

The Vision

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

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Dr. J. Wayne Yawn, Senior Minister
Mr. David Evans, Minister with Music
Rev. Ms. Twyla Turner, Minister with Students
Rev. Ms. Pamela Moyer, Church Reception and Publication Minister
Rev. Dr. Gerald L. Young, Pastor Emeritus

Publication/Distribution Staff:

Ms. Pamela Moyer, Publication Editor
Mrs. Betty Hicks, Distribution Editor

7100 Columbia Pike
Annandale, VA 22003-3106
703-256-5900
703-256-5262 (FAX)

www.theunitedbaptchurch.org
UBCoffice@aol.com

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.

Volume 16

December 4, 2018

Issue 48

It's The Christian New Year

Season of Advent

December 2nd – 24th

Time to Spiritually Prepare
Our Hearts for
Jesus to be Born within Us

By Relating to All Persons
With **HOPE** not Despair

Using God's Attitude of
Agape-need-meeting **LOVE**
When Relating with Persons

For the Consequential Reward
of ALL for the Sensations of
PEACE and **JOY**

For All the Next Year!

Coming Events!

Please engage with us
during this Advent
Season of Expectancy!



Saturday, December 9th

9:30 am UBC Family Breakfast
Pan Am Restaurant, Fairfax

Tuesday, December 11th

Young at Heart Gadabouts Trip
Lunch at Golden Corral, Manassas, VA
Bus Leaves Church @ 11:15 AM

Sunday, December 16th

10:55 am Sanctuary Choir & Friends
Christmas Cantata
"Come Now to Bethlehem"

Sunday, December 16th

7:00 pm Wakefield Chorale Holiday
Concert, Sanctuary

December 22nd – January 6th

Fairfax County Schools Closed
Watch Student Column for Special
Student Activities

Monday, December 24th

5:00 pm Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

UnRavelings... J. Wayne Yawn

As I write, two famous persons are being memorialized in the public press: 94 year old George Herbert Walker Bush, 41st President of the United States and Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, South African 27-year incarcerated anti-apartheid leader who became the first black elected President of South Africa on his 100th birthday anniversary. Both, as humans, were therefore not saintly perfect as both publicly acknowledged. But now as we remember their existences, as at all funerals or anniversaries, we remember what made their existences “*lives worth living*.” What is it that makes “*a life worth living*” to be one (maybe the only) ultimate question?

This causes me to remember a recent article in “Christian Century” magazine by D. Heim, executive editor, entitled: “Learning How to Live.” That is the name of a new course in the curriculum at Yale Divinity School that asks students to consider this “ultimate question.” Students normally take courses to learn “How to Do... whatever” to prepare them to “make a living.” But the article notes that seldom, if ever, is the question asked in schools of academic or technological education: “When you get to the end of a day or of a lifetime, was the chosen existence worth living and why or why not?” This new class asks students to ponder this crucial question at the beginning of a day’s or a life’s journey, rather than waiting to the end. Though the Yale class permits only 60 students in each class, an average of 250 apply for the class yearly, indicative of the interest and sense of importance of the ultimate question.

This question reminds me that it is the question behind the Season of Advent, about getting ready for Jesus’ birth. Jesus’ birth was the embodiment of God’s original answer to what constitutes *a life worth living!* Many Christians are taught the correct answer is trust in Jesus’ death as God’s substitution sacrifice qualifying believers for heavenly life after death. Yet, according to Jesus the answer to the ultimate question of what constitutes *a life worth living* is being aware of the “pay” (beyond money) of joy and peace of fulfillment sensed from serving human neediness. Usually thought, “That felt good!”

Isn’t it fitting that New Year’s Day is one week after celebrating the birth of Jesus? New Years is the day we often evaluate the past year and consider to change to improve our life in the future. We think about what we might do to make our existence a truer *life worth living!* This is actually the Christian process called repenting a lesser existence to allow a more “heavenly” existence.

It is such a simple process, that I often smother it under how much and how quick I get my service tasks done. Why not ponder (as prayer) about how tasks served a persons’ needs? Continuous pondering prayer is how to hear the answer to *a life worth living!* Is it too simple?



Parish Nurse’s “Touch”

... Debbie Caffrey

Health Focus for December Christmas—a time of

rejoicing and reflecting!! The celebration of the birth of Jesus!! Tis the season of coming together, festivities with family and friends, a time of doing things for others, parties and many tempting seasonal treats. All this celebrating and “coming together” can take its toll on your health! Here are some holiday tips to help you have a healthy and enjoyable season:

- Have a nutritious breakfast.
- Do not skip meals.
- Eat your salad and vegetables first.
- Stay warm.
- Get plenty of sleep.
- Wash hands often.
- Stay hydrated.
- Do something nice for someone else.

But it’s important to remember that the true meaning of the season is not in all the festivities or all the gifts given and received. The real spirit of the holiday, and the greatest gift you can possibly share, is the one you alone can offer: the gift of love. *Merry Christmas!!!*

ACCA 12th Annual Winter Clothing Drive

Winter jackets (men’s medium are in high demand), sweaters, hooded sweatshirts, pairs of gloves in a zip lock bag, warm scarves, and wool hats are needed; to be shared with the Day Laborers, homeless men and women at Baileys Shelter and ACCA Child Development Center. Please sort separately and label Men’s, Women’s or Children’s, and place in donation box in the Fellowship Hall. Deadline Dec. 8th, but it will repeat in January.



