

Reaching UP

United Presbyterian
Church

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Celebrating 50 Years of Wedded Bliss

In respect of John & Colleen Swanson's 50th wedding anniversary, Reverend Cheryl Montgomery chose *Love* as the theme for UPC's Sunday, October 29 worship service.

A beautiful autumn floral arrangement stood near the pulpit as violinist Jiangzhongnuo Tao performed *Thais Tanc*, composed by J. Massenet, accompanied by Benjamin Watkins on the piano.

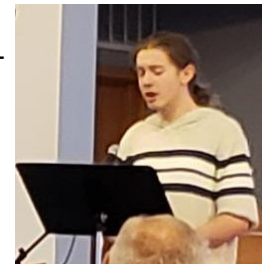


Elder Alejandra Haddad served as liturgist with a Call to Worship and Passing of the Peace. Members of the UPC Quartet movingly sang *Here I Am, Lord*.

The scriptures from Song of Songs and Corinthians emphasized love as read by Elder Haddad. Reverend

Montgomery then presented her sermon, *Love*, deemed exceptional by those present.

The "Blessing in Celebration of John and Colleen Swanson's 50th Wedding Anniversary" was conducted by Reverend Montgomery and Elder Haddad. It opened with Tao and Watkins performing Handel's *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba* beautifully. After Elder Haddad presented her wonderfully spoken blessing, Reverend Montgomery closed the ceremony with prayer. After Reverend Montgomery's Benediction, Patrick Tervo presented a heartfelt performance of the Swanson's song, *Some Enchanted Evening*.



Immediately afterward, The Swanson's hosted a reception in Fellowship Hall including an elegant buffet and dessert bar. Close to 50 friends and family attended.

(Continued on P. 13)



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

Treasurer Assistant

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

Bible Study

Tuesday evening Bible Study is conducted in Fellowship Hall and via Zoom. If you're not already signed up to receive an email reminders with the link to the Zoom meeting, simply email 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

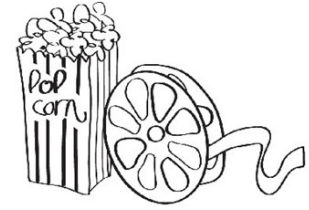
If you are interested in learning how to operate the sound system or help in taping Sunday worship service please contact Don Root at rootd@msn.com.

Sunday Service on YouTube

UPC YouTube Channel link is: [UPC Bloomington - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBloomington). 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 and request inclusion.

October Movies a Success! And Fun!

A turn out of 17 people enjoyed the Pizza & Popcorn screening of “A Wing & A Prayer” hosted by Jim Haverstock in early October. The film got good reviews from those attending. The pizza, popcorn and wide variety movie concession goodies were quite popular. A lively discussion on the movie followed. Jim did great job of hosting.



Darian & Melanie Mathis McBride hosted the sequel movie “Hocus Pocus 2,” toward the end of the month. It was an evening of delicious Walking Tacos, popcorn, gourmet cookies and all the Trick or Treat candy you could ever want to eat. The Fellowship Hall was beautifully decorated with an autumn theme.



A total of \$204 was generously donated at the movies for the UPC Music Program by the attendees.



Both films were a great time of entertainment, fun food and quality fellowship. A hearty thanks to Jim, Darian and Melanie.

November Birthdays and Anniversaries



Nov 2 Raja and Rula Hanania Anniversary Nov 10 Nelda Nyarko
Nov 3 Benjamin Watkins Nov 14 Gerrit Heitink



SEPTEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

September income was \$10,297 and expenses were \$13,676 giving us a net income of negative \$3,379 for September and negative \$11,891 for the year-to-date. We are heavily into negative territory for the year and we still have 3 months to go. It is important that everyone keep up their giving. The path to long term financial stability for us is more members, so keep an eye out for people you can invite to church.

It is not too late to pay this year's per-capita, which is \$50.15 per member. If you're able to pay your own, that will be helpful.

Don Root

Nyaka's Amazing Outreach and Growth Continues . . .

Over twenty years ago, UPC became the first church to commit support to the newly founded Nyaka Aids Orphans Project assisting with the opening of a two room school with 24 orphans. Now more than 900 children are being assisted in three elementary schools in addition to a high school and trade school, farm, medical clinic and an organization of grandmothers being taught how to be self sufficient in lifting themselves out of poverty.

