



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 fellow pastor posted these words on Facebook that are very much worth considering:

"I fear that as long as the reason we invite people to our religious institutions is so they can fill our pews, take over our volunteer projects, and give us money, we're going to end up hurting the people who come to us looking for a connection to the Divine and authentic spiritual community.

Because it's deeply painful to want to be in relationship with someone, and to find out they really only want us to keep their institution going."

Over the years I have wondered why more church members don't invite people to church. Perhaps our motivation is in the wrong place, and we sense that, so we don't ask. If our rationale for inviting people to church is to find people to serve on committees, volunteer for various ministries, and support the budget, then we feel bad about asking. We know that we are asking of them more than we believe they will receive.

Think about the activities that you gladly and excitedly invite people to join you in: dinner parties, new restaurants, festivals, concerts—enjoyable things. And you want them to say yes, because you want to spend time

with them and share your enjoyment. We all hunger for authentic connection with others. We also all have a spiritual hunger, a desire to connect with the world beyond the one we see before us. People are looking for "connection to the Divine and authentic spiritual community." They want the real thing. Nothing fake or put on.

I believe that we have the real thing here at United Presbyterian Church. The ministry and the finances will happen. We have God with us and leading us. Let's focus on relationships.

I have a challenge for each of you: Find one person to invite into our spiritual community. Be their friend just to be their friend. Invite them into your life, which includes this church.

Start with this prayer: Lord, show me the person that you want me to befriend and invite to church.

Then become a spiritual friend. Ask them about their life. Pray for them. Invite them to join us for Sunday worship or some other event that you think they might enjoy. When they come to church, welcome them and sit with them. Or even pick them up, drive them to church, and have lunch with them afterwards.

Don't be afraid to make new friends. They may prove to be a bigger blessing to you than you can imagine!

With Love and Hope,

Pastor Paul

MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p><i>Happy Mother's Day</i></p>	1 5:30 pm Inreach Mental Health Month begins: Foster Care Month begins.	2	3 5:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Hand-bells	4 <i>National Day of Prayer</i> 8:30 a.m. Bread Ministry 4:30 p.m. Yoga	5 Office closed	6
7 COMMUNION SUNDAY School Worship shared on Facebook and in person Youth Sunday—pizza Members bring sides Cake provided <i>O/C John Wasson</i>	8 5:00 p.m. Upreach 5:30 S&F 5:30 CYM 6:00 Property 6:00 Safety	9	10 5:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Hand-bells	11 8:30 a.m. Bread Ministry 4:30 p.m. Yoga 6p.m. Outreach	12 Office closed	13
14 <i>Mother's Day</i> Noisy Offering SUNDAY School Worship shared on Facebook & in person <i>o/c John Wasson</i>	15 6 P.m. Night Circle	16 5:30 pm Dinner for Women of the church @ Soulman's in Greenville.	17 5:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Hand-bells	18 8:30 a.m. Bread Ministry 4:30 p.m. Yoga	19 Office closed 4:30 Rehearsal	20 2p.m. Music Recital
21 GOODLAND ACADEMY OFFERING SUNDAY School Worship shared on Facebook & in person <i>o/c John Wasson</i>	22 6 pm Session	23	24 5:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Hand-bells	25 8:30 a.m. Bread Ministry 4:30 p.m. Yoga	26 Office closed	27
28 SUNDAY School Worship shared on Facebook & in person <i>o/c David Williams</i>	29 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED 	30 6:30 Stitchery	31 5:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m. Hand-bells			

May Song (Spring is Coming)

Traditional Poem

Charles L. Minturn, 1914



Spring is coming, spring is coming,
Flow'rs are waking, too.
Daisies, lilies, daffo-dillies
Now are coming through.

Spring is coming, spring is coming,
All around is fair.
Shimmer, glimmer on the meadow,
Joy is everywhere.

