



The Chimes

March 2020: Web Edition

A Message from Thomas Brown, Minister of Music

My dear University Church family,

On President’s Day, 2002, three and a half months before I began my work at University Church on June 1st, I underwent an emergency quadruple bypass surgery. At that time, I was also diagnosed with Type II Diabetes (diabetes and heart disease are often symbiotic.) Although I’ve done what I can to keep my diabetes under control, the neuropathy which often accompanies that disease has been creeping into the tips of some of my fingers and especially into my feet over the past six or so years. In 2015, when all this started to become ‘real,’ I recorded the CD *Favorite Organ Music from the Liturgical Year* in an effort to create a tangible record of my work and presence as an organist at University Church. As a pianist, I was for eighteen years the Artist-in-Residence at a fall music festival in Michigan ... I had to give that up three years ago and stopped playing the piano in public when I could no longer reliably feel the damper pedal under my right foot, nor could I get used to the unusual lack of feeling in some of my fingertips. As things have progressed, both of my feet have now lost a substantial amount of feeling, to the point that playing the organ at a high level has become quite challenging. What used to give me such joy and satisfaction now mostly rewards me with anxiety and frustration.

The reality is that this condition will continue to worsen. And as I have always strived to offer my best, I hope you can understand why it’s important to me to step down while I’m nearer the top of my game than nearer the bottom. I don’t want to be remembered as someone who was ‘once’ a good organist. Please know that this has been a massively difficult decision, as my retirement will also mark the end of my fifty-year musical career. My last day on the organ bench will be Sunday, May 31st, the Day of Pentecost (and, ironically, the last day of my 18th year of service to University Church).

I will miss all of you terribly! But as I intend to stay in my cozy house in Colony Woods, I hope I might run into some of you now and then at the Harris Teeter!

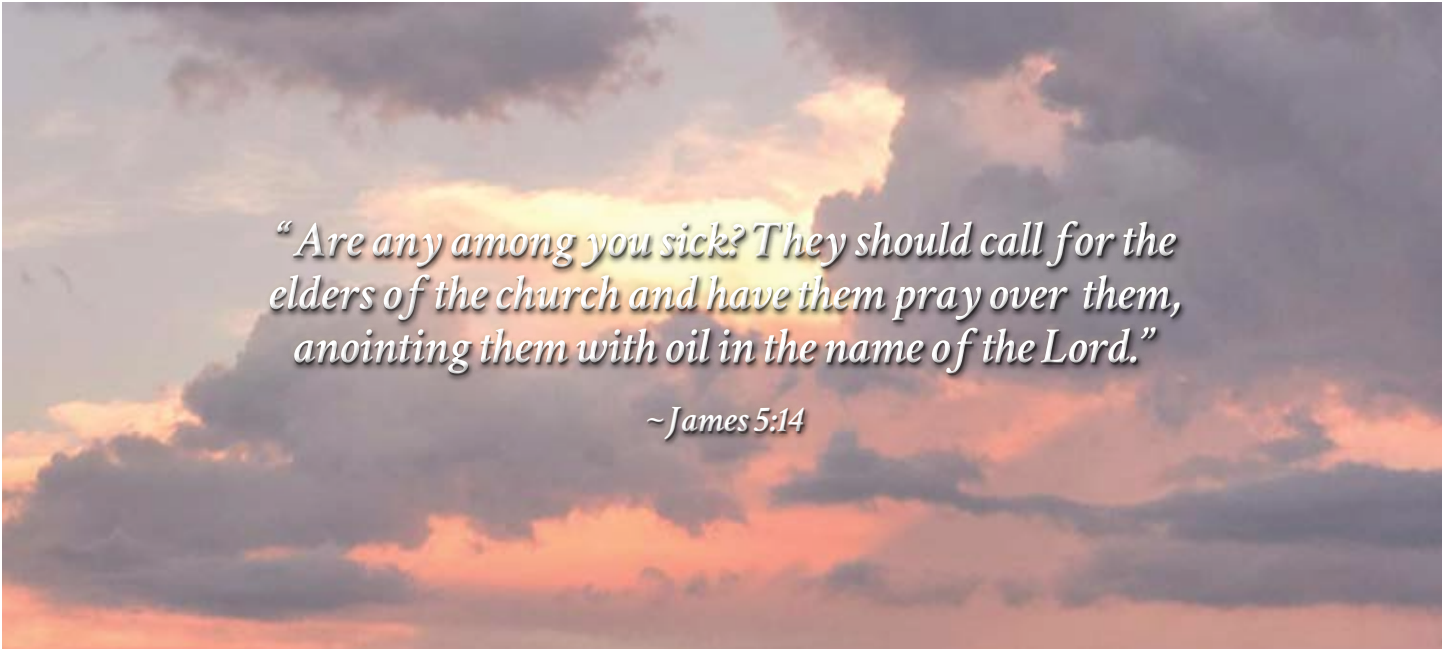
It has been an honor and a great privilege to serve University Church as its Minister of Music for the past eighteen years.

