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A monthly newsletter for members and friends of University Presbyterian Church

April 2011

Pastor's Column

We here in Western New York can really appreciate the arrival of Spring. This has been an especially long winter and so we enthusiastically welcome the extra hours of daylight, the sprigs of green pushing their way up in our yards, the return of the robins and other spring birds. The earth is going through its renewal and we feel a part of it all.

With Easter coming the end of this month, we Christians also can welcome another kind of renewal: the renewal of our souls and our lives. The Resurrection isn't, however, just another one of nature's renewal activities like the return of robins or the growth of tulips. The Resurrection was a decidedly *unnatural* event—a dead man returned to life. Through this unnatural act, God defeated death and offers us the possibility of new life—both *now* and beyond the grave.

What are those parts of our lives which need renewing? Where do we need God's resurrection power to lift us to new life? How can we accept this gift of new life in a way that makes it tangible through how we live and love others? How can we as a congregation embody the good news of the Resurrection through our life and ministry together? This is the season where we are invited to seek the answers to such questions.

May God's healing and renewing resurrection power find its way into your heart and life.

**Shalom,
Tracy**

Worship Column

APRIL 3RD - 4th Sunday in Lent

9:00 AM Worship - Communion
10:00 AM Education Hour
11:00 AM Worship - Communion
Lectionary: I Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23;
Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

APRIL 10 - 5th Sunday in Lent

9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Education Hour
11:00 AM Worship
Lectionary: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130;
Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

APRIL 17 - Palm/Passion Sunday

9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Education Hour
11:00 AM Worship
Lectionary: (Palm) Matthew 21:1-11;
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29;
(Passion) Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16;
Phil. 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66 or
Matthew 27:11-54

APRIL 21 - Maundy Thursday

8:00 PM
Lectionary: Exodus 12:1-4(5-10)11-14;
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; I Corinthians 11:23-26;
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

APRIL 24 - Easter/Resurrection of the Lord

8:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Continental Breakfast
11:00 AM Worship
Lectionary: Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6;
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Col. 3:1-4 or Acts
10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Matthew 18:1-10;
Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 114; I Corin. 5:6b-8;
Luke 24:13-49

Maundy Thursday Service

Join us during Holy Week for our traditional Maundy Thursday tenebrae service, which includes the reading of the Passion story, extinguishing of candles, and the sacrament of Holy Communion. The service will be held on **Thursday, April 21 at 8:00 PM.**

Thank You From The Deacons

Thank you to all who made soup and pies for the Deacons Soup and Pie Sale on March 13th and especially to those who supported our sale by purchasing all the soup and pie. There was not one spoonful of soup left, nor any pie. We realized a profit of—**\$433**. Thank you **ALL** so much for your generosity.



“The Network”
is published monthly for
friends and members of
University Presbyterian
Church. If you wish to
submit an article, please
contact the church office.
Co-Editors:
Brian Belus
The Reverend Tracy Daub

NETWORK OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES APPRECIATION DINNER

Thursday, May 12, 2011- 6:00 PM - Hearthstone Manor

Dinner tickets - \$35.00 per person

Tickets must be purchased no later than Monday, April 25.

You can give your checks to Priscilla Kim
or drop off or mail to the church office.

Our honoree this year is Mary Jean Conibear

Mary Jean is a retired surgical nurse, having been employed at Deaconess/ Buffalo General Hospitals for 41 years. She joined UPC in 1979 and has been extremely active in the life of our church. She has served 3 terms as an elder, one term as a deacon, sings in the choir, has been on the Worship Committee for many years, is a Stephen Minister and also our Parish Nurse. She is also a member of the Western New York Choral singing group.

The guest speaker for the evening is The Rev. James Lewis, III, Director of Spiritual Care at ECMC, founding pastor of the Miracle Missions Full Gospel Church of Buffalo and is the Senior Chaplain of the Buffalo Police Department. He is committed to restoring hope to all people and has an extensive history supporting and working with volunteers.



Habitat For Humanity Workday

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2011

A chance to have a "hands on" experience and share in this wonderful work of helping a family build their own home.

Volunteers must be 16 years of age.

