



United Presbyterian Church

525 East Front Street • Plainfield, NJ 07060 • 908-756-2666 • <http://www.upcplainfield.org/>

Where God is exalted, Everyone matters, and You

Worship Services: Sunday 11:00 am & Thursday 7pm

February 2023 Newsletter

"He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises, we are healed." Isaiah 53:5

Pastor's Message

Pastor Allegra Hoots

Greetings to you in the holy name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our blessed Redeemer. As always, I trust that you are in good health, in high spirits, and rejoicing in the Lord.

The forty-day contemplative Lenten season is rapidly approaching - the liturgical calendar time immediately preceding Easter Sunday. Un-

like the celebratory seasons of Advent and Christmastime, although all three seasons remind us of God's faithfulness and great love for humanity, Lent prompts Christians to ponder and marvel with grateful hearts at the sacrificial nature of God's love. It is also a time when folks reflect on their spiritual well-being, their mortality, and God's faithfulness and great love expressed in the birth, suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Throughout Lent, Christians recall that the baby Jesus, whose birth we commemorate on Christmas, is the God-man innocent of wrongdoing who suffered unspeakable abuse during Holy week. They read Scriptures that describe in detail the atrocities Jesus endured to reconcile fallen humanity to God, their Creator. And they are reminded that Jesus willingly suffered brutal harassment. He was undermined, misinterpreted, misunderstood, misquoted, ridiculed, and withstood physical abuse without complaining.

Lent is when individuals and congregations spend more time than usual studying the Holy Bible, giving alms, and thinking about purpose and death. Fasting or giving up something precious is usually part of the forty-day vigil.

Three reasons to immerse oneself in Lenten activities are:

To strengthen one's self-control.

To assess one's spiritual health.

To remember God's sacrificial love.

Ways to experience the former objectives include intentionally carving out daily time to engage in those behaviors that boost spiritual growth – praying, reading, and meditating on Scripture, fasting, and or practicing abstinence. One must also have faith that by God's grace, they will emerge from Lent more Christ-like – more loving, compassionate, forgiving, sympathetic, and Christ-centered. And like the psalmist, they, we, pray for God to create in them, us, a clean and rightly motivated heart.

I invite you to join me on the 2023 Lenten journey by committing to abstaining from something you love- certain foods and activities; and attending the UPC nightly Lenten study. For details about the study, visit the church website, www.upcplainfield.org, or the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/UPCPlainfield/>.

May God grant us grace to keep a holy Lent.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Allegra

A Prayer for Lent

*God of grace, glory, and light strengthen us to keep a holy Lent. Help us remember that we are entering a spiritual retreat to grow closer to you and come out more Christ-like with our spirit renewed. If we stumble, encourage us to keep going, and remind us that you love us, Jesus died for us, and the Holy Spirit will keep us from falling away from you. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. In Jesus' mighty name, we pray.
Amen.*

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE INPERSON & ONLINE
Church Office: Tele: 908-756-2666



Sunday Worship (Traditional)

Pastor Allegra Hoots
11:00am In the Sanctuary & Via YouTube
<https://bit.ly/3jyylpg>

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**Ash Wednesday Service**

Feb. 22nd 12pm-1pm In the Sanctuary & Via YouTube  
<https://bit.ly/3jyylpg>

7:00pm Daily Lenten Devotions via Zoom  
Book: **Once a Day for 40 Days**  
By: Dr. Kenneth Boa

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Contemporary Worship Service

suspended during the Lenten season

Sunday School
Youth & Young Adult
Hansen Room
10:00 am



Adult Bible Study

Theme:
Lenten Study: "Neighborhood Church-Transforming Your Congregation into a Powerhouse for Mission"

Dates: Sundays @ 10:00 am
Location: Lind Room

Upcoming Events

See calendars for more activities and events

February—BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Date	Time	Event
Black History Month		
15	7:30pm	Session Meeting
19	1:00pm	Annual Congregational Meeting
21	7-9:00pm	Shrove Tuesday Presidents Day
22	12-1:00pm 7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Daily Lenten studies begin
25	11:00am	The Strength Finder; Assessment of Congregational skills
26	11:00am	Agape Meal
27		Transfiguration of our Lord

March

Date	Time	Event
8		International Women's Day
11		Administration Committee Meeting
12		DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
15		Session Meeting
17		St. Patrick's Day

FOR VIRTUAL EVENTS:
TO CONNECT BY COMPUTER OR TELEPHONE, GO TO THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION:
<http://www.upcplainfield.org/>

The Transfiguration

Matthew 17: ¹ After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. ⁵ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"



In the New Testament, the Transfiguration of Jesus is an event where Jesus is transfigured and becomes radiant in glory upon a mountain. The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 17:1–8, Mark 9:2–8, Luke 9:28–36) describe it, and the Second Epistle of Peter also refers to it (2 Peter 1:16–18).

