

The Unifier



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Silent Confrontation

I think most of us do not like confrontation. This is likely true to varying degrees, from those who avoid conflict at all costs to those who don't like it but are able to face it when needed. Very few of us, if any, crave conflict. But most confrontations we face in our life aren't explosive or major crises, but they are the small simple decisions and choices that we face every day. They are the times we don't turn a blind eye to a situation that we could side-step. We instead calmly address what is before us.

Take the example of Jesus in Samaria in John 4. Jesus is in Samaria because that is the shortest route between Galilee in the north and Judea in the south. He is sitting beside a well because he is thirsty and it is the middle of the day. These are not uncommon circumstances that Jesus finds himself in, but rather, they are just the ordinary happenings of life. Yet, here Jesus silently confronts so much in our world. He confronts sexism and racism as he speaks to this unnamed Samaritan woman at the well. Not only that, but Jesus offers her eternal life in Him. He gives her the best He has to offer regardless of her gender, ethnicity, class, or we find out her past. Jesus looks at her as a person who is created in the image of God (His own image by the way), and He treats her accordingly.

Most of us will likely never be in a circumstance or situation where we are faced with a loud confrontation about racism or sexism. But all of us will face these everyday decisions. May we silently confront the wrongs of this world by the strength of the Holy Spirit in us.

Pastor Ryan

Dear Church Family,

August has arrived, and with it come a lot of questions regarding the Fall and what things will continue to look like in our community and in our church. In the middle of July, which is when I am writing this, our Christian Education Committee met to discuss what our Fall educational ministries would look like. From this meeting, each individual education committee will meet to discuss specifics as it relates to their individual ministries. It is a hard time, and difficult to have any concrete plans, as things continue to change.

Currently, we are hoping to open our educational ministries at the beginning of October. Each of the committees will meet and discuss what ministry will look like in the coming year. We are working hard to figure out how to best serve you. I will share with you four points to keep in mind that I shared with our Christian Education Committee at our July meeting.

Effective Christian education does not take place in a vacuum. It is best accomplished in the context of loving relationships and effective worship.

What we do in Christian education, and all our Christian walk, is a partnership with God.

We teach Scripture in a way that calls for response.

The purpose of Christian education is a well-developed faith that has cognitive, affective, and volitional components.

These are important for us all to think through. They are all accurate of our Christian walk. So, some natural questions from these are: “How do we build loving relationships?”, “Are we practicing effective worship, even outside of Sunday morning?”, “How do we encourage and develop out partnership with God?”, “Does Scripture call for a response in our lives?”, if not, “How does our approach to Scripture need to be adjusted?”, and finally, “How are my mind, heart, and way I live being renewed?”. It is important that not only our committees and ministries ask these questions as we prepare for our ministry year. We as individuals need to constantly be evaluating our walk with Christ. Faith is not static. We are constantly moving in our faith. The question is what direction we are moving.

Thankfully, discipleship is not limited to our Sunday morning education hour or Sunday morning service. Things will look a little different over the course of the next year, but our goal and mission as Christian Education ministries is that we seek to build followers of Christ moving toward maturity. From September to about February, my Unifier articles discussed a framework to thinking about discipleship. It looked at how we move from being Curious to Consecrated. Following along that path is what becoming a mature follower of Christ is about. May we each continue to seek after God and grow in our faith, both individually and as a community.

If you have any questions or need anything, please let me know: ryanaubrey@upcgl.org.

Blessings,

Ryan Aubrey



UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



WCF NEWS—KEEPING IN TOUCH

The months we've been apart have made me realize even more the important role all of you and the rest of our church family play in my life. Some people don't believe church is important; they believe individual worship of God any place is enough. While personal individual worship is important, I know that it is NOT enough for me! Worshipping with fellow Christians, studying and learning more about God's will for me as I interact with fellow Christians, and enjoying Christian fellowship with my church family is a vital part of my life! WCF is one piece of that!



I'm glad UPC is "playing it safe" and taking slow steps in coming back together for everyone's health and safety. It was good to see photos of those who could gather for outdoor worship on Sunday, July 12, and I hope to be among those who come together for another outdoor worship service on August 9, the next planned date.

I also enjoyed seeing some photos of Circle 4/5 as they gathered on the church lawn for their lunch on June 23, following social distancing guidelines. The circle wasn't able to have their social lunch meeting in May before taking a break for the summer. The gradual opening of guidelines allowed them to meet in person and catch up on each other's news.



I was hoping to take pictures on July 19 as Circle 2 had planned that date for our social distancing lunch at the home of Alice Broadhurst. We hadn't been able to visit in person since February, so it was going to be great to be together and catch up on everyone's news. However, we've had to reschedule our meeting. I hope to have photos of our Circle 2 gathering and the next outdoor worship service in next month's WCF article for the *UNIFIER*.