Bring your own tools if you have them: tape measurer, work gloves, dust masks,

Bring your own lunch and beverage.

See sign up sheet on the bulletin board near the nursery, or call Priscilla Kim, 839-3960



Easter Sunday Worship and Breakfast

All are encouraged to join in celebrating the Resurrection on **Easter Sunday, April 24.**

UPC's Easter events are as follows:

8:00 AM - Early Service

(please note the change from our usual time)

Easter Breakfast from 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

This UPC tradition is a wonderful time to enjoy a continental breakfast and the company of good friends. People are invited to stop by anytime between the above hours.

11:00 AM - Service with brass

Please note that there will be no church school on Easter
but that it will resume the following Sunday.

Easter Sunday Breakfast

The Fellowship Committee and the Deacons will jointly sponsor our annual Easter Sunday Breakfast, which will take place on April 24th from 9:00-10:30 a.m. in the Holzwarth Room. Both committees are asking for your generosity in providing food for this breakfast.

Things we need are:

fresh fruit tray

hard boiled dyed eggs

cooked egg casseroles, stratta, or quiche

coffee cakes, bagels with cream cheese, muffins

orange juice

It would be greatly appreciated if the food arrived on plates ready to be served. You may e-mail Ginna Coon at

vlcoon@aol.com. Be sure to include what you will be providing in your e-mail. Thank you.

Cindy Hickey, Grace Yockey, and Ginna Coon

Food Pantry By The Numbers

Each month, the UPC Food Pantry submits a report to the Food Bank of Western New York, indicating how many households were served during the month, and how many individuals make up those households. We share these statistics with our congregation, which provides such generous support to our pantry, both in time and in donations.

Anyone interested in volunteering one afternoon a month at the Pantry can call Gerry Grisante at 835-0433.

MARCH 2011

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Infants | 2 |
| Children | 41 |
| Adults | 146 |
| Elderly | 30 |
| | 219 |

Households: 124
Equivalent meals: 1,971



BIRTHDAYS

April Birthdays

| | |
|----|------------------|
| 2 | Mikaela Maddock |
| 3 | Marlene Kilga |
| 4 | Lee Ann Grace |
| 4 | John Ward |
| 5 | Dawn Appleton |
| 5 | Hazel Moodie |
| 7 | Andrew Kline |
| 18 | Priscilla Kim |
| 18 | Jean Decker |
| 18 | Michael Townsend |
| 21 | John Novak |
| 23 | Gladys Gifford |
| 24 | Meg Cheman |
| 25 | Ruby Thompson |
| 28 | Jerilyn Hickey |
| 30 | Karen Ward |

YOUNG PRESBYTERIANS

| | |
|----|--------------------|
| 13 | John Lopinski, Jr. |
| 22 | Henna Shirazi |
| 26 | Olivia Smith |

Adult Christian Education Class

April continues our 5-week Lenten series entitled "Learning Forgiveness." This is certainly timely in view of our world today.

March 20th. - Kathy Hallborg
March 27th. - Jim Moran
April 3rd. - Donna Riddagh
April 10th - Rev. Tracy Daub
April 17th. - Rev Tracy Daub

“Anatomy of Church Envelopes”

by Jude Hammer (Clerk of Session)

Sorry for the title. As a nurse, dissecting things to “figure them out” is an occupational hazard. As most of you might already know, I was not raised with a “Church family” but have thoroughly enjoyed the experience of learning about UPC and the presbytery workings and how our wonderful church fits into the grand scheme of the world. When I joined UPC several years ago I obtained my first box of envelopes. My first reaction was “Oh no! Now I have to have money every week to put into the offering or I can’t go to church”. I quickly worked it out with Tracy that, if I preferred, I could give monthly or quarterly instead of weekly and could just toss my extra unused weekly envelopes into my recycling bin.

As the Clerk of Session, I have learned some other things about the offering envelopes that I would like to share:

There are 2 kinds of envelopes:

1). **Pew Envelopes**- These are always available in all pews if you forget your envelope or if you don’t get a box of envelopes. All those who use a pew envelope and who write their name on this gift, will have their donation recorded on a statement under their name (this includes even those who are not members but who give regularly through the pew envelopes). At the end of the year, the Financial Secretary, Barbara Lyons, will issue you a statement of your total donations for your tax purposes.

