

The Chimes



Volume.16 Issue.2 February 20, 2019

Lenten Schedule

March 3, 2019 Transfiguration of the Lord, Communion, Exodus 34:29-35; Luke 9:28-36 "First Hard Turn" Rev. Laura

Tuesday, March 5th Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner for youth fundraiser 5:00—7:00 PM

Wednesday, March 6, 2019
Ash Wednesday 7:00 AM and 6:30 PM

March 10, 2019 1st Sunday in Lent Daylight savings begins VIVID event — "Leap into Lent" — an introduction to Lent 4:00 PM Judas—Brian Fox Ellis

March 17, 2019 2nd Sunday in Lent Mary Magdalene—Laurel Huston

March 24, 2019 3rd Sunday in Lent Food on the Fourth Jericho Brass leads music Youth fundraiser at Oliver's 4:00 to 8:00 PM Pilate—Stan Strickler

March 31, 2019 Fifth Sunday, 4th Sunday in Lent Can-a-thon
Mary—Heather Blase

April 7, 2019 5th Sunday in Lent Communion 1:00 Hospice worship Peter—Andrew Harrison

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Insert

Spring Into Nature

Calendar for March 2019

Church Leadership

Session Laurie Hartshorn, Clerk of Session

Class of 2019 Class of 2020 **Class of 2021 Charlotte Cronin** Tim Cole Christie Cook Mary Jo Mays Deb Hanson Ellen Grohovena Alicia McKeighan Don Hartshorn Judy Helm Megan McKeighan Pam Madden Jerry Randall Kathy Nordvall Alexis Maloof Jim Sullivan

Board of Deacons

Class of 2021 Class of 2019 Class of 2020 Alice Bremner Theresa Bender Judi Beck Eva Grubbs Ken Krancher **Audrey Beeney** Erin Heilman John Madden Pat Bensing Rich Lansdowne Sue McGill Theresa Buley Jan Mooberry Rick Noetzel **Betty Downard** Kim Murray Deb Paul Ann Gropp Stephanie Randall Nancy Pogue Megan Marsh Mary Vetter **Bev Ranson** Kathy Nixon Julie Watson Myrna Schwarz Nancy Thompson

Session Committee Moderators & Liaisons

Church Life Charlotte Cronin
Hospitality & Growth Ellen Grohovena

Christian Education Pam Scranton/Cindy Shipley **Human Resources** Pam Madden/Deb Sullivan Member Care Mary Jo Mays /Deb Hanson Christie Cook/Jenna Hague Mission **Properties** Bob McDowell/Don Hartshorn Stewardship & Finance Megan McKeighan /Tim Cole Worship & the Arts Mark Hanson /Jerry Randall Preschool Judy Helm/Kathy Nordvall

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) Les Boswell, Mark Hanson, Sean Jennings*,

Nicole Livsey, Alexis Maloof*, Sally Maubach, Stan Strickler

*Co-Moderators

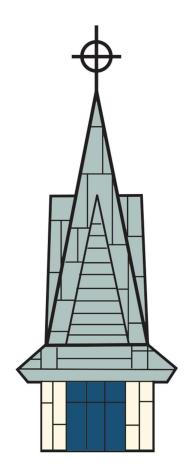
Pray for the pastoral leadership even now being prepared by God to partner with UPC.

Interested in joining United Presbyterian Church?
Contact the pastor or visit our website at: www.unitedpc.org.

Letter from Laura

It's that time of year when I start to pull all my financial records together to file my income tax returns. I don't enjoy it in the least, except for reviewing the donations file because giving brings me joy. Giving is about God, not us, all day and every day. I'm writing about these matters because someone told me he'd like to know where his pastor stands on these issues and what my personal practices are. I tithe, as I was raised to do. I throw my loose change into a jar every day and send it back out in different ways. I support every offering my church receives and am filling boxes for the Rummage Sale. I toss items for Food on the Fourth into my cart at the grocery store. It doesn't feel sacrificial. Rather it fills me with joy. I know when I stand before the judgment throne of Jesus, I will have to answer for every excuse, every missed opportunity and every moment I choose something easy.