Faithfully,

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Our Church Family



Local hospitals and clinics do not provide notifications or lists that would inform the church and its staff if you are hospitalized, receiving treatment, or undergoing surgery. The UPC congregation and its pastors take seriously the call to pray and be present with those who are in need, so we encourage you, a friend, or a family member to let us know if you have scheduled surgery or have been admitted to the hospital. During the week, please call the church office at (919) 929-2102. After normal office hours, call the church office and dial extension 133 for the pastor on call.

Publications

UPC members are welcome to submit content for Sunday’s bulletin announcements or for *The Chimes*, UPC’s monthly newsletter.

Please submit content to communications@upcch.org. The content deadline for the bulletin announcements is each Tuesday at 10:00 a.m., and the deadline for *The Chimes* is always the 15th of the previous month at noon.

The content deadline for the April edition of *The Chimes* is March 15, at noon.



UPC Staff

- Meg Peery McLaughlin, Co-Pastor
- Jarrett McLaughlin, Co-Pastor
- John Rogers, Associate Pastor for Campus Ministry
- Kate Fiedler, Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries
- Kim McNeill, Staff Associate for Youth Ministries
- Nancy Myer, Staff Associate for Children’s Ministries
- Thomas Brown, Minister of Music
- Kathleen Jasinskas, Youth and Children’s Choir Director
- Ellen Parker, Director, UPPS
- Jeanette Schmidt, Office Manager
- Melanie Chanko, Administrative Assistant
- Katharine Yager, Controller
- Melani Willhite, Financial Assistant
- Dennis Dallke, Property Manager
- Rob Kurtz, Sexton

R.O.I.* – Tom Warburton

*Return on Your Investment

In one of the first few sermons Jarrett McLaughlin preached at UPC he noted that the number of third-graders reading at grade level was dropping, especially for children of color. “It got me wondering what a church like this might do to help,” he said.

Tom Warburton tucked that thought in his pocket and carried it with him as he left church. A member of Session, he brought it up at an Adult Education Committee meeting, launching a discussion on ways the church could have more impact in the community. Another committee member searched online at the meeting for some ideas and found a website about volunteering in the local public schools.

A few weeks later, Tom and his wife, Judy, both career educators, received their acceptance letter to School Reading Partners. Every week since, they’ve each spent an hour reading to preschoolers and first-graders, interacting with them over books.

Stewardship doesn’t end with our pledge dollars, nor does it end when we leave the sanctuary.

“Many people in the congregation are doing these sorts of things very quietly,” Tom said. It’s one of the main reasons he and Judy keep worshipping at UPC week after week.

“People give most convincingly when it’s themselves they are giving,” Tom said. “I’m moved by that kind of person.”

Tom and Judy both understand the value of reading aloud to children — they read to their own children as they were growing up and now read to their grandchildren. And as teachers, they know the importance of interacting with students, connecting with them, acknowledging them as a way of validating them.

“We have the greatest effect when we relate to the people we’re teaching,” he said. “If you don’t have a line of communication open, you’re not going to teach them anything.”

The individual attention shown to children can be powerful. Tom recalled a day when he began to read to a couple of preschoolers, and one little boy began reciting the story along with him. Once the children had gone back to class, the teacher supervising their reading session said, “That’s the first time that little guy has ever spoken.”

As is true for others, Tom’s and Judy’s calling came to them in worship. “God’s son represents what we ought to be doing in the world”, Tom said, “and Christ was a teacher.”

