



UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 2018

The Value of a Logo

by Rev. Dustin Maddox, Associate Pastor

For our 50th Anniversary, our leadership agreed it was time to redesign our logo to more accurately represent who we are now in light of who God has called us to be and how we have lived our values over the last 50 years. A logo is an image which represents a larger reality. Far more than distinguishing between brands, logos at their best remind us of, and point us to, the larger values they represent. How does our new logo connect to our core values?

Everything about the new UPC logo centers on and revolves around the cross. In the center of our logo is a cross which represents our core value of being *Rooted in Jesus*. Jesus is at the center of our life together, holding everything else in place. As I've meditated on our logo, it has occurred to me the cross is without color which allows us to see through it. This is precisely how we as followers of Jesus are called to see everyone and everything: through the lens of the cross.

The cross, the representation of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, is also the source of our second core value: *Excellence in Worship*. The cross is where we see God's awe-inspiring goodness on full display, provoking within us a desire to respond in kind by offering our best to God with music, images, words, and other elements which together contribute to a deep sense of sacred space for the glory of God. Bringing our best also means we bring into worship who we are, including pain, doubt, or brokenness we might be experiencing on any given Sunday, just as Jesus cried out to God in despair on the cross.

Other central aspects of our common worship emerge from the logo as well. The circle resembles the top of a round loaf of bread, which points us to Communion, and the many shades of blue represent the waters of Baptism.

Our core value of *Authentic Relationships* is represented in four quadrants being equally bound together in relationship by the cross. These four pieces form a circle of kinship that remains open to the outside for others to be hospitably included.

Unity Over Uniformity is represented through the variations of shape and multicolored pieces of the stained glass which all belong and fit together to form a beautiful stained-glass mosaic precisely because of their differences.

Service to Community is also represented in the stained glass, as the broken pieces of the world are lovingly put back together again in and through the cross. Like the Japanese art form of *kintsugi*, meaning "golden repair," in which broken pottery is glued back together with gold—pointing to the beauty which comes from the healing of brokenness—so too our humble service to our community is participating in the beautiful repair and healing restoration of all things through the cross.

Finally, our value of *Lifelong Learning* is represented in both the cross and the stained-glass

elements. The cross is the place where we discover over a lifetime what God is truly like. There is never a point at which we've exhausted our discovery of the boundless nature of God's love. We strive to continue to learn and grow and unpack the beauty and complexity of the Triune God's life and love. Like a many-sided diamond refracting light in different directions and angles as it is turned, so too is our relationship with God illuminated in different ways at different seasons of our lives.

With so much meaning packed into a little logo, may you be reminded of who you are and why you're here each and every time you see our logo.

Grace + Peace, *Pastor Dustin*

Taking a Leap of Faith into a God's Great Adventure

by The Reverend Renn Serna, Senior Pastor

Friends, as we embark on our 50th Anniversary, dreaming about what God has in store for us next, I see so many parallels between where we find ourselves as a church, and where Aaron and I find ourselves on the journey to parenthood. Some days I am overwhelmed with joy, excitement, and anticipation, while others I find myself facing a great unknown, knowing it is going to be wonderful, but having absolutely no idea of how the future will unfold. For those of you who have undergone great leaps of faith before, these feelings may be familiar. What does it mean for us to step into the future and trust God will show up? It means being part of and partners in God's Great Adventure.



I know some of you may have questions about what my maternity leave means for UPC so I want to share a bit about our plans. I am so grateful to UPC for 13 weeks of maternity leave. This is a blessing to Aaron and I as we prepare to become acquainted with our little one and adjust to being new parents. While we can't predict the future, I am currently planning on working half time the last two weeks of November, being away full time December through the middle of February, and returning half time through the middle of March.

Because of the gifted leaders and staff at UPC, you will be in good hands during my absence. Plans are already in place for the holidays and beyond with wonderful guest preachers and liturgists lined up to assist in worship. We have so many exciting things going on in the life of our church under the capable leadership of our talented staff, dedicated and enthusiastic Elders and Deacons, and so many other gifted leaders who have stepped up to carry on our 50th Anniversary celebration and many other responsibilities.

While I am on leave I want to step away from email and electronic communications. Dustin and Kerry can reach me if necessary. That being said, I treasure cards, prayers, and words of encouragement you send my way. And I promise I will send pictures and keep you updated on how you can be praying for us, just as UPC will be in my prayers.

This season at UPC and in the life of my family will be full of wonder, promise, and growth. Thank you all for being part of what makes UPC such an amazing community and for your support of Aaron and I as we look forward to what is ahead. We are overjoyed at the changes to come, and can't wait to share this new adventure with you.

