

The Unifier



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In 2 Corinthians 8.1-15 we read the following:

8 And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. ⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. ⁶ So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. ⁷ But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

⁸ I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

¹⁰ And here is my judgment about what is best for you in this matter. Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. ¹¹ Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. ¹² For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.

¹³ Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. ¹⁴ At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, ¹⁵ as it is written: "The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little."

The Macedonian churches to the north of Corinth were having a difficult time. They were experiencing a persecution from the larger culture and as a result they were facing financial difficulty. This period in their history did not see them try to think that they could manufacture safety and security for themselves by relying on their own wealth and strength. As Derek Webb sings in "I Want a Broken Heart", 'I have faith in the bank, and money in my heart.' The Macedonians counted the faithfulness of God as something that they could trust in. God, and not circumstances was the source of their joy. This joy welled up into a type of life that was generous above all.

I think often times we think that generosity is the source, but in reality, joy, which is a fruit of the Spirit, is what results in joy. So I might ask you today: Do you have joy? Do you experience the love of God in a deeply profound way, such that you have joy that is deeper than, beyond, and not tied to the difficult circumstances of our days? If so, I think we will find ourselves generous.

Dear Church Family,

This Fall, our Children's Ministry is exploring the question of Who is God. Preparing each of the lessons, so far, I have been greatly encouraged. It is amazing to see how God reveals Himself through Scripture. What evidence have you seen that God is real?

It is important that we continue to grow in our knowledge of who God is. It is to this end, that one question I encourage people to ask when reading Scripture is "What does this passage teach us about God?". As we have discussed in our Spiritual Disciplines class, over the past month, our job as disciples is to continually grow to become more like Christ, and worship is an outflow of our understanding of who God is and what He has done. We read Scripture to see who He is and to see His faithfulness throughout history. We are persistent in prayer, because we know that God hears and answers us. We worship God in response to who He is and His faithfulness in our lives and the lives of those around us.

Our faith is built upon a growing understanding of who God is. It has been such an encouragement to be reminded of God's character as I walk through these lessons with the kids. I encourage you to come along in this journey of faith, discovering who God is and seeing His faithfulness throughout generations.

I hope that you all have a wonderful month, and that as we approach Thanksgiving, you take time to remember the faithfulness of God. I encourage you to participate in the last couple of weeks of our class on Spiritual Disciplines and join us in our discussion of *Generous Justice*. If you have children, I also encourage you to participate in the lessons. Being watching for an update soon regarding our plans for Advent. I look forward to continuing learning more about who God is with all of you.

Blessings,

Ryan Aubrey

Director of Christian Education

ALL OF MY FRIENDS AND SECOND FAMILY AT UPC:

DEAR FRIENDS,

EVERYONE AT UPC HAS BEEN SO WARM AND KIND TO ME ALL OF THESE YEARS. I TRULY WILL MISS ALL OF THE LOVE AND FRIENDSHIPS THAT I HAVE HAD WITH ALL OF YOU.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING ME IN AND BEING THERE FOR ME ESPECIALLY THESE PAST FEW YEARS. I TRULY DO NOT KNOW HOW ANYBODY GETS THROUGH WHAT LIFE THROWS AT YOU WITHOUT GOD, FAITH, FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

I HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT EVERYWAY THAT I AM INVOLVED WITH UPC, AND I LOVE EACH AND EVERY MISSION: VOCAL CHOIR, BELL CHOIR, PADS, FMSC, VBS, COOKING IS LOVE, OCC AND BEING ALLOWED TO CARE FOR GOD'S HOUSE AND OUR SECOND HOME. I ALWAYS APPROACHED CLEANING OF THE BUILDING AS IF WE WERE HAVING COMPANY COME TO OUR HOME.

WITHOUT GETTING MUSHY I WANT TO SAY BE WELL, STAY HEALTHY AND TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER.

I LOVE YOU ALL, AND HOPE TO BE BACK EVER SO OFTEN TO VISIT.

IF ANYONE IS EVER COMING TO ROCKFORD, PLEASE CALL AND WE CAN VISIT.

