

Reaching UP

New Music Director at UPC!

United Presbyterian
Church

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| Inside this Edition | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2 | Letter from the Pastor |
| 2 | How to Get Involved |
| 3 | Youth in Action |
| 3 | Birthdays and Anniversaries |
| 3 | Financial Report |
| 4 | Ethnic Food Fair Coming! |
| 5 | Baseball at UPC |
| 6 | You're a Grand Old Flag |
| 7 | Ordinations and Installations |
| 7 | The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe |
| 8 | Calendar of Events |



The UPC Worship Team and Music Director Search Committee are happy to announce that Benjamin Taylor Watkins has accepted their offer to take the position as United Presbyterian Church Music Director. He officially began his duties on Sunday, August 26.

Benjamin, who hails from Greenville, South Carolina, is a graduate of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and earned his B.M. Piano Performance, Cum Laude at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. At I.U.'s Jacobs School of Music he earned an M.M. in piano performance while studying piano with Dr. Karen Shaw and choral conducting with Dr. Dominic DiOrio and Dr. Betsy Burleigh. Now a D.M. student in Piano Performance at Jacobs, he's completed all of his course work and is preparing his dissertation. His advanced piano studies have been with Dr. Karen Shaw and further choral studies have been with Professor Walter Huff.

Before coming to UPC, Benjamin was assistant conductor and organist for the Baroque Music Ensemble of Evanston, assistant conductor at Northwestern University Theater and served as church musician at Bethlehem United Methodist and St. Phillips Episcopal—both in Greenville. Most recently he was an assistant instructor at IU's Jacobs School of Music.

In addition to being the recipient of a Jacobs Fellowship, Benjamin's numerous awards include First Prize at the Crescent Music Club Scholarship Competition, Second Prize at the Aloha International Piano Competition, Second Prize at the CYS Concerto Competition and the South Carolina Governor's Citizenship Medal.

"Music has been and always will be at the heart of worship," Benjamin wrote in a letter to the UPC Music Director Search Team. "Listening to each other and joining our voices in song is one of the most profound ways we can express our humanity and glorify God. Humbled by this understanding, I offer my application for the position of music director at your congregation."

Continued on page 5



From the Pastor's Pen ...



With the turning of another page of our calendars we welcome in the month of September. It is the month that will bring an end to our hot summer days, as well as usher in the cooler autumn ones. And as the month brings on new weather, we also have some new and exciting things going on here at United Presbyterian Church. I will be continuing my sermon series throughout the first four Sundays on "Searching for God within the Jukebox." A sermon series that looks at popular music and how various musicians have understood the world and how it can relate to the Bible. We will be looking at artists like

The Temptations, The Fray, U2, The Byrds, and Lenny Kravitz.

So, if you enjoy music like your minister does, make plans to be in church this September. As we take a look into the crossroads between musical lyrics and the Bible. I hope you all have a wonderful September.

Pastor John Napoli

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 Melanie know if you are interested at susieq_msm@yahoo.com.

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 Melanie Mathis-McBride at susieq_msm@yahoo.com

Utilize Scrip

UPC receives a percentage from the merchant for each gift card purchased. Place and purchase your order the first 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.

Video and Sound Systems

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

Offering

If you are interested in helping collect the offering during the service or count it after the service please contact Andy Hill at andy@andyhill.us

Youth in Action (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 have lost one of our volunteers in the nursery. If anyone has a passion to share their talent in this particular service of our church, it would be the 3rd Sunday of each month. This is a 2 hour commitment from 9-11am. This position is critical in creating a calm consistent atmosphere in the nursery.

