

# Reaching UP

United Presbyterian  
Church

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## Announcement to the UPC Congregation

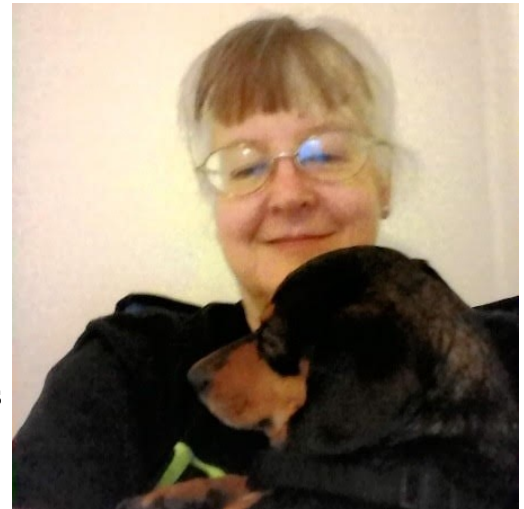
After an exhaustive nationwide search, we have found a great match right in our own Presbytery. Rev. Cheryl Montgomery will be our Transitional Pastor beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>. Cheryl comes to us from Trinity Parish, a yoked group of the Presbyterian Churches in Clinton, Rockville, and Montezuma. She is originally from the Pittsburgh area, having graduated from Muskingum College and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. She comes with the enthusiastic endorsement of our Executive Presbyter, Rev. Susan McGhee.

Cheryl's experience is well suited to our needs. She was ordained in 1984 and has served as Transitional Pastor in numerous congregations of varying sizes since then. She has been Transitional Pastor in Mahopac, New York as well as several churches in the North-East. She was also a Transitional Pastor in Sullivan and Installed Pastor in Greenwood.

Cheryl and her two dogs will be moving to Bloomington. She looks forward to working with us as we endeavor to determine where and how God is leading us to serve Him in 2023 and beyond.

Your Transitional Pastor Search Committee:

Don Root, David Barnett, Jan Berend Heitink, Melanie Mathis-McBride, Darian McBride and Eydie Peacher.



## Welcome Reverend Montgomery

The UPC Worship Team is hosting a Welcome Pastor Reception immediately after the May 5 Sunday morning worship to celebrate her first Sunday at United Presbyterian. This is Reverend Montgomery's first service she's conducting for UPC as well as her first sermon presentation and her first time to serve Holy Communion for our congregation.

The reception is in Fellowship Hall with the Worship Team serving fruit trays, bagels, coffee cake and beverages. All are encouraged to attend.

# March Birthdays and Anniversaries



Mar 8 Michelle Heitink  
Mar 16 Deborah Heitink



## JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

January income was \$11,664 and expenses were \$13,155 giving us a deficit of \$1,491 for January. While we normally have a surplus in January, some larger than normal payouts drove the expense side up. It's that time of the year when we ask those who are able to pay their per-capita. This year's per-capita is \$50.15 per member.

Don Root

## 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)

### Treasurer Assistant

If you are interested in helping count and process donations and other treasurer duties, please contact Andy Hill at [andy@andyhill.us](mailto:andy@andyhill.us)

### UPC n Zoom

Tuesday evening Bible Study is conducted via Zoom. If you're not already signed up to receive an email with the link to the Zoom meeting, simply email [upcbloomington@gmail.com](mailto:upcbloomington@gmail.com) and request inclusion.

### 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](mailto:rootd@msn.com).

### Sunday Service on YouTube

UPC YouTube Channel link is: [UPC Bloomington - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBloomington-YouTube). An email is sent out each Thursday with the YouTube link and Sunday's Bulletin attached. If you're not on the list and would like to be, email [upcbloomington@gmail.com](mailto:upcbloomington@gmail.com) and request inclusion.



Presbyterian Mission  
**Mission Engagement  
& Support**

*Thank You!*

February 15, 2023

The Mission Committee  
United Presbyterian Church  
1701 E. 2nd St.  
Bloomington, IN 47401

Dear Partners in God's Mission,

Grace and peace to you and yours through Jesus Christ, who makes us one.

On Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate the Transfiguration of the Lord. In Matthew's gospel, we read, "And [Jesus] was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white" (17:2). Clearly, Peter, James and John received a glimpse of God.

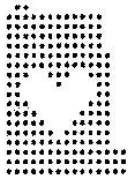
As you engage with Presbyterian Mission, you too get a glimpse of God – a vision of what God is doing around the world. And so, on behalf of Presbyterian Mission, please allow me to express our appreciation to you, your pastor, session, and congregation for your gracious and faithful support. Your church's support changes people's lives and helps others receive a glimpse of God around the world. Please see the attached sheet listing your January gifts.

As the Lenten Season soon approaches, now is a good time to ensure you have your "One Great Hour of Sharing" materials. This Offering enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and empower the poor and oppressed. To order resources directly or to check on your congregation's standing order, please call Presbyterian Distribution Services at (800) 524-2612 or email them at [pds@pcusa.org](mailto:pds@pcusa.org).

