

# Welcome 2024

# 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!**

**Worship Services: Sunday 11:00 am & Thursdays 7:30**

**January 2024 Newsletter**



Dear Friends,

## ***Happy New Year!***

Greetings to you in the holy name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our blessed Redeemer. As always, I hope this message finds you in good health, rejoicing in the joy of the Lord, and continuing to grow in your knowledge of godliness.

Like many others, Christians are beginning to make New Year's resolutions, those well-intended strategies for developing or enhancing areas of our lives. Many will plan to improve their physical, emotional, and spiritual health. Others will commit to working diligently to be more present in the lives of those who love them. Some will pledge to curtail their spending and get their finances in order. Others will promise to grow their faith by engaging more regularly in the spiritual disciplines – praying, studying Scripture, attending worship service, fasting, and doing charitable works. Others will pull out their fancy daily planners from previous years and determine to bring the plans previously made to fruition.

Whatever your thoughts for making changes during the new year, consider beginning with Proverbs 3: 5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not depend on your own understanding. And in all your ways acknowledge God, and God will make your paths straight."

Pick a day during the first week of the new year to read and meditate on the passage. Begin by asking God to help you apply his word to your life. Then, read the passage three times (you may find it helpful to read it in three different translations). Underline, highlight, or jot down the phrases you found particularly meaningful.

Then, pray about your resolutions. Try whittling your list down to one or two things. Once you have done that, ask God to help you develop realistic strategies to achieve your goals. End with prayer by thanking God for the reassurance that he will help you accomplish your objectives. Do not be afraid to revise your goals and strategies.

Each day, review your resolutions and the strategies for fulfilling them. If you miss a day or fail to complete a task, start over, knowing God cares for you (1 Peter 5:7) and will help you get back on track.

Well, friends, that is all for now. May the peace of Christ rule our hearts and strengthen us to run the good race that glorifies God through our good works until Christ calls us home.

Peace, blessings, and Godspeed!

*Pastor Allegra*

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

### Sunday Worship Service

Pastor Allegra Hoots  
11:00am  
In the Sanctuary & Via YouTube  
(<https://bit.ly/3jyy1pg>)



### Contemporary Worship Service

Thursdays @ 7:30pm—Via YouTube\*  
<https://bit.ly/3J7whly>

### Daily Devotional

Daily @ 6:00am to 6:15am—Via Zoom  
(<https://bit.ly/40BeoBK>)

Sundays @ 10:00 am

Children and Young Adults —The Hansen Room  
Adults —The Lind Room

Parents, consider dropping your children off and then joining the adult group for interesting conversations based on teachings from the Bible.

### Upcoming Events

See calendars for more activities and events

January			February		
Date	Time	Event	Date	Time	Event
1		New Year's Day			<b>Black History Month</b>
6		Epiphany	10	10:00am	Administration Committee Meeting
7		Baptism of Jesus	11		Transfiguration of our Lord
13	10:00am	Administration Committee Meeting	19		Presidents Day
15		Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday	21	7:30pm	Session Meeting
17	7:30pm	Joint Session & Deacons Meeting			
18-25		Week of Prayer for Christian Unity			

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

## Epiphany

Christians celebrate it on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 12 days after Christmas Day

*Epiphany is a time of revelation. Jesus revealed himself to the Israelites and the Gentiles as represented by the Wise Men. God doesn't play favorites but receives all whose hearts long for him.*

### What is Epiphany?

Epiphany means "appearance or manifestation." Many countries refer to it as "Three Kings Day." On this day, Western Christianity recognizes Christ's manifestation to the Gentiles who were represented when The Magi (wise men) visited the child Jesus and showed how God's gift of the Good News is for everyone. Eastern Christianity observes Jesus' baptism on this day. His baptism revealed his identity to mankind. Epiphany celebrates God revealing himself to the world.

To understand Epiphany's origin, we need to look at the Church Calendar's history:

*First century:* The earliest Christians set aside one day a week as the Lord's Day. We observe this day on Sunday.

*Second century,* they established Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. Lent was a period of time set aside for penitence and the training of new Christians. Easter observed Christ's death and celebrated His Resurrection, followed by Pentecost, where the church focused on triumph and victory.

