

News and Information

Welcome - Welcome to University Presbyterian Church, an open and affirming "More Light" congregation in the PC(USA). Please sign the guest register at the back of the sanctuary if you are worshipping here for the first time. For more information about the life and work of this congregation, please contact Ron Gilmer.

Worship - The PC(USA) affirms that "the life of the Church is one, and that its worship, witness and service are inseparable" (*Book of Order*, preface to the Directory for Worship). In an effort to be inclusive, gender-neutral language is used in worship. When patriarchal language appears in hymns, members often substitute language that recognizes that God is neither male nor female. You are welcome to join them. Please be seated for the voluntaries at the beginning and end of the service. You may choose to use this time for prayer and meditation.

Announcements - All are welcomed to make announcements of interest to the congregation at the beginning of the service. The session asks that announcements be succinct. You are encouraged to submit announcements in writing by the end of business hours on the Wednesday before the Sunday that you would like the announcement to appear in print. Please send announcements to Carolyn MacVicar at upsa@bellsouth.net.

Thanks! - Thanks to all who helped to decorate the church this season, especially Mary Helen Martin, whose leadership in the area of hospitality is deeply appreciated. Thank you to Phil and Linda Grote for providing the beautiful poinsettias in the sanctuary in loving memory of their parents.

Christmas Eve/Christmas Day - Being a university church in a university town, we find ourselves scattered on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. In an effort to help us to worship together wherever we find ourselves when the church celebrates Christ's coming, liturgies for services of Evening Prayer for Christmas Eve and Morning Prayer for Christmas Day to be used in homes are being made available beginning with this afternoon's Service of Lessons and Carols.

Belonging to God - The "Belonging to God" series will begin following today's Service of Lessons and Carols. The next meetings in the series will take place Thursday, December 10, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Brock and Maria Perez-Fisher, and Sunday December 13, at 3:30 p.m. Please pray for those who have already signed up to participate: Joanna Biermann, Brock Fisher, Kendall French, Quincy Hall, Bill Henderson, Jessi Hitchins, Charlotte Lawson, Mary Meares, Maria-Victoria Perez-Fisher, James Shoemaker and Denise Yanaura. If you would like to know more about being Presbyterian and being Presbyterian at UPC, please contact Ron Gilmer about becoming part of this group.

Service of Ordination and Installation - A Service of Ordination and Installation will take place on Sunday, January 10, when the church remembers the Baptism of the Lord. Please be in prayer for Jamie Campbell, who will be ordained to the office of elder, Rachel Walker, who will be ordained to the office of deacon, Annabel Stephens and Lena Prewitt, who will return to active service on the session and Pat Dunbar, who will return to active service on the diaconate.

From the Conn Family - Thanks to Pat Dunbar for passing along a note from Mo Conn, son of former UPC pastor George Conn. Mo and his wife are now living in Williamsburg, Kentucky, where he teaches theater. He still loves motorcycles and rides from coast to coast every summer.

Attendance - November 22 - 42+ 2 nursery, November 29 - 33 + 2 nursery

December Birthdays - December 5-Kai Miller, December 7-Cathy Andreen, December 8-Linda Grote and Robert Robinson, December 9-Suzanne Alexander, December 16-Vicki Cox, December 21-Phil Grote, December 25-Jeanette Byrd, December 30-Sheri Shuler

Sunday Assignments

December 13

Communion Kay Ellis
Reader Ruthie Sherrell
Ushers The Millers
Welcomer Paige Miller
Greeter Mary Helen Martin

December 20

Communion Nancy DuPree
Reader Gillie Presley
Ushers Lydia Gilmer and
Mary Helen Martin
Welcomer Julia Hartman
Greeter Cathy Andreen

Lectionary Readings

December 13

Zeph. 3:14-20
Isa. 12:2-6
:4-7
Luke 3:7-18

December 20

Mic. 5:2-5a
Luke 1:47-55 or Ps. 80:1-7
Heb. 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)

Let us Pray.....

Anna Gordon, Danielle Rabel, Ginny Hartman, Paige Miller, Quinn Miller, Jared Dearing, Torry Ryan, Aaron Chun, Michael Yampolsky, James Walker, Marie and Joe Stone, Robert Robinson, Lois Field, Wilma Warren, Jackie Reid, Carl Washington, James Darget, Carla Hall, Tiffany Washington, Cadarius Washington and Frederick Washington.

This Week at UPC

	<u>Tuesday</u>	10:30 Staff Meeting 11:30 LBS 1:30-3:30 Food Pantry 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous
<u>Sunday</u>	5:00 Lessons and Carols 7:00 Belonging to God	
<u>Monday</u>	6:00-8:00 Westminster Fellowship	<u>Wednesday</u> 5:30-7:00 Choir rehearsal
		<u>Thursday</u> 6:30 Belonging to God
		<u>Friday</u> 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Elders

Steve Borrelli
Nancy DuPree
Linda Grote
Julia Hartman
Gillie Presley
Lena Prewitt