Trivia Night

Join us Saturday, May 20, at 6:00 for a fun night of trivia. (Don't worry, if you are not a trivia buff, everyone will be placed on a team.) The cost to participate is \$5.00 per person and the money raised will help support the Ced Derby Scholarship. Beverages will be provided, but please bring a finger food to share and your competitive spirit. You are also encouraged to wear a shirt supporting your favorite college or university.

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



© Can Stock Photo

Kathy Derby taught the youth how to make acrylic painted tiles for Youth Group. Bettina Zvanut led the lesson that day on being kind to everyone and lunch was provided by the Castillos.

Many thanks to those who have volunteered to provide lunch and lead the youth in spiritual lessons and activities.

The young people of our church are so important and we value each one of them.

Please contact Sharon Leonard if you would be willing to help in any way.



Happy Mother's Day to the

Moms without moms

Moms with a strained relationship with their moms

Moms who saw a baby in their future and then suddenly didn't

Moms who are desperately trying to become moms

Moms whose children now live in heaven

Moms of one and done

Moms of multiples

Moms who need a break

Moms who don't

Moms who feel alone

Moms who are lonely

Moms who struggle with motherhood

Moms who were born to be mothers

Moms who sacrifice each day to give their families the best life possible

@modernmomprobs

May 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

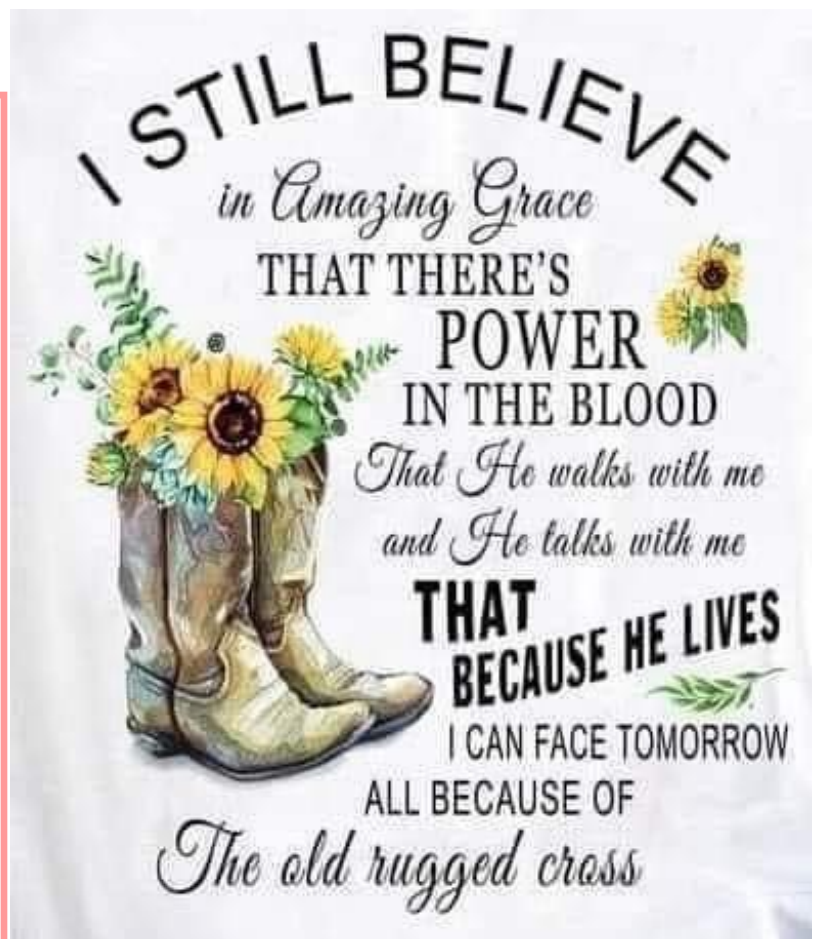
Once again, there will be an opportunity to honor your mother, grandmother or any other woman who has made a significant impact on your life. There will be a table set up in the Commons for you to place a photo of a special woman and make a donation in her honor or memory. All donations will be given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

Noisy Offering

The Noisy Offering for the 2nd quarter will be the GISD 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



RALPH WALDO EMERSON

He said, "Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety. Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt crept in. Forget them as soon as you can, tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely, with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense. This new day is too dear, with its hopes and invitations, to waste a moment on the yesterdays."



