

In Touch with UPC

People and Ministries of University Presbyterian Church

Multitude

300 Bushnell Ave • San Antonio, TX 78212-5334 • 210-732-9927 • www.upcsa.org

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WORSHIP AND MINISTRY NEWS

PASTOR'S NOTE

The beginning of a new school year presents itself with an invitation to commitment.

While the temperatures finally feel like summer in Texas, ironically, our children's, youth's, and teachers' summer is quickly coming to an end. August is the beginning of a new academic year, and we were hoping that this year would have a less stressful start. Not a chance. These are anxious times. With COVID numbers on the rise, no statewide mask mandate in our schools, children under 12 ineligible to receive the vaccine, and the Delta variant on the loose, families and educators are juggling a lot.

[Continue Reading Here.](#)



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP - AUGUST 1, 2021

8:00AM OUTSIDE SERVICE

Join us for a meditative experience on the grass facing Bushnell Ave. Follow the safety guidelines and please bring your own chair.

Worship Leader: Dries Coetzee

Scripture: John 6:24-35

10:00AM HYBRID SERVICE

Join us for hybrid worship service. Gather in-person in the sanctuary or continue to watch the service online. Masks and social distancing are required in the sanctuary.

Worship Leaders: Dries Coetzee, Dhawn Martin, Joseph Luedecke, Hannah Cooley, and Erika Stiner

Scripture: John 6:24-35

Children: Families will sit and stay together. Activity bags provided. If you need home worship resources, [please contact Erika.](#)

Musicians: Mary Lowder, Katrina Cantu, James Dickens, and Maggie Sorrell

Music: Hymn No. 401 – *Here in This Place*, Hymn 423 – *Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God*, Hymn No.

19 – *God of Great and God of Small*, and Anthem - *At the Table of the Lord* by Jay Althouse

Online Service Links:

[CLICK HERE FOR ZOOM WEBINAR](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR YOUTUBE LIVE](#)

Dial-In Numbers:

346-248-7799, 669-900-6833, 301-715-8592, 312-626-6799

Webinar ID: 209 945 961

Added Security:

Worship services are password protected. [Contact Anastasia](#) for the password. Please note, the password is the same week after week.

SANCTUARY RETURN CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Enjoy this fun crossword puzzle created by Janifer Meldrum. ([Click here](#) for a PDF version.). [Contact the church office](#) for the answer sheet.

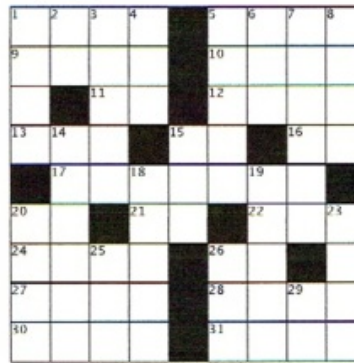
Welcome Back to the Sanctuary

Janifer Meldrum

On July 11, 2021, Pastor Dries Coetzee welcomed us back to the University Presbyterian Church sanctuary. It was the perfect time to celebrate everything UPC.

ACROSS

1. Baptism of a ___ marks the beginning of their faith journey
5. We write letters to prisoners through Christian Pen ___
9. Women's Book Group members are all ___ readers
10. Working to better San Antonio, Interfaith Community Action Network (abbr.)
11. Bachelor of Science (abbr.)
12. Do I hear an "___ Girl" for Anastasia? Yes!
13. Airport code for Delta hub
15. Presbyterians like to do things "decently and ___ order"
16. Hot commodity for 2020
17. Wherever you are in your journey of faith, we at UPC ___ you!
20. Just ___ with Dhawn during Meditation Tuesdays
21. Electrical Engineering (abbr.)
22. Does anyone know how to operate the coffee ___ when Barista Carl isn't here?
24. Come on!, in Spanish
26. Realm ___ UPC's new database and communication tool
27. You can see ___ constellations such as Orion through Don's telescope