Thank you once again for your support, dedication, and partnership in furthering God's mission around the world. You are a valued partner.

Yours in Christ,

Lauren N. Rogers  
Ministry Engagement Advisor  
Office of Ministry Engagement and Support  
(502) 974-7697  
[Lauren.rogers@pcusa.org](mailto:Lauren.rogers@pcusa.org)



## Monroe County United Ministries

827 West 14th Court  
Bloomington, IN 47404-3347  
(812) 339-3429 (812) 339-2912 fax  
mcum@mcum.org www.mcum.org

March 1, 2023

United Presbyterian Church  
1701 E Second Street  
Bloomington, IN 47401

Dear Friends,

"There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in." Archbishop Desmond Tutu spoke these words addressing the inequities of apartheid, and they deeply resonate with our vision at MCUM to end poverty. We are pulling our neighbors out of the river by finding solutions to situational poverty and more importantly we are going upstream to find lasting solutions to economic, educational and social injustice so that they stop falling in. Through our implementation of quality programs, innovation and collaboration we are **breaking the cycle of poverty**.

The synergy of our programs at MCUM are uniquely suited to end generational poverty for the people we serve. Not only do we address our community's immediate need of food, financial assistance, and childcare, we empower this generation to be better for their children, and their children's children. We aren't just giving a family a bag of groceries to last them until pay day; we are giving them energy to care for one another. We aren't just paying someone's electric bill; we are building a foundation of financial independence. In 2022 we served 25,000 residents and anticipate even more in the years to come.

We are so appreciative of your past support and hope you will join us again this year by donating to the **Spring Into Action Campaign**, a community-wide challenge to break the cycle of poverty. This year our goal is to raise **1,000** pounds of non-perishable items to restock our food, cleaning, and hygiene pantry which will throw a life vest to someone experiencing situational poverty. We also need **\$40,000** to support our quality childcare and coaching programs that eliminate generational poverty by going upstream to address the injustices and inequities to keep future generations from falling in the river.

**Your donation to our Spring campaign will go towards our three largest annual operating costs.**

- \$53,000 feeding children in Compass Early Learning Center three healthy meals and two snacks.
- \$40,000 in emergency grant funding to pay for rent, utilities, and microloans.
- \$28,000 in keeping our facilities clean and safe for the 14,580 annual visitors to the Self-Sufficiency Center and 120 children in our early learning facilities.

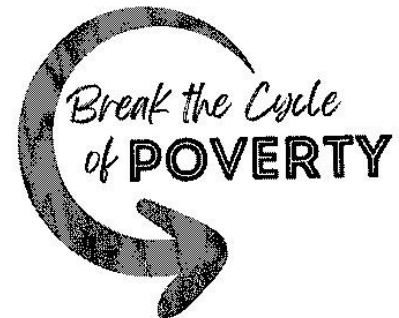
Together we can break the cycle and end generational poverty, for good.

Sincerely,

  
Darcie D. Casey  
Development Director

Our Vision: To eliminate generational poverty for the people we serve.

Monroe County United Ministries  
**SPRING INTO ACTION**



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## Please Help with UPC's 2023 Per Capita

The Per Capita is an annual contribution made to the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, General Assembly, and Synod for the services and support they provide to UPC. The 2023 per capita is \$50.15 per member. If you are able, the per capita may be paid by check, cash or credit card. Make checks payable to UPC with 2023 per capita on the memo line. Place cash in an envelope marked per capita. Place checks and cash envelopes in the offering plate in the narthex. If donating by debit/credit card, note per capita and your name on the print out from the machine and place it in the offering plate. If you have questions, contact UPC Treasurer Andy Hill.



## Why Per Capita is Important

Per capita funds are the primary source of support for the Office of the General Assembly.

Per capita funds allow the Office of the General Assembly to support the ministry and witness of congregations and mid councils through:

- Bringing together commissioners and advisory delegates as the General Assembly
- Publishing (in multiple languages) and distribution (in multiple format) of the Book of Order, The Book of Confessions, and other General Assembly publications
- Underwriting the expenses of the Co-Moderators of the General Assembly as they travel across the church and around the world to interpret the work of the General Assembly and attend church anniversaries, presbytery meetings, retreats, and ecumenical gatherings
- Gathering church leaders from presbyteries and synods for training events
- Supporting work in the area of ordered ministry, helping all Presbyterians respond to God's call in their lives as teaching elders, ruling elders, and deacons
- Providing necessary tools to develop and administer ordination exams to seminarians preparing to become future pastors
- Maintaining Church Leadership Connection, the online system that supports the call process for pastors and congregations
- Supporting those elected to serve on permanent General Assembly committees, such as the Advisory Committee on the Constitution, the General Assembly Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations, the General Assembly Nominating Committee, and the General Assembly Committee on Representation
- Providing information, advice, and counsel to presbyteries and pastors whose members have immigration issues
- Supporting the Presbyterian Historical Society, ensuring that our witness to the gospel today will be preserved for future generations, just as we have learned about the history of past generations
- Providing a Presbyterian presence at ecumenical groups and gatherings in this country and worldwide-- extending our mission efforts and our work for peace and justice far beyond what we can do by ourselves to promote Christian unity







ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT



**For more than 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has connected us in God's healing, tending and growing to create a world where all needs are met.**

Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports projects in more than 100 countries. Visit [pcusa.org/oghsmap](http://pcusa.org/oghsmap) for locations and ministries.