In these accounts, Jesus and three of his apostles, Peter, James, and John, go to a mountain (later referred to as the Mount of Transfiguration) to pray. On the mountaintop, Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then the Old Testament figures Moses and Elijah appear next to him and he speaks with them. Both figures symbolize the Law and the prophets, respectively. Jesus is then called "Son" by the voice of God the Father, as in the Baptism of Jesus.

The story of Christ's transfiguration would probably strike us as weird if it weren't so familiar. Think about it. Jesus goes up on a mountain with three friends and meets two dead prophets, all while glowing in the dark! Even the word "transfiguration" is a word we never use except when referring to this story.

Like every story in Matthew's Gospel, this one focuses on Jesus and is meant to tell us something about him. So what does the transfiguration tell us about Jesus? I'd like to highlight three things.

1. He's the Son of Man Who Will Come in Glory

Matthew places this story immediately after Jesus speaks of "the Son of Man" coming in judgment. This is clearly a reference to the end of the age—which is why it's so puzzling when Jesus immediately says, "Truly I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom". Who could possibly live that long? Apparently the answer is Peter, James, and John. All three evangelists place this puzzling statement immediately before the transfiguration, and then frame the transfiguration in chronological reference to it (e.g., "And after six days,").

2. He's the Son of God Whose Glory Was Hidden

The presence of Moses and Elijah is one of the most fascinating features of this story. Where else in the New Testament do you find Old Testament heroes showing up in person? But it's not hard to see why Moses and Elijah would be summoned for such a glorious mountaintop event. After all, both men had famous mountaintop experiences with God (Ex. 24:9–34:35; 1 Kgs. 19:8–18).

3. He's the Son (and Prophet) to Whom We Must Listen

Besides their previous mountaintop experiences, there was probably another reason Moses and Elijah were summoned to this mountain. Moses and Elijah represented the Law and the Prophets, respectively, and their appearance continues Matthew's portrayal of Jesus as the one who fulfills the Law and the Prophets (Matt. 5:17)

The transfiguration is one of the miracles of Jesus in the Gospels. This miracle is unique among others that appear in the canonical gospels, in that the miracle happens to Jesus himself. Thomas Aquinas considered the transfiguration "the greatest miracle" in that it complemented baptism and showed the perfection of life in Heaven. The transfiguration is one of the five major milestones in the gospel narrative of the life of Jesus, the others being baptism, crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension.

A graphic for the Annual Congregational Meeting. It features a teal and blue background with a white paper-like shape in the center containing the text "ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING".

ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

All Members and friends are invited to attend our annual congregation meeting on:

When: February 19th, 2023

Where: Lind Room

Time: Immediately following our worship service

The following was taken from PCUSA, book of order:

At our annual meeting we may consider such business as electing officers, hearing reports of the session along with plans for the coming year, hearing reports from the board of deacons and other organizations of the church, and transacting other business as is appropriate. It shall review the adequacy of the compensation of the pastor or pastors upon report of the prior review by the session. ([G-10.0102n](#)) Public notice of the meeting shall be given on two successive Sundays.

<https://bit.ly/3JpxTry>

BE ENTHUSIASTIC

***Don't work only while being watched, in order to please men,
but as slaves for Christ, do God's will from your heart.
Serve with a good attitude, as to the Lord and not to men.***

Ephesians 6:6-7 HCSB



If you'd like to worry less, try celebrating more. And when you think about it, celebrating shouldn't be very hard because each day has its own share of blessings. Our assignment, as grateful believers, is to look for the blessings and celebrate them.

Today, like every other day, is a priceless gift from God. He has offered us yet another opportunity to serve Him with smiling faces and willing hands. When we do our part, he inevitably does his part, and miracles happen.

The Lord has promised to bless you and keep you, now and forever. So don't wait for birthdays or holidays. Make this day an exciting adventure. And while you're at it, take time to thank God for his blessings. He deserves your gratitude, and you deserve the joy of expressing it.

Enthusiasm, like the flu, is contagious—we get it from one another.
Barbara Johnson

A Prayer

Dear Lord, I know that others are watching the way that I live my life.
Help me to be an enthusiastic Christian with a faith that is contagious.
Amen.