With love and gratitude, *Pastor Renn*

Maternity Leave Contacts

Pastoral Emergencies – Rev. Dustin Maddox, Rev. Tedd Lyons, Rev. Ruth Clayton

General Questions – Kerry Neal, Church Administrator
Music & Worship – Cactus Harris, Director of Music & Arts
Session and Ministries – Rev. Dustin Maddox, Temporary Moderator or Cordie Qualle, Clerk of Session

The church office which can be reached at 559-439-8807 or info@upcfresno.org.



Baby Shower for the Serna Family

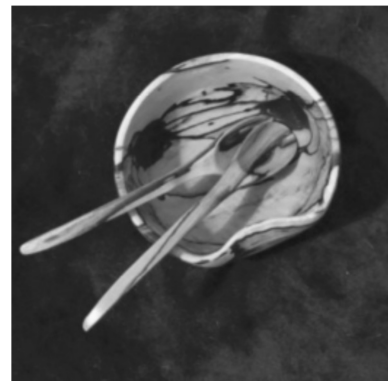
Save the Date! And watch for more information about a shower in the planning stages for **Sunday, October 14 from 2-4 p.m. at UPC** to celebrate the upcoming arrival of Baby Serna.

Lao Lunch Supports Our Partnerships in Laos

Lao Partners will be serving box lunches between worship services on Sunday, October 7. Our Lao congregation members are preparing delectable box lunches for \$7 each, and egg rolls (two for \$1). Thai tea is available for \$2. If you have already purchased food tickets, you can pick up your meals between services. If you did not purchase tickets ahead for the lunch boxes, they will still be available on October 7. The delectable box lunches are \$7 each, and egg rolls (two for \$1). Thai tea is available for \$2.

The group will also be happy to sell you raffle tickets before the drawing for a hand-crafted wooden salad bowl, pandao bed cover, and a beautiful hand-woven shawl. Raffle tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5.

Our Lao Partners have been traveling to Laos for the past 17 years, working to build a relationship with the Lao Evangelical Church. Our work together has included a health screening clinic, ESL training, and seven clean water installations. This fall, Pastor John Bosavanh travels to Laos to work with LEC leaders on plans and curriculum for a vocational training program. The proceeds from the raffle and luncheon support this mission.



Halloween Block Party Needs YOU!



October 31, 2018 from 6-8 p.m. is one of the most important days of the year at UPC! The Halloween Block Party provides our neighbors with a safe Halloween activity for the whole family where the gracious love of God is on display as we freely provide a warm meal, sweet candy, and fun activities. Let's make this year's Halloween Block Party our most spook-tacular yet!

Here's what you can do to help share the love of Jesus:

- Sign up to add your trunk to the festivities. Not sure how to decorate? Contact the office for ideas, or ask for a Halloween bag full of decorations.
- Sign up on a Sunday morning in October or online at upcfresn.org/Halloween to help set up, serve food, and/or clean up.
- Donate bags of wrapped candy.

- Donate hot dogs and/or hot dog buns.
- Donate small pumpkins to be decorated.

If you have questions or would like more information, email Pastor Dustin at dustin@upcfresno.org.

Adult Education: The Most Important Thing



Anniversaries invite us to reflect on what's valuable so we can move with clarity and conviction into the future. **For the eight weeks from October 21–December 16**, eight members of the University Presbyterian Church family share the most important thing they have learned about the life of faith during their time at UPC. We hope you'll join us on Sunday mornings at 10:15 a.m. in Majesty Theater.

Sundays in early October, join us for the current education series *Exploring Our Core Values*.

Presbyterian Women's Holiday Boutique

Start your Christmas shopping at this year's Holiday Boutique on Saturday, November 10 and Sunday, November 11 in the Great Room. Homemade items, household goods, jewelry, cookies and breads, jams and jellies, as well as "White Elephant" items are for sale. Also, there are two drawings this year - one for a lovely quilt, handmade by Marian Amend, and the other for a HP Sprocket 100 photo printer. Tickets for the drawing, held at the close of the Boutique, are \$2 each or 3 tickets for \$5, and will be on sale beginning on Sunday, October 21.



We welcome donations of "sellable" treasures beginning Sunday, October 28 – no clothing or furniture please.

Come to the Boutique, bring friends and shop generously. All proceeds from the Boutique and drawing benefit missions designated by the University Presbyterian Women. For more information, contact Jean Ann Fulton at (559) 432-5092 or Ruth Kallenberg at (559) 431-7681.

Music School at UPC

by Cactus Harris, Director of Music & Arts and Resident Organist



We have been such a blessing to a variety of music groups looking for a space to perform, and now, a new opportunity to share our campus has come up!

Before summer began, I was approached by a group of music teachers looking for space to provide private and group music lessons. They realized many music students in our community are missing out on making music in small groups and different ensembles, other than their school orchestras.

From this, the Camerata Academy of Fresno has been born. The term *Camerata* is defined as a small group of artists and musicians who study and perform together. The Camerata currently is geared toward young string players and offers weekly group classes, music theory and

history classes, and an advanced chamber orchestra. UPC is not only providing space for these classes, but is providing performance opportunities for students within our worship services.

Once a month a string quartet will accompany our 9 a.m. service. There will also be opportunities for larger ensembles for special services and musical programs. What a great way to share our space and continue to supporting our community.

In harmony, *Cactus*

Fireside Chat | October 28 at 10:15 a.m.

As part of Session's desire to promote healthy communication, we invite you to the Fireside Room for a time of casual conversation with your Elders. Come with your thoughts, questions, and concerns. Our hope is to offer these "Fireside Chats" quarterly providing an easy way to connect and to work together as we seek to joyfully share God's love.



Deacons: A Ministry of Compassion and Service

by Barbara Schlueter, Moderator of Deacons



The mission of the Deacons is to serve and care for the human spiritual needs of the Body of Christ. But the question is often asked, "What exactly does a Deacon do to be a disciple for the needs of the congregation and its community?" Current Deacon Andrea Smith explains it this way:

"For me, being a Deacon means I am connected to our church in a real, tangible way. I find myself actively caring about people, which makes me feel like I am truly living out God's wishes for us to be in community with other believers. I

value the relationships I build through my monthly phone contacts and enjoy seeing "my people, my flock" at church on Sunday or visiting them outside the church. Through the years, I have been blessed with serving several terms as a Deacon and each time, I am reminded how important these relationships are to me and hopefully to those I serve. These relationships help to ground me in Christ's love."

Specifically, Deacons are responsible for the following:

- Meet 11 times a year on the first Tuesday of month at 6:30 p.m.
- Are assigned a shepherding group of 11–15 families to reach out to regularly by phone, email, snail mail, at church, or through visitation.
- Pray for the members of their flock.

The Deacons as a whole are responsible for the following ministries, and each Deacon is invited to participate in one or more of them:

- Communion Set Up & Clean Up.
- Memorial Reception Organization and Assistance.
- Providing Cookies for the Newcomer Bags.
- Serving on the UPC Nominating Committee.
- Providing Rosebuds to Celebrate New Babies.
- Keeping the Deacon Financial Records and Making Recommendations for Financial Requests.

More Deacons are needed. This opportunity to serve as a “disciple” is so rewarding for the blessing God provides. And, those who have been Deacons once or many times can tell you that God will guide you in this ministry. If you want more information about being a Deacon email Barbara at barbs910@att.net or call her at (559) 288-2135.

Crop Hunger Walk: Ending Hunger One Step at a Time Sunday, October 21 @ 1:30 p.m.

Meet up at BeBe O's Vintage Boutique, 1130 Wishon and Olive in the Tower District. There will be entertainment (Eva Skow & friends) and light refreshments. Registration is at 1:30 p.m. and the walk begins at 2:30 p.m. (strollers, wheelchairs, dogs on leash welcome, and there's an optional short route.) You can support a UPC walker, be a UPC walker and collect donations, or donate online. For more information, look for Kim Leslie and Edy Corum at the table in the Narthex.



Your Generosity Empowers Women

by Denise Leslie for the Women's Retreat Planning Committee



As this article is penned, we are anticipating our 2018 Women's Retreat at Calvin Crest September 21 through 23. We have 44 women registered this year. A good dozen of them would be unable to attend without the donations from the congregation for scholarships which have made up the difference, or funded the entire amount, of the required registration. Your generosity has brought joy and anticipation into the lives of women who couldn't begin to think about stretching their budgets that far. Your generosity is a "visible expression of both the image and likeness of God" made real in the lives of the women who would otherwise miss out on this opportunity for Christian growth and community over a gorgeous fall

weekend at Calvin Crest!

We also thank everyone who donated to our retreat project to assemble Homeless Bags. Watch for them in the Narthex and Great Room so you can have some available to pass God's love along to someone in need.

This quote, "Our life purpose is to be the visible expression of both the image and the likeness of God," embodies not only the theme of the retreat *Made in the Image of God*, but the generosity of the congregation. We thank you and God thanks you!

2019 Men's Retreat Date: New Date

Men of UPC, save the weekend of **January 11-13, 2019** for the annual Men's Retreat at Calvin Crest.



UPC Groups

WEEKLY

Contemplative Prayer: Come **Mondays at 6:30 p.m.** to the Godly Play Room (Rooms 3-4) for Christ-centered meditation. No previous experience is necessary, just a desire to spend quiet, still time with the Divine. For more information, email Cathy Wingert at wingy104@aol.com.

Women's Bible Study: The group which meets **Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.** are studying Isaiah. They welcome you to join them. For more information, email Laura Lindegren at punkin2826@yahoo.com, or call her at 299-1838.

Thursday Evening Bible Study: The group meets for study **Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room.** They are not meeting on **October 4**, but resume their weekly schedule on **October 11**. They invite you to join them as study the Gospel of Luke. For more information, email Ceci Johnson at cjartistquilts@gmail.com.

MONTHLY

Intercessory Prayer Service: This is a monthly service where all are invited to come pray for loved ones, members of our congregation, community, and world. Join them on **October 1 at 4 p.m.** For more information, email Pastor Tedd at teddlyons@gmail.com, or call/text him at 906-1438.

Presbyterian Women (PW): Presbyterian Women meet **Tuesday, October 9, at 9:30 a.m. in the Great Room.** Our own Cactus Harris will give us a tour of the pipe organ. Join us for refreshments, the program, and our business meeting—bring a friend. For further information, contact Ruth Kallenberg at 431-7681 or email Ruth at rbkallenberg@gmail.com.

UPC Food Pantry: The monthly food distribution will take place on **Saturday, October 20 at 8 a.m.** Come and help by texting Dustin at 288-0083 to volunteer. If you would like to donate to the food of the month item for the distribution, **the food item for October is peanut butter and jelly/jam/preserves.** Bring your donations to the Narthex on Sunday mornings or drop them at the office during the week. Would you like to help stock shelves on Thursday morning before the distribution? Text Dustin at 288-0083.

Pub Theology: Join the discussion on **Tuesday, October 16 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** at Sequoia Brewing Company, on the corner of Champlain and Perrin in the Piazza Del Fiore Center. Add your voice to the discussion of a variety of topics concerning faith, religion, and God. Seating is limited so come early to ensure a spot. We meet monthly on the third Tuesday. Listening and discussion are encouraged. Drinking is optional, but with respect to the host venue, we ask you order something. For more information, email Pastor Dustin at dustin@upcfresno.org, or text him at 288-0083.

Taizé Contemplative Worship: A Taizé contemplative, musical prayer service is held the third Sunday of the month in the Sanctuary. Worship in the Taizé style this month on **October 21 at 6 p.m.** For more information, email Cactus Harris at cactus@upcfresno.org.

Clippers: Clippers will not meet in October. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for our next get together. For information or questions about this group [click here](#) to contact Cathy Douglas.

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1776 E. Roberts Avenue | Fresno, CA | 93710 | 559.439.8807 | www.upcfresno.org

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(559) 439-8807

Non-profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT No. 34
Clovis, CA 93612

Sunday Worship Schedule for October

9 a.m. Classic Worship | 11 a.m. Contemporary Service
11 a.m. Lao Language Service | except the 1st Sunday

Pastors

The Reverend Renn Serna, Senior Pastor
The Reverend Dustin Maddox, Associate Pastor

Return Service Requested

Mailing Label Here

**Joyfully Sharing God's Boundless Love with All in Our Community
without limitation, exception, or condition**

October Birthdays 3 Doris Hansen Bailey Rossi 7 Anne Marie Clayton Edy Corum 8 Richard Hauert 10 Leonard Babcock Patti Brannan Anne Klapste 11 William Gabel 12 Bernard Heitkotter Jesse Madsen Lisa Matson 14 Scott Matson Christy Qualle 17 John Curtis Bob Smith 18 Tracy Krauter 21 Jan Drenth Denise Grisez 23 Jo Trauger 24 Ryan Braswell Todd Minturn 26 Lucas Warnes	October Birthdays cont. 27 Jeanne Ayars Elnora Bugay 31 Dave Keran Andrew Manion October Anniversaries 3 David & Ruth Clayton 6 Jim & Cindy Correia October Calendar 1 Intercessory Prayer 4 p.m. Contemplative Prayer 6:30 p.m. 2 Deacons 6:30 p.m. 3 Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. 4 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. No Thursday Bible Study 5 Grief Support Group 10 a.m.	October Calendar cont. 7 Lao Luncheon and Raffle 10:15 a.m. UPC 101 6:30 p.m. 8 Contemplative Prayer 6:30 p.m. 9 Presbyterian Women 9:30 a.m. Session 6:30 p.m. 10 Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. 11 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Thursday Bible Study 6:30 p.m. 16 Pub Theology 6:30 p.m. 17 Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. 18 Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Thursday Night Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	October Calendar cont. 19 Grief Support Group 10 a.m. 20 Food Distribution 8 a.m. 21 Crop Walk 1:30 p.m. 22 Contemplative Prayer 6:30 p.m. 23 Ministry Meetings (times vary) 24 Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. 25 FPU Men's Choir Concert 7:30 p.m. 26 Grief Support Group 10 a.m. 27 Fresno State Football Parking 4 p.m. 28 Fireside Chat 10:15 a.m. 29 Contemplative Prayer 6:30 p.m. 31 Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Halloween Block Party 6 p.m.
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