

*The Network ... a Publication of
University Presbyterian Church*

November 2018

Message from our Pastor

The Body of Christ is larger than any one congregation or denomination, larger in fact than time and space. On Sunday, November 4, we will have multiple opportunities to celebrate this reality.

The first opportunity to celebrate the scope of the Body of Christ arises in the special guest preacher who will join us for worship that day. The Rev. Godrick Lyimo is a Lutheran pastor and headmaster of a secondary school in northern Tanzania. I got to know The Rev. Lyimo when Tim and I led a seminar trip to Tanzania two summers ago. I was immediately impressed with his warmth, kindness, and deep Christian faith. And so when I learned that he was going to be traveling in the United States, I jumped at the opportunity to bring him to Buffalo and introduce him to our congregation. As we hear the word of God brought to us from Rev. Lyimo, it is my hope that the ties that connect us to the larger, global body of Christ might be strengthened. Perhaps we will find hope and encouragement in the knowledge that the good news of God's love and grace is vibrantly alive in places and ways that often lie beyond our vision.

Sunday, November 4 is also the day we will commemorate All Saints Sunday, when we remember those who have died and give thanks for their life of faith and service. This commemoration is yet another opportunity to consider the immense scope of the Body of Christ—a community consisting not merely of the living but also of the great company of saints who have gone before us.

I invite you to join us on Sunday, November 4 in worship and in giving thanks for the great community of believers—past, present, near and far, of all cultures and languages—the community that is forged in Christ's love.

Shalom,

Tracy

**Special Guest Preacher
The Rev. Godrick Lyimo
Sunday, November 4**

Join us on Sunday, November 4 at either the 9 or 11 a.m. services where our special guest, the Rev. Godrick Lyimo, will be preaching. The Rev. Lyimo is a pastor in the Lutheran Church of Tanzania and also the head (principal) of the Agape Lutheran Junior Seminary (secondary school). The Rev. Lyimo holds two bachelors degrees: a Bachelor's of Education Arts from Stefano Moshi Memorial University and a Bachelor's of Divinity from Makumira University, both in Tanzania. In addition he received two masters degrees from the University of Oslo, Norway: one a masters of Philosophy in Intercontextual Theology and another of Multicultural and International Education.

The Rev. Lyimo is also the author of two books: *Indigenous and Modern Counseling for Secondary Schools in Tanzania* and *Empowerment and Autonomy of Women*.

He and his wife Edda have two young children.

**International Potluck Lunch
Sunday, November 4, 12:15 p.m.**

It is appropriate that on the day we are blessed with an international preacher, we can also enjoy our annual "International Potluck Lunch." Come share a meal and enjoy one another's fellowship at this potluck following the 11 a.m. service. You are invited to bring a favorite dish from around the globe or from your family's ethnic or cultural heritage.

**All Saints Sunday
November 4**

We will commemorate All Saints Sunday on November 4 in our litany of remembrance for those who have died. This year we will be giving thanks for the lives and service of the following individuals from our church family: Geraldine Grisante, Betty Helwig, Laura MacDonald, Henry Moorhouse, Kamil Patel, and Norma Wagner.

Worship Column ~



**November 4, 2018-24th Sunday after Pentecost
31st Sunday in Ordinary Time/Proper 26
Ruth 1:1-18; Ps. 146;
Heb. 9:11-14; Mark 122:28-34**

**November 11, 2018-25th Sunday after Pentecost
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time/Proper 27
Ruth 3:1-5 4:13-17; Ps. 127;
Heb. 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44**

**November 18, 2018=26th Sunday after Pentecost
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time/Proper 28
1 Sam. 1:4-20; 1 Sam. 2:1-10;
Heb. 10:11-14 (15-18), 19-25; Mark 13:1-8**

**November 25, 2018-Christ the King/Reign of Christ
2 Sam. 23:1-7; Ps 132:1-12 (13-18);
Rev. 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37**

