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A monthly newsletter for members and friends of University Presbyterian Church

June 2011

Pastor's Column

June begins my sabbatical period. After more than 17 years in ordained ministry, I am looking forward to some time to rest and restore myself so I can return to you with fresh energy. Many people have asked me to share an itinerary for what I will be doing in these next four months. I have offered this below.

In addition, I have created a web blog in order to share insights as I progress through the sabbatical. Blogging is a new endeavor for me, so please be patient if there are mistakes made. I promise not to give detailed accounts of every day's activities! You are welcome to check in at:

www.tracysabbatical.blogspot.com to see if I've posted something new.

Finally, while I will be away in body, my thoughts and prayers will remain with you all. I will be eager to hear how the renewal activities planned for the congregation this summer will have gone.

Blessings to you all!

Tracy

Tracy's Sabbatical Itinerary

June:

—working in pottery studio: throughout the month

—hiking/fitness activities: throughout the month

—June 12-20: travel to Ghost Ranch Presbyterian Conference Center in New Mexico for a program on Hiking Northern New Mexico, and some personal retreat time.

July:

—July 7: depart with my family to Australia to explore the diverse wildlife and ecosystems. One week volunteering in the South Australia outback with a wildlife re-introduction program for endangered species.

August:

—August 10: return from Australia

—pottery, hiking, and fitness activities throughout the month

September:

—pottery, hiking, and fitness activities throughout the month



Worship Column

JUNE 5 - 7th Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Worship - Communion

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship - Communion

Lectionary: Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35;
I Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

JUNE 12 - PENTECOST

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship

Lectionary: Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30;
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; I Corinthians 12:3b-13 or
Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39

JUNE 19 -

Trinity Sunday

10:00 AM Worship

Lectionary: Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8; 2
Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

JUNE 26 -

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 AM Worship

Lectionary: Genesis 22:1-14; Psalm 13;
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42



**INTERCOLLEGIATE -
INTERGENERATIONAL
BIBLE STUDY**
TUESDAYS: June 7
Light Meal: 5:00 PM - Study
until 6:30 PM
Holzwarth Room
ALL ARE WELCOME!
Led by Rev. Stuart Buisch

Habitat for Humanity Project

Four skillful members of UPC hung drywall at **58 Buffum Street, in Buffalo on Saturday, May 7th**. Many thanks to Joanne Bartlett, Jude Hammer, Jim Moran and John Swaine. This Habitat home will be the future home of a grateful Ethiopian family.



“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

A Special Worship Music - You Don't Want To Miss

On **Sunday June 19th** the Carillon Ringers from Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, MO will be joining us for worship. They are a handbell choir of 15 high school students and 3 adults who are taking a tour of New York and Canada and performing concerts in churches along the way. They will be playing parts of their concert program in our **10:00 AM** worship service. We are looking for 8 or 9 host families for these students and adults. The host family will house at least two students, pick them up at **9:00 PM on Saturday the 18th**, house them overnight and provide breakfast and transportation back to church in the morning. If you are willing to host 2 or more students, or an adult leader, please contact John Novak or the church office.

Carillon Ringers is a high school handbell choir from Ladue Chapel Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, Missouri. During their twenty-seven year history, the Carillon Ringers have played in churches, schools and retirement communities in the Midwest, on the East and West Coast, in the Southern United States and in Canada. The Carillon Ringers have been invited to ring at Disney World in Orlando, Florida, at Disneyland in California and have toured England twice. The Carillon Ringers' annual tour program features original music for handbells, as well as arrangements of familiar hymn tunes, folk songs and spirituals. Selections for this year's program include Carol of the Bells, Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho, and The Phantom of the Opera.

Ladue Chapel owns a 75-note (six and 1/2-octave) set of Schulmerich handbells, a 37-note (three octave) set of Whitechapel handbells and a four and 1/2-octave set of choir chimes.



