

## News and Information

**Welcome!** Thanks be to God for gathering us to worship. Welcome to University Presbyterian Church. If you are worshipping 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](mailto:rongilmer@aol.com)) or visit the church's web site: [www.uaupc.org](http://www.uaupc.org).

**Adult Sunday School** - Adult Sunday School will resume at 9:30am on Sun., Sept. 14 in the UPC library. Fall Schedule will be September 21 - Reformed Worship - Ron Gilmer September 28 - Presbyterian Hymnal - John Whitehead, October 5 - Do Native Americans Celebrate Columbus Day? - Paige Miller, October 12 - Christian Values, Political Ideology, and the 2008 Election - Norm Baldwin, October 19 - Alabama Constitutional Reform - Hill Carmichael, Greater Birmingham Ministries

**Why Do We Do That Way?: A Look at Reformed Worship**—With the arrival of Opening Academic Sunday, another year of educational programming begins. Next Sunday, Ron Gilmer will lead a study of *The Book of Order's* Directory for Worship and *The Book of Common Worship*. The objectives will be: (1) to give participants an opportunity to reflect on meaningful worship experiences that they have had previously; and (2) to deepen the group's understanding of liturgies used at UPC.

**Our Muslim Neighbors**- On Tuesday, September 23, local Muslims will share faith experiences and discuss the observance of Ramadan, and you are invited to participate. This group will meet in the Crossroads Community Center on the campus of the University of Alabama, 6-7:30 p.m., 232 Ferguson Center. The event is being sponsored by the Muslim Students Association and the Crossroads Community Center.

**World Communion Sunday**—Sunday, October 5, is World Communion Sunday. This year's theme is "Break the Bread of New Creation." The PC(USA)'s annual Peacemaking Offering will be given. Please give, as Scripture says, "not reluctantly, or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

**Children's Sunday School** - Thanks be to God that we have at least 2 children in our midst. Therefore, Children's Sunday School will be an evolving activity this year at UPC. Paige Miller will be coordinating Children's Sunday School, but she needs help! If you are interested in assisting in any way (teaching, helping another teacher, etc.), please contact Paige as soon as possible. Her email address is [PURPLEPC@AOL.COM](mailto:PURPLEPC@AOL.COM) and phone number is 657-0799. Thank you!

**Belonging to God: An Educational Opportunity** -This fall, Ron Gilmer will be leading a class on being Presbyterian, especially at University Presbyterian Church. If you are considering membership, this class may be for you. If you are a baptized high school or college student who has not been confirmed, this class may serve as the next step in the process for you. Please contact Ron Gilmer by September 21 with questions about participating in this group. Dates and times of the series will be determined the schedules of the participants.

**Communion of the People** -Following the breaking of the bread, all who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour are invited to gather at the communion table where we serve one another. In giving the bread, it is appropriate to say "the body of Christ, given for you." In giving the wine (non-alcoholic), it is appropriate to say, "the blood of Christ, the cup of salvation." Appropriate responses include "Amen," "Alleluia! Amen" and "Thanks be to God!"

**Communion Music** -As the sacrament is celebrated, the congregation is invited to sing the following choruses: (1) Holy is the Lord; (2) 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 (3) Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

**Contact Information** - Please note that Ron Gilmer now has a Tuscaloosa address and phone number: 1222 Heritage Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35406; (205)310-6873. His stated hours have changed and are expanded. Stop by the church on Mondays, 10-11 a.m., and Thursdays, 10-12 noon, and he should be available to meet with you. To schedule an appointment at a different time, please contact the church office at (205)758-5422.

**Attendance** - August 31—33 + 2 nursery, September 7—41 + 2 nursery

**Deacon's Food Pantry**— A donation was made to the *Deacon's Food Pantry* by Carolyn and Billy Cochran in honor of Annabel Stephens and Pat Dunbar.

