



**Guided by the Word of God, led by the Holy Spirit, and motivated by the love of Christ and all his people, United Presbyterian Church, an intergenerational community, celebrates God's glory by fostering Christian growth.**

**Therefore, we value fellowship, Bible-centered messages, music, and faith expressed through worship, and commitment to our community.**



Dear UPC Members and Friends,

A year ago I became your interim pastor. My first purpose was to aid the session in taking the steps to form a pastor nominating committee (PNC) and to help them to move through the process of calling a pastor. The PNC has been faithfully receiving applications and interviewing candidates. It truly is in God's hands at this point. Please continue to pray for them and for your future pastor. Only God knows who that is at this point.

A wise, faithful owl told me recently, "Paul, if you are still here, then God must have a purpose and until you fulfill that purpose then you will remain." I believe the purpose I have with you is to help you in growing spiritually.

In my time here, I have invited each of you to evaluate your spiritual lives and take steps toward growing. I even invited you to take my spiritual health assessment for free to help you. The GPS Spiritual Inventory has been taken by Christians on every continent and has been proven to be a reliable and valid

instrument, which means it accurately measures your spiritual health—that is, the health of your relationships with God, self, and others.

Only 4 of you took it. I offered to meet with each of you personally to work through your spiritual journey. Only 4 of you took me up on that offer. I am making both these offers again. Go to [www.soul-metrics.com](http://www.soul-metrics.com) and take the GPS Spiritual Inventory. Just click on the words "Take the GPS Spiritual Inventory for free". It will take about 15 minutes. Upon completion you will receive your results by email. Then if you would like to meet with me and go through your results, just email me at [revpaul-burns@gmail.com](mailto:revpaul-burns@gmail.com) and we will set up a time to meet. Or if you don't want to take the assessment, then let's just set up a time to talk about your spiritual life and how you might best move forward.

Could it be that I will be here until you have taken the steps God is inviting you to take? The PNC would love to complete their purpose of calling a new pastor. Perhaps God is waiting on you.

I hope you know that I love you, my friends. I am trying to do my best for you and what I believe God is calling me to do.

Pastor Paul

# April 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 <b>COMMUNION</b> SUNDAY School Worship shared on Facebook & in person o/c Sonja Hill	3	4	5 5:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Handbells	6 8:30 a.m. Bread Ministry 4:30 .p.m. Yoga 6 pm Maundy Thursday Service	7 Office closed 6 pm Good Friday Service	8 7-10 am Pancake Breakfast 10 am Easter Egg Hunt
9 <b>EASTER</b> Noisy Offering SUNDAY School Worship shared on Facebook & in person o/c Rachel Lancaster	10 5:00 p.m. Upreach 5:30 S&F 5:30 CYM 6:00 Property 6:00 Safety	11	12 5:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Handbells	13 8:30 a.m. Bread Ministry 4:30 .p.m. Yoga	14 Office closed	15 10 am Presbyterian Women
16 <b>GOODLAND ACADEMY OF- FERING</b> SUNDAY School Worship shared on Facebook & in person o/c Marsha Fincher	17 6 P.m. Night Circle	18	19 5:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Handbells	20 8:30 a.m. Bread Ministry 4:30 .p.m. Yoga	21 Office closed	22
23 <b>SUNDAY School</b> Worship shared on Facebook & in person o/c Ann Jarvis	24 6 pm Sexsion	25 6:00 Stitchery	26 5:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Handbells	27 8:30 a.m. Bread Ministry 4:30 .p.m. Yoga	28 Office closed	29
30 <b>SUNDAY School</b> Worship shared on Facebook & in person o/c David Williams						

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY



## The Birthday Fund

Don't forget to celebrate your  
Birthday with us!

Do you want to celebrate yourself and  
create a lasting legacy?

Do you want to teach your children  
the importance of giving to others?

Then we have a giving opportunity  
that is perfect for you. A great way to  
celebrate yourself and help others!

### It's simple.

During your birthday month, you  
contribute a gift to the church that  
amount to the age you are turning.  
Anyone can participate. It doesn't  
matter how young or old you are.

