



February 5, 2016

To the congregation of UPC,

First and foremost, **THANK YOU** to all of you who have made this outreach ministry at University Presbyterian Church possible! This ministry is able to assist our neighbors in need because of YOU and your very generous support!

The following report hopes to show how your gifts have made a difference in the lives of those in our community who struggle with the basic necessities of life. The information is from the UPLift Summary report provided by our Financial Manager, Sandie McGee.

### Where does the money to fund UPLift come from?

- Gifts from the congregation and fundraisers provide the funding for UPLift.

\$25,500.00	- support from UPC Service Committee, UPC operating budget
\$23,931.25	- Gifts, contributions and memorials from the congregation
\$13,427.92	- Fundraisers for UPLift -Amplify Austin - \$9466.67; dinner at Supper & Substance; the Alternative Gift Market; the offering at the Christmas Eve services
+ \$1,859.45	- voided and unused checks
<b>\$64,718.62</b>	<b>Total funds for UPLift in 2016</b>

### How did UPLift use these funds in 2016?

-The dollar amounts listed below are taken from the UPLift Summary. The numbers for the people assisted are approximate.

• Rental/Housing assistance	\$17,051.33*	- 245 families
• Utility assistance (electricity, gas, water)	\$19,960.43**	- 400 people
• Assistance with eye exams/eyeglasses	\$ 6,938.02	- 86 people
• Assistance with work boots	\$ 4,826.08	- 113 people
• Documents (birth certificates, IDs, drivers' licenses)	\$ 4,608.00	- ?
• Capital Metro bus passes	\$ 8,600.20	- 1,565 people
• Telephone service assistance	\$ 50.00	1 person
• Support to other organizations	\$ 1,048.19	
• Other mission expenses & check support	\$ 2,070.81	
• Administrative expenses	\$ 1,580.62	
<b>Total UPLift expenditure for 2016</b>	<b>\$66,733.68</b>	

\***Rental assistance** is provided to clients in two ways. We have an agreement with Foundation Communities to provide \$100 in assistance to clients who bring a voucher, limited to 8 clients per month. The remaining rental funds are distributed to clients at the discretion of the counselors.

**\*\*Utility assistance** is also provided in two ways. The amount on the line above represents what was paid out of UPLift funds to assist with utility bills. UPLift is one of about 45 **Plus 1 Partners** with Austin Energy. We do not receive funds from Austin Energy, but are able to assist with client's Austin Energy bills through an allotment. In 2016 UPLift expended \$17,012.09 in Plus 1 funds to 170 clients - making our total amount for utility assistance **\$36,972.52** and serving about **570** people in 2016! In total, UPLift distributed or helped to distribute over **\$83,000** in assistance to our community in 2016!!

We have a dedicated group of about 35 UPLift Saints who help administer this UPC outreach each Tuesday morning, and an equally dedicated group of "Invisible Saints" who support UPLift with their financial gifts.

Each Tuesday UPLift clients are treated to a nutritious mid-morning snack, by our Kitchen Krew - a special group of creative, awesome cooks, who make something special out of whatever is available - all served up with warm smiles and occasionally with song.

The year was not without its troubles. The UPLift checking account was compromised in November. Because of this the Steering Committee made the hard decision that we would no longer allow clients to take checks directly for any reason, meaning that we are no longer able to assist clients with IDs or driver's licenses.

We had to deal with two painful personnel losses at the end of 2016. We lost Kathy Escandell as our staff liaison and as a very able and dedicated UPLift volunteer. And we've temporarily (we hope) lost the very able administrative leadership and dedication of Debbie Warden, who suffered a stroke in early December. These two women have taken responsibility for much of the work of UPLift, and it's been very difficult to adjust in their absence.

We face a number of challenges in 2017 as it seems that each week the number of clients coming to our door on Tuesday mornings increases. How do we help our clients who need help with life's basics - like rent, electricity, water? I am confident that we will meet these challenges as we seek to live out our mission statement - "Empowered by God's spirit, UPLift offers Christ's hospitality and generosity in a welcoming environment that affirms the worth and dignity of all people."

Please join us after church on **Feb. 12 for "An UPLift Loving Experience"** and learn more about this important UPC ministry. We will again participate in the city-wide day of giving - **Amplify Austin - on March 2-3**. This will be the primary fundraising event for UPLift, and we look forward to your support.

Again, Thank You for your support of UPLift in 2016!  
In Christ,  
Madelyn Mitchell for the Steering Committee of UPLift