28. Prayer shawl ministry will give a hand-made and blessed shawl to anyone having a bad ___
30. "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" or "Morning Has Broken"
31. John Knox, Robert Burns, or Doug Brackenridge
7. More recent, as in "___ stages of growth"
8. Spur of the moment, as in "___ judgment"
14. Source of Light (SoL) Center celebrates ___ years of interfaith education since 2001
15. Any summer event is better with ___ tea
18. Toddlers ___ about nature at UPCC
19. "I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle to the ___ of the harp" Psalm 49:4
20. The EarthCare ___ inaugurated our new solar panel carport
23. No, in Russian
25. Visit the Lower ___ across Guadalupe River
26. Who's the new Children's Spirituality Director? ___ Erika Stiner. Welcome to UPC!
29. Revel in nature at ___-Ranch during the all-church retreat

DOWN

1. Sponge cake with rum and raisins
2. Need for church upgrade
3. Education about the ___ is foundational to Presbyterians
4. Total yards from scrimmage (abbr.)
5. Beautiful new grand in sanctuary
6. Matthew 25:31-46 tells us how we must ___ for the hungry, thirsty, stranger, naked, sick, and imprisoned

COMMUNITY NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

LOAVES & FISHES

Sunday, August 1 is the next Loaves & Fishes. Monetary donations to purchase baby food and supplies for the House of Neighborly Service and Christian Assistance Ministry are welcome. Please mark online donations or checks mailed to the office with "Loaves & Fishes."

ALL CHURCH RETREAT AT MO RANCH LAST CALL FOR REGISTRATIONS

The Annual All Church Retreat will be held at Mo Ranch Aug. 13-15. Nestled on 500-acres along the spring-fed Guadalupe River, Presbyterian Mo-Ranch Assembly is located in the heart of the beautiful Hill Country in Hunt, Texas. We will enjoy an abundance of land and water recreation, sports activities, hiking trails, high and low ropes course and the great outdoors.

Reservations will end Aug. 1. All meals will be paid for by the UPC W&F Committee, so the only cost to attendees is lodging. We have reserved 20 rooms which hold 1-4 people per room with private bathrooms. UPC will follow Mo Ranch's covid guidelines.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER - DEADLINE AUG. 1](#)

We hope you can come out for the day, an evening, or the full weekend to share in food, fellowship, worship services, activities and free time!



YOU'RE INVITED - UIW'S STORIES OF TRUTH AND TRANSFORMATION

Please join SoL Director Dhawn Martin and Wyndee Holbrook of ISAA (Interfaith San Antonio Alliance) as they facilitate a unique conversation, "Interfaith Peacebuilding: One Story at a Time," on Thursday, Aug. 5th at 1:00pm. This panel which is part of University of the Incarnate Word's event, Stories of Truth and Transformation. For an overview of the 3 day conference and to register, [click here](#).

LGBTQ+ BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

We would like to invite those in the LGBTQ+ community who are grieving the loss of a loved one to join an eight-week **grief support class**. Connecting with others who accept and affirm one's life experience is crucial in the grief journey.

This program is designed to create a safe place to:

- Embrace your grief and learn to bear it
- Discover how your loved one can live on into your life story
- Strengthen your characteristics of resilience
- Plan for how you will continue to heal and live a meaningful life

WHEN:

Thursdays, from 6:30 pm—8:00 pm *
August 5, 12, 19, 26, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 2021
* Attending all sessions is most beneficial, therefore no new participants will be accepted after the second session

WHERE:

University Presbyterian Church **
300 Bushnell Avenue (CE Building)
San Antonio, Texas 78212

** Please note that we will follow the current COVID guidelines
UPC has in place when we gather

FACILITATOR:

Darwin Huartson, M.Div., BCC
Porter Loring Family Care Services Community Chaplain

COST:

Free



CONTACT:

Darwin Huartson
(210) 227.8221 or
dhuartson@porterloring.com

OR

Joseph Luedecke
(210) 249-1289 or
jr.luedecke@gmail.com

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

The Book Group will meet Monday evening Aug. 24 at 7:00pm via Zoom to discuss "Pandemic 1918" by Catharine Arnold. All are welcome! Zoom information will be sent out the day before or the day of the meeting.

