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A monthly newsletter for members and friends of University Presbyterian Church

May 2012

Pastor's Column

Along with Easter and Christmas, do you know what would be the third significant religious holy day in the Christian calendar? Pentecost. In fact, in the early Christian church, Pentecost was far more important than Christmas. Pentecost is the day the Christian church celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit. We recall how those early disciples were confused following the resurrection of Jesus and how the Holy Spirit came upon them, giving them courage and motivation to preach and witness to the good news of Jesus Christ. We call it “the birthday” of the Church because that is when the Christian church really began to gather in adherents to the faith.

One thing that distinguishes Pentecost from Christmas and Easter, however, is that it has yet to be turned into a secular holiday. You don't see the stores offering “Pentecost sales.” No mysterious gift-giving figure shows up at our homes to leave toys or candy. Pentecost remains a purely spiritual holiday, where we can focus on its meaning without the trappings of commercialization.

We along with millions of other Christians world-wide will celebrate this special day at the end of this month. We hope you will join us in celebrating the Spirit of the living God who abides with us, strengthens us, comforts us, and challenges us to faithfulness. Wear red if you are able—the color of Pentecost!

Shalom,
Tracy



**THIS WEEK'S
MESSAGE**

Worship Column

May 6th - 5th Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Worship - Communion
10:00 AM Education Hour
11:00 AM Worship – Communion
Lectionary: Acts 8:26-40; Psalms 22:25-31;
1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

May 13th - 6th Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Education Hour
11:00 AM Worship
Lectionary: Acts 10:44-48; Psalms 98;
1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

May 20th - 7th Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Education Hour
11:00 AM Worship
Lectionary: Acts 1:15-17,21-16; Psalms 1;
1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

May 27th - Day of Pentecost

10:00 AM Worship
Lectionary: Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14;
Psalms 104:24-34,35b; Romans 8:22-27 or Acts
2:1-21; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Please note that **Sunday, May 27th** begins our summer worship schedule. There will be one worship service on **Sundays, at 10:00 AM**. This schedule is in effect until **September 9th, the Sunday after Labor Day**. Thank you!

Church Youth Reminder

Reminder to the youth—Don't forget about the sleep over end of year party on **June 1st**. It will begin at **7:30 PM** and pick up time will be **9:30 AM**. Bring your sleeping bag, games, and one of your favorite snacks to share.

Thanks for a great year in Sunday school!



“The Network” is published monthly for friends and members of University Presbyterian Church. If you wish to submit an article, please contact the church office.
Co-Editors:
Brian Belus
The Reverend Tracy Daub

Food Pantry “Job” Openings

The Food Pantry currently has three “Job” openings for willing workers -at volunteer pay.

1). A spot is available to work one Tuesday or Thursday afternoon per month from 11:30 to 4:00, helping clients choose their groceries, stocking shelves, etc. You will work with three others and meet some great folks.

OR

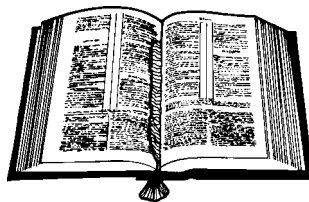
If you don't have afternoons free, or you cannot do the physical work, don't despair - we have two other volunteer opportunities for you:

2). We need someone to coordinate the monthly volunteer schedule. It would involve making phone calls to volunteers to schedule them for the following month. This can be done from home, with Denise typing the schedule. It is not like pulling teeth, because pantry volunteers expect to be called and scheduled.

OR

3). We need a Back-up person to learn the monthly on-line food ordering method recently put into service with the Food Bank. This requires checking with the pantry staff to find out the food needs, logging into the ordering system on the correct day (usually the 2nd Thursday of the month), and placing the food order. Currently this is completed by Kathy Hallborg, but she is the only volunteer who is familiar with this system. The Back-up person would be able to fill in if Kathy is unavailable to complete the order.

If you think you're the person for one of these jobs, please hurry to contact Barbara Pearson at 833-3163 or Janet Mazzaroppi at 639-7526. We hope to fill these “openings” very soon.....



INTERCOLLEGIATE – INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY: May 2, 2012 and June 20, 2012
Light Meal: 5:00 pm – Study until 6:30 pm

Holzwarth Room

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Led by Rev. Stuart Buisch

Network Of Religious Communities Award Dinner

This year our Network of Religious Communities honoree is Brian Belus. The annual dinner and program will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2012 at 6:00 pm at the Hearthstone Manor, 333 Dick Road, Depew, NY. Tickets are \$35.00 per person. Please make your check payable to University Presbyterian Church and include Network Dinner on the memo line. Please place in offering plate, bring/mail to the Church office or give it to Priscilla Kim or Janet Mazzaroppi by Sunday, April 22nd. Please indicate if you need a vegetarian or gluten free meal.

The guest speaker will be Rev. Brenda Girton-Mitchel, Director of the Center for Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships and Former Assistant General Secretary, National Council of Churches.

Brian Belus - UPC Honoree at 2012 Network of Religious Communities Annual Appreciation Dinner.

University Presbyterian Church will honor Brian Belus at the 2012 Network of Religious Communities Annual Appreciation Dinner - to be held Thursday, May 3rd at Hearthstone Manor. Tickets for the event are \$35. If you have not had a chance to get your ticket yet, please call the church office. Below you will see why Brian is our choice for this year's honoree.

