

The Vision

A Monthly Communication AND Christian Education Instrument of The United Baptist Church in Annandale, Virginia

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The United Baptist Church Vision is to *develop the intentional Holy Spiritual attitudes of God, as in Jesus, that our lives demonstrate the transforming impact of such a Holy relationship on us, our society, and on our world.*

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Happy Independence Day!



Also called Fourth of July or July 4th, commemorates the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776.

But did you know? The Congress had voted in favor of independence from Great Britain on July 2 but did not actually complete the process of revising the Declaration of Independence until 2 days later! The celebration was initially modeled on that of the king's birthday, marked annually by bell ringing, bonfires, solemn processions, and oratory. ~ www.Britannica.com. Article by David L. Waldstreicher, Distinguished Professor of History, The Graduate Center, City University of New York. Photo: Painting by John Trumbull, 1818, housed in the rotunda of the U.S. Capitol, Washington D.C.

Historically, Christians of the Baptist traditions began as "separatists" which fellow Anglicans labeled us, during the late 1500's in England, even before Independence. Since that beginning, FREEDOM has been a key passion. Four "freedoms" have dominated:

Bible Freedom: Christians are obligated to study and be free to use the best scholarly tools of inquiry. The Bible is central to individual and church life, but always under the authority of Jesus, the Christ of God. No institutional

church authority can be allowed to obscure or limit this freedom.

Soul Freedom: The right and responsibility of every individual to form a personal relationship with God, without the imposition of a creed (a human summary of absolute truths), dominance by clergy, or the intervention of civil government (to promote or to authorize).

Church Freedom: Under the authority of Jesus, the Christ, local churches are free to determine their membership, ordain their leadership, determine the form of their ministry, and to associate with the larger Christian community.

Religious Freedom: Christians are free OF religion, FOR religion, and free FROM religion. The state is not Christ and Christ is not the state. This protects the integrity of Christians to speak to public issues without trying to use coercive powers of the state to advocate their positions. Religious freedom advocates that the best society is where persons of Faith and of no Faith are free to advocate and debate beliefs. ~ taken from our website: www.theunitedbaptchurch.org/baptist-tradition We support BJC as a Mission Partner and resource: Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty.



Important News!

Please See Inside for Re-Opening Details!
Thursday, July 15th

We will re-open church (July 18th, 11 am service) and building usage (July 15th). All Mission Center groups were notified, supplies restocked, and rooms prepared for re-entry! Please understand that if public health changes substantially, we will have to adapt to CDC requirements. Your health is our #1 priority! Please stay flexible!

You may read more on Page 3.

Kairos Moments . . .

(7/6/21) Reflections of Reverend Pamela Moyser

Are you having a good summer, so far? Time passes so quickly, so it is important to recall silver linings amid the challenging times, and to appreciate people, routines, and things we cherish. “²² Because of the Lord’s faithful love we do not perish, for his mercies never end. ²³ They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness! (Lamentations 3:22-23 ^{CSB}).”

As we studied the locust plague in Joel, and the reassurance of God’s forgiveness, it was clear that dreaming dreams could not happen unless we submitted to God’s everlasting presence with us and our church. We sometimes skip the verse before and after Joel 28b: “Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men (& women) will dream dreams, and your young men (& women) will see visions.” God tells Joel and us that he “will pour out his **Spirit** upon all people . . . even on servants, men and women alike (Joel 28:29 ^{NLT}).” The bottom line is that we must yield to and rely upon the Holy Spirit to direct our steps and our mission.

Recent congregant needs, prayer requests, and the Miami-Dade building collapse brought me to my knees in June and the beginning of July. Change is difficult yet necessary for **all growth**--spiritual, physical, fiscal, congregational, and emotional. For example, if we don’t change our dietary preferences, we won’t live very long. God continues to heal the world in its violence and need even if we don’t see it on the “news”; we have been formed by legacy to participate in that healing work, however it presents itself. We must seek out and pray for the opportunities! Perhaps we lost momentum during the pandemic, but we can begin again, reset, and reclaim the Vision/Mission that God calls us to. We may feel limited in size, yet in the unlimited and creative imagination that God gave us, “¹³ I/WE can do all things through Christ who strengthens me/US (Phil 4:13).”