~ Prayers to Start Your Day—Criswell Freeman ~

We use the word "Blessing", "God Bless you" all the time. What does it mean? Elder Al Tate, leader of our adult education class caused us to ponder the meaning and it's use. Thought we would share a little about the use of the word "Blessing"

What Does "Blessed" Mean?

Greg Laurie

The word *blessed* is a wonderful word. Christians use the words *blessed* and *blessing* a lot, and most of the time we mean it. There are times when we use it as an expression to terminate a conversation that is going too long. That, of course, is not the proper way to use it.

Blessed is a Christian word. It is a spiritual word. It is a biblical word. And it has been hijacked by our culture. People may talk about "blessings" in their lives, but the nonbeliever has no idea what a real blessing is, because only the child of God truly knows what it is to be blessed. It is also worth noting that Jesus both began and concluded His earthly ministry blessing people.

So what does it mean to be blessed? The word *blessed* Jesus used in the Sermon on the Mount is from the Greek word *makarios*, which means to be happy or blissful, but it also means a self-contained happiness.

Perhaps the meaning of the word blessing can be most accurately understood when these three etymological meanings—blood consecration, praise, and good fortune—are taken in concert. For example, in [Genesis 12:1-3](#), God makes a promise to Abram, saying, *"I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."* God is promising good fortune, and a good future, to the descendants of Abram, and He

is saying that others will gain good fortune through him. It can be said that all who believe in the God of Israel are consecrated with blood—the blood of Jesus Christ—through faith.

The word "blessing" is used quite often in Christian circles. When life is going well, and we have an abundance of good things around us, we say that we are "blessed." We ask God to bless our lives, to send good things our way, and we thank him for his blessings.

But the word "blessing" isn't just meant to signify something good in our lives. We may be blessed with children, with a job that we love, with a roof over our head, with good food in our refrigerators... But blessings are so much more than that. They are more than just the good things that fall into our laps like manna from heaven.

When we look at the word "blessing" in the Bible, we can conclude that the different types of blessings in the Bible all have a certain number of common characteristics.

1. A blessing in the Bible is God's favour poured into your life
2. A blessing has to do with your purpose in life.
3. A blessing is based on God's promises and on his word.
4. Blessings can be material or spiritual.
5. Blessings have to do with God's Kingdom

<https://www.christianity.com/jesus/life-of-jesus/teaching-and-messages/what-does-blessed-mean.html>

<https://outuponthewaters.com/what-is-a-blessing-in-the-bible/>

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Agape Meal or Love Feast

February 26th @ 11am—This will be during Church Service



An **agape feast** or **lovefeast** is a communal meal shared among Christians. The name comes from *agape*, a Greek term for 'love' in its broadest sense.

The Love Feast, or Agape Meal, is a Christian fellowship meal recalling the meals Jesus shared with disciples during his ministry and expressing the *koinonia* (community, sharing, fellowship) enjoyed by the family of Christ.

Although its origins in the early church are closely interconnected with the origins of the Lord's Supper, the two services became quite distinct and should not be confused with each other. While the Lord's Supper has been practically universal among Christians throughout church history, the Love Feast has appeared only at certain times and among certain denominations.

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/the-love-feast> / https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agape_feast

What Is Ash Wednesday and What Happens?

February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday is always 46 days before Easter Sunday and marks the beginning of the Lenten season. Lent is traditionally a 40-day fast — a reference to the time Jesus spent being tempted in the desert — that seeks to prepare the believer's heart for the solemn remembrance of Jesus' death. It concludes and is followed by a joyous Easter Sunday celebration of the resurrection of Christ. For more information on when Lent is, visit our [When Does Lent Start and End?](#) article.

Ash Wednesday is a penitent service that uses the ash to mark the sign of the cross on the believer's forehead, symbolizing our sinful nature and need for salvation. The Catholic church usually uses the



February
20th



Presidents' Day, also called **Washington's Birthday** at the federal governmental level, is a holiday in the United States celebrated on the third Monday of February to honor all persons who served as presidents of the United States and, since 1879, has been the federal holiday honoring George Washington, who led the Continental Army to victory in the American Revolutionary War, presided at the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and was the first U.S. president.



Meaning and History of Shrove Tuesday?

February 21, 2023

Also known as Fat Tuesday and Pancake Day, Shrove Tuesday is

the day before Ash Wednesday and the fasting Lenten season leading up to Easter. This religious holiday is observed in many Christian countries by participating in confession and absolution, the ritual burning of the previous year's Holy Week palms, finalizing one's Lenten sacrifice, as well as eating pancakes and other sweets.

According to Crosswalk.com: "The origins of Fat Tuesday/Mardi Gras first began thousands of years ago as part of uninhibited pagan festivals for fertility and spring, filled with indulgences in everything. Rome's embrace of Christianity meant the interest of incorporating Fat Tuesday into Christianity becoming a goal; thus, Fat Tuesday and all its unrestricted immorality were welcomed as part of preparing for Ash Wednesday and fasting for Lent. The event quickly spread through Europe like wildfire, and then began its journey over to the Americas. Mardi Gras arrived in the United States as a small festival marking French explorers Sieur de Bienville and Pierre Le Moyne d'Iberville's landing on what is now New Orleans, Louisiana on March 3, 1699."

Mardi Gras/Fat Tuesday

Mardi Gras refers to events of the Carnival celebration, beginning on or after the Christian feasts of the Epiphany (Three Kings Day) and culminating on the day before Ash Wednesday, which is known as Shrove Tuesday. Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday", reflecting the practice of the last night of eating rich, fatty foods before the ritual Lenten sacrifices and fasting of the Lenten season.

Related popular practices are associated with Shrovetide celebrations before the fasting and religious obligations associated with the penitential season of Lent. In countries such as the United Kingdom, Mardi Gras is more usually known as Pancake Day or (traditionally) Shrove Tuesday (derived from the word shrive, meaning "to administer the sacrament of confession to; to absolve").

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mardi_Gras

<https://www.christianity.com/wiki/holidays/what-is-shrove-tuesday-meaning-and-holiday-date.html>



Discover Your
CliftonStrengths

Gallup's Clifton Strengths Assessment

February 25, 2023 @ 11:00 am
\$20 for adults

Invited: Adults, Young Adults, Older Youths

Session members, Deacons, members, older youths and young adults are invited to discover their strengths by engaging in Gallup's Clifton Strengths Assessment.

Maybe you have wondered who you are and what makes you unique. Clifton Strengths answers, "Who Am I?" Each person will provide the necessary information and will take the Clifton Strengths Assessment and get answers for their top 5 strengths. Participants are encouraged to allow 30 minutes (no distractions) to take the survey.

Knowing this information individually is a powerful tool. We are being enabled to learn about ourselves and will have the opportunity to work with others.

As we move forward collaboratively, identifying our strengths and learning how to best work together will be a great step in our UPC'S Mission pursuits and opportunities.

Jessica Dawson, Emory and Pat Dawson's daughter, is a Strength coach. She has agreed to interpret the assessments and provide a matrix to look at the group's strengths.

We will meet on February 25, 2023 at 11:00 am to discover our Strengths. The cost for each adult is \$20. The Church will provide the funds for our youth and young people.

**You Are Unique. You Are Powerful.
Be Confident With Who You Are.**

Black History Month

The Black History Month 2023 theme, "**Black Resistance,**" explores how "African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial programs and police killings," since the nation's earliest days.

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of "Negro

History Week," the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating Black history.

Origins of Black History Month

The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States.

That September, the Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and the prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by Black Americans and other peoples of African descent.

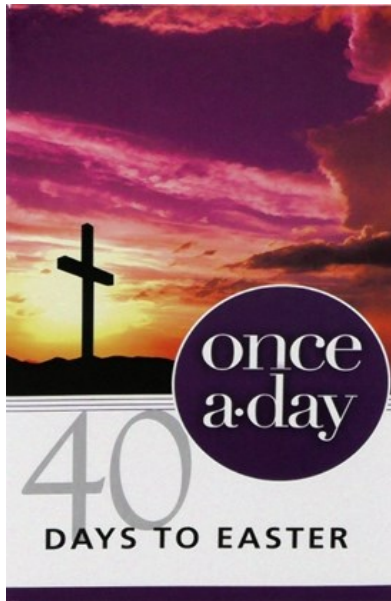
<https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-month#photo-galleries>



Join us on our journey through Lent 2023

Ash Wednesday February 22

Hybrid Service: Noon to 1:00 pm (Sanctuary and YouTube <https://bit.ly/3jyyllpg>)
Beginning of our Daily Lenten Devotions: 7:00 pm via ZOOM (<https://bit.ly/3JuXrzD>)



The book costs \$2.99 through multiple vendors.