Nyaka Grandmothers Rising to New Possibilities



Nyaka's Grandmothers joined more than 100 others from around the country for the International Grandmothers' Gathering, which took place in Kampala from October 24th to 26th, 2023. This was a hybrid event organized by the Stephen Lewis Foundation through the Grandmothers' Consortium in Uganda under the theme "Reflect, Rejuvenate, Renew: Grandmothers Rising to New Possibilities." Our Grandmothers, representing thousands from Kanungu, Rukungiri, and Rubanda districts, connected with fellow grandmothers from other parts of the country. During the gathering, one of several held across the continent and in Canada, the grandmothers reflected on current grandmother-led priorities, collectively planned for the future, and shared their needs and concerns with policy leaders to shape the way forward.



UPC's newest Member.

On Sunday, October 22, Ruby Jo Barnett became a member of United Presbyterian Church during the Sunday morning worship service.

She was received into the UPC congregation during a brief ceremony led by UPC Clerk of Session Don Root and Reverend Cheryl Montgomery.

Known to her friends and family as Jo, she's a retired registered nurse. Jo comes to us from Salem Presbyterian Church and, as she's proven to us many times, she's an excellent cook.

As we continue our journey to an installed pastor . . .

Starting the Mission Discernment Process

While a lot of the work during the transitional time between installed pastors simply is keeping the church going, a major task involving the whole congregation is the mission discernment process. The information gathered eventually will help the Pastor Nominating Committee with its work. We cannot ask Presbytery for permission to elect a PNC until this mission discernment process is completed.

The process involves a series of congregational gatherings where we identify the congregation's identity and values, its vision for participation in God's work, its resources to do that work, and the pastoral priorities the new pastor.

The first meeting is a fun one where we tell each other stories about our involvement in the church and what we've valued the most about the congregation. Out of that, we'll be able to identify who we have been at our best and who we are now. We'll be able to discern common themes and values that make this church unique and special. This process is similar to one known in the secular world as Appreciative Inquiry.

Set aside November 19th after church to attend this first gathering. We'll have a soup and sandwich lunch and then work on the process. It will take about 2 hours. The more people who participate, the better so PLEASE make this a priority.

Reverend Cheryl Montgomery, Interim Pastor

Friday Afternoon Slow Stitching Group Continues . . .

The call was put out last month: "Anyone out there want to join me on Friday afternoons for some slow stitching?" Slow stitching is a relatively new movement that has discovered the meditative aspect of hand-stitching—embroidery, quilting, sewing (even knitting and crocheting). Simply stitching, knitting, or crocheting by hand automatically slows us down and lets us just be. It is process-driven; we might make something but sometimes just want to pull the needle and thread through a piece of fabric and notice what happens. There is nothing right or wrong about it; stitches can be whatever size you want them to be; lines can be straight or curved, whatever. Slow stitching is a way to slow down and reconnect with our own sense of creativity.



There were a number of responses to the call and Slow Stitching is now a weekly event. You're invited to join me in rooms M&N at the church from 1pm-3pm on Fridays. I'll have plenty of fabric, yarn, thread, and needles but you can bring your own supplies or projects

too.

Let me know if you're interested.

Cheryl Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

UPC joins the campaign. Recycle Bottle Caps to Benches.

On the facing page you'll see the details Recycle Bottle Caps to Benches campaign, a service project of Aktion Club of Bloomington. Kiwanis Club of Bloomington is co-sponsor of Aktion Club, an organization of people of all-abilities to foster friendship and develop leadership skills.

The UPC Session has approved joining the campaign. Bring in your bottle caps each Sunday and deposit them in Campaign Box in the Narthex.

Please! Be very careful in following the guidelines for which type of bottle caps are useable and which are not acceptable. The campaign will run through the end of December.

2023 Hat & Mitten Tree for Monroe County United Industries



The Hat & Mitten Tree is in Fellowship Hall. Please decorate it with hats, mittens, gloves, earmuffs and scarves in sizes *from toddlers to Teens*. The *decorations* will be taken to MCUM for their annual Merry Market and as Christmas gifts to Monroe County children and Teens in need. Stephanie Worden has volunteered to shop if you don't have the time. Simply bring a check or cash to the church office or to Stephanie and she'll do the shopping for you.

LAST DAY to DECORATE the TREE is November 19!

Abandoned Coats!

We've wound up with a number of really nice coats. Over the past 18 months we discovered them in the sanctuary, in the narthex and hanging on the various coat racks throughout the church. All abandoned for more than six months!



