

The Unifier



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A Lenten Journey

It has sometimes been said that the journey is more important than the destination. I don't know if that is exactly so as the destination matters a great deal. What I can surely affirm is that it isn't only the destination that matters. There is meaning in the journey. The Bible is filled with journeys. Each one unique, but all similar in that God was with the people wherever they went. The locations and situations and circumstances changed, but God's presence was the constant.

When God called Abram, he called him to a land that He would show him. Abram left all that he knew and followed God to a place unknown. It wasn't that the destination wasn't important; it was. Abraham buried Sarah in a land that would later become the Promised Land. But the living of life wasn't in the destination but in the moment by moment being with, and obeying God. Abram lived in the land and died in the land as a tent dweller and not as a possessor of the land promised.

When God called Moses to lead the Israelites up out of Egypt for the purpose of worshipping God, the destination was unknown. The plans for building the tabernacle weren't just given as the people were on the journey it was actually built while they were on the way! The Israelites didn't wait to get to their destination before they worshipped. They didn't have to arrive before they engaged in their primary task of experiencing the presence of God.

So it is with our Lenten season. It is a season yes, but it is also a journey. It is a personal and corporate journey to Jerusalem and Holy Week. It is a journey of repentance as we leave behind sin and strain towards the promise of God's Sabbath rest. Might this Lenten journey be for you.

Pastor Ryan

To UPC Church Friends:

Thank you for all your prayers and well wishes! I am still recovering from a number of falls but have managed to improve my walking. However, I still count on a wheelchair and/or a walker to get around in some areas.

My 90th birthday on January 26 was celebrated at home with family so that a fun time!

God Bless you all!

Darwin Schwaderer

Dear Church Family,

In each of the gospels, we see Jesus sending out His disciples to prepare the way for His teaching ministry. Luke 9 broadens the call of the disciples from being with Jesus in order to learn from him, to being called for a particular task: to spread the message that the Kingdom of God is at hand. It would be easy to read the beginning of Luke 9 and say that was just what God called the apostles to do, but Scripture calls all of the people of God to proclaim the message of the Kingdom of God. In fact, one chapter later, in Luke 10, we see Jesus consecrating a larger group of disciples, 70 or 72, to the job of preparing the way for His ministry. This calling is again given right before Christ ascended to heaven, in the giving of the great commission, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...” (Matthew 28:19 – 20). We, as the people of God, have been consecrated, or set apart, for the same task.

This is part of what we talked about in the *Reimagining Evangelism and Outreach* adult class leading into Lent. Demonstrating love to our neighbors, coworkers, family members, and friends through proclaiming the transforming work of God in our lives. Peter provides us with a great reminder of just who we are in Christ, and what God is making us into: “a people of His own” (1 Peter 2:9 – 10). Why is God creating a “people of His own”? He is doing it so that we might proclaim the love and transforming power of God to those who remain blind to their spiritual condition. So, in the development of a disciple, there comes a time when we need to move beyond merely being *convinced* of who Christ is, *confident* in what he has and is doing in us, to recognizing and embracing the call that Jesus has for those who follow after Him, *consecrated*. As Paul says in his second letter to the church in Corinth, “Therefore we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making his plea through us. We plead with you on Christ’s behalf, “Be reconciled to God!” (2 Corinthians 5:20)

One of the challenges we left the *Reimagining Evangelism and Outreach* class with, was to identify some people whom we consistently interact with and pray for them daily. In our prayers, ask God to show us how He is at work in their lives and how we might be able to partner with Him in that work. I leave that same challenge for you. Who has God placed in your lives so that you might be able to share how God has transformed your life? We each have stories of God at work in us. Share your story with others.

In family news, as has been mentioned before, we really enjoy playing board games. The kids got a few at Christmas, but right now, their favorite is Candyland. What is it that they like about Candyland? Well, they like playing with the pieces and making up their own adventures. Their enjoyment of this has recently taken on a whole new dimension. They love finding different versions of Candyland and discovering the new/old artwork differences. Emily took the kids to the library recently, and they discovered a copy of Candyland that can be checked out. The insisted that we get it, even though they already have a copy at home. So, they bring it home, and right away the open it up to compare the art and to play with the pieces. Now every time they see a copy of Candyland, they are explaining the differences between that one, the one from the library, and the one that we have at home. Thanks for reading. Have a wonderful day.

Blessings,

Ryan Aubrey



UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



All women are invited to visit a circle of your choice for any monthly meeting listed in the table below. Informational brochures are also in the pamphlet holder on the wall next to the Mission table.

WCF CIRCLE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

Circle	Day/Date	Time	Place	Contact
2	Sun., Mar. 15	11:45 a.m.	Small Meeting Room	Catherine Vick
4/5	Wed., Mar. 4	12:30 p.m.	Church Parlor	Sue Schmidt
6	Thurs., Mar. 5	11:30 a.m.	Whitney St. Restaurant	Marie Frandsen Diana Thompson
9	Tues., Mar. 10	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

All circles will meet monthly for the remainder of the school year. Watch the church bulletin, Tuesday Newsday, & future *Unifier* articles for info regarding summer meetings. Contact Rose Pech: rose4nonna@hotmail.com or 847-356-3577, or call the church office, to reach any circle chairperson.