"As you read this powerful booklet during the Lenten season, you will experience spiritual growth through interaction with Scripture from both the Old and New Testaments. The readings culminate in the Passion Week and Easter Sunday, and you will gain a greater understanding of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus as you examine critical passion narratives in the Gospels. Through your interaction with these Lenten readings, you will be a joyful witness of God's carefully orchestrated plan to redeem the world through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. These forty devotions will allow you to gain a more complete perspective on your personal relationship with Jesus and the power of his work in your life today. Written by Dr. Kenneth Boa, president of Reflections Ministries, each devotion provides thoughts for meditation and a prayer for each day, making this the perfect devotional for personal, family, or small-group use." Ninety-six pages, Kindle Edition First published February 5, 2013 ----- Goodreads

City of Plainfield—Recreation Events

For More information and activities go to: <https://bit.ly/3yvXfxK>



Every second Saturday	12:00pm	Storytime with Councilman Barry Goode every second Saturday at the Plainfield Public Library 12:00pm in the Children's Room.
Mon/Wed/Fri	9am	Walk with Ease Hub Stine Sports Complex, 1410 Randolph Road
October to December Tuesdays	6-7:-00pm	Introduction to Baton Twirling Clinton Elementary School, 1302 West 4th St. For Info: 908-753-3097
Wednesdays	6-7:-30pm	Girl Scout Troop—Heart of NJ Troop 40954 Performing Arts Center—724 Park Ave. For more info: 908-753-3097
October to December Saturdays	9-9:45am	Yoga Performing Arts Center—724 Park Ave. / For more info: 908-753-3097
Sat., Feb & Mar 2023		Interactive Stem Program (Ages 8-13) Registration are handled through the Mad Science website on a first-come, first served basis. (201) 236-1400 https://northeastnj.madscience.org/

tithes & offering

Worship the Lord in Giving



Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
[2 Corinthians 9:7](#)

THIS IS STEWARDSHIP!

Our gift, no matter how small, goes a very long way to support the church and the community.

To bless the Church with your tithes and offering you may:

1. Drop it off at the church office
2. Mail your check (not cash) to the church
3. Log in to <https://bit.ly/3oyj1J6> or
4. Go to the UPC website homepage and click on the "Give Now" button

~ Thank you ~

FEEDING THE HUNGRY

HELP STAR FISH FOOD PANTRY TO HELP YOUR NEIGHBOR

For monetary donations:

Make your check payable to Star Fish

For unexpired Food Donations

Drop off your items in the Church Office or Sanctuary or

Call Avril at 732-742-8762 if pick up is needed.

HELP SOMEONE IN NEED—GIVE!



* NEED HELP BUYING GROCERIES? *

Check to see if you are eligible for food assistance (SNAP), cash assistance (WFNJ/TANF or WFNJ/GA), and health insurance (NJ Family Care/Medicaid). From here you can apply for services or learn about additional resources.

Click on this link: <https://www.njhelps.org/>

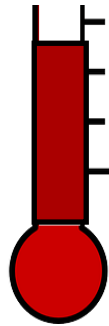
United Presbyterian Church BUILDING FUND

As of 1/30/2023 the total collected is
\$10,675



The UPC administration committee wants to be certain all UPC members and friends are aware of the establishment of the Building Fund at UPC to which contributions can be made to help defray the cost of four maintenance projects scheduled for 2022. These projects involve heating, roofing, drainage, and renovation that are essential to ensure the health and safety of the occupants of our facility.

10,675



This building fund originated in 2021. At UPC's annual meeting on Sunday February 20th a motion was made and passed for United to be more purposeful in our efforts to encourage contributions to the Building Fund. To accomplish this, UPC members and friends will be receiving a letter from United that will provide specifics of the four maintenance projects to which funds contributed to the Building Fund will be dedicated.

Contributions to the Building Fund are welcome anytime and may be accomplished in the following ways:

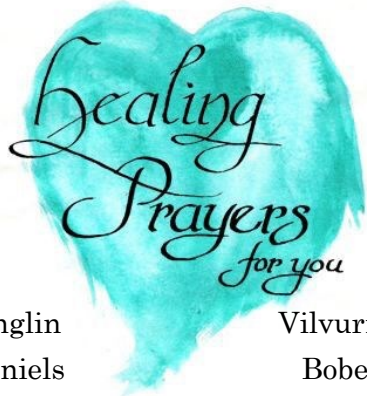
1. Sending a check, made out to the United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield, to Treasurer, 525 East Front Street, Plainfield, New Jersey 07060 with "Building Fund" written in the memo section of the check.

OR

2. Contributions can be made through the "Give Now" button located at the UPC website at www.upcplainfield.org Enter your contribution to the "General Fund Regular Offering". In the notes section indicate "Building Fund".