[Let the church know](#) if you want to be added to the mailing list. Instructions for joining the virtual gathering are sent out the day of or the day before.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

One "chapter" of the UPC Shawl Ministry usually meets on the first Friday of every month in the Library. However, on Friday, August 6, we will be taking a field trip to the Tinsmith's Wife in Comfort Texas for the purpose of thanking its owner Wendy Solberg for her unwavering and generous support of our ministry. Chances are, if you have received a shawl or lap robe from the Shawl Ministry it



was probably created with yarn from Tinsmith's. Since our inception in January 2019, Wendy has donated thousands of yards of new yarn, enabling us to create more than 400 shawls and lap robes.

Normally, I try to avoid all discussion of finances but the truth is that the average shawl costs over \$30.00 to make, and we would never have been able to sustain our output without Wendy's backing. While some of our members consider this their ministry and purchase their own yarn, some UPC members have also made generous donations. They are all unsung heroes and this is my opportunity to thank them for their support.

The Shawl Ministry meets every Wednesday from 7:30am-9:00am and on the first Friday from 11:00am to 12:00pm. There is a "chapter" for every one's biological clock. To join this caring ministry or to request a shawl, [contact Caryl Gaubatz](#).

Please note: The photo is an indoor gathering of the Friday group during a UPCC holiday (no kids or staff present) and all participants are vaccinated.

PRAYER FLAGS

The prayer flag makers have made prayer flags available to folks who have suffered a death or other severe occurrence in their life, as well as for those who are experiencing a joyous event - a birth, wedding, graduation, etc. Flags are available in the church library during office hours.



**Light Up
Your Life**

Presbyterian Women of San Antonio Cluster Fall Gathering



**Fashion Show and 3
Workshops**



**Let your light shine before others that they may see your good
deeds and glorify your father in heaven. Matthew 5:16**

New Braunfels Presbyterian Church
373 Howard Street

Sat. August 28, 2021
8:45 AM to 1:30 PM

**Registration on Sign-up Genius or contact Lindsey
Priest at (469) 664-7023 or
Lindsey_jane_priest@yahoo.com**

**\$5 at the door plus a collection for Solar
Under the Sun**

REGISTRATION

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT DURING THE WEEK

Sunday Outdoor Worship - 8:00am

Join us for a meditative experience on the grass facing Bushnell Ave. We will follow the safety guidelines and ask everyone to bring their own chair or blanket.

Sunday Hybrid Worship - 10:00am

We gather in the sanctuary for in-person worship (wearing masks and social distancing). The service is live-streamed at the same time. [Click here for the Zoom Webinar](#), [click here for YouTube Live](#), or call 346-248-7799 with meeting ID 427 660 200. You can also watch the service later at your convenience on [YouTube here](#).

Sunday Virtual Coffee Fellowship Time - 11:00am

Join members of the UPC virtual community after worship led by different parishioners each week. [To Join Click Here](#) or dial 346-248-7799 and enter Meeting ID 742 807 278.

Meditation Tuesdays: Centering the Week with Dawn Martin - 10:00am

Whether you've never meditated or are a transcendental sage, join us for communal meditations. Together we will breathe in new possibilities for how we shape our days, setting intentions that nurture peace, generosity, and compassion. We will open the hour with centering prayer and wisdom literatures from diverse traditions, and then move into the contemplative. [To Join the Zoom Webinar, Click Here](#).

Tuesday Discerning Worship with Karen Jensen and Frank Garcia-Treto - 1:00pm

Worship is about so much more than just a sermon. Join a discussion lead by Karen Jensen and joined by Dries as we discuss the upcoming Sunday's Scripture and make it relevant to our lives. Through art, poetry, and meditation, we explore the multi-facetedness of God's word for our time. [Contact Karen Jensen to receive Zoom invite](#).

Wednesday Zoom Knit-In - 7:30am

All knitters and crocheters are welcome to join. For further information, [contact Caryl Gaubatz](#). Even though we may not be able to enjoy each other's physical presence, we realize the need to remain a "knitted-together" community. Plus there are real psychological benefits to working with one's hands: the repetitive motions of knitting activate the parasympathetic nervous system, calming the "fight or flight response." (*British Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 2013). [To Join Click Here](#).