“But I don’t think it’s that direct,” Tom said of why Jarrett’s comment hit him so acutely. “When you hear of a need, and you think you can help, you respond.”

“Indeed, isn’t that why we’re here, together, to respond to each other?”

Memorial Garden

Jesus was smart to use things like seeds and weeds to describe the kingdom of God. The mystery and magnificence of God’s love is hard to bend our brains around all the time, but watching the natural world do it’s thing—and better yet—getting our own hands into the dirt to play around with it, is a tangible way to connect to our faith. Literally in the center of our church, the core around which the whole physical plant is shaped, is a garden. It is a place to come and remember that though the grass withers and the flowers fade, the Word of God will stand forever; that in life and in death, we belong to God. The UPC Memorial Garden is a sacred space to practice our faith. If you have interest in helping to tend it every now and then, or be part of the team that ensures its sustenance and health, Pastor Meg would be delighted to talk with you about that.

Email meg@upcch.org or (919) 929-2102.



Youth Choir Showcase Spotlight



Our Youth Choir had a blast presenting selections from “Children of Eden” last month. We ventured to Carol Woods under the kind hospitality of Gail McKinnis to present the show for more than a hundred residents, family, and friends. The next evening, we came home to the UPC Sanctuary and repeated the show with the addition of beautiful costumes and student-run sound. It was a very special weekend, and I was completely in awe of the way our community came together to make it happen. Special thanks to all who were involved - we left the experience grateful and energized for what we can do with this show in the future!

Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for our Junior Choir musical, “In the Image” by Mark Burrows. Performances will take place in worship on **Sunday, March 29 at both 8:30 & 11:00**. We are excited to share this story with you of what it means to be made in the image of God!



Come sing with us!

If you are new to our community, or simply have a student with a newfound love of music, please consider joining us anytime! We rehearse grades K-12 on Sunday afternoons and all are welcome, whether they have previous music experience or not!

For more information, please visit www.upcch.org/music or contact the Director of Children’s and Youth Music, Kathleen Jasinskas at kathleen@upcch.org



All are welcome at PYC!



Sunday School • Youth Group • Confirmation • Small Groups • Trips



All 6th-12th Graders are encouraged to attend PYC on Sunday evenings, 6:00-7:30 p.m. This group shares a meal together (bring \$5), enjoys fun and games, and spends some time each week in conversation about topics that help us along our faith journey. For more information about youth group or Christian education and formation for 6th-12th graders, contact Kim McNeill, Staff Associate for Youth Ministries, at kim@upcch.org.

March Calendar

Mar 1: Youth Group: 6:00 - 7:30pm, “Games!” – Enter 110 Henderson St. Pick up in the UPC parking lot.

Mar 8: Youth Group: 6:00-7:30pm, Middle School - Advisor Jeopardy! High School - Top Chef Challenge with Craig and Wick. Enter in the Youth Center.

Mar 15: Youth Sunday – Brunch for all youth at 9:45-10:30am in Fellowship Hall.

No evening activities

Mar 22: Youth Group: 12:00pm – 1:30pm, High School: Laughter Yoga; Middle School: Meditation, Meet in the Fellowship Hall. (Youth Choir from 1:30-2:15pm this day)

Mar 29: Small Groups – Check your email for small group meeting time and location.

For more information about PYC and other youth programs, please contact Kim McNeill, Staff Associate for Youth Ministries, at (919) 929-2102 or kim@upcch.org or visit www.upcch.org/pyc. Text the message @upcp to the number 81010 to join our text reminders.

Adult Education Classes

Term 4: Through April 5



Crossroads Class: All are welcome to join the conversation about living out our faith while balancing busy lives. Come and share your stories and insights, and enjoy the fellowship.

Facilitators: Laura and Robert Owen, John and Trina Rogers, Juli Kim and Reid Chisholm. Location: Dunham Hall.

Connections: “Responding to Gun Violence”

Please join the Mental Health Task Force for the Sunday School series “Responding to Gun Violence.”

