

The Unifier



54 South Whitney Street, Grayslake, Illinois 60030 | (847) 223-8131 | upc@upcgl.org | www.upcgl.org April 2020

These Days

In some ways, it would seem, we are in unprecedented times. None of us can likely remember a time in which the government and health officials demanded that we stayed in our homes as much as possible. Likely, none of us has known a time in which one of the best ways we could love each other was to stay away from each other. For us, there have never been times such as these. But I don't believe that these days are so unprecedented. I don't believe they are as unique in human history as we would make them out to be. I do believe that crisis moments like this can often serve to remind us of what our priorities in life should be. I also believe it in these moments that we often can see God most near.

I think back to the history of Israel. The times in which things seemed as if there was no way forward. Being slaves in Egypt for four hundred years. Being set free only to be caught between the Red Sea and the Egyptian army. Crossing the Jordan River to enter the promised land only to find that it was already filled with peoples far greater than the Israelites. In all of these times God did not abandon His people or the world, but He saw them through.

We have known plagues and pandemics since. Even in the modern ages. They have been hard times to say the least. But my prayer in these days is that we spend more time in worship, more time reading God's Word, and more time in prayer. Might God bless us all and might we all turn to Him.

Pastor Ryan



Join the Budget and Finance and Adult Education committees on Sunday, April 26 from Noon to 1pm, for a **FREE** and informative **financial giving strategies luncheon**, *Living Generously*, presented by Steve Howard of the B & F Committee.

Lunch will be served at noon in the Fellowship Hall of the church followed by the presentation.

Please **RSVP by April 21** to Carol R-R, AEC Chairperson, at Rasmuss4@aol.com OR Joann Baraksa, Administrative Assistant, at 847/223-8131.

REGISTRATION is needed so we can have enough food/materials for all participants! Thank You!

Dear Church Family,

God's call to discipleship is a call to courageous living. Courageous in that we are to live lives different from the world around us. Our ambitions, goals, and purposes are to be focused on things of eternal value, rather than success, power, and happiness as defined by the world. The book of Acts depicts this radically different life well. The early church cared for the most vulnerable within society, sought to care and show love toward those within its community, and boldly proclaimed the message of the Kingdom.

The Holy Spirit had fallen upon the disciples. Causing people in the surrounding area to pay attention as they each heard the disciples speaking in their native languages. Peter stood up and spoke courageously to the crowd. Peter had never been one to shy away from speaking. Here in his first act since being called back to lead the apostles by Christ (John 21), we see a new picture of Peter. The Lord he denied three times knowing, is the same Lord he here describes as the Messiah. Peter, just as Christ had done, explained from all of Scripture how Jesus was who He claimed to be. Peter boldly proclaims that, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know beyond a doubt that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36). This speech initiates the beginning of a movement within Jerusalem which draws persecution (Acts 3 – 8:4). The disciples continued to proclaim Christ in the face of tribulation.

As we become courageous disciples, we begin to seek opportunities to minister to those around us. The first disciples were scattered across the region and took with them a message of hope. The Jewish people had experienced years of silence from God, and when God chose to speak again, in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of His son, Jesus, it was like no other event. Jesus entered into the world to begin God's powerful work of restoration and recreation. He left the Holy Spirit for us to work in us and through us to reach the world with that same goal. How will you partner with the Holy Spirit and courageously seek to minister God's transforming power to your neighbors, co-workers, family members, and friends who are in desperate need of the hope and peace only found in Christ?

The process of discipleship is nonlinear. In reality, this process is more like a spiral. It moves continually deeper into areas of our lives we stubbornly refuse to surrender to God. Our transformation to be more like Christ will not be complete in this life, and God is faithful to bring the work He has begun to completion. He took Peter, a man of self-confidence and self-reliance, and transformed him to be part of the foundation of the Church. Peter came to realize his dependence and confidence could only be found in Christ. I pray this will be true for all of us, as we continue to seek God's transformation in our lives.

On the family front, Anabelle love kindergarten. When I picked her up on the last day before it was cancelled, she quickly told me about the homework that she got. In the morning, Emily and I got up to find Anabelle sitting at the table working on one of her homework sheets. Not to be outdone, William started working on his "homework", which consisted of drawing on two pieces of paper and then "reading" the book he just wrote. He even used his finger along the page as if he were tracking each of the words as he read them. It was a very intense story. Thank you for reading. I pray that we will seek ways to partner with the Holy Spirit as we continue to be transformed more and more into disciples of Christ.