2). **Boxed Envelopes** – Every one who pledges and every non-member who gives regularly will be issued a box of envelopes with an assigned number in its corner. Using your personally numbered envelopes helps the counters expedite the counting of weekly contributions and the crediting of your gift to your pledge.

The date on the weekly envelope is not terribly important as the contribution will be counted the week it is received regardless of the printed envelope date (so the MAD SEARCH for “the right date” as you are rushing out the door can stop- YEAH!).

Since our budget is based on the anticipated contributions of our members, it is always helpful if you try your best to stay on target with your yearly pledge.

But what about all those **OTHER ENVELOPES** in the box? Along with the weekly dated envelopes, you will find a number of “special” envelopes which offer opportunities to make additional gifts above your pledged contribution. These additional giving opportunities contribute to some very essential needs:

#1 - **Initial Offering Envelope**- \$3.00 defrays the cost UPC pays to purchase the envelopes.

(Continued on Next Page)

#2 – **Per Capita Envelope** – Per capita is the money our congregation gives to our presbytery and denomination to support wider mission endeavors and the operating expenses of our connectional system. The amount each church pays is based on a congregation’s membership numbers and budget. UPC actually pays \$95 per each member of our congregation. However, through the per capita envelope in your box, each member is invited to contribute just \$32 toward defraying that total expense. This small but important contribution is a way to support the wider Church and impact lives around the world. Even if you can no longer find your per capita envelope, you can always make this extra gift by marking “Per Capita” on your envelope or check.

#3 – **Building Fund Envelopes** (one for each month) – This extra gift goes toward the up-keep of the building: paint, roof, windows, maintenance, grass cutting, and all the functional aspects of keeping the grounds and building in good working order.

#4 - **Fuel envelope** (somewhere in the winter section of the envelopes) - This was added about ten years ago as the heating bills escalated in order to keep us all “toasty warm” in our place of worship.

#5 - **Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas Envelopes** – The holiday times are occasions when we are invited to give thanks and to show our generosity. These holiday envelopes can be used to make your own special contribution toward our congregation’s general operating expenses.

So, that’s the story about our envelopes! I’m sure we are all aware of the daily miracles we witness and how our gifts can be part of participating in God’s work in the world. Thanks to all you UPC people who support our congregation and make regular giving a part of your spiritual life. And thanks for all you who have assisted in welcoming and educating me these past 8 years and allowing me to share my ongoing learning of the workings and responsibilities of membership and being part of our wonderful church family.

INTERCOLLEGIATE - INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY

TUESDAYS: April 12th and 26th

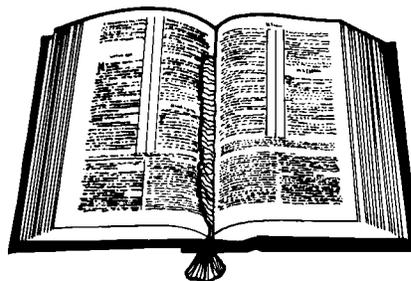
Light Meal: 5:00 PM

Study until 6:30 PM

Holzwarth Room

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Led by Rev. Stuart Buisch



March Session Meeting Notes

The Session of University Presbyterian Church met at the church, 3330 Main St, Buffalo, NY on March 16, 2011. The Session would like to keep the congregation informed of our activities and we welcome your input.

Jim Smyton reported on the recommendation from our Merrill Lynch advisor that we re-invest our CD's which have matured into highly-rated municipal bonds for a 2 to 3 year staggered period. Municipals currently offer better interest rates at minimal risk. A motion was passed.

Surveys have been completed by the Session and Deacons and submitted to our moderator, Sally Treanor as we prepare for the next stage of our long range planning efforts. Our next planning meeting will be April 13th at 6:30 PM.

Rev. Daub will be assisted again this year by Jerilyn Hickey in preparing the confirmation class for their membership into the life of University Presbyterian Church.

