

# The Unifier



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August 2022

## A Word for the Day...

In her daily devotional, *A Word for the Day*, the Rev. Cameron Trimble wrote the following: *Native and South American tribes teach their young ones that when they are born, they carry within them a "Sacred knowledge bundle." This bundle holds all that they are (essence), all they can be (potential), and all their ways of knowing, being and doing (wisdom). All people have sacred knowledge bundles. So do all other beings. Trees have them. Animals have them. Every being, created by the Sacred Spirit, carries within it unique gifts needed in the world.*

The understanding is that those with Sacred knowledge bundles are responsible for sharing their gifts with the community. We in our Western culture struggle to understand this. *We tend to see the world through the lens of individual ownership. We say things like "I am in possession of this knowledge," or "I have gained this understanding..." treating wisdom as an individual pursuit for individual enlightenment.*

Thankfully, indigenous teachers stress *that we are all part of a kinship system with all other beings. Our lives are in service to the community, not the individual. In this way, they also remind us that a healthy worldview is not anthropomorphic. Humans are not the most important characters in the story of creation... All of creation serves itself in balance, and all beings serve one another in relationship.*

The Apostle Paul hints at this in 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 when he explains the role of the Holy Spirit. He writes to the church in Corinth, *"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."*

To each is given a unique *sacred knowledge bundle*. They all come from the same Sacred Source (Holy Spirit), but they are as varied as the ones who hold them. These are given to each of us for the common good.

Rather than just asking people to introduce themselves by their names and where they are from, consider asking, *"What gift do you bring to us? What gift can you offer into this space?"*

*What is in your Sacred knowledge bundle? What unique gifts has God seeded within you for the betterment of the whole world? What a marvelous thing to ponder..!*

## **AUGUST SERMON FOCUS**

08.07- ***The Need for Clean***      Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

*People love to wash things. We wash our clothes, our hands, the dishes and our cars. We'll even power-spray the deck. But when are we truly clean?*

08.14- ***The Original Cloud***      Hebrews 11:29-12:2

*Cloud computing can be difficult to understand, but there's another cloud that's equally invisible, more mysterious and even harder to wrap our minds around.*

08.21- ***Our Rock-Solid God***      Psalm 71

*In our times of stress and distress, we can't forget that the beginning of healing is to ask for help. God can handle any pressure, endure any temperature and travel any distance to help us find refuge.*

08.28- ***What Am I Getting Out of This?***      Jeremiah 2:4-13; Luke 14:1, 7-14

*Jesus gives us a clue how to face the truth about our behavior and repair the cracked cisterns in our lives.*

***On August 28<sup>th</sup> we will be having Blessing of the Backpacks. We want you to invite your kids' friends to come and have their backpacks blessed with our kids during the service. I will also be doing a Children's Moment during this time. It is also registration day for our upcoming Fall Faith Formation schedule.***

**Pastor Steve**

**Dear Church Family,**

I hope that your summer has gone well. I just want to let you know some of the important dates and exciting opportunities we have coming up.

Let's start with the important dates:

- **August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022** – Back to School Sunday!
- **September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022** – Beginning of our Education Hour
- **October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022** – Fall Fest

I am so excited to begin our new ministry year. I am especially looking forward to August 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be holding our Back to School Sunday! This is a special week. Not only are we registering for our various educational ministries, but we will also be holding a blessing of the backpacks during the service and sharing some ice cream after the service. I encourage you to join us and invite your friends as we open our new ministry year.

Classes begin on Sunday, **September 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM**. Confirmation will also begin on the 11<sup>th</sup> at the same time as last year, **5:00 – 6:00 PM**. We really look forward to a new year. I am excited for the opportunity to teach Confirmation, and to explore foundational elements of the faith with them. If you have a child entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, you should receive a separate email invitation to join Confirmation with some additional information. If you have not received this by the first week of August, please contact me, and I will get it to you.

Finally, put Fall Fest on your calendar! We will be holding Fall Fest at the same time as Grayslake trick or treating in downtown. I invite you to join us for this event and to invite any friends or families you know to come and join in the fun. There will be more details provided soon.

On August 28<sup>th</sup>, we will also be registering adult studies. I am very excited for this year's classes. On September 11<sup>th</sup>, we will begin a study working through Tim Keller's *The Prodigal God*. Samples of the book and lesson will be at the registration table on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Our second main study will be working through the book of Galatians through another Warren Wiersbe study guide. The start date on this study is flexible, depending on how long it takes us to get through the Tim Keller study. Also, I look forward to talking about our Advent study in the coming months.

I encourage you to pray about how you might be involved in the life of our church this coming ministry year.

Please let me know if you have any questions, need any support, or need any resources.