All women of UPC are invited to join us for WCF's Annual Book Review on Saturday, March 14th from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be provided by the women of WCF, and Terese Bell will be our presenter. There is no cost to attend this event, but you are encouraged to bring a used book or two from home to exchange with other women in attendance. There is a sign-up sheet on the ministry table in the Narthex so we will know approximately how many guests to expect, as well as how much food to provide. Come and share the enjoyment of reading with old and new friends at UPC. Contact Sue Schmidt at schmidt6134@comcast.net or call 847-367-1701 with any [questions.](#)

UPC PADS UPDATE

FINAL PADS SEASON ORIENTATION/TRAINING OFFERS!

Spread the word!! February 29 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. will be the next scheduled volunteer orientation/training session. If there's an interest, sessions can be offered from 7 to 9 p.m. on Monday, March 2, or Tuesday, March 3. These will be the last orientation/training offerings for the 2019 – 2020 PADS Season.

PADS shelter sites close at the end of April. Our UPC PADS Site will offer training for experienced and new volunteers on Thursday, September 24 in preparation for the 2020 – 2021 PADS Season. Mark your calendars now!

ONSITE VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR FINAL 2 MONTHS:

2nd shift (11p.m. to 3 a.m.) – **1 male** on 1st week Mar/Apr; **2 males** for Apr. 30

3rd shift (3 to 7 a.m.) – **1 volunteer** on 3rd week Feb/Mar/Apr; **2 strong volunteers** for Apr. 30

Late 3rd shift (4:30 to 7 a.m.) – **2 volunteers** for Apr. 30

Substitutes are needed when regular volunteers call off for 1st shift & Morning Kitchen Cleanup in addition to every shift listed above.

MENTAL HEALTH 1ST AID COURSES OFFERED AGAIN AT UPC!

Staff members from PADS Lake County will offer two training sessions for PADS Staff and volunteers who wish to become certified in Mental Health 1st Aid. The training IS open to UPC members and friends. The first class will be from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 29. The second will be offered from 5:30 to 10:00 p.m. on two evenings, Monday and Tuesday, March 2 & 3 with attendance required on both evenings. Online signup is available and is being emailed to everyone who receives Tuesday Newsday. If you're interested in this 8-hour training for certification & need more information, please contact Rose Pech.



SLEEPOUT FOR SHELTER:

Once again, PADS Lake County and Six Flags are partnering to offer an opportunity on the nights of May 2/3, 2020 to raise funds for the services provided to clients/guests experiencing homelessness .

See the flyer found in this UNIFIER for more information. If you'd like to captain or be a member of a UPC PADS Team and participate in the SLEEPOUT, please contact Rose Pech.

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 FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND CONTINUED SUPPORT!!

--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!

Continued prayers for UPC members and friends/relatives of members: Judy Baird (cancer, wife of Bruce Baird), Fred Berchtold (abdominal cancer), Christian and Seth, Desiree Craig (friend of Karen Caviness), Loretta Dodson (chronic pain), Barb Fischel (back pains), Lorrie George-Baskin (sister of Darlene George Craig), 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), Judy Ruhnke, Darwin Schwaderer (fall), 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: Marno Benande, Mary Brase (sister of Rose Pech), Betty Bournes (sister of Rose Pech), Jodi Briedis, 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 Nellesen (brother of Margie Scheibler), Chester Pinkowski (relative of Maureen Daly), Sandra Richard, Orrell Ruth, Marcia Ruth, Sophie (friend of Joann), 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), Abraham Lam Yuen, 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).

March Birthdays:

3/1	Steve Howard	3/20	Wende Fry
3/3	David Holliman	3/20	Carl Heiler
3/4	Kim Fletcher	3/21	Lloyd Lowe
3/6	Evelyn Munts	3/21	Max Mansell
3/6	Pat Wackerlin	3/22	Gregg Helm
3/6	Jeffrey Ziegler	3/22	Samia Mall
3/9	Richard Carlson	3/25	Lindsey Helm
3/11	Andrew Vick	3/27	William Aubrey
3/12	Cynthia Rickman	3/28	Douglas Rockenbach
3/13	Ben Fletcher	3/29	Donna Obrecht
3/14	Marie Frandsen	3/29	Sandy Sparkman
3/15	Lauren Bunke	3/30	Doris Hanke
3/15	Kim Schwaderer	3/31	Kaitlyn Fuller
3/17	Tessa Fuller	3/31	Mitch Fuller
3/17	Tessa Richardson	Wedding Anniversaries:	
3/19	Janet James	3/24	Terese and Warren Bell
3/19	Mary Richardson	3/30	Cynthia and Richard Floral
3/19	Donald Vick		
3/20	Beth Floral		

Greeter Schedule

	8:15	10:30
March 1	Felix Flok	Sue Harvey, Cathy Vick
March 8	Bill Churchill	Jerry Wessale, volunteer needed
March 15	Terry & Joyce Norton	Donna Obrecht
March 22	Mary Ann McDowell	Doris Craig, Pat Barker
March 29	Kori Henne	Linda Markham, Rose Pech
April 5	Bill Churchill	Dian Weinkauf, Marie Frandsen
April 12	Wende Fry	William Pfeil, Judy 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	William Pfeil, Judy 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

Joy Sharing for March

One Great Hour of Sharing

The recipient of the March Joy Sharing will be One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). “You are God’s field; God’s building. “ Through OGHS, you can help plant seeds of new life. Together, we are investing in communities world-wide: providing education to girls and boys, empowering communities through vocational training, supporting microcredit lending and seeing people through to self-sustainable solutions that offer dignity to all. These are just a few ways the OGHS offering touches God’s children, in addition to disaster relief and refugee initiatives. Be a co-worker with God. Building, planting, watering. . .and trusting that God gives growth to all good gifts shared in faith. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this worthwhile mission.

**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