United Presbyterian Church will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering at our Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services.



***“God is our refuge and strength ... though the mountains shake.” - Psalm 46:1-3***

**GIVE. ACT. PRAY.** The scale of the disaster facing Syria and Turkey after the Feb. 6 earthquake is clear. The 7.8-magnitude quake and aftershocks left more than 50,000 dead and thousands injured. Buildings have been reduced to rubble, and roads and bridges have been severely damaged, hampering responders. In Aleppo, this destruction is

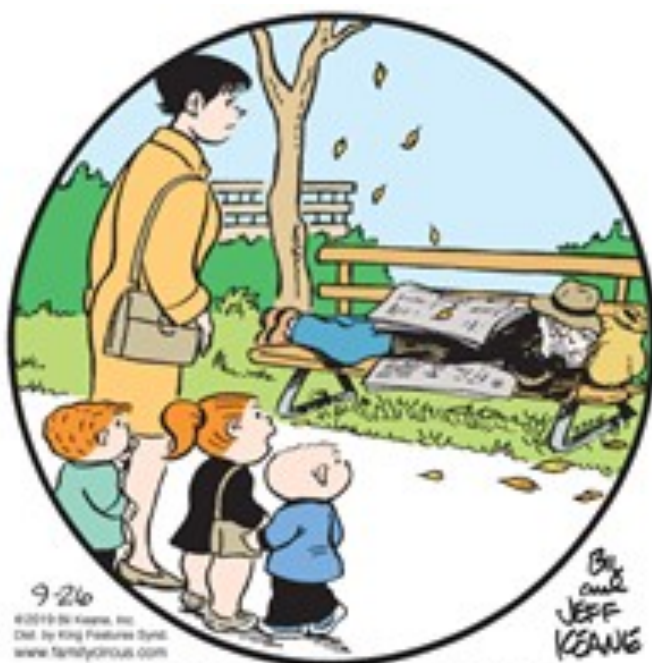
compounding the damage of the 11-year war in Syria. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is providing relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas via long-standing partners in Syria, in addition to ACT Alliance members in Syria and Turkey, all of whom are on the ground. PDA will be active through the entire recovery process. **GIVE:** Financial support for relief efforts can be made by phone at (800) 872-3283, or check payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with “[DR999999-ST Earthquake](#)” written on the memo line and mailed to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. **ACT:** PDA is supported by gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing. **PRAY**

# UPC vocalists become part of music history!

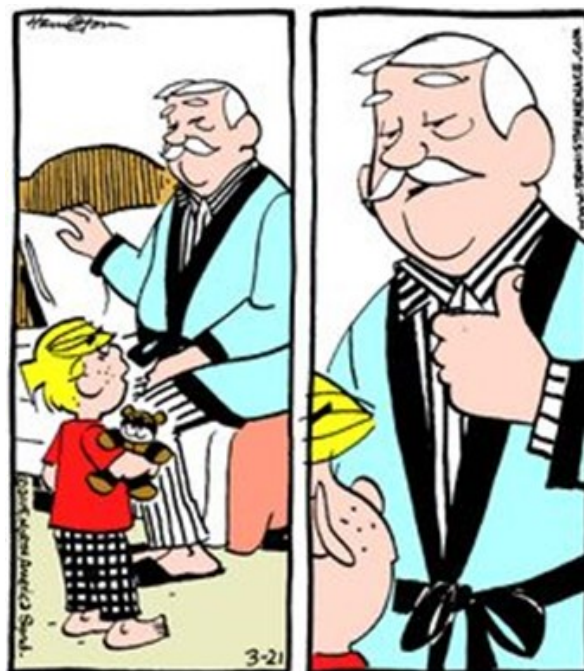
Bloomington got the world — yes, world — premiere of the first full-scale opera about Anne Frank based on "The Diary of a Young Girl." Performances were in early March at the Indiana University Musical Arts Center.

The director was the acclaimed Crystal Manich. She believes we should not stop telling stories just because they are difficult to hear. Telling them might make them less apt to be repeated. Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Shulamit Ran created the score, Charles Kondek wrote the libretto, and IU's Arthur Fagen conducted.

The four performance world premiere was an exciting time for IU and Bloomington. Right in the middle of all that excitement were two of our own – Marielle Madeline Hug and Patrick Tervo. They were cast in the chorus, an integral part of the opera. Marielle and Patrick are half of the UPC Quartet. They were most happy to play a role in opera history. UPC is happy for you too, congrats!



**"But if he doesn't have a home,  
how can his children come  
for a visit?"**



"DO YOU COUNT SHEEP  
TO GET TO SLEEP,  
GRAMPA?"

"NOPE... I TALK TO THE SHEPHERD."