***Join us on November 11th to celebrate our
November birthdays!***

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|----|--------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Karen Stucker | 18 | Gary Melius |
| 7 | Mary Jean Conibear | 22 | Grace Burkner |
| 10 | Molly Anthony | 23 | Doug Harbison |
| 11 | Sarah Smith | 26 | Nicholas Harbison |
| 11 | Elizabeth Harbison | 28 | Alma Kelly |
| 11 | Brian Belus | 29 | William Harbison |
| 16 | Jim Whitefield | 29 | Elizabeth Johnson |
| 17 | Joyline Chia | | |



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Racial Justice Task Group

University Presbyterian Church and North Presbyterian Church in Williamsville have joined together to form a Racial Justice Task Group. The goal of this Task Group is to further our understanding of racial justice issues and to keep such conversations a part of our congregational lives. This may take the form of highlighting as well as attending cultural events, reading books and having discussions, sponsoring or attending speakers, and engagement in issues of local or national concern.

This month, the Racial Justice Task Group is highlighting the August Wilson play being performed at the Paul Robeson Theater, 350 Masten Ave. Buffalo, NY:

August Wilson's *King Hedley II*
Directed by **Edward G. Smith**

Peddling stolen refrigerators in the feeble hope of making enough money to open a video store, King Hedley, a man whose self worth is built on self delusion, is scraping in the dirt of an urban backyard trying to plant seeds where nothing will grow. Getting, spending, killing and dying in a world where getting is hard and killing is commonplace are threads woven into this 1980's installment in the author's renowned cycle of plays about the black experience in America. Drawing on characters established in *Seven Guitars*, *King Hedley II* shows the shadows of the past reaching into the present as King seeks retribution for a lie perpetrated by his mother regarding the identity of his father.

The play runs from November 9– December 2. The website is:
www.aaccbuffalo.org

North and UPC churches are sponsoring a date to attend this play on **Friday, November 16**. The performance is at 8 p.m. and tickets cost \$30 for general admission and \$25 for seniors/students. Those interested should acquire their tickets individually.

“DONATE YOUR SOLE”

Remember Hearts for the Homeless “Donate your Sole” program. This on-going ministry to collect gently used and possibly new shoes for those in our community is always in need. As the weather turns colder and you exchange your summer flip flops to fall sneakers (and yes, even boots!) think about donating your gently used footwear to the program. Take advantage of inexpensive shoe sales and buy an extra pair (or two) to donate. Please help us by remembering those less fortunate. *We thank you from the bottom of our SOLE!*

Mission and Service Opportunity in Puerto Rico

A year ago, the island of Puerto Rico was hit by back-to-back hurricanes, Irma and Maria, which left thousands of people without adequate housing, power, water, food, clothing. Many, of course, were left without hope, and the suicide rate has skyrocketed. But there is hope!

In keeping with the Synod of the Northeast's initiative for Puerto Rico Partnerships, there are plans underway for four back-to-back relief work opportunities this winter. These opportunities will be in Lares, a town in the northwestern mountains of the island, listed by the US census as the poorest municipality in Puerto Rico. The organizers of this trip are **Elder Joanne Tunison** (1st Church Elmira, Presbytery of Geneva) and the **Rev. Leslie Latham** (1st Church Tonawanda, Presbytery of Western NY). They recently visited with the **Rev. Evelyn Torres**, pastor of the **Iglesia Presbiteriana en Lares** to determine worksites and firm up dates.

There are four overlapping trips planned for 2019:

- 16-23 February
- 23 February – 2 March
- 2-9 March
- 9-16 March

The three projects being developed alongside Iglesia Presbiteriana en Lares are:

- The renovation of kitchen at La Iglesia Presbiteriana de Lares, so they can continue their ministry of feeding the community
- Working on the homes of two women, one concrete and the other wood, which need urgent repair of walls, ceilings, and roofs

Committing to boost the local economy, there are plans to contract with a local onsite construction site manager who will oversee the three relief projects being planned. We also plan to buy all construction and other materials locally.

There are some considerations for those considering travelling to Puerto Rico. Zika and Dengue viruses are very real threats in this region; therefore we are not including youth on these trips. Likewise, men and women of childbearing age should be very careful, and consult with their doctors. Anyone with a compromised immune system should do the same.

