

## United Presbyterian Church Communicator

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### PASTOR'S MESSAGE

With the Thanksgiving holiday at the end of the month, our hearts and minds seem to gravitate toward gratitude. To encourage all of us in this important spiritual practice we have *Alphabet of Gratitude* booklets available. It is filled with words, definitions, quotes, and scripture passages for each letter of the alphabet, to provide a guided practice of gratitude this month, and perhaps beyond. Be sure to pick one up for your household!

With gratitude for this *community* (see letter C) that enriches my life,  
Pastor Michelle

***It is not joy that makes us grateful;  
it is gratitude that makes us joyful.***  
-David Steindle-Rast

### WOW! WORSHIP SERVICE

# WOW!

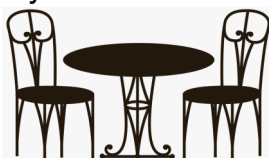
WOW! in the UPC Sanctuary at 6:00 pm (following LOGOS dinner) on **November 2nd**. What makes you say WOW!? Join us for a family-friendly participatory worship service. Singing with the Praise Band, a brief reflection, and interactive prayer. Enjoy fellowship with dinner for the adults in the North Lounge from 5:15-6:00 pm before the service. Everyone is invited to participate in dinner and WOW!

### NOVEMBER 6th at 2:00 a.m.



### ADVENT CAFE

Join us for our Advent Cafe on Sunday, **November 20** at 10:30am in Fellowship Hall! Everyone is welcome for brunch, Advent crafts & games, and decorating the sanctuary. Join us as we begin the Advent season! Want to bring a dish for brunch? [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up, or call the church office to sign up. We hope to see you all for a fun time, geared for all ages and various interests.



## DECEMBER DATES TO SAVE



- 12/4 & 12/11 – Intergenerational Advent Study
- 12/10 – Cookie Sale & Bazaar
- 12/14 – LOGOS Pageant & Dinner
- 12/21 – Longest Night Service
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve: Family Service, 4:00 pm; Traditional, 7:00 pm
- 12/25 – Christmas Day Worship, 9:30 am

## WOMEN'S CIRCLES & MEN'S GROUP

**Mary Martha Circle** will meet Wednesday, **November 16th** at the home of Janice Shuster (530 Beaufort St. #119) at 1:00pm. Janice Bierman is Co-hostess. We will continue our study “ Celebrating Sabbath, Accepting God’s Gift of Rest and Delight” Janice Shuster will lead us in Lesson three of our journey of Sabbath and Sunday. Please contact Freda Dixon, 760-9728 for a study book All women are invited to join us for prayer, study and fellowship. We hope you will join us.

**Rebekah Circle** will meet for Social & Study time on **November 17** from 9:30 to 11:15 in the church's Fireplace Lounge. Cheri Bellamy and Linda Haynes will be our hostesses, and Patty Butler will lead us in "Lesson Three: Sabbath and Sunday" of the Horizons Bible Study. For more information, email Pam at pamelagalbreath23@gmail.com. Guests are welcome!

**Evening Circle** will meet at UPC in the Fireside Lounge on **November 10th** at 7:00 pm. We will study chapters 3 & 4 the book Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal. For more information contact the church office. All are welcome!

**UPC Men!** Please join us at Perkins on Saturday, **November 5th and 19th** at 8:00 am for great conversation! All are welcome!

## NOVEMBER SERMON SERIES

Sunday worship live stream service can be found at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyLkd7kE\\_l0acTnxJQ\\_Eg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyLkd7kE_l0acTnxJQ_Eg) and through the UPC website.

## OCTOBER SESSION SUMMARY

At their October 18, 2022 meeting, the Session of UPC:

- Discussed Chapter Five of *Growing Young: Fuel a Warm Community*
- Elected Erin Irick to a one-year term as Clerk of Session
- Appointed elder David Jones as Chair of the Worship Committee, and elder Nancy Lick as Chair of the Mission Committee
- Granted permission and waived the building use fee for non-profit groups, “As Bill Sees It”, and Family Promise
- Discussed this year’s Stewardship emphasis – “Together for Joy” and are proposing a 4% increase over the 2022 Budget
- Received written reports from committees, staff, and the commissioner to the September Presbytery meeting
- Adjourned with expressions of gratitude

## THANK YOU

Dear Session, Deacons, & Congregation,  
Thank you for the lovely expressions of “Pastor Appreciation” in October. The cards, flowers, and gift certificate were so thoughtful and truly appreciated.  
With gratitude,  
Pastor Michelle

## FROM THE DEACONS

Thanksgiving greetings to UPC. The Deacons are wishing you all a bountiful and joyous celebration with family and friends. We share in special times like Thanksgiving and also whenever there are joys or concerns. Please check the bulletin board in the overflow room for your designated deacon whom you can contact any time.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**LOGOS** will continue through November with the exception of the 23rd, we will take day before Thanksgiving off. Our next LOGOS Sunday will be on November 20th. Following church all families will be invited to participate in the Advent Café. Watch your weekly emails for more details.

