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A monthly newsletter for members and friends of University Presbyterian Church November 2012

## Pastor's Column

Sometimes there are defining moments in our lives, occasions when the decisions we make will change who we are and what our lives will be about.

This is a defining moment for University Presbyterian Church. It is an opportunity for a New Beginning: to reshape and redefine the life and mission of our congregation. I believe that future generations will look back at 2012 as a pivotal moment in the life of UPC.

Most of you know that UPC is engaged in a discernment program called New Beginnings. At this moment, 7 small groups within our congregation are in the process of meeting and discussing and discerning where God is leading us at this time and place. It is a time of hopeful anticipation and a time for deepening our commitment to this part of the Body of Christ—University Presbyterian Church.

Everyone at UPC, members and friends alike, are asked to deepen their commitment to our congregation through the sharing of our resources. The resources of time and talents are most important, but so too is the sharing of our financial resources. UPC's future depends on our members sharing all three with generosity and joy.

This stewardship season, entitled "God's New Beginning," is an invitation to you to be part of this New Beginning. Letters to the congregation will be arriving in your mailboxes with pledge cards enclosed. You are encouraged to fill out those cards and bring them to worship on **Sunday, November 11** when we will dedicate our pledges to God's purposes. Please consider prayerfully your commitment to this part of Christ's church.

Shalom,  
Tracy

# Worship Column

## November 4<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour– Adult & Children

11:00 AM Worship

**Lectionary:** Ruth 1:1-18; Psalms 146; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 12:28-34

## November 11<sup>th</sup> - 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour– Adult & Children

11:00 AM Worship

**Lectionary:** Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Psalms 127; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12: 38-44

## November 18<sup>th</sup> - 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour– Adult & Children

11:00 AM Worship

**Lectionary:** 1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Samuel†2:1-10; Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18), 9-25; Mark 13:1-8

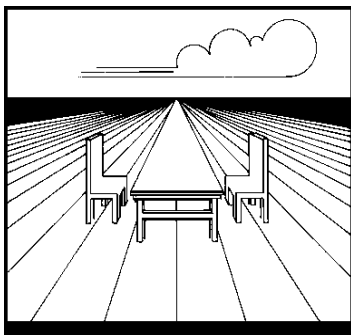
## November 25<sup>th</sup> - Christ the King

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM No education hour this Sunday

11:00 AM Worship

**Lectionary:** 2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalms 132:1-12 (13-18); Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37



**“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

## Christian Education Opportunities This Fall

### Children's Class:

Children (ages 5 years through 7<sup>th</sup> grade) will meet in a multi-aged class, taught by a team of rotating teachers. Class time will start with music, offered by Tiffany Whitefield, collective time as an entire group, followed by smaller groups for age-based activities.

Teachers this fall will be: Marge Waldron (Sept. 16-Oct. 7), Amy Erikson (Oct. 14-Nov. 18), and Ginna Coon (Dec. 2-23). Jude Hammer and Sandy Robertson will alternate as classroom aides.

### Adult Class:

The remaining Sundays in the fall semester will be taught by Dr. Timothy Wadkins, Professor of Religious Studies at Canisius College. Dr. Wadkins, always a popular and engaging teacher, will lead us in a discussion of the following topic:

#### *“The Good, the Bad and the Ugly: The Bible and Christian Faith”*

Part history, part theology, and part autobiography, this series will discuss questions about the Bible in the context of faith. How exactly are we to understand the role of the Bible in Christian history? What does it mean to affirm the inspiration and authority of Scripture? How should the Bible be interpreted? What are we to do about difficult parts of the Bible, such as those which depict infant sacrifice or genocide in God's name? All of these questions and more will be addressed in this series.

Come join in what promises to be a most stimulating conversation!



## BABY BLESSINGS BASICS

Crossroads Lutheran Church has a new caring ministry to babies and young families which began on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **It's official title is "Baby Blessings Basics."**

It is located right inside the church building at 4640 Main Street, Amherst, NY 14226.

If you would like to help stock the shelves with baby items we'd love to have you help. We need new or clean, gently used baby clothing from newborn to 3T, baby blankets, bedding, diapers, etc. We cannot take toys or baby equipment. Contributions can be put in the shed off of the parking lot at the back of the church at any time. Financial contributions are also appreciated so we can purchase needed items. Checks may be made payable to Crossroads and note in memo line Baby Blessing Basics.



