



# 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 belong!**

March 2020

11:00 a.m. Worship ~ 10:00 a.m. Adult Education

## Message from Pastor Allegra Hoots

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings in the blessed name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Since we are soon embarking on the season of Lent, it occurred to me to provide you with a brief outline of the history and purpose of Lent.

### What is Lent?

Lent is a solemn period of forty days that Christians observe every year just before Easter. The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday and continues until Easter Sunday.

### What is the Purpose of Lent?

The Lenten Season is a time set aside by Christians to spend more time than usual, reflecting on their relationship with God and God's great love for humankind as expressed in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Some theologians consider Lent the time of preparing to observe the magnitude of Good Friday and celebrate Resurrection Sunday (Easter). Others posit Lent is a time set aside for individual Christians and the body of

Christ to collectively remember their mortality and God's sovereignty. (I suggest the two thoughts are intricately connected.)

### When did Lent Start?

It is believed that Christians have observed Lent since the days of the apostles.

### What Practices Mark Lent?

Fasting and other sacrifices, praying, doing good deeds, and meditating on Scripture, are common practices Christians observe during Lent.

Although, I have asked the congregation to fast with me for our spiritual growth, please do not feel compelled to abstain from eating. Seek the face of God and ask God to show you what to sacrifice during the somber forty-day journey from where you are to where you want to be in your walk as a disciple of Christ.

Peace and blessings,

*Pastor Hoots*

### A Lenten Prayer -

God of grace and mercy guide us as we embark on the forty-day journey of Lent. Help us worship you in spirit and truth, so our rituals are not in vain. When we get weak and want to give up, strengthen us to press forward. We are the sheep of your pasture. At the conclusion of this Lenten journey, let us be more like you. In the words of the psalmist, "Create in [ each of us ] a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within [us]." ( Psalm 51:10, KJV). In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

**Sunday Morning Worship  
& Treasurer Hour for Youth**

Sunday Mornings at 11:00am  
Pastor Allegra Hoots  
**JOIN US!**



**Adult Education  
10:00am Sundays**

Topic "Justice and the Prophets"  
Instructor: Elder Al Tate

(March through May)  
NO CLASS MARCH 1ST

Upcoming Events

**Lenten Study—March 3rd to April 16th  
Tuesdays @ 2-4pm & Thursdays @ 6:30-8:30pm**

**What - A seven-week Lenten Study that takes participants through the Gospel of Matthew.  
Purpose - The purpose of the Lenten Study is to nurture spiritual growth and strength through the daily reading and reflecting on a common Scripture, and to increase fellowship by gathering weekly to discuss the readings and share a simple meal.**

**March**

Date	Time	Event
1	12:30pm	Congregational Budget Meeting
7	10:00am	Administration Meeting
8	11:00am	Youth Sunday
	12:30pm	Deacon's Meeting
15	12:30	Annual Congregational Meeting
19	7:30pm	Board of Session Meeting
22	11:00am	Vendor Appreciation

**April**

Date	Time	Event
10	6:00pm	Good Friday with Jazz (Concert)
11	10:30am	Easter Egg Hunt
12	11:00am	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>
16	7:30pm	Board of Session Meeting

See calendars for more activities and events



**SAVE THE DATE**

**UPC CHURCH RETREAT**

**Saturday, May 2nd, 2020  
10am to 3pm**

## ***Good Friday with Jazz***

*Featuring*

***Tulivu-Donna Cumberbatch  
and her Magnificent Jazz Trio  
from the heart of Brooklyn, NY.***

***Friday, April 10, 2020 @ 6:00 pm***

***United Presbyterian Church  
Sanctuary (enter from rear parking lot)***

*Tulivu's songs have inspired and entertained thousands  
over a period spanning 30 years.*

*Inspired by her father, the great saxophonist Harold Cumberbatch,  
Tulivu's voice has been heard in venues around the world.*

Read more at <http://tulivu.com/>

***Donation: The event is FREE. A free will offering is appreciated.***



**The Easter Egg** is a symbol of fertility, rebirth and resurrection. The tradition of decorating eggs dates back to 2,500 years ago when ancient Persians painted eggs for Nowrooz, their New Year celebration on the spring equinox.

The egg is widely used as a symbol of springtime and the start of new life, just as new life emerges from an egg when the chick hatches out.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Easter\\_egg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Easter_egg)

## ***Annual Easter Egg Hunt***

**Saturday, April 11th**

**10:30am to Noon**

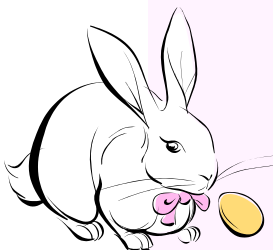
Games

Egg Hunt

Refreshments

Children ages 3 to 11

Rain or shine ~ more info call 908-756-2666



**The Easter Bunny** is a symbol of the annual Christian holiday of Easter. (Easter marks the day that Jesus of Nazareth is believed to have risen from the grave after his crucifixion.) According to tradition, the Easter Bunny makes his visit every year, scattering brightly-colored eggs as he goes. The origins of the Easter Bunny aren't clear; the first recorded references to him are generally agreed to have come from Germany in the 1500s. In ancient times the rabbit was a symbol of fertility, equated with springtime and renewal of life, and the hare was also associated with the moon, whose cycles determine the precise date of Easter each year.