Blessings,

Ryan Aubrey  
Director of Christian Education





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## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

DATE: August 28, 2022

TIME: 11:00 AM

WHERE: UPC Front Lawn  
(Weather permitting)

Bring a lawn chair and come join us for delicious ice cream after the worship service and enjoy fun and fellowship with other UPC members and friends. Hope to see you all there!

*Hosted by the Membership Outreach Committee.*

## MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

### **AUGUST JOY SHARING FOR PADS:**

The month of August each year gives everyone a special opportunity to give financial support for our UPC PADS Site & PADS Lake County with a Joy Sharing gift. These gifts help provide a safe, warm, and welcoming site where people who are experiencing homelessness in Lake County can come to receive food, shelter, and other necessities.

PADS has been providing shelter to its clients throughout the pandemic with one site a night open last season as most of its clients continued to be housed in hotels. During the 2022-2023 Season PADS hopes to have two sites open each night and have only families and severely health-compromised guests in hotels.

Thanks to your ongoing donations, UPC PADS has helped to save many lives as it's continued offering this ministry since 1991. Most recently, we've done this by providing food, clothing, & other necessities along with gift cards & other financial donations. Last season we also had 40 volunteers helping onsite at the St. Mary of Vernon PADS Site, providing the dinner meal once a month, and donating needed clothing for guests.

Each PADS site is self-supporting and relies completely on donations received from its host church, other churches, community groups & individuals. All site workers are volunteers, so 100% of these donations are used directly to help the guests.

To help prevent some clients from becoming homeless, PADS has a Prevention and Diversion Program which is designed to help people before they lose their housing, to keep them in a safe environment and prevent them from living on the street. More will be shared about this program in worship during Joy Sharing time on August 21.

Donations can be made with checks payable to UPC and PADS Joy Sharing written in the memo or by a cash donation with Joy Sharing for PADS written on the envelope.

In addition to praying and donating, consider becoming a volunteer for a few hours a month. Call 847-223-8131 ext. 17 or email [pads\\_at\\_upc@hotmail.com](mailto:pads_at_upc@hotmail.com) for more info.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and financial support of this vital ministry!

--Rose Pech, UPC Site Coordinator

UPC is scheduled to help at Feed My Starving Children on the **first Tuesday of the month, from 7:00 to 8:45pm**. The next opportunity to serve is August 2. Feed My Starving Children is located at 742 E. Park Avenue in Libertyville. You can pack food, help with the warehouse or put labels on bags (a sit-down job). Please use the sign-up sheet on the missions table in the church narthex. If you have questions, please contact Cinda Bartz at [bartzc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bartzc@sbcglobal.net) or (847) 727-1552. FMSC is a great place to spend a couple hours and know you have truly made a difference in people's lives!

### **UPC SHOPPER:**



It is time for Back to School shopping. Get your school supplies with shopper cards and support Operation Christmas Child. While you are at it, why not buy an extra pack of crayons to donate to OCC?



Furnishing a dorm room can be expensive. Make your purchases with UPC Shopper Cards and help the less fortunate get their own soap, toothbrush and more.

The profits from the UPC Shopper will be going to help pay for shipping for our Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes. We hope to ship 100+ boxes which would amount to \$1000 in shipping fees and a lot of very happy children. If you love OCC, please consider purchasing gift cards to help support the cause.

**KOHL'S**



**meijer**

**PADS LAKE COUNTY** was able to help house 106 families and 178 children, engage over 89 people through outreach, and provide shelter for over 687 people during 2021 thanks to the generosity of so many caring donors. The 2022-2023 Emergency Shelter begins October 3. At least one church site will be available each night. With answered prayers, at least 2 will be open each night! Please **contact Julie Kovacs** at PADS 847-689-4357.

**UPC PADS SITE: Learn more about how you can help improve and save lives** by enabling UPC to provide safe shelter and delicious food, please **contact Rose Pech. (Info below.)** Our current plan is to have training on the last Thursday evening of September and to open the site on the first Thursday of October. Volunteers are needed onsite and offsite with a variety of tasks and time commitments. **Onsite volunteers serve once a month if possible-7 times total; some do less and some more. Substitutes are also needed.**

### **ANTICIPATED FALL PADS ONSITE SHIFT NEEDS (SCHEDULED ONCE/MONTH):**

- **PADS SITE SETUP (4:45-5:45 PM):** Need youth, adults, families, groups
- **KITCHEN SERVE & CLEANUP (6-8:30 PM):** Need High school youth
- **FIRST SHIFT (5:30-11 PM):** Need several adult males & a few adult females
- **SECOND SHIFT (11PM-3AM):** Need adults (need one or two for 11 to 1 AM also)
- **THIRD SHIFT (3-7 AM):** Need adults
- **LATE THIRD SHIFT (4:30-7 AM):** Need adults
- **A.M. KITCHEN CLEANUP (6-7:00 AM):** (Need adults)

Some opportunities to serve are flexible & can be scheduled on other days and times. **The volunteer coordinator (STILL NEEDED!) works from home and has flexible hours.** Contact Rose Pech at pads\_at\_upc@hotmail.com or 847-223-8131, ext. 17 for info.

**GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS & SUPPORT!**

--UPC PADS Site Leadership Team



Welcome people who are experiencing homelessness  
as they work to find a happy home!  
(Artwork credit to Evan)

# WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

## AUGUST 2022

**WCF WELCOMES ALL WOMEN 18 & OVER!! PLEASE JOIN US!!**

Contact info for chairpersons can be found in our church directory or contact Rose Pech 847-682-2837 or rose4nonna@hotmail.com for this & more information.

### **CIRCLE NEWS:**

**Circle 2:** Meetings will be held on August 7 and continue meeting through December.

**Circle 4/5:** Monthly meetings will resume on the first Wednesday in September.

**Circle 9:** Meetings are scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month to enjoy time with members and friends who can come for food and fellowship at Hillside Restaurant in Grayslake. Check with Ruth Gheysen to confirm prior to meeting date because occasionally meetings are cancelled due to members having other commitments.

**Circle 10:** Members usually keep in touch on Facebook. Contact Jasmine Walker for their news.

### **WCF MISSION FUND READY TO RECEIVE YOUR DONATION NOW!**

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO UPC with WCF MISSION FUND written in the memo.**

Checks made out to UPC & marked for the WCF Mission Fund or labeled envelopes with cash should be put into the church offering plate or given to Janet Kendrick on Sunday mornings. Checks may also be mailed to United Protestant Church, % Janet Kendrick, 54 S. Whitney Street, Grayslake, IL 60030. The amount in the fund at the end of this year will be sent to help support the projects in West Africa during 2023. DON'T WAIT; PRAY ABOUT YOUR DONATION & DONATE WHAT GOD IS LEADING YOU TO GIVE!

### **See chart below for August meeting information for the circles.**

Watch for more detailed information regarding other circle meetings in the Tuesday Newsday emails, weekly church bulletin, & our monthly UNIFIER articles.

Circle	Day/Date	Time	Place	Contact
2	Sun., Aug. 7	11:30 a.m.	Rose Pech's home	Catherine Vick
4/5	No Meetings until September			Sue Schmidt
9	Tues., Aug. 9	5:30 p.m.	Hillside Restaurant	Ruth Gheysen
10	TBD	TBD	TBD	Jasmine Walker

Praying everyone is continuing to have a happy, safe and blessed summer,  
Rose Pech

## August Birthday List

8/1 Cameron Mussay  
8/1 Madeline Mussay  
8/2 David Runyon  
8/6 Sean DelGrosso  
8/6 Ralph Gotlund  
8/8 John Eldridge  
8/11 Adam Divis  
8/11 Shirley Eckhoff  
8/12 Jennifer Ansell  
8/12 Karen Runyon  
8/13 Janet Katien  
8/21 Simon Mall  
8/23 Varsha Mall  
8/24 Gretchen Jagla  
8/31 Judi Becker

## August Anniversaries

8/26 Chris & Tracy Celeslie  
8/26 Chuck & Diane Trowitch  
8/28 Dan & Paula Watkins



## UPC's Continued Prayers for Members, Relatives, and Friends:

**Members:** Marie Frandsen, Susan Green, Sue Harvey, Carl Heiler, Joanne Lawrence, Marjorie Miller, Eddie Smith, and Bobbie Weichman.

Tyler, Brittany & Danielle

**Relatives & Friends:** Joe Boccaleoni, Patricia Davis (friend of Bob and Pat Mielke), Judy Hendrickson, Mary Mason, Gloria Meier, Gary Sadlack, Larry Smith, Stephan, and Mary Populorum.

**Long-term prayers:** Bruce Baird, Flora Boehm & family, Betty Bournes, Thomas Bournes, Mary Brase, Don & Tina Busch, Barry Craig, Pat Curnow, Brad Fuller, Trish Jelinek, Rick Juern, Tom Nellessen, Sue (PADS friend), Wendy (friend of Rose Pech), and Michelle (friend of Linda Markham).

**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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E-mail: [upc@upcgl.org](mailto:upc@upcgl.org)

Pastor: Rev. Steve Welker  
  
[seniorpastor@upcgl.org](mailto:seniorpastor@upcgl.org)

Pastor Steve's cell phone:  
847-707-5601

Church Office Hours:  
Tuesday & Thursday  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Grounded | Empowered | Transformed

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

