

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 8

July 20, 2010

Issue 29

Vacation Bible School

Continues Sunday!!!

SonQuest Rainforest

**Four More
Sunday Mornings**

**through August 15
from 9:30 to 12 noon**

**Children ages 5-11 years
welcome**

See program details inside under
the Youth News column

Church Conducts

**Eight Week Supervised
Open Gym Ministry
for Local Youth!**

Kids are Playing Daily!

**Supervised Play
from 2:00-5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday**

**Mr. Derek Highsmith (Full
time employee of Leary School)
and Mr. Ryan Gehr (grandson
of Tom and Helen Gehr) are
our
Gym Supervisors**

PONDERINGS ... Gerald L. Young

You've probably seen news about the attempt to build a community center and a mosque near Ground Zero in New York City. Both sides have displayed great passion at public hearings concerning the project. All of this is heightened, of course, because of the location. Ground Zero has achieved iconic status since September 11, 2001. But clashes such as this one are happening in other places which do not have such status. While we were on vacation in Missouri, the same day's newspaper had two articles that caught my immediate attention. One article, from Murfreesboro, Tennessee, told of the protest in this Middle Tennessee town against a proposal to build a new Islamic mosque in the town. One resident was quoted as saying, *Most people don't understand what they are dealing with. You are dealing with a terrorist organization. They want to rule the world.* Others charge that Islam is a political movement and not a religion, and that the mosque could also be used as a training center for terrorists. Mosque leaders say they have simply outgrown the space at their current location. In that same day's newspaper was an article describing how militia groups in Indonesia are targeting Christians. These militia groups want to *strike fear in the hearts of Christians If they refuse to stop what they are doing, we are ready to fight.* A regional leader said the militia will *guard the Islamic faith and preach the right path to the people.* And all of this in the month that we set aside to proclaim that cherished Baptist value of religious liberty for all people everywhere.

It seems to me that there are more people *defending* their religion (all religions) than there are people *living* those same religions. It also seems to me that there are a lot of defenders of religious faith that must not believe their faith is strong enough to survive on the strength of its relationship to truth, but rather needs protests, threats, lawsuits, and even violence to protect it. Here is where I stand. I follow one who rebuked his closest friend's use of a sword to defend him. One who said following him required loving one's enemies – and meant it and modeled it. One who clearly believed that the message he brought and proclaimed and lived – that the Kingdom of God had drawn near and that his life and teachings were the way that led to truth and life – demanded that followers be willing to die for that truth. Not kill for it. It also seems to me that such truth can never be coerced. It cannot be produced by threat or by torture. I also believe that our Baptist forebearers had it right. We must defend the religious liberty of all, or there is religious liberty for none. Only the power of the majority that easily passes for the real thing. Show me your faith. I'll show you mine. Maybe we can both learn something and make a better world. Let's let the truth prevail in the

marketplace of ideas and behaviors.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday Bible Study – 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service – 10:55 a.m.

July

- 21 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists' Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:30 p.m. **NO** Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- 22 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 23 6:00 a.m. Youth Leave for Beach Trip
- 25 8:30 a.m. Sunday Prayer Group (Conference Room)
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
9:30 a.m. VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
10:55 a.m. Worship Service
12:15 p.m. After Worship Fellowship
12:30 p.m. Church Leadership Council
- 26 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 28 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists' Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Business Meeting Report

At the Quarterly Membership Meeting following the worship service last Sunday, those present accepted the financial reports and a report from the Building and Grounds Committee. The only motion was the approval of the recommendation from the Church Leadership Council that Aubrey Jones and Eloise Morris be elected to three-year terms on the church Nominating Committee. Appreciation was also expressed for their willingness to continue to serve in this important way.

**The Shepherd's Center of Annandale/Springfield
Presents**

COMPANY

A Live Musical

at The Little Theater of Alexandria

July 27 at 8:00 p.m.

An award-winning play, with story by George
Furth and music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

TICKETS: \$25.00

For reservations call 703-941-1419

Lunch n' Life

August 26, 11:30 a.m.

St. Albans Episcopal Church

Program: Capt. Ramiro Galvez, Fairfax
County Haitian Rescue Team

Youth News...Twyla Turner

Youth Missions--. Youth Missions will meet on Wed., July 14th, at 6:30 pm. There will be no dinner served so if you want to eat make sure to bring money to pay for your dinner at Subway.

Sunday School— Youth Sunday School will once again meet on Sunday, July 25th, at 9:15. **We will be conducting VBS starting at 9:30 a.m.** and all Youth are needed to help with our program this year. Please make sure to be present so that you can assist the students who attend VBS with our stories, music, games, crafts and snacks.

Kid's Club--Our mini golf date will be rescheduled in August.
Beach Day—A reminder that we will go to Ocean City on Friday, July 24th. Be at the church by 5:55 am as we will leave the church at 6 am sharp. Deposit of \$10.00 is due immediately, with a balance of \$15.00 due on Friday at departure at 6 am. If you intend to go to the beach and have not yet made a deposit, contact Twyla immediately.

School Supply Drive for needy students- Watch your newspapers for Back-to-School sales these days and scoop up those bargains. Our Youth will once again be collecting school supplies during August for needy students at Westlawn School. Now is the time that many stores run **fantastic** sales on school supplies at great prices. Pick up items at the bargain sale prices and you will have them ready for the August collection dates.

Please be in prayer for our students who will be attending **Student Life Camp** this summer. As we are preparing to go to camp in early August, pray that **we** will be spiritually prepared to encounter God at camp this summer. Thank you.

SonQuest Rainforest is the theme of our 2010 Vacation Bible School—which continues this Sunday, July 25th. On Sunday, we will continue our **5 Sundays** of Vacation Bible School. We are visiting the **SonQuest Rainforest** to learn about God. This is a wonderful Bible School focusing on some of the parables that Jesus taught. Your help is still needed. We started out with 13 students involved in our VBS this year. We need help in getting more students involved. Please look around your neighborhood and invite children to come to our program. You might even offer to drive them. We have scheduled VBS to coincide with the hours that you are in Sunday School and Worship. We had one visitor on Sunday. Can you help us get to 2 or 3 or 4 visitors? Our children have been challenged to bring friends and I am challenging you to identify children in your neighborhood to participate this year. Invitations and registration forms will be available on Sunday, for you to share in your neighborhood. We will be focusing on students ages **5-11** this year. I look forward to seeing you with some children this Sunday morning.

Health Corner Gerry Sue Young, RN

Summer is here and we've already had some of those 100 degree temperatures. The insert in Sunday's bulletin had some summer safety tips. I'd like to emphasize just a few.

Remember when heading out to use your sun screen. An SPF of at least 15 is important. It's also important to apply it at least 20 minutes before going out into the sun. It should also be reapplied every couple of hours.

Increased temperature can also mean unhealthy air. Be aware of code red and orange days. Stay inside if you suffer from any respiratory problems. Limit your time outside. Usually 10 AM to 4 PM are the hottest times of day and should be avoided.

Sun stroke or heat stroke are a concern on especially hot days. Limit your exposure and work level. Dizziness, headache, nausea or palpitations are all symptoms of overexposure. Get in the shade or go inside, preferably into an air conditioned environment. Drink plenty of water. Dehydration is common in the summer. Protect yourself by wearing a hat in the sun.

Summertime is fun time. Don't be sidelined. Be smart, be safe and have a great Summer.

The ACCA Food Pantry

The ACCA Food Pantry is low on jelly, peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, Jell-O, pudding, coffee, medium size bags of rice and paper products. Please donate ASAP by dropping these items in the Fellowship Hall Mission Nook. Thank you! Your Mission Support Team.