Check with Stephanie Worden or Allen Pease to see if one of these coats might be yours.

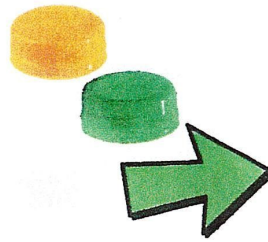
Those unclaimed by Wednesday, November 15, will be donated to Opportunity House.





**GREEN
TREE
PLASTICS**

Save caps for Kiwanis / Aktion Club
ABC PROMISE PARTNERSHIP



ACCEPTABLE PLASTIC CAPS & LIDS

ANY PLASTIC CAP/LID WITH A RECYCLE NUMBER OF



Any Drink Bottle Caps
(soda, water, juice, tea, sports drinks)

Applesauce Pouch Caps

Baby Food Caps

Deodorant Caps

Detergent Caps

Flip-Top Caps

Hair Spray Caps

Marker Caps

Milk Jug Caps

Ointment Tube Caps

Medicine Bottle Caps
(Prescription & OTC /paper info packet removed)

Plastic Sheeting Spool Caps

Spout Caps

Shampoo/Conditioner Caps

Spray Paint Caps

Toothpaste Tube Caps

Water Bottle Caps

Cool Whip Lids

Ice Cream Bucket Lids

Peanut Butter Jar Lids

Cottage Cheese Lids

Cream Cheese Lids

Butter Lids

Coffee Can Lids

Mayonnaise Jar Lids

Nestea Lids

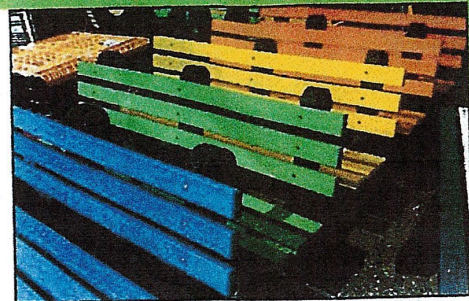
Yogurt Lids

Pringles Lids

Plastic Easter Eggs

5 Gallon Bucket Lids

(all acceptable plastic lids must be under 8" in diameter. For these to be acceptable, you must ask an adult to use a table saw to cut them into fourths)



Like & Follow our Facebook page.



Green Tree Plastics -
ABC Partnership!



You can view or subscribe to
our YouTube channel.



Green Tree Plastics
Information

These items are NOT ACCEPTABLE:

Medicine "BOTTLES"
(prescription or OTC bottles are not acceptable)

the actual drink "BOTTLES"
(bottles are a different kind of plastic than the caps)

any Cap with a Silicon Lining
(from chemicals/cleaners, this would include some bleach and motor oil caps)

"Pumps & Trigger Sprayers"
(soap/lotion pumps, they may be plastic, but they have pieces inside them that are not acceptable)

"Fast-Food Drink Lids"
(these are the wrong type of plastic. This includes fast-food cup lids & coffee drink lids, as well as the lids from deli items at Wal-Mart)

"Bags"
(Plastic Ziplock bags or Grocery Bags)

Any "Food" Container
(even if the plastic recycle number is a 2, 4 or 5)

K-Cups, Straws, Medical Supplies,
plastic pieces that are not a lid/cap

NEVER ANY METAL or TRASH!

WWW.GREENTREEPLASTICS.COM

Green Tree Plastics 1107 E. Virginia Street Evansville, IN 47711
Toll Free: (866) 397-5742 Email: sales@greentreeplastics.com

2023 ADVENT

United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 3 — 10 a.m.

First Sunday in Advent

Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

Liturgists & Lighting of the Candle of Peace — Gerrit & Vera Heitink

The UPC Quartet, Benjamin Watkins, director

Wednesday, December 5 — 6 P.m.

UPC Music Program in Concert

Conducted & Directed by Dr. Benjamin Taylor Watkins

Sunday, December 10 — 10 a.m.

Second Sunday in Advent

Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

Liturgists & Lighting of the Candle of Peace — Fadi & Aline Haddad

The UPC Quartet, Benjamin Watkins, director



Sunday, December 17— 10 a.m.

Third Sunday in Advent

Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

Liturgists & Lighting of the Candle of Joy — John & Colleen Swanson

The UPC Quartet, Benjamin Watkins, director

Sunday, December 24 — 10 a.m.

