

News and Information

Welcome! Thanks be to God for gathering us to worship. Welcome to University Presbyterian Church. This congregation is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley and More Light Presbyterians, a covenant community dedicated to the pursuit of social justice in both the church and the world. If you are worshiping here for the first time, please sign the register on the stand inside of the front door of the sanctuary. For more information on the life and work of this congregation, please contact Ron Gilmer at the church (758-5422), by way of e-mail (rongilmer@aol.com) or visit the church's web site: www.uaupc.org.

The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley The next stated meeting of the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley is set for Thursday, August 21, at Mountain Brook Presbyterian Church. Nancy DuPree will serve as a commissioner; Lena Prewitt will serve as an alternate.

Congregational Meeting The session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, August 24, immediately after worship for the purpose of electing a Nominating Committee.

The Politics of Martyrdom The Christian Education and Library Committee is pleased to announce that Justin Watson, author of *The Christian Coalition: Dreams of Restoration, Demands for Recognition* and *The Martyrs of Columbine: Faith and the Politics of Tragedy*, will be with us on Sunday, August 31, 9:30-10:45 a.m. to offer a presentation on "The Politics of Martyrdom."

General Assembly Report Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley Executive Tom Evans Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church Pastor Greg Bentley are scheduled to be at UPC Sunday, September 7, at 5:30 p.m. Both served as delegates to the 218th General Assembly in San Jose, CA, and will provide us with information and insight based on their experiences.

Academic Sunday The session has designated Sunday, September 14, as Academic Sunday at UPC. On this Sunday, we will welcome Faythe Freese, who serves as Associate Professor of Music at the Alabama School of Music, as our guest organist. The liturgy for this service will reflect the Reformed-Presbyterian tradition's commitment to "the life of the mind in service to God." The congregation will gather for dinner in the fellowship hall after the service.

Church Home Improvements The beginning of another academic year is an excellent time to spruce up the facilities. Thanks to Mary Helen Martin for her willingness to serve as point person for redecorating the ladies' room. If you are willing to help with this project, please contact her. Thanks to Linda Grote for her willingness to serve as the point person for creating a more welcoming environment in the nursery. If you are willing to help with this project, please contact her.

Alabama Arise Alabama Arise, a citizens' policy project, is a coalition of religious, community and civic groups that promote state policies to improve the lives of low-income people. UPC's Peace and Justice Committee has a long-standing commitment to this organization, whose annual meeting will take place Saturday, September 13, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in Montgomery. For more information, contact Gillie Presley or Ruthie Sherrill.

On Communion All who confess their faith in Jesus Christ are welcomed at the Lord's table. It, like us, belongs to God and not to any particular tradition within the body of Christ. Baptized children of all ages are encouraged to participate fully in our celebration of the Sacrament. The church gathers around the table when the bread and wine (which is actually non-alcoholic grape juice) are served. The tradition at UPC is to serve each other. When serving the bread, it is appropriate to say, "The body of Christ, given for you," or "The body of Christ, bread of heaven." When serving the cup, one may say, "The blood of Christ, shed for you" or "The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation." An appropriate response to being served is, "Thanks be to God," "Amen" or "Alleluia! Amen." The congregation is invited to sing during the ritual. The choruses sung are: "Holy is the Lord;" "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry;" "Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst;" and "Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord."

Free Karate—Beginning on August 27th, there will be karate classes held at UPC. Classes will be taught by third degree black belt and PC(USA) youth elder at Immanuel Presbyterian in Montgomery, Justin McClarran, with 12+ years experience in martial arts. The classes will be held on Wednesday and Thursday nights from 7-9pm and all ages are welcome. No previous martial arts experience is needed. Some of the physical benefits include: improved coordination, flexibility, strength, stamina, and cardiovascular workout. Mental benefits include improved concentration, patience, courage, confidence and self-discipline. In addition to classes, there is much, much more available. Don't have two hours on those nights to come? Feel free to call 334-224-3859 or email mccla005@bama.ua.edu for private lessons.

Attendance - August 3—35 + 2 nursery

Sunday Assignments

August 10

Communion Kay Ellis
Reader John Whitehead
Ushers Bierman Family
Welcomer Julia Hartman
Greeter Mary Helen Martin

August 17

Communion Nancy DuPree
Reader Steve Borrelli
Ushers Kay Ellis and
Mary Helen Martin
Welcomer John Whitehead
Greeter Kay Ellis

Lectionary Readings

August 10, 2008

Gen. 37:1-4, 12-28
Ps. 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Rom. 10:5-15
Matt. 14:22-23

August 17

Gen. 45:1-15
Ps. 133
Rom. 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matt. 15:(10-20)21-28

Let us Pray.....

Arlee Vallery, Marie and Joe Stone, Barbara Miller,
Jill Martindale, Regina Lassiter, Lucy Morgan, Steve
Borrelli and family, Robert Robinson, Lois Field,
Wilma Warren, Martha Folmar, Jackie Reid, Kay VanLuvender and Frederick
Washington

This Week at UPC

Sunday 9:30 Choir rehearsal
11:00 Worship
12:00 Coffee Hour
12:30 Strategic Planning Mtg.

Tuesday

11:30 Lectionary Bible Study
1:30-3:30 Food Pantry
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Wednesday

Food Pantry Shop Day

Monday 11:00 Staff Meeting

Friday

11:30 Finance Comm. Mtg.
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Elders

Nancy DuPree
Linda Grote
Julia Hartman
William Henderson
Adam Miller
Gillie Presley

Lena Prewitt
Annabel Stephens
Garry Warren
Ann Webb
John Whitehead

Deacons

Robert DuPree
Carla Hall
Paige Miller

Mission Statement

We come together as the body of Christ, an expression of God's grace in this community. We are bound together in God's steadfast love and in our mutual love and support for one another. We honor a special commitment to provide nurture, support and encouragement to students. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to live with compassion, to work for justice, to integrate faith and learning and to celebrate the gift of our life together. Since God's love excludes no one, our mission is to be inclusive. We trust that in God's time and by God's grace, God will destroy all barriers. We resolve to erect no barriers while working to overcome existing ones. Recognizing that we do not possess all the truth all the time, we affirm a variety of expressions of life and faith. This is an open church. You are welcome here.

Ron Gilmer, Pastor

Stated Hours: Monday 1:30-2:30 and Friday 11:00-12:00

Carolyn MacVicar, Secretary
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8-2

All rights reserved for both words and music. Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-707580



*University
Presbyterian Church*

1127 8th Street, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 205-758-5422 upsa@bellsouth.net www.uaupc.org

Ron Gilmer, Pastor
William Henderson, Director of Music
Patrick Rish, Organist

*“University Presbyterian Church is a More Light Congregation,
an Inclusive Church Committed to Social Justice”*

August 10, 2008 – 11:00 a.m.
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice in the Lord always:
And again we say, "Rejoice!"

Philippians 4:4

*HYMN PH #465 *Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather* TOKYO

CONFESSION OF SIN (UNISON)

Holy God, help us to listen as we pray. Help us to listen to the Spirit that speaks truth about us and truth about you. All that is belongs to you. You created us from the dust of the earth and shape us in your image: Jew and Greek; male and female. Forgive us for building up what you call us to tear down: barriers that twist your will into something else; violence, bigotry or fear. We rejoice that even though we separate ourselves from each other, nothing in life or in death ever separates us from your love in Jesus Christ, in whose name and for whose sake we pray. Amen.

KYRIE arr. Healey Willan, 1930



DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

GLORIA Thomas Keesecker



THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Psalms 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b (OT p. 556)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 10:5-15 (NT p. 160)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Blessed Are They Who Trust in the Lord* **Thomas Keesecker**

Blessed are they who trust in the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; In the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

SERMON

Question Marks

Ron Gilmer

*HYMN SNC #274 *If You and I Believe in Christ*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

based on Matthew 14:22-33

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' disciples are afraid. They are afraid of a stranger coming toward them; and they cry out in fear. Jesus reassures them by saying, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter questions him, "If it is you, command me to come to you." Jesus says, "Come." Peter walks on water--briefly--until a strong wind comes. Frightened, he starts sinking. Afraid, he cries out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus does and then says, "Oh, you of little faith. Why did you doubt?" Peter and Jesus climb back in the boat where the disciples worship Jesus proclaiming, "Truly you are the Son of God." Disciples doubt; disciples fear. Jesus loves them as he loves us, and we worship him with all of God's children, in every time and in every place. All praise, honor and glory be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit ever more;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore, Amen.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise....

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power— and might,
Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-



heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high-est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

LORD'S PRAYER

The prayer, as it will be prayed this morning, begins, "Our Mother God and Father God, who art in heaven..."

AMEN!



A - men, A - men, A - men, A - - men!

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The congregation is invited to gather at the Lord's Table.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

HYMN PH #439

In Christ There Is No East or West

ST. PETER

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Alleluia! Amen.

VOLUNTARY