Flowers

Find and circle all of the flowers that are hidden in the grid.
The words may be hidden in any direction.

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

ASTER
CARNATION
CLEMATIS
DAFFODIL
DAISY
FUCHSIA
GERANIUM

HOLLYHOCKS
IRIS
LILAC
LILY
MARIGOLD
ORCHID

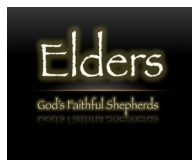
PETUNIA
ROSE
SNAPDRAGON
SUNFLOWER
TULIP
VIOLET



ELDER ON CALL

MAY

ANN JARVIS



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

May 15th Lesson nine: "Sabbath and Community"

MAY BIRTHDAYS

3 Katharine Morgan,
Rachel Petty, Camren Pitts

6 Debbie Warren

9 Jessica Morgan

10 Nathan Lancaster, Vicky Stauff

14 Abbey Fuller

13 Amelia Geer

23 Jill Blanchard, Heather Lind

24 Alyssa Morgan



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 MAY

May 7 Sharon Leonard

May 14 Kathy Hogue

May 21 Cynthia Pitts

May 28

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.

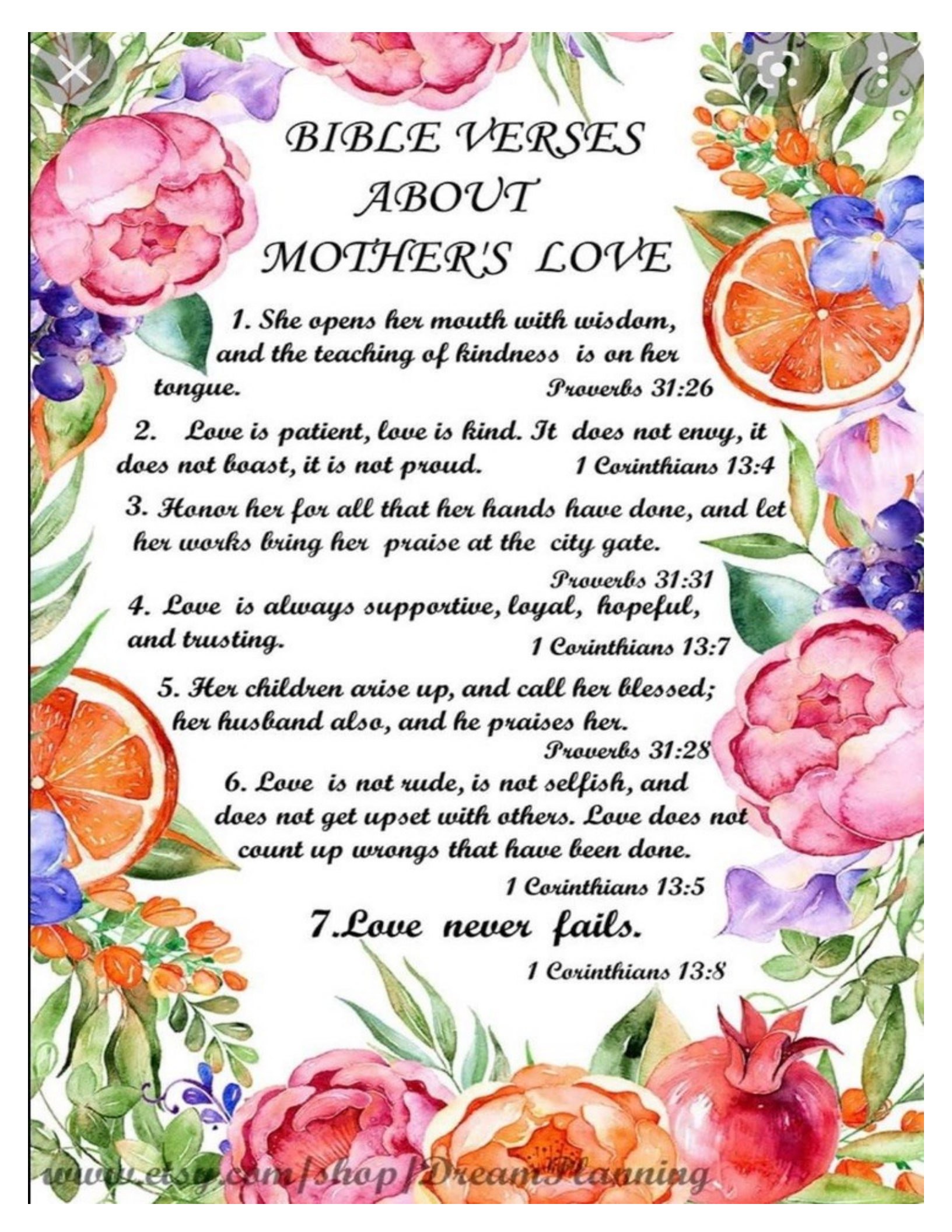
Sanctuary Team Member – This team member knows the locations of fire extinguishers, fire alarm pull boxes, first aid kits and the Automated External Defibrillator (AED). They are knowledgeable of escape routes and sheltering procedures in case evacuation is necessary. If a medical emergency occurs, they 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 April, May, and June, 2023 will go to the GISD Teachers' Supply Closet. You can either drop your coins in the bowls every 2nd Sunday of the month or donate from the list (or both). The most need 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