Fourth Sunday in Advent & Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Led by Reverend Cheryl Montgomery



Liturgists & Lighting of the Candle of Peace & The Christ Candle —Nyarko Family

Receiving of the Joy Offering

Holy Communion officiated by Rev. Cheryl Montgomery,

prepared by UPC Deacons, Served by Elders Darian & Melanie Mathis McBride

Sharing the Light

2023 UPC Worship Team Poinsettia Display

We are again getting our Poinsettia's from the
Bloomington Symphony Orchestra.
This is the 24th year for their Poinsettia Sale fund raiser.
Their plants are always lush and beautiful!

Cost is \$15.00 per plant

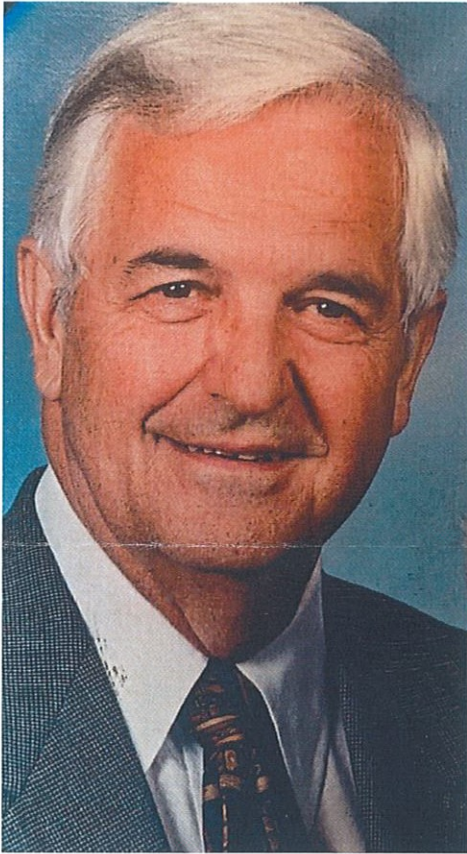
You may dedicate your poinsettia.
Simply note it on the sign-up sheet

Five Beautiful Christmas Colors!



Please sign up in the Narthex or call/email Allen in the
church office by Thursday, Nov. 9

The annual UPC Poinsettia Display will be in place December 10



Rev. Dr. Heinrich Bruce Eiler

1929 - 2023

Heinrich Eiler was born February 27, 1929 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to parents Florence Elizabeth Davison Eiler (an American teacher serving a Presbyterian mission) and Johann Heinrich Eiler (a German leather merchant). In 1935, Italy invaded Ethiopia and the family planned to move to Kirn, Germany, Johann Eiler's hometown. While visiting relatives in America, Heinrich and the rest of the family learned that Johann had died while on a business trip to India. Heinrich remained with his older sister, Margareta ("Gretchen"), his mother, and relatives in Wooster, Ohio. Later the family moved to Peoria, Illinois where he graduated with the Peoria High School Class of 1946.

Following one year of study at Sterling College in Sterling, Kansas, Heinrich enrolled at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Zoology, Class of 1950. While enrolled at Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary, Heinrich started his pastoral work at Third

Presbyterian Church in Tarentum, Pennsylvania (1951-1953). Heinrich married Bernita Jean Tank, Wheaton College sweetheart and elementary school teacher, in June 1951 in Romeo, Michigan. Their first child, Martha, was born in Tarentum in 1952. Heinrich was ordained June 11, 1953 by Mercer Presbytery, United Presbyterian Church.

Heinrich served as pastor of the United Presbyterian Church in New Bedford, Pennsylvania (1953-1955). Heinrich and Jean's second child, John, was born on Thanksgiving Day 1953. Heinrich was the associate pastor responsible for working with "colonized" new church development at Wallace Memorial in Washington D.C. (1955-1957). Heinrich and Jean's third child, Lois, was born there in 1955. All this ministry (and children, and household moves) was done while completing a Bachelor of Divinity degree (1953) and Master of Theology degree (1958) through Pittsburgh-Xenia seminary.

With a passion for history, Heinrich focused some of his Master's degree coursework on historical-theological studies and did some non-degree graduate work in History Studies at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana while he was pastor at the Bloomington United Presbyterian Church (1957-1961). Moving in 1961, Heinrich served as associate pastor and minister of education at Tabernacle Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis, Indiana (1961-1963).

While senior pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Ashland, Kentucky (1963-1969), Heinrich began doctoral studies through San Francisco Theological Seminary (San Anselmo, California). He finished this educational goal in 1982 becoming a Doctor of the Science of Theology.