Ryan Aubrey

Joy Sharing for April 19th will be an Adult Mission Trip to Detroit Michigan. It will be in September, but we do not have dates yet. Please check out website Tiny Homes Detroit, under Cass Community Social Services, click Volunteer Brochure. Cost will be \$25.00 a day includes place to stay and all 3 meals please. Watch Tuesday Newsday and or bulletin for more info. Rick Burg will be organizing the trip. We will have a sign-up sheet at the Mission Table starting March 15th.

SPRING SPRUCE UP SATURDAY, MAY 2ND, 8:00AM

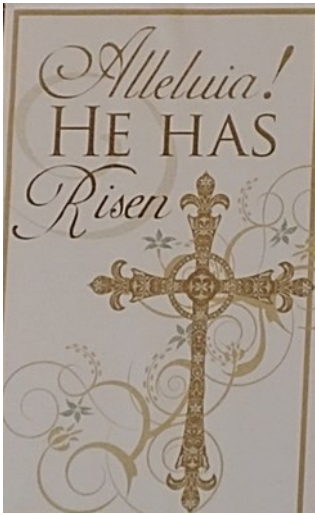
UPC COULD USE SOME SPRING CLEANING! Please think about spending an hour or two helping to keep our church home looking great! Call Kelly to sign up: 847-708-6287



Looking for a small group of people that enjoy being outside and gardening. UPC needs a few people to coordinate the taking care of our planting beds. Hope to have them cleaned out on our Spring Spruce up Saturday, May 2 then the group can take over from there and by spending a small amount of time here and there looking clean and colorful. If you are interested, please contact Kelly at:

Truckkelly60@gmail.com of

UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



We join voices with the multitudes as we sing, "Alleluia! Christ is Risen!" In the midst of the stress and concerns of current times, we remember our Risen Savior and turn to the peace and comfort that comes from having a deep and meaningful relationship with Him and with the Holy Spirit, the Comforter sent by the Father, who lives within us and abides with us.

Prayers for you and your loved ones as we continue to move forward, trusting in God's Love and His promises. Please reach out to one of our WCF or someone else in our church family if you have any needs during the days ahead. We are here for you!

Circle meetings will be scheduled once gatherings are safe. Contact Rose Pech: rose4nonna@hotmail.com or 847-356-3577, or call the church office, to reach any circle chairperson. Watch announcements coming from the church through the Tuesday Newsday, special emails, etc.

WCF Circle Meeting Schedule for April

Circle	Day/Date	Time	Place	Contact
2	Sun., Apr. 19 (?)	11:45 a.m.	Small Meeting Room	Catherine Vick
4/5	TBD	12:30 p.m.	Church Parlor	Sue Schmidt
6	TBD	11:30 a.m.	Whitney St. Restau- rant	Marie Frandsen Diana Thompson
9	TBD	5:30 p.m.	Hillside Restaurant	Candi Becker
10	TBA	TBA	TBA	Jasmine Walker
Task Force	Choose projects/ministries to help; no meetings			Rose Pech

March Book Review a Great Success!

Praises resounded with thanks to Terese Bell for her very informative and interesting presentation at our Annual Book Review on March 14. All who attended enjoyed the presentation, discussion, and the treats.



Photo credits to Najdia Diane Kiblinger ... thank you, Diane!

UPC PADS UPDATE

MEETING GUESTS' NEEDS DURING THIS TIME OF CRISIS:

As our UPC PADS Site and other PADS Lake County shelter sites have had to close our doors for the health and safety of guests and volunteers, PADS Lake County is finding alternative locations where guests can stay and volunteers can safely continue to provide assistance as they are able while following social distancing and other safety guidelines. Guests are being vetted to be sure they don't have symptoms before they are allowed into the shelter sites and overnight emergency locations. Those with symptoms are being checked out and treated in accordance with Lake County Health Department, State of Illinois, and CDC guidelines. Some sites are still able to remain open, while volunteers from our site and other closed sites are helping meet the supervision and meal needs for the guests who are at new locations.

