

UPPER UMGENI PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



March 2024

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OFFICE HOURS: 09h00 – 13h00
(Closed on Mondays)

John 13:15 “I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”

From our Minister...

Rev Nigel Fuller

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Paul writes in Romans 1:18, “The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.” Many are disturbed and offended by the teaching that the great God of the universe expresses wrath. They are happy to embrace Him as a God of love (which, of course He most certainly is), but they cannot accept Him as a God of both love *and* wrath.

But a God who does not express His wrath at sin lacks something. God is perfect in His love, but He is also perfect in His wrath, which, as Paul tells us, is “revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men.”

The world has it all wrong. The first truth we need to understand about the God who created us is His wrath at our sin. You’ll notice that Paul did not say in Romans 1 that the love of God is revealed from heaven. It is not that God is *not* love, because He is. Rather, what Paul is wanting us to see is our deep spiritual need and how He has provided for our great need by sending Jesus as our only Saviour.

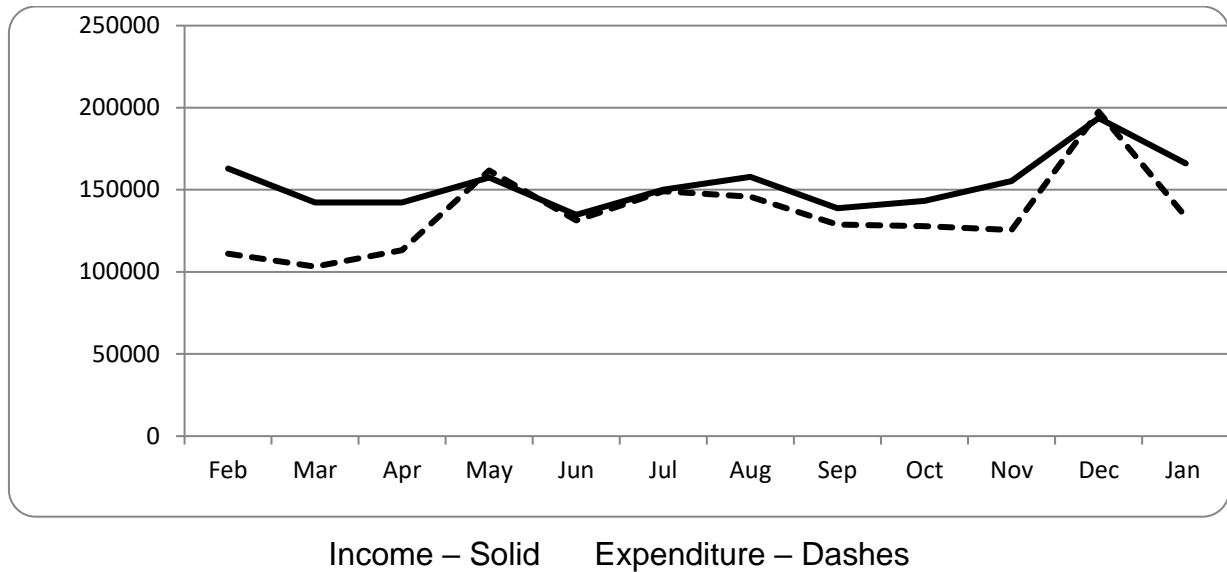
Paul continues in verses 19 and 20 by writing, “What can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For His invisible attributes, namely, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.” We are to come to Him in humility, understanding that we have rejected what has been clearly revealed about God in nature, and that His wrath hangs over us, but through the cross, He has made a way for His wrath to be poured out on Christ, rather than on us.

This month it is our privilege to welcome Paul and Derryn Nash, Dale and Yvonne Hillary and Heather Frost into membership at Upper Umgeni. Welcome to the family, and we pray that we will be a blessing to you as you grow in grace with us!

Holy Week at Upper Umgeni:

Sunday 24 th (8:30am)	Palm Sunday Service
Monday 25 th (6:00pm)	Devotions in the church
Tuesday 26 th (6:00pm)	Devotions in the church
Wednesday 27 th (6:00pm)	Devotions in the church
Thursday 28 th (7:00pm)	Tenebrae Service
Friday 29 th (8:30am)	Good Friday Service
Sunday 31 st (8:30am)	Easter Sunday Service

FINANCIALS: THE LAST 12 MONTHS



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY BEREAVED FAMILIES:

Margaret Uzzell died on 27th January
 Avril Deglon died on 1st February
 Marilyn Hamberger died on 2nd February

PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE IN CARE CENTRES, *especially our members at:*

Amberfield	Anna Perks, Annette Wilkinson, Pam Archer
Amber Glen	Irene du Preez, Cay Brown
Amber Valley	Adrey Henderson, Cathy Samson, Ruth Walsh, Alastair Dunbar Gaye Bertram, Alan Wilcock, Marietha Seele
Greendale	Stan Albertyn, Graeme Cameron, Denise Riddell
Roselea Gardens	Angela Manning
Seventh Heaven	James and Di Holderness

CONFIDENTIAL WHATSAPP GROUP
IF YOU HAVE ANY PRAYER REQUESTS, PLEASE CONTACT
NIGEL FULLER ON 083 354 9204, OR SPEAK TO ANY OF OUR ELDERS.

Elders at Upper Umgeni:

Rob Ainslie (083 407 5396)	Nigel Fuller (083 354 9204)
Hazel Archer (082 488 2006)	Roland Kennard (083 454 0197)
Joan Brummer (084 580 7496)	Fiona Kennard (072 424 3286)
Francois Davel (082 414 3762)	Des Muller (082 819 9057)
Val Delport (072 276 2683)	Noreen Muller (072 423 9185)
Cheryl Duckham (073 802 2259)	Jill Powell (082 415 0290)

MISSION MATTERS

"I the Lord, have called you in righteousness: I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and you will be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness." Isaiah 42:6-7

MAHOBAC

The school year started off at MAHOBAC with more than 40 children coming in after school for a hot meal, and the Bongani Phela creche received about 20 little children.

This little creche is privately run. The centre has registered as an NPO, but there is a concern that the Education Department will require all children to enroll into Grade RR and RRR classes.

Paul has asked if we can help him investigate registering the creche, but he wants its Christian ethos maintained.

Whilst we can assist with advice, UUPC only has a mandate to feed the children.

If anyone can help in this area, please speak to Noreen.

The Wykeham Collegiate school has once again offered to help with collecting items for MAHOBAC for which we are very grateful.

THE PRINS FAMILY:

Lots is happening in this home. Thandeka is presently attending a work readiness course at Love Howick, and sharing relevant courses with the other children. One of the boys has a temporary job at a coffee shop in Pietermaritzburg; another girl has reunited with her mother in Ladysmith and is spending time with her as she learns Zulu; and one member of our team has arranged for two boys to be assessed by a doctor with a view to receiving training in agricultural skills. There is now more interaction with other young folk in the Merrivale area, which Michelle feels is very healthy.

Please bring your donations of food to church for the children's meals.

Suggestions: Salt, onions, cooking oil, curry powder mix, rice, soup powder, maize meal, sugar beans, samp, any fresh vegetables, tomato and onion mix, and baked beans.

Soap and sanitary products are also welcome, or cash donations, marked for MAHOBAC can be placed in the offering bags on Sundays.





BRIDGE DRIVE

Mary Marshall and Karin Braithwaite are hosting a bridge drive in the church hall this Thursday (29th), from 9:30am-12:30pm. Sign up and be part of this occasion by contacting one of the hosts. Refreshments will be served, and there are prizes to be won!

Proceeds will go to our Outreach ministries.

Contact: Mary 083 463 8573 or Karin 082 454 9091 to sign up.

We are grateful to The Cavern, who have sponsored one of our prizes, and they have asked us to announce their March Madness mid-week specials during the first 2 weeks in March. Costs begin at R5700pps, and you can speak to Dave or Mary Marshall for more details.

ADVANCE NOTICES

PALM CROSSES

Palm Sunday falls on 24th March this year.

Do come along at 9:30am on Friday 22nd for some fun, chatter and refreshments as we learn to make palm crosses together.



WINTER SUNDAY 12TH May 2024

Winter Sunday has become a highlight of our year at UUPC when we are encouraged to sort through our cupboards and give an item so another will be kept warm this winter.

Please plan NOW and start considering what you can make or give away.

For those who enjoy knitting, scarves, beanies and mittens are quick to knit up whilst socks are always welcome, as well as donations of wool or workable pieces of soft cotton or warm material, and also blankets. These we will distribute to various charities around Howick. It will once again be such a privilege to distribute the items you have given and respond to the various needs in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

BABY COT QUILT RAFFLE

The winner of the baby cot quilt which was raffled for Outreach funds is Sally Tarboton. R225.00 was raised. Many thanks to all who supported this venture.

A REMINDER

Household items, kitchen utensils, linen, wool and sewing material are always welcome. Should you be moving, cleaning out cupboards, or downsizing, you are welcome to put items into the MAHOBAC box, or ask Noreen to collect.

Should you hear of a need please speak to one of the Outreach Committee members so that we can follow up and possibly help.



LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

Last month, Sue Fuller chatted to us about the benefits of exercise. It is never too late to start, as it helps with simple functional fitness like getting up and down, carrying heavy parcels, etc.

We had a really informative morning with Sue and wish her well in her new business "Full(er) Fitness."

Please feel free to chat to Sue about any questions you may have, or join one of her classes.



BREAKFAST OUT TOGETHER

Doing something different together is always fun, and on the 7th March the ladies will be meeting at **Woodstone Cafe** in the Whitehouse Centre for a set cooked breakfast, followed by tea or coffee, for the price of R50, including the tip. Men are also welcome! Please place your name on the list in the church foyer to sign up, and pay Beth during church office hours, or Noreen.

All money will need to be paid beforehand.

You are most welcome to bring a friend along.

Daily Bible reading plan for March

1	Numbers 14-15, Psalm 90	17	Deuteronomy 17-20
2	Numbers 16-17	18	Deuteronomy 21-23
3	Numbers 18-20	19	Deuteronomy 24-27
4	Numbers 21-22	20	Deuteronomy 28-29
5	Numbers 23-25	21	Deuteronomy 30-31
6	Numbers 26-27	22	Deut 32-34, Psalm 91
7	Numbers 28-30	23	Joshua 1-4
8	Numbers 31-32	24	Joshua 5-8
9	Numbers 33-34	25	Joshua 9-11
10	Numbers 35-36	26	Joshua 12-15
11	Deuteronomy 1-2	27	Joshua 16-18
12	Deuteronomy 3-4	28	Joshua 19-21
13	Deuteronomy 5-7	29	Joshua 22-24
14	Deuteronomy 8-10	30	Judges 1-2
15	Deuteronomy 11-13	31	Judges 3-5
16	Deuteronomy 14-16		



Sundays

3 rd	Holy Communion Service	8:30am
10 th , 17 th , 24 th , 31 st	Worship Service	8:30am
10 th , 17 th	Kiddies' Corner	8:30am
10 th , 17 th	Young Disciples	8:30am

Weekly

Tuesdays	5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th	Holy Communion Service	9:00am
Wednesdays	6 th , 13 th , 20 th	Bible Study*	9:30am
Fridays	1 st , 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd	Pastoral Care meeting*	9:00am

*There will be no Bible study or Pastoral care meeting during Holy Week

Monthly

Wednesday	20 th	Session meeting	5:00pm
Thursday	7 th	Ladies' Fellowship	9:30am
Saturday	30 th	Men's Fellowship	7:00am

Other Services/Events

Tuesday	12 th	Outreach meeting	10:30am
Wednesday	20 th	Amberfield Service	11:00am
Friday	15 th	Howick Seniors' Club	9:30am

Sunday Serving Duties for March

DATE	ELDER	TEAM	FLOWERS
3 rd	Roland Kennard	Blue	Ros Tessendorf
10 th	Joan Brummer	Green	Lenor Johnson
17 th	Hazel Archer	Red	Sheila Longmore
24 th	Rob Ainslie	Pink	Ada McEwan
31 st	Cheryl Duckham	Orange	Norma Meikle