

# Reaching UP

United Presbyterian  
Church

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## Dining In returning to UPC with an ethnic flair!

There has been a lack of enthusiasm in mounting another UPC Ethnic Food Fair due to the sheer enormity of the undertaking each year. To paraphrase our former Interim Pastor, Reverend Mitchell Coggin: *The Ethnic Food fair was a vision of UPC that happened for years. It was an opportunity for friends and members of UPC to prepare and share food from their native countries including the various regions of North America. Neighbors and members of the community at large enjoyed 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.* The event strongly signaled UPC's diversity and inclusiveness far and wide. Unfortunately, because it's become so cumbersome combined with the reduction of our numbers, it appears that we need to discontinue the event.



With an eye toward maintaining the signaling of UPC's diversity and inclusiveness to the community in a more manageable format, Vera Heitink came up with an idea and after discussion with Souheil Haddad and Allen Pease, it was presented to the UPC Session Board and approved for presentation to the congregation.

Some years ago the late Peggy Courtney founded the successful "UPC Dining In Experience" series. It ran eight months a year for several years. Instead of dining out with a restaurant full of strangers, she felt we should *dine in* and share an evening of fellowship and fine food with church family, friends and neighbors.

The series was a success for a number of reasons.

Reservations and payment were made in advance allowing for accurate planning and food preparation.

Peggy created a menu for each meal and prepared the entrée(s). Volunteers were recruited to provide the salad, a side dish or a dessert. No one person was overloaded with work.

The event lent itself easily to inviting friends, relatives and neighbors.



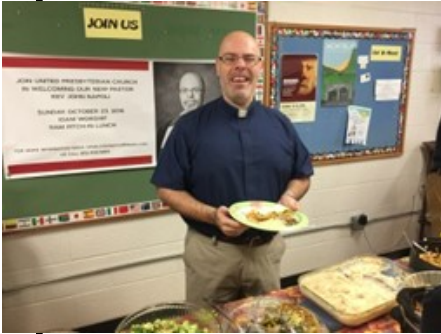
Based upon the success of the "UPC Dining In Experience" series, Vera proposes presenting "Dining In," but this time with an ethnic dining theme with the following elements:

The structure closely follow that of the original series.

**Continued on page 3**



## From the Pastor's Pen ...



As we leave the Fall Season with glad hearts full of thanks, we look toward the next holiday season. The Season of Advent is a time where the church looks forward with eagerness at the coming of Christ. We are reminded of Mary and Joseph, we are reminded of the holy messenger Gabriel, and we are reminded of the ministry of John the Baptist. Churches around the world will soon be celebrating age old narratives about these individuals and how they are tied into the story that leads us to the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. And as Advent ushers in Christmas we will gather together to sing carols, share meals, and exchange gifts. But as the “season” of giving

quickly approaches us, we should consider not only giving gifts, but being a gift. Giving of our time, love, friendship, and talents. Being a gift to those around us this season and every season.

From the Napoli family to yours...we'd like to wish the entire faith community of United Presbyterian Church a happy Advent and a very Merry Christmas.

Grace and Peace,

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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)

If you are interested in volunteering or getting involved with UPC youth contact Melanie Mathis-McBride ([susieq\\_msm@yahoo.com](mailto:susieq_msm@yahoo.com)).

## Sunday School / Nursery Schedule

Date	Pre-K – 5th Grade	Teens	Nursery
December 1	No Class	No Class	Lance Like
December 8	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Bob Hammel	Sookyung Kim
December 15	Aline Haddad	Michelle Heitink	Sarah Napoli
December 22	Karen Like	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Sarah Napoli
December 29	Melanie Mathis-McBride	No Class	Colleen Swanson

### Dining In (continued)

Dining In will kick off with three dinners in February, March, and April.

Recruit a volunteer to be “Head Chef” for each Dining In.

Reservations required to be made at least four days in advance of each Dining In.

Press releases be written and distributed to the Herald Times, Ellettsville Journal, IDS, WTIU, WFIU, WGCL, WFHB, WCLS, WTTS and B-97 as well as putting an article in Reaching U.P.

We are establishing two levels of admission: one for kids 12 and under and one for everyone else. We’re also working on determining the best night of the week to present Dining In.

Vera has volunteered to be the first “Head Chef” with the theme of Indonesia for the February Dining In.

Who’d like to volunteer to be “Head Chef” for March?

## December Birthdays and Anniversaries



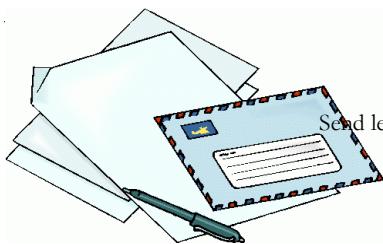
Dec 08 Sookyung Kim	Dec 28 Patrick & Agatha Nyarko Anniversary
Dec 10 Lance Like	Dec 28 Aline Hamati Haddad
Dec 23 Brenda Wood	Dec 31 Rowan Heitink
Dec 27 Jane and Fred Priest Anniversary	



## Financial Report

October was another month where expenses exceeded income by a significant amount. We took in \$10,850.00 and expenses were \$12,875.91, giving us a net cash flow of negative \$2,025.91 for October and negative \$10,002.17 for the year-to-date. Once again this year, we hope that some members can see their way clear to make an extra donation in December so that we can minimize our year end deficit.