LOVE AND BLESSINGS TO ALL,

KELLY

847-708-6287



UPC PADS UPDATE

EMERGENCY SHELTER FOR PADS CLIENTS:

As of October 14, about 200 people were being housed in motel/hotel rooms and receiving services from PADS Lake County personnel. The PADS Emergency Shelter Season started on October 1. Since that day, people who are experiencing a housing crisis have been able to access emergency shelter at one of three area motels/hotels by contacting the PADS Lake County Office on Monday thru Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. and by calling their local law enforcement's nonemergency number at other times and on weekends. All of the police departments and the Lake County Sheriff's office have the number to call to reach PADS staff who can arrange for emergency placement in one of the motels/hotels until the PADS office is open, and PADS assistance can be provided. If PADS finds that the need for emergency shelter is too great, they do have the option to open a small fixed site as plan B.

GREATEST NEEDS AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2020:

Nicole Harris, Shelter Operations manager explained that there continues to be a great need for the **nonperishable food items, individual hot dinners, and sanitizing products** for clients in the motels/hotels. **Covid kits** are much needed for both clients in the rooms and for those who remain in outreach locations, and **housewarming items** are needed for those clients who are going into apartments.

See the list of specific nonperishable items and information on what to include in Covid kits on a separate page in this *UNIFIER*. See Nicole's contact information to learn more about providing meals, and find the how to get information about the housewarming items below:

Individual Hot Meals

Individual dinners need to be made and dropped off at the hotels on various days for guests from October 1 thru April 30. PADS is not using the online signup and instead is asking that you contact Nicole Harris at nharris@padslakecounty.org or at 847-689-0541 to participate in this.

Housewarming Project Items:

Clients who are being housed in apartments need items for the apartments. A large group of you might want to put together laundry baskets/cleaning buckets containing some of the smaller items or to

Go to www.padslakecounty.org

Click on "Get Involved" at the very top of the page where the dropdown menu will include "Housewarming Project"

Click on "Housewarming Project" and you will find instructions on how to make up a "Housewarming Kit" and an email address to contact PADS and receive a list of suggested items to include in the kit.

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.

--The UPC PADS Site Leadership Team

Nonperishable Food & Supplies Needed for PADS Lake County Clients

Food items that can be donated for PADS staff to pack into boxes for clients include the following:

(MOST NEEDED are Canned pop-top items and individual snack and breakfast items)

- Microwavable meals in pop-top cans (chili, Chef Boyardee, Dinty Moore meals, Chunky soup,
 - Ravioli, Spaghetti and Meatballs)
 - Microwavable soups in containers or pop-top cans
 - Small jars of peanut butter and/or jelly
 - Mac 'n Cheese cups
 - Ramon cups
 - Beef Jerky, Slim Jim, Meat Sticks, Spam Packets, Tuna Packets
 - Breakfast Cereal bars or granola bars, small sized boxes of cereal, Pop Tarts
 - Fruit cups, applesauce cups or Pudding cups
 - Boxes of microwavable Oatmeal packets
 - Crackers in boxes with separate packs
 - Granola bars
 - Pop tarts
 - Small bags of chiiips or cookies
- \$10 McDonald gift cards are also helpful because clients can use these to get a special treat once a week.

If you wish to make up boxes that are ready for PADS staff to give to the clients, each box would ideally include the following items: (This would be the "ideal" box and can be modified if need be. This is what we have been providing based on what we are seeing come in with donations.)

- 1 jar Peanut butter
- Three packs of crackers
- 5 granola bars
- 3-4 canned goods (chili, Chef Boyardee, Dinty Moore meals, Chunky soups)
- 2 poparts
- 2 packs oatmeal
- 2 cups applesauce/fruit cups
- 4-5 small bags chips or one large bag
- 2-3 small packages of cookies
- 2 mac and cheese cups
- 3 bottles of water

What else you can do to help:

--Create "COVID Kits" – kits to be distributed with 2 reusable or several disposable masks, hand sanitizer, a few pairs of hygiene gloves

--Collect cleaning supplies for PADS- we are distributing cleaning supplies to those in our hotels and are going through what little we are able to order very quickly. Biggest needs: disinfecting wipes, disinfecting sprays, paper towels, bleach etc. (Lysol spray, especially)

--Donating PPE – we are still using cloth masks and handing them out to our clients who need them!

