



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,

I have been invited to share with you about a mission that I have been involved in since its inception in 2012. I have mentioned it in a sermon. In 2012 a woman from Kenya had been visiting my church in Nashville. One Sunday, during prayers of the people I asked the congregation to turn to their neighbor and share a prayer request. My wife happened to be sitting next to our Kenyan visitor. She said, "You have to talk to our visitor Judy! She has an amazing vision to begin a school in Kenya."

Judy's father was a Anglican priest and had helped plant a church in a small village outside of Mombasa called Lower Bodoi. It was the first building outside of the huts. There were no good roads, no economy, no schools. Now there was a church. Judy's brother Joseph, who is now the executive director of this ministry, started bringing porridge on Saturdays. Word spread quickly and over a hundred kids gathered for this meagerest of meals. As they would wait until the meal was ready, Joseph would teach Bible stories. Judy was going to school in America and her only income was babysitting. Still, she would wire every spare dollar she had to help pay for the porridge.

I introduced Judy to our mission committee,

and they jumped in with both feet. We began by joining Judy to support the feeding ministry. Then, plans began to form to build a school and find teachers. We sent a team of 10 members to go to Kenya to see the village and meet the people. Once we raised enough money to build to school, we sent another team to witness the groundbreaking. Today the Angaza Nuru School serves over 300 children.

I am now the chair of Friends of Angaza Nuru which is a US 501c3 with the purpose of supporting the school and the ministry to the village at large. It costs \$75 to sponsor a child for a whole school year. That includes a uniform, materials, and 2 meals a day. We have 10 more children in need of sponsors. You can go to <https://friendsofangazanuru.org/scholarship-form/> to sign up to be a sponsor. You will get a name, age, and picture of your child. My wife and I have been sponsoring the same child from the beginning. Or if you wish, you can drop off a check made payable to Friends of Angaza Nuru in the offering. We will get it to the them.

Angaza Nuru means to illuminate. By joining us in this mission you will be helping to illuminate young minds, and hearts in the love of Christ and learning.

Yours,

Pastor Paul

March 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



5 **COMMUNION**
SUNDAY School
Worship shared
on Facebook & in
person
o/c Kathy Hogue

6
5:30 Inreach

7

1 4:30 p.m.
Prayer Mtg.
5:30 p.m. Choir
Rehearsal
6:15 p.m. Hand-
bells

2 8:30 a.m.
Bread Ministry
4:30 p.m. Yoga

3
Office closed

4

12 Please
welcome
Shane
Whisler
Noisy Offering
SUNDAY School
Worship shared
on Facebook & in
person
o/c Kathy Hogue

13 office closed
5:00 p.m. Upreach
5:30 S&F
5:30 CYM
6:00 Property
6:00 Safety

14

OFFICE
CLOSED

15 4:30 p.m.
Prayer Mtg.
5:30 p.m. Choir
Rehearsal
6:15 p.m. Hand-
bells
OFFICE
CLOSED

16 8:30 a.m.
Bread Ministry
4:30 p.m. Yoga

OFFICE
CLOSED

17
Office closed

18

19 GOODLAND
ACADEMY OF-
FERING
SUNDAY School
Worship shared
on Facebook & in
person
o/c David Williams

20
6 P.m. Night
Circle

21

22 4:30 p.m.
Prayer Mtg.
5:30 p.m. Choir
Rehearsal
6:15 p.m. Hand-
bells

23 8:30 a.m.
Bread Ministry
4:30 p.m. Yoga

24
Office closed

25

26 CONGREGATION
MEETING Pottluck
SUNDAY School
Worship shared
on Facebook & in
person o/c
Sharon Leoanrd

27
6 p.m. Session

28

29 4:30 p.m.
Prayer Mtg.
5:30 p.m. Choir
Rehearsal
6:15 p.m. Hand-
bells

30 8:30 a.m.
Bread Ministry
4:30 p.m. Yoga

31
Office closed

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!



© Can Stock Photo

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



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.

Noisy Offering

March 12 will wrap up the first quarter of our Noisy Offering that benefits FISH and Lake Area Shared Ministries to help local folks with their utility bills.

Youth/Children's Activities

Youth Group (6th through 12th Grade students) meets the first and third Sundays after church, from about noon until 2 pm.

During March, because of spring break, they will meet on March 5th and March 26th. After a lunch provided by church members they usually have a Bible lesson followed by an activity.

During the month of February Jill Blanchard and Cynthia Pitts led the youth and they had an Escape Room Bible activity. Lunch was provided by the Warrens and the Leonard. On February 19th the lunch was provided by the Pitts and Rachel and Ray Lancaster had a lesson followed by an outing to bowl at Shenanigans. The CYC (Children Youth Committee) always needs volunteers, either for providing a meal for the youth, or leading their lesson and activities. Please consider helping our youth by volunteering.

Children's Church is held during the worship service every Sunday except for the first Sunday (Communion Sunday). We would love to have volunteers to help with this program. Lesson Plans can be provided and we will happily show anyone interested how to help. During Children's Church we need two adults to be with the kids so even if you don't feel called to teach, it would be great to have you as the helper. Please talk to me or to Marcie Penland to volunteer for this important program for our youngsters.

Sharon Leonard

CYC Committee chair

Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women voted to divide the Cookie Walk Proceeds in half and give the first half to UPC Scholarships, then divide the second half evenly between CASA and WIN.

On Monday, February 20th, Dot Warren, Kathy Derby & I delivered the 2022 Cookie Walk proceeds to CASA and WIN. Both organizations were grateful for our donations and the ladies at CASA plan to come to the 2023 Cookie Walk, which will be held on Saturday, December 2, 2023.

Thanks to everyone for your help and support for CW2022. A special thank-you to Kathy Derby as my Co-Chair. Let's get ready for CW2023!

Susie Geer

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women voted to support the Friends of Angaza Nuru Scholarship fund for our spring mission. This is a school in Kenya, Africa that helps educate children in the village of Bodoi. Pastor Paul serves on their Board and knows how much these donations mean to the school. Each student's fee is \$75 per semester.

PW donated \$300 and other members have contributed more funds to support the school. If you would like to join us in supporting this worthy cause please give your donation to Marcie Penland, PW treasurer or to me. Please make your check out to Presbyterian Women as we will send our total donation out soon.

Sharon Leonard,
PW Mission Chair

ELDER ON CALL

MARCH

KATHY HOGUE

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 5th 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

March 20th Lesson seven: "Sabbath and Self-Care"

April 17th Lesson eight: "Sabbath and Justice"

May 15th Lesson nine: "Sabbath and Community"

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

2 Teya Green
16 Pat DeMayo
15 Lyndsey Rutherford
20 Charlie Womack
24 Barbara Doughty, Judy Hunt
28 Ginger Hicks



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 MARCH

March 5 Kathy Hogue

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.

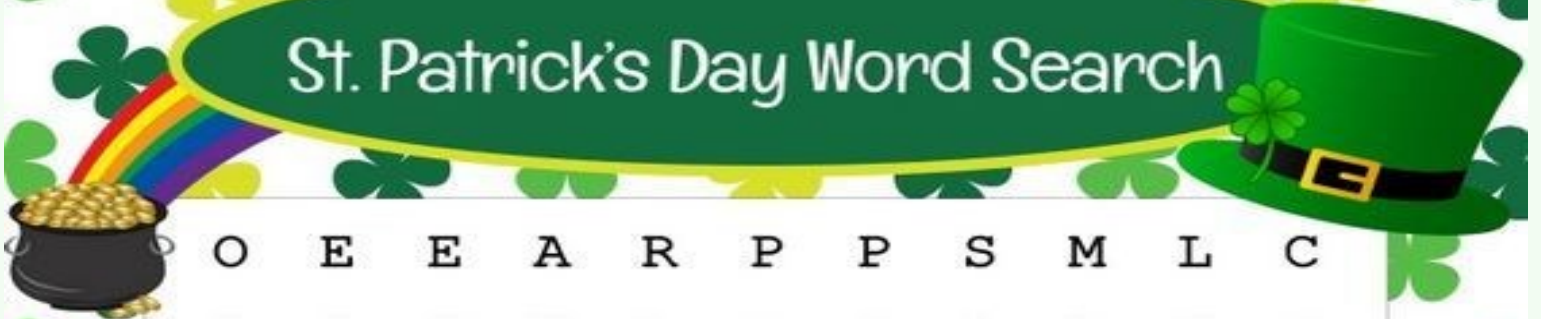
NOISY/QUIET OFFERING

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

Just for **KIDS**



St. Patrick's Day Word Search



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

GOLD
LEPRECHAUN
PATRICK

GREEN
POT
CLOVER

SHAMROCK
LUCK
IRISH

MARCH
EMERALD
WISH

RAINBOW
IRELAND
MAGIC

ATTENTION!

**FIRST QUARTER
2023
NOISY OFFERING**



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



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. Perhaps church members who use their computers daily would rather use an electronic device to read the upper room.



**ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**

**Sunday, March 26
After the Worship Service .
AND
Potluck Dinner**

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

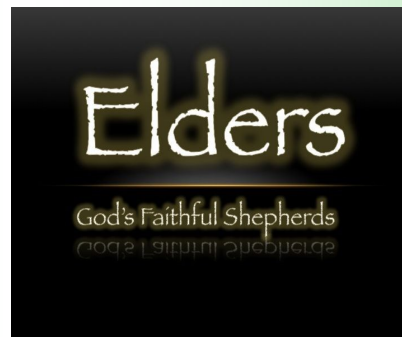
TRUE REST

We often schedule time for rest or vacation and then wonder why we don't feel more refreshed. Rest does not always come from lack of activity. Sleepless nights remind us that it takes more than simply lying down and closing our eyes. Anxious thoughts spinning through our minds while we try to relax make it clear that we can't just flip a switch and turn our minds off.

True rest comes when we experience God's presence in our lives. Our day may be filled with activities, meetings, and conversations, but if we've invited God into the center of our schedule, we can trust his timing and let go of the stress that comes from trying to control everything.

God is in control of your life and will give you the rest you need.

The Lord replied, "My Presence will go with you and I will give you rest." Exodus 33:14



Kathy Hogue

MARCH OPENINGS AND CLOSING

March 5 Kathy Hogue

March 12 Kathy Hogue

March 19 David Williams

March 26 Sharon Leonard



United Presbyterian Church
5905 Stonewall Street
Greenville, TX 75402

MARCH 2023 NEWSLETTER