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

Sunday School / Nursery Schedule

| Date | Pre-K – 6th Grade | Teen | Nursery |
|--------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| September 2 | No Class | No Class | Lance Like |
| September 9 | Melanie Mathis-McBride | Michelle Heitink | Sookyong Kim |
| September 16 | Melanie Mathis-McBride | Bob Hammel | TBA |
| September 23 | Karen Like | Melanie Mathis-McBride | Sarah Napoli |
| September 30 | Melanie Mathis-McBride | No Class | Colleen Swanson |

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sep 2 Lamis & Nabil Turk Anniversary
Sep 2 Agatha Nyarko
Sep 3 Don Root
Sep 7 Judie Iverson
Sep 9 Lamis Turk
Sep 11 Glenda Nyarko

Sep 15 Betty Chipman
Sep 15 Alexander Isamu Like
Sep 17 Yasmina Haddad, Sarah Napoli
Sep 21 Fadi Haddad
Sep 27 Billy Rhoades
Sep 29 Vera and Gerrit Heitink Anniversary

Financial Report

Our income was up again in July, although not quite enough to break even for the month. We took in \$12,717.75 and our expenses were \$14,029.81, giving us a net cash flow of negative \$1,312.06 for July. This puts us slightly further into the red at negative \$10,490.29 for the year to date.

Total collected for the Pentecost Offering was \$167.

Don Root

2018 UPC Ethnic Food Fair

Saturday, September 15!

Our congregation has been producing the UPC Ethnic Food Fair since 2000. Every year has been a success and, since 2014, we've produced the UPC Ethnic Food Fair every other year rather than annually.

The words of our former Interim Pastor, Reverend Mitchell Coggin say it best . . .

"The Ethnic Food fair is a vision of UPC that has been happening for 14 years (he wrote this in 2015). It's an opportunity for friends and members of UPC to prepare and share food from their native countries including the various regions of North America. People can enjoy the tastes of home lovingly made by their very own neighbors. Preparation for the UPC Ethnic Food Fair is a thorough and time consuming process that is worth every minute of the effort."



Vera at 2014
Food Fair

All are welcome to join in the fun by helping. The Ethnic Food Fair is successful each year because of the quality of the volunteers.

Of course, individuals are also needed to eat the food!

If you're interested in helping in any way, please contact one of the co-chairs—Vera Heitink or Allen Pease. Each of their phone numbers are listed in the church directory or give them a holler at any Sunday morning Fellowship Hour!

If you'd like to prepare a favorite recipe from your ethnic traditions, please let Vera or Allen know or sign up in the Narthex. Folks have already committed for dishes from Colombia, Holland, Italy, Jordan, Korea, Lebanon, Scotland and the U.S.

If you don't have a specific dish, but would like to prepare and donate a dessert, please see the sign up sheet posted in the Narthex.

Help is needed for staffing that day, to decorate, set-up and clean-up!



The 2016 Middle East Table

2018 UPC Ethnic Food Fair

Saturday, September 15 5 to 7 p.m.

\$12 Adults \$7 College/High School & kids 6 & older Free kids 5 & under



At left we see the 2016 hungry crowd. In the center is Souheil and Lamis and at right are the happy folks at the Indonesian Table.

Baseball at UPC

Earlier this year the UPC Session voted to sponsor a Monroe County Senior League Baseball Association team for the past Summer. This was a first time sponsorship. The team is made up of 13 to 15 year old youth who wore blue t-shirts emblazoned with United Presbyterian Church each time they played.

To show their appreciation of the UPC sponsorship, the League presented the church with a Sponsor Award plaque which you see here. It will be hung in the Anderson Parlor soon.

UPC Session intends to sponsor a team for the 2019 season also. The game schedule will be posted in Reaching UP throughout next Summer so that members know when to go cheer on the team.



New Music Director, Continued from Page 1

Benjamin continued his letter with, "Growing up in Westminster Presbyterian Church (Greenwood, SC), traditional music was at the core of my spiritual experience. To this day, the lessons of some particularly meaningful sermons still resonate along with the majestic chord progressions of our rich body of musical offerings. It is my hope that I can begin to complete the cycle by sharing the musical gifts I have worked to cultivate, for the spiritual enrichment of your congregation as well as the greater Bloomington community."

This resonated well with the Music Director Search Team as did Benjamin's overall enthusiasm and musical talents as the team made the final decision. The search team included Elder Souheil Haddad, Deacon Sue Lorimer, Reverend John Napoli, Elder Allen Pease and Elder Stephanie Worden.