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](mailto:upcbloomington@gmail.com)

Dear UPC,

Thank you so very much for the kind and thoughtful gift of flowers to help us celebrate our 200th year of ministry! They were absolutely beautiful! It is with much joy and thanksgiving for the Spirit and ministry we share!

The Session

First Presbyterian Church, Bloomington

Rev. John Napoli,

Temporary. All is temporary — except God's Grace!

GRACE: n. intentional kindness.

May the music never end!

Please accept the enclosed for the UPC music program.

In honor of Pastor John Napoli.

Thank you for the grace you showed to me recently!

Barbara Dean, Macon, Georgis

NOTE: Enclosed was a donation of \$100 to the UPC Music Program.

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 \$257 to thank you for allowing us to convene here for our weekly meditation and prayer sessions on Thursday evenings.

In appreciation and divine friendship,

Robin Roy Gress, secretary

Self-Realization Fellowship

Dear friends,

Greetings. I hope you are having a great November.

I am pleased to share the report of United Presbyterian Church's giving efforts. This report reflects the amount received through the end of October. Currently, UPC has donated \$259.47 and raised 181 pounds of food for our pantry. THANK YOU! Each item of food and every dollar donated makes a lasting impact on the families that MCUM serves. Your continued support is greatly appreciated and truly makes a huge difference in the lives of individuals in Monroe County.

With your generous support and the efforts of other area congregations, we've received 12,309 lbs. of food and \$46,098.93 in financial contributions so far this year. We are humbled by everyone's generous support.

We have some very exciting news to share with you! MCUM is pleased to announce that Katie Broadfoot has taken charge as our executive director. For the past year and a half, Katie has been Interim Executive Director while maintaining her previous position as Development Director. We are thrilled to see Katie fully transition into her new role at MCUM.

Sincerely,

Mary Jean Holwager, Development Associate

Monroe County United Ministries



## 2019 ADVENT

United Presbyterian Church

### **Sunday, December 1 — 10 a.m.**

First Sunday in Advent

Led by Reverend John Napoli — Liturgist Deacon Vera Heitink

Lighting of the Candle of Hope — Vera & Gerrit Heitink

Chancel Choir, Benjamin Watkins, director

### **Tuesday, December 3 — 7 p.m.**

Advent Meditation led by Reverend John Napoli

Guest Artist Tommy Endicott — French Horn Benjamin Watkins — Piano & Organ

### **Sunday, December 8 — 10 a.m.**

Second Sunday in Advent

Led by Reverend John Napoli — Liturgist Elder John Swanson

Lighting of the Candle of Peace — John & Colleen Swanson

Chancel Choir, Benjamin Watkins, director

### **Tuesday, December 10 — 7 p.m.**

Advent Meditation led by Elder Don Root

Guest Artist Olivia Meyers — Cello Benjamin Watkins — Piano & Organ

### **Sunday, December 15 — 10 a.m.**

Third Sunday in Advent

Led by Reverend John Napoli — Liturgist Alexander Like

Lighting of the Candle of Joy — The Like Family

Chancel Choir, Benjamin Watkins, director

### **Tuesday, December 17 — 7 p.m.**

Advent Meditation led by Elder Alejandra Haddad

Benjamin Watkins — Piano & Organ

### **Sunday, December 22 — 10 a.m.**

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Led by Reverend John Napoli — Liturgist Deacon Patrick Nyarko

Lighting of the Candle of Peace — The Nyarko Family Benjamin Watkins, music director

Receiving of the Joy Offering

### **Tuesday, December 24 — 7 p.m.**



Christmas Eve Candle Light Service led by Reverend John Napoli — Liturgist Michelle Heitink

Lighting the Christ Candle — The Heitink Family Benjamin Watkins — Piano & Organ

Holy Communion served by Rev. Napoli assisted by

Elders Darian McBride, Melanie Mathis McBride, Don Root and Reverend Bob Lorimer

# Calendar

~ December 2019 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <b>Communion/</b> <b>Deacons Sunday</b> 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Advent Meditation	<b>4</b> 11:45am Men's Lunch	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:45am Pastor's Class 9am Choir practice 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	<b>9</b> 7pm New Voices Opera	<b>10</b> 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Advent Meditation	<b>11</b> 11:45am Men's Lunch	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6pm Haddad Christmas Party
<b>15</b> 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Advent Meditation	<b>18</b> 11:45am Men's Lunch 7pm Session	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7pm Christmas Eve Service 	<b>25</b> Christmas Day	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve 				

## 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-1pm 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](mailto:upcbloomington@gmail.com).