What kind of help do we need?

- People with experience in building and repair
- Accredited mental health workers (e.g., social worker, psychologist, family therapist) who will be available to speak with hard-hit people of all generations
- We hope each group includes a pastor/preacher, and someone fluent in Spanish to translate during worship
- Those whose hearts are willing and able to work in difficult situations, who are flexible, humble and able to take direction

Mission to Community

Alternative Gift Giving
This year's alternative gift is for
The Synod of the Northeast
Initiative for Puerto Rico Partnerships

Just over a year ago hurricanes Irma and Maria devastated the communities of our brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico. However, there is hope, and we have an opportunity to be a part of that hope.

Through the Synod of the Northeast's Initiative for Puerto Rico Partnerships we are raising money for the town of Lares in the northwestern mountains of the island. In particular our Presbytery of WNY has developed a relationship with La Iglesia Presbiteriana de Lares.

Beginning Sunday December 2 through Advent you may purchase your alternative gift giving cards in the narthex. Your gifts will make a difference!

*Renovation of the kitchen at La Iglesia Presbiteriana de Lares so they can continue their ministry of feeding the community.

*Providing urgently needed repairs to the homes of two women.

*Purchasing basic items such as underwear, diapers for children and adults, sanitary items for women, bug spray, and school supplies.

*Boosting the economy by purchasing materials and supplies locally.

November 2018 Calendar

November 1	Thursday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir Practice
November 2	Friday	5:30 pm	Taize'
		7:00 pm	University Students and Friends Game Night
November 4	Sunday (31st Sunday in Ordinary Time)		
		9:00 am	Worship Service
		10:00 am	Education Hour
		11:00 am	Worship Service
		12:15 pm	International Potluck Lunch
November 6	Tuesday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry
November 7	Wednesday	10:00 am	University Student Planning Team
November 8	Thursday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir Practice
November 11	Sunday (32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)		
		9:00 am	Worship Service
		10:00 am	Education Hour
		11:00 am	Worship Service
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour and Birthday Celebration
		12:15 pm	Nominating Committee
		8:00 pm	Youth Group Lock-in at North Presbyterian
November 12	Monday	VETERANS' DAY HOLIDAY	
November 13	Tuesday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry
November 15	Thursday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir Practice



November Calendar Continued.....



November 18	Sunday (33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)		
		9:00 am	Worship Service
		10:00 am	Education Hour
		11:00 am	Worship Service
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour
		12:15 pm	University Students & Friends Bible Study
November 20	Tuesday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry
November 21	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Session
November 22 & 23	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY		
November 24	Saturday		Youth Group Presbytery Service Day
November 25	Sunday (Christ the Kind/Reign of Christ)		
		9:00 am	Worship Service
		10:00 am	Education Hour
		11:00 am	Worship Service
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour
November 27	Tuesday	11:00 am	Youth Support Team
		12:00 pm	Food Pantry
November 29	Thursday	12:00 pm	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir Practice



First Friday
AT UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Too many of us lead hectic lives.

Our communities are filled with violence and suffering.

Our personal pain and struggles can overwhelm us.

How do we respond? How can we cope?

University Presbyterian Church welcomes Christians from all traditions to unite in a special contemplative worship experience as we seek spiritual strength for the living of our days. Based on the style of worship practiced in the Taizé Christian community in France, these services offered on the First Friday of each month provide an oasis at the end of the week for all who are weary, troubled, or rushed. Special music from guest musicians, meditative songs, prayers, candles, and scripture readings allow each of us to find a quiet place of prayer and spiritual centering.

We invite you to join us on Friday, April 6, 2018 from 5:30 to 6:00 PM. University Presbyterian Church is located at 3330 Main St., Buffalo (across the street from UB South Campus) with parking available in the church lot off Niagara Falls Boulevard. The church is also conveniently accessible using public transportation by taking bus or train to the University Metro station. Questions can be directed to the church office at 836-7660.

A Taizé Service of Prayer, Music, and Meditation

www.upcbuffalo.org

(The Taizé' Service in December is scheduled on Friday , December 7, 2018)