## 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**.

| <u>September 2012</u>   |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Infants</b>          | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>Children</b>         | <b>77</b>    |
| <b>Adults</b>           | <b>199</b>   |
| <b>Elderly</b>          | <b>37</b>    |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>314</b>   |
| <br>                    |              |
| <b>Households:</b>      | <b>172</b>   |
| <b>Equivalent meals</b> | <b>2,826</b> |

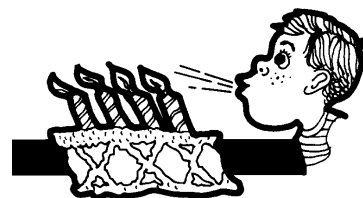
These numbers only tell part of the story of this important and meaningful ministry. It is the people behind the numbers, those who receive this food and offer us their thanks and blessings, and this congregation who provide such generous support, both in time and in donations, that are the essence and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

## November Birthdays

- 1 Karen Stucker
- 3 Jennifer Cotto-Ecklund
- 5 Lauren Mook
- 7 Mary Jean Conibear
- 11 Sarah Smith
- 11 Elizabeth Harbison
- 11 Brian Belus
- 16 Jim Whitefield
- 18 Gary Melius
- 23 Doug Harbison
- 28 Alma Kelly
- 29 William Harbison

## YOUNG PRESBYTERIANS

- 22 Grace Burker
- 26 Nicholas Harbison



## INTERCOLLEGIATE - INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY

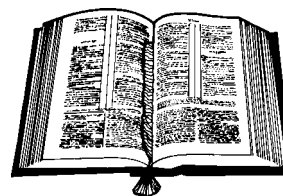
November 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>  
and December 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

Light Meal: 5:00 pm - Study until 6:30 pm

Holzwarth Room

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Led by Rev. Stuart Buisch



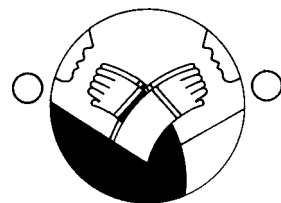
## Meet Our Members

The member we will be featuring this month is **Susan Beyer**, who joined our congregation about 2 years ago, with her fiancé Kevin Budziszewski. Susan was born in Welland, Ontario, and then relocated with her family to Kenmore, where she resided until graduation from high school. During her senior year she was in a student exchange program located in Trija, Bolivia. There she went to school to learn how to be a bilingual secretary. When she arrived back in the states she got married and had 3 girls. In between raising her girls, and taking care of the house, she returned to school at Buffalo State, and received her Masters in Bilingual Education (Spanish). Her first position was in Wilson, and has taught for almost 32 years at different schools. Currently she is located at South Park High School in Buffalo.

Susan went through a divorce after 12 years of marriage. She married again and had 2 boys by her second husband. After 20 years of marriage her second husband passed away. Her eldest daughter is Giselle age 34, a paralegal, Leslie age 32 is an orthopedic surgeon, and Dayna, a stay at home Mom is a mother of two. Her son Andy who is 25 now, unfortunately was hit by a car when he was 7 and suffered brain injuries. He works at Chef's as a dishwasher. The youngest is 24 year old Jacob, who is in Maritime College studying commercial shipping.

Obviously, she doesn't have a lot of spare time, but when she does, she enjoys swimming and watching sports with Kevin. Religion has always played a role in her life but she found it particularly helpful during her traumatic time when her son Andy was in rehabilitation after his accident. She also went through some trying times within the last 4 years when her house burned down and her Mom passed away 2 years ago.

We are glad Susan decided to choose our church, after her previous church, Parkside, closed. She appreciated the friendliness of our members when selecting a new congregation. And just this past year she has taken on the role of a deaconess for UPC.



## NEW BEGINNINGS - SCHEDULE FOR GATHERINGS

### **New Beginnings Gathering Dates — Updated for the end of October and November**

Please review the dates and times below and select a group that works best for you. Attendance at as many of the gatherings as possible is encouraged, but if you cannot meet with your group on a given week, you are welcome to join another one. Group meetings last approximately 90 minutes.

| <b><u>Time of Group:</u></b>   | <b><u>Leaders:</u></b>         | <b><u>Location:</u></b> |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Sunday, 12:30 p.m.</b><br>(Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 18)   | Jude Hammer & John Swaine      | Jude's house            |
| <b>Monday, 2 p.m.</b><br>(Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 19)   | Janet Mazzaroppi & Sandy Boag  | Church                  |
| <b>Monday, 6:30 p.m.</b><br>(Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 19)  | Tim Ecklund & Howard Henry     | Church                  |
| <b>Tuesday, 7 p.m.</b><br>( Oct. 23, Nov. 6, 20)   | Gladys Gifford                 | Gladys' house           |
| <b>Wednesday, 12 noon</b><br>(Oct. 24, Nov. 7, 21)   | Ginna Coon & Sarah Smith       | Church                  |
| <b>Group for newer members and friends of UPC:</b>   |                                |                         |
| <b>Sunday, 12:15 p.m.</b>  | Jerilyn Hickey & Dawn Appleton | Church                  |
| Sessions 3 & 4 combined on November 28 at 12:15 p.m. - 1 p.m. (lunch provided). Session 5 on November 11 at 9:50 - 11 a.m. (good coffee provided) Session 6 on November 18 at 12:15 - 1 p.m. |                                |                         |
| <b>Group for High School Youth: (Date &amp; more information to follow)</b>  |                                |                         |
| <b>Sunday, 10 a.m.</b>   | Pat Cookfair-Casseri           | Church                  |

There may be some changes to the above dates &/or times. Please check with your group leader prior to your meeting date(s) for any possible changes.