This is also the time of year when families have an opportunity to do some serious thinking about their finances and our priorities. It is a time, also, for our church family to review finances and priorities. We know something about proportional giving to God already here at UPC. Our responses to special requests are overwhelmingly generous. Our voluntary per capita giving to Presbytery doubled last year. We raised



\$18,000 for our Youth Mission Trip. Through UMM we gave over \$107,000.00 directly against the mortgage in 2018. However, the pledge drive failed to bring in the income for the operating budget that is necessary to sustain our church building and our ministries. I'm convinced that at UPC, once everyone understands what's needed, our church family will respond and support the ministries of the church. Through hiring our new treasurer, Kenton Bowles, in October 2018, we have discovered that the hard work done in 2016 that led to the reduction of a pastoral position was not enough. We have more work to do to have a balanced budget every year. In 2019, we need to increase our income, reduce expenses and continue to aggressively reduce the mortgage. When the Session meets on 2/26 we will continue working on creating a balanced 2019 budget and will share the results of that work with you soon.

I am thankful for the constant ways God shapes, hones and sandpapers my life into being more and more who I am called to be. As we enter this Lenten season of repentance and self examination, I am grateful to be surrounded by so many faithful people also seeking God's will for their lives. Your energy and passion are inspiring. I am grateful to be partnered with you for this time.

Blessings,

Rev. Laura

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Worship & the Arts

We Were There

A Drama reflecting the experiences of those surrounding Jesus, written by Marla Ehlers, will be the focus of our Lenten journey this year.

Ehlers asks if we can ever truly experience the grief of Good Friday? We know how the story ends on Easter, but living on this side of the resurrection, does that joy keeps us from fully realizing the tragedy that Christ's death brought to those who lived through it? Whatever their understanding of his ministry, whatever hopes and dreams they had built for the future, all came crashing down before the stark and ugly death he suffered on the cross. Leader, friend, teacher, son—all seemed irretrievably lost. Christ cried out from the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" voicing the cries of many hearts that day.

Here at UPC, we will listen in as five people touched by Jesus in his last hours discuss this tragedy, this abandonment. Perhaps we can understand in some small measure just how devastating Jesus' death was, and, consequently, how indescribably wonderful his resurrection and our salvation is. Come and journey with these five at UPC. Pass through their grief. Let it shape you as it did them so that, come Easter morn, you too can know the full joy of Christ's resurrection.

Our journey this year starts with the Transfiguration on March 3rd, as Peter, James, John and Jesus go on a spiritual retreat to Mount Tabor before heading to Jerusalem.

We will have **pancakes** on Tuesday, March 5th – ancient Lenten practices have us give up fats in our diet for Lent. The next morning and evening, **Ash Wednesday**, join us at **7 AM** and **6:30 PM** for worship. For the next five Sundays (March 10th-April 7th), we will meet the five people touched by Jesus in his last hours:

Judas - Brian Fox Ellis Mary Magdalene – Laurel Huston Pilate – Stan Strickler Mary – Heather Blase Peter – Andrew Harrison

VIVID on March 10th will be a "Leap into Lent". **VIVID** on April 14th will take us on a "Walk Through Holy Week"

Good Friday on April 19th will find the sanctuary open for **prayers all day into the evening**

Easter Sunday April 21st will find us at Grandview Park at **sunrise (6:15)**, rejoicing in the rising sun and the Risen Son and worshiping again at **10:00** in the sanctuary.

Song Suggestions

Do you have a favorite hymn or song that we haven't sung in a while? Please let me know! Email aschultz@unitedpc.org with your suggestions. Certain songs have a way of nestling deep into our hearts and imaginations, and the act of singing them in a faith community is a profound sacred experience. I would love to know what songs are important to you.

News and Notes

Wrestling in the Daylight

The Interfaith Team of Presbytery of Great Rivers hosts Rabbi Brant Rosen of Tzedeck Chicago-author of "Wrestling in the Daylight".

Rabbi Rosen presents **"Facing Israel/ Palestine: A new Model for Interfaith Relations"** on Tuesday, March 26th at 7:00 pm at the Life Together Center at First Federated Church, 3601 Sheridan Road, Peoria.

Rabbi Rosen explores the history of Jewish/ Christian relations around the difficult issue of the Israel/Palestine conflict. He will offer a new model for interfaith relations based on common prophetic values that could promote a future of justice and peace for all who live in this troubled land.

This free event is hosted by the Interfaith Team of the Presbytery of Great Rivers. For more information call 217-737-3359 or see the brochure on the south hallway.

Snack Pack Needs

We are in need of 100% fruit juice boxes and individual breakfast cereal boxes for the snack packs. Thank you in advance for all donations to this important ministry of UPC.

Prayer Corner

Please keep the following people in your thoughts:

Eunice Andrews

Karen Black

Mary Buesing

Penny Brower

Charles Cook

Kerry Dickerson

Betty Downard

Mary Everett

Geneva Hall (Gulley)

Jes Hall

Doug Jackson

Mary Jermac

Ann Jones

Dwight Jones

Katie (Cronin)

Mike Kelley

Ralph Krall

Debbie Kutter

David McDowell

Nadine Moore

Dean Peoples

Christy Presseau (Maloof)

Projeto Amar, our Brazilian Mission Partner School

Jeff Rickett

Anna Saxon

Fred Selling

Janet Shepler

Larry & Sara Stotts

Josh Swank

Felicia Vallosio

Cal Vobroucek

Richard West

Jon Wrigley

Ruthie Yingling

Our prayers of Christian sympathy for Corey & Brigit Harper on the death of their son, Jaxson, on January 28, 2019.

Our prayers of Christian sympathy to the family of Mark Hurd who died on January 31, 2019.

Our prayers of Christian sympathy to Jon, Josh, and Justin on the death of their wife and mother, Kim, on February 3, 2019.

Our prayers of Christian sympathy to the family of Greg Martin, who died February 3, 2019.

Our prayers of Christian sympathy to Virleen Mach, on the death of her husband, Duane, on February 8, 2019.

Congratulations to Bernie Cambron on celebrating her 96th birthday on January 20th.

Our prayers of Christian sympathy to the family and friend of Ann O'Brien who died in early February.

Christian Education

Oliver's Fundraiser Night for Youth Mission Trips - 4th Sundays 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Oliver's North, on Willow Knolls, is sponsoring fundraiser nights for UPC on the 4th Sundays of every month except December in 2019. Whether ordering carry out or eating in, simply make sure UPC is written on the bill and they will donate 15% of the proceeds to our Youth Mission Trip fund. This is an excellent fundraiser for us. If you like to dine out on a Sunday evening, please consider eating at Oliver's on 4th Sundays and helping our youth at the same time. We are sending our Senior Highs to Triennium, held on the campus of Purdue University July 16th-July 20th and those who have finished 6th to 8th grades to Stronghold for camp July 7th-July 12th. We still need about 3500.00 to fund these two Youth trips this

The **Youth Pancake Supper** will be on Tuesday, March 5th from 5:00 –7:00 pm. All proceeds support the youth trips this July.

summer.

RUSH/QUEST youth groups will be meeting from 11:30 to 1:00 on Sunday, March 10th. See you there!

Make your summer plans: Registration forms for Youth Triennium and Stronghold Camp are available in the church office.

Sunday School Work Day

We're tired of this snow and ice, so we're starting our spring cleaning now! We want to get our Sunday School spaces organized, clean and



inviting! We are asking anyone who can lend a hand to stay after church on Sunday, March 3rd and help us. Bring a change of clothes, a sack lunch, and join us at 11:30 and help us with the transformation. Childcare

will be provided.

We will have sit down work available – our art supplies need sorting, and someone needs to check each marker to see if it's working or dried up!

More about the Sunday School Workday:

- Teams will be assigned to specific rooms
- Task checklists will guide your work in each classroom – when the checklist is completed, you're done!
- Cleaning supplies will be provided
- Water bottles will be provided
- We need muscles to move some large furniture/ equipment Please contact Pam Scranton if you can help on Sunday, March 3





Support Christian Education at United Presbyterian Church and be a hero for your child!

Thank-You Notes

Thank you so much for the lovely reach out card for my birthday. That was the biggest surprise ever. Bernie Cambron

Dear Friends,

Words can't express how grateful we are for the generous gift of \$1000 to Give Kids the World Village. For many of our visiting families, Give Kids the World is their only vacation together. Thank you again for helping us create magical experiences for thousands of families every year. We simply could not do it without you.

Pamela Landwirth, President & CEO, Give Kids the World Village

Thank you so much for all the lovely Valentine cards and other acts of kindness shown me. I so appreciate my church family.

Bill Bunker

Thanks to Nick and Sandy Nott, we now have some outstanding jigsaw puzzles available for your enjoyment. What a good pastime during this cold weather! Come take a look. The Library Committee

I was filled with love from you, when Bev Ranson brought me all the Valentines. I appreciated the time and effort you all put into this mission. Thank you. Mary Zentgraf, Lutheran Hillside Village

On behalf of my mother, I want to thank Alice Bremner for stopping by to deliver a bag of Valentines. Mom really enjoys looking at the cards. Thanks also to Deacons Mike Kelley & Rose Dickerson for their visits who bring communion each month. With the recent weather mom hasn't been able to get out very much, but she otherwise is in good health and will turn 96 later this year.

Many thanks for thinking of her. Cheryl Gnepper

We want to thank Theresa Bender for taking time to deliver a Valentine gift bag to us full of cards and of candy from our fellow members. Thank you to all you who sent cards and candy. Our walking prevents us from getting to church and we do miss that. Happy belated Valentines to all our fellow members. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Bobbie & Bill Rice

Nature Connections

God's Natural World Photo Contest Time to print those pictures you have been taking on our wonderful campus this past year for *God's Natural World Photo Contest.* If you haven't had an opportunity to take any so far, consider exploring the campus in winter and discover that winter has beauty also.

Submissions are now being accepted. The entry box will be located in the Welcome area outside the sanctuary, along with entry forms. Please fill out an entry form for each photo submitted and tape the form to the back of the entry. Remember photos must not exceed 8 x 10 and be mounted with a plain black mat not to exceed 11 x 14. Each participant may enter two (2) photos so select your best!

For rules and submission requirements pick up a brochure in the Welcome center or contact Nancy Jones 264-0810 or email njones58@sbcglobal.net. All submissions are due **March 17, 2019**.

Awards will be announced <u>March 24,</u> <u>2019</u> during Nature Connections **Spring** into Nature Day event in Fellowship Hall after Worship.

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Faith Community Nurse

Colorectal Cancer

One of the health education topics for March is colorectal cancer awareness.

Colorectal cancer occurs in the colon or rectum, and is often called colon cancer, for short. Polyps are abnormal growths that can form in the colon or rectum. Over time, some polyps may become cancerous.

As people age their risk for developing colon cancer increases. Greater than 90% of colorectal cancer cases occur in people 50 years of age and older. Other risk factors include a history of inflammatory bowel disease, a personal or family history of colorectal can-

cer or polyps, certain genetic syndromes such as familial adenomatous polyposis or hereditary non-polyposis colorectal cancer, and lifestyle factors. These lifestyle factors include to-bacco use, alcohol consumption, a low-fiber and high-fat diet, a diet low in fruits and vegetables, and obesity.

The most effective way to decrease the risk of colorectal cancer is to get screened routinely, beginning at the age of 50. Polyps may not cause symptoms and may exist in the colon years before invasive cancer develops. During screening, a precancerous polyp can be found and removed before becoming cancerous. In addition, if colorectal cancer is found early during screening, there is a greater chance for effective treatment.