The **mid and sr high youth groups** will have a combined gathering for games following the Advent Café on the 20th.

## FAMILY PROMISE

Although UPC will not be providing meals for Family Promise again this calendar year, there are still many ways to support their program. Please visit their website: <https://fpalbanycounty.org/>.



## MISSION

The Mission Committee thanks everyone who donated to the **Gift from the Heart Disaster Kits** event and helped with assembly. Special thanks goes to the young people who opened everything except the toothbrushes to prepare for putting the kits together. Last year, we donated 60 kits and this year we nearly doubled that number to 110. With the 2 Welcome Backpacks that Mission sent in last spring, this brings UPC's 2022 donation to 112 kits. We are truly a grateful people.

Mission has worked hard since last spring to put together the **Holiday Bazaar** which joins the **Annual Cookie Sale** on **December 10<sup>th</sup>**. The purpose of the Annual Cookie Sale and Bazaar is to generate the UPC financial donation to Family Promise of Albany County—100% of all profit goes to Family Promise. We hope this year that UPC can write a check for \$3000 (last year, it was \$2200). Because of the interest shown by church members, fair trade items from 10,000 Villages will be available on December 10<sup>th</sup>. As the primary purpose of this fund-raiser is to support Family Promise, Mission had to end UPC's relationship with SERRV for fair trade items when they terminated their consignment arrangements which meant that we could not return unsold items. Sarah Gorin who runs the 10,000 Villages event in November is kind enough to bring fair trade items to include in our sale on the 10<sup>th</sup>. UPC has no financial commitment in this arrangement but we did receive over \$200 from last year's sales to add to our profit from the Cookie Sale and Bazaar. Given our current expenses (the expenses are for some advertising, the nuts, the Frontier Soups, and the pastas and sauces), UPC will need to make about \$4700 in order to donate \$3000 to Family Promise. Please plan to shop at the Bazaar—there are terrific items to found ranging from 75 cents to \$30.

The gift requests from **Community Holidays** should available on-line around Thanksgiving. More information is forthcoming. Again, volunteers are needed both here at UPC and for distribution. *God bless us, everyone* (Tiny Tim)

## THANK YOU FROM NANCY LICK

I want to thank everyone who has been so thoughtful while I've been recovering from severe vertigo. The prayers, cards and calls really helped. Special thanks goes to the members of the Mission Committee—Nancy Fillian, Nancy Weidel, Linda Haynes, Gerald VanCampen (& Wendy), Diana Dickerson, and Patty Butler – Pastor Michelle and Nikki Rogers who have provided transportation, installed my new tv, met at my home to prepare for the upcoming bazaar, got everything ready for the disaster kit assembly, and checked on me daily. They are the best!

With gratitude, Nancy

## FOC & STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for your generosity! This is how UPC stands financially at the end of September 2022:

Total Income \$171,487.66; 66.3% of 2022 operating budget.

Total Expenses \$188,231.40; 72.7% of 2022 operating budget.

The ministry of UPC continues and relies on your generosity. Please consider sending your tithes and offerings through the on-line giving on the UPC website or mail through the US postal service. On-line is very easy and categories that you can choose from have been created to direct your donation to the correct place. There is a "Notes" box at the end of the form which will allow you to be more specific if you so desire. We now have a new fund on our on-line giving. It is called Miscellaneous Non-Charitable Payment. This can be used for such things as Easter Flowers, Congregational Life events such as the Faith Day at the Rockies, Mission nut sales, VBS donation, etc.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church office is open Monday-Friday, 8:00-3:00 pm. Rev. Michelle Bacon's office hours are 9:00-5:00 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Wednesday 11:00-5:00. We are all easily available through our cell phones and emails. Any information you would like shared in the week-end reminders needs to be emailed to the office by Wednesday morning.

**The office will be closed Friday, November 11th in observance of Veterans Day and November 24 & 25th in observance of Thanksgiving.**

## UPC's ELDERS AND DEACONS



**Elders:** Bryce Barker, Elizabeth Williams, Erin Irick, Isa Riley, Hank Kobulnicky, John Galbreath, Donna Marburger, David Jones

**Deacons:** Nancy Fillion, Linda Haynes, Linda Sheets, Cheri Bellamy, Jan Dittmore, Pam Galbreath

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT UPC

For a full calendar of events click on the calendar link. If you or your group wants to add something to the UPC calendar please bring it or send to the church office for approval. [CLICK HERE](#) for calendar.



## REPORTS AND SESSION MINUTES

The UPC Session Minutes and reports can be read at our website at [upclaramie.org/minutes/](http://upclaramie.org/minutes/)