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A monthly newsletter for members and friends of University Presbyterian Church

April 2012

## Pastor's Column

What story shapes your life? Turn on the television or read the paper and you will find an abundance of sad and tragic stories. Our criminal justice system is filled with cases of perpetrators whose own backgrounds are a litany of abuse and neglect. Some people's entire lives are shaped by events that took place when they were young. Some of us never get over a single moment that occurred in our lives.

The Church is supposed to be a place where we can be honest about our stories of pain and brokenness. And yet, too often we mask these realities from others. In the various congregations I have served, I have run into a good number of individuals who have been reluctant to share with others at church about their own story of struggle or hardship. They incorrectly believe that everyone else in the congregation "has their lives together." And yet I know that you don't have to scratch very far beneath the surface to discover that we all are carrying around stories of pain, sorrow, and brokenness.

Easter is the time of year when we are reminded that we Christians live and die by a very special story. We tell the story of Life in the face of Death. The God who knows our pain and struggle, who indeed came to *share* this story with us, who chose to get embroiled in humanity's evil and brokenness—this God is the God of Life. This God raises up even the dead. God knows our stories and cares about them. And rather than leaving us abandoned to the tragedies of our stories, God gives us another story to shape and define our lives. Easter is our story. May the joy of this story be yours this Easter!

Shalom,  
Tracy

## Worship Column

### April 1<sup>st</sup> - Palm Sunday

**9:00 AM** Worship - Communion

**10:00 AM** Education Hour

**11:00 AM** Worship - Communion

**Lectionary:** Psalms: Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16; Psalms: 118:1-2, 19-29; Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalms 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

### April 8<sup>th</sup> - Resurrection of the Lord/Easter

**8:00 AM** Worship

**9:00 AM** Easter Breakfast

**11:00 AM** Worship

**Lectionary;** Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 or Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8; Evening: Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalms 114; 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8; Luke 24:13-49

### April 15<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

**9:00 AM** Worship

**10:00 AM** Education Hour

**11:00 AM** Worship

**Lectionary:** Acts 4:32-35; Psalms 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

### April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

**9:00 AM** Worship

**10:00 AM** Education Hour

**11:00 AM** Worship

**Lectionary:** Acts 3:12-19; Psalms 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

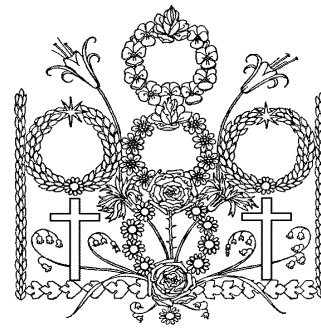
### April 29<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

**9:00 AM** Worship

**10:00 AM** Education Hour

**11:00 AM** Worship

**Lectionary:** Acts 4:5-12; Psalms 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18



## EASTER PLANTS

As has been our tradition, Easter Plants will adorn our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board across from the nursery. Please sign up and pay for your plants by **Palm Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please note if you wish to keep your plant(s) or have it taken to a shut-in. Money may be given to Connie Michael, or put in the offering plate and marked "Easter Plants".



### "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

## Meet The Church Members

Our next member we will feature is **Ruth Wixson**. On any given Sunday you will find her sitting in church with her friend and our former Administrative Assistant Mary Ann McDonald. She has been a faithful member for over 60 years. Since joining with her husband Burt, she has worked on the ministerial, property and Deacon committees. Ruth and Burt spent many years keeping UPC in tiptop shape, cleaning, painting, and other upkeep duties. They are responsible for our pews being refinished not too long ago! Ruth also, sang as a soprano in the choir for many years, and taught Sunday school.

She was born in the Village of Wyoming in Wyoming County. After graduating she worked as a dietician at Rochester Strong Memorial Hospital. Once they started their family they moved to Buffalo and raised 3 sons, Loren, Bruce, and Steve. She now has added 6 grandchildren, and although they are all over the U.S. they manage to get together regularly. Their family was the main reason they were drawn to UPC when they were searching for a congregation. The Sunday school was very large and lively, and they liked the minister at that time Rev. Reid.

After living many years on Grand Island, she now resides in Tonawanda. Her gardening and yard work keeps her busy, as well as regular walks around the neighborhood. She also enjoys a competitive game of bridge.

Thank you Ruth for all your dedicated work through the years!!!