UPC PADS Site Manager Laura Tussing and Food Coordinator Margaret Hilliard are coordinating scheduling of volunteers and food delivery/service from our site with Suzanne Christensen, PADS Lake County Director of Shelter. Please contact Laura or Margaret if you are a current PADS volunteer and would like to help. Laura has sent out updates with her contact information. If you aren't a PADS volunteer and would like to provide some type of assistance, please see the info below and/or contact me so I can direct you to the best person.

As you can imagine, the PADS office staff is overwhelmed dealing with this crisis. Suzanne is keeping us posted on provisions made with the Health Department. The focus from our site management perspective is to limit the exposure not only to our volunteers, but to our extremely vulnerable guests.

MOST URGENT NEEDS CURRENTLY:

PRAYERS!! Regularly thanking God for the people and provisions that are fighting this disease & seeking more answers, for those who are able and are reaching out to help others, petitioning God for healing, containment and an end to the spread of the disease, seeking patience and comfort during these times of stress, and for the feeling of peace that comes from our Lord.

Donations of cold breakfast items - cereal, pop tarts, breakfast bars, sandwich crackers, etc. Contact Laura or Margaret, or call PADS 847-689-4357 to make delivery arrangements.

Hand sanitizer - large sizes containing at least 60% alcohol preferable

Forehead thermometers

Make a gift online at www.padslakecounty.org

Donations of hand sanitizer and thermometers can be dropped off or mailed to our Day Resource Center at 1800 Grand Ave. Waukegan, IL 60085.

For more information about our needs or any items in this article, please contact Rose Pech at 847-356-3577 or pads_at_upc@hotmail.com.

Thank you so very much for continuing to be tremendously supportive of UPC PADS and the services provided by PADS Lake County, Inc. God bless you all!

--On behalf of people experiencing homelessness...the UPC PADS Site Team



Let's SleepOut for Shelter!

Saturday, May 2 – Sunday, May 3 | 5PM - 6AM
Six Flags Great America | Gurnee, IL

PADS Lake County is thrilled to partner with Six Flags Great America again for our annual Sleepout for Shelter fundraiser. We can't wait to raise awareness and important funds all while enjoying **exclusive after-hours ride time only available to attendees and the opportunity to sleep under the stars on the Six Flags campus!**

All proceeds from the event will support the vital programs and services that PADS Lake County provides to the men, women, and children experiencing homelessness in our community.

Want to host a SleepOut in your backyard, run a digital fundraiser, or create your own unique experience instead of SleepingOut at Six Flags? You can still be a part of the event and raise awareness and support for our neighbors experiencing homelessness by **creating your own event or digital fundraiser.**

There are only 250 spots available to SleepOut at Six Flags - grab your friends & family, start a team, and sign-up today!

May they rest in peace: Mildred Kulin and Marno Benande

Continued prayers for UPC members and friends/relatives of members: Fred Berchtold (abdominal cancer), Christian and Seth, Desiree Craig (friend of Karen Caviness), Takara Dalton (fluid on the brain, Shelly Kutsin's goddaughter, Loretta Dodson (chronic pain), Barb Fischel (back pains), Curt Grabo (Bob Mielke's cousin, recovering from open heart surgery), Judy Hendrickson (mother of Laura Hendrickson), Lynne Henne (mother of Brett Henne), Norean Hill (cancer), Jae, Charles Madsen (brother of Karen Caviness), Skip Madsen (nephew of Karen Caviness), Mary Mason (sister of Loretta Dodson), Gloria Meier (sister-in-law of Ann Thompson), Marjorie Miller, Linda Papesh (cancer, mother-in-law to the Fischel's daughter), Bonnie Ross (pancreatic cancer, friend of Karen Caviness), Judy Ruhnke, Andrew Sawicki, Larry Smith (battling depression, friend of Laurie Bethmann), Stephen (26-year-old friend of Lil Eldridge who is battling cancer), Martha Walker (grandmother of Alisha, Gabby and Caroline Walker), and David Walters (friend of Bob Mielke, recovering from a stroke).

