

The Unifier



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June 2021

2 Corinthians 5.11-21 read this way:

The Ministry of Reconciliation

¹¹ Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. ¹² We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart. ¹³ If we are “out of our mind,” as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴ For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

¹⁶ So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:^[a] The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin^[b] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The more I read these words of St. Paul to the church in Corinth the more I think that they could just as easily been written for us today. We live in a time, a moment in history even, when so much has divided us and kept us apart. Our politics divide us, the central ways in which we view truth divides us, a pandemic has kept us separate and so divided. So how will we as the church rise to be ambassadors for Christ who are about the ministry of reconciliation.

The leadership of the church and pastors have done what they can to be sure that we are able to continue to worship together and learn and grow together. Much of the work of the last year has been trying to continue to do ministry with new parameters and in new ways and in new spaces. This work has been good and vital but it is only a small portion of what is needed in the church today. What is needed today is for us to recapture the idea that ministry is the responsibility of every Christian. So to that end... what are you doing to build the Kingdom of God? Who are you reaching out to? Let me give you a few suggestions, and then, rather than just agree with this article, will you commit to action?

Reach out to members at UPC that you know and haven’t seen in a while. This could be almost anyone as we have been apart.

But reach out!

Talk to your neighbours. Maybe host a backyard cook out and invite them over. Listen to their story and pray for places to be able to talk about your faith and Jesus.

Co-workers. This past year has been hard on our work in all places. How will you speak to the joy and hope you have in Christ to those with whom you work?

Talk to your family members. Perhaps it is children, or grandchildren or parents. But reach out. Invite them to church and be willing to bring them! Or if you need a ride ask them to bring you!

The work of the Church is not for the church staff or leadership alone. The work of the Church is for all those who profess faith and follow Jesus. Let us all work together for the glory of God.

Pastor Ryan

Dear Church Family,

I pray that as we enter into these summer months, you will find ways to continue to grow in your relationship with God and continue to develop into the disciples He calls us to be. Over the course of the summer, I encourage each of you to continue to listen to God so that you might know what next steps in faith He might have for you. Where are you on the journey of discipleship? If you remember early on, I walked through five general categories of our faith journey: Curious (John 1:35 – 46), Convinced (John 1:47 – 51), Confident (Mark 1:16 – 20), Consecrated (Luke 9:57 – 10:24), and Courageous (Matthew 28:18 – 20). Where might you fit in these five words? How might you continue to walk toward courageous faith, so that when we are before our savior, we have finished the race well?



This summer, our Vacation Bible School is scheduled for August 3 – 5th. There will be a registration link sent out soon as we finalize some details, so be watching for that. If you know of any families who might be interested in participating, please share this opportunity with them. If you are willing to volunteer, please let me know as soon as possible. I look forward to this ministry opportunity.

I hope that you all have a wonderful start to your summer months. I look forward to growing in our faith together over the course of the year.

Blessings,

Ryan Aubrey

CURRENT INFO FOR PADS IN LAKE COUNTY:

PADS had **140 clients** in 80 rooms in the three hotels as of May 13, 2021. Most of those who've left were matched to housing, which is great! The main office received a HUGE donation of items so the building is still full.

PADS LAKE COUNTY'S GREATEST NEEDS:

\$25 to \$50 Gift cards to Target, Jewel, or Wal-Mart

\$10 Gas cards and \$5 or \$10 fast food gift cards

Contact **Nicole Harris** at 847-689-0541 or nharris@padslakecounty.org regarding needs.

PHONE NUMBERS TO CALL FOR ASSISTANCE:

Anyone needing shelter: 847-689-4357

Living outside: 847-616-5557

In danger of homelessness: 847-689-4357

PADS IS SURVEYING SITES TO DETERMINE POSSIBLE FALL SUPPORT FROM SHELTER SITES:

UPC PADS SHELTER SITE PLANS TO OPEN and welcome **16 guests each Thursday night** based on CDC, State of IL, Lake County, PADS, and local Church and site leadership guidelines.

PLEASE HELP MAKE THIS POSSIBLE! UPC NEEDS:

A volunteer coordinator for our main shifts

(We have an experienced assistant.)

Shift leaders for main shifts

Onsite volunteers for all shifts

Some past volunteers have already indicated their willingness to return, however, several have moved out of state or cannot otherwise help.

Training & support will be provided for ALL positions.

WATCH TUESDAY NEWSDAY EMAILS FOR CURRENT INFO.

UPC PADS CURRENT NEEDS:

IN PREPARATION FOR POSSIBLE REOPENING OUR SITE:

Disposable face masks; Hygiene gloves (M,L,XL), Large bottles of hand sanitizer (64/67 oz)

Donations can be delivered to UPC on Sunday mornings or on Tuesdays or Thursdays between 10 and 2. If needed, contact Rose Pech to set a more convenient delivery time. Donation requests will be updated in the Tuesday Newsday emails and future *UNIFIER* articles.

