

# Reaching UP

United Presbyterian  
Church

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## HAPPY CHRISTMAS AT THE HADDAD HOME!

Everyone knows Christmas is really here when Alejandra & Souheil Haddad host their annual Christmas party and dinner for the friends and members of UPC! It was a big hit again this year!



Judie was there ready to celebrate as was Rev. Bob and Mrs. Claus. The trio of Michelle, Lou and hostess Alejandra were also ready for Deck the Halls!



The Worden's arrived in the right spirit and John, Ale, Virginia, Colleen, Pastor and John formed a Christmas Chorus Line! Whitney, Michelle,



the Nyarko family and friends enjoyed the feast. Lumberjack Santa Phil, host Souheil and Christmas Tree Allen were festive while Rev. John, his wife Sarah and their child Johnny enjoyed a peaceful moment by the Haddad fireplace.





## From the Pastor's Pen ...



### Blessing of the Magi

There is no reversing this road. The path that bore you here goes in one direction only, every step drawing you down a way by which you will not return.

You thought arrival was everything, that your entire journey ended with kneeling in the place you had spent all to find.

When you laid down your gift, release came with such ease, your treasure tumbling from your hands in awe and benediction.

Now the knowledge of your leaving comes like a stone laid over your heart, the familiar path closed and not even the solace of a star to guide your way.

You will set out in fear. You will set out in dream.

But you will set out by that other road that lies in shadow and in dark.

We cannot show you the route that will take you home; that way is yours and will be found in the walking.

But we tell you, you will wonder at how the light you thought you had left behind goes with you, spilling from your empty hands, shimmering beneath your homeward feet, illuminating the road with every step you take.

— Jan Richardson

*(Jan Richardson is an artist, writer, and ordained minister in the United Methodist Church. **Blessing of the Magi** borrowed from Jan's website: <https://paintedprayerbook.com/2012/12/30/epiphany-blessing-of-the-magi/> )*

May your January be filled with wonder and epiphany...Happy 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](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).

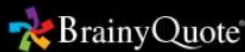
### Volunteering with Sunday School

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.

**Pray as though everything  
depended on God. Work as  
though everything depended on  
you.**  
Saint Augustine



## 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 is typically a slow month financially and this November was no exception. We took in \$9,738.50 and expenses were \$12,268.53, giving us a net cash flow of negative \$2,530.03 for November and negative \$12,532.20 for the year-to-date. Our only saving grace is that December is typically a good month.

On a positive note, the spaghetti dinner brought in \$1,591 which will be divided evenly between youth actives and the music program.

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)



United Presbyterian Church  
Indiana Friends of NYAKA  
1701 E 2nd St  
Bloomington, IN 47401-5221

**December 16, 2019**

**Donation Date: 12/9/2019  
Donation Amount: \$250.00**

Dear Congregation,

*Thank you for putting your compassion into action!*

Your gift is already on its way to Uganda to continue your amazing work in Uganda.

You're a friend and ally to 10,000 grandmothers raising as many as 60,000 orphaned grandchildren. You're empowering them with the tools and education they need to escape poverty.

*Because of you, a child born in extreme poverty in Southwest Uganda who loses their parents to AIDS has hope for a future without hunger, fear, or violence.*

The impact you've made today will be felt in their lives and the lives of their children.

*Thank you for your generous gift!*

With deepest gratitude,

Twesigye Jackson Kaguri  
Founder and CEO



The Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project is an approved 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your contributions are fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.

*Thank  
you!  
Merry Christmas!*

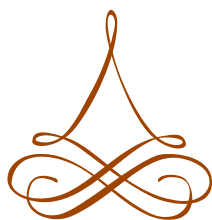
P.O. Box 339, East Lansing, MI 48826 (517) 575-6623 [www.nyakaschool.org](http://www.nyakaschool.org) [info@nyakaschool.org](mailto:info@nyakaschool.org)

# 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

	Pre-K -- 6	Teen	Nursery
January 5	No Class	No Class	Lance Like
January 12	Aline Haddad	Michelle Heitink	Sookyung Kim
January 19	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Bob Hammel	Sarah Napoli
January 26	Karen Like	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Sarah Napoli
February 2	No Class	No Class	Lance Like
February 9	Aline Haddad	Michelle Heitink	Sookyung Kim
February 16	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Bob Hammel	Sarah Napoli
February 23	Karen Like	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Sarah Napoli
March 1	No Class	No Class	Lance Like
March 8	Aline Haddad	Michelle Heitink	Sookyung Kim
March 15	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Bob Hammel	Sarah Napoli
March 22	Karen Like	Melanie Mathis-McBride	Sarah Napoli
March 29	Melanie Mathis McBride	No Class	Colleen Swanson



## *Congratulate our Winter Graduates*

We will enjoy a cake during fellowship hour on January 5, 2020 and a box will be downstairs for both of our graduates if anyone would like to drop them a note or card.

Gerrit Jan Heitink

And

Jesse Elliott McBride

## ~ January 2020 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 11:45am Men's Lunch	2	3	4
5 <b>Communion/ Deacons Sunday</b> 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship— Graduation Sunday and Election of Officers 11am Fellowship	6	7 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study	8 11:45am Men's Lunch	9	10	11
12 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship 11am Fellowship	13	14 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 6:30pm MCCT	15 11:45am Men's Lunch	16	17	18
19 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship and <b>Installation of Officers</b> 11am Fellowship	20	21 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study 7pm Session	22 11:45am Men's Lunch	23	24	25
26 8:45am Pastor's Class 10am Worship followed by Annual Meeting 11am Fellowship	27	28 12:15pm Bible Study 6pm Book Study	29 11:45am Men's Lunch 6pm Chili Dinner	30	31	

### Weekly Community Users 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)		

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 Editor: Andy Hill. Submissions are accepted and welcomed. Please email [upcbloomington@gmail.com](mailto:upcbloomington@gmail.com).