Preparations for some exciting summer Sabbatical Renewal activities for our congregation are being firmed up by the Sabbatical Committee. Three other congregations (Deerhurst Presby., Amherst Presby. and North Presby.) will join us in these activities, which will include Nature / Art/ Fun and Fitness/ and a joint worship service in Island Park - followed by a picnic. A brochure with details will be provided soon.

Easter Breakfast will be hosted by the Deacons and Fellowship Committee between the early service (which begins at 8 on Easter) and the late service.

A gift of \$1,000 has been given anonymously to start off a fund to renovate the Holzworth Room. A challenge campaign will be kicked off, with details coming soon.

Fundraising ideas were discussed. Property Committee has suggested holding a Rummage Sale with help from Session and the congregation. Perhaps eliminating clothing to make it easier. And selling desserts and coffee to add to revenue. No date has been set, but conversation will continue.

Community Committee and Voice Core Team are planning two more workshops for the congregation and community. Dates are not set, but topics will be gardening, including getting rid of poisonous plants, and holistic health and/or Yoga.

On April 7th, UPC will be the Family Promise support church, providing an evening meal and fellowship for the homeless families being hosted that week at Lutheran Crossroads Church on Main Street. Volunteers from the congregation are welcomed. John Swain is our coordinator.

A Communications committee is being formed to help with advertising events. promoting our website, improving communications within the congregation, etc. Anyone interested in joining this group can contact Jerilyn Hickey or Janet Mazzaroppi.

Our next Session meeting will be April 20th, 2011.

APRIL 2011 CALENDAR

| | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| FRIDAY | 1st | 5:30 pm | First Friday Taize Service | Sanctuary |
| SATURDAY | 2nd | 10:00 am | Grief Support Breakfast | Family Tree |
| SUNDAY | 3rd | 9:00 am | Worship-Communion | Sanctuary |
| | | 10:00 am | Education Hour/Children's Choir | Various Rooms |
| | | 11:00 am | Worship-Communion | Sanctuary |
| | | 12:15 pm | University Student Lunch | |
| MONDAY | 4th | 1:00 pm | Bridge | |
| TUESDAY | 5th | 12:00 noon | Food Pantry | Reid Hall |
| WEDNES | 6th | 7:00 pm | Committee Meetings | |
| THURSDAY | 7th | 12:00 noon | Food Pantry | Reid Hall |
| | | 7:30 pm | Choir | |
| SUNDAY | 10th | 9:00 am | Worship | Sanctuary |
| | | 10:00 am | Education Hour/Children's Choir | Various Rooms |
| | | 11:00 am | Worship | Sanctuary |
| | | 12:00 noon | University Students Lunch | |
| MONDAY | 11th | 12:00 noon | PW Meeting | Holzwarth Room |
| TUESDAY | 12th | 12:00 noon | Food Pantry | Reid Hall |
| | | 5:00 pm | Bible Study | Hozwarth Room |
| THURS | 14th | 12:00 noon | Food Pantry | |
| | | 7:30 pm | Choir | |
| SATURDAY | 16TH | 1:00 pm | Knitting Group | |
| SUNDAY | 17th | 9:00 am | Worship | Sanctuary |
| | | 10:00 am | Education Hour/Children's Choir | Various Rooms |
| | | 11:00 am | Worship | Sanctuary |
| MONDAY | 18th | 1:00 pm | Bridge | |
| TUESDAY | 19th | 12:00 noon | Food Pantry | Reid Hall |
| WEDNES | 20th | 7:00 pm | SESSION | |
| THURS | 21st | 12:00 noon | Food Pantry | Reid Hall |
| | | 8:00 pm | Tenebrae Service-Communion | |
| SUNDAY | 24th | 8:00 am | Worship | Sanctuary |
| | | 9:00 am | Continental Breakfast | Holzwarth Room |
| | | 11:00 am | Worship | Sanctuary |
| TUESDAY | 26th | 12:00 noon | Food Pantry | |
| | | 5:00 pm | Bible Study | |
| THURS | 28th | 12:00 noon | Food Pantry | |
| | | | No Choir Rehearsal | |