Wednesday Midweek Check-In and Prayer with Dries - 9:00am

These are trying times. Not being with each other removes the sense of connection. Join Dries for a midweek check-in and prayers as we cultivate a community of faith that seeks to nurture and support one another through life's trials and triumphs while we minister to the brokenness in the world. [To Join Click Here](#).

Thursday Theology 101 with Dawn Martin - 7:00pm

Deepen your faith with Dawn Martin as you engage in a theological conversation. Dawn has taught courses in Philosophy and Theology, Civil Engagement, Peace and Power, and Utopias and Dystopias, at Drew University, St. Mary's University, and Hanover College. Her areas of academic study include political theology and peace-making. [To Join Click Here](#).

Saturday COVID-19 Bereavement Support Group - 10:00am

This weekly online support group is for those who have lost loved ones to COVID-19. This informal group will be held one hour a week and is limited to 20 people. [Contact Joseph Luedecke, LMSW for more information and to sign up](#).

SESSION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS - JULY 2021

- There was no July Session meeting, so no highlights to share.
-

ADULT STUDIES OPPORTUNITY

How do you take Jesus seriously, when what he says isn't so clear?

We've all read or heard a Bible story that didn't make much sense to us. Amy-Jill Levine has spent her life uncovering religious confusion. Her new book, "The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings," is being released in August 2021. Perfect timing for the re-start of our Sunday school Bible study class.

More perfect timing: Melissa Kirkpatrick will be teaching the class. A graduate of Jefferson High School, she returned to San Antonio and was unpacking boxes when the pandemic lockdown started. Nonetheless, she found a home at UPC. After Jefferson, she earned a master's and Ph.D., focusing on American cultural and religious history. And, she earned a Master of Theological Studies. And, she is a Certified Christian Educator in the PC(USA).

Back to author, "AJ" as she calls herself. Her new book explains how Jesus's words would have sounded to the people who first heard them, how they would have been understood over time, and how we might

interpret them in the context of the Gospel of love and reconciliation.

Surprise! AJ is an Orthodox Jew who is a New Testament professor at Vanderbilt Divinity School. When she lectures she asks her students to take Jesus seriously. But how? It's hard without understanding the circumstances around a biblical story. She teaches it with constant humor, ancient wisdom, and current cultural knowledge. Listen to a few minutes of her teaching style [here](#) or [here](#) for proof. "Dr. Levine writes like she talks," Melissa said. "I always love it when I've heard an author speak and then can hear their voice when I'm reading their work."

When? Starting September 12, join in any Sunday you can make it (time TBA.)

Where? Room 1 of the Center for Education.

Who's invited? You don't have to know anything about Jesus to dive into this class, because AJ tells the stories. If you think you know a lot, you'll learn something new, for sure. Expect to ask questions.

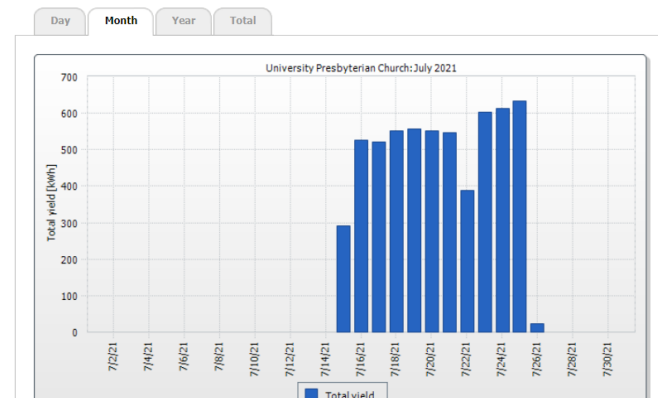
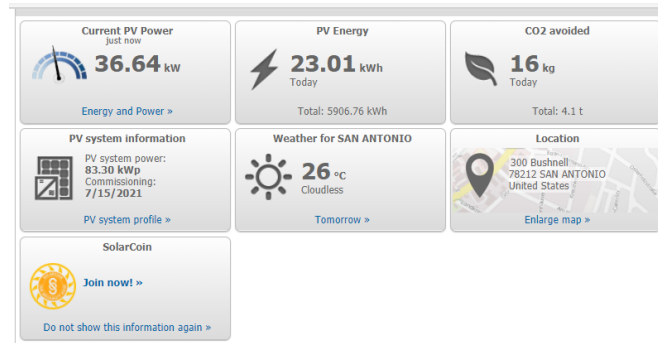
Is there homework? There will be some reading, but it won't seem like homework. No pop tests.

