

Our Core Values

Our Core Values are those commitments that guide and define our identity and mission. Core Values help answer the questions, *Who are we?*, *What's most important to us?* and *Why are we doing what we are doing?* The following Core Values shape our mission to "share God's love and grace" with all of God's children.

Worship

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Psalm 100:2

Education and Critical Thinking

Teach them the statutes and instructions and make known to them the way they are to go and the things they are to do. Exodus 18:20

Mission/Outreach

...I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me' Matthew 25:40

Community Fellowship

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Acts 2:42

Inclusive Hospitality

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. Romans 15:7

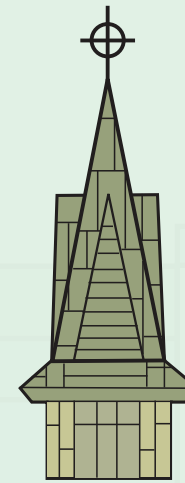
Joy

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

Respect Prayer Community Laughter Hospitality Joy
Mission Fellowship Relationships Critical Thinking
We Are United Christ-Centered Family
Love Music Education Worship Knowledge Fun Faithful
Outreach Spirituality Acceptance Generosity Action Diversity

We welcome all in the name of Christ regardless of age, race, sexuality, political affiliation, or economic condition. We invite you to join us as we worship the God of our salvation, learn to be disciples of Christ, serve our brothers and sisters, and share the joys of friendship and communion. These are our core beliefs:

- ◆ Our trust in the one triune God, whom alone we worship and serve;
- ◆ Our belief that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that He died for our sins in accordance with prophecy, and that He was raised from the dead, thereby breaking the power of sin and delivering us to life eternal;
- ◆ Our commitment to God's call in our lives (our vocations), our individual gifts in Christ, and the fact that we are saved to serve;
- ◆ Our reliance on the Holy Spirit for direction and grace and the courage to pray without ceasing, witness to Christ as Lord and Saviour, unmask idolatries wherever they exist, and serve Christ in all that we do;
- ◆ Our conviction that the Bible is the inspired and authoritative word of God;
- ◆ Our insistence that every member is a "minister," and that our pastors are uniquely called to equip the laity for ministry;
- ◆ Our assurance in God's sovereignty and our need to honor God's ownership in our stewardship and giving patterns.

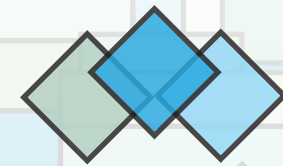


UNITED
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT UPC

Our Mission

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



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Worship

Sunday morning- During our 10:00am worship service you will see leaders of all ages singing and playing in the worship band, chancel choir, bell choir, children's choir, and various ensembles comprised of different musical instruments. We sing new and old songs, we read Scripture, we recite prayers and creeds, we proclaim the gospel in preaching, and we partake in the Sacraments of the Church. Our worship attempts to communicate the faith of our community in new ways that also connects with the ancient faith of the Christian Church.

Mid-month Worship- This evening service of Word and the Lord's Supper takes place on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm. Its intimate and highly participatory structure explores some of the rich Christian traditions of past and present.

Mission

Mission is more than a committee at UPC, it's the heart of who we are.

Faith in Action Sunday - We worship through service at local mission sites and nursing homes.

Snack Pack Program- We provide nutritious snack bags to children who are hungry over the weekend.

Family Christmas Shop - We host an event that provides presents and more for local families who need a little extra help at Christmas.

International Partnerships - We partner with missionaries and schools in Ethiopia and Brazil to help educate, nurture, and support God's children.

Education

Education is an important part of the ministry at UPC. We offer educational opportunities throughout the week for all ages.

Education Hour - Sunday mornings at 9:00am there are a variety of classes for adults, children, and youth. Nursery care is provided.

Connecting Point - Join us for dinner at 5:30pm and classes for all ages at 6:30pm on Wednesdays from September through April.

Thursday Morning Bible Study - This class studies the Bible verse by verse every Thursday from 10:00 - 11:00 am.

Other Opportunities - Special lectures and programs, 11-Minute Lessons on Sundays at 11:11am, Spiritual Book Club, Small Group Studies, and more.

UPC Discovery - UPC's Early Learning Center with programs for infants, toddlers, and preschool aged children.

Fellowship

At UPC, we invite all to share in the love and grace of God through fellowship with God and fellowship with each other. The diversity of fellowship groups offers a range of opportunities to get involved in the life of the church.

Children - Young Explorers, Family Halloween Carnival, Easter Egg Hunt, Cub Scouts, Picnics on the Playground, Parent's Night Out.

Youth - Quest Middle School and High School Youth Group, Confirmation, Boy Scouts, Mission Trips and Retreats.

Adults - Supper Clubs, Life Groups, Circle Groups, Game Nights, Sports Ministries, Family Events, Young Adult Groups, Moms Groups, Bus Trips, and special activities.

Please join us every Sunday after the 10:00am worship service for a time of fellowship and refreshments.