*Third century,* the early Church leaders established Epiphany which celebrates and recognizes Christ's birth, baptism, the adoration of magi, and the first miracle at Cana.

*Fourth century* early Christians began observing Christmas and Advent. Christmas became the time to celebrate Jesus' birth. Advent is the four-week period of time before Christmas which is used to prepare hearts to receive Jesus.

***The Church Year begins at Advent.*** From Advent through Pentecost, Christians concentrated on the life and work of Christ. This six-month period covers all six major events: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. For the rest of the year the church year focuses on the teachings of Christ and their applications to the Christian life. The ultimate purpose of the church calendar ensured that Christians covered the entire Gospel in the course of a year.

### ***History and Traditions of Epiphany***

Since epiphany means manifestation, early celebrations honored any of the four manifestations of Christ. His birth, the adoration of the Magi, Jesus' baptism, and the first miracle at Cana, where Jesus turned water into wine.

These four manifestations reveal God to mankind. At his birth, the angels bore witness, and the shepherds, representing Israel, bowed before Jesus. The visit of the Magi revealed Jesus to the Gentiles. The Holy Spirit descended at His baptism, and God declared Jesus' identity. The first miracle at the Wedding in Cana revealed Jesus' divinity over nature. God disclosed himself to humankind through the person of Jesus. He made himself known so we might know him.

Do All Christians Celebrate Epiphany/Three Kings Day?

Not all Christians celebrate Three Kings Day, but many do. Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Anglicans, and Eastern Orthodox Christians observe Three Kings Day. Whether someone celebrates Epiphany depends on their own personal choice or whether or not their church observes it. Either way, it is a great way to close out the Christmas season and turn our hearts toward keeping Jesus at the center of our lives.

<https://www.christianity.com/wiki/holidays/is-epiphany-three-kings-day-a-biblical-holiday.html>

### ***A Time of Revelation***

***May we open our hearts to receive revelation from God this year. May we rejoice with those who rejoice and mourn with those who mourn. May we reveal the reason for which we have hope and celebrate the epiphany of the Lord in our lives.***

### **Isaiah 60:1-6**

- <sup>1</sup> Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- <sup>2</sup> For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;

- but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.
- <sup>3</sup> Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

## The Baptism of Jesus

January 7th, 2024

### The Baptism of Jesus

<sup>13</sup> Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. <sup>14</sup> But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

<sup>15</sup> Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

<sup>16</sup> As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

#### PRAYER:

God of all wilderness wanderers, you sent John to prepare the way for Jesus Christ, your beloved son. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so that, like John, we may proclaim the time to turn from sinfulness and the good news of your grace; through Christ, the water of life.

Mark 1:4-11 / Year B

The baptism of Jesus, the ritual purification of Jesus with water by John the Baptist, was a major event described in the three synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) of the New Testament. It is considered to have taken place at Al-Maghtas, today located in Jordan.

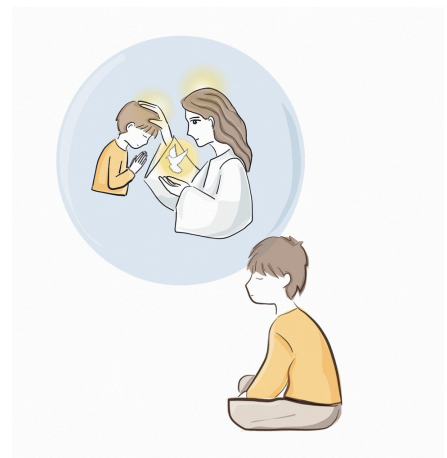
At the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus presents himself to John to be baptized in the Jordan. The heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends as a dove and we hear the voice of God: "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased" (see Psalm 2:7).

#### God's rule inaugurated

An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 148)

The Baptism of the Lord is closely related to Epiphany and should be considered in relation to that feast. Jesus' ministry to bring in God's rule was inaugurated in his baptism. As he came out of the water, the Spirit rested on Jesus and a sign of God's approval was heard. On this day, we celebrate not only Jesus' baptism but our own as well, for our baptism is rooted in Christ. Baptism joins us to Christ and his church, and with all of the baptized we are called to share in Jesus' ministry. In the waters of baptism we are buried with Christ, cleansed of our sins, and raised to share in his resurrection. The Spirit is given to us and we are declared the children of God.

