

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is extended to all who have been baptized, remembering that access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance and love. In preparing to receive Christ in this Sacrament, the believer is to confess sin and trust in Jesus Christ for cleansing and renewal. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may come to the Table in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Christ Jesus. Baptized children who are being nurtured and instructed in the significance of the invitation to the Table and the meaning of their response are invited to receive the Lord's Supper, recognizing that their understanding of participation will vary according to their maturity (The Book of Order W-2.4011).

Ron Gilmer, Pastor

Stated Hours:

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

Carolyn MacVicar, Secretary

Church Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
8:00-2:00



University Presbyterian Church

April 6, 2008

News and Information

Storytelling: Exercise in Spiritual Autobiography This Sunday, April 6, the group will consider Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*. Participants are encouraged to reflect on their own spiritual autobiographies in this study of some of the "classics" of the genre. Each session is self-contained, though there are themes that will be developed throughout the series.

The series that you chose to be Ron's first at UPC continues next Sunday, April 13, 9:15-10:45 a.m. The group will discuss *Black Elk Speaks* by John Neihardt. The theme that will be explored to help participants think about their own spiritual autobiographies is forgiveness. The literary discussion will focus on the difference between writing an autobiography and authorizing another to tell one's story.

Installation - Ron Gilmer will be installed as UPC's pastor on Sunday, April 27, at 4 p.m. Leo Sandon, who is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Religion and American Studies at Florida State University, will preach. The charge to the newly installed will be given by Sandy Winter, who is UPC's Pastor Emerita.

Empty Bowls Thanks to all who participated in Saturday's Empty Bowls luncheon and to the Welcoming and Membership committee who organized the event. The event raised \$1,868.95 for the Deacon's Food Pantry.

Monday Morning Find out more about UPC by visiting <http://bama.ua.edu/~UPSA/>. The site is updated regularly, for example, every Monday morning when the pastor's column is posted.

Contact Information Ron Gilmer will be traveling back and forth to North Carolina until his daughter Lydia's school adjourns for the summer, at which time both of them will be in Tuscaloosa more predictably and often. Soon Ron will have a Tuscaloosa-based cellular phone. Until he does, you are encouraged to contact him at (828) 216-8908.

Attendance - March 30th-38, March 23rd-38 + 3 nursery

1127 Eighth Street Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
758-5422 upsa@bellsouth.net

Here's what is going on at UPC....

This Week at UPC

Sunday 9:30 Choir rehearsal
11:00 Worship
12:00 Coffee Hour

Monday 11:00 Staff Meeting
12:00 Presbyterian House Ad Hoc Comm. Mtg.

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

Friday 8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Let us Pray.....

Arlee Vallery, Marie and Joe Stone, Mary House, Jill Martindale, Regina Lassiter, Helen Cargo, Lucy Morgan, Steve Borrelli and family, Robert Robinson, Lois Field, Wilma Warren, Erica Durham, Martha Folmar, Linda Grote and Jackie Reid

Dear UPC Friends ,

With a heavy heart, but with some sense of relief for my family who has been stuck in limbo since October, I must tell you that my brother Matthew, who had been paralyzed from a severe spinal cord injury, went to his eternal home today about 3:00 PM. He had been suffering from a severe bout of pneumonia (which is the leading cause of death for quadriplegics), and Monday, it turned much worse with an added kidney infection that would not respond to the strongest antibiotics. He became unconscious Monday afternoon and never regained consciousness. He was an organ donor and my family was told at least six people will be the beneficiaries of his generous spirit.

For the past six years, Matthew had been the organist at the First Baptist Church in Elmira, NY, where he was born and raised. He graduated from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, where he studied with Leon Fleisher, and also earned a Masters' degree in Music Theory at the University of Michigan. Although he struggled with schizoaffective disorder throughout his twenties and thirties, he was living a happy and productive life and had more hobbies and interests than I can remember and list here, including tennis, ice skating, gymnastics (he was a big Alabama fan and attended several meets), wildlife, wildflowers, Top 40 Music (including American Idol), art, mathematics, vegetarian cooking, and poetry (his favorites were Langston Hughes and Emily Dickinson). He had just turned 40 when he had his accident in October.

As a historical note, although Matthew never played for a UPC service, he did secretly play the UPC organ to an empty church on Christmas Day 2002, when my family came to spend Christmas with me. So he can tell Warren about that when he meets him!

Steve Borrelli

Sunday Assignments

April 6

Communion Rob Spencer
Reader Cathy Andreen
Ushers Becki Evans and Vanessa Llera
Welcomer John Whitehead
Greeter Kay Ellis
Coffee Hour Steve Borrelli

April 13

Communion Annabel Stephens
Reader Ann Webb
Ushers Chet and Suzanne Alexander
Welcomer Adam Miller
Greeter Cathy Andreen
Coffee Hour

Lectionary Readings for:

Sunday, April 6, 2008

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Ps. 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35

Sunday, April 13, 2008

Acts 7:55-60; Ps. 23;
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

Happy Birthday

April 3 Patrick Laney
April 5 LaRue Whitehead
April 13 Rebecca Evans
April 17 Annabel Stephens
April 17 Elizabeth Rand
April 19 Marie Stone



**UA's Presbyterian Student Group
Upcoming Events**

Monday - 6:00 pm Bible Study, 7:00 pm Dinner,
8:00 pm Bible Study

Wednesday - 11-1 Lunch at Ferguson Center



Thursday - 6:30 Women's Group at the student center
8:00 Bible Study

Clerk of Session: Nancy DuPree **Co-Treasurers:** Garry Warren and Julia Hartman
Session Members

Class of 2008
William Henderson
Adam Miller
Annabel Stephens
Garry Warren

Class of 2009
Julia Hartman
John Whitehead
Betsy Rand
Lena Prewitt

Class of 2010
Gillie Presley
Nancy DuPree
Linda Grote
Ann Webb

Board of Deacons

Robert DuPree, Class of 2010 Carla Hall, Class of 2009 Paige Miller, Class of 2008