SOLAR PANELS ARE PRODUCING

On July 15, 2021, the solar meter was installed by City Public Service (CPS) and our solar panel array started producing electricity. It is still too early to show the cash savings as our meter usually gets read by CPS later in the month, so we will give you an update on our savings in a few months.

The solar panel system consists of 266 solar panels which were manufactured by Mission Solar here in San Antonio. It is a 97 kW DC systems which should produce about 154,190 kWh on an annual basis. We have one inverter system from ABB. We have monitoring software from Sunny Portal that shows how much we produce every day (see photo.)

Those who have been to the church in recent months, have experienced the benefit of having a shaded carport to park underneath especially in the hot summer months. That the teachers and parents at the children's center have also been grateful for the shade.



ONLINE GIVING / STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for continuing to support the church with your pledge. Continue to mail checks to the church office or [CLICK HERE](#) for online donations.

UPC FINANCIALS

Thanks to all who have been keeping up with their pledges in 2021. We have a healthy balance in most of the special funds which are non-operating funds, usually designated for a particular purpose. The overall balance in the special funds account is \$131,643. The sanctuary remodel project is close to being complete with only new rugs and new chairs to be installed around Labor Day. The solar panel project was completed on July 15 and electricity is flowing from the panels. The SoL Center offers interfaith adult education and has an operating budget of \$33,160 and separate endowment accounts.

Financial Report for June 2021 - Operating Budget				
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Annual Budget
Revenues				
Pledge Income	\$278,613	\$268,228	\$10,385	\$536,456
Reimbursements	\$35,188	\$35,188	\$0	\$70,376
Other	\$48,483	\$36,939	\$11,544	\$54,349
Total Revenues	\$362,284	\$340,355	\$21,929	\$660,835
Expenses				
Mission, Outreach & Justice	\$31,932	\$35,480	-\$3,548	\$68,430
Stewardship & Finance	\$5,701	\$4,525	-\$1,176	\$9,050
Personnel	\$195,841	\$218,000	-\$22,159	\$438,000
Christian Education	\$844	\$4,125	-\$3,281	\$8,250
Worship & Arts	\$1,488	\$3,850	-\$2,362	\$7,700
Facilities & Operations	\$58,131	\$67,250	-\$9,119	\$134,500
Welcome & Fellowship	\$2,360	\$4,625	-\$2,265	\$9,250
Session	\$2,652	\$2,603	-\$49	\$5,255
Total Expenses	\$298,948	\$340,458	\$41,509	\$680,434
Net Total	\$63,335	-\$103	\$63,438	

In addition to operating funds and special purpose funds, we also have Endowment Funds which are funds invested for the long term that help support programs of the church,

The SoL Center, and the University Presbyterian Children's Center. The January market value of UPC Endowments is \$632,454 and the book value is \$424,773. The January market value of SoL Endowments is \$150,113 and the book value is \$105,061. Endowments are invested and only the earnings or a percentage of the current value may be used regularly.

SPECIAL FUNDS HIGHLIGHT

The Stewardship & Finance Committee thought that it would be a good idea to highlight some Special Funds which have been established at the church and which are not part of the day-to-day church operating budget. These funds are usually established by an individual donor or by a committee for a particular purpose. [CLICK HERE](#) for a summary of these funds through June 2021.

If an individual donor wishes to make a gift which he/she designates should be invested by the church and only the returns from the investment used for a specific purpose, this is called an endowment. Endowment funds that University Presbyterian Church has are currently invested with either PCUSA's New Covenant funds or with Texas Presbyterian Foundation funds. If the donor designates how the returns from the investment should be spent, then a corresponding special fund account under the special funds checking account is set up and a committee is assigned which helps ensure that the funds are used as the donor designated. If the donor does not wish to have the money invested, but instead just gives money for a particular purpose, then a special fund can be set up or that money can be added to a special fund that has previously been set up and again a committee is assigned which helps ensure that the funds are used as the donor wished.