## **More University Presbyterian Upcoming Events**

**First Friday Taize' Services – 5:30 - 6:00 pm on, November 2 and December 7, 2012**

**November 6<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) – Presidential General Election – NO FOOD PANTRY THIS DAY  
Voting from 6 am to 9 pm**

**November 6<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) – UPC – sponsored BAKE GOOD SALE – stop and purchase  
baked goods to take home or stay and have a piece of  
cake, pie, cookies, etc along with a cup of coffee**

**Wednesday November 7<sup>th</sup> - SPECIAL day for Food Pantry – due to Election Day  
closure.**

**Thursday & Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> – Happy Thanksgiving! – Church Office is  
CLOSED Thursday and Friday.**

**Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>  
– Advent Pot Luck Dinner– following 11 am worship service.**

**Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> – Cookie Sale and Book Sale – morning**

**Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Caroling (time to be announced)**

**Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Dinner at 12 pm for Members**

**Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> – 11 am Worship Service with Children's Pageant**

**Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve ~ 7 pm Worship Service (Office closed)**

**Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> – Merry Christmas – (Office closed)**

*Mark your calendar now for all these special events at UPC*

**Crossroads Lutheran Church  
Is a congregation that  
Cares for others near and far  
Because Christ cares for us.**

**COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 7:30 P.M.**

The clergy in the Eggertsville Snyder area announce a community wide Thanksgiving service to be held on Tuesday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m. at Crossroads Lutheran Church, 4640 Main Street. The entire community is invited to attend. Everyone is asked to bring canned goods for our local food pantry at the University Presbyterian Church. All monetary offerings will also be given to the pantry.

Thank you for your help in getting the word out to the entire community.

Rev. Nancy A. Milleville





## **Advent Potluck and Special Program: “More Than A Magi”**

**Sunday, December 2 at 12 noon.**

Come join us for good food and an exciting program featuring guest performer, Denise Reichard. Denise is a public speaker and performer who recreates the lives of great women in history using vivid details and authentic material. Each 35 minute performance is presented in character and costume. Denise holds degrees in speech, education, and communication and teaches speech communication part time at Niagara County Community College. She has delighted audiences all over western New York (including the Presbyterian Women of UPC this past spring), as well as in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Ohio, and Ontario.

For our Advent program, Denise will present “More Than a Magi,” a performance based on the beloved tale, *The Story of the Other Wise Man*, by Henry Van Dyke.

Bring a dish to pass and come share in what promises to be a wonderful performance!



*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, November 2 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](http://www.upcbuffalo.org/firstfriday)

## November 2012

|           |    |  |   |
|-----------|----|--|---|
| Thursday  | 1  | 12:00 pm<br>7:30 pm                                    | Food Pantry<br>Choir Practice   |
| Friday    | 2  | 5:30 pm  | Taize Service   |
| Saturday  | 3  | 10:00 am   | Grief Support @Family Tree  |
| Sunday    | 4  | 9:00 am<br>10:00 am<br>11:00 am<br>12:15 pm            | Worship Service - Communion<br>Education Hour<br>Worship Service - Communion<br>University Student Luncheon |
| Tuesday   | 6  | 6:00 am – 9:00 pm                                      | Presidential Election – Voting Day –<br>NO FOOD PANTRY  |
| Wednesday | 7  | 12:00 pm   | FOOD PANTRY – Wednesday –this week only   |
| Thursday  | 8  | 12:00 pm<br>7:30 pm                                    | Food Pantry<br>Choir Practice   |
| Sunday    | 11 | 9:00 am<br>9:30 am<br>10:00 am<br>11:00 am<br>12:15 pm | Worship Service<br>Deacon's Meeting<br>Education Hour<br>Worship Service<br>University Student Luncheon     |
| Monday    | 12 | 12:00 pm   | Presbyterian Women Meeting  |
| Tuesday   | 13 | 12:00 pm   | Food Pantry   |
| Wednesday | 14 | 5:00 pm  | Bible Study with Rev. Stuart Buisch   |
| Thursday  | 15 | 12:00 pm   | Food Pantry   |
| Sunday    | 18 | 9:00 am<br>10:00 am<br>11:00 am<br>12:15 pm            | Worship Service<br>Education Hour<br>Worship Service<br>University Student Luncheon                         |
| Monday    | 19 | 12:00 pm   | Food Pantry – Thanksgiving Dinner Distribution  |
| Tuesday   | 20 | 12:00 pm   | Food Pantry   |
| Thursday  | 22 | Happy Thanksgiving                                     | Church Office Closed & NO FOOD PANTRY   |
| Friday    | 23 | (Enjoy turkey leftovers)                               | Church Office Closed  |
| Sunday    | 25 | 9:00 am  | Worship Service   |
|           |    | No Education Hour for adults and students              |   |
|           |    | 11:00 am<br>12:15 pm                                   | Worship Service<br>University Student Luncheon  |
| Tuesday   | 27 | 12:00 pm   | Food Pantry   |
| Wednesday | 28 | 5:00 pm<br>7:00 pm                                     | Bible Study with Rev. Stu Buisch<br>Session   |
| Thursday  | 29 | 12:00 pm   | Food Pantry   |