Good News Regarding our Administrative Assistant

Members and friends of UPC will probably remember that MaryAnn MacDonald, our congregation's Administrative Assistant, had notified us of her intention to retire at the end of June, 2011. Securing a new administrative assistant in time to allow for training before MaryAnn's departure date and before Tracy's planned sabbatical proved more challenging than we had originally expected.

The good news is that MaryAnn has graciously agreed to postpone her retirement for 6 months in order to allow for the smooth operation of our congregation during the sabbatical period. The Personnel Committee, Tracy, and Geri Lyon (our sabbatical supply pastor) are most grateful to MaryAnn for adjusting her plans so as to minimize the number of transitions our congregation will face in the next four months. We will continue to benefit from MaryAnn's many gifts for a while longer!

Rummage Sale

The church will sponsor a rummage sale on **Saturday, June 11th** from **9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, with a bag sale from 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM. Setup** will take place on **Friday, June 10th** from **9:00 AM to completion**. The rummage sale usually raises about \$1,000 for our general operating budget.

Clean your basement and garage of the "stuff" that **you** are no longer using, but would be of use to someone else.



We will **NOT** be selling clothes, so please do not bring any, but do give any clothes you no longer wear to an organization who will make good use of them.

You may bring your donated items to the church, and leave them in the kitchen, by the dishwasher.

We will need lots of hands on **Friday, June 10th** to setup and on **Saturday** to sell items and particularly to help clean up. Please let me know if you can help and when.

Cindy Hickey - 839-5637

University Presbyterian Church End of April 2011 Financial Report

April was a very negative month but with a number of bright spots. We spent approximately \$1,100 more than we collected.

Year to date we have spent approximately \$7,000 for the four month period more than collected revenues. This amount is close to what we budgeted would be our deficit at the end of April.

The bright spots include:

- 1) Actual Pledges and Unpledged received exceeded budget by approximately \$2,700 in April.
- 2) We spent more on natural gas and insurance than budgeted, but this is strictly a timing issue which should even out over time.
- 3) Interest from Merrill Lynch was again strong (\$1,700).

Jim Smyton
Treasurer

Vigil for Torture Abolition and Healing Silent Candlelight Witness

University Presbyterian Church
3330 Main Street (corner Niagara Falls Blvd.)
Buffalo, NY 14214

June 25, 2011 – 8:30 PM. to 9:30 PM

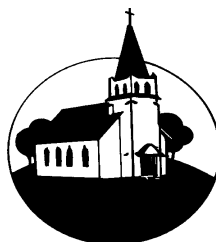
Torture is a Moral Issue

June 26 is United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

Torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment are contrary to our common spiritual belief in the fundamental dignity of each human being. Torture demeans, disfigures and distorts all of us. Torture is systematically practiced in as many as 150 countries (Amnesty International). June has been designated as Torture Awareness Month by religious bodies in the United States. It is a time for each of us to redeem the holiness of our creation, healing the wounds that torture has inflicted upon the victims, the persecutors and the bystanders. Please contact your own spiritual community or visit www.nrcat.org for action you can take for a humane world.

Vigil for Torture Abolition and Healing – ViTAH@gmail.com

Pictorial Directory



The Deacons have made a request to have a new **pictorial** directory published. For those of us who think it was just a year or two ago that we had our last directory published, it was actually early May of 2007.

Mark your calendars!!! Arrangements have been made with Life Touch to have photographers here on **Thursday, September 15th, Friday, September 16th, and Saturday, September 17th.**

In August there will be a sign up sheet posted, or you may call the office to set up a time. **IF YOU NEED A RIDE PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.** More details will be forthcoming.

Arrangements will be made for those living in senior residences to have digital photos taken and put in the directory.

Those who have their pictures taken will receive a free pictorial directory, as well as a free 8" x 10" photo.

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.