--If you or someone you know are crafty, we are always accepting cloth masks and other donations of PPE.

Donations can be dropped off at PADS, 1800 Grand Avenue in Waukegan on Monday – Friday, between 8am and 4pm. You will not need to enter the building. Staff members can "grab and go" from your car. Just pull up & ring the bell at the door. Someone will come to get the donations from you.



UNITED PROTESTANT CHURCH WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



WCF NEWS—KEEPING IN TOUCH

PROPOSED WCF CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS CHANGES SENT TO WCF MEMBERS:

Near the end of October, WCF members received a copy of the WCF Constitution and By-laws with proposed changes noted by strike-throughs &/or red-printed insertions. Individuals were asked to vote by replying to the email or letter which each received. Votes will be finalized on November 7 so changes in the documents can be included in our 2021 WCF Directory.

Members should notify their chairperson of any changes in their contact information if they haven't done so already so chairpersons can send necessary changes to Sue Schmidt before November 7 for inclusion in our 2021 WCF Directory.

CIRCLE MEETINGS: As colder weather arrives, circle meeting times and locations will still be determined by individual circles following the UPC Administrative Council guidelines.

Currently, none of the circles have meetings scheduled. Circle 4/5 had their final fall social-distancing outdoor meeting in October. Members of that circle have decided NOT to have in-person meetings until the weather is warm enough to once again meet outdoors in the spring. The adjacent chart lists the circles and gives the names of each chairperson. If you're interested in visiting one of the groups when they do meet, find contact information for each chairperson in the church directory or by contacting Rose Pech at 847-356-3577 or rose4nonna@hotmail.com.

Circle	Contact
2	Catherine Vick
4/5	Sue Schmidt
9	Candi Becker
10	Jasmine Walker

PLEDGE PAYMENTS:

As budgeted for 2020, our \$200 pledges are being made to United Methodist Women and to the UCC missions as in the past. Our 2020 budgeted pledge to UPC for the year is also being paid.

REPORT ON SUPPORT FOR TYLER & BRITTANY:

All WCF members are reminded to send their donations (\$10/\$15, or whatever you can) to Sue Schmidt for continuing our support for Tyler and Brittany. If you haven't sent your donation, please do so as soon as possible. As of the middle of October, Sue has received \$200 toward our needed \$600. All donations are requested to be sent before the end of December so we'll know we can do the full year of support.

STAYING CONNECTED!

Use your WCF or Church Directory to reach out to others by email, text, phone call, a card, or a quick note. Not all members have the internet, so they don't get a lot of UPC info. Please share with them via phone calls or regular mail.

-Blessings, Rose Pech

Continued prayers for UPC members and friends/relatives of members: Fred Berchtold (abdominal cancer), Alice Broadhurst, 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, Curt Grabo (Bob Mielke's cousin, recovering from open heart surgery), Judy Hendrickson (mother of Laura Hendrickson), Lynne Henne (mother of Brett Henne), Noreen 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).

November Birthdays:

11/07 Stephanie Clark
 11/08 Doreen Churchill
 11/13 Candi Becker
 11/13 Orrell Ruth
 11/14 James Bethman
 11/16 Kalia Sparkman
 11/17 Ken Parrish
 11/19 Bobbie Weichman
 11/22 Tom Michalsen
 11/22 Sue Schmidt
 11/25 Craig Fischel
 11/27 Katelyn Selinger
 11/28 Judy Peters

November Anniversaries:

11/10 Ken and Carol Parrish
 11/15 Jamie and Denise Fuller
 11/24 Ralph and Gail Gotlund
 11/24 Gregg and Jill Helm
 11/30 Richard and Melanie Carlson

**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

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