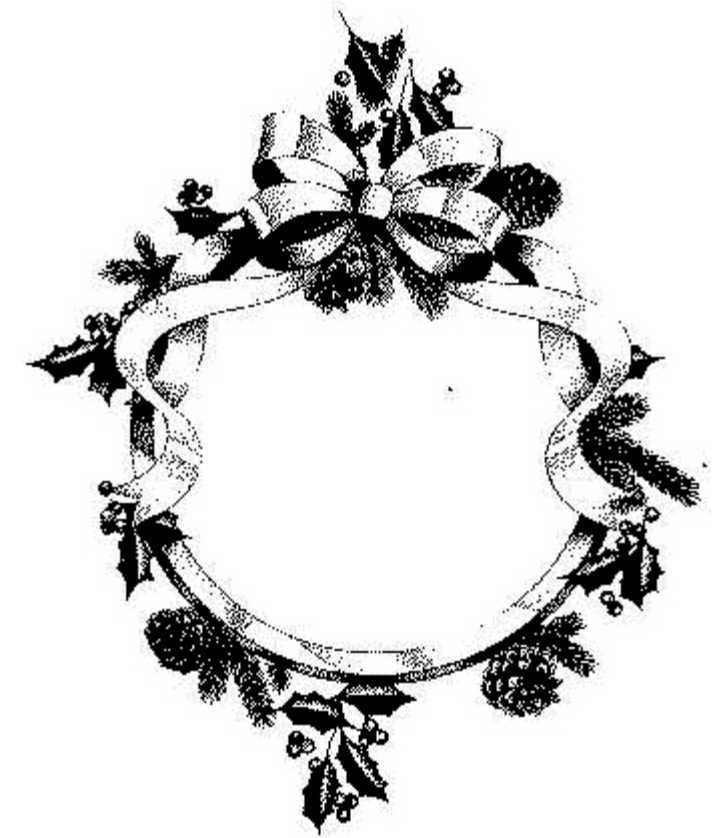
Robert Spencer
Garry Warren
Ann Webb
John Whitehead

Deacons

Robert DuPree
Carla Hall
Paige Miller
Torry Ryan

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



Service of Lessons and Carols

December 6, 2009

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
Faythe Freese, Organist
Heekyung Lee, Intern

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

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 6, 2009

GATHERING

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ron Gilmer

VOLUNTARY

OPENING SENTENCES

John 1:1-10

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The Word was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through the Word, without whom not one thing came into being.

What came into being was life, and the life was the light of all peoples.

The light shines in the darkness,

And darkness did not overcome it.

LIGHTING OF THE HOPE AND PEACE CANDLES

Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness---on them light has shined.

We are God's people. We have walked in deep darkness. On us, light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest.

Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, Lord of love.

We light this candle because of the hope that we share in Jesus Christ.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting One, Prince of Peace.

We light this candle in exaltation of the Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish it and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

PRAYER

God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, or trusted good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little, and hoping for less. Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace, and live in the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that we are forgiven and be at peace.

Amen.

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD...

*CAROLS

PH#15	<i>Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers</i>	LLANGLOFFAN
PH#5	<i>Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence</i>	PICARDY
PH #8	<i>Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates</i>	TRURO

LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-20

ANTHEM

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Moonyeen Albrecht

LESSON

Micah 5:2-5

THE WORD WAS WITH GOD...

*CAROLS

PH#49	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>	IRBY
PH#48	<i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i>	ES IST EIN' ROS'
PH#44	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	ST. LOUIS

LESSON

Psalm 98

Sing to the Lord a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things.

The right hand and the holy arm of the Lord have secured the victory.

The Lord has made known this victory and has openly showed righteousness in the sight of the nations.

The Lord remembers mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.

Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the Sovereign, the Lord.

Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who is coming to judge the earth.

In righteousness shall the Lord judge the world and the peoples with equity.

SOLO

Gesu, Bambino
Ashley Lee, soprano

THE WORD WAS GOD...

LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

Luke 1:46-56

*CAROLS

PH#26	<i>Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light</i>	EMUNTRE DICH
PH#53	<i>What Child Is This?</i>	GREENSLEEVEES
PH#28	<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i>	IN DULCI JUBILO

LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

*CAROLS

PH#25	<i>Away in a Manger</i>	MUELLER
PH#27	<i>Gentle Mary Laid Her Child</i>	TEMPUSADESTFLOIDUM
PH#37	<i>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</i>	W ZLOBIE LEZY
PH#41	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	ADESTE FIDELES

LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

*CAROLS

PH#56	<i>The First Nowell</i>	THE FIRST NOWELL
PH#36	<i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i>	CRANHAM
PH#31	<i>Hark! The Hearld Angels Sing</i>	MENDELSSOHN
PH#23	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	GLORIA

SOLO

Hugh Lee, trombone

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF THE PEOPLE

*CAROLS

Participants are invited to suggest carols. Please gather at the table as we sing "Silent Night" and pass the light of Christ from one candle to another until all candles are lighted.

PH#40	<i>Joy to the World</i>	ANTIOCH
PH#60	<i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i>	

*Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."*

*Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

*Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

PRAYER

SENDING

VOLUNTARY

BLESSING

Luke 2:29-32

Now, Lord, let your servants go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. May God bless, preserve and keep us, this night and forevermore.

Amen.

Please join us in the fellowship hall following the service, and consider the blessing at the end of this service the blessing for the meal.

Thanks to the Alexander-Lee family for lighting the Advent candles and to those who served as readers: Nancy DuPree, Robert DuPree, Rebecca Evans, Linda Grote, Julia Hartman and Denise Yanaura

Please sing only the first verse of each hymn unless otherwise noted.