APRIL 2011

Infants 0

Children 54

Adults 155

Elderly 30

242

Households: 138

Equivalent meals: 2,178

June Birthdays

- 1 Thomas Somerville
- 2 Timothy Harbison
- 4 Neal Croop
- 6 Geraldine Grisante
- 6 Dennis Erickson
- 7 Susan Beyer
- 8 Ray Thompson
- 11 Priscilla Stevens
- 21 Eleanor Henderson
- 26 Zain Shirazi
- 29 David Walker
- 30 Roger Dahl

YOUNG PRESBYTERIANS

- 20 Linnea Ecklund
- 21 Sabrina Burker
- 24 Clark Whitefield
- 26 Russell Whitefield



Network Of Religious Community

Mary Jean Conibear was honored at the Network of Religious Community dinner on **Thursday, May 12th** at **the Hearthstone Manor**. She was chosen for her outstanding service to our church and community. Rev. James Lewis the 3d, spiritual director of the Erie Community Medical Center, was the guest speaker. The N of RC is an organization of 19 denominations/Faith coordinating bodies. Its' many outreach programs include festivals of faith, food pantry, Nutrition outreach, Radio/TV ministry, Healthcare programs, Educational conferences, Riefler Ministry Enablement Fund, and Boy Scout chaplaincy for summer time camping. Its' office is at 1272 Delaware Ave. which offers space for N of RC programs, nonprofit organizations and conferences.

**BENEFIT FOR WINDERMERE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ORCHESTRA PROGRAM
IN MEMORY OF STEPHEN DANIELS**

SATURDAY, JUNE 11TH

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM.

**Windermere Elementary School
291 Windermere Blvd.
Amherst, NY**

Stephen Daniels died Christmas Day 2010, at the age of 38, from a massive heart attack. Stephen's life long passion was music. He played the violin in the Windermere Elementary School Orchestra, Amherst Middle School and continued on during his four years at Amherst Senior High School.

In Stephen's memory, the proceeds from this benefit will assist current and future students at Windermere Elementary School pursue their love of music. With severe budget cuts, music programs have suffered drastically.

Tickets are \$20.00 and include entertainment, food and raffles.

Tickets may be purchased from Gail Daniels following worship on Sundays, or from MaryAnn anytime during the week in the office, or on Sundays.

Stephen is the son Gail and Jay Daniels and grandson of Beatrice Henry, members of our church family.



Confirmation Class

The Confirmation students each wrote their own personal Statements of Faith. These can be found on the Christian Education bulletin board in the hallway leading to the Holzwarth Room. They are most impressive. Please stop by and read them.

Dear “Saints” of UPC,

I am so delighted to be serving and worshipping with you during Tracy’s sabbatical. I am intrigued by “treasures in earthen vessels” and look forward to the many activities that are planned for us, as we await her return! It has been a joy to get to know some of you already, via the Sabbatical Planning Committee; the wonderful women’s luncheon on Valentine’s Day; and attending worship for a few Sundays. You are a vibrant and faithful congregation. In order to help facilitate my learning everyone’s names, I hope that you will don a nametag during the first two Sundays in June. These “Name Tag” Sundays will go a long way in my matching names and faces. The nametags and markers will be located outside the entrance to the sanctuary. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

As a way of introduction, I am a retired Presbyterian Minister and most recently served as the Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Buffalo. My husband and I moved to Buffalo in 1995, when he accepted a position at CHOB. I have been widowed since 2006. Being a transplant from NYC, I am blessed to have my adult children and 6 year old granddaughter in town. I will keep you updated as to my times in the office and hope that you will stop in to visit. If you have a pastoral need, please don’t hesitate to call me on my **cell phone (861-2046) or my home phone (884-4617)**. I am looking forward to being with you and your families!

Peace,
Geri Lyon



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 Taize 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, June 3rd 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

May Session Meeting Summary

The Session of University Presbyterian Church met at the church, 3330 Main St, Buffalo, NY on **May 18, 2011**. The Session would like to keep the congregation informed of our activities and we welcome your input.

