

OCTOBER 2026

UPC NEWS



United Presbyterian Church Communicator

SESSION SUMMARY

The UPC Session met by Zoom on Tuesday September 15th Rev Jeromey Howard, general presbyter moderating. The Session reviewed the roofing options gathered by the Property Committee and will proceed forward with a new roof. This will eliminate the water currently leaking into the church. Some donations have been gratefully received by those that have passed on in the last few years. We would also gratefully receive gifts toward the roof by the those who are currently worshiping at UPC. The Session is also looking at both grants and loans available within our denomination. The Session is also reviewing current policies in place to protect those who come into our building.

TOM RARDIN MEMORIAL SERVICE

Tom Rardin passed away on August 20th. A memorial service will be held at Montgomery-Stryker Funeral home located at 2133 E. Rainbow Ave., Laramie, WY, on **October 7, 2026** at 10:00 a.m. Obituary below.

<https://www.montgomerystryker.com/thomas-tom-john-rardin-sr/>

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday , **October 11** at 2:00 P.M.
Alice Hardie Stevens Center Lawn (East side)
603 E Universty Ave
All pets are welcome!
Sponsored by Laramie Ministerial Association



TRUNKLESS TREAT & DISASTER KITS

The Spiritual Development and Mission Committees invite the entire UPC community to Trunkless Treat, an all-church dinner to be held on Wednesday, **October 21st** Taco bar, Gift from the Heart Disaster Kit assembly, games and treats for the youth. Youth are welcome to arrive in costume, if they want to do so, while joining in the fun. Stop by the North Lounge on arrival (anytime between 5:00-5:30pm) to help Mission Committee assemble hygiene Kits and Kids Kits and then proceed downstairs to the Fellowship Hall for a taco bar dinner at 5:45pm. Please consider enjoying a meal and good camaraderie with others at UPC, while participating in a service project that has impact! If you need a ride to join us please let the church office know.

KIDS CLOSET UPDATE

Here are some stats from the Kids Closet (in UPC's basement) since May 1st. They have provided 742 clothing items to 38 children in the last 6 months! They have also worked with three community partners for referrals and connections with families. They are currently low on Boys 5T items including pants and underwear. **If you are shopping and finding some good deals please help fill the Boys 5T bin.** No other sizes are needed currently. Thank you from the Kids Closet!

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday Morning Bible Study group will meet each Tuesday in October. They meet at **10:00 am** in the North Lounge and are studying James Bryan Smith's *The Good and Beautiful You* along with selected Bible passages. All are welcome!



MISSION COMMITTEE

World Communion Offering: This is our denomination's newest special offering. In the past, there were four offerings a year and now there are three: One Great Hour of Sharing; World Communion Offering; and the Christmas Joy Offering. This new offering will be collected on Sunday, October 4th. The core purpose of this offering is the promotion of worldwide unity, peace, and the practice of reconciliation around the Table of Grace. It supports causes of racial and gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith relations. A quarter of the offering will go into a special grant account where individual congregations can apply for funds for local projects. Mission is currently cooperating with Juntos to prepare a grant for submission by December.

Attention all opera lovers! **The Downtown Clinic** is the beneficiary of an event occurring at the Gryphon Theatre (710 E. Garfield) on October 23 and 24 at 7:00 p.m. All proceeds (\$20/ticket) will support the Downtown Clinic. The event is a trio of medical operas by Michael Udow and Jeffrey Lockwood called *Hurt, Healing, and Hoping*. Go to: www.gryphontheatre.org for additional information.

The distribution days for **Community Holidays** are December 15th and 16th. Sorting will take place at UPC sometime before December 14th and it is hoped that the tree tags will be available on November 22nd if Mission receives UPC's assigned families on the 20th. Volunteer information for cookie/candy bag filling, gift sorting, gift shopping, set-up at the Baptist Church on the 14th, and help with distribution will be available closer to the event. Community Holidays' application for non-profit status is nearing approval so tax forms for donations will (should) be available so save your receipts.

