

The Vision

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

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Ms. Pamela L. Moyer, Senior Minister
Mr. David R. Evans, Minister with Music
Mrs. Roudaina M. Iskander, Administrative Assistant
Rev. Dr. J. Wayne Yawn, Senior Minister Emeritus

7100 Columbia Pike
Annandale, VA 22003-3106
703-256-5900
UBCoffice@aol.com

Publication/Distribution Staff:

Rev. Ms. Pamela L. Moyer, Publication Editor
Mrs. Roudaina M. Iskander, Production & Distribution

www.theunitedbaptchurch.org

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 23

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Issue 1

Happy New Year!

Thank you from our Staff and Leadership for a wonderful year in 2024 and a lovely Christmas! Your generous gifts and cards are much appreciated! Thank you too to our Music Department for the inspiring musicians and vocalists who blessed our Christmas Eve service! May your New Year carry on the Advent lessons, blessing you and yours with hope, peace, joy, and love!



2024-2025 Inclement Weather Policy

It is a good thing that our snow contractor was ready! The newsletter is going out a day late because the offices were closed due to the snow. I hope you managed safely. Our policy states: "In the event of inclement weather, UBC leadership will make decisions about office closure, activities, and Sunday Services (including Sunday School, Worship, and Meetings) by 7 am on the affected morning but probably the night before. Someone will call our Regular Attenders if there are cancellations. Our Missions Center partners are responsible for their own group cancellations. Any decisions will also be listed on our Website Home Page, www.theunitedbaptchurch.org, on Facebook, or by calling Rev. Moyer's church cell phone at (571) 278-7115. Thank you and please use common sense precautions for your own well-being and safety.

Seeing 20:20 with Glasses



For many years, The United Baptist Church has participated in a Lions Club outreach to collect **eyeglasses** for people who would otherwise have a blurry picture of the world. Donate your old eyeglasses and sunglasses to their restoration program by placing them in the labeled hanging box on the bulletin board in the hall next to the Fellowship Hall. Lions Club partners will refresh and repair them so that someone else can be thrilled to have a new look at a world in focus! Another way we can serve others!

After that wonderful Christmas Eve Worship Service and musical presentation, you probably **want** to join our choir! We need you too. **Choir Rehearsals** are usually on **Thursday nights at 7:30 pm** in the **Choir Suite**. For more information and to confirm dates, please see David or Pam.



COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

The next CLCEB Meeting is scheduled for **2025: Sunday, January 26th at 12:15 pm** in the Conference Room. The next **Quarterly Membership Meeting** will be held **Sunday, February 2nd, at 12:15 pm** also in the Conference Room. Please save the date, attend, and bring your ideas for 2025!



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

The next **UBC Young at Heart Gadabouts Senior Adults** outing is **Tuesday, January 14th at 12:00 pm** to **Longhorn Steakhouse Restaurant**, 3562 Jefferson St., Falls Church, VA 22041. Dutch treat. Meet at the church for a ride **at 11:30 am** or **at the restaurant at 12:00 noon**. See Pam for more info. Sign up on the board or call the office to RSVP.

The next **UBC Friends & Family Breakfast** will be on **Saturday, January 25th at 9:30 am** at **Anthony's Restaurant**, 3000 Annandale Rd, Falls Church, VA 22042, so join us for this Dutch treat meal, prayer, & a short reading together. Call the office or sign up on the pink & black bulletin board form.

The annual Souper Bowl (& it's not mis-spelled) begins **Sunday, February 9th**. We will collect non-perishable food **throughout the month of February** for the **ACCA Food Pantry**, so bring non-perishables listed on the ACCA Food Pantry webpage to the ACCA Nook (Fellowship Hall), and we will deliver to the pantry.