This issue impacts our children (who prayed about school violence on Children’s Sabbath), our youth (who participated in the March for Our Lives rally last spring), and many of our adults. Join us in learning more about the impact of gun violence, and how our faith guides us to respond. Facilitators: Mental Health Task Force, Location: Vance Barron Hall.



Connections Schedule:

March 1- Overview of gun violence in the U.S. with Jeffrey Swanson, MD, Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University School of Medicine. Dr. Swanson’s areas of research include the epidemiology of violence and mental illness, and laws and policies to reduce firearms violence.

March 8 – The Community Response to Gun Violence, featuring Brian Curran, UPC member and former Chief of Chapel Hill Police Dept., and representatives from the Religious Coalition for a Nonviolent Durham.

March 15 – The Impact of School Shootings, featuring a school principal, parent, student, and mental health specialist from the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools.

March 22 – The Public Policy Response, featuring a representative from the NC Council of Churches Gun Violence Prevention Project and Moms Demand Action.

March 29 – The Christian Response, featuring Co-Pastors Jarrett & Meg Peery McLaughlin.

Adult education classes meet on Sundays during the program year (September - May) from 9:45-10:45 a.m. Information on the current term, including classes, facilitators, and locations, can be found on the UPC website at upcch.org/adult-education. For questions about adult education classes and adult programs at UPC, please contact Kate Fiedler, Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries, at kate@upcch.org.

Faith Connections on Mental Illness Conference: March 13

“And so the voices on the margins get heard and the circle of compassion widens. Souls feeling their worth, refusing to forget that we belong to each other,” says Father Greg Boyle, founder of Homeboy Industries, Los Angeles, CA, in his book *Tattoos on the Heart*. Fr. Boyle and two homeboys will be sharing how they engage in healing conflicts and instilling hope of a fulfilling life at the *Faith Connections on Mental Illness Hope & Healing Conference 2020: Faithfully Practicing Community Inclusion* on Friday, March 13 at the McKimmon Conference Center in Raleigh, NC. Speakers from the Durham Nativity School, Rebound, Recovery Communities of NC, and Reintegration Support Network will present how engagement and support creates a healthier community. For registration and more information, visit faithconnectionsonmentalillness.org/annual-conference.html.

Second Sunday Lunch

All are invited to join the gathering on Sunday, March 8, in the Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 am service. The Membership and UPPS Committees will host and provide a main dish and beverages. Those who attend are asked to bring a vegetable dish, a salad, or a dessert for approximately 12 people. Please be generous!



All new members, visitors, and students are welcome without contribution. If possible, we ask members to add a label to your dish specifying allergens to help show hospitality to those with food allergies and other dietary needs. Labels such as “gluten free,” “contains peanuts/tree nuts,” or “vegetarian” are helpful to ensure everyone can enjoy food and fellowship at church. All are welcome!

A STEADY REMINDER OF GOD'S PRESENCE

(A Care Receiver and Stephen Minister Relationship Story)

Mark and I had been married 26 years. Our sons were 18 and 20. We loved being parents, but we were eagerly anticipating the empty nest and having more time for each other.

In the fall, when our younger son started college, Mark began having stomach issues, a cough, and back pain, which lingered for a few days and then disappeared, only to reappear later. When his doctor ordered a MRI, the results were devastating—Stage IV pancreatic cancer, already in his liver and both lungs. Mark was only 53.

Our lives were turned upside down. I suddenly found myself trying to provide emotional support to Mark and our sons during the worst experience any of us had ever endured. I wanted and needed to keep myself together to focus on caring for Mark, but I was emotionally drained—full of sadness and terrified of what the future held. I had always been a “take responsibility for everything myself” person. However, I knew I couldn’t do this alone. I talked to my pastor and she suggested matching me with a Stephen Minister. I agreed, and less than two weeks after Mark was diagnosed, my Stephen Minister came for the first of her weekly visits.

It’s difficult to convey how important this Stephen Ministry relationship was for me. I had an amazing support from my pastor and many other people, but the time I spent with my Stephen Minister was the only time in the week I could truly focus on my own needs. She was there just for me.

My Stephen Minister let me know that, while she was very concerned for Mark, her role was to be my support—to listen and help me process what I was feeling and experiencing, without giving advice or telling me what to do. The consistency of our Stephen Ministry relationship was crucial in helping me cope. I knew I could share anything with her, and that’s where it would stay.

Mark’s illness progressed rapidly—ten weeks of treatment, followed by six weeks of hospice, and then his passing. My needs changed as I went from being a wife to being a caregiver to being a grieving widow and dealing with everything that the loss of a spouse entails. Through it all, my Stephen Minister’s love and support continued. She was there for me at every stage of my journey. It was never easy, but my Stephen Minister helped me through the most difficult moments of my life.

I really can’t say enough about how much I appreciate my church’s Stephen Ministry. The compassionate, consistent, and confidential support of my Stephen Minister was so important in helping me cope—and then begin to heal. Her weekly visits became an anchor in my life—something I could rely on when everything else was so uncertain. She was a steady reminder of God’s presence, helping me know I was never alone.

Adapted from Stephen Ministries St. Louis article.

Don’t walk your challenging journeys alone, call Meg.

Holy Listening by Meg Peery McLaughlin

Sacred speech and holy listening: that is what is happening in conversations between a Stephen Minister and Care Receiver and it has unfathomable power. In a busy world of spin, mindless chatter, and pressure to think, vote, appear, and feel in prescriptive ways, having space to tell the truth is a rarity.

Perhaps listening seems like common sense, that it’s an ordinary practice, but it is anything but. Listening is both work and art, both spiritual and physical.

Join us on **Monday, March 16th at 7 pm** in the Stephen Ministry Room and we will spend some time focusing on this holy task together.

Vacation Bible School 2020



VBS Registration is now open!

Mark your calendar for UPC's Vacation Bible School! We will gather June 29-July 2 at New Hope Camp & Conference Center, and our theme will be "Great Big Beautiful World." During the week of VBS, we will discover more about God's love for all of creation and how we are challenged to care for God's world in tangible ways.

Online registration for volunteers, UPC member participants, and UPPS families is now open and is available for rising 4-year-olds through 5th graders. (Note: This is a change from last year. Children must be 4 years old by 9/1/2020 in order to register.) See more details at upcch.org/vacation-bible-school. Registration for the wider community will open on Sunday, March 15. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Myer at nancy@upcch.org, Megan Crunkleton at meganwolf@mac.com, or Lucy McMillan at lucy.a.mcmillan@gmail.com.

UPC PYPs 2020

Mar. 14th	Movie Night	Fellowship Hall	5:30 - 7:30 PM
Apr. 12th	Easter Egg Hunt	UPC Front Lawn	10:15 AM
Apr. 19th	Pot Luck & Game Night	Fellowship Hall	5:00 - 6:30 PM
Apr. 25th	PYP Squeaks Farm Visit	1870 Farm	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
May	Service Event	TBA	TBA

Parents of Young Presbyterians (PYPs) is a group for parents of children who are infants through fifth graders. PYPs sponsors a variety of events throughout the year; some are family-oriented and some are intended specifically for parents. Plan to join us for these PYPs events! If you have questions about PYPs, please contact Nancy Myer at nancy@upcch.org or (919) 929-2102.

We Celebrate Our New Members

In February, University Presbyterian Church joyfully welcomed the following new members into the life of the church:

Janet and Richard Andre

Janet and Richard join by reaffirmation of faith. You'll often see Richard as an usher at the 11:00 am service; Janet sings in the choir. Both enjoy traveling widely. Ask them about where they have used their passports recently.

Nora Holley and Mike MacMillan



Nora and Mike join by reaffirmation of faith. Mike grew up in Durham and went to UNC. Now he is an adjunct professor at the Media Journalism school. Nora was born in Greensboro, but grew up in NJ. She worked at Bloomingdales for 25 years as a VP/General Manager and now has a kitchen and design business. Nora and Mike bought a meadow and some woods in Chapel

Hill, designed and built a house that they moved into 18 months ago! They have 5 children aged 20-31.

Mary Kay and Joe Robinson



Mary Kay and Joe transfer from a local congregation. Both Mary Kay and Joe sing in the choir and have shared their musical talents in worship. Mary Kay plays the violin; she currently teaches in the music department at Duke. Joe served as Principal Oboe of the New York Philharmonic for 27 years from June 1978 until September 2005.

Jessica and Jonathan Stewart and their children Gray and Sam



Jessica and Jonathan transfer from Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church, Charlotte. Their toddler boys, Gray and Sam, enjoy the nursery during worship. They enjoyed being active members at Selwyn Avenue PC, and look forward to getting more involved and connected at UPC.

Laura and Shaun Horrigan and their children Ella and Patrick



Laura and Shaun transfer from Westminster Presbyterian Church, in Westlake Village, CA. They moved to the area in August. Their kids are Ella (in the third grade) and Patrick (in kindergarten).

Luke Sine



Luke joins by reaffirmation of faith. His wife, Rachel Smith Sine, has been a part of the UPC family since she was four-years-old. Luke grew up in Canada and serves as a firefighter. Ask them about their wedding story.

Janet and Rob Smith



Janet and Rob transfer from South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church, Charlotte. They recently moved to Chapel Hill, and they are the proud grandparents of Margaret, Olivia, and Jack Wallace (and parents of Ashley).

Sally and Willie Thompson

Sally and Willie transfer from College Presbyterian Church, Hampden- Sydney, VA. Sally was brought up in a Methodist Church in Durham, and she graduated from Duke. Sally taught K-grades 2 for 30 years in NC & VA, and served more recently for 10 years on the Farmville, VA Town Council.

Willie has been an ordained Presbyterian minister for nearly 60 years. Willie has served churches in Rocky Mount, NC; Alexandria, VA; Washington, DC; and was pastor of College Church at Hampden-Sydney, College Chaplain there, and occasional professor there and at Longwood University. He has enjoyed long-ago friendships with UPC personnel such as Frank Porter Graham, Vance Barron, Harry Smith, Bob Dunham, Bunny and Thelma Boyd ... and he has known D.G. Martin since he was a teenager.

They are both solidly committed to social justice issues, albeit Willie also has "conservative credentials" in that he has been part-time chaplain of U.S. Senate and was formerly a baby-sitter for Billy and Ruth Grahams' children.

Congregational Retreat Registration is Open!



Are you ready to rest, relax, and retreat from your busy lives? Join your church family for a weekend in beautiful Montreat as we experience scripture, keynote speakers, workshops, pottery, hiking, and much more!

Don't miss this opportunity to live in community with UPC as we explore the theme Path of Peace. We'll explore the ways God calls us to experience peace and pursue it in the world. To register online and for more information about our schedule and workshop options, go to www.upcch.org/retreat.

2020 Congregational Retreat FAQs

Q: Is this retreat for families only?

A: No! UPC members of all ages and stages of life attend the congregational retreat. That's one of the best things about it. This event is a chance for all in our church to spend time in community together. We have options that everyone can enjoy no matter your age, and we've found that unique bonds are created across many generations during this special weekend.

Q: Do we sleep in cabins? Isn't Montreat a youth camp?

A: We don't sleep in cabins! We sleep in the Assembly Inn hotel, which was recently renovated. It's a beautiful stone building at Montreat Conference Center. Montreat does offer many options for young people during the summer, but they cater to all ages at Assembly Inn and have all the creature comforts we're used to.



Q: How's the food? My child is a picky eater.

A: Montreat's Galax Dining Room offers a variety of options at meals. There's always a bountiful salad bar. Plus, our UPC BBQ on Saturday night is a tasty church tradition not to miss! If you have concerns about allergies, please note it in your registration, and we'll make sure you have specific allergen information.

Q: I'm not sure we can afford to attend. I heard there are scholarships available. What does that mean?

A: Yes, we have a retreat scholarship fund to help with costs. We will work with you to determine how we can best meet your family's needs when covering lodging and retreat costs. There's no special formula. A scholarship application form is available on the retreat website (www.upcch.org/retreat), or you may email a church staff member to let us know that financial assistance would make it possible for you to join us. We will communicate with each family on an individual, confidential basis.

Meet our Keynoter



David LaMotte will be our keynoter for the weekend. He is an award-winning songwriter, speaker and writer. He has performed over 3000 concerts and released twelve full-length CDs of primarily original music, touring in all of the fifty states, and five of the seven continents. The Boston Globe writes that his music "pushes the envelope with challenging lyrics and unusual tunings, but he also pays homage to folk tradition," while BBC Radio Belfast lauds his "charm, stories, humour, insightful songs, sweet voice and dazzling guitar ability." LaMotte suspended his eighteen-year music career at its peak in 2008 to pursue his other primary vocation by accepting a Rotary World Peace Fellowship to study International Relations, Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. As part of that study, he also spent time in rural Andhra Pradesh, India working with a Gandhian development organization. David has published three books and founded

a non-profit organization, PEG Partners, that focuses on literacy, critical thought, and artistic expression in Guatemala. Read more about David and his incredible work on his website www.davidlamotte.com.

Gifts of Beauty & Bounty

Join us this year as we honor and memorialize the special people in our lives in one of two ways. You may give an Easter Lily which will be used to decorate the chancel for Easter, or you may make a contribution to the Inter-Faith Council for Social Services which will be used to provide support to those in our community who are in need. You may choose to do both! The names of those we honor or remember will appear in the Easter Sunday Worship Bulletin, April 12, 2020. If you would like the church to send a postcard notifying the person or family member(s) being honored, please print clearly the name and the address of the honoree beside the name.



Please complete this form and return it no later than noon on Monday, April 6, 2020.

Your name(s): _____

Daytime telephone number: _____

Please order _____ lily(ies) at \$12.50 each.

Please make check payable to University Presbyterian Church, marked "Lilies"

Any amount received in excess of the cost of the lilies will be used by the Flower Committee occasionally throughout the year to provide arrangements in the sanctuary.

In lieu of flowers, I wish to make a contribution to the Inter-Faith Council in the amount of \$_____.

Please make your check payable to University Presbyterian Church, marked "Inter-Faith Council."

These gifts are given: (Please print clearly)

In honor of: _____

Check here if you wish a postcard sent notifying the honoree of the gift.

Please include complete mailing address including zip code, and print clearly.

In memory of: _____

Check for \$_____ payable to "UPC" (with "Lilies" marked in the memo line) enclosed (\$12.50 per lily).

Check for \$_____ payable to "UPC" (with "Inter-Faith Council" marked in the memo line) enclosed.

Please return this form to:

University Presbyterian Church, Gifts of Beauty and Bounty, P.O. Box 509, Chapel Hill NC 27514-0509.

Deadline for orders: noon on Monday, April 6, 2020

This form is available online at: www.upcch.org



All are welcome!

Newcomers, visitors, UNC faculty, students

University Presbyterian Church is affiliated with The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and is a Stephen Ministry Congregation. On Sunday mornings, worship services are held at 8:30 and 11:00 and Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Children of all ages are welcomed and cherished by this congregation. Childcare for infants through kindergarteners is provided on Sunday mornings by our paid nursery staff and parent volunteers.

The Sanctuary is wheelchair accessible. Handicapped parking spaces are available, and a parking assistant will be available to help you out of your car. Assistive hearing devices and large-print bulletins and hymnals are available during worship. Office hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30. Call (919) 929-2102 for more information. Learn more about UPC's programs at upcch.org, facebook.com/upcch, and instagram.com/upc_ch, or call (919) 929-2102.

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The Chimes Newsletter: March 2020

Kirk Club for 4th and 5th Graders

Kirk Club - Looking Back and Looking Ahead

Kirk Club in February included a behind-the-scenes organ tour with our own Tom Brown! Kirk Clubbers enjoyed seeing all the ins and outs of the organ and each got to take a turn playing it. Thank you, Tom!



Kirk Club continues this month. All 4th and 5th graders are welcome to attend on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 3:45-4:45 p.m. in the Youth Center. Our time together includes snack, fellowship, recreation, and a lesson tailored to the needs of this age group. These young people

learn how to approach their faith in new ways as they engage in thought-provoking discussions, wrestle with deeper questions, and grow in community with one another. This program prepares our 4th and 5th graders for the transition to middle school and PYC by encouraging regular participation in a faith community and helping them understand how faith plays a part in everyday life.

If you have questions about Kirk Club, contact Kim McNeill, Staff Associate for Youth Ministries, at kim@upcch.org or Nancy Myer, Staff Associate for Children's Ministries, at nancy@upcch.org. Or you may call them at (919) 929-2102.