The Mortimer Fund is an example of an endowment that was set up in 1980 by the Mortimer family. The Mortimer family donated shares of Exxon stock over several years valued at \$100,000 and specified that the interest (returns) from the fund be used for some favorite missions – \$100 to House of Neighborly Service (HNS), \$200 to Ramparts Christmas Party and \$300 for special music when needed. At a later time, the Mortimer family changed their designated distributions to HNS money and to Capital Improvements as the Ramparts Christmas Party was discontinued and the special music had other funding sources. The money was invested into the New Covenant Funds and then a special fund where the returns are made available for spending was established. The Capital Improvement Fund is assigned to the Facilities & Operations committee.

The Solar Panel Project is an example of a special fund which is not an endowment, but where monies were gathered from the congregation and then were spent on the solar panels and carport structure. As soon as the project is completed, the fund will be zeroed out. This fund is assigned to the Facilities & Operations committee.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND COLLEGE MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Introduction from Erika Stiner

Hello! I am excited to join church staff as Director of Children's Spirituality. I am grateful for the trust you are placing in me to teach and care for your children. My background is in theatre and education, and recently I served as the Director of Children's Ministry at Travis Park Church. I love to teach and learn through storytelling, imagining, and wondering. I have been around children long enough to know I don't have all the answers and to enjoy the questions and perspectives people of all ages bring to the conversation. My family (Justin, Blaine (7) and Elise (3)) and I are looking forward to being involved in community life at UPC. As a family we enjoy spending time outside together, snuggling our kittens, and Friday pizza and movie nights. I am looking forward to getting to know you in the coming weeks. If you would like to contact me, [please email me here](#).



Back-To-School Blessing

It is back-to-school season! Going back to school can bring up lots of feelings, especially this year. We want to honor this transition as a community. Bring your backpack, book bag, lunch box, nap mat, or anything you take to school with you to 10am worship on Sunday, August 8th for a back-to-school blessing. Students in PreK to grad school, teachers, custodians, and bus drivers; anyone starting a new school year is invited to participate. We will invite everyone forward during Children's Time for a blessing and a gift. Questions? [Contact Erika Stiner](#).

Semester Kick-Off

UPC youth and children and their families are invited to a Semester Kick-Off on Sunday, August 29th

from 6:00pm-7:30pm. We will meet in the parking lot so please park along the street. This event will be a time of fellowship as we prepare for a new season and routine. There will be games and activities for all ages. Families are encouraged to bring their own meal and we will provide ice cream for dessert! Please [reach out to Hannah Cooley](#) or [reach out to Erika Stiner](#) with any questions.

Nursery Items Needed

As we are preparing to open nursery childcare in the fall (in a new location on the church campus), we are in search of several items to make the space safe and comfortable for our youngest members. If your family has outgrown any of the following and you would like to donate it to the church [please contact Erika Stiner](#) for delivery options and if the need is still there.

- Pack N Play
- Baby Bouncer
- Baby Swing
- Portable Crib
- High Chair

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

UPC Youth Ministry had a fun and busy month! At the beginning of July, UPC and Forest Hills teamed up to take a group to Mo Ranch for Jr. High Jubilee. With over 100 kids from all over Texas in attendance, students got to play games, participate in small groups, swim in the river, go on the high-ropes course, have tons of fun with energizers, and even watch fireworks on July 4th. It was a great opportunity to be in community and have fun together.

The sanctuary reopened at UPC on July 11 and we were able to begin worshipping together in-person for the first time since March 2020. We continued with summer programming, including game night and a trip to TopGolf with Forest Hills, Travis Park, and St. Luke's youth. We had a blast! We were also lucky enough to be hosted by Lisa Clyde for a UPC Youth pool party. As August starts, we are planning a Back-to-School Blessing on Aug. 8. (See article above.) We are looking ahead to fall programming and can't wait for our Back-To-School event alongside Children's Ministry on August 29th. (See article above.)



COLLEGE/YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Members continue to meet online and are looking forward to redefining its young adult ministry to foster inclusion. If you'd like to be a part of this conversation, [please contact Dries](#).

