

SEPTEMBER 2024

UPC NEWS



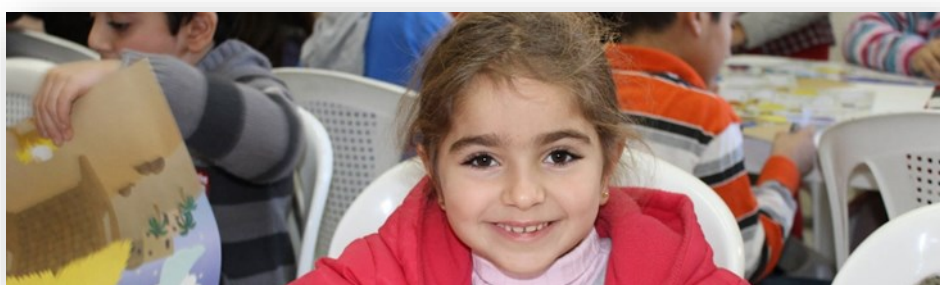
United Presbyterian Church Communicator

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM



Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) is one of the recipients of the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Offering received each year by the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. In 2023, you helped PHP give **84 grants totaling \$1.1 million**, impacting **19 countries and a territory**, including the U.S. and Puerto Rico. PHP also partnered with 12 Presbyterian Hunger Action Advocates, 80 Hunger Action Congregations and 304 Earth Care Congregations across the U.S. For more about PHP grant partners and resources, go to www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/ Thank you for your financial contributions, time, energy, and prayers!

DID YOU KNOW?



The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has been involved in Lebanon since the early 1800s through missionaries from the Reformed tradition who worked there in education and health care. In 1956 the national church, known as the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon, assumed total charge of the ministries of the Presbyterian churches. Lebanon is the only country in the Middle East in which religious freedom is constitutionally protected. We continue to support our partners who work in Lebanon in their efforts. [The Jinishian Memorial Program in Lebanon](#) began in 1966 to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the post-genocide Armenian population. The local Beirut mission team brings high quality health and social services to the most vulnerable and builds ecumenical partnerships with Apostolic, Catholic and Evangelical churches. Elmarie Parker is our PC(U.S.A.) Mission Co-worker in the region. You can sign up to receive her quarterly newsletter and read past newsletters [HERE](#)

LAY PASTOR PROGRAM - EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The Synod of the Rocky Mountains (and all the Presbyteries) have partnered with Dubuque Theological Seminary to offer training for those who are interested in becoming a Commissioned Lay Pastor or just taking one of the classes to help support the ministry of your congregation or the larger Presbytery. The preaching class has already taken place. However, the next scheduled class to come is:

October 10, 2024: Introduction to the Old Testament

The cost is lowered drastically, it is only \$150 to take one course – paid to the Presbytery of Wyoming. Contact your General Presbyter, Rev Jeromey Howard, to let him know you are interested/have questions/participating, and then contact the University of Dubuque as soon as possible and at least a week before the class begins. You can reach Becky Shellabarger at UDTS at rshellabarger@dbq.edu or DERegistration@dbq.edu.



SEPTEMBER CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Because of Labor Day weekend, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated on **September 8**, not September 1.

SAVE THE DATE



Sunday, **September 15**, following the worship service there will be a presentation to the congregation of the Holy Cow! Church Assessment Tool results.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, **September 10**. Meetings will be at 10:00 a.m. in the North Lounge (Note change in meeting time.) The beginning study will focus on Paul's letter to the Philippians. It is recommended, but not required, that students purchase the Study Guide for Philippians—"Philippians: A Studies for Individuals and Groups" by N. T. Wright, published by IVP Connect. All are invited to these weekly sessions. Contact Celeste Kobulnicky or Mary Prather for additional information.

SESSION SUMMARY

At their August 20, 2024 meeting the Session of UPC:

- Examined Cameron Collamer and approved him for ordination and installation to the office of ruling elder, and approved previously ordained ruling elder, Elizabeth Williams to be installed on September 22
- Received reports from the Treasurer, Clerk, Staff, and committees
- Called a meeting of the congregation on September 8 to elect another Deacon
- Approved the UPC program calendar through December 2024
- Approved the request from the Property committee for the pews in the bell tower to be removed by Mr. Pat Parker
- Approved the dates of the Mission Bazaar; waived the rental fee for the Fair-trade group joining the Cookie Sale; and permitted church members who are authors to have a book signing during the cookie sale
- Continued to discuss the Holy Cow! CAT results
- Affirmed our commitment to the work of Wyoming Kids' Closet
- Changed the September meeting to September 24

THANK YOU!

The UPC property committee wants to extend our sincere thanks to all UPC members and friends who have helped complete summer 2024 church chores. We very much appreciate your good work, which has contributed so much to the upkeep of UPC. Thanks.!

FAMILY PROMISE

Welcome Celeste! Please join us in welcoming Celeste as the new Executive Director of FPAC! Celeste comes to us from the UW SLCE office and is eager to bring fresh, innovative ideas to our organization. We're thrilled to have her on board and look forward to the exciting changes ahead! Send her a warm welcome and introduction email to director@fpalbanycounty.org!