Kairos Moments ♥♥♥

(01/07/25) Reflections of Reverend Pamela Moyer

New Year's Eve Pastor's update letter (edited for space):

Dear Congregants, Mission Center Partners, and Friends, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! It is truly a blessing to have you be part of our immediate and extended church family, our broader community of faith, and our Missions Center this year! Personally, I am grateful for good health this year, and I thank you on behalf of our staff for the many prayers sent our way in 2024 for various circumstances. Thank you to that staff, worship leaders, musicians, vocalists, and volunteers who all create a beautiful Sunday service, and an especially inspiring Christmas Eve service! I hope those of you who were here enjoyed our time together. The music was splendid, the space full of beauty, and your fellowship was welcoming.

It has been a successful year for UBC and our Missions Center. We welcomed a new member to our congregation! Sadly, we lost Pastor Emeritus Jerry Young, former members, and good friends. We have added new volunteers to our Sandwich Team Ministry, and in this newsletter, you've seen photos and read of the New United Gospel Food Mission, how we are serving the community in new ways. It is rewarding work as we build relationships with families who need our help. On December 15th, all 3 churches celebrated volunteers with a collaborative worship service and meal with eleven of our Food Giveaway guests.

It is so rewarding to host new and returning groups and events in our building to fulfill our Mission/Vision. 2024's theme was "Finding Beauty" where we saw beauty in all things, even disasters, violence, or politics. The Young at Heart Gadabouts Senior Adult group is going strong with monthly lunches; the monthly UBC Friends & Family Breakfasts are another convenient, inexpensive way to share life together. Our Worship Vision Team experimented with styles and will recommend next steps to the church this Spring. We had our first Taizé Prayer Service in August, and hope to repeat it. We are making progress on clearing out, cleaning up, and repurposing rooms within our facility, saving historical items. We updated a few HVAC pipes, insulation, exterior lights, made electrical repairs, added LED lights as old ones failed, and met with Association and County staff over growth ideas. We still need "on-ramps" for family, youth, and children's activities, especially Spanish-speaking translators or teachers, so please be in prayer about that need.

Our 2025 theme will move us forward, exploring "[Vital Hospitality](#)" in all its forms—community, church, personal & the unfamiliar through Faith, Relationship, Service, Prayer, Creativity, Study & Worship. There are many Scriptures on the subject (not just potlucks!), but our focus is [Luke 14:12-14 NIV](#): "12 Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. 13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, 14 and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Please take a beat to reflect on [your](#) faith calling for 2025; won't you reconnect? We miss you!

Parish Nurse's Touch

Debbie Caffrey

January Health Focus



The January health focus includes tips on staying safe in the cold weather and also preventing falls/good bone health. Ice, snow and cold temperatures can make life challenging for everyone. Young children, seniors and those with chronic illness are most susceptible to the associated dangers, such as hypothermia, frostbite, falls resulting in fractures etc. Dress for the weather if you have to go out on chilly, damp or cold days wear layers of loose clothes and a hat and scarf to retain warmth. Stay safe from outdoor falls by following these simple tips:

- Wear boots with non-skid soles.
- Shovel snow off steps and pathways to your home. Ask for help if you need it.
- Sprinkle deicer, salt or sand on icy steps and sidewalks. Put a scoop or plastic cup in the bag and use what you need.

Some falls in older adults can be prevented by keeping bones strong. Talk to your health care provider to be sure you are getting enough [vitamin D](#) and [calcium](#); have your vision and hearing checked every year. Having healthy bones can help to prevent hip or other fractures. A diet that includes enough calcium and vitamin D, and physical activity can help prevent bone loss and fractures. Good dietary sources of calcium include:

- dairy products such as low-fat milk, yogurt, and cheese
- orange juice, cereals, and other foods fortified with calcium
- dark green, leafy vegetables such as broccoli, collard greens, and Bok choy.

Vitamin D is essential to help your body absorb calcium. Exposure to sunlight causes your body to make vitamin D. However, many people don't get enough vitamin D this way, though. Foods with vitamin D include canned tuna, salmon, dairy products, orange juice and cereals.


You're never too old to improve your bone health!!!

~ Be Well! Debbie

More Fellowship Opportunities!