*The Anthem today was composed by Johann Pachelbel. He was an important predecessor to J.S. Bach. As one of the finest performers of his day, he held posts as organist at St. Stephen's in Vienna, Eisenach, Erfurt, Stuttgart, Gotha and Nuremberg. Pachelbel composed dazzling toccatas over long pedal points. He wrote a suite utilizing 17 different keys, a forerunner to Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier, of 24 keys. Today he is best known for his "Canon in D."*

## Sunday Assignments

### September 14

Communion Kay Ellis  
Reader Becki Evans  
Ushers Chet and Suzanne  
Alexander  
Welcomer Carla Hall  
Greeters Paige and Kai Miller

### September 21

Communion Nancy DuPree  
Reader Gillie Presley  
Ushers Sandy Riseman and  
Denise Yanaura  
Welcomer Julia Hartman  
Greeter Becki Evans

## Lectionary Readings

### September 14

Exod. 14:19-31; Ps. 114 or  
Exod. 15:1b-11, 20-21  
Rom. 14:1-12  
Matt. 18:21-35

### September 21

Exod. 16:2-15  
Ps. 105:1-6, 37-45  
Phil. 1:21-30  
Matt. 20:1-16

*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, Carla Hall and Frederick Washington.

Happy Birthday...

James Darget (9/3), Gregory Henderson (9/7), Billy Romine (9/9), Lena Frost (9/10), Norm Ellis (9/14) and Jamie Campbell-Naidoo (9/19)



### This Week at UPC

**Sunday** 9:30 Sunday School  
10:15 Coffee Hour and  
Choir Warm-up  
11:00 Worship  
12:30 Covered Dish

### Tuesday

11:30 Lectionary Bible Study  
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous  
7:00 WF Men's Bible Study

### Wednesday

7-9 Karate Class

### Thursday

7-9 Karate Class

### Friday

8:00 Narcotics Anonymous  
2-6:00 WF Friday Chaos in the student center

**Monday** 6-8:00 WF Bible Study and  
Dinner

### 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 10:00-11:00 and Thursday 10:00-12:00 noon

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

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*University  
Presbyterian Church*

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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"*

**September 14, 2008 – 11:00 a.m.**  
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY *Toccat, Adagio and Fugue in C Major* J. S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Strong and unfailing is your love, O God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*HYMN PH #263 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* ST. DENIO

CONFESSION OF SIN (UNISON)

from *Belonging to God*

God of Abraham, Sarah, Miriam and Moses, we confess that like our mothers and fathers in faith we have strayed from our covenant with you. We have worshiped you on Sunday without doing justice throughout the week. We have served ourselves before serving you and others. We have forgotten that we were once slaves whom you rescued, and we have enslaved others and ourselves. We have turned away from the lessons of the wilderness and created new golden calves to worship. In our wholehearted embrace of the promised land, a land you gave to us, we have denied a land of promise to others. Forgive our waywardness and our unfaithfulness to your promises and our covenant vows. Restore us, O God, to the fullness of your promise.

KYRIE *arr. Healey Willan, 1930*

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

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

GLORIA *Thomas Keesecker*

Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, gloria in excel - sis De - o! - sis De-o!

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING *Matthew 18:21-35 (NT p. 20)*  
The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *Exodus 14:19-31 (OT p. 61)*  
The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

*Let the Whole Creation Cry* Johann Pachelbel  
Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high!" Heav'n and earth, awake and sing,  
"Praise God, our eternal King!" Praise God angel hosts above, Ever bright and fair in love;  
Sun and moon, lift up your voices; Stars of light, in God rejoice.  
Warriors fighting for the Lord,  
Preachers bearing forth the word. Those to whom the arts belong,  
Join the raising of the song.  
Those with knowledge of the law, To the glorious circle draw; All who work and all  
who wait, Sing, "The Lord, our God, is great!" Men and women, young and old,  
Raise the chorus manifold; And let children's voices clear, In this worship now draw near.  
From the earth's remotest shore, Let all sing, let all adore; Let the praises fill the sky;  
"Glory to the Lord on high!"

SERMON *On Why This Night is Different* Ron Gilmer

\*HYMN PH #114 *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* AVE VIRGO VIRGINUM

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Exodus 15:11,13,17-18*

Strong and unfailing is your love, O God. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**You are our God, we will praise you, the God of all people, we exalt you.**  
Who among the gods, O Lord, is like you?  
**Who is like you, majestic in holiness?**  
Who among the gods, O Lord, is like you?  
**Awesome in splendor, doing wonders?**  
Strong and unfailing is your love, O God, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**With unfailing love you led the people you redeemed;**  
In your strength, you guided them to your holy dwelling.  
**You brought them in and planted them on your mountain, the place you chose for dwelling.**  
The sanctuary your hands established. You, O Lord, will reign forever and ever.  
**Strong and unfailing is your love, O God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

\*HYMN PH #412 *Eternal God, Whose Power Upholds* FOREST GREEN

\*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 *Prelude in E Major, S.548* J. S. Bach