*Welcome to our newest member*

**Ms. Amy Grier (center)**  
was received as a member of UPC by  
Pastor Hoots and Elder Aleric Tate.

**1 Corinthians 12:27-28** New International Version (NIV)

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.



**Welcome Lunch for UPC's new Pastor**



Left to right: Ms. Danielle Greene, Rev. Campbell, Pastor Hoots, Ms. Pat Perry

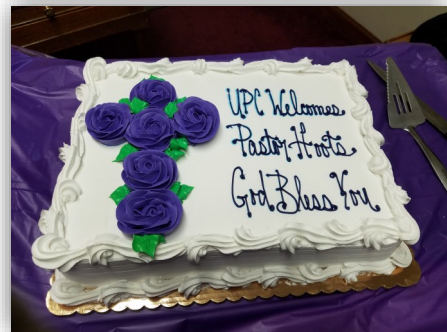


Rev. Jeremy Campbell (left-front), Rev. Glaspy (second from left), Pastor Allegra Hoots (right) and friends.



Left to right: Ms. Joanne Edwards, Pastor Hoots, Elder Aleric Tate

Dear Congregation, Thank you for the appreciation, love, and support you have shown in welcoming me as your newly commissioned Transitional Pastor. Your warm greetings, and offers of well wishes, coupled with your spirit of cooperation, are deeply appreciated. The luncheon was awesome—the food was delicious and the fellowship was affirming. Once again, thanks for your thoughtfulness! Peace and blessings,  
Pastor Hoots



## Inter-Presbytery Mingling Dinner Party

Shared by the Presbyterian of Elizabeth



Join the Presbyteries of Newark, Elizabeth, and Palisades for a fun night out to get to know one another as we embark on a new journey of faith.

The event will be held at the Montclair Art Museum, 3 South Mountain Avenue, Montclair, NJ, 07042.

Dinner will be served. There is on-site parking. Please register by Friday, March 6, 2020 at <https://newarkpresbytery.org/events/lets-get-to-know-one-another/>

[REGISTRATION FORM  
https://newarkpresbytery.org/lets-get-to-know-one-another-  
registration/](https://newarkpresbytery.org/lets-get-to-know-one-another-registration/)

There is no charge for this event; however, should you wish to make a free-will offering, a basket will be available.



### Church Administrators

**Pastor Allegra Hoots**  
**Director of Music:** Ronn Daniels  
**Executive Assistant:** Pat Perry  
**Sexton:** Sue Terry

### Session Members (Elders)

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

### Board of Deacons

Helen Foerster - Moderator

Maggie Anglin  
Daniel Bofah  
Kayode Falowo  
Thelma Fleming  
Virginia Hansen

Desirae Hemans (in training)  
Tania Hemans (in training)

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

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

### Schedule of Pastor's Office Hours

Monday	1:30 – 4:30
Tuesday Friday	8:30 – 4:30
Saturday	12:00—4:00

**Call for an appointment**



**March**

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

**April**

- 5 Ebere Awobue
- Zorina Bowers
- 18 Jean Scott
- Mark Mettle
- 20 Kevin Scott
- Ronn Daniels

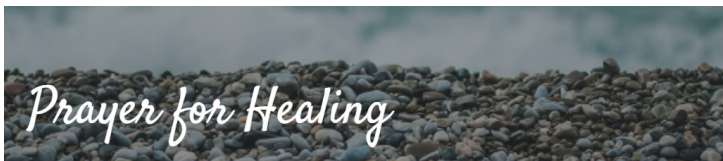
**Give to the Flower Ministry**

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*



- Carl Foerster
- Helen Foerster
- Barbara Hyney
- BJ Klikus
- Frank Klikus



- Gail Stokes
- Izaiyah Stokes
- Jamie Sweeney

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

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



Remind us often Lord,  
when we are feeling proud, arrogant,  
beyond reproach,  
pleased with ourselves,  
self sufficient in our ways,  
that for such as us  
and better  
and worse  
you walked a road  
that took you to a cruel cross,  
and rose again to show us where  
we might look for rescue  
as from this lofty perch  
we fall.

<https://www.cromer-church.org.uk/prayer/seasonal-resources/prayer-resources-for-lent?start=5>

**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

June 2020 will be the 195th Anniversary of United Presbyterian Church.

How would you like to celebrate this milestone anniversary?

Let one of your Session Members know.

1825

2020

**Black History Month Skit**



**Elder Marcia Marsh Hines**, presented a Black History Month Skit to the congregation highlighting a small part of the life of Paul Bogle one of the National Heroes of Jamaica, W.I.

**Paul Bogle** (1820-1865), a Jamaican Baptist deacon and activist. He marched for justice and fair treatment for the people in Jamaica. Bogle was appointed deacon of Stony Gut Baptist Church in 1864. Conditions were hard for black peasants due to social discrimination, flooding, crop failure and epidemics. Bogle concentrated on improving the conditions of the poor. Bogle led a group of small farmers hoping to meet with the Governor to discuss their issues, but they were denied.

The box on the floor includes and represents some of the local produce of Jamaica that some of the farmers may have harvested.

**Star Fish Food Pantry**

Please provide a non perishable, unexpired item to Star Fish. Your donation will go to help those in need. All items are accepted but the following are especially needed:

Everything, plus—Jelly, Peanut Butter, Pasta Sauce, Bars of bath soap  
Place your items in the box in the narthex.



**2020 PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT**

Your annual Per Capita is \$45.00 and is shared as follows: General Assembly \$8.95, The Synod of the Northeast \$4.10, The Presbytery of Elizabeth \$31.95. Per Capita is a member assessment used to fund the operating expenses of governing bodies. (Book of Order; G-9.0404 d).

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

UPC Newsletter		CONTACT INFORMATION	
<p><b>Editors</b> Avril Lecky James Plummer George Hansen Pat Perry Hugh Lecky Pastor Allegra Hoots</p>	<p><b>Contributor(s)</b> Emory Dawson</p>	<p>Church Email: <a href="mailto:upcplainfield525@gmail.com">upcplainfield525@gmail.com</a> Newsletter info: <a href="mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com">upcnews525@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>Church website: <a href="http://upcplainfield.org">http://upcplainfield.org</a> Telephone No.: (908) 756-2666</p>

**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](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com)

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## March 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 11am Worship Communion Sunday Congregational Budget Mtg	2	3 11:30am Seniors Exercise Class  Lenten Study 2:00-4:00pm	4 7pm A/A	5 10:00am Seniors Exercise Class  Lenten Study 6:30-8:30	6	7 7pm A/A
8 10am Adult Education 11am Worship - SCOUT SUNDAY Lunch follows 12:30 Deacons Mtg	9	10 11:30am Seniors Exercise Class  Lenten Study 2:00-4:00pm	11 7pm A/A	12 10:00am Seniors Exercise Class  Lenten Study 6:30-8:30pm	13	14 7pm A/A
15 10am Adult Education 11am Worship Congregational Annual Mtg 7:30pm A/A	16	17 11:30am Seniors Exercise Class  Lenten Study 2:00-4:00pm	18 7pm A/A	19 10:00am Seniors Exercise Class  Lenten Study 6:30-8:30pm 7:30pm Session Mtg	20	21 7pm A/A
22 10am Adult Education 11am Worship Vendor Appreciation 7:30pm A/A	23	24 11:30am Seniors Exercise Class  Lenten Study 2:00-4:00pm	25 7pm A/A	26 10:00am Seniors Exercise Class  Lenten Study 6:30-8:30pm	27	28 7pm A/A
29 10am Adult Education 11am Worship 7:30pm A/A	30	31 11:30am Seniors Exercise Class  Lenten Study 2:00-4:00pm				

The calendar reflects regularly occurring events and subject to change. Check with the Church Office for changes

### Committee Meetings (unless stated otherwise):

Communion & Deacon Sunday—1st Sunday Monthly

Youth Sunday—2nd Sunday monthly

Dedication Sunday—4th Sunday Monthly

2nd Sunday following Worship: Deacons Meeting

3rd Thursday: 7:30pm Session Meeting



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## April 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
			1 7pm A/A	2 10:00am Seniors Exercise Class	3	4 7pm A/A
5 10am Adult Education 11am Worship  7:30pm A/A	6 7:30pm Boy Scouts	7 11:30am Seniors Exercise Class	8 7pm A/A	9 10:00am Seniors Exercise Class  <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>	10 <b>6:00pm Good Friday with Jazz</b>	11 <b>10:30 Easter Egg Hunt</b> 7pm A/A
12 <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 10am Adult Education 11am Worship - Youth Sunday  7:30pm A/A	13 7:30pm Boy Scouts	14 11:30am Seniors Exercise Class	15 7pm A/A	16 10:00am Seniors Exercise Class  7:30pm Session Mtg	17	18 7pm A/A
19 10am Adult Education 11am Worship  7:30pm A/A	20 7:30pm Boy Scouts	21 11:30am Seniors Exercise Class	22 7pm A/A	23 10:00am Seniors Exercise Class	24	25 7pm A/A
26 10am Adult Education 11am Worship Sunday School  7:30pm A/A	27 7:30pm Boy Scouts	28 11:30am Seniors Exercise Class	29 7pm A/A	30 10:00am Seniors Exercise Class  Lenten Study 6:30-8:30		

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