You're a Grand Old Flag

A tribute to the flag of the United States

United Presbyterian
Celebrating 185 Years
1833 – 2018

This year, 2018, marks the 185th anniversary of the founding of United Presbyterian Church. On Saturday, September 4, 1833, fourteen members and two elders participated in the charter meeting for the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in downtown Bloomington. Each Sunday since June 24, we've heard A Minute for History segment on the history of UPC based upon the book written by Bob Hammel and Don Root for our 175th anniversary. The goal has been to not only refresh the history of UPC among our adults, but to also inform our youngsters of the amazing, stunning, true story of United Presbyterian. We'll wrap up our celebration of 185 years with UPC's amazing Ethnic Food Fair on Saturday, September 15.

On Sunday, August 26 we celebrated with You're a Grand Old Flag at Fellowship Hour. It included an old fashioned cook out with Jan Berend Heitink grilling burgers, brats and dogs outside and a pitch-in of salads, sides and desserts inside. Lou Malcomb and Judie Iverson worked very hard setting the buffet table and serving all the great food brought in by friends and members.

"You're a Grand Old Flag" began with Rev. Napoli offering prayer followed by guest artist Hunter Shaner singing *The Star Spangled Banner* with Benjamin Watkins on piano. Lou Malcomb and Souheil Haddad celebrated the UPC August birthdays by leading everyone in *Happy Birthday!* They presented a birthday card from the entire congregation to Reverend Napoli for his August 25th birthday. The 69th anniversary of Billy and Mary Lou Rhoades was recognized with presentation of an anniversary card signed by all.

Hunter then sang Geo. M. Cohan's iconic *You're a Grand Old Flag* with Benjamin on piano. Allen Pease introduced guest speaker vexillologist (one who studies flags) Philip Addison. He presented an interesting, humorous and educational Power Point on the history of the United States Flag. He also used authentic, historic U.S. Flags from the collection of Lou Malcomb to illustrate various points of his talk.



Hunter Shaner

All enjoyed the program and music and agreed the afternoon was a great time of food, fun and fellowship.



Photos by Souheil Haddad



New Deacons and New Elder for UPC

Due to the fact that one of our members moved to Indianapolis resulting in vacating their position on the UPC Session, several positions needed to be moved around. Therefore, on Sunday, August 12 an Installation & Ordination Ceremony was held during the morning worship service.

Reverend John Napoli and Elder Don Root, Clerk of Session, installed Eydie Peacher as an Elder on the Session Board. Patrick and Agatha Nyarko were installed and ordained as Deacons. The assembled congregation verbally agreed to support the installations and ordinations followed by a laying on of hands by other Deacons and Elders present.

BLOOMINGTON'S PROFESSIONAL THEATER COMPANY



CARDINALSTAGE.ORG

SEPTEMBER 7 – 23, 2018

UPC THEATRE OUTING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018 – 1 P.M. MATINEE

The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe

at Ivy Tech Waldron Auditorium

Based upon one of the most beloved books by C.S. Lewis, Cardinal Stage Company brings us a full scale, professionally mounted production in a faithful telling of the Lewis story that's cherished by children, Teens and adults alike.

Special Discounts for UPC:

12 & under \$12.95 reduced to \$9.95; Students \$13.95 reduced to \$10.95; Adults \$21.95 reduced to \$17.95

Sign up in the Narthex or see Allen in Fellowship Hall on Sunday or the Church Office weekdays

| ~ September 2018 ~ | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Communion/Deacons Sunday 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship 11am Fellowship 11:15am Communicant's Class 11:30am Choir Practice | 3 Labor Day | 4 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study | 5 11:45am Men's Lunch | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir Practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship 11:15am Communicant's Class | 10 | 11 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Session | 12 11:45am Men's Lunch | 13 | 14 | 15 5-7pm Ethnic Food Fair |
| 16 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir Practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship 11:15am Communicant's Class | 17 | 18 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study | 19 11:45am Men's Lunch | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir Practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship 11:15am Communicant's Class 1pm Lion, Witch, & Wardrobe | 24 | 25 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study | 26 11:45am Men's Lunch | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir Practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship 11:15am Communicant's Class | | | | | | |

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.
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