December 2, 2018 Financial Contributions

Budget Receipts:

Tithes and Offerings donations	3,158.00
Building Use donations:	
Amerikids	2,900.00
La Voce Studios LLC	300.00
Overeaters Anonymous	120.00
Refund to Budget Accts (Poinsettias)	60.00
Mortgage Loan Payment	1,476.26
Total Budget Receipts	8,014.26
Total Non-Budget Receipts	.00
Total Receipts	.00
Budget Receipts YTD	399,375.83
Annual 2018 Budget Goal YTD (10,003.57)	460,165.22
Over (under) Budget Goal	(60,789.39)

Communion Benevolent Offering 99.00

Prepare: ACCA Challenge Grant Bulletin Insert Sunday

Student Ministries & News... Twyla Turner

Regular Fall Weekly Youth Activities

All Students

- Sundays:

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 10:55 a.m.

- Fridays:

Friday Night @ the Movies 7 p.m.

- Third Saturdays:

Craft Saturdays 1 p.m.

Senior High Students

Second & Fourth Saturday Missions 11 a.m.

First & Third Sunday Girls Dinner and
& Discussion 5 p.m.

Special events will be announced on a weekly basis in this space. Watch this spot for details.

This week—

Friday Night @ the Movies

Next FN@TM is Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. in the Youth Room. Movie and snacks!! See you then!!

Decking the Worship Hall

Thanks to **Holly Martindale, Jewel Coulter and Lillian Martindale** for helping to "Deck the Worship Hall" on Saturday morning following our lock-in. Many of the other decorators complemented you, to me, on your great work, helping out. Thanks again for contributing to the enrichment of our Sanctuary for this special season of preparation.

Sunday Morning, Dec. 9

Sunday, Dec. 9 begins with Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m. We are now studying the book of Job—a book about a guy that is experiencing a really tough time in his life. He loses his family, his friends, his home and his money (and he was real rich!!). See how he copes with this as we study Job's story and get some hints on how to deal with the tough times in your life. This Sunday is the 2nd Sunday of Advent and we will celebrate in Worship beginning at 10:55 a.m. Be here to be a part of this special time together.

MISSIONS-

It's time to think about Christmas

Our students are currently making Christmas gifts for residents of the Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home. We will meet Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m. for our Missions time. If you would like to help contact Twyla.

Power Pac 3 Program

It's right around the corner. Beginning the first week of January, we will have the opportunity to pack weekend meals for students at Braddock Elementary School. Without these meals, the children will not eat from Friday afternoon until they arrive back at school on Monday morning. If you are interested in helping with this project, please see Twyla before January 1. Thank you for considering this opportunity to meet the needs of the food insecure children in our community.

Mission Center Calendar of Events

Every Sunday Bible Study, 9:30 am
Every Sunday Liturgy of Worship, 10:55 am

December

<u>Daily</u>	<u>6:00 pm</u>	<u>Hypothermia Prevention (Fellowship Hall)</u>
5	9:15 am	Sandwich Ministry (Fellowship Hall)
	1:00 pm	Women's Bible Study (Conference Room)
	7:00 pm	Overeaters Anonymous (Room 126)
6	7:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7	6:00 pm	Henry Girls Soccer (Gym)
	7:00 pm	Student Fri Nite @ Movies (Youth Lounge)
8	7:00 am	Gideons Weekly Meeting (Conference Rm)
	8:00 am	Toastmasters Public Speaking (Fell. Hall)
	9:00 am	Tai Chi Exercise (Gym)
	9:30 am	Girl Scout Cookie College (Fellowship Hall)
	1:00 pm	UBC Family Breakfast (Pan Am Rest., Fairfax)
	12:15 pm	Student Missions (Youth Lounge)
9	12:30 pm	Agape Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)
	11:30 am	Church Leadership Co. Ex. Bd. (Conf. Rm)
10	6:00 pm	Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
	11:15 am	Henry's Girls Soccer (Gym)
11	7:15 pm	Young at Heart Gadabouts (G.Corrall, Manassas)
	9:15 am	Wakefield Chorale (Choir Room)
12	9:30 am	Sandwich Ministry (Fellowship Hall)
	1:00 pm	Shepherd Ctr. Bus Trip (Leesburg Outlets)
	7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study (Conference Room)
		Overeaters Anonymous (Room 126)

Time to Donate Poinsettias to the Church To Deck the Worship Hall for Christmas

Please help make this wonderful addition to our worship experience possible, by clipping and using this form to honor and memorialize persons. These, as are all church gifts, deeply appreciated and are thus tax deductible donations. But you can help the church by being good stewards of them for other uses, only after their worship use on Dec. 30th. The donation for each plant is only \$10.00, including delivery. You may mail in your check with this completed form or if attending worship use a Pew Envelope and the Bulletin Insert provided for the same information. In either case, please clearly mark both the envelope and check memo line with "**Poinsettias**" to record proper credit on your annual mailed giving record. Thank you!

Name of Person Ordering: _____

Number Poinsettias x \$10.00 each = \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Given in Honor of:

Given in Memory of:
