

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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Issue 9

Back to School!

The students are *back in school!* Fairfax Co., Falls Church, Alexandria City Public Schools, and local colleges and universities opened recently. So, please, when driving, **notice neighborhood school speed limit signs, bicycles, buses loading and unloading children, teenagers, & new, young adult drivers.** Holy opportunities abound if we protect school children and ourselves from harm. **May God bless all students and teachers (college too!) as they go "Back to School!"**



10473 Lee Hwy, Fairfax, VA 22030. Dutch treat, devotional reading, and sharing of praises and prayer requests. Please join us, and if you need a ride, see Rev. Moyer. **We will meet there.** Sign-up sheet is on the events Bulletin Board now.

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

The next CLCEB Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, September 15th at 12:15 pm** in the Conference Room to conduct church business. Pick up your bright green budget request forms from the box near the elevator and return them to the office of Rev. Moyer by Sunday, September 15th. Also, **The United Baptist Foundation Board Meeting is Sunday, September 22nd at 12:15 pm** in the Conference Room



Annandale CROP Hunger Walk!



It is that time of the year for the 2024 Annandale CROP Hunger Walk on **October 12th at Lake Accotink!** Registration starts at 8 am near Lake Accotink Park Marina and an Opening Ceremony starts at 8:15 am. Walkers start on the trails at 8:30 am. Proceeds from the walk benefit Church World Service with a large contribution to ACCA. Please plan to give any amount now; let Rev. Moyer know if you would like to walk, pray, or donate time or funds. Please place a check payable to CWS/CROP or cash in the offering plate or mail to The United Baptist Church, 7100 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003, Attn: CROP WALK. **Checks MUST be made payable to CWS/CROP (not UBC or a person).** Your donation helps the food insecure, and victims of devastating weather/fire events. Call Pam for more info. Thank you.

FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

The UBC Young at Heart Gadabouts Senior Adults outgoing is **Tuesday, September 10th at 12:00 pm** to Firebirds Wood Grill at 14020 Promenade Commons St., Gainesville, VA 20155. Dutch treat. Meet at the church **at 11:30 am** or **at the restaurant at 12:00 noon.** See Pam Moyer for more info or a ride. Dutch treat. A sign-up sheet is on the Special Events Board or call the office to RSVP.

The next UBC Friends & Family Breakfast will be on **Saturday, September 28th at 9:30 am** at Denny's in Fairfax,

PAUSE Worship Vision Team update: On August 4th, we introduced a Taizé Prayer Worship experience that seemed to go over well and on August 18th, we had an old fashioned "Hymn Sing" with historical introductions. It was lively and nostalgic. Thank you to David Evans and the music team as they are adding lighter fare with contemporary piano pieces, vocals, and guitar. If you have specific ideas, please see Rev. Moyer.

Potential Building Usage for Arts Studios & Gallery

In June, we were approached by a local artist, James Albright, who also chairs the Annandale Arts Advisory Committee, about sharing space for art studios and a small gallery because we are in the middle of an arts "desert." Your pastor's experience at Convergence Church contributed to a fruitful exchange of ideas!

In July, the CLCEB met, discussed, and generally approved the concept so that we could begin to explore this exciting opportunity for our church! UBC has a solid foundation in the community of Annandale. The Church universal has historically been a meeting place for community activities, workshops, classes, rehearsals, and meetings *in addition to* weekly worship and education.

Supervisor Jimenez is carrying on Penny Gross' goal of revitalizing Annandale culturally and zoning was adjusted in 2010. A draft proposal (will be provided for review in final form after County UD approval) reflects my prayer and questions to you the congregation: how do we, as a small church grow and support a changing community with . . . *continued pg. 3 . . .*

Kairos Moments ♥♥♥

(09/03/24) Reflections of Reverend Pamela Moyer

First, I want to thank our Worship Vision Team and Music staff for helping to introduce a new Taizé Prayer service last month. As I wrote in the August article, I hope it was meaningful for you, even though it was different. I welcome your feedback and creativity



Second, I thank our Sunday Worship Team, Music and Admin staff, and you, the congregation, for producing a terrific Hymn Sing and time of worship on August 18th! Didn't you learn a lot? I certainly did; the information David shared made the hymns more meaningful, IMHO (in my humble opinion per text & social media language). I hope you found it insightful. You chose wonderful stand-by's and some we sang on the 25th! You may have also noticed that I've added a Preparatory Hymn between the 1st Scripture reading and Community Prayer; we stay seated for it, so it will be more reflective. We'll be continuing themes around the beauty of worship to understand it better in September as we continue to "PAUSE" and explore sacred listening, praise, gratitude, and connection through diverse worship styles.

As others and I have preached over the years, the word "Church" is not just the building! Church happens wherever two or three are gathered in Christ's name (Matthew 18:20), inside or beyond the building. A worship service or Sunday School class **is** where we can wrestle with our questions or doubts about God or his will, no matter how long we have or how intensely we have believed in Jesus. Life can be a challenge sometimes. The next few weeks will explore parts of worship like praise, lamentation, confession, thanksgiving, reassurance, memory, legacy, ritual, humility, surrender, obedience, and beauty. It's a huge topic, of course, so this is condensed, but provocative.

Let me share a quote to consider from the Regional Exec. Minister of Nebraska for American Baptist Churches USA, Rev. Dr. Greg Mamula, from the MMBB newsletter. It is relevant to us as The United Baptist Church and churches all over our country evaluate declining attendance, and try to collaborate in new ways. He says: "Gathering together won't solve the systemic issues facing our nation, but **building community and coming together with trust** and not fear makes us able to partner together and achieve great things." Our comfortable worship may not be as transformative to others as we think or assume it is. May we have the courage to explore God's leadings in this area of worship! Lend your voice and presence. †♥

Parish Nurse's Touch

Debbie Caffrey

September Health Focus

COVID-19 activity is increasing across the U.S. and Virginia, including in the Fairfax Health District. Emergency department visits for individuals who are diagnosed with COVID-19 have increased to 3.3% of all emergency department visits—from 1.2% in early June. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been surges in COVID-19 activity during the summer. This is likely due to a combination of factors including gathering indoors during high temperatures, new COVID-19 variants, and low COVID-19 vaccine uptake.

COVID-19 Prevention

- You can take action to protect yourself and others against COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases.
- Improve ventilation when gathering indoors. You can open windows when safe to do so, use ceiling fans to improve air flow, turn on exhaust fans in the bathroom and kitchen, turn the thermostat on the HVAC to the "on" position instead of "auto" to continuously run the fan, and use a portable air cleaner.
- Wash hands often.
- Clean high-touch surfaces such as doorknobs, light switches, and countertops.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your elbow.
- Get tested if you have respiratory symptoms to know if you have a virus such as COVID-19. You may be eligible for treatment. You can also take a COVID-19 test before gathering with others to help protect people who are at a higher risk of getting very sick.
- Stay home when sick. Stay home and away from others if you have symptoms of any respiratory virus. You can return to your normal activities when the following are true for at least 24 hours:
 - Your symptoms are getting better overall and
 - You do not have fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication).

After going back to normal activities, you may still be contagious. Consider taking added precautions for the following 5 days including keeping your distance from others and wearing a well-fitted mask. One of the best ways to protect yourself and others is to get vaccinated.


CDC announced that an updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine would be available this fall for everyone aged 6 months and older. This vaccine is designed to help protect against one of the most common variants expected to be circulating. Since protection from past infections and vaccinations declines over time, it is important to stay up to date on recommended vaccines to restore immunity. You can save time by getting COVID-19 and flu vaccines during the same appointment.

Source:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/prevention-reminders-covid-19-increasing-summer>



~ Be Well! Debbie



**Happy Birthday to
Congregants Born in September!**

Name	Date
Wayne Shoemaker	1
Linda Clarke	4
Wayne Yawn	4
David Evans	14
Randy Clarke	19
Patsey Small	26
Bonnie Hester	27

September & October

Sunday, September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

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, September 4, 18

09:15 am – Sandwich Team, Fell. Hall

Tuesday, September 3, 10, 17, 24

12:30 pm – Food Mission Inventory, Rm 121

Thursday, September 5, 26

07:30 – UBC Choir Rehearsal, Chr Suite

Tuesday, September 10

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

Saturday, September 14

03:00 pm – NBMBC Choir Celeb Svc, Sanc & Gym, Chap

Sunday, September 15

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

Monday, Sept 16-22 Rev. Pam Moyer will be on Vacation

Praying she has an Amazing one!

Sunday, September 22

12:15 pm – UB Foundation Bd. Mtg, Conf. Rm

Saturday, September 28

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

Saturday, September 28

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

Sunday, September 29

06:00 pm – Sopranessence Rehearsal, Chr Rm

Tuesday, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

12:30 pm – Food Mission Inventory, Rm 121

Wednesday, October 2, 16

09:15 am – Sandwich Team, Fell. Hall

Saturday, October 5

08:00 am – Annandale Women’s Club Yard Sale, F. Hall



Contributions

August 2024 (Final)	Required	Received
Tithes & Offerings	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,245.00
Building Usage	7,279.17	7,350.00
Other (B-Thrifty, Flwrs, Mem)	0.00	13.00
Monthly (new # w/o mtg)	\$ 12,279.17	\$ 11,608.00
Total YTD (Jan-Aug)	\$ 98,233.36	\$ 91,904.40
Above/(Below)		\$ (6,328.96)*
Benevolence Funds Rec’d. (July)		\$ 555.00

* 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 (Bee Thrifty, Envelopes, Flowers, etc.).

Thank you for your stewardship and prayers! Offerings may be mailed to the office at 7100 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003 if you cannot attend. 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.

... Arts Studio & Gallery ~ Continued from pg. 1

... extreme diversity in age, race, faith, ethnicity, needs, and interests? How do we draw attention to the church not just as a building, but as a community influencer? Can we not just “find beauty” but rather **“share beauty”**?! How do we connect with those who are “spiritual” but not religious, and perhaps have a wounded church history? Could this be a divine solution to our prayers? There are many points of spirit-led evidence, but a few questions.

We already serve as pastor and “church” to many groups who meet here at different times. What if we had 9+ professional artists who want to be part of this Annandale revitalization, and who need a safe, convenient, affordable space in which to work? And invited their friends to gallery events and shows? God as creator is an artist, so why couldn’t we as a church share God’s awe and majesty in non-traditional, intergenerational, and multi-national ways through the arts like visual art, sculpture gardens, music, theater, the literary arts (book or poetry readings), landscape design, or other performing arts?

What questions do you have? Let’s talk . . . Pastor Pam

Update: New United Gospel Food Mission

We still need volunteers for inventory, distribution, greeting, and keeping the children busy! Due to a pre-planned event, there will NOT be distribution on Sept. 14th. All were informed and signs are posted.



Funds are needed: please make checks payable to **“NBMBC-Food Mission,”** mail to Food Mission @UBC, 7100 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003 or bring on Sundays. If you prefer donating cash, then

place it in an envelope in the offering plate with notation – **“NBMBC-Food Mission”** -- or bring to the UBC office 9:00 am-1 pm M-F, so noted. Relationships are forming and hearts are hopeful due to your prayers and support!

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

Personal prayer requests have been removed for privacy. If you'd like an update, please call the pastor in the office, 703.256.5900. Thank you.

COMMUNITY & GLOBAL PRAYER

- Recently killed Israeli/Am Hostages, their families & those still held
- Hurricane threat to **Hawaii**
- Recent flooding from hurricanes & tropical storms
- Heavy rains & flooding in Sierra Leone (BWA prayer need)
- Political & Economic unrest in Bangladesh, Venezuela, & Nigeria (BWA prayer need)
- Hurricanes – Protection & rebuilding from earlier damages
- Wildfires out west (CA & CO); for responders' safety & A/C for those in need
- Political Race for U.S. President/VPres-honesty, civility
- Safety of all our leaders in Congress, Supreme Court, & White House; condolences for bystanders killed & injured in Trump attack
- For more people to know & rely upon Jesus
- Safety of all who must be outside or are vulnerable to health conditions
- Police Officer involved shootings for officers, victims, families, & neighborhoods
- Peace in the Middle East: safety, recovery, & comfort for those killed, kidnapped, or injured in war. Prayers for those still in captivity; praise for the newly released hostage!
- Haiti's unrest & transitional government; prayers for peace & provision
- New United Gospel Food Mission—for donations & for past & future recipients
- Peace & protection of the soldiers & citizens of Ukraine
- Our mental health systems, responders & social workers; pray for those suffering to seek professional help before crisis
- 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: NBMBC, VGBC, Amerikids, Arch Home Care/Zion Medical, GUTS Toastmasters, Gideons, Shepherd's Center especially transportation program, ACCA programs, Washington Concert Society, Sopranessence, Kohaku Ensemble, Music Teachers, International Dance, Goodwin Hospice, Annandale Women's Club, potential Mason Jar Arts studios & gallery, & more . . .