Mailbox Angels Card Writing! Wednesday, January 29th at 10 am. Come to the Fellowship Hall for this greeting card ministry before Valentine's Day. We'll have cards or bring your own. Pens, markers, stickers, stamps, & addresses provided. Coffee, Tea & water will be provided but bring your own snack or lunch. Reconnect through our first *Vital Hospitality* activity.

The next **Shepherd's Center Lunch N Life** is scheduled **Thursday, January 23rd, 11:15 am**. Join to hear "Safety for Seniors" by PFC Liam May, Springfield Division of Fairfax County Police. The lunch will be at **St. Barnabas Episcopal Church**, 4801 Ravensworth Road, Annandale, VA 22003. To Register: Call their office at 703-941-1419 by **Monday, January 20th** or send an email to shepherdscas@vacoxmail.com. Lunch is \$15.00 per person and you must RSVP.



**2025 Happy Birthday to
Congregants Born in January !**

Name	Date
Shirley Maxwell	11
Dave Sturges	20
Patty Richardson	25
Alice Merritt	27

January & February



Thursday, January 9, 16

NO UBC Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, January 11, 25

11:00 am-2:00 pm – Food Giveaway, Rm 121, 120 & Ctyd

Sunday, January 12, 19, 26

09:30 am – NBMBC & UBC Bible Studies

10:45 am – NBMBC Worship, Chapel

11:00 am – UBC Worship, Sanctuary

01:30 pm – VGBC Worship, Sanctuary

Tuesday, January 14

12:00 pm – YAH Gadabouts Lunch, See Page 1

Tuesday, January 14, 21, 28

12:30 pm – Food Mission Inventory, Rm 121

Wednesday, January 15

09:15 am – Sandwich Team, Fell. Hall

Saturday, January 18

1:00 pm – Kohaku Rehearsal, Chr. Ste

Monday, January 20

Offices are Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Thursday, January 23, 30

07:30 pm UBC Choir Rehearsal, Chr Suite

Saturday, January 25

09:30 am – UBC Friends & Family Breakfast, See Page 1

01:00 pm – Nicole Lamm Voice, Recital, Sanc & Chr. Ste

Sunday, January 26

12:15 pm – UBC CLCEB Meeting, Conf. Rm

Wednesday, January 29

10:00 am – Mailbox Angels Card Writing, F.Hall, See Page 2

Saturday, February 1

1:00 pm – Kohaku Rehearsal, Chr. Ste

Sunday, February 2

12:15 pm – UBC Quarterly Membership Mtg, Conf. Rm

Sunday, February 2, 9, 16, 23

09:30 am – NBMBC & UBC Bible Studies

10:45 am – NBMBC Worship, Chapel

11:00 am – UBC Worship, Sanctuary

01:30 pm – VGBC Worship, Sanctuary!

Wednesday, February 5, 19

09:15 am – Sandwich Team, Fell. Hall

Contributions

November 2024 (Final)	Required	Received
Tithes & Offerings	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,905.00
Building Usage	7,279.17	7,425.00
Other (B-Thrifty, Flwrs, Mem)	0.00	95.90
Monthly	\$ 12,279.17	\$ 11,425.90
Total YTD (Jan-Nov)	\$135,070.87	\$ 127,073.40
Above/(Below)		\$ (7,997.47)*
Benevolence Funds Rec'd.		\$ 90.00
December 2024 (thru 12/12)	Required	Received
Tithes & Offerings	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,670.00
Building Usage	7,279.17	7,025.00
Other (B-Thrifty, Flwrs, Mem)	0.00	87.80
Monthly	\$ 12,279.17	\$ 10,782.80
Total YTD (Jan-Dec)	\$147,350.04	\$ 137,856.20
Above/(Below)		\$ (9,493.84)*
Benevolence Funds Rec'd. (Dec partial)		\$ 45.00

* For detailed monthly reports, please contact the office. Budgeted Investment Transfers are **not** included in the "Required" or "Received". "Other" non-budgeted donations are gratefully received. One \$50K transfer was made in November.