Long term prayers: Bruce and Judy Baird (cancer), Marno Benande, Mary Brase (sister of Rose Pech), Betty Bournes (sister of Rose Pech), Thomas Bournes (brother-in-law of Rose Pech) Karen Caviness, Barry Craig, Pat Curnow, Elaine Francis, Brad Fuller (stroke, brother of Jamie Fuller), Susan Green, Vivian Gwaltney, Carl Heiler, Tucker Hupp (grandson of the Lockhart's), Trish Jelinek (friend of Rose Pech, severe cellulitis in leg), Rick Juern (cousin of Judy Ziegler), Vivian Kuzelka, Tom Nellessen (brother of Margie Scheibler), Darwin Schwaderer, Chester Pinkowski (relative of Maureen Daly), Sandra Richard, Orrell Ruth, Marcia Ruth, and Bobbie Weichman.

Please keep in your prayers the following individuals who are currently serving their country: All First Responders, Andrew Vick (son of Cathy and Don Vick), Bob Sisco (brother of Lexie Craig), Dennis Jackson (friend of Lexie Craig), Philip Norton (grandson of Joyce and Terry Norton), Duneley Rochino, and Michael Nilles (great-nephew of Barb and Craig Fischel).

April Birthday:

4/01 Bartz, Cinda
4/02 Watkins, Paula
4/04 Waddelow, Robert
4/05 Aubrey, Anabelle
4/05 Gotlund, Brett
4/05 Gotlund, Brian
4/08 Mall, Ramsha
4/08 Wessale, Jerry
4/11 Divis, Aimee
4/11 Henne, Brett
4/11 Martin, Jacob
4/11 Weichman, Roger
4/12 Gotlund, Eric
4/12 Ryckman, Griffin
4/13 Carroll, John
4/13 Gotlund, Kari
4/15 Hayes, Isabella

April Anniversaries:

4/15 Lee, Cynthia
4/18 Gregory, Christopher
4/18 Kutsin, Milla
4/18 Walker, Gabrielle
4/19 Criag, Emma
4/19 Johnson, Julie
4/19 Rambo, Linda
4/20 Floral, Richard
4/23 Celeslie, Chris
4/23 Fuller, Jamison
4/23 Thoms, Karen
4/23 Trowitch, Carter
4/25 Thoms, Sean
4/27 Craig, Matthew
4/29 Plotner, Judy
4/30 Sparkman, Carson

Greeter Schedule

April 5 (Palm Sunday)	Bill Churchill	Dian Weikauf Marie Frandsen
April 12 (Easter Sunday)	Wende Fray	Rose Pech Pfeil/Ruhnke
April 19	Kim Schwaderer	Laurel Bruggen Pat Barker
April 26	Jeff Ziegler	Alice Broadhurst Sue Harvey
May 3	Felix Flok	Craig & Barb Fischel
May 10	Rosanne Taylor	Pfeil/Ruhnke
May 17	Mary Ann McDowell	Sharon Michalsen Rose Pech
May 24	Jay and Lil Eldridge	Laurel Bruggen Marie Frandsen
May 31	Linda Rambo	Donna Obrecht Jerry Wessale
Date	8:15	10:30
June 7	Terry & Joyce Norton	Sue Harvey Marie Frandsen
June 14	Kim Schwaderer	Pfeil/Ruhnke
June 21	Linda Rambo	Dian Weinkauf Laurel Bruggen
June 28	Wende Fry	Doris Craig Rose Pech
July 5	Jeff Ziegler	Pat Barker Cynthia Lee
July 12	Bill Churchill	Craig & Barb Fischel
July 19	Kori Henne	Donna Obrecht Sue Harvey
July 26	Felix Flok	Jerry Wessale Alice Broadhurst

**To Access UPC's Calendar On
Line**

[http://
www.mychurchevents.com/
calendar/calendar.aspx?
ci=L6F0H2O9G1F0O9L6I3](http://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/calendar.aspx?ci=L6F0H2O9G1F0O9L6I3)

Contact Us

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8131

E-mail: upc@upcgl.org

Pastor: Rev. Ryan Kiblinger

pastorryan@upcgl.org

Pastor Ryan's Cell
phone:254-285-9235

Church Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Grounded | Empowered | Transformed

United Protestant Church of Grayslake
54 S. Whitney Street
Grayslake, IL 60030