Mission is working with UPC's children and youth on the **Truckless and Treat** event scheduled for Wednesday, October 21st. Everyone of all ages is invited to help assemble the disaster kits in the North Lounge starting at 5:00 p.m. with dinner and other activities starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Many thanks to those of you who have donated and/or will be donating materials for the kits.

The **SAFE Project** reports that in the last 12 months their agency has provided 2,907 free ad confidential services to 306 individuals in Albany County. Their shelter has provided 2,907 bed nights to 37 adults, 27 children, and 8 pets. They also filled 185 financial aid requests totaling over \$61,000. Mission applauds their critical work as October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. FYI, donations can be made to the SAFE Project at www.safeproject.org/donate .

WOMEN AND MEN GROUPS

UPC Men, please join us at Mountain View Cafe in the Iverson Hospital. Parking is on the West side. Saturday, **October 3 & 17** at 8:00 am for great conversation! All are welcome!

Mary Martha Circle will meet Wednesday, **October 21** at 1pm at the home of Freda Dixon, (512 So. 26th St) We will continue our study "United through Christ, Bound to Each Other" Paul's first letter to the Corinthians by Rhonda Mawhood Lee. All women are invited to join us for prayer, study and fellowship.

Rebekah Circle will meet on Thursday, **October 22** in the Fireside Lounge. We will study the 2nd chapter in our new study, *Parables of Jesus* by J. Elsworth Kalas. Guests are welcome. For more information contact Rita VerPloeg at averploeg@msn.com

BELOVED COMMUNITY WY-CAMPUS MINISTRY

The Beloved Community WY - the Presbytery of Wyoming's campus ministry - has had a busy start to the semester! Highlights have included praying with students/families during Move-In weekend, officially launching our campus ministry in worship on 8/31, hosting students for Wednesday evening Bible Study, holding fellowship gatherings around crafting and the pool table, and making organic connections with students on campus during pop-up activities.

If you want to support our campus ministry consider:

- financial [donations](#) through the Presbytery
- buying items from our [Amazon wishlist](#)
- follow the Beloved Community WY on [social media](#)
- help connect us to young adults in our community
- subscribe to our [online newsletter](#)
- pray for our young adults, campus minister, and steering committee

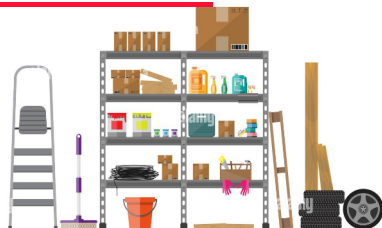


DUMP RUN NEEDED

We are in need of a dump run to take a bundle of fluorescent light bulbs. If you are able to help us out, it would be greatly appreciated.

FANS, HEATERS, STORAGE BINS

Are you in need of an oscillating fan, a space heater and/or large plastic storage bin for the upcoming holiday decorations? If so, let the church office know. Storage and classrooms are getting cleaned and organized.



CONGRATULATIONS!



Kathryn & Rylan Hardiing

& Grandparents, David and Mary Jones

Oliver Ray was born 9/22/26 at 4:13pm

8lbs 5oz

20 inches long



OCTOBER SERMON SERIES

Sunday worship live stream service can be found at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyLkd7kE_l0acTnxJQ Eg and through the UPC website.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open Monday-Friday, 8:00-3:00 pm

Nikki Rogers

Kathryn Harding

Donna Marburger

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

The office will be closed Oct 6 & 7
Oct 12th for Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day.



UPC's ELDERS AND DEACONS

Elders: Nancy Lick, Bryce Barker, Hank Kobulnicky, David Jones, Elizabeth Williams, Cam Collamer

Deacons: Nancy Fillion, Kathryn Blaney, Linda Sheets, Christy Oliver, Donna Mecham, Linda Haynes, Marla Smith



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.