Colorectal polyps and colorectal cancer may not cause symptoms initially. This is why screening is so important. Symptoms, if present, may include blood in or on your stool; stomach pain, cramps, or aches that don't go away; and unintentional weight loss.

There are various screening tools available. It is important to talk with your healthcare provider about which test is right for you. One test that we hear a lot about is the colonoscopy. This is a procedure in which the doctor uses a thin, flexible, lighted tube to look for polyps or cancer in the entire colon and rectum. During the procedure, the doctor can remove most polyps and some cancers. A colonoscopy is recommended every 10 years for those people who do not have an increased risk of colorectal cancer.

https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal/basic_info/what-is-colorectal-cancer.htm

https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal/basic_info/risk-factors.htm

https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal/basic_info/prevention.htm

http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal/basics_info/symptoms.htm

https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal/basic_info/screening/tests.htm

Keli Briggs, MSN, RN Faith Community Nurse

Volunteer Opportunity

There is currently a loving act of kindness volunteer opportunity for the members of UPC. One of our church members is in need of a kidney. If anyone is willing to have testing done to determine a possible match, please contact Keli Briggs in the church office or via email at kelirn@unitedpc.org. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this request.

Church Life

BUNCO

BUNCO will be Friday, March, 8 at 7:00 pm. Bring a dollar for prizes and snacks if you want. Contact Eunice Andrews at 688-8458 for more information.

Anna Circle

Anna Circle will be Thursday, March 14, 6:00 pm at WeaverRidge.

Lesson: Chapter 1 "It's Good to Be Queen"

Mission: Share the Warmth blanket ministry. Work days are the 4th Saturday of the month at 9:30 am.

Ladies Night Out

Place: Steak n Shake, East Peoria

Date: Thursday, March 21

Time: 6:00 pm

RSVP to Eunice Andrews @ 688-8458 or Betty Pugh

@ 822-8500.

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 20 9:00 –11:30 am

We invite the entire community and hope you will join us. Easter Egg Hunts are for ages infants up to age 10. There will be food, pictures, activities, and prizes. The hunts (by age group) start at 9:30 am.

Candy for Easter Eggs Needed

Candy donations of individually wrapped pieces to fill 4,000 eggs are needed to make our hunt a success. You can drop off donations in the church office. Help us fill eggs after worship on Palm Sunday, April 13th. We appreciate all the help and it's really fun.

One Day Sewing Retreat

Mark your calendars for the three remaining "One-Day Sewing Retreats" hosted by Church Life Committee and the Central Illinois Chapter of the American Sewing Guild. \$5 to "rent" a table supports the Youth Group Mission trip. Bring your project, large or small, and tuck in for a day of stitching and laughter. They're all happening on Saturdays from 8:00 to 5:00 in our Fellowship Hall; March 2, May 4th, and July 6th. Bring your own sack lunch and snacks. And be sure to invite a friend. Everyone is welcome! Contact Charlotte Cronin for more information at 253-4276.



MORE PRESCHOOL SPOTS ARE COMING!

In response to the overwhelming number of families that attended Community Registration Day, your preschool committee, in partnership with Christian Education and Properties committees, has made the decision to open a new classroom in the fall of 2019!

This will allow more families who <u>need</u> full-day preschool to register their children, as well as families wanting the half-day morning preschool option.

Tell your friends and family! Cash back tuition incentives to any preschool/church family bringing a new family enrollment to UPC Discovery!

Contact Pam Scranton with any questions

Meet Lora, our New Director

Come meet our new UPC Discovery Preschool director, Lora Taylor, at a coffee on Monday, March 4, 8:15 – 9:30 a.m. Pam will be introducing Lora who comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the early childhood field and has

been a volunteer at our own *Becoming Young Thinkers Summer Institute* for many years. Lora will display some of her project work with children. Lora comes on board on June 1. Have a cup of coffee and a treat and meet Lora.



Mission Committee

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

During Lent we spend time together hearing about and praying for the ministries of compassion and justice done through our support of One Great Hour of Sharing.

Jesus' ministry was among those who were most vulnerable. He preached good news to the poor and release to the captives. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering helps us share this same good news to those same vulnerable people in our world today: those who are hungry, who are suffering from disaster, who are dealing with oppression in society.

We are Presbyterians and ecumenical partners dissatisfied with poverty and oppression, united in faith and action through sharing, confronting, and enabling by participating in the empowerment of economically poor, oppressed, and disadvantaged people, seeking to change the structures that perpetuate poverty, oppression and injustice.

In the Gospels, Jesus Christ created relationships by befriending and assisting poor and oppressed people, and taught his followers to do the same. As the Body of Christ, we are called to be unified in faith and action through sharing our resources to confront poverty and promote economic empowerment. "He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" – Micah 6: 8

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People — all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Received during the season of Lent (March 6-April 20), each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

One Great Hour of Sharing, makes a difference in the world.

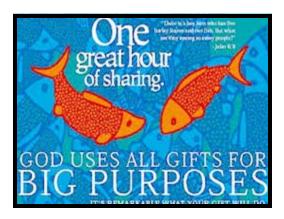
• PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA): Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters, and support for refugees: Receives 32% of funds raised

• PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM (PHP) : Takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed : Receives 36% of funds raised

• SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE (SDOP): Invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues: Receives 32% of funds raised

Every gift made to this offering will meet the needs of people, and you will hear about just a few of these individuals over the coming weeks in service. These stories will help us to see the face of those whose lives have been changed by our gifts, but they are only a few of the thousands and thousands of people served in this important ministry. You may also visit the One Great Hour of Sharing website

(<u>www.presbyterianmission.org/oghs</u>) to find out more information on how your support of OGHS helps people all over the world, and offer prayers for the projects and people who receive them.



Mission Committee Cont'd

Projecto Amar Update

The children who attend the Projeto Amar Learning Centers are excited to start the 2019 year! They were welcomed into the new year with fun decorations put together by the local teachers - Tia Keyla's Mickey and Minnie themed room for the 5 to 9 year old students was a big hit!

The whole VisionTrust team is so very grateful for the partnership with United Presbyterian and for each sponsor who is investing in the lives of these children through generosity, letter writing and prayers.

Please take a moment to pause and pray for the children of Projeto Amar, that they can grow physically, mentally, emotionally & spiritually this school year. Also, please pray for Tia Keyla and her fellow teachers as they serve faithfully at Projeto Amar.

Interested in sponsoring a child from Projeto Amar? Follow this link to learn more! https://www.visiontrust.org/children/brazil/br001-projecto-amar-1/





Peoria Area Anti-Hunger Coalition Food Share Can-a-Thon March 31, 2019

The Peoria Area Anti-Hunger Coalition in cooperation with various agencies, including United Presbyterian Church of Peoria will sponsor the 35th Annual Food Share Can-A-Thon on Sunday, March 31st.

Food items will be dropped off at UPC from 1-4 on March 31st.

If you are interested in helping, see the brochure on the bulletin board in the south hallway or contact Christie Cook for more information.

This is the 35th year of collecting food for the hungry.

Remember.....

There is NO HARVEST for the HUNGRY!

Spring into Nature

A Nature Connections Event

It has been a long winter but spring is on the way!. Remember how much fun we had welcoming Spring at our *Spring into Nature* event last year! Really, truly it IS time to think about Spring!



Activities for All Ages!

- Make a real wood bird house or a wood bird feeder
- Create a nesting materials ornament to give or hang
- Get milkweed seeds and find out where to plant
- Sign up for our new Garden Games
- IF we have spring flowers, take a walk to find them!

March 24, 11:00 - 12:00

Fellowship Hall

Vote for your favorite for People's Choice.

In the Connecting with God's Natural World

Photo Contest Display

THE CHIMES

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Education Hour 9:00 am (Sept-May) Worship Service: 10:00 am



We grow and nurture followers of Christ in a welcoming community.