

# The Vision

The Primary Weekly Communication Instrument of  
The United Baptist Church of Northern Virginia

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*The United Baptist Church Vision is "to develop an intentional relationship with God, as in Jesus, so that our lives demonstrate the transforming effect and supreme importance of such a relationship for us, our society, and our world."*

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Volume 8

May 4, 2010

Issue 18

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## Renovation Committee Hosts UBC Forum on May 16

Following the worship service on May 16, there will be a Forum hosted by the Renovation Committee. The committee has asked Mr. Neal Roseberry of Lemay Erickson Wilcox Architects to be present, and the initial drawings of potential renovations will be presented. The congregation will have an opportunity to ask questions and make comments. There will be no votes taken at this time, but on the basis of the discussion the committee and architects will continue to refine the plans in preparation for making a formal recommendation at some time in the future. The committee is pleased with the work of the architect and looks forward to sharing that work with you. *You are asked to bring finger foods as we do for a quarterly membership meeting.*

### CALLED BUSINESS MEETING

A Special Membership Meeting has been called for Sunday, May 9, following the morning worship service for the purpose of hearing and voting on a recommendation from the Building and Grounds Committee concerning replacing air conditioning units in the oldest of our buildings. A written proposal will be available this Sunday for you to pick up and read. May 9 is Mother's Day, and there will be no After-Worship Fellowship following this brief business meeting.

## Guest Speaker in Worship Service on Sunday, May 16

Preaching in our Sunday morning worship service on May 16 will be **Dr. Stephen Richerson**, President and Executive Director of the HopeTree Family Services (formerly Virginia Baptist Children's Home). The HopeTree will be the recipient of the proceeds from our Yard Sale on June 9, with the funds being used toward a new facility in Northern Virginia for special needs adults. Diane Yawn serves as one of the HopeTree trustees elected by the Baptist General Association of Virginia.



## Mother's Day Sunday May 9

Mothers will be recognized and honored  
as part of the worship service.

## ***PONDERINGS....*** Gerald L. Young

I confess that I am growing very weary of a culture in which everyone seems to want to be believe the worst about everyone else. And is not at all hesitant to make their feelings known in the strongest possible language. With all the invective flying around, it's like we are living in a cesspool of sewage. An opposite word comes from a letter that the Apostle Paul wrote to his favorite church – the church at Philippi. Toward the end of the letter, Paul wrote, “*Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things*” (Phil. 4:8, NRSV).

Paul encouraged the Philippians (and us) to think about things that are true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, excellent, and worthy of praise. Our tendency is to dwell instead on things that are sordid, titillating, controversial, disgusting, and worthy of condemnation. That is the news that sells newspapers and tabloids (that no one admits to reading), and produces newscasts and talk radio shows that win the ratings wars. We love it! We can't seem to get enough of “The World's Most Gruesome and Bloody Car Wrecks in Which Bodies Were Decapitated!” And if you aren't sufficiently sickened by the television show, there is a “completely uncensored” version available for your viewing pleasure at the local video outlet. If you pulled the drain plug on the mind of our typical citizen, out would pour a most hideous concoction consisting of all the vile things that have entered our minds followed by their toxic interaction with one another.

But we are to be different, those of us who are followers of Jesus. It is not enough that we avoid (as best we can) thinking about what the rest of the culture thinks about. We are called upon to fill our minds with that which is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, excellent, and worthy of praise. Where can you find such things? Certainly not in “all the usual places” that our world is looking. You will, however, find those qualities wherever Jesus is present. You will find them (admittedly, in varying degrees) in His disciples. You will find them, if you search for them. What a witness to the world we would be if our lives over-flowed with the true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, excellent, and worthy of praise. Imagine how we would stand out in a world that is much quicker to see that which is deserving of criticism rather than that which is worthy of praise. If we would fill our minds with such things, we would find ourselves commending and praising. Our world – and His church – could use a lot of that! So could I. How about you?

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Sunday Bible Study – 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Worship Service – 10:55 a.m.

