msm@yahoo.com

Christian Ed Team Member— Adult

Work with Rev Napoli on curriculum. Support his efforts with advertising/snacks.

Time Commitment

As Needed

Who to Contact

Melanie - susieq_msm@yahoo.com

Nurturing Consultant

Inform the Deacons when a member or attender need additional support

Time Commitment

As needed

Who to Contact

Lou - malcomb@indiana.edu

Youth Activity Lead

Conduct Activities with the Youth

Time Commitment

Flexible

Who to Contact

Melanie - susieq_msm@yahoo.com

Red Wagon

Provide food/treats and hygiene items for MCCUM

Time Commitment

Flexible

Who to Contact

Lou - malcomb@indiana.edu

Missions Team Member

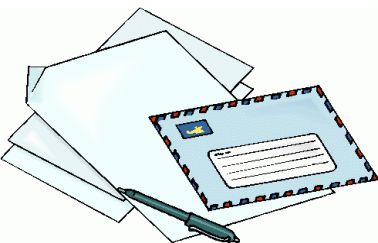
Assist in planning

Time Commitment

3 hours a year

Who to Contact

Bob - bob.hammel@cookgroup.com



We Get Letters!

Send letters to Reaching U.P. c/o UPC, 1701 E. 2nd, Bloomington, IN 47401 or email upcbloomington@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Bloomington chapter of the Self-Realization Fellowship, it is my pleasure to present you with our annual donation of \$240 to thank you for allowing us to convene here for our weekly mediation and prayer sessions on Thursday evenings.

In appreciation and divine friendship,
Robin Roy Gress, secretary
Self-Realization Fellowship

United Presbyterian Church,
Please accept this \$50 contribution from the Sunday 6 pm Overeaters Anonymous group in appreciation for allowing us to use the church for our weekly meetings.

Thank you so much for supporting our group through providing meeting space. We try to be good stewards of the space and encourage appropriate use of the church facilities, if there is anything we need to change or do, please let us know.

Sincerely,
Sunday OA Secretary

Christmas Fellowship (continued from page 1)



Alejandra, Darian, Melanie and Brenda. Billy and Mary Lou Rhoades had a wonderful time!

Christmas Greetings from the Coggins

PRAYER OF EXPECTATION

We expect...

Too much
And too little!

We expect...

A world that's fair
Comfortable
And Secure

We expect You to...

Protect us from all harm
Provide for every whim
And Treat us as the favorite child in Your family

We expect...

Too much of ourselves
Of our families
Of our labors

We expect...

Too little of Your grace when we fail
Too little strength when we weaken
Too little courage when we feel afraid

We expect...

Too little hope when we despair
Too little change when trapped
Too little new when bored

*Cause us to see the many ways
You clothe our path in hope*

*Help us to know the thrill of shepherds
The surprise of Mary
The stunned anticipation of Joseph
That we may fall in wonder on our knees!*

*Sending our love
and
prayers for
Christmas hope
and
New Year Blessings!
Love
Mitch & Linda*

Calendar

~ January 2018 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study	3 11:45am Men's Lunch	4 6 pm: UPC volunteers at Winter Shelter	5	6
7 Communion/Deacons Sunday 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	8	9 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study	10 11:45am Men's Lunch	11	12	13
14 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	15	16 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Session	17 11:45am Men's Lunch	18	19	20
21 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	22	23 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study	24 11:45am Men's Lunch	25	26	27
28 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship, followed by Congregational Meeting 11:30am Fellowship	29	30 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study	31 11:45am Men's Lunch			

Weekly Community Uses of UPC Rooms

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6pm Overeaters Anonymous	5:15pm Kiwanis (2nd Monday)			5:30pm Self Realization	5:30pm – Women's Group	11am Overeaters Anonymous
8pm Campus Group				8pm Campus Group		
				7pm SA (2nd and 4th Thursdays)		

Monthly Newsletter of United Presbyterian Church, 1701 E. Second Street—Bloomington, IN 47401.

Editor: Andy Hill. Submissions are accepted and welcomed. Please email upcbloomington@gmail.com.