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A monthly newsletter for members and friends of University Presbyterian Church

May 2011

Pastor's Column

At the end of this month I will begin my sabbatical, which is made possible by the grant UPC received from the Lilly Endowment and the generous spirit of this congregation. We may be more acquainted with sabbaticals as something which universities and colleges grant their professors. However, the concept of a sabbatical has deep theological roots. The words *sabbatical* comes from the word *sabbath*, something which we people of faith practice weekly. Sabbath means ceasing. God created this world and instructed the people of faith to observe a Sabbath day, a day to cease our usual work and routines.

The reason we observe the Sabbath day is to honor God. We honor God when we observe the Sabbath because it recalls God's activity in Creation and the day God rested from God's great and wondrous work. We honor God when we observe the Sabbath because it is an opportunity to worship God and reflect on God's goodness to us. We honor God when we observe the Sabbath because it honors human relationships and practices justice toward others by allowing workers an opportunity to rest. And we honor God when we practice Sabbath because doing so honors the divine presence within ourselves and our own need for rest and renewal.

These are the theological foundations for the grants the Lilly Endowment has made available to churches and pastors such as ourselves. The sabbatical time for pastors allows them an opportunity to honor God by ceasing their usual routine, renewing themselves for future service, and discovering God's presence in a new way.

(Continued on P. 2)

The theme for my sabbatical time, as some of you may remember, is "Treasures in Earthen Vessels." I will be on a "treasure hunt" of sorts, a time of discovering the treasure of God's presence through three means: through wildlife and nature, through the artistic expression of pottery, and within my own self as I give more attention to personal fitness and health. My "treasure hunt" will include hiking trails in Western New York and in New Mexico, traveling to Australia and working with wildlife in that amazing continent, and spending creative time in the pottery studio. I will endeavor to share some of my insights in a web blog—details of which will follow. Rest assured, I do not plan to give minute details of every day—just highlights and insights for those interested.

In the meantime, the congregation of UPC will be engaged in your own "treasure hunt." The Lilly Endowment grant will be funding activities within our congregation during this same period of time, with the theme, "Discovering God's Treasure Among Us." We have invited some nearby Presbyterian congregations to join us in an assortment of fun and meaningful activities: everything from line-dancing, yoga, stained glass, banner-making, river walks and more! Details of these activities can be found within this newsletter and your Sunday bulletins. Please consider joining some of these wonderful activities.

During the sabbatical time, the Rev. Geri Lyon will offer her pastoral gifts and worship leadership as the Sabbatical Supply Pastor. Geri will join us in worship later this month for people to begin to meet her. She is a warm and wonderful person and I hope you will take time to get to know her—yet another "treasure" for you to discover!

I pray that this gift we've been given will be a true sabbatical in the sense that God will be honored through our activities, our resting, and our discoveries.

**Shalom,
Tracy**



Worship Column

May 1st - 2nd *Sunday of Easter*

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship

Lectionary: Acts 2:14a-32; Psalm 16;
I Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31

May 8th - 3rd *Sunday of Easter*

9:00 AM Worship - **Communion**

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship -

Communion

Lectionary: Acts 2:14a, 36-41;
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; I Peter 1:17-23;
Luke 24:13-35

May 15th - 4th *Sunday of Easter*

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship

Lectionary: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23;
I Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

May 22nd - 5th *Sunday of Easter*

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship

Lectionary: Acts 7:55-60;
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; I Peter 2:2-10;
John 14:1-14

May 29th - 6th *Sunday of Easter*

9:00 PM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship

Lectionary: Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20;
I Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

Adult Christian Education Class

It seems as if we were just starting the winter/spring semester and now it is almost complete. With Easter so late this year, spring will surely have sprung by the time May rolls around. The adult class is finishing out this spring with our **Seasons of the Spirit** Bible study. We follow the lectionary, which is always found in the newsletter. Come - join us for fellowship and coffee!

There will not be a class on **May 29th - Memorial Day Weekend.**



“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

Special Sundays In May

There are a number of special events occurring on the Sundays of May. Please make sure to mark your calendars.

May 8: Bible Sunday/Teacher Recognition

The third graders will receive their Bibles, our Church School Teachers will be recognized, the children's choir will sing, the Lord's Supper celebrated, and our elementary students will assist in leading worship.

May 15: Women's Sunday

The women of our congregation will assist in leading worship as we celebrate the theme, "Beautiful Women Who Do Beautiful Things." We will also give thanks for the memory of Elloeen Oughterson, one of UPC's "beautiful women!"

May 22: Confirmation Sunday

Our confirmation students will make their public affirmations of faith during this service.

May 29: Sabbatical Commissioning

The Rev. Geri Lyon will join us in worship and will assist in commissioning Tracy and the congregation for the Sabbatical Renewal period. This will be Tracy's last Sunday before she begins her sabbatical.

Schedule Change

Change Regarding the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in May

Please note that the celebration of the Lord's Supper will occur on the **second Sunday of the month (May 8)** rather than our usual first Sunday of the month. This change pertains only for the month of May.

Quote For The Month

"Next time you feel you don't have time for church, remember this excerpt taken from the woman's magazine, **First**.

"Israeli research shows that women who go to a worship service before running errands are 21% happier all week compared with those who skip the service to get their to-dos done. That regular reminder of spirituality shields against life's mood sapping stressors."

Press Release: News From Our UPC Family

We are going to add a new section to the Network called **PRESS RELEASE : News from Our UPC Family**. In an effort to keep everyone informed on what's new in our lives, we plan on including a section in the Network devoted to personal stories and announcements. Whatever you would like to share with your fellow parishioners maybe included in our monthly correspondence. It could be a birth, a wedding, or job promotion announcement. Maybe an upcoming trip, an award given to a loved one, or anything that is meaningful to you that you'd like to share. It could even be a personal amusing story, a poem or an inspirational quotation. Please submit your contributions to Amy Erickson via email or just tell me about it after church. Email address: AMYHOECHST@YAHOO.COM

Trip To Europe

Lee Ann Grace and Howard Henry traveled to Europe in March to make site visits at three of Buffalo State's partner universities: Manchester Metropolitan University in England, the HES School of Management at the University of Applied Sciences of Amsterdam (Netherlands), and the University of Cantabria in Spain. On their way to Santander in northern Spain, they stopped in Madrid, staying in the neighborhood where Lee Ann lived when she studied abroad. Luckily, this was just steps from the opera house, where they saw an amazing performance of Massenet's *Werther*. They also visited some of Lee Ann's favorite paintings (Velazquez, Goya, Hieronymus Bosch) in the Prado Museum, where she took an art history course three days a week during her year in Madrid.

Congratulations

To Brian and Mary Ann Belus on the marriage of their daughter Kathleen to Edwin Babbitt on April 16th in Oswego, NY. Katie and Ed will reside in Oswego, NY.

Habitat Work Day

A chance to have a "hands on" experience and share in this wonderful work of helping a family build their own home. **Saturday, May 7th** - location to be announced.

Volunteers must be at least 16 years old.

Bring your own tools if you have them; tape measurer, work gloves, dust mask.

Bring your own lunch and beverage.

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



Special Worship Music

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.



HANDBELLS

Diabetes Class

If you are diabetic, a relative of a diabetic, or at risk for diabetes, get in touch with us. We will be holding classes regarding diabetes; what it is, can you avoid it?; or improve your health. When we have enough participants we will schedule classes.

The program "Faith Fights Diabetes" is sponsored by The Network of Religious Communities. It is a grant program and monies will be available when we participate.

Please contact: Mary Jean Conibear 897-1886 or Jude Hammer 875-2025.

Vigil for Torture Abolition and Healing Silent Candlelight Witness

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

June 25, 2011 – 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

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.nrcaat.org for action you can take for a humane world.

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

**SPRING CLEAN UP DAY
SATURDAY, May 21ST
9:00 am - 12:00 noon**

Bring a rake, work gloves, broom.
Any outdoor tools you may need.

Come, help make the grounds look
beautiful after a long, long winter.



Remember In Your Prayers

The family of Leslie Hulcoop.
Leslie died on **March 30th at the
age of 96.**

A memorial service was held on
April 2nd celebrating his life. Leslie
was a long time friend of UPC,
having been, for many years co-
director of our food pantry. His
presence will be missed.

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, **beginning Tuesday, April 26th** and leave in the kitchen, by the dishwasher.

We will need lots of hands on Friday 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

INTERCOLLEGIATE - INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY

TUESDAYS: May 10, and June 7

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 Gerry Grisante at 835-0433.

March 2011

Infants	4
Children	73
Adults	218
Elderly	38
	333

Households: 187

Equivalent meals: 2,997



May Birthdays

1	Annette Arber
6	Jeffrey Grisante
6	Judy Betz
9	Mary Vennemen
11	Shahnaz Morris
15	Geoffrey Burker
15	Donna Riddagh
16	Lisa Patel
23	Cathy Siegel
24	Robert Hallborg

YOUNG PRESBYTERIANS

9	Emily Waldron
16	Elizabeth Waldron
31	Karly Masters

Clean Up Day At Duffield

Springtime at Duffield is a delight time of the year. Put **May 14th** on your calendar for a family celebration, or come by yourself, or carpool with a group, as we prepare the Camp for another banner season. There will be all sorts of job opportunities for that day, so plan on being with us for a great morning of work and a hearty lunch. To volunteer, send an e-mail to Chetseymour@msn.com or call 716-662-5593. A good time will be had by all.

Some of the our needs are: chain saw operators, wood splitters, painters, brush cutters, carpentry skills, sweepers, general cleaners, waterfront specialists, canoe cleaners, trail openers, food service people, paddle boat servicing, right of way openers, road repairers, wood stackers, gardeners and more.



The Green Corner

***Where to recycle your electronic clutter**

You've heard that throwing out electronics is pretty bad for the environment. You know you've got stuff that won't ever see real use again. So, what now? Be unafraid. For most of your gadgets, there are reasonable means of recycling - sometimes even with a little bit of financial incentive.

Here's a quick list of local spots and links to their e-cycling program details:

Best Buy (bestbuy.com/recycling):

Your best option for most goods. They accept up to three items per day in New York state, and take old-school tube TVs (up to 32 inches), any flat-panel TV, VCR, DVD, and Blu-Ray players, computer monitors, set-top satellite boxes, cellphones, iPods, GPS units, and pretty much anything you can carry in with circuits inside. The exceptions are mostly accessories: stands, mounts, projection screens, and other physical, non-electronic items. They charge \$10 for TVs and monitors, but you get a \$10 gift card in return.

Staples and Office Depot (staples.com/ecoeasy and bit.ly/Iodrecycle):

Both charge small fees for electronic recycling.

Office Depot sells small, medium, and large boxes (\$5, \$10, \$15) that you can fill with most any kind of gadget or small screen, then drop off. Staples recycles "smaller electronics"-phones, PDAs, and other handheld-ish gadgets-for free, and charges \$10 for larger goods like TVs and monitors.

Your phone maker and cellular provider:

The vast majority of cellphone makers offer free or very low-cost recycling programs. When buying a new phone, an envelope is often provided for mailing in your older phone, if you're not selling it, and most company-owned cellular stores accept cellphones for recycling.

Many Erie County libraries are also accepting cellphones for recycling to community organizations for emergency 911 use.

(Continued on P. 11)

Goodwill Industries:

The ubiquitous non-profit accepts “any brand of computer equipment in any condition,” along with “just about anything that can be attached to a computer;” according to a spokesperson, and recycles it for free, in a partnership with Dell.

Apple (apple.corri/ recycling): If you’re thinking about making a switch to Mac, or maybe just upgrading your existing Apple, the company makes it worth your while to recycle your gear through them. If your old PC or Mac desktop or laptop has any reuse value, you’ll get that amount in an Apple gift card, good at Apple retail stores or for online computer purchases (not iTunes purchases, though, sadly). Get details and a price on your old system at Apple’s recycling site.

***Copied with permission from Buffalo Spree Home Magazine, Spring 2011. “Tech House” by Kevin Purdy.**

An Added note for Amherst Residents - from an article in the Buffalo News 4/18/2011

The Amherst Highway Department offices at 1042 N. Forest Road, Amherst, is now accepting old computers, TV’s, kitchen appliances, boom boxes, phones and more for recycling. Drop off hours are 7a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please bring you ID for proof of residence. A complete list of acceptable materials is found on the Town of Amherst home page: www.amherst.ny.us.

MAY 2011 CALENDAR

SUNDAY 1st	9:00 am	Worship	sanctuary
	10:00 am	Education Hour/Children's Choir	Various Rooms
	11:00 am	Worship	
MONDAY 2nd	1:00 noon	Bridge	
TUESDAY 3rd	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
WEDNES 4th	7:00 pm	Committee Meetings	
THURSDAY 5th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
	7:30 pm	Choir	
FRIDAY 6th	5:30 pm	Taize Service	
SATURDAY 7th	10:00 am	Grief Support Group	
SUNDAY 8th	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	
MONDAY 9th	12:00 noon	PW Meeting	Holzwarth Room
TUESDAY 10th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
	5:00 pm	Bible Study	Hozwarth Room
THURS 12th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	
	7:30 pm	Choir	
SUNDAY 15th	9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:00 am	Education Hour/Children's Choir	Various Rooms
	11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
MONDAY 16th	1:00 pm	Bridge	
TUESDAY 17th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
WEDNES 18th	7:00 pm	SESSION	
THURS 19th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
	7:30 pm	Choir	
SATURDAY 21st	9:00 am	Clean Up - Fix Up Day	
	1:00 pm	Knitting Group	
SUNDAY 22nd	9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:00 am	Education Hour/Children's Choir	
	11:00 am	Worship	
TUESDAY 24th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	
THURSDAY 26th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	
	7:30 pm	Choir	
SUNDAY 29th	9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:00 am	Education Hour/Children's Choir	
	11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
MONDAY 30th	MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY - OFFICE CLOSED		

Session News

The Session of University Presbyterian Church met at the church, 3330 Main St, Buffalo, NY on April 20, 2011. The Session would like to keep the congregation informed of our activities and we welcome your input.

Preparations continue for our exciting summer Sabbatical Renewal activities for our congregation, along with the three other congregations joining us in these activities, Deerhurst Presbyterian, Amherst Presbyterian and North Presbyterian. A brochure detailing the events is almost complete and will be distributed soon. Tracy is working on the details of her time away, including creating a blogsite where she can keep us up to date on the highlights of her adventures.

The long range planning group met again with our facilitator, Sally Treanors on April 13th. The group reviewed the areas of highest priorities in the categories of Membership, Programs, Finance, Facilities, Staff/Volunteers and Communications/Marketing. Some committees were formed around these topics to work on ideas while Tracy is away. There is much to do and congregation participation will be welcomed.

Session approved recommendations from the Property Committee to repair leaks on the flat roof and along the Niagara Falls Blvd side, and to repair water damage and repaint the area in the sanctuary. Total costs will be \$5,828.

There was much discussion about the Sunday School program. We currently have no teachers available for the younger class for September. As an interim solution, it was agreed to create a team of teachers who will each commit to a 4 week period during the next school year. Sandy Robertson will coordinate this effort. Ginna Coon will order the curriculum. Several Session members signed up, but more individuals will be needed. There was general agreement that a vibrant Sunday school program is a critical element for our church.

Rev. Cynthia Wickwire Lundquist from Fredonia Presbyterian church will present a workshop on May 7th from 9:15 to 1:00pm on Living as a Faithful Community in a Changing World. The workshop is at First Presbyterian Church in Buffalo. Three Session members will attend. Others are welcome.

Jude Hammer is working on a program for bottle recycling as a source of funding for the church. More details to come on that.

Our next Session meeting will be May 18th, 2011.



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, May 6th from 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM.** 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