In 1969 Heinrich accepted a call to a new church development -- Hope United Presbyterian Church in Wheaton, Illinois where he served as the organizing pastor and then as the called pastor (1969-1987). He was involved in almost all activities and programs at Hope, and was extensively involved with local community organizations as well, including Wheaton Youth Outreach, Wheaton and Warrenville Ministerial Association, Wheaton Rotary Club, and the Sheriff's Merit Commission. In addition, Heinrich served on the National Missions Council of the Presbyterian Church USA, led a joint task force on new church development for the Chicago and Blackhawk Presbyteries, and worked with a coordinating committee consulting on continuing education for Chicago Presbytery.

In 1987 Heinrich and Jean moved to San Antonio Texas where he was the Associate General Presbyter for Church Growth and Development with the Mission Presbytery. He also served as Interim General Presbyter for two years (1987-1994).

After "retiring" to Hot Springs Village, Arkansas in 1994, Heinrich continued to serve. He was interim pastor at Central Presbyterian Church in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and also assisted in ministry in Little Rock. He was especially proud of his work in establishing the Lay Pastor Training Academy in Hot Springs Village, where he also taught several courses. He was an expert on the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and led trips to Germany to retrace his path.


Heinrich and Jean led an active social life in Hot Springs Village, participating in many church functions at Kirk in the Pines Presbyterian Church and community activities such as square dancing and golf. They traveled extensively with the RV Roadrunners organization, where Heinrich fulfilled his lifelong dream of being a "big rig trucker".

Heinrich was a good friend to many; a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He loved his beer (especially Heineken). He was a fan of big trucks, ships, and trains, and he enjoyed Tom T. Hall music. Known to be a German history scholar, he loved to share his knowledge and wisdom to all. He enjoyed professional football and baseball (particularly the Yankees).


Heinrich and Jean moved to Eau Claire, Wisconsin in 2015 for medical care and to be closer to family. The Rev. Dr. Heinrich Bruce Eiler passed away on April 5, 2023. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Jean Eiler; children, Martha and Tim Nieman, John and Nancy Eiler, and Lois Eiler; grandchildren Cecily and Nick Weber, Julia and Chris Bladorn, Weston Eiler, Luke Eiler; and great-grandchildren Carleigh and Grayson Bladorn.

Help the 2022 and 2023 State Class C Champions, the Edgewood Marching Mustangs purchase new equipment!

Collect and save Pizza X
Proof-Of-Purchase (POP)
tabs from our pizza boxes.



Ask your friends to save them, too!



Click here or head over to pizzaxbloomington.com/pop for a list of participating schools and other info!

POPs are worth **DOUBLE during National Education Week (**Nov. 13-17**) so be sure to turn yours in to your participating school before then!**

Simply cut off the proof-of-purchase from your Pizza X box and place it in the container near the Little Red Wagon outside of the Fellowship Hall.

This will be a year-round collection, but we get double the donation in November.

Logan and Caroline Worden are members of the Marching Mustangs.

Stephanie Worden will collect and deliver them to Edgewood High School.



Celebrating 50 Years of Wedded Bliss (continued from page 1)



Elegant Ladies at the elegant buffet.

Child and great grand-child.

Thanks to Souheil Haddad for the photos.



John and Colleen with daughter Jolene



The Worship Team
Invites You To The
8th Annual Spaghetti Dinner
And this year we're adding the
Dessert Auction

Wednesday, December 13 6 to 8 p.m. — Fellowship Hall



To benefit UPC's Music Program.

Tossed Salad!
Spaghetti with Marinara! Spaghetti with Meat Sauce!
Fettuccini Alfredo!
Garlic Bread! Homemade Desserts! Coffee, Ice Tea and Milk!.

Celebrity Chefs!
UPC Christian Ed Director Melanie Mathis-McBride
Elder Darian McBride
UPC Music Director Benjamin Watkins

Dessert Auction!



Happy Thanksgiving!



Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Bible Study is every Tuesday in-person at Fellowship Hall AND via Zoom. To participate on Zoom, contact Andy Hill at andy@andyhill.us or Rev. Montgomery: pastor.upebloomington@gmail.com.

The group is currently studying the book of Philippians.



"I REALLY WANTED TO VISIT YOU AT THE NORTH POLE...BUT MY PARENTS THOUGHT A TRIP TO FLORIDA WOULD BE BETTER."