SUMMER REFLECTION

As the 2nd summer of SOIL: School-age Outdoor Investigational Learning draws to a close, we wanted to share reflections from the children and educators. As a bit of background info, the SOIL program hosts approximately twenty 5 – 9-year old children every week in June and July where the children spend the day learning in, with and through nature as they explore animal related topic and activities through an emphasis on science, math, literacy, Spanish and the creative arts depending on the week. The SOIL programs gives the children and families a chance to reconnect with friends and teachers from their early years at UPCC and the chance to meet new friends that come to SOIL from the community and UPC. The early weeks of the program this summer were especially unique given that for several of the children it was the first time in over a year that they were attending school or camp in person and having the opportunity to play and explore with other children outside of their home. This summer was a very special time to reunite with others as is evident in the reflections of a few of the children and SOIL teachers:

- V, age 8: "The best thing about SOIL is being able to learn outdoors with your friends and getting to learn with your teachers like when the teachers were teaching they also learned with us."
- S, age 9: "Playing outside and the Olympics," which were sport activities the children played in the lower lot some of the afternoons.
- R, age 5: "It was nice and fun and I learned new things."
- H, age 5: "Everything, every....single....thing!"
- S, age 9: "Just being with my friends, again."
- Sandy Stout, educator and SOIL assistant administrator: "The best is reuniting with the kids that return in the summer and seeing their growth is such a great feeling. I also enjoy seeing how the older children guide and in their own ways teach the younger children. Watching the 2nd and 3rd graders read to the kinders is such a joy!"
- Malerie Morales, educator: "The most rewarding moments in SOIL were when the students were engaged in the activity more than the teachers as well as the relationships built with the students."



THE SOURCE OF LIGHT CENTER

The SoL Center is continuing to offer online programming (meetings and webinars via Zoom). [Click here](#) for full class descriptions and instructor bios.

Horizon's Presbyterian Women's Bible Study

What My Grandmothers Taught Me:

Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus by Merryl Blair

Led by Rev. Monica Thompson Smith

Schedule: Tuesday, Aug. 10, Wednesday, Aug. 11, and Thursday, Aug. 12; 10:30am-12:00pm

Tuition: \$15 before Aug. 3, \$20 after (scholarships available)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

CONGREGATIONAL UPDATES

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Partnership of Prayer

Over 160 people are currently united in praying for others as needs arise. If you would like to participate or if you have a prayer request, please [contact the church office](#) or [contact Kate Wilson](#).

NEW MEMBER PROFILE

The Tellegen-Cathay Family

Helen and Steven were married in Austin in 2017 and moved to San Antonio for Steven to work as psychiatrist at the Texas State Hospital. Helen graduated from the Texas Health Science Center in Nursing, she is currently a psychiatric nurse practitioner, working at the University of the Incarnate Word but she is quick to point out that her greatest achievement in life is being a mom to Dylan, four years old, and Margaret, one year old, born in January 2020 during the pandemic. Dylan is smart and very focused, and Margaret is adventurous and fearless, so they'll be sure to add a lot in the future!



Helen began to desire a spiritual home a few years ago, where she could worship and bring up her children. She was raised Presbyterian, but they were interested in finding a place where spirituality, intellectualism and inclusivity could coexist. UPC is the first church that Steven has ever joined. She found these qualities at UPC on her first visit, feeling the kindness and sincerity of the UPC community. They joined together in the summer of 2019, before the pandemic and zoom. She feels encouraged to grow spiritually and treat others in our society with compassion and tolerance, which in turn brings her closer to God. She has a genuine interest in youth ministry as an area to get involved, and has already participated in the women's book group.

We welcome Helen, Steven and the children, Dylan and Margaret, to our community with open arms and hope to meet them all personally in our new hybrid (zoom and in person - 10:00am) worship very soon!