### **May**

- 5 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
- 10:00 a.m. AARP Safe Driving Seminar
- 10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists' Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 5:45 p.m. Begin Serving Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. Youth Missions (Twyla's Office)
- 6:30 p.m. Discipleship Study
- 7:35 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 6 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Conference Room)
- 2:30 p.m. Mended Hearts Ministry
- 9 8:30 a.m. Prayer Group (Conference Room)
- 10:55 a.m. MOTHER'S DAY
- 12:15 p.m. Called Business Meeting (Air Conditioning)
- 10 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 11 11:00 a.m. Young-at-Heart Gadabouts Leave for Strawberry Picking at Westmoreland Farm
- 12 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
- 10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists' Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 3:30 p.m. Knit & Crochet Club (Parlor)
- 5:45 p.m. Begin Serving Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Discipleship Study
- 7:35 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

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### **Staff News ...**

**Dr. Yawn** is on vacation through this Sunday, May 9. He will be back in the office on Monday, May 10 (*note the corrected date*).

**Rev. Turner** will be on vacation beginning Monday, May 10 through May 22.

### **Things You Should Know ...**

The worship service on Sunday, May 24 (Memorial Day Weekend) will include our **annual memorial moment** for those members of our congregation who have died since Memorial Day last year. Family of those to be remembered will receive a contact from the church to invite a family member to participate in the service.

With the end of the school year nearing, so is the time when we will recognize those of the UBC extended family who will be **graduating**. We want to join in celebrating that achievement. Please provide us with the names, schools, and degrees (if applicable) for the graduates in your family so we can include them in an upcoming issue of *The Vision*. See the bulletin insert beginning this Sunday.

## Youth News... Twyla Turner

### Youth Missions

There will be **Youth Missions** on May 5 at our regular time. We will meet in Twyla's office. I look forward to seeing YOU there!

### Sunday School

Join us at 9:45 for fellowship, with Bible study set to start at 10 am.

### Coming Soon...

Please save Sunday, June 13 for a special youth "annual" event that we will celebrate for the first time this year. This event will be for youth and children and their parents and everyone is needed for the event to be successful, so please make plans to participate. More information will come in the near future.

Save Sat., June 19<sup>th</sup> for Music in the Park at Six Flags. Details next week. And save Sunday, June 27 for our Youth Summer Kick-off Pool Party after church. Details available soon.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL...

is coming in July. This summer we will be visiting the **SonQuest Rainforest** to learn about God. We will be announcing the dates and times of VBS shortly so keep an eye on this spot. This looks to be a fantastic Bible School and your help is needed in many ways. The most important way that you can help this year is by helping to identify children that we can invite to attend our Bible School. I would like to challenge our congregation to identify and register **35** children to participate this year. We will be focusing on students ages 5-11. Of course, your help will also be needed to present our Bible School, but at this point please be focusing on identifying children we can invite this year.

### Kid's Club

**(another service opportunity for youth)**

Our next Kid's Club event will be a Summer Splashdown to kick off the summer. We will go to Miss Kathi and Mr. Larry's pool in Manassas for a special "Welcome Summer" party. We will have a snack on the way to Manassas and a cookout when we get there. All parents are welcome to join us for this special event and youth are encouraged to attend as helpers. (Our regular youth summer kickoff will take place after school ends.)

Everyone is asked to bring something to share to go along with hamburgers and hotdogs and a beverage. The burgers and dogs will be provided, but we will need to know who is planning on attending to make sure there is enough food.

## *Young-at-Heart Gadabouts*

### **Strawberry Picking (or Buying) at Westmoreland Berry Farm**

**Tuesday, May 11  
Bus leaves at 8:45 a.m.**

**Lunch will be at the Berry Farm  
(No scheduled return time)**

**UBC Spring Yard Sale  
Saturday, June 12  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Proceeds will go to HopeTree Family Services (formerly the Virginia Baptist Children's Home) for the construction in Northern Virginia of a new facility for special needs adults.

**BEGIN TO BRING YOUR ITEMS NOW**

## **MAY CONCERTS**

### **UBC Concert Series**

**May 23, 3:00 p.m.**

Jeff Carrick, Tenor

### **Northern Virginia Chorale Concert**

**May 22, 7:00 p.m.**

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
(discounted advance tickets are available  
from Phil Carpenter)