Brian Belus joined University Presbyterian Church in 1968. Since that time, he has been an active and dedicated worker for our congregation and for the community. Brian has helped to care for and be a leader in our congregation through two terms as a member of the deacons and five terms as a church Elder. He taught Sunday School for two years, has been the editor of UPC's newsletter for many years and is a long-time member of the church choir. In addition, Brian has offered his service on many church committees, including Property, Personnel, Finance and Worship.

As a faithful volunteer at our UPC Food Pantry, Brian donates his time and enthusiasm to help provide food for our neighbors in need. In addition, he has volunteered his time to serve hot meals at Friends of Night People.

Brian is a retired Earth Science teacher. He is an avid bowler, skier, golfer and kayaker. He is also a die-hard Buffalo Bills fan. Our congregation is always aware when the Bills have a home game on Sunday. That's when we see the sneakers peeking out from below Brian's choir robe, and we see him quietly disappear from the sanctuary after the anthem has been sung; a small indulgence for the many gifts Brian offers to UPC.

University Presbyterian Church is grateful for this opportunity to express our appreciation to Brian Belus for his dedication and on-going service to UPC.



Food Pantry By The Numbers

Each month, the UPC Food Pantry submits a report to the Food Bank of Western New York, indicating how many households were served during the month, and how many individuals make up those households. We share these statistics with our congregation, which provides such generous support to our pantry, both in time and in donations.

Anyone interested in volunteering one afternoon a month at the Pantry can call **Barbara Pearson, 833-3163.**

March 2012

Infants	2
Children	87
Adults	200
Elderly	37
Households:	174
Equivalent meals:	2,934

These numbers only tell part of the story of this important and meaningful ministry. It is the people behind the numbers, those who receive this food and offer us their thanks and blessings, and this congregation who provide such generous support, both in time and in donations, that are the essence and the real story that these numbers represent. Our thanks to all of you.

May Birthdays

- 1 Annette Arber
- 6 Jeffrey Grisante
- 6 Judy Betz
- 9 Mary Vennemen
- 11 Shahnaz Morris
- 15 Geoffrey Burker
- 15 Donna Riddagh
- 16 Lisa Patel
- 23 Cathy Siegel
- 24 Robert Hallborg

YOUNG PRESBYTERIANS

- 9 Emily Waldron
- 16 Elizabeth Waldron
- 21 Karly Masters



Get To Know Our Members

Our featured member this month is Norma Wagner, who has been a part of the UPC congregation for over 60 years. She was born and raised in Tonawanda and has lived in the same house since the age of 9 months. Her father brought her to UPC when she was a child, and she has been a devoted member and worker since then. She remembers a time in UPC history when they had to bring in chairs for the overflow of parishioners attending the service. Hopefully we'll have that problem again someday

Norma worked for 33 years as an administrator assistant at Buffalo Incandescent Lighting Co. on Genesee St. After retiring from there she worked for 5 years at the Freddie's Doughnut Shop on Main St. (Every Buffalonian remembers those tasty pastries!) She then got a volunteer job as an activities assistant at the Amherst Nursing Home, which then turned into a paid position for her. She has many fond memories of that job and made many friends there.

The people of UPC have been a major factor for her devotion to the church. Through the years she has enjoyed the Scottish festivals, and being a member of Presbyterian Women. She once coordinated the monthly lunch for the PW, and still enjoys their get-togethers. She has also worked on the Fellowship Committee and has been a Deacon. Her early church involvement besides Sunday school was singing in the junior choir. But one of her favorite jobs in the church has been folding the bulletins for Sunday service which she has been doing since Rev. Reid was minister of the church.

Thanks Norma, and we look forward to many more years celebrating our Christian faith together.

“New” Used Toys For UPC Nursery

The UPC nursery is cleaning for the spring season and we would like donations of any old toys, games or books, families may be getting rid of during this time of cleaning house. If you have items that are in “good” condition and are in the box for the Goodwill, kindly bring them to the church so we can replace our old toys. The children will appreciate the effort!





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 Taize' 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, May 4 from 5:30 – 6 p.m.** 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 Taize' Service of Prayer, Music, and Meditation

www.upcbuffalo.org/firstfriday

MAY 2012

Tuesday	1	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
Wednesday	2	5:00 pm	Bible Study with Stu
Thursday	3	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir
Friday	4	5:30 pm	Taize' Service
Saturday	5	10:00 am	Grief Support Group - Family Tree
Sunday	6	9:00 am	Worship - Communion
		10:00 am	Education Hour
		11:00 am	Worship - Communion
Tuesday	8	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
Thursday	10	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir
Sunday	13	9:00 am	Worship
		9:30 am	Deacon's Meeting
		10:00 am	Education Hour
		11:00 am	Worship
Tuesday	15	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
Wednesday	16	7:00 pm	Session Meeting
Thursday	17	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir
Friday	18	10:00 am	Presbyterian Woman Luncheon
Saturday	19	1:00 pm	Knitting Group
Sunday	20	9:00 am	Worship
		10:00 am	Education Hour
		11:00 am	Worship
Tuesday	22	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
Thursday	24	12:00 pm	Food Pantry
		7:30 pm	Choir
Sunday- Pentecost	27	10:00 am	Worship
<u>PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE</u>			
Monday	28	OFFICE CLOSED	Memorial Day Holiday
Tuesday	29	12:00 noon	Food Pantry
Thursday	31	12:00 noon	Food Pantry

Please note: Sunday, May 27th begins our summer worship schedule. There will be one worship service on Sundays, at 10:00 am throughout the summer.