

Reaching UP

United Presbyterian
Church

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SCOTTISH HERITAGE DAY ANNOUNCED FOR UPC



2017 saw, for the first time ever, the Scottish Heritage of the Presbyterian Church (USA) celebrated at UPC. A Scottish Heritage observation and worship service was held Sunday, November 12. It was overseen by Pastor Napoli and UPC Event Coordinator Allen Pease and made possible by the Scottish heritage knowledge and massive amount of volunteering of Linda and Tom Brown. Assisting were the Worship Team, Fellowship Team of the Deacons, Dr. Sarah Moon Stamey and the Chancel Choir as well as Bloom-

ington bagpipe instructor Angus Martin. The service included a processional, selected hymns, an anthem by our Chancel Choir and the Kirkin and Blessing of the Tartans by Rev. Napoli. UPCers of Scottish heritage with family Tartans participated in the blessing. After the service, celebration of Scottish heritage continued with a pitch-in lunch, which highlighted Scottish culinary traditions. Pastor Napoli and the Worship Team are planning to present Scottish Heritage Day in 2019 and have selected Sunday, February 24 for the observance. Anyone wishing to help with the project is asked to contact Allen Pease at your earliest convenience.





From the Pastor's Pen ...



Happy New Year!

Another year has come and gone...another is now in the books. But, as fast as we remove the old calendars from our walls, new ones immediately take their place. As we welcome in the New Year, we say goodbye to 2018 and say hello to 2019. All while putting away the Christmas decorations and sweeping up the confetti. For United Presbyterian Church the beginning of 2019 is going to be an exciting and busy time. On January 13th we will be celebrating three of our youths with one of our first confirmation classes in over three years. Then in February it will be time to get out your tartans as we are planning to celebrate our

second Scottish Heritage Service on the 24th. Also, in the early spring keep a look out for our annual Dessert Auction to help support our youth by sending them to Camp Pyoca. Christmas and the holidays may be behind us, but there is plenty to keep us busy here at United Presbyterian Church. So, please keep a watch for upcoming church events...and I hope you all have a happy and blessed New Year!

Peace and Grace,

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.

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 1 ¼ hour commitment from 9:45 - 11:00 am. 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
January 6	No Class	No Class	Lance Like
January 13	Aline Haddad	Michelle Heitink	Sookyoung Kim
January 20	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Bob Hammel	Sarah Napoli
January 27	Karen Like	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Sarah Napoli

January Birthdays and Anniversaries



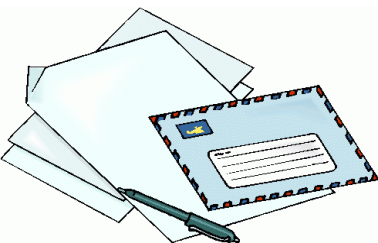
Jan 3 Liz Root	Jan 19 Christabel Nyarko
Jan 5 John Swanson	Jan 23 Karen Like
Jan 10 Chelsey Parker	Jan 25 Virginia McCartney
Jan 11 Stephanie Haddad	



Financial Report

November was another down month, financially. Our income was \$8,058.00 and expenses were \$11,842.22, giving us a net cash flow of negative \$3,784.22 for November. This increases our deficit to negative \$21,527.51 for the year to date. Typically, we have a good month in December, so the overall deficit for the year should go down some.

Don Root



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 to thank you for allowing us to convene here for our weekly meditation and prayer sessions on Thursday evenings. Upon learning that United Presbyterian has just installed a new heating-cooling system, our grateful members decided to increase their contributions as a way of saying thank you.

Thus, this year's donation comes to a total of \$411.

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

Dear United Presbyterian Congregation,

Do you hear that? That gentle rumbling in the distance? That's the sound of your investment breaking the cycle of poverty!

Your continued support is changing the landscape of your students' and grandmothers' world.. They used to see nothing but poverty and despair all around them. Now they see hope! They see classrooms full of happy, smiling students and they see grandmothers building businesses. What a beautiful world you are making for them!

Your generosity reaches more lives every year. You are tackling new challenges like protecting children from sexual assault. You opened the Nyaka Vocational Secondary School. And in 2019 you are sending your fourth class of students to university! None of this is possible without you!

There is so much more to do! I hope you will continue to be our partner as we work to end poverty for your students and grandmothers. You are a vital member of our Nyuaka family.

Your students and grandmothers are so grateful for your love, care and support.

With deepest gratitude,
Twesigye Jackson Kaguri, Founder and CEO
Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project

UPC Teen takes the lead in fighting hunger . . .

Thomas Like of Boy Scout Troop 100 and a member at UPC, was inspired to create a variation on Todd Bol's Little Free Library by creating a *Blessing Box*, a take-and-put food sharing box. That box and the church's new landscaping were Thomas's Eagle Scout project.

Todd Bol called his brain child Little Free Library a "spiritual gesture." In 2009, he built a small monument to his mother, who had been a schoolteacher. The wooden replica of a schoolhouse, two feet high and two feet wide, held his mother's books, and he put it on his front yard, hoping to start a book exchange for his neighbors.

That was the beginning of his founding of a nonprofit organization called Little Free Library a year later. They operate under the honor system: You take a book and sometimes you leave a book, so the content of the boxes is constantly changing. Bloomington has a number of these around town. Bol, died on Thursday October 18, 2018 in hospice care in Oakdale, Minnesota. He was 62.

"I was hungry and you fed me" Matthew 25:35.

The Boy Scout Oath has traditionally been considered to have three promises, two of which are:

Duty to God, and

Duty to other people.

Many people need help. Scouts are encouraged to lend a cheery smile and a helping hand to make life easier for others. By doing a Good Turn daily and helping when you're needed, you prove yourself a Scout and do your part to make this a better world.

According to an NPR article dated April 3, 2018 (entitled "A National Survey Shows High Rates of Hungry and Homeless Community College Students"), 29% of four-year college students are at risk of hunger.

"Our church, walking distance from many IU dorms, can help address that hunger issue. We have been collecting food for the United Ministries Food Pantry for a number of years," said Pastor Napoli. "This put-and-take concept can more readily get food into the hands of the hungry. So, it is another way to find and feed those in need. All they need to do is find Thomas's put-and-take box on the west side of the church," he added.

These perspectives on connecting and helping those in need came together during the Sunday morning worship service on December 16 when Thomas Like's Eagle Project, including comprehensive new landscaping and the *Blessing Box*, was dedicated in a ceremony presided over by Reverend Napoli. The *Blessing Box* is located on the lawn of the church at the corner of Second and Eastside.

Tips on what might work best for our new Blessing Box

1. Energy or trail bars
2. Snack packs of nuts, raisins
3. Individually wrapped string or Baby Bel cheese
4. Dried fruit
5. Pouches of tuna or chicken (no can opener needed)
6. Whole grain crackers

Calendar

~ January 2019 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Communion/ Deacons Sunday 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	7	8 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study	9 11:45am Men's Lunch	10	11	12
13 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship & Confirmation 11am Fellowship	14	15 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Session	16 11:45am Men's Lunch	17	18	19
20 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	21	22 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Session	23 11:45am Men's Lunch	24	25	26
27 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	28	29 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study	30 11:45am Men's Lunch	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.