

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."

Volume 7

July 14, 2009

Issue 28

Quarterly Membership Meeting

Sunday, July 19

12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Reports from Chairs of Support Teams and Committees Are
Needed in the Church Office Immediately for Inclusion in the
Book of Reports

REMINDER: *Pot Luck Finger foods are the menu for the
luncheon preceding the Business Meeting*

Unravelings...Wayne Yawn

Humans have been asking, "Where is God" since first consciousness of humans having a physical beginning and end. Ancients thought of God as "up there," on high places. The Hebrew Bible actually refers to gods on "high places" where Palestinians before them erected shrines to worship. Hebrews chose one high place, Mount Zion, Jerusalem, as the most holy place and erected their temple on "Temple Mount." Moses went up on Mount Sinai to find God. Ancients experienced the high or light headedness of higher elevations and associated that feeling with God being there. And, when they discovered drinking the aged juice of grapes they found the same feelings, they associated it with the spirit of gods, without having to climb a mountain. The spirits of alcohol entered the vocabulary. In sharing this ancient experience with some neighborhood friend recently, they all laughed because they all enjoyed their wine. I went on to say, "But it is not the wine and the spirit that it gives that is the purpose. It is the experience of the wine that points us to the ancient and fundamental quest to answer "Where is God?" (The problems with alcohol come when the "high" from drinking becomes the end rather than the being that to which the ancients experienced it pointing them: to God!) Oh, by the way this discussion took place during my neighborhood Home Owners Association's annual meeting, where we discuss neighborliness and how we can best live side by side and take care of the property we hold in common. The meeting is like a church membership meeting! It is where we discuss how we can, in Jesus' words, "Find life and find it most fully" as a community. (John 10:10) In other words, how can we find and experience where God is? How can we find the peace and hospitality that communities of people crave?

I am coming to discern that "God is in His Holy Temple, let all the earth keep silence." But God's temple is the whole earth! If I will just silence the sounds (messages) of the "den of thieves" and learn to listen to the sounds of God, I will find God! When Jesus attacked those who were turning the Mount Zion temple building into a "den of thieves" rather than a house of prayer, I think he was saying, learn to listen at God's gathering place so you can be able to find and hear God over the loud voices of the earth in God's larger temple of daily life. I'll have more to say about this next week right here.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Worship Service – 10:55 a.m.

July

- 15 8:45 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
- 10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists's Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6:15 p.m. Youth Missions
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 16 6:00 a.m. Youth Leave for Ocean City MD beach trip
(Returning approx. 10 p.m.)
- 19 8:30 p.m. Prayer Group (Conference Room)
- 12:30 p.m. Quarterly Membership Meeting
- 20 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 22 8:45 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
- 10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists's Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6:15 p.m. Youth Missions
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

BUS TRIP TO THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

Sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of
Annandale-Springfield

- WHEN: Tuesday, July 28, board bus at
10:00 a.m.
- WHERE: Meet at Annandale United Methodist
- WHAT: Tour of Washington National
Cathedral
- COST: \$20, paid in advance
Includes bus and tour of Cathedral
- DEADLINE: *Extended to July 17*
- MAIL: To SCAS, 7610 Newcastle Dr.,
Annandale, VA. 22003 Include your
name and phone number
- INFORMATION: Call 730-941-1419 or email
Shepherscas@vacoxmail.com

NEEDED

The Building and Grounds Committee needs to borrow a metal detecting device like the devices beach comers use to find loose metal objects buried in sand. They are trying to detect the buried metal pipes used by the county to mark property lines on the church property. Should you have one of these devices or know someone who has one and would be willing to loan it for a few minutes, contact the church office. Thank you.

Youth News...Twyla Turner

There will be **no Youth Missions** on July 15. We will meet again on July 22nd to work on Youth Leadership Roles at VBS for this year.

Thank you to all of the youth who were present for **Sunday School** this week. We were able to cover this week's materials. Sunday we will complete the **Amazing Bible Race** quizzes through week 8. Please try to complete some material at home this week and bring it to Sunday School on Sunday morning so that you can contribute to the group effort. Please bring your runner's log and Bible so that you will have the information you need for the quizzes. We will look for a date to reschedule our lock-in to complete the fast forwards of the first leg of the race. Please bring your schedule so that we can figure out a good date and put it on our calendars.

Our next **beach trip** will be on Thursday, July 16th. We will go to **Ocean City** Maryland this time. The cost of the trip is \$20.00. We will depart from the church at 6 am and will return approximately 10 p.m. Please make a reservation for this trip with a deposit of ½ of the trip cost (\$10.00) ASAP.

Our July **paintball** will be on Saturday, July 25th. It's the "Independence Day Big Game" at Skyline so advance reservations are required. Cost will depend on when you make your reservation. If you contact Twyla with a firm reservation (including deposit of \$20.00) by July 10, your total cost will be \$40.00. After July 10 the price increases for registration and paint. This game is a special game and costs a bit more than a regular day of paintball. You will need to bring your lunch for this game as there will be no time to leave the field and go out for food. Email Twyla if you have questions.

Our children enjoyed July's **Faith and Fun Day** on Sunday, when we completed a crossword puzzle that helped us learn more about Jesus, enjoyed pizza and had fun in the sun. Thanks to **Ryan Ford, Bob Lawton, Kaitlin Martindale, and Leigh Whitcraft** for helping to make this day possible. Our August **Children's Faith and Fun Day** is scheduled for August 23rd. Put it on your calendar now!! Invite a friend to join you!

A good day was had by all who attended **KINGSFEST** at **Kings Dominion** this year. In addition to seeing one of our favorite Christian bands, RELIANT K perform, we saw another great band that was really good, FAMILY FORCE 5. It was a day filled with fun and unexpected surprises, some might say miracles!!

There are still opportunities to earn **Disciple Dollars** or **need service hours for school**. Please contact Twyla if you are interested.

Vacation Bible School is coming this summer. If you have **any** interest in helping or attending, and have not yet spoken with Twyla, please do so immediately. Youth will begin their work for VBS on Wednesday night, July 22. Meeting dates for all workers will take place in August.

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

The Annandale Neighborhood Center and the Food for Others (who distribute our sandwiches for the homeless) have partnered with some of the local Annandale Faith-Based communities to provide food for the Annandale community! This is not connected with ACCA. This organization is located behind the Annandale High School and provides other community based programs other than food distribution.

WHEN: Thursday Evenings

WHERE: Annandale Neighborhood Center

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

First Come, First Serve!

Number Lottery will be used to keep order

Call 703-642-7400 for more information about the program and how you can volunteer.

Charles and Mary Katharine arrived in Fayetteville, NC safe and sound on June 29th. Both are adjusting nicely to their new home and routine. Please continue to pray for healing (Charles still has back pain and Mary Katharine's Parkinson continues it's course).

They could not have anticipated nor been more appreciative of the heartfelt and warm "going away" given by all on the 28th. Both have and will continue to enjoy the hymnal signed and presented to them. Thank you and God bless all. **They are missing all of you very much.** Please don't hesitate to phone and cards are always welcome!

The Griffith's
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