BIBLE VERSES ABOUT MOTHER'S LOVE

1. She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her
tongue. Proverbs 31:26

2. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it
does not boast, it is not proud. 1 Corinthians 13:4

3. Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let
her works bring her praise at the city gate.

Proverbs 31:31

4. Love is always supportive, loyal, hopeful,
and trusting. 1 Corinthians 13:7

5. Her children arise up, and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her.

Proverbs 31:28

6. Love is not rude, is not selfish, and
does not get upset with others. Love does not
count up wrongs that have been done.

1 Corinthians 13:5

7. Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13:8

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. 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

SIX LITTLE STORIES

{1}

Once all villagers decided to pray for rain,
on the day of prayer all the people gathered,
but only one boy came with an umbrella.

That's FAITH

{2}

When you throw a baby in the air,
she laughs because she knows you will catch
her.

That's TRUST

{3}

Every night we go to bed,
without any assurance of being alive the next
morning
but still we set the alarms to wake up.

That's HOPE

{4}

We plan big things for tomorrow
in spite of zero knowledge of the future.

That's CONFIDENCE

{5}

We see the world suffering,
but still we get married.

That's LOVE

{6}

On an old man's shirt was written a sentence
'I am not 60 years old....
I am sweet 16 with 44 years experience'
That's ATTITUDE

Have a happy day, and live your life like these
six stories!

I Can Trust God's Plan because He

- Never changes
- Is all powerful
- Is all knowing
- Is always with me
- Is wise
- Is faithful
- Is good
- Is love
- Is merciful
- Hebrews 13:8
- Jeremiah 32:17
- Psalms 147:5
- Psalms 139:7-10
- Romans 11:33
- Psalms 119:90
- Psalms 34:8
- 1 John 4:7-8
- Romans 9:15-16