Wanda Breitenbach
Administration Committee, Acting Chair

Remember our brothers and sisters listed below.
Call them if you are able to.



- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Leroy Anglin | Vilvurn Marsh |
| Ronn Daniels | Bobett Neil |
| Emory Dawson | Sheila Neil |
| Karen Edmonds | Winnie Neal |
| Helen Foerster | Marianna Perry |
| O'Harold Hoots | Pat Perry |
| BJ Klikus | James Plummer |
| Frank Klikus | Gail Stokes |
| Liz Mangan | Izaiyah Stokes |

Send your Prayer requests to the Church Office
You will be placed on our prayer list



February

- 5 Tania Hemans
- 7 BJ Klikus
- 27 Kayode Falowo

March

- 1 Desirae Hemans
- 6 George Hansen
- 14 Helena Pfeifer
- 16 Wanda Breitenbach
- 17 Rev. Dottie Morris
- 21 Tom Robinson
- 24 Alaric Tate

Flower Ministry

With your donation of \$25 or more to the Flower Fund, the Deacons will provide a beautiful floral arrangement for the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings. After worship, the arrangement will also brighten the day of a member or friend of UPC who is unable to join us for worship.

Flowers may be made in honor or memory of a loved one. Honoree names will be listed in the church bulletin.

You may complete the form below or add your information to the flower chart in the Narthex.



*Blessings,
Zorina Bowers*

Name: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Amount: _____

In Memory of: _____

Thank you for your generous support of
UPC's Flower Ministry

Board of Deacons



Ms. Amy Grier, a UPC Member, is the stage manager for the Dreamhouse production "Blues For An Alabama Sky" that will be held at the Plainfield Performing Arts Center on March 25th and 26th. Let's support her.

Dreamhouse Theater Productions

"Blues for An Alabama Sky"

By Pearl Cleage

March 25, 2023 | 2PM & 7:30PM

March 26, 2023 | 3PM

PLAINFIELD PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER

724 Park Avenue, Plainfield, NJ

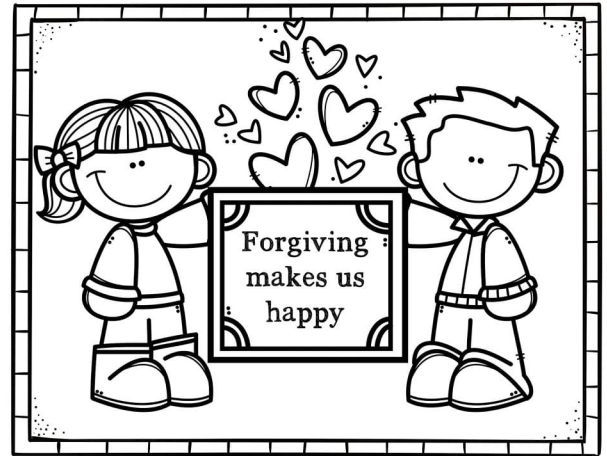
Tickets - \$20 | Available At
Dreamhousetheater.org Or Call

Email dreamhousetheatre@gmail.com Or Text
(908)-219-7745 For Information and Details

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Parents, please read this to your younger child(ren)

Forgiving and Forgiven



- Theme:** Forgiving and forgiven
- Object:** Offering envelope or \$5 bill, Construction paper heart,
Washable marker that contrasts with the heart,
Contact paper or laminator, Small tub of soapy water OR wet paper towel or wipes
- Scripture:** Matthew 5:21-37

(Cut out a construction paper heart. Then laminate it or cover it with Contact paper, trimming the edges to just around the heart.)

I'm sure you all know what this is. (Hold up your offering envelope.) It is my offering envelope. Every week I bring an offering as a gift to God -- it is a very important part of our worship. Most of you have probably brought your offering today too. There are many places in the Bible that teach us the importance of presenting an offering to God, but the truth is that God is more interested in what's in our heart than He is in what's in our hand. (Show kids the heart.)

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "If you are presenting your offering to God and you remember that you have said something that hurt another person, leave your gift at the altar and go and ask forgiveness from that person. Then come back and offer your gift to God."

Before we give our offering today, perhaps we should ask ourselves a few questions. Have I been angry with someone this week? (Scribble on the heart.) Have I had any arguments lately? (Scribble on the heart.) Have I called someone a bad name? (Scribble on the heart.) Have I said something about someone that wasn't true? (Scribble on the heart.)

What happened to our heart? (Allow responses.)

If we have hurt someone, we should ask God to forgive us and we should go to the person we have hurt and ask them to forgive us. (Wipe the scribbles off the heart.) When we have done that, God will be pleased with our heart and with our offering.

PRAYER

Dear God, sometimes we say things in anger that hurt other people. Help us to guard against hateful and hurtful words and forgive us as we ask those we have hurt to forgive us as well. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

Forgiving And Forgiven Word Search

Forgiving and Forgiven

"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift."

Matthew 5:23-24

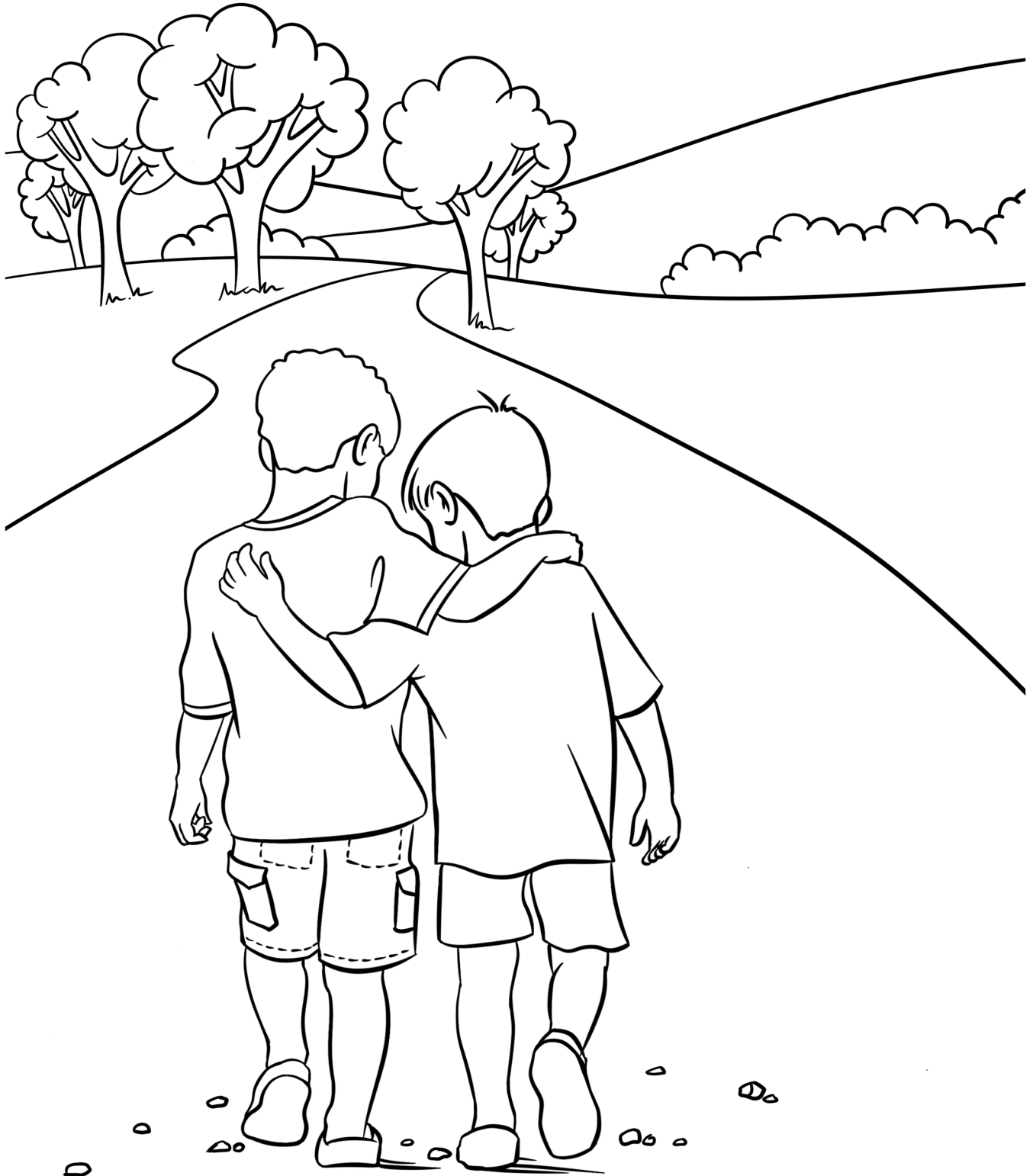
Based on Matthew 5:21-24



R X M T R D A N G E R B R Y O
F V I E B C D A D K V R E J Y
P X S U X P R A X J Q O C D I
K A G W P N J E L A X T O P K
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X X B A A M U R D E R Y E J K

ALTAR	ANGRY	PEOPLE	REMEMBER	MURDER
OFFERING	FIRST	FOOL	JUDGEMENT	GIFT
BROTHER	HELL	DANGER	RECONCILED	FIRE

Forgiving Others Coloring Page



ALL MEMBERS

PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT

Never too Late!

Your annual Per Capita is \$40.00 and is shared by the General Assembly, The Synod of the Northeast, The Presbytery of the Northeast. Per Capita is a member assessment used to fund the operating expenses of the governing bodies. (Book of Order; G-9.0404 d). Mark your check or envelope "Per Capita".

Consider paying more than your share to help cover the cost of others who are unable to pay

Important:

Deadline is the 20th of each month for the Newsletter. Leave your news in the Church Office or email it to upcnews525@gmail.com

Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday to Friday
9:00am to 1:00pm

Please call the Church Office for an Appointment
or to contact the Pastor

Session Members

Al Tate (Clerk)
Emory Dawson
Patricia Dawson
Avril Lecky
Marcia Marsh-Hinds

Newsletter

Newsletter Editors

Avril Lecky
George Hansen
Hugh Lecky
James Plummer

Contributors

Pastor Allegra Hoots
Patricia Dawson
Wanda Breitenbach

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Email: upchurch@aol.com
Stewardship: upcplainfield525@gmail.com
Newsletter: upcnews525@gmail.com
Church website: <http://upcplainfield.org>
Telephone No.: (908) 756-2666

Church Administrators

Pastor Allegra Hoots
Director of Music: Mr. Ronn Daniels
Administrative Assistant:
Mr. Davaughn Hoots
Custodian: Mr. Charles Rivers

Board of Deacons

Helen Foerster - Moderator
Daniel Bofah
Thelma Fleming
Virginia Hansen
Desirae Hemans (in training)
Tania Hemans (in training)
Maggie Anglin (Volunteer)
Zorina Bowers (Volunteer)


To contact the deacons for assistance
Call the church office at 908-756-2666

**If you have information that you would like to
share, send them to
upcnews525@gmail.com**

United Presbyterian Church

525 East Front Street • Plainfield, NJ 07060 • 908-756-2666 • <http://upcplainfield.org>

February 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
Computer Logon Info — Sunday Worship: https://bit.ly/3jyylpg Lenten Studies: https://bit.ly/3JuXrzD			6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm Contemporary Worship Service	6-6:15am Daily Devotion	6-6:15am Daily Devotion
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11am Worship Service In-person/Livestream Communion Service	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm Contemporary Worship Service	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 10am Administration Mtg
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11am Worship Service In-person/Livestream Youth Sunday	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:30pm Session Mtg	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm Contemporary Worship Service	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
11am Worship Service In-person/Livestream ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion Shrove Tuesday 7-9:00pm	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion ASH WEDNESDAY 12PM SERVICE 7:00PM STUDIES	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTION 11AM STRENGTH-WORKSHOP
26	27	28				
11am Worship Service In-person/Livestream AGAPE MEAL 7:00pm	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS				

NOTE:

CALENDAR EVENTS MAY CHANGE BASED ON THE STATES POLICY ON GROUP MEETING. THE CALENDAR REFLECTS REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE. **CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.**

Communion & Deacon Sunday — 1st Sunday Monthly

Youth Sunday — 2nd Sunday monthly

Dedication Sunday — 4th Sunday Monthly

Committee Meetings (unless stated otherwise):

2nd Saturday @ 10:00am: Administration Meeting

3rd Wednesday @ 7:30pm: Session Meeting

If you would like to be a member on any committee or help with any project, call the Church Office at 908-756-2666.

United Presbyterian Church

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March 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Computer Logon Info — Sunday Worship: https://bit.ly/3jyyjlg Lenten Studies: https://bit.ly/3JuXrzD </div>			6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6-6:15am Daily Devotion	6-6:15am Daily Devotion
			7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream Communion Service	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion INT'L WOMEN'S DAY 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 10am Admini Mtg 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11am Worship Service In-person/Livestream Youth Sunday DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:30pm Session Mtg 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion ST. PATRICK'S DAY 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS
26	27	28	29	30	31	
11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream Dedication Sunday 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion 7:00pm LENTEN DEVOTIONS	

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525 East Front Street
Plainfield, NJ 07060

Where God is exalted, Everyone matters, and You belong!