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A monthly newsletter for members and friends of University Presbyterian Church September, 2010

Pastor's Column

We are back from our journey to Central America. The nine weeks my family spent in Guatemala and El Salvador were filled with wonderful as well as sobering moments. We hiked through beautiful cloud forests, saw spectacular birds and butterflies, visited Mayan villages filled with people dressed in their traditional colorful attire, and worshiped with people whose Christian faith is profound and transformative. In our journey we also witnessed suffering, poverty, and need, heard stories of tragic injustice, and met with people who endeavor against great odds to alleviate the suffering in their communities. Sometimes our journey was filled with excitement—such as zip-cording over the treetops from one side of a ravine to the other. And a lot of the time our journey included ho-hum moments of ordinary life: shopping for groceries, doing the laundry, cooking dinner.

At one point in our trip, when we were standing ankle-deep in mud on a jungle hillside, straining to catch a glimpse of the elusive, endangered, and spectacularly beautiful national bird of Guatemala, the resplendent quetzal, I wondered how it came to be that I should find myself there. How did my life's journey bring me to that place? My husband's own professional journey took him to Central America. He then wanted to share that with the rest of the family. It was my son's passion for birds, which brought the rest of the family on a journey to discover something rare and beautiful. And those different "journeys" converged in that moment, on that muddy hillside. I realized how important other people are in leading us down the various "journeys" of our lives—the physical, emotional, and spiritual journeys we find ourselves upon.

The life of faith is often compared to a journey. There are exciting moments, sorrowful moments, boring moments, and ordinary moments. Through it all, we profess the belief that God travels with us in all these "journeys" of life. So too does the community of faith—the Church. We gather each week to worship God and to share a journey we find meaningful. We lead each other on pathways we never might have taken on our own. We challenge each other to consider new points of view. We encourage one another to take up important ministries. We accompany one another on the painful journeys and celebrate with one another the joys.

I look forward to this new "program year" we are entering and to discovering the new journeys which God may use you to lead all the rest of us upon.

Shalom,
Tracy

Worship Column

SEPTEMBER 5th - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 AM Worship - Communion

Lectionary: Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18;
Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33

***NOTE REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE RESUMES SEPTEMBER 12TH**

SEPTEMBER 12th - 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time RALLY DAY

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship

Lectionary: Jeremiah 4:11-22, 22-28; Psalm 14;
I Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

SEPTEMBER 19th - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship

Lectionary: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9;
I Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

SEPTEMBER 26th - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Education Hour

11:00 AM Worship

Lectionary: Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15;
Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; I Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31



INTERCOLLEGIATE - INTERGENERATIONAL BIBLE STUDY

**TUESDAYS: September 7th
and September 21st**

**Light Meal: 5:00 PM
Study until 6:30 PM
Holzwarth Room**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Led by Rev. Stuart Buisch



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submit an article, please
contact the church office.

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The Reverend Tracy Daub

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 Gerry Grisante at 835-0433.

<u>JUNE 2010</u>		
Infants	1	Households: 102
Children	55	Equivalent meals: 1,755
Adults	112	
Elderly	<u>27</u>	
	195	
<u>JULY 2010</u>		
Infants	0	Households: 108
Children	46	Equivalent meals: 1,728
Adults	121	
Elderly	<u>25</u>	
	192	

University Presbyterian will host a Personal Safety Workshop.

Personal Safety Strategies: In Your Home and On the Streets

Saturday, September 25th

10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Registration and refreshments at 9:30 am

Auditorium

This workshop, the first in a series, will provide ideas about how to make your home safe from intruders, and common sense ideas for personal safety as we move around our community. It will also include making your home safe inside from spills and falls.

The workshop is free and open to the public. We encourage church members to attend and bring friends and neighbors who might be interested.

Congratulations

Ben Hickey has accepted a position as Curator of Collections and Exhibitions at the Masur Museum of Art in Monroe, Louisiana. (Check out the museum on their website <http://masurmuseum.org>). Ben graduated two years ago with his Master's Degree in Art History and has been employed most recently at the Albright Knox Art Gallery.

Monroe is located in north central Louisiana, about 200 miles north of New Orleans on the Ouachita River. Yes, they have bayous and alligators! Ben, his wife, Alexa, and 1-year old son, Mac moved in August. Needless to say, they will be missed by Grandma Cindy and Aunt Jerilyn. Our prayers are with them as they begin a new and exciting chapter in their lives.

Their new address is:
805 K Street
Monroe, LA 71201

RALLY DAY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH Let's Kick Off the Church Year with abundant enthusiasm!

9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Sunday School for All Ages
11:00 AM Worship

Following the second service there will be a "Welcome Back" picnic; lemonade, hot dogs, chips, veggies.



September Birthdays

11 Laura MacDonald
12 Margaret Twisdale
19 Juanita Mattison
19 Richard Strub
19 Josef Beamer
20 Russell Williams
22 Mackenzie Maddock
25 Barbara Moran
26 Marietta Bratton
28 Barbara Vossler
29 Joseph Beamer

YOUTH BIRTHDAYS

22 J. Aiden Ward

Stone Soup Campaign

Do you remember the tale of Stone Soup? Three weary soldiers trudged into a village in search of a bed for the night and a bit of food. The peasants, fearful of strangers and with barely enough for themselves, hid what food there was in order to convince the soldiers to move on. One of the soldiers declared: "We are three hungry soldiers in a strange land. We have asked you for food, and you have no food. Well then, we'll have to make stone soup!"

Intrigued, the peasants eagerly gathered 'round as the soldiers called for a fire to be built and a large pot filled with water and a few stones. Then, cleverly, the soldiers began to ask for small additions: "Stones like these generally make good soup. But oh, if there were carrots it would be much better". Well, one of the peasants thought she could manager "a carrot or two". And so it continued until the soup was full of all sorts of vegetables, barley and beef – each small offering provided by different town folk. What a feast they had! They ate and drank and ate and drank. And after that they danced and sang far into the night. In the morning the whole village gathered in the square to give the soldiers a send-off. "Many thanks for what you have taught us," the peasants said to the soldiers. "We shall never go hungry, now that we know how to make soup from stones."

And so, the villagers learned just how much can be accomplished when each person gives a little – whether it be their time or their treasure – and in coming together as a group they were far better able to overcome an obstacle than if they tried to tackle it themselves.

Over the past few months, Session has had an ongoing discussion about our current financial situation. While it is not yet dire, we are continuing to run a deficit budget and we know this is not a sustainable model. At the same time we have tremendous assets in the dedicated members of our congregation, a beautiful building, an active community presence and a prime location. Thus we would like to invite each of you to join the conversation, beginning with a **Congregational Meeting** following the 11:00 a.m. service on **Sunday, September 19, 2010**. We will discuss the current 2010 budget, kick off the "Stone Soup Campaign" and do some brainstorming around how we can continue to grow as a steadfast community of faith. Please join us!



SEPTEMBER 2010 CALENDAR

THURSDAY	2nd	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
SATURDAY	4th	10:00 am	Grief Support Group	Family Tree
SUNDAY	5th	10:00 am	Worship - Communion	
MONDAY	6th		LABOR DAY - OFFICE CLOSED	
TUESDAY	7th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
		5:30 pm	Bible Study	Holzwarth Room
WEDNES	8th	7:00 pm	COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
THURSDAY	10th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
		7:30 pm	Choir	
SUNDAY	12th	9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
		10:00 am	Sunday School	Various Rooms
		11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
		12:15 pm	RALLY DAY PICNIC	
MONDAY	13th	12:00 pm	PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN	
		7:00 pm	Stephen Ministry	
TUESDAY	14th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
WEDNES	15th	7:00 pm	SESSION	Room 101
THURSDAY	16th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
		7:30 pm	Choir	
SATURDAY	18TH	7:00 pm	Carnival Kids Steel Orchestra	
SUNDAY	19th	9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
		10:00 am	Sunday School	Various Rooms
		11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
		12:30 pm	Youth Gathering at Tracy's	
TUESDAY	21st	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
		5:30 pm	Bible Study	
THURSDAY	23rd	10:30 am	Food Pantry Volunteer Mtg	
		12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Auditorium
		7:30 pm	Choir	Reid Hall
SUNDAY	26th	9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
		10:00 am	Sunday School	Various Rooms
		11:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
TUESDAY	28th	12:00 noon	Food Pantry	Reid Hall
THURSDAY	30th	7:30 pm	Choir	