

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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***FINAL WEEK* for Collecting School Supplies for Westlawn Elementary School**

This is the last week to purchase and bring in school supplies and backpacks that will be delivered to Westlawn Elementary School when school starts and distributed to needy students. Bring supplies to Mission Nook. Items needed include:

Paper – wide-ruled
Pencils – #2
Pens – blue, Composition Notebooks
black, red
Scissors – safety
Rulers
Pencil sharpener
Elmer's Glue
Glue Sticks
Highlighters
Notebooks
Folders
Hand Sanitizer
Kleenex
Backpacks

These supplies are for children in Kindergarten through Grade Six.

CONSOLIDATED MISSION OFFERING TO BE TAKEN

The Mission Support Team has decided to try a consolidated Mission Offering this year. Beginning this month and continuing through the end of the year, we will periodically be emphasizing one of four mission causes:

**Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions
World Hunger through Baptist World Aid
NorthStar Church Network Mission Offering
CBF Global Missions Offering**

All money given to this Consolidated Missions Offering will be divided equally between these four mission causes. You will still be able to designate your offering to be divided some other way, but you will need to clearly mark that on the envelope. Envelopes for this offering will be available in the near future, and our **September 16 Mission Night will highlight the Alma Hunt Offering** with Jim Ailor as our guest. More information will follow. Watch for it.

In a called business meeting last Sunday, the church voted without dissent to approve the Building and Grounds committee recommendations to replace a boiler and add insulation using investment funds to pay for the work, and to extend the day care lease through December 31, 2013.

My thanks to the Personnel Committee for sponsoring the reception to recognize my 20th anniversary with Boulevard/United Baptist Church. Many of you shared kind comments with us, and we thank you for that. We will enjoy the opportunity provided by the cash gift to get in a round of golf or two together. And for all those who wished me twenty more years, let's just say that we all know that won't happen. But however many more years it turns out to be, I'll be grateful for the opportunity to share this much of my journey here in this place and with these people.

Markers such as this are occasions to look back and remember. Coming as it does just a few weeks after the death of both of my parents has multiplied the tendency to look back over these years. Sunday afternoon, I found myself thinking, "I'm sure Mother will love to hear about this." And if that weren't enough, August 31 would have been my Father's 95th birthday. Recently, I got out the 1990 Boulevard Baptist Church Pictorial Directory and looked through the pictures, reminding myself of many of the people who have been a part of these twenty years. Many who read this have been part of the entire twenty year journey. About half of the members of the Pastor Search committee are still active at UBC. Without exception, they have been and remain special people in our lives. But that is also true for many of you who have only been a part of the UBC portion of the journey. And still others have joined the journey for a while and then have moved on – but not without leaving their impact.

I've also spent time recently asking how my understanding of ministry has changed over these twenty years. I believe that I have developed a much greater sense of the Kingdom. Twenty years ago it was about building a church. What I've come to believe is that it needs to be about creating a community of Christ-followers, a community in which the Kingdom is real and present "on earth as it is in heaven." We'll never get that perfectly in place any more than any of us will ever perfectly "have in us the mind that was in Christ Jesus." But it must continue to be our goal. There is a profound difference between focusing on building a church – increasing membership, building buildings, maintaining budgets, etc. – and focusing on being conscious of being the presence of Jesus Christ in this place and time and thus being the people in whom God's Kingdom is being made real in today's world. One year. Five years. Another twenty years. Whatever the length of time I have left, that is where I want to focus my ministry. And I'm delighted to be doing that here with this community. With this staff. With those who have shared the journey thus far and those still to join us. Especially with God.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday Bible Study – 9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Worship Service – 10:55 a.m.

September

- 2 8:45 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
10:00 a.m. Renovation Committee
10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists's Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 6 8:30 p.m. Prayer Group (Conference Room)
10:55 p.m. Worship Service with Communion
12:15 p.m. September Birthdays Fellowship
- 7 OFFICE CLOSED (Labor Day)
- 8 11:15 a.m. Young-at-Heart Gadabouts Bus Leaves for Cedar Knoll Inn on the Potomac
- 9 8:45 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists's Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
6:15 p.m. Youth Missions

2010 Budget Request Forms

Now Available

**Next to the Information Center
by the Lower Elevator Entrance
Support Team and Committee Members
should submit projected 2010 Expenditures
for church actions on these forms, by
returning these forms to the Finance
Committee's Communication Center Box
by September 12, 2009**

Young-at-Heart Gadabouts

will be going to
Cedar Knoll Inn on the Potomac
Alexandria, VA
for lunch on
Tuesday, September 8
Bus leaves at 11:15 a.m.
(No scheduled return time)

We are trying to set up a date for our annual **Flu Shot Clinic** to be held on a Sunday following the worship service. When we do, we will need to have 30 people sign up. Watch for details to follow.

Youth News...Twyla Turner

This week will be the last week to donate to the youth mission project for August. That project is to collect and distribute backpacks and school supplies to needy children at Westlawn Elementary School. During August we have accepted donations of all kinds of school supplies for these children. Some of the supplies that we still need include additional backpacks, wide-ruled paper, pencils, rulers, composition notebooks, glue bottles and glue sticks. Schools are also requiring students to bring hand sanitizer and Kleenex as well in anticipation of a difficult flu season this year. Safety scissors, pens in blue, black and red ink are also needed, as well as crayons, colored pencils and markers. The youth will pack the backpacks before our end of summer pool party and they will be delivered early the following week. We have provided supply filled backpacks to Westlawn for many years and they are well received and used each year. *Please consider if you are able to help. Monetary donations will be accepted if you would like the youth to do the shopping for you. Please just note on your donation that it is for "school supplies". Thank you.*

Please read Deuteronomy 1-22 for **Sunday School** for September 6. We will work on the Amazing Bible Race quizzes for this reading together on Sunday morning. I look forward to see everyone after all of the traveling you have been doing in the last couple of weeks.

Our August Children's Faith and Fun Day will not be held due to many vacations that are scheduled at the end of August/ early September. However, we will have Children's Faith and Fun Day in September, so be ready for some fun!! Invite a friend to join you!

The End-of-Summer pool party for this year will take place on Sunday, September 13th, after church. We will go to Manassas, where we will spend one last day enjoying swim fun in the sun this summer. Do your homework early on this weekend so that you can really enjoy this day. Bring your suit to church and I'll see ya at the pool!!

For inquiring minds that want to know, plans are currently in the process of being made for a canoe or canoe and camp trip/retreat in September. The tentative dates for this event are September 25-27. The plan is that we will travel to Meadows Farm Friday evening, camp out, canoe on Saturday, camp out Saturday night and return home on Sunday. Part of this activity will include some activities for the Amazing Bible Race. If you are on the Amazing Race team, please make plans to participate in this event as we will be concluding leg one and beginning leg 2. Your presence is truly important.

IMPORTANT EVENTS FOR YOUR SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

UBC Wednesday Night Activities Resume September 16

September 16 is a MISSION NIGHT
Dr. Jim Ailor, NOVA Field Strategist for
the Baptist General Association of Virginia

Staying Ahead of the Game with Safety Awareness

*presented by Columbia Baptist Church and NorthStar
Church Network Churches on Mission Group*

October 3, 9am – 12noon
Columbia Baptist Church
103 W. Columbia St.
Falls Church, VA

NorthStar Church Network **Ministry Conference 2009** **Saturday, September 12** **9am – 12noon**

First Baptist Church of Alexandria
2932 King Street

Workshops for teachers, deacons, pastors, and leaders of women's ministry, music and worship, missions groups, spiritual development, single adults, youth, children, preschoolers and more!!!

Time to Renew *Religious Herald* Subscriptions

The church will provide the *Religious Herald*, our state Baptist paper, for those who wish to receive a subscription. Our annual subscriptions are due for renewal in September. We will renew current subscriptions unless you call the office to cancel your current subscription or add your name to the list of subscribers. ***The deadline for making these changes is Friday, September 11.*** Many of you choose to save the church the money by paying for your own subscription, which is greatly appreciated. The annual cost of a subscription under the Group Rate is \$13.50. Make your check payable to UBC and clearly mark it and the envelope ***Religious Herald***.