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/baptism-lord/>

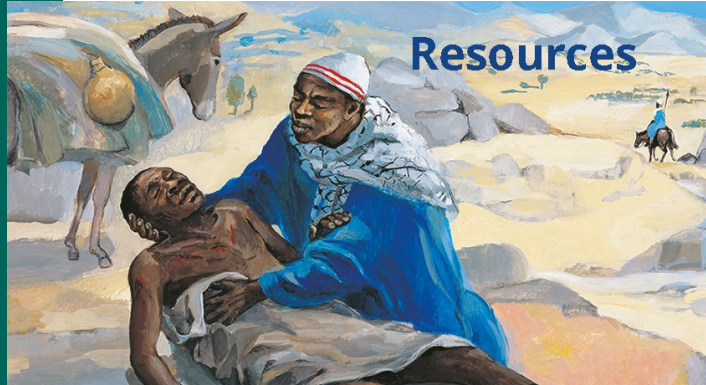


## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Thu, Jan 18, 2024 – Thu, Jan 25, 2024

**2024: ‘You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself’ - Luke 10:27**

For the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024, The World Council of Churches and the Christian Churches in Burkina Faso selected the theme and drafted prayers and reflections. This theme highlights the call for charity, mercy, justice, and unity in inter-communal relations.



JESUS MAFA. The Good Samaritan, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

“As we renew our commitment to this call, may this love strengthen our unity as Christians.” The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an international Christian ecumenical observance kept annually around Pentecost in the Southern Hemisphere and between 18-25 January in the Northern Hemisphere.

The parable of the Good Samaritan is one of the best known passages of Scripture, yet one that never seems to lose its power to challenge indifference to suffering and to inspire solidarity. It is a story about crossing boundaries that calls our attention to the bonds that unite the whole human family.

In choosing this passage of Scripture for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the churches of Burkina Faso have invited us to join with them in a process of self-reflection as they consider what it means to love our neighbor in the midst of a security crisis. Communities in the British-Irish context may be less vulnerable to acts of mass violence than in Burkina Faso, but there are still many living with the memory and/or the threat of serious violence, centered on issues of identity and belonging. There are also groups within communities, including people from ethnic minority backgrounds and people seeking asylum, who feel particularly vulnerable to violence or being displaced by the threat of violence.

<https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2024/>





As we witness nations around the world continue to struggle under the weight of violence, hate and poverty, today's social, political and economic landscape reveals the urgent necessity of Dr. King's philosophy and methodology of Nonviolence.

Martin Luther King, Jr. was the chief spokesperson for nonviolent activism in the Civil Rights Movement, which protested racial discrimination in federal and state law. The campaign for a federal holiday in King's honor began soon after his assassination in 1968.

**MLK Day of Service**

The national "Martin Luther King, Jr., National Day of Service" was started by former Pennsylvania U.S. Senator Harris Wofford and Atlanta Congressman John Lewis, who co-authored the King Holiday and Service Act,, a federal legislation that challenges Americans to transform the King Holiday into a day of citizen action volunteer service in honor of King. The federal legislation was signed into law on August 23, 1994. Since 1996, Wofford's former state office director, Todd Bernstein, has been directing the annual Greater Philadelphia King Day of Service, the largest event in the nation honoring King.

Since 1994, the day of service has been coordinated nationally by AmeriCorps, a federal agency, which provides grants to organizations that coordinate service activities on MLK Day.

The only other official national day of service in the U.S., as designated by the government, is September 11 National Day of Service (9/11 Day).



President Barack Obama serving lunch at a Washington soup kitchen on MLK Jr. Day, 2010

<https://nationaltoday.com/martin-luther-king-day/>



“  
*Every day  
is a new  
opportunity  
to change  
your life.*

**2024 UPC's Liturgists**

A liturgist assists the pastor in leading worship. They may lead congregational participation such as the Call to Worship and the Opening Prayer. Their role is outlined by the Pastor.

January	George Hansen
February	Bola Falowo
March	Al Tate
April	Jean Scott
May	Pat Dawson
June	Avril Lecky
July	Daniel Bofah
August	JoAnn Edwards
September	Marcia Marsh Hinds
October	Sue Terry
November	Liz Mangan
December	Yetunde Falowo

## UPC at AristaCare Norwood Terrace — Weekly Worship Service



Left Circle: Pastor Hoots (seated); George Hansen (standing behind her)  
Ginni Hansen is standing among the residents; Davaughn (not shown because he was taking pictures).

Ginni Hansen, a longtime and dedicated UPC deacon, is pictured assisting residents of AristaCare Norwood Terrace on December 18, 2023, during the weekly worship service that Pastor Hoots has conducted at the facility for the past five years. George, Ginni's husband, and Davaughn Hoots also participated in the service. They delivered personal hygiene gifts to the twenty-five residents who regularly attend the UPC weekly worship service held at the facility.

### **I Peter 4:10-11**

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord."

## 5 Ways to Exercise Your Bones

And keep your bones and body strong By - PAMELA PEEKE, M.D.

BEGINNING IN our 30s, we experience a gradual decline in bone mineral density, losing about 1 percent each year. But there's evidence that if you are physically active on a regular basis, you can optimize your bone health throughout your life, says Wendy Kohrt, distinguished professor of medicine in the Division of Geriatric Medicine at the University of Colorado. Any movement that causes you to fight against gravity by standing up and moving is good for your bones. But if you want to amp up the protection, these five exercises will help keep you—and your bones—strong for life.

### PUSH UPS

You can do these against a wall, on bent knees or on the floor. Extend your arms and put your hands shoulderwidth apart on the surface in front of you. Tighten your abs, then bend your arms, lowering your torso toward the surface. Push yourself back up. Perform the exercise 3 to 5 times, rest, and repeat for a second set.



### SQUATS

You don't have to do a deep squat for this exercise to be effective. Stand with your feet hipwidth apart, then bend at the knees to slowly squat down. (Rest your hand on a sturdy object if you need extra balance.) Squat as far as you can, but don't let your butt get below your knees. At the bottom of the movement, tighten your buttocks and use your butt and thigh muscles to return to a standing position. Repeat 8 to 12 times.



### WALK AND STOMP

Bones are stimulated when they're jolted, something that doesn't happen on your typical stroll. Running and hiking will fit the bill, but if walking is more your speed, consider a walk-and-stomp routine: While walking, stomp each foot 2 or 3 times every 10 steps or so, imagining you are crushing a can. (BTW: Walking on real ground requires you to lift and push off with your legs in a way that's much more beneficial than using a treadmill.)



### CLIMB STAIR



Stair climbing increases bone density, particularly in postmenopausal women, because it forces your body to resist gravity as you climb while strengthening the leg and hip muscles that support your pelvic bones. Use a handrail as needed—and consider adding an occasional stomp for more bone stimulation.

### HIP-LEG LIFTS

This exercise strengthens the muscles around your hip bones, which are vulnerable to fracture, and can help to improve balance. To begin, place your hand on a counter or against a wall for balance, and set your feet hip-width apart. Shift your weight onto your left foot, then straighten your right leg and lift it out in front of you until your right foot is about 6 inches off the floor. Do a set of 8 to 12 lifts, then shift your weight to your right foot and repeat the motion with your left leg.



Pam M. Peeke, M.D., is a member of the Board of Trustees, American College of Sports Medicine.

<https://www.aarp.org/health/healthy-living/info-2023/exercises-for-bone-health.html>

Good health  
is not something we can buy.  
However, it can be an  
*extremely valuable*  
savings account.”





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



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

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



**January**

- 6 Bola Falowo
- 15 Izaiyah Stokes
- 17 Christopher Lecky
- 19 Jessica Dawson
- Stanley Awobue
- 21 Madison Darius

**February**

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



**Passing of Elizabeth Kamis**

Elizabeth Kamis, a long time member of The United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield, passed away on December 7th at the age of 92. She was active in the choir and was a very popular Youth Group leader in the 1960's. She is survived by her husband Richard who lives in Hendersonville, NC.