Your birthday is a special day and  
deserves a special celebration!



For the safety of our children,  
ALL people who work with our  
children are put through a  
background check!







**“HE HIMSELF BORE OUR SINS” IN HIS BODY ON THE CROSS, SO THAT WE MIGHT DIE TO SIN AND LIVE FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS BY HIS WOUNDS YOU HAVE BEEN HEALED. 1 PETER 2:24**

**HE WAS PIERCED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS, HE WAS CRUSHED FOR OUR INIQUITIES; THE PUNISHMENT THAT BROUGHT US PEACE WAS ON HIM, AND BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED. ISAIAH 53:5**





## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

The Youth of UPC played “Top Golf” at Hartline’s Golf Range on Sunday, March 26th. They were accompanied by Cynthia Pitts, Serena McHenry, and Quinn Geer. At their next gathering on April 2nd they will be taught by Kathy Derby to create wonderful painted tiles.

Volunteers are always needed to provide lunch first and third Sundays, lead the lesson and provide an activity. Please contact Sharon Leonard if you can help.



Autumn McHenry and Silas Hill delivered the hygiene products donated by UPC to Hunt County Shared Ministries on Friday, March 17th. Autumn worked as a volunteer with her grandmother, Charlene McHenry on day at FISH and was made aware of the great need for hygiene products. She suggested this as a special mission project for the youth. A big thank you to the congregation for their very generous donations to this project.



## April Outreach Opportunities

### Blessing Box Food Pantry

Thank you to everyone who has given food and/or money to keep our Blessing Box filled. It is being utilized quite often. We are stocking it twice a week and will continue to need your help. The most popular foods are ready to eat items such as soups, tuna, fruit cups and ravioli or Spaghetti O's. Also, peanut butter, Vienna sausages and foods that are kid/homeless friendly. Each item should be in weather-proof packaging and have pop top lids. We appreciate your continued support of this outreach effort.

### Mother's Day Honorarium

Once again, there will be an opportunity to honor your mother, grandmother or any other woman who has made a significant impact on your life. There will be a table set up in the Commons for you to place a photo of a special woman and make a donation in her honor or memory. All donations will be given to Women in Need.

### Noisy Offering

The Noisy Offering for the 2nd quarter will be the GSD Teachers' Supply Closet. You can either drop your coins in the bowls beginning April 9 (and every 2nd Sunday of the month) or donate from this list (or both). The most needed items are:

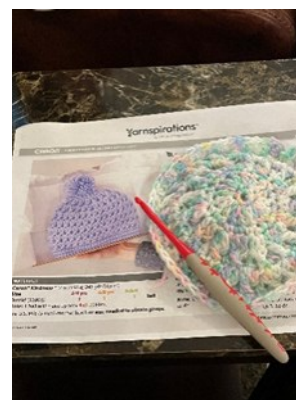
- Colored pencils (Crayola brand if possible)
- Kleenex
- Colored dry erase markers
- Erasers for dry erase boards
- File folder labels
- Name tags (peel and stick)
- Bulletin board decorative borders
- Paper pocket folders with brads

## Presbyterian Women ITALIAN DINNER



The UPC Stitchery group met at 6:30 on Tuesday March 28th in the Commons for an evening of creating and visiting. We settled into the comfy chairs and began to create: Susie Mudie worked on another of her beautiful Lapghans that will be donated to *The Spirit of Giving* in November. John Hill continued to knit the amazing waistcoat that he is making out of self-striping yarn. Mary Gainer showed us that her wrist has healed by the speed in which she crocheted a snugly rust-colored blanket that she will probably have to negotiate with her wonderful boys and/or Ethan to use. Susie Geer began (and almost finished) another winter hat – one of many that she is making for *The Spirit of Giving*.

If you are interested in learning to crochet or knit or would just like to bring your own ‘work-in-progress’ – of any type – and join us for an evening of good fellowship and creation, we would love to see you on THE LAST TUESDAY OF ANY MONTH, at 6:30 pm.



This is the “Yarn Closet” in the UPC Multi-Purpose Room. The yarn in it is available for anyone to use in projects, either for themselves or for charity.



**ELDER ON CALL**

**APRIL**

**SONJA HILL**

**Elders**

God's Faithful Shepherds  
PROVIDE CHRISTIAN GUIDANCE



**Children's Church**

Children's Church is being held for children from the ages of 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Following the Children's Sermon children will go with the leader to the children's area for worship.

Parents are asked to pick their children up after the worship service is over.

**LADIES NIGHT CIRCLE**

2022-2023 PW/Horizons Bible Study "Celebrating Sabbath" by Carol Bechtel

April 17th Lesson eight: "Sabbath and Justice"

May 15th Lesson nine: "Sabbath and Community"

## **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

*9- Marsha Fincher*

*16- Kevin Stauff*

*17- Jerald Hicks, Ethan Gainer*

*18- Robert Jarvis*

*24- Jodie Goldston*

*25- Stephanie Hogue*

If we missed your birthday I very sorry. Please let the office know the date so I can add it to my list.



## **GREETERS FOR APRIL**

**April 2 Marcie Penland**

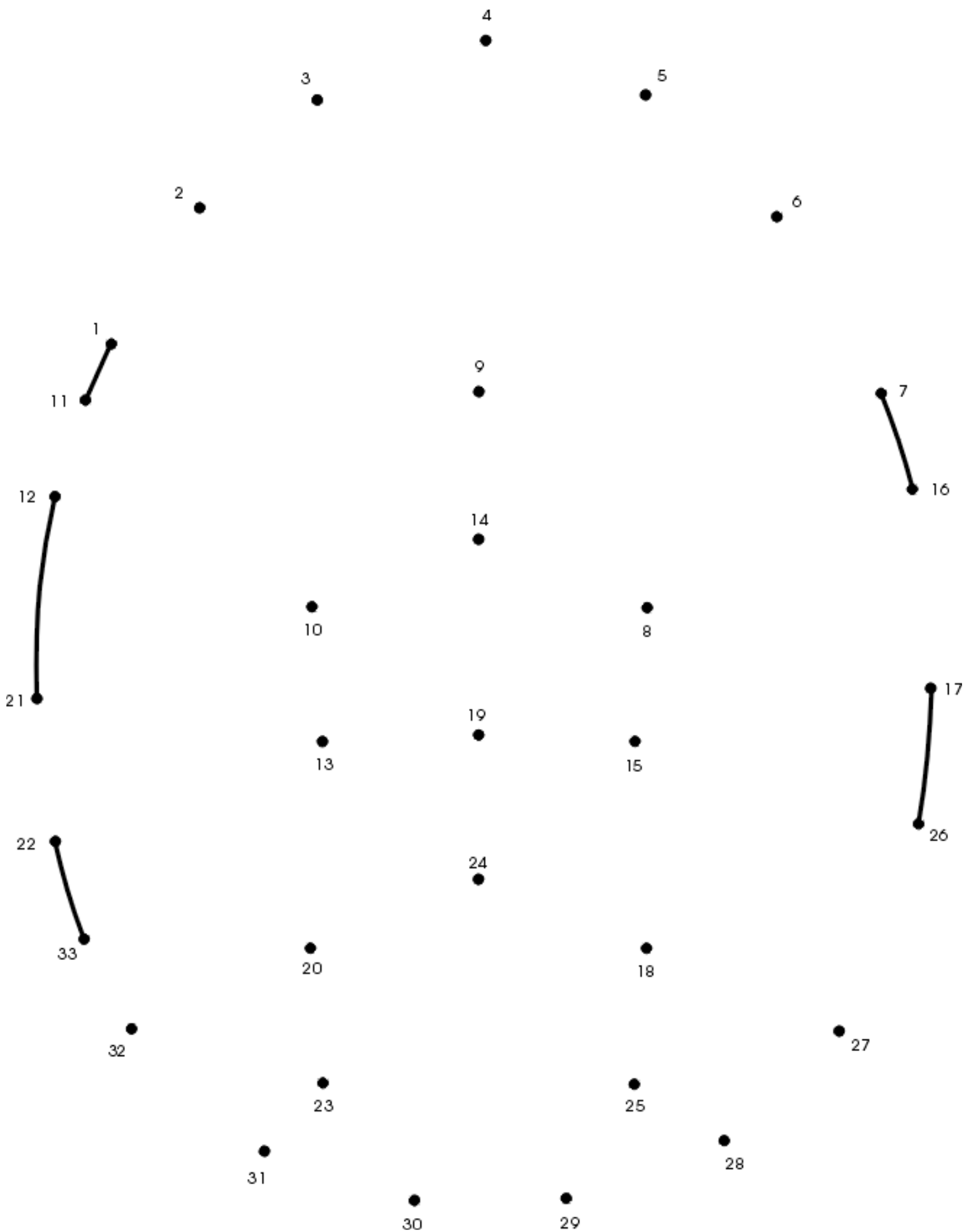
**April 9 Kathy Hogue &  
Sharon Leonard**

**April 16 Kathy Hogue**

**April 23 Marcie Penland**

**April 30 Cynthia Pitts**





## **Safety Team Members**

### **John Wasson - Leader**

John Hill  
Silas Hill  
Jon Geer  
Anthony Morgan  
Bob Mudie  
Vicky Stauff  
David Williams



## **Medically Trained Congregation Members**

Tannie Brooks  
Stephanie Hogue  
Rachel Lancaster  
Joe Rutherford

### **Safety Team Member Responsibilities**

Two Safety Team members will be designated to perform certain duties in the sanctuary, commons area and church perimeter. These members will be listed in the bulletin insert and will wear safety team badges.

Sanctuary Team Member – This team member knows the locations of fire extinguishers, fire alarm pull boxes, first aid kits and the Automated External Defibrillator (AED). They are knowledgeable of escape routes and sheltering procedures in case evacuation is necessary. If a medical emergency occurs, they will assist medically trained personnel as directed and call 911 if necessary.

Commons/Perimeter Team Member – This team member will ensure the nursery is safe and will lock doors not used as primary entrances. All locked doors can still be opened from the inside. The safety checks include other areas such as the kitchen, classrooms and open closets. This member will remain in the commons area during the service and occasionally check the parking lot.

## **NOISY/QUIET OFFERING**

The noisy offering for January, February and March, 2023 went to FISH and Lake Area Shared Ministries to help community members with their utility bills.



Just for **KIDS**  
KIDS



## Easter Basket Word Search Puzzle

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

### EASTER BASKET WORD LIST

BASKET	EGG HUNT
CHOCOLATE BUNNY	EGGIES
CHOCOLATE EGGS	FAKE GRASS
COLORFUL	HANDLE
CREAM EGGS	HARD BOILED EGGS
DECORATED	JELLY BEANS
EASTER BUNNY	MARSHMALLOW
EASTER EGGS	PEEPS
EASTER MORNING	TREATS
	WOVEN

**ATTENTION!**

**SECOND QUARTER  
2023  
NOISY OFFERING**



The noisy offering for April, May and June, 2023 will go to the GISD Teachers' Supply Closet. You can either drop your coins in the bowls beginning April 9, ( and every 2nd Sunday of the month) .



Don't forget to like the church's Facebook page! Search United Presbyterian Church - Greenville follow and like. Then invite all your Facebook friends!



**Find us on  
Facebook**

**Upper Room Devotional Books**

The Upper Room daily devotional is available for free at [www.upperroom.org](http://www.upperroom.org). Perhaps church members who use their computers daily would rather use an electronic device to read the upper room.

**Don't forget. . .  
The third Sunday of  
the month to support  
Goodland Academy**



**OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday - Thursday 9 am to 12 pm 1pm to 5pm**

**Wednesday 9 am to 2:30 pm**

**Friday office is closed**



## Special Event Checklist United Presbyterian Church

**When preparing for a special event to occur on the UPC property, please be sure to:**

\_\_\_\_ Contact the administrative assistant to make sure there is no calendar conflict.

\_\_\_\_ Send event information to the administrative assistant to be added to church communications in a timely manner.

\_\_\_\_ If the event is open to the public, coordinate promotion as appropriate.

\_\_\_\_ Notify the chair of the safety team to coordinate the safety needs of the event.

\_\_\_\_ Identify someone to open and close the event. (Locks, lights, and alarm)

\_\_\_\_ **The sponsoring church group or member for the event** will be responsible for setting up, breaking down, and cleaning up.

\_\_\_\_ The sponsoring church group or member for the event is responsible for any necessary food and drink purchase, preparation, and clean up.

\_\_\_\_ **Coordinate any A/V** needs with the Tech Team chair.

\_\_\_\_ If you have any music needs, please contact the music coordinator.

\_\_\_\_ If you have any receipts that require reimbursement, please fill out an Expense Voucher and turn it into the administrative assistant.

\_\_\_\_ If this event involves fundraising, session approval is required first.

\_\_\_\_ If the event is a non-church event whether from an outside group or members of the church, get a building usage form from the administrative assistant. It must be submitted and approved by the session, prior to scheduling the event.

\_\_\_\_ If money is collected, **then the money and the monies received form** must be turned into the administrative assistant ASAP.

## NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

### OFFICE PROCEDURES:

#### Procedure for purchases or expense reimbursement

1. Member or staff person must obtain and complete an "Expense Voucher" and return it to the Administrative Assistant prior to purchase.
2. Administrative Assistant will review and confirm that enough money is in the appropriate budget category.
3. Administrative Assistant will make the purchase using church accounts thus saving sales tax and taking advantage of any church discounts.
4. **If the purchase is going to be made by someone other than the Administrative Assistant that person should get the UPC tax number and present it to the seller to avoid paying sales tax.**

### EQUIPMENT AND FACILITY MANUALS:

**Forms are in the office to be filled out for the follow:**



Equipment checkout book (to keep track of equipment used/removed from UPC property)

Facility use manual (forms/information for parties, weddings or anniversaries etc.)

### DEADLINES:

**Newsletter articles need to be turned into the office by the 24th of each month.**

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

**If you are in need of an IRS letter for taxes, please turn in your receipts to the office and a letter will be mailed to you.**

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday

9 am to 12 pm

1pm to 5pm

Wednesday 9 am to 2:30 pm

Friday OFFICE CLOSED

## SPRING CLEANING

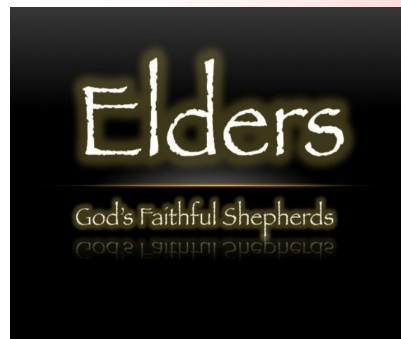
Spring cleaning affords us the opportunity to clear out the cobwebs of winter and sort through the items we may have accumulated while indoors for so long. We can open our windows, sweep out the dust of the past few months, and welcome the warmer weather and gentle breezes of spring.

Clearing the clutter out of our lives, however, requires more than sorting through our old clothes and cleaning our closets, although those tasks certainly help. When we get rid of what's no longer useful, especially items that drain us of time and energy, we're pruning our lives to make room for new growth.

Sometimes God prunes our branches for us, even removing items that we may enjoy that aren't strengthening our faith. He makes room for each new season.

*"Praise be to the name of God forever and ever;  
wisdom and power are his.  
He changes times and seasons..."*

*Daniel 2:20-21*



Sonja Hill



## APRIL OPENINGS AND CLOSING

April 2 Sonja Hill  
April 9 Rachel Lancaster  
April 16 Marsha Fincher  
April 23 Ann Jarvis  
April 30 David Williams



**United Presbyterian Church**  
**5905 Stonewall Street**  
**Greenville, TX 75402**

## **APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER**