

WELCOME TO UPPC!

If this is your first visit, we are so glad you are here. In fact, we believe God brought you here today! Take a few minutes to read this bulletin to find out about some of the ministries going on at the church - getting involved is the best way to meet people and connect. We'd also love to have you stop by the Welcome Center (just outside the Sanctuary doors) after service. There is someone available to answer questions about the church as well as to let you know more about ministries and opportunities available for you and your family.

We hope this morning is meaningful and rejuvenating for you!

MINISTRY MOMENT

CHRISMON TREE | JILL GEYEN

Having the Chrismon tree up during Advent has always been a cherished church tradition for me. Among the decorations and activities, it stands as a symbol of what Christmas is about.

Christmas trees by themselves do not have a Christian origin. But they can serve as a reminder of the gift and meaning of Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection. Trees bring life to other living things. The lights on the Chrismon tree remind us that Christ is the Light of the world. The ornaments in white, gold, silver as well as the pearls, remind us of Jesus' purity and majesty. They represent many aspects of Christ and what He is to us. The crown at the top reminds us that He is our King and Lord.

The other symbols on the tree help us to remember other important things about Jesus that are written in scripture. He is the alpha and the omega. He is part of the eternal trinity. He brings peace. He is the anchor and symbol of our faith brought forth through the virgin birth. The many different crosses remind us of His crucifixion, His wounds, and the power of the resurrection.

Our culture has oversaturated this season with commercialism, hectic schedules, and unrealistic expectations that often leave us exhausted, depressed and disappointed. There are many who celebrate Christmas only for the gift-giving and fun, leaving Jesus completely out of the picture. For those of us that believe that Jesus is, "the reason for the season", we can lean into His promises of love and peace, remembering that His birth was a gracious gift to humankind. As I look at the Chrismon tree, I think about this gift. We are redeemed and loved by our Savior. That is the best gift of all!



SERVICE INFORMATION

Reclaiming the Wonder of Christmas: "Once you Believe, Anything Is Possible"

Luke 1:67-80

Rev. Aaron Stewart, Senior Pastor

Rev. Mike Moffitt, Associate Pastor

9:30AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

**Please stand if able*

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. Diana Greene, Minister of Worship; Art Peterson, Organ & Piano; Andrew Sims, Percussion; Blane Gosselin, Trumpet; Chancel Bells

Prelude: "Angel Tidings" by Dobrinski

Welcome & Call to Worship

***Carol of Praise:** "O Come All Ye Faithful"

Advent Candle Lighting: Ed, Amanda, Alexander and Aria Wood

Ministry of Music: "Angels We Have Heard on High" arr. Dobrinski

Prayer for the Children & Greet One Another

Message

***Carol of Response** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

God's Tithes & Our Offerings

Rooted Cardboard Testimonies

Ministry of Music: "On This Day Earth Shall Ring" arr. Moglebust

Prayers of the People

***Sending Hymn:** "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

The Blessing

Postlude: "Jingle Bells" arr. Dobrinski

11AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

Worship Leaders: Loren & Melinda Tucker

Advent Candle Lighters: Stephen, Carly, Laken and Noah Hansen

"Christmas Day" by Chris Tomlin & We the Kingdom

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing" by Phil Wickham

"Behold" by Phil Wickham

"Here Comes Heaven" by Elevation Worship

Rev. Aaron Stewart | Senior Pastor

Rev. Mike Moffitt | Associate Pastor

Wifi: UPPC Guest | Password: welcome2

WAYS TO GIVE AT UPPC:

- Offering plates in service
- Online: UPPC.org/give
- UPPC app



**UNIVERSITY PLACE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Sunday December 18, 2022

CONNECT

Info and registrations at UPPC.org/events and on our app!

Blue Christmas

Wednesday December 21 | 7pm | Sanctuary and UPPC.org/live

Christmas is a magnifier. It can make the good in life seem really good, and the difficult things more challenging. Feelings of loneliness are skyrocketing, and if you've lost a loved one, Christmas can be a really hard time of year. But, we also know there is hope and peace beyond those circumstances. Join us for a service designed to acknowledge our grief and loss, and focus on the promise of hope.

Christmas Eve Services - New Times!

Saturday December 24 | 11am, 4pm and 6pm

Invite friends, family and neighbors to join you for one of our three Christmas Eve services. Bring the kids to a service designed for families with young children at 11am. Join us for a candlelight Christmas Eve service at 4 or 6pm.