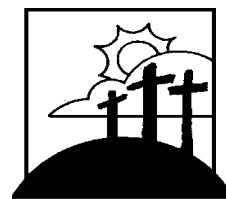
### Holy Week And Easter Activities And Services

#### **Palm Sunday, April 1:**

**9:00 AM** - Worship

**11:00 AM** -Worship with the Parade of Palms

Dedication of One Great Hour of Sharing Gifts



**Easter**

#### **Maundy Thursday, April 5:**

**7:00 PM.**- Tenebrae Service

Readings from the Passion story, communion, and the extinguishing of candles

#### **Good Friday Taize Service, April 6:**

**5:30 PM – 6:10 PM**

Our usual Taize service, with its meditative songs, scripture, silence, and inspiring music, but with some special elements added in keeping with this holy day of Good Friday.

#### **Easter Sunday, April 8:**

**8:00 AM** - Worship (**please note the change in the hour of this service**)

**9:00 AM – 10:30 AM** - Easter Breakfast in the Holzwarth Room

A complementary continental breakfast for all! Drop in anytime during these hours to share a light meal and enjoy the fellowship of others.

**11:00 AM** - Worship with Brass

## Adult Education Hour

The month of April is shaping up to be so very informative:

We will view Christianity not just in words;

**April 1st - Palm Sunday Bible Study** - Jim Moran will put us on the road to Jerusalem with Jesus

**April 15th** - Bible study will follow Jesus after his resurrection

We will also see Christianity in action;



**April 22nd;** Peace Corps volunteers from UPC

The Peace Corps traces its roots and mission to 1960, when then Senator John F Kennedy challenged University of Michigan students to serve their country in the cause of peace by living and working in developing countries.

Since that time, 200,000+ Peace Corps Volunteers have served in 139 host countries to work on issues ranging from AIDS education to information technology and environmental preservation.

Today's Peace Corps is more vital than ever, working in emerging and essential areas such as information technology and business development, and contributing to the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. Peace Corps Volunteers continue to help countless individuals who want to build a better life for themselves, their children, and their communities.

On April 22nd, we will host 3 UPC members, who agreed with John Kennedy. They went out and served others in the cause of peace. This is certainly a very Christian view of the world. Come and find out how the Peace Corp has changed over its 50 year history. Ginna Coons served in the 1960's, during the founding years. Tim Harbison served during the 1980's and Ben Wixson served during the start of the 21st century.

### **April 29th**

- Eric Budin from Jericho Road ministries will join us.

Jericho Road Ministries (JRM) is a faith-based organization dedicated to facilitating wellness and self-sufficiency in the lives of refugee and low-income community members in Buffalo by addressing health, education, and economic barriers.

At JRM, we believe that in order to overcome poverty and seek life to the fullest for every person, we must engage the community at every socio-economic, ethnic, and organizational level.

## Lunch for University Student Fellowship

The Ministry with University Students Committee invites members of the congregation **to provide lunch or funding** to cover the cost of lunch for the University Student Fellowship on Sundays at 12:15.

A donation of \$30 will cover lunch for one Sunday. Payment is needed one week in advance and may be submitted via the offering plate with a designation for "University Student Lunches."

If preparing a meal, one person may bring the main course, another dessert and beverage, or one person may bring the entire meal. Though the number of students varies, please plan food for 8-10.

Simple foods work best. For the main course, sandwich fixings, a crockpot of chili or soup, or a casserole would be ideal. For dessert, fruit is an option, and other desserts need not be homemade. A 2-liter bottle of pop is the perfect beverage. Paper products and cutlery are provided, so you need not bring those. However, a ladle is appreciated for soup or chili.

**This year we have a vegetarian student and one who has a gluten allergy, so it would be helpful to take this into consideration when preparing meals. Perhaps meat could be served separately and at least some components of the meal could be gluten-free.**

Those who provide the lunch are encouraged to eat with the students.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Holzwarth Room for the fall semester. Please help us fulfill our mission of ministering to the university students in our midst by facilitating their fellowship over lunch before they begin their weekly study topic.

### INTERCOLLEGIATE – INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY

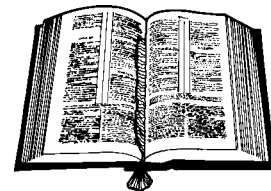
WEDNESDAYS: April 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Light Meal: 5:00 pm – Study until 6:30 pm

Holzwarth Room

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Led by Rev. Stuart Buisch



## 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 **Barbara Pearson, 833-3163**.

### February 2012

Infants	2
Children	63
Adults	170
Elderly	43
Households:	150
Equivalent meals:	2,502

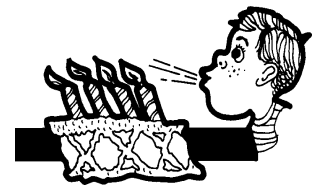
These numbers only tell part of the story of this important and meaningful ministry. It is the people behind the numbers, those who receive this food and offer us their thanks and blessings; and this congregation who provide such generous support, both in time and in donations, that are the essence and the real story that these numbers represent. Our thanks to all of you.

## 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
28	Jerilyn Hickey
30	Karen Ward

### YOUNG PRESBYTERIANS

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



## Movie Night At UPC

We will be having a movie night on **April 28th starting at 6:30 PM**. It has not been decided what the title is yet, but we can guarantee a good choice and lively discussion following. Come out and join us!

## Youth Sleep Over

Announcement to the youth of the church— mark on your calendar a sleep over end of year party at the church. It will take place **on June 1st, and we'll meet at the church at 7:30 PM**. Bring your sleeping bags, a snack of your choice and games you might want to play that night. More details to follow.

*Join us for a Community*

## **GARDENING WORKSHOP**

***when:*** **Saturday, April 21st**

Registration begins at 9:30a.m. Workshop is from 10:00 a.m. to noon

***what:*** University Presbyterian Church is hosting a gardening workshop that is **free and open to the public**. This workshop will feature -

**Master Gardener, Marlene Liberti,**

associated with the Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Erie County

### ***topics:***

**"Unfriendly Plants and "Getting Ready for Spring.**

### ***where:***

**University Presbyterian Church  
3330 Main Street,  
Buffalo NY 14214**

The workshop will be in the 2nd floor community room. Parking is in our off-street lot, and an elevator is available.

***Bring your green (or not-so-green) thumbs, bring your friends and neighbors. and get ready to improve your gardening skills.***

For more information, please call the church office at 836-7660



*First Friday*  
AT UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Too many of us lead hectic lives.*

*Our communities are filled with violence and suffering.*

*Our personal pain and struggles can overwhelm us.*

*How do we respond? How can we cope?*

University Presbyterian Church welcomes Christians from all traditions to unite in a special contemplative worship experience as we seek spiritual strength for the living of our days. Based on the style of worship practiced in the Taizé Christian community in France, these services offered on the First Friday of each month provide an oasis at the end of the week for all who are weary, troubled, or rushed. Special music from guest musicians, meditative songs, prayers, candles, and scripture readings allow each of us to find a quiet place of prayer and spiritual centering.

We invite you to join us on **Friday, April 6 from 5:30 – 6 p.m.** University Presbyterian Church is located at 3330 Main St., Buffalo (across the street from UB South Campus) with parking available in the church lot off Niagara Falls Boulevard. The church is also conveniently accessible using public transportation by taking bus or train to the University Metro station. Questions can be directed to the church office at 836-7660.

*A Taize Service of Prayer, Music, and Meditation*

[www.upcbuffalo.org/firstfriday](http://www.upcbuffalo.org/firstfriday)



## APRIL 2012

Sunday (Palm Sunday)		
	1	9:00 am                      Worship-Communion
		10:00 am                      Education Hour
		11:00 am                      Worship-Communion
		12:15 pm                      University Student Luncheon
Tuesday	3	12:00 noon                      Food Pantry
Thursday	5	12:00 noon                      Food Pantry
		7:00 pm                      Maundy Thursday Worship Service
Friday	6	5:30 pm                      Good Friday - Taize' Service
Saturday	7	10:00 am                      Grief Support Group - Family Tree
Sunday - EASTER		
	8	8:00 am                      Worship - <b>Note Time Change</b>
		9:00 am                      EASTER BREAKFAST
		11:00 am                      Worship With Brass
Monday	9	Office Closed                      Happy Easter
Tuesday	10	12:00 noon                      Food Pantry
Wednesday	11	5:00 pm                      Bible Study with Stu
Thursday	12	12:00 noon                      Food Pantry
		7:30 pm                      Choir
Sunday	15	9:00 am                      Worship
		9:30 am                      Deacon's Meeting
		10:00 am                      Education Hour
		11:00 am                      Worship
		12:15 pm                      University Student Luncheon
Monday	16	12:00 Noon                      Presbyterian Woman Meeting
Tuesday	17	12:00 noon                      Food Pantry
Wednesday	18	7:00 pm                      Session Meeting
Thursday	19	12:00 noon                      Food Pantry
		7:30 pm                      Choir
Saturday	21	10:00 am                      Master Gardener Presentation
		1:00 pm                      Knitting Group
Sunday	22	9:00 am                      Worship
		10:00 am                      Education Hour
		11:00 am                      Worship
		12:15 pm                      University Student Luncheon
Tuesday	24	12:00 noon                      Food Pantry
Wednesday	25	5:00 pm                      Bible Study with Stu
Thursday	26	12:00 pm                      Food Pantry
		7:30 pm                      Choir
Sunday	29	9:00 am                      Worship
		10:00 am                      Education Hour
		11:00 am                      Worship
		12:15 pm                      University Student Luncheon