Where is Chaley going? Don't worry—Chaley isn't going far! She'll be stepping back from the Executive Director role to focus on some personal and family matters for a while. But you'll still see her at tabling events and volunteer activities throughout the year! This organization means a lot to her and she will support it as long as she is able!

SEPTEMBER SERMON SERIES

Sunday worship live stream service can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyLkd7kEIt0acTnxJQEg> and through the UPC website.

NEW MIDWEEK OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL ADULTS

Would you like to build relationships with others in the congregation over a meal and no prep Bible study discussion? Beginning Wednesday, **September 11** from 5:20-6:20 pm we will serve a simple supper, watch an 8–10-minute video connected to the Sunday sermon text from bibleproject.com, and enjoy some discussion in the North Lounge (while children and youth are at LOGOS dinner). Come try something new!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our **LOGOS** year will kick off on Wednesday **September 4**, at 5:30 with our annual cook out in the north parking lot. Everyone is welcome to join us to welcome our families back. Please invite any families you may know who are interested in being a part of LOGOS at UPC.

Our regular LOGOS schedule will begin on **September 11** with all the fun and excitement you would expect. If you have not registered your children, please do so using the following link:

<https://upclaramie.org/christian-education/logos/>

Remember to sign up for your kitchen and dessert slots as well!

Our **youth groups** will kick off in September as well. Each month we will meet to have some fun or perform a service project.

Mid High will meet at 2:00 on **September 8** at the church.

Senior High will meet at 2:00 on **September 15** at the church.

If you have any questions regarding LOGOS and/or UPS youth groups or if you would like to help out, please contact Michelle Harris at upckid-min@gmail.com.

MISSION

A Mission Community Event: On Sunday, **September 8th**, Nicole Sherwood from Climb Wyoming will be presenting the Minute for Mission during Worship. This program has made a huge difference in the lives of many mothers throughout Wyoming by giving them the skills to support their families breaking their poverty cycle. After the service, Nicole will be in the overflow area, so please welcome her to UPC and get more information on her program. Grab a munchie as well.

Mission is much relieved that all of the stuff from Marcia's Closet and its satellite rooms have been emptied by the army of volunteers and their vehicles for the **ISS Houseware Giveaway** on August 24th. There was some real heavy lifting done by everyone. Patty Butler reports that every piece of clothing was gone by 8:30 a.m. and the rest by taken by 9:00 a.m. This community-wide event was very successful and UPC's contributions in goods and volunteers played a critical role in this success. Again, many thanks to everyone who participated in welcoming our new neighbors from throughout the world to Laramie.

Marcia's Closet is not accepting any donations except clothing at this time.

Coming Attraction: The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be given on World Communion Sunday, October 8th. This PC (USA) offering supports our denomination's Mission Agency and other peace and witness efforts. Half of this offering goes to the national office while UPC keeps 25% and the Wyoming Presbytery get 25%. In recent years, the Presbytery has honored UPC's request to apply their share of this offering to the Children's Clinic in Aleppo, Syria. For those of us who benefited by the recent presentation from UPC's co-worker, Elmarie Parker, we learned how our funds are being used in Syria, Lebanon, etc. More information on the impact of this offering will be available during future weeks.

WOMEN'S & MEN'S GROUP

UPC Men! Please join us at Perkins on Saturday, **September 7** and **21** at 8:00 am for great conversation! All are welcome!

Rebekah Circle will meet on **September 12**, at 9:30, in the church parking lot. We will carpool to Linda Haynes' cabin near Centennial. Bring a brown bag lunch; drinks and dessert will be provided. Our Circle Study will be Lesson 9 of James Smith's book. Be sure to RSVP to Linda (307-760-4573) or Pam (307-399-7194) if you've not yet done so by email.

Mary Martha Circle will meet Wednesday, **September 18th** at the home of Freda Dixon, 512 So. 26th Street at noon for lunch. We will begin our study "Let Justice Roll Down, God's call to Care for Neighbors and all Creation. 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.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office for summer is open **Monday-Thursday**, 8:00-3:00pm. Rev. Michelle Bacon's office hours are 9:00-5:00 Monday-Thursday. If you would like to make an appointment to meet with her please call the church office. On Tuesdays, from 10:00 am-1:00pm Pastor Michelle is in her office available for conversation. Feel free to drop in.

Any information you would like shared in the weekend reminders needs to be emailed to the office by Wednesday morning.

The church office will be closed September 2nd in celebration of Labor Day.

USHERS NEEDED!

The UPC would like to add to the ranks of those who are available to serve as ushers each Sunday. The responsibilities are few, but the need is great! If you are interested in serving as an usher from time-to-time, please contact the church office, or speak to David Jones, chair of the Worship Committee.

UPC's ELDERS AND DEACONS



Elders: Art Snoke, Nancy Lick, Erin Irick, Hank Kobulnicky, John Galbreath, David Jones, Ron Smith

Deacons: Nancy Fillion, Linda Haynes, Cheri Bellamy, Jan Dittimore, Pam Galbreath, Gerald Van Campen

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/. Call the church office if you are in need of the password.