Just these last 2 weeks, I experienced **8 Kairos** moments, where God was visibly or audibly present. **Eight times** I noticed God’s *new mercies* refreshing my soul just when I struggled to find hope! Delivering food for others to ACCA, when my prayer for fresh produce for those in need was answered (ACCA garden). Hearing how members helped others in need without expecting reward. Orienting a new health caregiver who rushed me with a hug when her own prayer had been answered by serving in a Christian home! Connecting with a new ordinand to mentor, and another friend preparing for seminary. Getting an encouraging, sermon-worthy email from a UBC member. Renting out a hall for training, to discover a potential Christian small business in need of a larger space! Are you praying for vision and dreams for UBC? Are you listening for the work Christ calls us to?

Parish Nurse’s “Touch”

By Debbie Caffrey

Tips for Summer 2021

It is summer with July 4th celebrations and vacations! Itchy mosquito bites may already be a problem. Are you cooking up a breeding ground for mosquitoes? Standing water and dark clothing are two things that attract them. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends people follow the three D’s to keep mosquitoes away:

- **Drain:** Empty out water containers at least once per week
- **Dress:** Wear long sleeves, long pants, and light-colored, loose-fitting clothing
- **Defend:** Properly apply an EPA registered repellent such as DEET, picaridin, IR 3535 or oil of lemon-eucalyptus.

Why is this important? Mosquitoes are more than just a nuisance. Their bites can spread diseases such as Zika and West Nile Virus. Mosquito-borne diseases do not only affect humans – they also kill countless birds, reptiles, animals and endangered species each year. Make your yard a mosquito-free zone: dispose of any tires -- tires can breed thousands of mosquitoes; drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers; clear roof gutters of debris; clean pet water dishes regularly; check and empty children’s toys; repair leaky outdoor faucets; and change the water in bird baths at least once a week. Mosquitoes require water to complete their life cycle. If their water source is eliminated, so are their offspring.

The Fairfax County Health Department has a Disease Carrying Insects Program that works to lower the threat of diseases spread by mosquitoes and ticks. The program uses an integrated approach to pest management that includes active monitoring, control measures, public outreach, and education to help protect county residents. Staff also respond to citizens' questions, concerns, and complaints regarding mosquitoes and ticks. Staff give advice by phone or email, and, in certain cases, make site visits. If you would like more information on any of their services, would like to request a free yard inspection or have any other questions, please contact them at **(703) 246-8931**. With the heat getting even more extreme, here are some additional tips to make it more enjoyable:

- There are many seasonal fruits available now--if you are craving for something sweet, treat yourself to a sweet peach, strawberries or raspberries (with a chocolate drizzle-if allowed).
- If you are trying to drink more fluids each day but do not like drinking water, try watermelon--it is 92% water and tastes sweet too!
- Remember your vegetables--Green beans and sweet corn on the cob are just two of the many fresh veggies you can get right now!
- On those triple digit temperature days, stay in air-conditioned areas as much as possible.



Enjoy your summer!



*Happy Birthday to
Our Friends Born in July!*



Name	Date
Shane Banks	6
Sandra Potter	10
Ruby Kingsbury	13
Sam Harward	16
Michael Harward	16
Twyla Turner	16
B.J. Meadows	26
Elmer Shoemaker	28
Fran Watkins	29



Thank you!
To all of our friends and church family. There aren't enough words to say THANK YOU for Sunday's reception (June 13). The many friends, cards, members and memories meant so very much to both of us. We're not saying goodbye but see you down the road. Come visit when you can!

Much love, Paul and Dolores Puckett

Re-Opening July 15th Details

If you would like to get the **Fact Sheet**, please call or email the office. Decision was voted upon by the CLCEB:

1. July 15, 2021, for UBC and groups to ramp up slowly, and obtain cleaning supplies required before and after their events.
2. Move Worship back to **11:00 am** with Sunday School/Bible Study at 9:30 am, starting August 1st. Two Sundays to sleep in.
3. Agape Fellowships after the service will not occur during the Summer and may be restructured in Fall, depending on volunteers.
4. Front Door will remain locked during the week for both infection control and security.
5. Signage will be adjusted: "No Entry If Sick" and "Masks Optional" and "Ring Bell".
6. Hymnals and Pew Bibles will be put back in place for July 18th service.
7. Singing research is mixed; recommend congregational singing be permitted with distancing.
8. Other events will be carefully assessed by Sr. Minister and will be calendared in CLCEB meetings.

Contributions

May 2021 (final)	Required	Received
Tithes & Offerings	\$6,250.00	\$ 4,728.00
Building Usage	7,400.00	4,900.00
Mortgage Loan (int)	712.37	712.37
Other (Env, B-Thrifty, Flwrs)	<u>0.00</u>	<u>45.50</u>
Monthly	\$14,362.37	\$ 10,385.87
Total YTD (Jan-Dec)	\$71,811.85	\$ 61,993.22
Above/(Below)		\$ (9,818.63)*
Benevolence Fund Deposit		\$ 125.00
June 2021 (final)	Required	Received
Tithes & Offerings	\$6,250.00	\$ 4,060.00
Building Usage	7,400.00	4,900.00
Mortgage Loan (int)	712.37	712.37
Other (Env, B-Thrifty, Flwrs)	<u>0.00</u>	<u>39.00</u>
Monthly	\$14,362.37	\$ 9,711.37
Total YTD (Jan-Dec)	\$86,174.22	\$ 71,704.59
Above/(Below)		\$ (14,469.63)*
Benevolence Fund Deposit		\$ 60.00

* Budgeted Investment Transfers are not included in the "Required." No Transfers were made in May/June. July's will be shown in August *Vision*. YTD includes un-budgeted \$7,600.00 from VDOT transaction. 2 generous grants for HVAC repairs are not included in these figures.

Thank you for your continued prayers and faithful Stewardship! Sacrificial or catch-up offerings may be mailed to the office at 7100 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003. Mail is safely and securely processed daily. Our ministries, contractors and staff are working at full capacity and thank you for your generosity. Benevolence offerings by check, clearly marked "Benevolence," may be mailed to office or cash/checks brought on Sunday. We served 2 families, 1 individual. Thank you!

July Church Calendar

- Wednesdays, July 7 & 21, 9:30 am** -- **Sandwich Team** safely meets in Fellowship Hall to make sandwiches for Bailey's Crossroads Shelter (masks & gloves provided).
- Sunday, July 11, 9:30 am** – We welcome Rev. Moyer's friend and **Guest Vocalist, Pat Close**, former Minister of Music, Westwood Baptist Church in Springfield, VA, where she directed Adult, Youth and Children's choirs. She retired from being Artistic Director of KMT Musical Theater Company, Annandale, and as Private Vocal Instructor. Her full bio will be available in the bulletin.
- Sunday, July 11, 12:30 pm** – **the Missions Committee** and **Rev. Moyer** will meet in person to discuss existing and future opportunities. If you have ideas, please speak with Chair, Debbie Caffrey, before then.
- Sunday, July 18, 12:30 pm** – The next **Church Leadership Council Executive Board (CLCEB)** meeting will be on **Zoom** and in person (masks required in office).
- Sunday, July 25, 12:00 pm** – The next **Quarterly Membership Meeting** will be held in the **Sanctuary** immediately after the worship service.



**The United Baptist Church
7100 Columbia Pike
Annandale, VA 22003**

Return Service Requested

Private prayer requests have been removed for privacy.

COMMUNITY & GLOBAL PRAYER

Serving others in prayer is a needed social and safe action to show your love in these times!

- ACCA Garden & Food Pantry for Volunteers
- Those experiencing grief over loss, homelessness, unemployment or poverty
- Global health (India & Latin America), pandemic recovery & vaccine distribution
- Mission Center, Leaders and Groups we support, financial sustenance
- Graduates, Teachers & Sr. Adults – physical rest, emotional, & spiritual health
- Local churches, pastors, and congregants experiencing change &/or conflict
- All affected by weather, disaster & violence: India, AL, LA, FL, Israel/Palestine, Afghanistan, famine in Ethiopia, Miami building collapse, tornados, hurricanes

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