DO NOT BRING ANY CLOTHING DONATIONS TO UPC!! UPC WILL NOT BE DISTRIBUTING CLOTHING!

ALL CLOTHING DONATIONS MUST BE MADE AT THE MAIN OFFICE AFTER FIRST CONTACTING Nicole Harris to determine PADS guests' clothing needs. See her info above.

Contact Rose Pech at 847-356-3577 or pads_at_upc@hotmail.com for other information.

–On behalf of those without homes, The UPC PADS Site Leadership Team



Help those who are now homeless by volunteering at the UPC PADS Shelter site where they can have food & a safe place to sleep until they're able to get into a home of their own.



United Protestant Church
Women's Christian Fellowship



WCF NEWS JUNE 2021

CIRCLE MEETING NEWS:

As restrictions begin to ease and the weather warms, our WCF circles look forward to resuming in-person meetings. Outdoor meetings may be held by some circles. Indoor circle meeting times and locations will be determined by circle members and their chairperson following UPC Administrative Council guidelines. Circle 2 will meet in June & July, but not in August. Regularly scheduled circle meetings will hopefully resume in September. Check with each circle chairperson to find out that circle's plan if it isn't listed in the chart below.

We welcome all women ages 18 and over to join us! The chart below gives current circle information and the names of each chairperson. If you're interested in visiting one of the circles, please contact the leader of the circle. Contact info for the chairperson is in our church directory, or you may contact Rose Pech: 847-356-3577 or rose4nonna@hotmail.com

WELCOMING ALL WOMEN!!

Circle	Day/Date	Time	Place	Contact
2	Sun., July 13	11:00 a.m.	Church Parlor	Catherine Vick
4/5	TBD	11:30 a.m.	TBD	Sue Schmidt
9	Tues., TBD	5:30 p.m.	Hillside Restaurant	Candi Becker
10	TBA	TBA	TBA	Jasmine Walker

UPDATE ON TYLER & BRITTANY & DANIELLE: Tyler, Brittany, & Danielle have received the visas which they needed for their flight to West Africa. Prayers are needed for logistics to work out well with those who have volunteered to help Tyler and Brittany in West Africa, for more agricultural teammates and for a six-month helper for their next trip. Prayers are also needed for their continual funding and support. The WCF Depke Fund for our WCF monthly donation continues to need funding which can be given to Sue Schmidt or be given as a check to UPC with WCF Depke Fund in the memo.

Blessed to be worshipping in person at UPC! -- Rose Pech

Continued prayers for UPC members and friends/relatives of members: Fred Berchtold (abdominal cancer), Christian and Seth, Alice Desiree Craig, Shelly Kutsin's goddaughter), Loretta Dodson (chronic pain), Marie Frandsen, Judy Hendrickson (mother of Laura Hendrickson), Norean Hill, Charles Madsen, Skip Madsen, Mary Mason (sister of Loretta Dodson), Gloria Meier (sister-in-law of Ann Thompson), Marjorie Miller, Rev Tom Neuffer Emswiler, Terry Norton, (Lymphoma cancer), Linda Papesh (cancer, mother-in-law to the Fischel's daughter), Judy Ruhnke, Gary Sadlack, (cousin to Judy Ziegler), and Larry Smith (battling depression, friend of Laurie Bethmann).

Long term prayers: Bruce Baird, Mary Brase (sister of Rose Pech), Betty Bournes (sister of Rose Pech), Thomas Bournes (brother-in-law of Rose Pech) Barry Craig, Pat Curnow, Brad Fuller (stroke, brother of Jamie Fuller), Susan Green, Carl Heiler, Trish Jelinek (friend of Rose Pech), Rick Juern (cousin of Judy Ziegler), Vivian Kuzelka, Tom Nellessen (brother of Margie Scheibler), Darwin Schwaderer, Chester Pinkowski (relative of Maureen Daly), 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).

June Birthdays:

06/04 Brandon Gregory
 06/04 Cally Hayes
 06/04 John Richardson
 06/07 Cody Harris
 06/09 Barb Fischel
 06/10 Cami Adams
 06/13 Shane Runyon
 06/14 Annette Waddelow
 06/15 Norean Hill
 06/16 Eric Schmidt
 06/16 Rosanne Taylor
 06/19 Denise Fuller
 06/23 Spencer Craig
 06/23 Roger Richardson
 06/23 Diane Trowitch
 06/24 Wesley Garbutt
 06/26 Patricia Barker
 06/27 Marissa Bell
 06/30 Cathy Vick

June Anniversaries:

06/10 Philip and Laurie Wade-Higdon
 06/11 William and Marie Weller
 06/15 Craig and Janet James
 06/19 David and Katie Stetz
 06/21 Gretchen and Jerome Jagla
 06/30 Jeffrey and Monique Taylor

Joy Sharing for June: Donations for Joy Sharing for the month of June will go to help the Detroit Tiny Houses for low income individuals who couldn't afford to buy a house on their own.

For additional information, you can go to: casscommunity.org

**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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IL 60030 Phone: 847-223-
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

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