Christmas Day Services

Sunday December 25 | Streaming Only | UPPC.org/live

We know Christmas morning is a special time with friends and family. Christmas Day service will be streamed at 9:30 & 11am, with no in-person services. The service will also be available at any time at UPPC.org/media. This will enable you to join us when it works best for your family. We hope this special service will help you celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Employment Opportunity at UPPC

Director of Communications

We are seeking an experienced, full-time Director of Communications. This position manages UPPC's digital and printed communications. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please send letter of interest and a resume to Mike Bates at mbates@uppc.org.

Equipping

Sundays January 8-29 | 12:30pm | Light lunch provided

Did you know that being a Christian is actually a skill? Equipping is a brief, 4-week small group about the four Discipleship Fundamentals. Each week you'll get an actual piece of discipleship "equipment" and an overview of the basic skills needed for following and deepening your relationship with Jesus. Sign up at UPPC.org/events.

End of Year Giving

As we approach the end of 2022, we are looking ahead to ministry in 2023. Your faithful giving has enabled us to reach beyond our walls to show the love of Jesus to those in our community and around the world. We are looking at how we can continue to grow our ministry in 2023. Please consider an extra end-of-year gift so we can finish strong, ready to start a new year of growth and increased ministry.



Support Youth Ministry

Wednesday January 4 | All Day | MOD Pizza (in store and online)

Help our students earn money for camp this summer by buying pizza at the UP MOD Pizza on Wednesday January 4. Go in (3626 Market Place W, Suite 105) or order online through the MOD app or website and use the provided coupon code, MODF17868, and MOD will donate 20% of your bill to support their great work!

Worship anywhere with our *Wonder* series playlist on Spotify!

Here's how to find it on Spotify:

1. Open Spotify, search for "The Wayside" and scroll down to find them under 'Profiles.'
2. Follow the account to have access to all our playlists.
3. Click the heart icon for any playlists you like, and they'll show up in your Spotify library.

Or use the above QR code to take you straight to the list - be sure to 'love' it so it shows up in your playlists and you can find it again easily!



PRAYERS

Jill McMullen, Minister of Care | 253.564.2522 ext. 139, jmcmullen@uppc.org

- If you would like to share a prayer request or praise, email prayerrequests@uppc.org.
- If you would like info on support groups, or for a deacon to pray with you during the week, contact Jill McMullen.

PRAYERS

- Sheila Bennett is recovering from brain surgery to repair damage done by a virus. Prayers for her healing, for her husband Dave as he supports her and for her children.
- Ginny Lease, mother of Greg Lease, is recovering from fractures following a fall. Prayers for healing.
- Don Moffitt has been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. Prayers for him as he learns to live with it and for his wife Sharon and their family as they support each other.

CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

Steve Berntson, John Brooks, Billie Brown, Toby Ek, Dave Ernst, Llew Ernst, Janet Fry, Bert Hill, Sharon Knoll, Mark Koch, Kellyn Kohler, Clarine Kvamme, Buck Mann, James Matthaei, Kara McDaniels, Nick McKenty, Robin Miller, Noelle Nelson, Bob Parker, Dave Robert, Shirley Romanovich, Emil Schlenker, Ginny Siegle, Elizabeth Spitler, Dick Stender, John Sutton, John Warner, Jeri Witmer

THOSE BEING TREATED FOR CANCER

Mark Baldrige, Sally Bolton, Kristy Burnette, Kathryn Castle, Keith Chambers, Jane Chantler, Ron Coleman, Matt Cushman, Bob Dippert, Chris Field, Tiana Graves, Bob Gunderson, Kathy Horst-Smith, Amy Hunter, Julie Judy, Brittini Kelleher, Peter MacDonald, Susan Perong, Sarah Rauen, Marge Ritchie, Jim Seidel, Mario Silva, Ralph Storey, Fred Turshman, Jan Vick, Gaylord Warren

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathy to Rod, Debi and Brandi Livengood at the loss of their son and brother, Jeremy, on December 14, 2022.



DO LIFE TOGETHER

We comfort and care for each other, both here and around the world.

MAKE ROOM

We value sacred space - our gatherings are a place of Holy Spirit moments and great healing.

LOVE KIDS

We honor children and youth - through spiritual growth and general nurture - as a foundation for all we do.

CREATE

We encourage music and the arts to enhance our worship and celebrate God's goodness with others.

EMBRACE MESSINESS

We are guided by the Bible, embracing both spiritual truth and God's grace, as we share life's journey in all its messiness and all its glory, together.

SHARE

We share our abundant blessings generously - through service and mission, God-given talents and wealth.