THE PEACE OF GOD

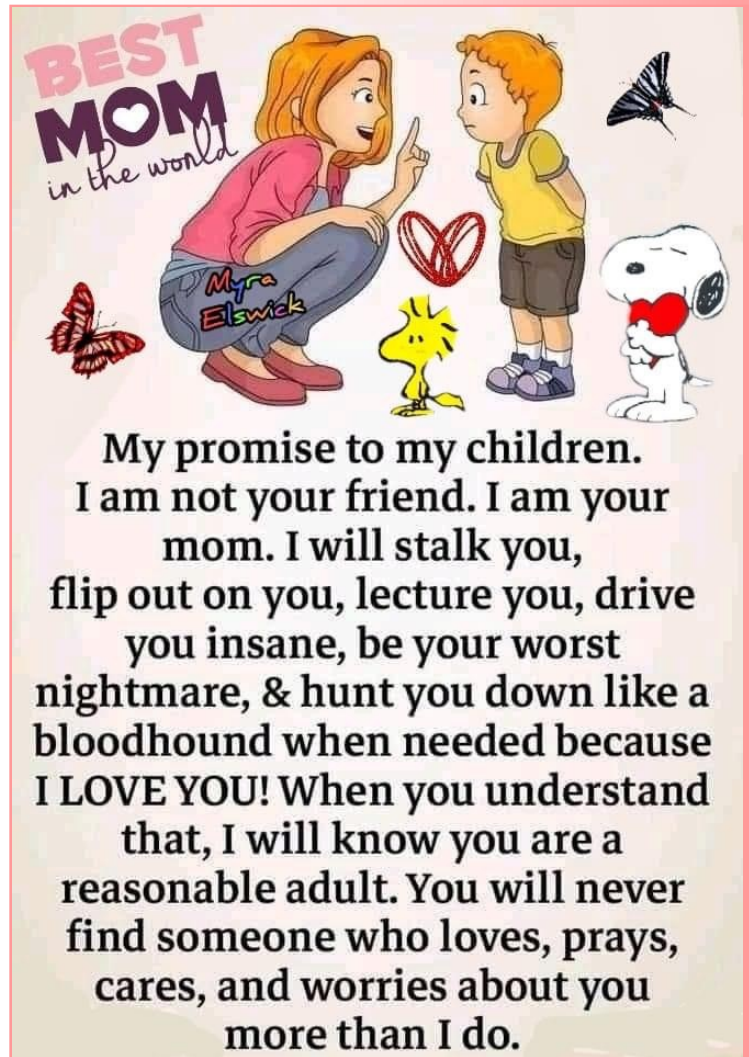
Often we think of peace as a calm, tranquil surface on a body of water. Waves crash, the tide rolls in, and ripples echo across the water most days. But when we experience God's divine peace, we are suddenly still. The surface sparkles like glass, reflecting the dappled sunlight and clouds above.

During the course of a day, we sometimes feel as though we're on a raft hurtling down class-five white-water rapids, about to plunge over a Niagara-sized waterfall. Deadlines get moved up, stacks of paper-work increase, kids get sick, bills pile up, the refrigerator dies. Tempers snap, obstacles pop up, and impossible demands are made. We don't know how we can remain peaceful in the midst of such a tsunami of forces overwhelming us.

But we can. The peace of the Lord is never about the absence of conflict, stress, or problems. The peace of the Lord is about trusting Him to guide us through the rapids. His peace not only transcends our understanding, but it guards both our hearts and our minds.

.....
"In all things, through prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God, and the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6-7



**My promise to my children.
I am not your friend. I am your
mom. I will stalk you,
flip out on you, lecture you, drive
you insane, be your worst
nightmare, & hunt you down like a
bloodhound when needed because
I LOVE YOU! When you understand
that, I will know you are a
reasonable adult. You will never
find someone who loves, prays,
cares, and worries about you
more than I do.**



MAY OPENINGS AND CLOSING

**May 7 John Wasson
May 14 John Wasson
May 21 John Wasson
May 28 David Williams**

United Presbyterian Church
5905 Stonewall Street
Greenville, TX 75402

MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER