

Reaching UP

United Presbyterian
Church

1701 E. Second Street
Bloomington, IN 47401

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<http://upcbloomington.org>

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From the Pastor's Pen ...



The House of Christmas - *G.K. Chesterton* (1874-1936)

There fared a mother driven forth
Out of an inn to roam;
In the place where she was homeless
All men are at home.

The crazy stable close at hand,
With shaking timber and shifting sand,
Grew a stronger thing to abide and stand
Than the square stones of Rome.
For men are homesick in their homes,
And strangers under the sun,
And they lay on their heads in a foreign land
Whenever the day is done.
Here we have battle and blazing eyes,
And chance and honour and high surprise,
But our homes are under miraculous skies
Where the yule tale was begun.
A Child in a foul stable,
Where the beasts feed and foam;
Only where He was homeless
Are you and I at home;
We have hands that fashion and heads that know,
But our hearts we lost – how long ago!
In a place no chart nor ship can show
Under the sky's dome.
This world is wild as an old wives' tale,
And strange the plain things are,
The earth is enough and the air is enough
For our wonder and our war;
But our rest is as far as the fire-drake swings
And our peace is put in impossible things
Where clashed and thundered unthinkable wings
Round an incredible star.
To an open house in the evening
Home shall men come,
To an older place than Eden
Continued on page 2

From the Pastor's Pen, Continued from page 1

And a taller town than Rome.
To the end of the way of the wandering star,
To the things that cannot be and that are,
To the place where God was homeless
And all men are at home.

As your Minister I would like to wish the entire United Presbyterian Church a Christmas Season filled with the love and peace that only Christ can bring. May you all have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Reverend 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 signup sheet is in the fellowship hall.

Little Red Wagon

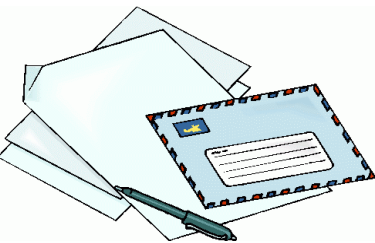
The little red wagon is waiting to be filled with canned goods and hygiene products for Monroe County United Ministries. For more information ask one of our Deacons.

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



We Get Letters!

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

To UPC,

Thank you so much for giving us this great opportunity to perform again at the United Presbyterian Church. It is a great honor and tremendous blessing.

Thank you,
Elzbieta Monka Szmyt, Jacobs School of Music Harp Department

[NOTE: On Nov. 14 ten harp students performed in our sanctuary. More than 50 attended. A donation to UPC of \$100 was enclosed with the above letter]

Hello to all at UPC!



I just wanted to say hi and that I miss you!
I hope you are doing well, and I hope all had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.
I'm including a picture of Margaret, who is growing way too fast!! We went to Fowler Pumpkin Patch last month and she got to hold a baby duck. As you can imagine, she was thrilled!

Love,
Sarah Moon Stamey

December Birthdays and Anniversaries



Dec 8 Sookyoung Kim
Dec 10 Lance Like
Dec 14 Elaine Weller
Dec 20 Bill Schofield
Dec 23 Brenda Wood

Dec 26 Salwa Spir
Dec 27 Jane and Fred Priest Anniversary
Dec 28 Patrick & Agatha Nyarko Anniversary
Dec 28 Aline Hamati Haddad
Dec 31 Rowan Heitink



Financial Report

We went deeper into the red last month. Our income was \$10,369.50 and expenses were \$14,461.37, giving us a net cash flow of negative \$4,091.87 for October. This increases our deficit to negative \$17,743.29 for the year to date. Again this year, we must ask for extra donations in December from anyone who is in a position to do so.

On a more positive note, we took in \$215 from the peace offering and the Spaghetti Dinner raised \$1270 which will be split evenly between the youth program and special music.

Don Root

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
December 2	No Class	No Class	Lance Like
December 9	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Michelle Heitink	Sookyoung Kim
December 16	Karen Like	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Sarah Napoli
December 23	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Sarah Napoli
December 30	Melanie Mathis-McBride	No Class	Colleen Swanson



Do you enjoy baking cookies?
Do you enjoy eating cookies?
UPC Youth will be hosting a
cookie tasting and exchange
during fellowship hour
Come and enjoy!
Sunday, December 16th



Merry Christmas

2018 Advent at United Presbyterian Church

1701 East Second Street ♦ Bloomington, Indiana



Sunday, December 2 – First Sunday in Advent

10 a.m. – Worship led by Reverend John Napoli, liturgy by Deacon Patrick Nyarko
Holy Communion served by Reverend John Napoli and the UPC Elders; table prepared by the Deacons
Lighting of the Hope Candle on the Advent Wreath by the Nyarko family
The Chancel Choir and Benjamin Watkins on piano and organ
Congregational Meeting to Elect 2019 Officers follows Fellowship Hour

Tuesday, December 4 – Advent Devotional

7p.m. – Homily led by Elder Alejandra Haddad; Benjamin Watkins on piano and organ

Sunday, December 9 – Second Sunday in Advent

10 a.m. – Worship led by Reverend John Napoli, liturgy by Elder Eydie Peacher
Lighting of the Peace Candle on the Advent Wreath by the Worden family
The Chancel Choir and Benjamin Watkins on piano and organ

Tuesday, December 11 – Advent Devotional

7p.m. – Homily led by Rev. David Rosen; Benjamin Watkins on piano and organ

Sunday, December 16 – Third Sunday in Advent

10 a.m. – Worship led by Reverend John Napoli, liturgy by Deacon Michelle Heitink
Lighting of the Joy Candle on the Advent Wreath by Michelle and sons Gerrit Jan and Benjamin
The Chancel Choir and Benjamin Watkins on piano and organ

Tuesday, December 18 – Advent Devotional

7p.m. – Homily led by Reverend John Napoli; Benjamin Watkins on piano and organ

Sunday, December 23 – Fourth Sunday in Advent

10 a.m. – Worship led by Reverend John Napoli, liturgy by Vera Heitink
Lighting of the Love Candle on the Advent Wreath by Vera & Gerrit Heitink
The Chancel Choir and Benjamin Watkins on piano and organ



Monday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

10 a.m. – Worship led by Reverend John Napoli,
Lighting of the Christ Candle on the Advent Wreath by John & Sarah Napoli
Christmas Joy Offering – Benjamin Watkins on piano and organ

~ December 2018 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Christmas Party
2 Communion/ Deacons Sunday 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	3	4 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Advent Devotional	5 11:45am Men's Lunch	6 6pm Harp recital	7	8
9 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	10	11 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Advent Devotional	12 11:45am Men's Lunch	13	14	15
16 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship/ Cookie Exchange	17 7pm Session	18 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Advent Devotional	19 11:45am Men's Lunch	20	21	22
23 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	24	25 Christmas! 	26 11:45am Men's Lunch	27	28	29
30 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	31					

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	9am-12pm Biscuits and Gravy Boys
8pm Campus Group				8pm Campus Group		11am Overeaters Anonymous
				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.