Session began with a welcome to our five confirmation students, Erika Betz, Heather Casseri, Smitty Siegel, Emily Smith and Brandi Thomas. The students read their individual statement of faith, which each one created as part of their weekend retreat with Tracy and Jerilyn Hickey. These statements reflected the voices of thoughtful reflection and self-exploration that left the Session members impressed and grateful for this group of young Christians.

Tracy reported that, at the request of many, she has initiated a blog to update everyone on her activities and thoughts as she travels through her renewal time. She does not promise a high-tech presentation, but a simple non-techy conversation.

The Financial Report was reviewed, showing us about on target to our budget. The summary will become part of our monthly Network communication.

Tracy reviewed with Session the letter from the General Assembly regarding the approval of Amendment 10-A, which was passed by the 219th General Assembly (2010) and approved by a majority of presbyteries in May 2011. This amendment revises the language in the Book of Order so that a person in a same-gender relationship may be considered for ordination as deacon, elder or minister of the Word and Sacrament. This letter and a FAQ page were distributed to the congregation in church on May 15th, and will be published in the Network.

The Long Range Planning group will meet again with Sally Treanor on October 12th at 6:30. In the interim, the Committee on Membership will meet to brainstorm approaches to reaching out to the community, increase awareness of UPC and grow our congregation. Anyone who would like to help in that work, or has ideas to share, please contact Cindy Hickey or Amy Erickson.

A second area the planning group wants to explore is the use of our building. Can we find additional ways to effectively use our facilities that might generate income and provide for the needs of other organizations? Your thoughts in this area are welcome as well.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! The Carnival Kids Steel Orchestra of Lancaster has agreed to help us with a fundraising concert again this year. This unique and exciting group will perform in the sanctuary on Saturday, September 17th. Last year's concert was great fun, drew a good crowd and raised money for two worthy organizations. The Community Committee will provide more information soon.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - again!! On Sunday, October 30th, Guillermo Cuellar, a national folk artist, singer, guitarist, song writer from El Salvador, will join us in our worship service. We have sung his songs in church. Guillermo provided a concert for the El Salvador group last summer and will provide us with wonderful music and poignant stories of the struggles for freedom in his homeland.

Our closing prayer included hopes that Tracy enjoy a safe and meaningful renewal time.

Our next Session meeting will be June 15th, 2011.

JUNE 2011 CALENDAR

WEDNES	1st	7:00 pm	Committee Meetings	
THURSDAY	2nd	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
		7:30 pm	Choir	
FRIDAY	3rd	5:30 pm	Taize Service	
SATURDAY	4th	10:00 am	Grief Support Group	
SUNDAY	5th	9 :00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
		9:30 am	Deacon's Meeting	Room 104
		10:00 am	Education Hour/Children's Choir	Various Rooms
		11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
		12:00 noon	University Students Lunch	
TUESDAY	7th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
		5:00 pm	Bible Study	Hozwarth Room
THURS	9th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	
		7:30 pm	LAST CHOIR REHEARSAL	
FRIDAY	10th	9:00 am	Setup for Rummage Sale	
SATUR	11th	9:00 am	Rummage Sale	
SUNDAY	12th	9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
		10:00 am	Education Hour/Children's Choir	Various Rooms
		11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
MONDAY	13th	12:00 pm	Presbyterian Women Meeting	Holzwarth Room
TUESDAY	14th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
WEDNES	15th	7:00 pm	SESSION	
THURS	16th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
SUNDAY	19th	10:00 am	SPECIAL Worship (Bell Choir)	Sanctuary
TUESDAY	21st	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	
THURSDAY	23rd	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	
SUNDAY	26th	10:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
TUESDAY	28th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	
WEDNES	29th	5:30 pm	Renewal Activity	REID HALL
THURS	30th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	