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

2-Luke Addington

3-Gael Marin

4-Leslie Ellison

4-Marc Smith

6-Emma Davis

9-Maureen Nowotny

10-Jennifer Lawrence

12-John Lawrence

14-Melayne Anderson

14-Katy Bravenec

15-Ramesh Srinivasan

15-Finnegan Tingle

15-Will Whitworth

16-Bill Germer

16-Jacob Tingle

17-Michael Smith

18-Elise Stiner
19-Adrian Bernal
19-Brandon Bernal
19-Christopher Bernal
19-J.R. Gingerich
19-Melody Kuykendall
19-Julia Rodriguez
21-Gail Plummer
24-Samuel Lewis
25-Paula Bondurant
25-Simon Thompson
26-Don Drummond
27-Zachary Esman
30-Liz Helser
31-Kemp Davis
31-Wilbert Ryan

Anniversaries

2-Bonnie & Barry Bartlett
3-Marian & Larry Higgins
6-Melody & Andy Hull
7-Cathy Leary & Bill Germer
11-Paula & Ed Bondurant
12-D'Ann & Mark Seaman
14-Jennifer & John Lawrence
16-Lorna & Jim Shinkle
17-Jeanna & Cabral Balreira
18-Cynthia Lyle & David Young
19-Lois & Steve Jensen
23-Melissa & Daniel Almsted
26-Helen Tellegen & Steven Cathey
31-Dorothy & Tucker Gibson

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

UPC Building Improvement Fund in honor of Patti Jewett and Lou Williams
Linda Ireland

SoL Center Programming Fund
Jane Warsaw and Willy Ryan

SoL Center Endowment Fund
Establishing the Waheeda Kara Named Endowment
Anonymous Donor

SoL Center Endowment Fund
Establishing the Mehmet Oguz Named Endowment
Anonymous Donor

PEOPLE SERVING YOU

STAFF

Anastasia Bernal - Church Administrator
Allan Catlin - Facilities & Event Steward
Cindi Catlin Gaskins - Children's Center Director
Andries Coetzee - Pastor
Hanna Cooley - Youth Ministry Director
Mary Lowder - Organist
Dhawn Martin - SoL Center Director
Keith Martinez - Choral Music Director
Erika Stiner - Children's Spirituality Director
Frank Villalpando - Custodian

SESSION

Ruling Elders - Committee Serving

Kristen Addington - Stewardship & Finance
Melissa Almsted - Christian Education Co-Chair (Children), UPCC Board Liaison, and Nominating Chair
Melayne Anderson - Middle School Youth Elder
Catherine Bray - Worship & Arts Chair
Terry Fried - Stewardship & Finance Chair
Melody Kuykendall - High School Youth Elder
Melinda Louden - Mission Outreach & Justice and SoL Board Liaison
Art Nicholson - Facilities & Operations
Melissa Richard - Co-Clerk of Session and Welcome & Fellowship
Jim Rogers - Facilities & Operations
Amy Shaw - Christian Education Co-Chair (Adult)
Ariel Simpson - Personnel Co-Chair
Don White - Facilities & Operations Chair
Andrew Wilson - Mission Outreach & Justice Chair

Non-Session Members - Committee Serving

Sandy Nicholson - Church Treasurer
Betsy Pasley - Co-Clerk of Session
Lou Williams - Personnel, Co-Chair

DIACONATE

Deacons - Parishes and Assignments

Carol Brown - Moderator
Dale Clyde - University Parish
Bonnie Flake - Northwood Parish
Caryl Gaubatz - Olmos Parish
Melody Hull - Northwest Parish
Linda Ireland - Northeast Parish
Cynthia Smith - Windcrest & Out-of-Town Parish, Treasurer
Anne Pearson - Alamo Heights Parish
Carlos Rodriguez - Fredericksburg Parish
Bonnie Simons - Castle Hills North Parish
Kay Todd - Downtown & South Parish
Janice Zitelman - Stone Oak Parish, Vice-Moderator



UNIVERSITY
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
San Antonio, TX

UPC'S MESSAGE TO YOU

*Wherever you may be in the journey of faith, UPC welcomes you.
We are a community where honest questions are valued
and where faith is considered a process, not an arrival.*

*Affirming that every person has worth as a unique creation and a child of God,
we welcome into full participation people of every age, sex,
race, color, ethnicity, culture, immigration status, political affiliation,
economic condition, physical and mental ability, marital status,
sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression.*

*If you are passing through, we extend God's blessings to you as you continue on your way.
If you are seeking a home, we invite you to join us in the adventure
of serving Jesus Christ in a challenging world.*