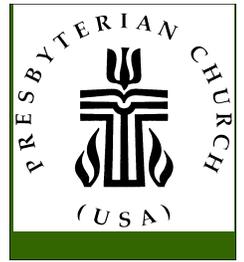


United
Presbyterian
Church
of Peoria, Illinois

The Chimes



Volume.17 Issue.1 January 29, 2020

Welcome Pastor Debra!

We are excited to be welcoming Pastor Debra to UPC. She will start working in the office at UPC on Feb. 17th though her first Sunday in the pulpit will be March 1st. Before that she will also be leading our Ash Wednesday service on Feb. 26th so be sure to join us then. You can contact Pastor Debra via email at debra@unitedpc.org or via phone at [\(309\) 270-6253](tel:(309)270-6253). For more information on Pastor Debra, you can request a brochure from the church office or follow her pastor page on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/jazzpastord>. We look forward to bringing Pastor Debra into the fold at UPC!

Upcoming Schedule

February 2 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Annual Meeting; SOUPer Bowl Offering
Rev. Laura "We Preach Christ Crucified"

February 9 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time; 4:00 pm VIVID
Rev. Laura "Salt Of The Earth"

February 16 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Blood Pressure Screening
Rev. Laura's last Sunday "You'll Be Living Proof"

February 23 Transfiguration of Our Lord; Food on the Fourth; Oliver's Fundraiser
Guest Preacher: Rev. Ryan Landino, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Great Rivers

February 25 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Fundraiser by Youth Group 5:00—7:00

February 26 Ash Wednesday; services at 7:00 am & 6:30 pm

March 1 1st Sunday in Lent
Rev. Debra Avery

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Nature Connections

Church Leadership**Session****Laurie Hartshorn, Clerk of Session****Class of 2020**

Tim Cole

Deb Hanson

Don Hartshorn

Pam Madden

Alexis Maloof

Class of 2021

Christie Cook

Ellen Grohovena

Judy Helm

Jerry Randall

Jim Sullivan

Class of 2022

Skip Beck

Andrew Harrison

Linda Kelley

Jim Pugh

Stan Strickler

Board of Deacons**Class of 2020**

Judi Beck

Pat Bensing

Theresa Buley

Mary Crain

Ann Gropp

Megan Marsh

Kathy Nixon

Rick Noetzel

Nancy Thompson

Class of 2021

Alice Bremner

Eva Grubbs

Erin Heilman

Rich Lansdowne

Jan Mooberry

Kim Murray

Stephanie Randall

Mary Vetter

Julie Watson

Class of 2022

Marcia Boyer

Rose Dickerson

Carol Kamrath

Mike Kelley

Rich McClain

Charlene Mousty

Katie Pilon

Bev Ranson

Dave Rouzer

Session Committee & Sub Committees Moderators & Liaisons*

Church Life

Charlotte Cronin

Hospitality & Growth

Ellen Grohovena*

Christian Education

Pam Scranton/*

Human Resources

Pam Madden*/Deb Sullivan

Mission

Christie Cook*/

Properties

Bob McDowell

Memorial Garden (sub)

Kathy Nixon

Transportation (sub)

Mike Kelley

Stewardship & Finance

Tim Cole*/

Worship & the Arts

Mark Hanson /Jerry Randall*

Preschool

Pam Scranton/Andrew Harrison* Co-Moderators

Nature Connections (sub)

Judy Helm*

Foundation

2020-Theresa Bender, Fred Roland

2021-Evan Hague, Rich Helm

2022-Tom Gramkow, Sharon Lansdowne

Deacons

Charlene Mousty, Moderator; Theresa Buley, Vice-Moderator,

Marcia Boyer, Secretary

Congregational Nominating

Elders, TBD, Deacons, TBD, at large, Nancy Jones, John Madden, Rob Murray,

Gordon Selling, Cindy Shipley

LETTER FROM LAURA

As an interim I try not to move too much stuff into the church office, because I'm just here for a little while. All that stuff needs to get moved again at some point, so I do think about it before I bring supplies into the building. Packing and shuttling home boxes of worship materials last week, I am glad I have usually just brought stuff in and taken it right home again after I used it. Here it is, time to pack up again. Time does fly when one is surrounded by beloved people, so as I've packed I've been reflecting on the many ways I love you. Let me count some of those ways with you now:

I love you for never pulling any punches - you have always let me know where you stand and what you think on any topic.

I love you for tolerating my quirks and what I am most intense about and even listening to me from time to time.

I love your heart for mission – any time you are presented with an opportunity, you always exceed the goal that is set before you.

I love the way you care for the children and youth in your midst.

I love your seriousness – we rarely jump into anything without thinking it through – and your capacity to see all sides of an issue.

I love your sense of tradition blended with the openness to new things.

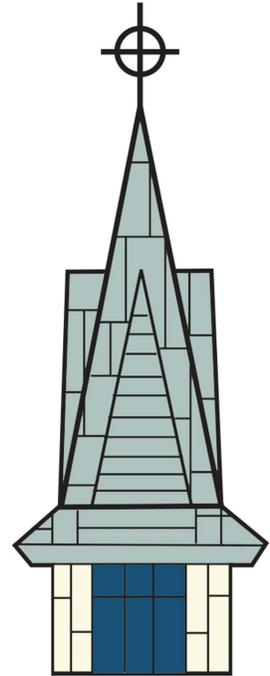
I love the way you care for, pray for and surround each other in tough times.

I love your tenacity and resilience and commitment.

I love the way you jump into different projects with great enthusiasm – be it for Halloween or the Rummage Sale or Family Christmas Shop. The right amount of people show up to help and the events are carried off in style.

I am excited for your future. You have worked hard in this interim time and are so ready for this next phase of ministry. You have chosen well and I will be glad to hear of all the ways you are growing and flourishing in this new partnership. I will continue to carry you in my heart, thanking God for this time I have had with you. May God bless and keep you now and always,

Rev. Laura



Covenant of Closure

Covenant of Closure

In keeping with principles that guide the vitality of the congregation, facilitate sound transitions and the development of a healthy relationship with a new pastor, I, the Rev. Dr. Laura B. Reason, do covenant to follow these practices:

1. Not to become involved in any leadership or advisory role (public or private) in the United Presbyterian Church of Peoria IL;
 2. Not to intervene, support, or give advice to anyone involved in a congregational disagreement or dispute;
 3. Not to officiate in any special events in the lives of former parishioners or of the congregation, including weddings, funerals, baptism, worship leadership, church anniversary activities, etc., unless expressly invited by the Moderator of the Session;
 4. To refuse requests for pastoral services made by members of the congregation;
 5. To consult with the Moderator of Session prior to visiting the congregation, attending worship or attending a special event;
 6. To refrain from giving opinions or directions regarding church business;
- To explain and affirm the above principles in writing to the congregation before departing.

It is understood that this policy does not affect or require termination of friendships with individuals in the United Presbyterian Church congregation.

Just as we gave our sons roots and wings and released them to live the happy, productive, and decent lives they have now with their loved ones, so too I want to see you take flight. The bonds of affection remain, and you are very precious to me, but I came here to do the very specific and difficult work of interim ministry with you. Now you have a pastor of your own choosing in the Rev. Debra Avery and you will flourish with her.

After February 15th, I will no longer be the pastor of United Presbyterian Church of Peoria and our relationship will necessarily change to allow your new pastoral relationship to flourish. May God bless you in this.

Adapted from the Covenant of Closure of the Presbytery of Chicago



Walking the Wilderness with Jesus: Guidance from The Confession of 1967

Yet even now, says the Lord,
return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
rend your hearts and not your clothing.
- Joel, Hebrew Prophet

The season of Lent is disconcerting. Just when we are feeling like celebrating that the long, dark days of winter are finally passing, we are invited into a time of contemplation during which we consider Christ's darkest and most painful days. Just as we feel the joy of spring when we see green buds and flowers beginning to emerge, we are called into a period of fasting and repentance.

This year, as we enter the Lenten season with Joel's call to repentance and Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, we'll take up the Presbyterian Church's Confession of 1967 as our guide. This confession was written at a time when the church needed not only encouragement, but a strong motivator which would help them look deeper into the inequity and injustice that the ancient prophets AND Jesus called out. The Confession of 1967 emerged from the theological foundation in which Presbyterians had rooted their civil rights work in the 1960s and 1970s. At the same time, it urged those attending worship take what was heard in the sanctuary out into their homes and communities. Published shortly after the assassination of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the call was especially timely and all the more urgent.

That urgency and timeliness is still with us. Today, we still see that many of our neighbors are hurting. How can the Confession of 1967 encourage us? How can we use it to inspire our discipleship? For this next season, pick up the Lenten Devotional that Pastor Debra has prepared for us. There is a corresponding website (www.everydaypilgrimage.org) which will have additional material to support our Lenten journey. Let's enter the wilderness together, trusting that God's Spirit will not abandon us as we take up our crosses and follow Jesus.

Rev. Debra Avery

Hospitality & Growth

The Welcome Project Snapshot Station

Hospitality and Growth Committee presents "The Welcome Project Snapshot Station!" Look for a table after regular worship to take a quick family snapshot and give a brief bio. We would love to have this gift to share with Reverend Debra as she learns about and leads our congregation.

Mission

Food on the Fourth

UPC Mission Committee needs volunteers to collect food from the chancel basket and arrange the items in our pantry each month on the fourth Sunday. This is a great opportunity for a family or group of friends who want to help. Please sign up in the Narthex.

Calling Snackpack Superstars

We need your help to provide weekend snacks for Northmoor Grade School students. Starting in January 2020, UPC will be providing weekly assistance for 51 students in need. At this time, Midwest Food Bank provides approximately one-third of the items we utilize on a weekly basis. To offset the cost of items, we are asking for your help. Please consider purchasing some items when you are grocery shopping. You may bring your items to the food pantry and volunteers will sort for use. For convenience, here is a list of items needed on a weekly basis. This list is also on cards in the Welcome Center. Thank you for your anticipated assistance. Together we can make a difference!

Christie Cook, Mission Chairwoman

NORTHMOOR SCHOOL
SNACK PACK WISH LIST

UPC PROVIDES SNACKS FOR
47 CHILDREN WEEKLY

PLEASE NOTE: we cannot use anything containing nuts or processed where nuts are present or utilized.

Organic milk boxes (white/chocolate)

Juice boxes

Single serve potato chips
or other type of snack bag

Fruit cups or Pudding cups

Individual hot oatmeal packets

Individual microwave soups,
pastas or stews

Fruit snack packets

Individual microwave macaroni/cheese

God's Natural World Photo Contest!!

Capturing God's Natural World at UPC

Sponsored by Nature Connections and Worship & Arts Committees



The 10 acre campus on the corner of Allen Road and Northmoor includes a Natural Outdoor Classroom for the preschool, a gazebo, gardens including spring and summer flowers, wooded areas with trails, a retention pond, and access to Big Hollow Creek. Animals that have been seen include raccoon, opossum, deer, Canada goose, woodchuck, fox, coyote and a variety of birds. Participants are not required to be members of United Presbyterian Church.

Contest Rules:

- Photographs must have been taken between March 18, 2019 and March 15, 2020.
- Photographs must be taken on the campus of United Presbyterian Church
- Photographs must be taken of nature and/or wildlife in the open outdoors of the property and may include people.
- Photographs should capture God's Natural World or people connecting with God's Natural World.
- Each submission must include a title for the photograph
- Filters, cropping, enhancements, and borders are permitted; however, adding any elements not existing in the original scene will not be allowed. Judges, at their discretion, will disqualify any photos that appear to be manipulated beyond these guidelines.
- Each participant may enter up to two (2) photos but is eligible to win only one award.
- Photos cannot be larger than 8 X 10 and are to be submitted mounted with a plain black mat not to exceed 11" X 14". Frames are not allowed.
- All entries are must be submitted no later than **March 15, 2020.**

Prize Categories: Professional, Prekindergarten through 3rd grade, 4th through 8th grade
High School and Adult, People's Choice

Judges will be selected for each age level. A People's Choice Award will also be selected by attendee ballot at the exhibition.

All photos remain the property of the photographer and will be available for pickup after the exhibition at UPC church. UPC may request permission to use some photos for educational and promotional purposes.

Judging criteria:

1. Technical excellence (sharpness, lighting, composition, exposure)
2. Creativity
3. Representation of the theme God's Natural World

For more information contact: Nancy Jones njones58@sbcglobal.net
Judy Helm judyhelm@telstar-online.net

Church Life

Anna Circle

When: Thursday, Feb. 13 & Mar. 12, 6 pm

Where: Weaver Ridge

Lesson: In Feb. Chapter 8, *It's Good to Be Queen*

March Chapter 9

Mission: Share the Warmth Blanket Ministry work-days will be Saturday, Feb. 22nd and March 28th at 9:30 am.

Share the Warmth

The Share the Warmth Blanket Ministry is a mission project of Anna Circle. Fleece blankets are donated to agencies throughout the Peoria area. New agencies in need have recently been identified, and the need is great! Anyone interested in helping cut and tie fleece blankets is welcome to join the group on Saturday, Feb. 22nd and March 28th at 9:30 am until noon in Room 100. Use the door under the portico and feel free to come when you can and leave when you must. Everyone is welcome to help us Share the Warmth.

BUNCO

Place: UPC Fellowship Hall

Date: Feb. 14 & March 13

Time: 7 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Bring your friends for a fun time and delicious snacks.

If you don't like to play, come for snacks.

Anyone who can throw dice and add up their score can play. Even if you can't, we will help you or do it for you.

Bring a dollar and snack if you want but don't stay away if you can't.

Ladies Night Out

Place: Pizza Ranch on Brandywine Drive

Date: Feb. 20

Place: Steak 'N Shake

99 Conference Center Dr., E. Peoria

Date: March 19

Time: 6 p.m.

Come a little before 6 p.m. if you want to visit more.

A fun group of ladies and there's no gossiping allowed.

Family Movie Night!

Saturday, February 8, 4:00 - 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall.

Join for your children for a viewing of "Ratatouille".

Bring blankets and pillows for your children to stretch out on. Popcorn & Water Provided.



New Chimes Deadlines and Publication Dates

**Deadline: Sunday, March 15,
mailed Wed, March 25**

Covers: April and May

**Deadline: Sunday, May 17,
mailed Wed, May 27**

Covers: June and July

**Deadline: Sunday, July 19 ,
mailed Wed, July 29**

Covers: August and September

**Deadline: Sunday, September 13,
mailed Wed, Sept 23**

Covers: October and November

**Deadline: Sunday, November 15,
mailed Wed, November 25**

Covers: December and January

The deadline for all information for the bulletin and Ringer will continue to be the Tuesday before publication (we print the bulletin and prepare the Ringer on Thursdays).

Prayer Corner

Please keep the following people in your thoughts:

Barb Allsworth
 Eunice Andrews
 Marilyn Bain
 Theresa Bender
 Jack Bensing
 Karen Black
 Marlene Boeker
 Mary Buesing
 Penny Brower
 Dana (Jones)
 A'Miyah Eakle
 Mary Everett
 Friends of Jeni Freidman
 Carol Fuller
 Carolyn Gnepper
 Scott Grubbs
 Pat Hagenbuch
 Geneva Hall (Gulley)
 Jes Hall
 Lauren Hanson
 Mary Etta Hanson
 Pauline Harris
 Harrison & Ryleigh
 Carol Hicks
 Carol Irish
 Doug Jackson
 Mary Jermac
 Michelle & Terry Johnson (Kelley)
 Ann Jones
 Dwight Jones
 Larry Kamrath
 Betty Keller
 Zella Knobloch
 Rich Lansdowne
 Keith Livingston
 Debbie Kutter
 David McDowell
 Phil McGill
 Megan & Alicia McKeighan's Family
 Diane Morrill (Hultgren)
 Christy & Jeff Presseau (Maloof)
 Projeto Amar I and II
 Jerry Prusak (Bender)
 Sherrol Reatherford
 Toni Redlingshafer
 Jeff Rickett
 Tom Sandman
 Joan Sathoff
 Janet Shepler



Dave Smith
 Jacquie Spaulding
 Carol Stalnaker
 Larry & Sara Stotts
 Stan Strickler
 Jack Umdenstock
 Felicia Vallosio
 Parker Waldschmidt
 Loyd Weber
 Jim Weinkauf
 Richard West
 Jon Wrigley
 Ruthie Yingling

Congratulations to Carl Backstrom & Helen White, Erik and Gwen on the birth of daughter and sister, Elaine Ruth Backstrom on December 1st.

Prayers of Christian sympathy for Bev and Lee Ranson on the death of Bev's sister-in-law, Brenda Betebenner on December 5th.

Congratulations to Bill & Betty Keller on their 61st wedding anniversary.

Congratulations to Aaron & Jenn Schultz on the birth of their daughter, Cecelia Tiemeier Schultz on December 23rd.

Prayers of Christian sympathy for Georgia Lookabill on the death of her granddaughter, Josie DeWeese on December 27th.

February Office Hours

Office Hours Notice

February 1st—February 16, Trish Deppermann, the Office Manager will be on vacation. Volunteers will staff the office Monday-Friday from 9:00-1:00 pm. Phone messages will be checked as well as emails. If you have an emergency or need something else, please contact Rev. Laura. Kenton Bowles, the bookkeeper will be in on Monday and Thursday.



Dear UPC Family,

As the PNC began our search to call the next pastor, we relied heavily on the Mission and Vision Study that our congregation completed. From that, we were able to tease out some essential qualities and requirements that UPC would need from our next pastor.

First- the ability to connect and relate to people of all ages. Debra's gift for spiritual nurturing, pastoral care, and compassionate listening make her a wonderful choice. She has showed us that she believes a pastor should be visible for all the congregants and is interested, if anyone's kids are in sports or plays, in showing up for those!

Next, we needed someone who would be equipped to increase opportunities in fellowship, worship, and education at UPC- in essence, growing membership participation in current programming and identifying opportunities to create new programming attractive to all age groups. We loved hearing Debra describe the different programs and ideas she brought to her past ministries- she is truly an entrepreneurial pastor, always looking for needs and then working to fill them. Whether it was a grief support group, a congregation-wide visioning project, a way to address concerns of parents and bring children more into worship, she brings creativity, imagination, and a keen observing eye to UPC that will help us in improving what we already do well and add new opportunities for the future. Debra's biblical scholarship and knowledge, her connection to the larger church, her comprehensive awareness of the structures of the PC(USA) are all assets she brings with her.

UPC identified the sharing of our time, talents, and funds to serve the greater community (such as Faith in Action, Snack Packs, Common Place, Mission trips, Habitat for Humanity, etc.) to be one of our very top values as a congregation.

Debra is an invested member of any community she is in and is adept at identifying local needs and areas where God's people can "show up" to help. This past week, she learned about upcoming layoffs at Caterpillar and immediately inquired into the possible need for launching congregational care for any folks who might be affected at UPC and/or sister congregations nearby. She suggested putting together grocery and gas gift cards to support any families that might be affected. She is responsive to needs within the congregation and community. She also has an impressive resume of service to the community in and out of the US. She writes in her statement of faith "our call is to be Christ's Body in motion and celebrate and live into the reality that we are uniquely gifted to bring the good news of God's justice to the world".

We have felt the movement of the Holy Spirit throughout this process and we are looking forward to see what God will do with UPC in this next stage of our journey as a ministry!

Cheers,

Sean, Alexis, Les, Nicole, Stan, Mark, and Sally

UPC PNC

Faith Community Nurse

Sodium and Your Health

February is Heart Health month. Sodium intake is one contributor to a healthy heart.

Although the body needs some sodium to function properly, most Americans consume too much. Sodium intake that is too high can raise blood pressure, and high blood pressure puts a person at risk for stroke and heart disease. Although the words sodium and salt are often used interchangeably, they are not exactly the same. For example, a food package may advertise the product as "unsalted" but the food label uses sodium. Ninety percent of sodium consumption is in the form of salt.

While the recommendation for daily sodium intake is less than 2,300 milligrams (mg), average daily intake for Americans age 2 years and older is more than 3400 milligrams. Much (over 70%) of consumed sodium comes from restaurant foods and foods that are processed. Pizza, sandwiches, bread, and rolls are examples of top contributors of sodium.

Suggestions for cutting back on sodium include checking nutrition labels; eating more fruits and vegetables (look for no salt added or low sodium with veggies); use salt free herbs and spices rather than packaged broths, condiments, and processed sauces; and request no salt added to your meal at a restaurant.

Please stop by the Welcome Center for more information on sodium intake. Here's to a healthy heart!

cdc.gov/salt/fact_sheets.htm

Keli Briggs, MSN, RN
Faith Community Nurse

Thanks

Thank you so much for all that you've done to help support our children around the world. It's because of that these children know they are worth more. They know that they will receive nutritious food, educational help, and spiritual mentoring when they step foot in one of our Vision Trust programs. More importantly, they know they are safe and loved not only by their Local Heroes, but by people across the globe who believe in them. We are excited and looking forward to what is in store for the rest of this year, and hope that you are too!

Nicole Livsey, Missions

Worship & the Arts

Spaghetti and Song

The Worship and Arts Committee is excited to announce a wonderful event. "Spaghetti and Song" An Evening of Musical Theater will be held on March 20th in the dining room and fellowship hall at 6:30pm. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends and family that don't usually attend our church. It is also a fun way of bonding with our church family. Our choir and worship team singers will be featured along with guest performances by people seen in many of the community theater musicals. If you would like to help with decorating, publicity, food or set up please contact Alison at:

alison@unitedpc.org. Tickets will be given out starting the first week in March. The dinner and entertainment is by donation only. However, you must have a ticket to get in. All ages are welcome to attend. The money collected will go to the Worship and Arts committee to help promote the arts in our church and throughout our community. Please pray for this event. Pray that we will bless the congregation and perhaps reach some people in our community that would otherwise never have contact with UPC. Contact me today with any questions or to sign up to help. I am so excited to be able to be a part of bringing musical theater to UPC.

Many Blessings,

Alison Meuth
Worship and Arts Director

Thanks

To the Members of UPC,
I want to send this heartfelt thank you for all the cards, calls, prayers, and other acts of kindness shown me and my family at the passing of my granddaughter, Josie DeWeese. The reach out card was such a lovely surprise and so appreciated. Thank you so much.
Georgia Lookabill

Special thanks to and appreciation to Rev. Laura, Trish, and the Neal Family and our caring congregation at UPC. We can't begin to express in words hearing from you and your special messages on these two occasions with the love our dear sister-in-law Brenda, my brother Charles' wife, and our 57th wedding anniversary. The two beautiful roses, white and red were enjoyed for several weeks, and a reminder of our loving church family.
God's blessings to you all,
Lee & Bev Ranson

Mike & I want to thank our awesome church family for the notes, cards, calls, texts, & emails to show us love & support through a long & difficult few months. You are all just wonderful! I am happy to report that I am recovering nicely from my back surgery. Our daughter, Michelle, is still in treatment for Ovarian Cancer. She is doing well & is thankful for all of your prayers & support. Her husband, Terry, is very close to the projected finish line for his cancer treatment. He is scheduled for his last radiation treatment this week. There is power in prayers! Your continued love & prayers are greatly appreciated.
Linda & Mike Kelley

I would like to thank everyone for the Christmas cards and gifts. I sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness. I am very blessed to serve at UPC.
Keli Briggs
Faith Community Nurse

Dear Friends,
Greetings from Indiana-the land of the big snow. I think we set a record for Sunday the 15th with 4.3 inches and more yesterday.
Just wanted to say thank you for all the things you do to make our church the beautiful place it is.
Merry Christmas and Happy 2020!
Audrey Beeney

Dear UPC Family,
Thank you so much for the reach out birthday card and the red rose from the Speer Farmers for my birthday. All were very much appreciated.
Bernie Cambron

Dear Friends at UPC,
A long overdue note to tell you thanks for all of the cards, calls, meals and to Alice Bremner for her visits after my back injury. They were really appreciated. The brace is finally off and I'm having therapy a couple of times a week. If this nasty weather ever clears up, I'll be able to join you in church.
Love and Prayers,
Jim Weinkauff (and Pat too)

Dear UPC,
Thank you so much for all the acts of kindness shown me during the holidays and following my surgery. I am so blessed to be at UPC. Everyone is always so gracious to me and my family; and for this I am truly grateful.
Blessings,
Trish Deppermann

Just a note to thank everyone who has prayed, sent cards and e-mails to me over the last few months. Thank you to my church family for the beautiful rose that I received. Special thanks to Keli for the visit while I was in the hospital for my recent surgery. I also want to say a very special thank you to Chrisite Cook for taking on the duties of the Snack Pack project while I am still healing. I hope to be able to resume this project in March, with Chrisite's continued help for the remainder of the school year.
Jerry, my brother, continues to improve, but still has many issues to deal with including being on Oxygen 24/7 and dizzy spells. He is a fighter and with the prayers being said, I am confident that he will be able to be left on his own more and more.

Again, I want to thank everyone for their continued prayers, thoughts, cards and e-mails. Only those who have gone through anything like this, can truly understand how I feel. I love my church family and appreciate each and every one of you.
Prayerfully,
Theresa Bender

Thanks

The library staff sends many thanks to all those who donated to our Mitten Tree. At this writing I do not have the final count, but already in the second week of December we delivered 75 items to Family Core. We started distributing earlier this year due to the cold weather.

To all those mothers with young sons, we have a lovely new book for you to read. The title is "Little Boys Bible Storybook for Mothers and Sons." Written by Carolyn Larsen. To tell you the truth, after reading the chapter titles and introduction, I couldn't wait to start reading it to myself!! That's What Little Boys are Made of, At First Bite, One Big Happy Family, One Determined Momma, And the Walls Come Tumblin' Down, Shake and Break, and Shipwreck. Don't these whet your curiosity? (I think little girls would enjoy it too!

In addition, we have several new Debbie Macomber paperbacks and an interesting hard back novel entitled "Prayers for Sale," by Sandra Dallas, critically acclaimed author of "Tallgrass." This is the story of an unlikely friendship between 86 year old Hennie and 17 year old Nit and the secrets they've kept in order to survive life in a rugged Colorado mining town during and after The Great Depression.

We hope you enjoy these books during the New Year!

The Library Committee

Thank you so much for the hats, mittens, and gloves from the congregation of UPC. Your kindness and generosity help continue our mission.

Ann Lading-Ferguson
CEO, Family Core

To our very thoughtful congregation, The Library Committee wishes to Thank all who contributed to our "Mitten Tree" outside our church library, for little children in need in the Peoria area. Hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves were very much welcomed.

Blessings and Love,
Marlene Boeker & Bev Ranson

Members,

I want to thank my deacon, Bev Ranson, and the church for my Christmas gifts of candy and wonderful cards.

Love to all,
Mary Zentgraf

Thanks so much for the wonderful package of cards and cookies. It was such a surprise and I am so thankful for my church family.

Bill Bunker

To UPC Session and Congregation,
The Central Illinois Families Anonymous thanks you greatly for the use of your amazing building for our meetings. Our group meets weekly to help family members of those suffering from the disease of addiction.

Central Illinois Families Anonymous
(a generous donation was included)

Dear United Presbyterian Church,
What a thoughtful gift we received from you. We are so appreciative of you thinking of us. As brothers and sisters in the Presbyterian Church and the church as a whole, we are thankful for your prayers and support. The shawl will come in handy as soon as the weather becomes cold this winter. We look forward to worshipping with you the next time we visit.

Fondly,
Jeff & Christy Presseau

Thanks for sending all the cards, so many. Most of them from people I don't know. I have been out of touch for some time. Wish you all a healthy, happy New Year.

Joy Stewart
Winter Village
255 Mayer Rd #204
Frankenmuth MI 48734

Dear UPC Family

Thank you for the kind thoughts and prayers. What should have been a normal knee replacement has been anything but normal and taken many winding twists and turns. The roses in both hospital rooms during the two different stays were a warm reminder of my church family. Although my lifestyle at present doesn't allow my active participation or attendance, UPC is my church home and I treasure my memories of all of you.

Toni Redlingshafer

Hosted by United Presbyterian Church

MAYHEM AT THE JUICE JOINT

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATRE

Saturday, February 15th, 2020

BARRACK'S CATER INN
1224 W. PIONEER PARKWAY, PEORIA

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 ~ DINNER BUFFET AT 6:30

IT'S NOT JUST A SHOW...IT'S UP TO YOU TO QUESTION THE SUSPECTS, LOOK FOR CLUES,
EAVESDROP ON CONVERSATIONS, AND FIND OUT WHO DID IT! JUST BEWARE!
THE KILLER IS HIDING SOMEWHERE IN THE ROOM!

Gangster, Flapper, Gatsby era attire encouraged, but not required

CALL BECKY AT 309-256-1197 FOR RESERVATIONS

\$40.00 PER PERSON + TAX

INCLUDES DELICIOUS DINNER BUFFET AND DESSERT BAR.

-Cash Bar available- -Payment must be made at time of reservation-

Menu to include:

BEEF BRISKET, FRIED CHICKEN, POTATO, VEGETABLE, SALAD & DESSERT



IT WAS A DINNER
TO DIE FOR AND
I SOLVED THE MURDER!

die_laughing_entertainment@yahoo.com
facebook.com/dieLaughingEntertainment





**Shrove
Tuesday
Is Coming
to UPC!**



Please join the youth of United Presbyterian Church, (and the Dough Boys), for a pancake supper on Tuesday, February 25 from 5:00 to 7:00.

*Free will offering taken at
the door—proceeds to benefit UPC
Youth Group Mission Trip*



THE CHIMES

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ATTENTION POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL, PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

Education Hour 9:00 am (Sept-May)
Worship Service: 10:00 am



We grow and nurture followers of Christ in a welcoming community.