

# The Unifier



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August 2021

**United Protestant Church**

**Grand Re-opening**

**Sunday, August 29**

**10am Worship in Church Sanctuary**

**Fall Registration for Education**

**and**

**Games on the Lawn**

**Following Worship**

**Contact Pastor Ryan with any questions:**

**Cell: 254-285-9235; [pastorryan@upcgl.org](mailto:pastorryan@upcgl.org)**

## Bring Everyone

Mathew 4.18-25:

<sup>18</sup> As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” <sup>20</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him.

<sup>21</sup> Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, <sup>22</sup> and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. <sup>24</sup> News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them. <sup>25</sup> Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis,<sup>[a]</sup> Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.

Matthew places the calling of Simon Peter, and his brother Andrew as well as James and John directly before we learn that as Jesus begins his ministry teaching, they bring people to Jesus and Jesus heals them all. I don't think that we should miss that these follow each other. I believe that they are in fact, interwoven and dependent upon each other. First, Jesus called people to come and follow him to fish for people. Then people came to him. Jesus has an expectation that those who follow him will bring others. Do we have that same expectation of ourselves?

It is easy for us to believe that the work of evangelism, or witness is the job of someone else. We have hired professional pastors and other staff for our churches and we can often think that bringing people to Christ is their job. It is certainly part of their job, but mainly in the form of being sure that the church is prepared to receive people that are brought by believers. Discipleship requires our going forth to share the good news of Jesus Christ. The number one most common reason that someone starts to attend a church is that they are invited by a friend or loved one. Invitation is the key.

Will you ask others to 'Come and See'?

Pastor Ryan

Dear Church Family,

This week, we hosted VBS. We had a good group of kids. They loved listening to Rose Pech share God's Word with them, playing games with Jasmine Walker, doing science experiments with Karen Knapp, and singing and moving around with Emily Aubrey. Thank you to all my volunteers it was wonderful to serve our children with you. I hope that you had wonderful moments as well. Also, thank you to all who helped by praying and providing snacks, decorations, or donations. We had a wonderful time, and I know that for my kids, they wish that it was longer than 3 days.

Kids listened to stories from the book of Acts. We heard about Saul's conversion and his encounter with the risen Jesus (Jesus' power helps us do hard things). We heard about Paul getting shipwrecked as he journeyed to Rome in chains (Jesus' power gives us hope). We also heard the story of Jesus' death and resurrection (Jesus' power lets us live forever). The exploration of the book of Acts is fitting for this year.

As I think about our upcoming ministry year and the direction, I think we should go, I have been struck by the importance of community within the body of Christ. We see this well in Acts. The formation of the Church into a community that seeks to help one another and to grow together. This is my desire for this coming year and a topic we will spend some time exploring and thinking about. How do we become a community that seeks to meet the needs of one another and desires to grow in our faith together.

My continuing prayer for this year and beyond is that we, as a church body and as individuals, will desire to grow in our faith (1 Peter 2:2 – 3). I hope that you will pray these verses in 1 Peter along with me over the coming year. May we participate with God in His project of changing our hearts so that we might continually surrender our lives to Him.

I know that this year could again be filled with constantly changing circumstances, but we can rest assured that God, who began a work within us, will bring that work to completion.

On the family front, for the past couple of weeks our family has watched the Olympics most evenings. My kids have really enjoyed this, especially the swimming, gymnastics, and diving. As we have watched these world class athletes compete, William continually chimes in that he could do those things. I mean he has been in swim lessons for a few months now, and he can jump pretty well. He is certainly not a child who lacks confidence.

I hope that you all are doing well, and I look forward to continuing to worship with you and grow in our faith together. If you have any questions or need anything, please do not hesitate to let me know. I am happy to help in whatever ways I can.

Blessings,

Ryan Aubrey

## “Can’t Go to Church” Group

How would you feel if you could never see & chat with the friends you’ve enjoyed worshipping with each Sunday for years? What if there was no way you could go to the church. Perhaps you don’t even have internet access to have the church come to you electronically.

Several UPC members deal daily with the feelings of “loss” that come with this reality in their lives. I’ve been visiting to keep in touch with a few of them, and the joy they express about having a visit truly warms my heart. The desire they have for more contact with other members “tugs” at me.

The people at Library Lane and Anthology rejoiced when the UPC carolers came to sing outside their windows and balconies this past winter! Should these types of visits or even just an informal time to chat be so few and far between?

I was visiting with Pat Wackerlin a short time ago, and she was talking about how delighted she is to have June Smith’s regular visits and the visits from the Pastor and others when they can come. **She said, “I wish we had a “Can’t Go to Church” Group...people from the church who would just call and make a date to come to sit and chat for a while.**

Pat and I decided that a group like this might be a good idea, so I’ve spoken with a few people and asked for prayers to discern if this is a seed God has planted and wants our help in making it grow. A small number of others have liked the idea, so I’m putting it out to all of you!!

I’d like to have the names of people who’d be interested in going in groups of two, three, or four—depending on who & where you visit—to visit people on a list we’ll compile of people who would like to have visitors.

Many years ago, Doris Craig and Harriet White made visits like this on their own. They’d set up a day once a month or so, I believe, when they’d go together to visit people who were “shut-in”.

We’ll need a bit of structure to be sure everyone who wants visits receives them. We definitely wouldn’t want to leave anyone out. Visitors would call first to find a mutually agreeable time. We want those doing the visiting and those receiving the visits to feel comfortable about the visits. Alice Broadhurst jokingly told me that someone could visit her in Georgia, but she and I decided that would be a bit beyond the range of this group. Time scheduled for a visit can be as flexible as your schedule and the schedule of the person being visited need it to be.

Please contact me if you’re interested in participating if we start this group as a new informal ministry at UPC.

Blessings—Rose Pech 847-356-3577.

**UPCs Prayer List** for members and friends/relatives of members: Shelly Kutsin’s goddaughter), Loretta Dodson, Marie Frandsen, Judy Hendrickson, Norean Hill, Mary Mason, Gloria Meier, Patricia Mielke, Marjorie Miller, Rev Tom Neuffer Emswiler, Judy Ruhnke, Gary Sadlack, and Larry Smith.

**Long term prayers:** Bruce Baird), Mary Brase, Betty Bournes, Thomas Bournes, Barry Craig, Pat Curnow, Brad Fuller, Susan Green, Carl Heiler, Trish Jelinek, Rick Juern, Vivian Kuzelka, Tom Nellessen, Darwin Schwaderer, Chester Pinkowski, Orrell Ruth, Marcia Ruth, and Bobbie Weichman.

# 2021

# UPC PADS Site

# 2022

## *Starting our 31<sup>st</sup> Season*

**For Joy Sharing Sunday in August**, you have a special opportunity to provide **financial support** with your gift for our UPC PADS Site. **This is one way you can help** to provide a safe, warm and welcoming site where people who are experiencing homelessness in Lake County can come for food and shelter.

This will be the **31st SEASON** of UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH & ST. GILBERT PARISH/ SCHOOL continuing to partner in providing support for those who are experiencing homelessness in Lake County! As part of the PADS Lake County Emergency Shelter Program, we continued providing an emergency shelter site at UPC from September 1991 until the sites had to close due to the pandemic in March 2020. Since then, we've continued to provide food, clothing, and other necessities along with gift cards & other financial donations, serving this way while guests were sheltered in hotels! This support continues today while the families, elderly, and those with severe underlying health conditions remain in the hotels where they'll be housed until April 2022.

Church Sites have been asked to be prepared to open as emergency shelters from the first of October 2021 through the end of April 2022. Our site plans to open Thursday, October 7, 2021.

**A second way you can help** is by **giving your time—VOLUNTEER!**—**AND/OR SHARE** the following needs with people you know & encouraging them to volunteer:

**Volunteer Coordinator** who will work with Rose Pech from UPC and Susie Manshum from St. Gilbert to schedule volunteers: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Late 3<sup>rd</sup>, & A.M. Kitchen cleanup.

**Adult volunteer openings** monthly for the following shifts: (as of July 18, 2021)

(Substitutes are also needed for all of these shifts.)

1 <sup>st</sup> Shift: 5:30 –11 P.M.	2 male volunteers
2 <sup>nd</sup> Shift: 11 P.M. – 3 A.M.	1 male & 1 male or female
11 P.M. – 1 A.M.	1 volunteers
3 <sup>rd</sup> Shift: 3 – 7 A.M.	Substitutes only needed
Late 3 <sup>rd</sup> Shift: 4:30 – 7 A.M.	Substitutes only needed
A.M. Kitchen Cleanup 6 – 7 A.M.	2 volunteers

**Youth, Family and Group volunteers**, such as Scouts, Confirmation, etc. for PADS Site setup from 4:30 to 5:30 P.M.—Dates vary depend on each volunteer's availability.

**High School Youth volunteers** for Kitchen Serve/Cleanup monthly 6 to 8:30 P.M.

**A major way to help is to PRAY!** The **prayerful support & active participation of people like you** is what started and has kept our UPC PADS Site in operation. You can be a part of this great group of volunteers!! Contact Rose Pech at 847-356-3577 or pads\_at\_upc@hotmail.com for more information or to volunteer.