The WCF Board isn't sure when we'll be having larger WCF gatherings. We believe BUNCO will need to be cancelled since social distancing is impossible in that setting. Watch for future information or contact Rose Pech 847-356-3577.

During this time apart, may we use our WCF or Church Directory to reach out to each other by phone, a card, or a quick note. Some of our circle members don't have the internet, so it would be especially nice for the rest of us to let them know what's happening in our lives and in the life of UPC. --Blessings to all, Rose Pech

UPC PADS UPDATE—OUTLOOK AS OF JULY 15, 2020

At this point, UPC PADS leaders aren't sure what our UPC PADS service model will look like for the coming PADS shelter season. Our UPC Leadership Team received an update from PADS Lake County during a ZOOM meeting on July 8 giving us new information. As of then, slightly more than 150 guests were still being housed and fed in hotels while they continued to receive PADS services in coordination with various housing agencies in Lake County. In addition, PADS has received enough funding to provide housing in 50 hotel rooms throughout the coming PAD Shelter Season, October 1, 2020, thru April 30, 2021. This means our 30th PADS Season could look very different for UPC! We don't yet know what that look will be.

There's a possibility we'll be asked, along with the other sites, to help at a fixed site in a different location by providing volunteers and food. This site would be needed primarily for walk-ins and police drop offs, so the number of guests would likely be small and would definitely vary each night. The schedule and tasks may also be slightly different. The manner of food delivery will be different regardless of where we serve it as we follow the regulations that are then in place.

Currently, plans are in process to help provide the same types of needed clothing as in the past. However, the main distribution will not be at UPC. Clothing will likely be distributed through the PADS office by case managers with the Shelter Project Director Nicole Harris and our clothing coordinator Mary Zorc working out those details. FYI: Last season we distributed clothing valued at \$8000 to needy PADS guests. Many of these items were donations of newly purchased clothing we received from very generous volunteers who "hit the sales" before and throughout the season, enabling us to provide this service.

Regardless of what the "picture" looks like, **WE WILL DEFINITELY NEED VOLUNTEERS! WE WILL NEED A VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR! WE WILL NEED DONATIONS!! WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED YOUR SUPPORT!!**

Our next PADS ZOOM meeting is scheduled for August 12. We will give an update in the Tuesday Newsday email after that meeting, and our September UNIFIER article will give you any new information. Another ZOOM meeting is scheduled for September 9, and we will provide these and other updates as they are received.

At this point, we want to continue providing help for the guests who are in hotels. The greatest needs are pop-top canned meal items (Chef Boyardee, Dinty Moore meals, chili, chunky soup), Easy Mac, Cup-o-Soup, granola bars, individual bags of chips, pop tarts, oatmeal packets, peanut butter, and individual fruit cups/applesauce. Gift cards to McDonalds (\$10) and to Walmart (\$25) are still welcomed.

For more information regarding hotel item donations, please contact Nicole Harris at nharris@padslakecounty.org or at her office phone number 847-689-0541.

Please contact Rose Pech at 847-356-3577 or pads_at_upc@hotmail.com for other information or to volunteer.

--On behalf of those experiencing a housing crisis in Lake County,
The UPC PADS Site Leadership Team

VOLUNTEER!

**Welcome people who
are experiencing
homelessness**

as they work to find a

"Happy Home"!!

Artwork by Evan



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), 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), Nancy Weinkauff (Dian's mother)

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).

August Birthdays:

08/01	Mussay, Cameron	Becker, Ted	08/18
08/01	Mussay, Madeline	Depke, Justus	08/19
08/02	Garbutt, Brian	Broadhurst, Alice	08/21
08/02	Runyon, David	Mall, Simon	08/21
08/06	Celeslie, Danielle	Johnson, Charlene	08/22
08/06	DelGrosso, Sean	Mall, Varsha	08/23
08/06	Gotlund, Ralph	Jagla, Gretchen	08/24
08/08	Eldridge, John	Clark, Camryn	08/28
08/09	Eisenhour, Jonathan	Harvey, Madelyn	08/29
08/11	Divis, Adam	Becker, Judith	08/31
08/12	Eckhoff, Shirley		
08/12	Ansell, Jennifer		
08/12	Runyon, Karen		
08/13	Katien, Janet		
08/14	Caviness, Karen		
08/15	Helvie, Jordyn		

August Wedding Anniversaries

08/04	John & Sue Carroll
08/11	Paul & Lisa Bruggen
08/18	Tim & Elizabeth Perry
08/19	Orrell & Marcia Ruth
08/26	Tracy & Chris Celeslie
08/26	Chuck & Diane Trowitch
08/28	Dan & 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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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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