If you cannot attend church, 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 thank you for your generosity. Benevolence offerings by check, clearly marked "**Benevolence,**" may be mailed to the office or cash/checks brought on Sundays. Thank you on behalf of many neighbors in need.

As you consider your 2025 tithe church offerings, or special gifts, we **thank you** and ask you to consider a small increase to reflect 2025 approved budget. Giving is a prayerful and spiritual matter, not just a financial one. Contribution reports will go out later in the month, so if your address has changed, please contact the office right away. **Thank You** for supporting the Church and its many community missions! (*Proverbs 3:9-10*)

ACCA – Challenge Campaign

For over 57 years, ACCA's mission has remained the same. They work to serve those in need living in Annandale, Bailey's Crossroads and Lincolnia areas. All, thanks to the generosity of people like you!

Over the past year, ACCA's Childhood Devel. Ctr. served more than 296 children by providing high-quality early childhood programming, surpassing National Association standards. Their Family Emergency Assistance Program provided rent, utilities, and medical needs to 1,853 local families, while their Nutrition/Hygiene ministry assisted 6,453 local families with food and furniture. Volunteers provided 586 round-trip rides to seniors and Housing Ministry helped repair two houses. Just Neighbors and Neighbor to Neighbor programs supported immigrants in our community.

Continued efforts depend on your generosity. We hope that you will consider making a contribution or volunteering your time. ACCA's goal is to raise \$175,000 and to increase the number of volunteers. Because of the generosity of people like you, we feel this goal is attainable.

To contribute, just mail a check to ACCA, 7200 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003, noting Challenge Campaign in the memo line. Contributing electronically is easy—just go to <https://accacares.org/how-do-i-give>. To volunteer, please go to <https://accacares.org/volunteering> for more information.

ACCA remains committed to the challenge of Jesus, as described in Matthew 25:40: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Your contribution WILL truly make a difference in someone's life.

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

Please note that personal prayer requests were removed for privacy. If you require updated information, please call the office at (703) 256-5900. Thank you.

COMMUNITY & GLOBAL PRAYER

- New Wildfires in CA, destruction & loss of life
- Weather issues around the country
- Pray for New Orleans; for family & friends, attack NYE
- Condolences to Family & Friends of Former President Jimmy Carter
- Korean victims & families in the plane crash
- Kazakhstan plane crash victims & families; the investigation
- Christmas Market violence in Germany and elsewhere
- Events & punishment surrounding United Healthcare CEO's murder. Pray for CEO family's grief
- The people affected by the fire at Talltrees Condominiums on Americana Drive, Annandale 11/22; for housing, recovery, & safety for residents & workers
- Rebuilding after the Flooding in Spain; grief
- Aftermath of Hurricanes Helene & Milton. Funds needed for Protection & Rebuilding
- Lebanon, Israel, Syria residents
- Smooth Presidential transition; leaders in Congress, Supreme Court, & White House
- For more people to know & rely upon Jesus
- For more visitors & growth of our churches here
- Peace in the Middle East: safety, recovery, & comfort for those killed, kidnapped, or injured in war. Prayers for those still in captivity & grief
- Peace & protection of the soldiers & citizens of Ukraine
- Poverty & hunger in several locations around the world
- Our mental health systems, responders & social workers
- Safety for all firefighters, canine rescue teams, medical responders, police officers and military personnel; keeping the peace during times of unrest nationally and globally
- Mission Center Building Usage Partners & potential new Mission Projects & Partners
- New United Gospel Food Mission—for donations & recipients. Pray for the many families nearby suffering from food insecurity, immigration legal expenses, finding a good attorney, school pressures, finding work, health, new babies, etc. Pray that donations continue to expand to serve growing needs as we introduce guests to the agape love of Christ. Praying for more volunteers to give current ones a break. Gratitude for the conversations & example Jesus set for us, so we can give more of ourselves sharing our faith