# *UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP*



## WCF NEWS AUGUST 2021

### CIRCLE MEETING NEWS:

#### JULY MEETING REPORTS: CIRCLE 4/5 and CIRCLE 2

Circle 4/5—7 members of Circle 4/5 met on July 6 for fellowship time since we haven't been together for more than 8 months. We each brought our own lunch and ate together as we caught up on each other's news. We also talked about the possibility of holding BUNCO on October 16 from 1-3 p.m. This event is currently on the UPC calendar, and if church policy allows, we would like to plan this event with a few modifications. More details will follow on this later.

Circle 2—4 members of Circle 2 met on July 11 in the church parlor at 11:00 a.m. following the worship service. It was GREAT to catch up on news, especially with Susan Green after her long ordeal with leg surgery! We also discussed dates for our future meetings and decided on our mission projects for the remainder of 2021 based on recommendations made by the circle members last year. We signed greeting cards for member Deanna Ranes and for Rev. Orrell Ruth who are both ill and for our 4 honorary members: Alice Broadhurst, Carolyn Korell, Marcia Ruth, Bobbie Weichman. Cathy Vick shared devotions using a reading from the Daily Word and one from inspirational material Alice Broadhurst had given her.

#### FUTURE CIRCLE MEETINGS:

No circle meetings are scheduled for August, but we hope all circles will begin their normal schedules in September.

#### **If you're a woman between the age of 18 and 108, COME & JOIN US!!**

See Tuesday Newsday emails & UNIFIER articles for information, or call the chairperson. Contact info for chairpersons can be found in our church directory, or by contacting Rose Pech at 847-356-3577 or rose4nonna@hotmail.com

### WELCOMING ALL WOMEN!!

Circle	Day/Date	Time	Place	Contact
2	Sun., Sept. 11	11:00 a.m.	Church Parlor	Catherine Vick
4/5	TBD	12:30 p.m.	TBD	Sue Schmidt
9	TBD	5:30 p.m.	Hillside Restaurant	Candi Becker
10	TBD	TBD	TBD	Jasmine Walker

**TYLER & BRITTANY & DANIELLE UPDATE:** Tyler, Brittany, & Danielle should be in West Africa by the end of July or early August. See weekly updates in Tuesday Newsday. The WCF Depke Fund is almost fully funded for 2021. Please prayerfully consider giving a donation to Sue Schmidt or writing a check to UPC with WCF Depke Fund in the memo. We hope to meet our commitment this year, and we'll soon contact members in hopes of continuing this fund in 2022.

In the July Unifier, I accidentally listed June birthdays and anniversaries rather than July. Because of that I am listing both July and August birthdays and anniversaries. I am sorry for the error. Joann

**July Birthdays:**

07/03	Joanne Lawrence
07/03	Tim Pech Sr.
07/04	Sharon Michalsen
07/05	Joan Hendricks
07/05	Chaten Howard
07/05	Christopher Message
07/08	Tammy Hernandez
07/08	Dan Watkins
07/09	Laurel Bruggen
07/10	Veronica Mussay
07/11	Antoinette Mussay
07/13	Jill Selinger
07/14	David Bartz
07/14	Katelyn Rasmussen
07/17	Amber Baillargeon
07/17	Michael Higdon
07/19	Marcia Ruth
07/20	Kelsey Helm
07/20	Becky May
07/20	Ann Thompson
07/23	Karen Knapp
07/27	Katherin Christensen
07/28	Vaughn Muehleman
07/28	William Weller
07/31	Brooke Wilt

**August Birthdays:**

08/01	Cameron Mussay
08/01	Madeline Mussay
08/02	Brian Garbutt
08/02	David Runyon
08/06	Danielle Celeslie
08/06	Sean DelGrosso
08/06	Ralph Gotlund
08/08	John Eldridge
08/09	Jonathan Eisenhour
08/11	Shirley Eckoff
08/12	Jennifer Ansell
08/12	Karen Runyon
08/13	Janet Katien
08/17	Steven Higdon
08/21	Alice Broadhurst
08/21	Simon Mall
08/22	Charlene Johnson
08/24	Gretchen Jagla
08/31	Judith Becker

**Anniversaries:**

07/11	Ryan and Emily Aubrey
07/14	Joshua and Sarah Grubbs
07/20	Russell and Laura Welch
07/30	Wendy and Helene Fry
08/19	Orrelle and Marcia Ruth
08/26	Tracy and Chris Celeslie
08/26	Chuck and Diane Trowitch
08/28	Dan and Paula Watkins

**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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Pastor: Rev. Ryan Kiblinger

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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**