**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*

## tithes & offering

Worship the Lord in Giving



### 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/>

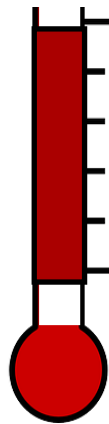
## United Presbyterian Church BUILDING FUND

As of 12/29/2023 the total collected is \$13,543



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 the maintenance of the facility which ensures the health and safety of the occupants of our facility.

13,543



This building fund originated in 2021. Our facility was built in 1952 and, despite our faithful maintenance efforts, the facility is showing the signs of 71 years of wear and tear. The performance of our investment accounts, collection of rental fees and the faithful and generous giving our members and friends have provided the funds for our maintenance.

Our maintenance costs, however, are mounting to a point where we need to continue our appeal to the generosity of our church community and friends. Whether a UPC member or a friend of United, we ask that you prayerfully consider contributing to the Building Fund, where 100% of your contribution will be dedicated to defraying the cost of accomplishing United's goal of ensuring a healthy and safe facility.

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](http://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

## Have you considered a bequest to United Presbyterian Church?

**Over 60% of U.S. adults have no estate planning documents in place.** It has been reported that every week about \$100 million is left by people who die without a will.

Your greatest gift is often your legacy gift. People who have been blessed by the United Presbyterian Church have left legacy gifts through their estate. A bequest is one of the easiest gifts to make. As you create or update your will, trust, retirement plan or life insurance, you can specify that a gift goes to United Presbyterian Church.



### What is a religious bequest?

A bequest is a gift of part of your estate made in your Will. Your estate is the total of all your assets and possessions when you pass away. By making a bequest, you will provide support for many ministries provided by the Church. Your gift may be for general Church use or for a specific purpose within the Church.



### Benefits of a charitable bequest

- A bequest gift can lower your taxable estate
- Based on your net worth, you may be able to **reduce the amount of taxes** that your family is obligated to pay

Leave a lasting legacy gift to Focus on the Family, yielding eternal impact

*Your generosity will make a difference in the lives of many individuals.*

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/04/11/67percent-of-americans-have-no-estate-plan-heres-how-to-get-started-on-one.html>

## City of Plainfield—Recreation Events

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

Mon/Wed/Fri	9am	<b>Walk with Ease</b> Hub Stine Sports Complex, 1410 Randolph Road
Saturdays	9-9:45am	<b>Yoga For Adults</b> Performing Arts Center—724 Park Ave.—For more info: 908-753-3097



## CHILDREN'S CORNER

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

### Baptism of Jesus

**Theme:** The Baptism of the Lord

**Object:** Photo Album

**Scripture:** Matthew 3:13-17

I'm sure you recognize what I have in my hand. It's a photo album. Most parents have several photo albums that are full of pictures taken of their children as they were growing up. We have always been very pleased with our children. (Show a few pictures as you talk.)

We took pictures of our children in school, at church, playing, at Christmas time, on their birthdays, and many other occasions. We were pleased with them as they grew up and we are pleased with them today.

Do you think God was pleased with His son, Jesus?

I know He was, because the Bible tells us that He was. When Jesus was baptized, the Bible tells us that there was a voice from heaven that said, "This is my Son and I love Him. I am very pleased with Him."

Why do you think God was pleased with His son?

(Open your Bible to Matthew 3:17.) Let's read that verse again to see what God said first: "This is my Son and I love him. I am very pleased with him."

What did God say first? (Allow time for kids to answer.) - That's right! God said, "This is my Son!" God said, "This is my Son and I love him."

What's the second thing God said? (Allow time for kids to answer.) - That's right! God said, "I love him." God loves His son!

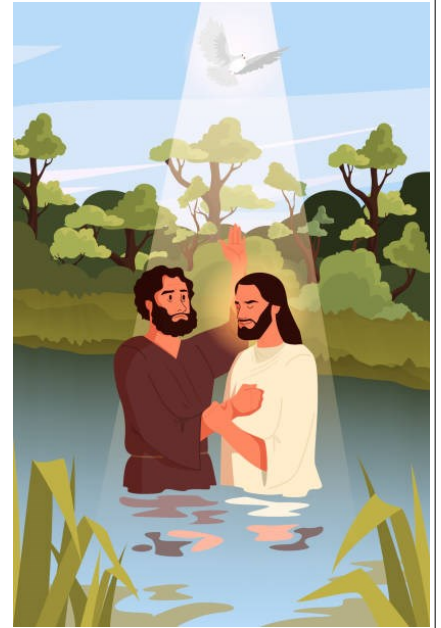
(Show kids the photo album again.) These pictures show a lot of things that our children did. But more than anything, these pictures show that these are OUR kids. They belong to us. And we love them!

When we trust in Jesus as our Savior, we become the children of God. Our baptism is like an official adoption ceremony. God loves us from the very beginning when we become His children because that is what He wants us to be.

God says to us, "You are my son. You are my daughter. And I love you!" God loves you! That's pretty awesome, isn't it?

I wonder if God has a photo album in heaven with your pictures in it. I know He has a book with all His children's names in it.

God is pleased with you when you become His child. It's wonderful to hear God say, "You are my child. I love you. And I am pleased with you."

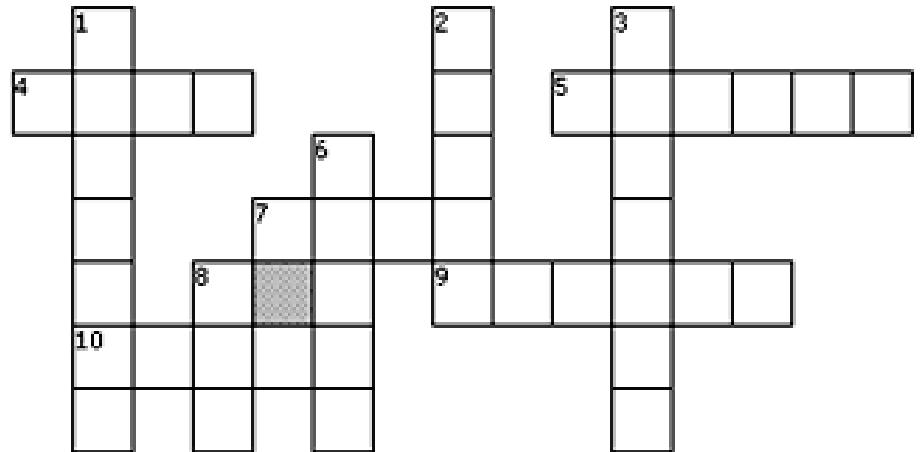


### PRAYER

Dear God, thank You that You adopt us as Your children. Thank You for loving us so much. In Jesus' name, amen.

# The Baptism of Jesus

Crossword



## ACROSS

- Name of the man who baptized Jesus.
- The river where Jesus was baptized.
- The Spirit came down from heaven like a \_\_\_\_\_.
- To turn away from sin.
- What was heard when Jesus was baptized.

## DOWN

- To pardon for sins.
- The liquid used to baptize someone.
- To admit that you have done wrong.
- A sticky, sweet fluid made by bees.
- To break one of God's commandments.

## Bible Memory Verse

As Jesus was coming up out of the water,  
he saw heaven being torn open and  
the Spirit descending on him like a dove.

Mark 1:10 (NIV)

### Words Used

sin	confess
voice	dove
repent	water
honey	forgive
John	Jordan

## Baptism of Jesus—Coloring Page



### Crawford/Walton Memorial Fund

The Board of Deacons of the United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield is accepting donations for the Crawford/Walton Memorial Fund for higher Education.

This fund is dedicated to scholarships for any member pursuing an undergraduate degree or working in an undergraduate program which will lead to a specific degree. It may also be used by anyone pursuing a seminary degree.

Donations are accepted and welcomed to this fund at any time 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 "Crawford/Walton Memorial 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](http://www.upcplainfield.org) Enter your contribution to the "General Fund Regular Offering". In the notes section indicate "Crawford/Walton Memorial Fund".

**Invest in our children's future**

#### 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)

**Have information that you would like to share? A poem? A prayer request? A new child/grandchild?**  
**SEE BELOW**

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

#### Church Administrators

#### 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

#### Pastor Allegra Hoots

Treasurer: Ms. Wanda Breitenbach  
Operations Coordinator: Davaughn Hoots  
Custodian: Mr. Charles Rivers

#### Session Members

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

#### Board of Deacons

Helen Foerster - Moderator	Desirae Hemans
Daniel Bofah	Tania Hemans
Thelma Fleming	Maggie Anglin
Virginia Hansen	Zorina Bowers

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

#### Newsletter

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#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Church website:** <http://upcplainfield.org>  
**Telephone No.:** (908) 756-2666



# United Presbyterian Church

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

## January 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	2 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	3 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	4 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  7pm Contemporary Worship	5 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
7 11am Worship Service In-person / Livestream Communion Service 10am Sunday School/ Adult Educ. BAPTISM OF JESUS	8 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	9 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	10 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	11 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  7pm Contemporary Worship	12 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	13 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  10:00am Admin. Meeting
14 11am Worship Service In-person / Livestream Youth Sunday 10am Sunday School/ Adult Educ.	15 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BDAY	16 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	17 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  7:30pm Joint Session & Deacon Mtg	18 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  7pm Contemporary Worship	19 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	20 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion
WEEK OF PRAYER—Jan 18th to 25th						
21 11am Worship Service In-person / Livestream 10am Sunday School/ Adult Educ.	22 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	23 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	24 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	25 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion  7pm Contemporary Worship	26 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	27 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion
WEEK OF PRAYER—Jan 18th to 25th						
28 11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream 10am Sunday School/ Adult Educ. Dedication Sunday	29 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	30 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	31 6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	Computer Logon Info — Sunday Worship: <a href="https://bit.ly/3jyylpg">https://bit.ly/3jyylpg</a> Daily Devotion: <a href="https://bit.ly/40BeoBK">https://bit.ly/40BeoBK</a> Noonday Prayer: <a href="https://bit.ly/40BeoBK">https://bit.ly/40BeoBK</a> Contemporary Service: <a href="https://bit.ly/3J7whly">https://bit.ly/3J7whly</a>		

**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 ([HTTP://WWW.UPCPLAINFIELD.ORG/](http://www.upcplainfield.org)) FOR UPDATES.**

Communion — 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

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## February 2024

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024**  
The African Diaspora and the Arts

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Computer Logon Info — Sunday Worship: <a href="https://bit.ly/3jyylpg">https://bit.ly/3jyylpg</a> Daily Devotion: <a href="https://bit.ly/40BeoBK">https://bit.ly/40BeoBK</a> Noonday Prayer: <a href="https://bit.ly/40BeoBK">https://bit.ly/40BeoBK</a> Contemporary Service: <a href="https://bit.ly/3J7whly">https://bit.ly/3J7whly</a>				1	2	3
				6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion <b>7pm Contemporary Worship</b>	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>11am Worship Service In-person / Livestream</b> 10am Sunday Sch/Adult Ed <b>Communion Sunday</b>	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion <b>7pm Contemporary Worship</b>	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion <b>10:30am Administration Mtg</b>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>11am Worship Service In-person / Livestream</b> 10am Sunday Sch/Adult Ed <b>YOUTH SUNDAY</b> <b>TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD</b>	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion <b>7pm Contemporary Worship</b>	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>11am Worship Service In-person / Livestream</b> 10am Sunday Sch/Adult Ed <b>Dedication Sunday</b>	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion <b>PRESIDENTS DAY</b>	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion <b>7:30pm Session Mtg</b>	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion <b>7pm Contemporary Worship</b>	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion
25	26	27	28	29		
<b>11am Worship Service In-person / Livestream</b>	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion	6:00-6:15am Daily Devotion <b>7pm Contemporary Worship</b>		

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Communion & Deacon Sunday — 1st Sunday Monthly

Youth Sunday — 2nd Sunday monthly

Dedication Sunday — 4th Sunday Monthly

**Committee Meetings** (unless stated otherwise):

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Church**  
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Plainfield, NJ 07060

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