

# The Vision

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

**Pastoral Staff:**

Dr. J. Wayne Yawn, Co-Pastor  
Dr. Gerald L. Young, Co-Pastor  
Rev. Phil Carpenter, Music  
Rev. Twyla Turner, Youth  
Email: UBOffice@aol.com

7100 Columbia Pike  
Annandale, VA 22003-3106  
703-256-5900  
703-256-5262 (FAX)  
www.unitedbaptchurch.org  
www.unitedbaptchurch.org/Blog.html

*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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*AN INVITATION TO*  
**"LUNCH N' LIFE"**  
sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of  
Annandale/Springfield

**Thursday, August 20**  
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Sleepy Hollow United Methodist Church  
3435 Sleepy Hollow RD  
Falls Church, VA, 22044

The program, *"LIFE'S FINAL CHOICES – PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL"*, will be presented by The Memorial Society of Northern Virginia. The Memorial Society of Northern Virginia is a volunteer non profit organization, established in 1955, to provide education and resources to the community around issues of planning for death with dignity, simplicity, and economy.

The cost for the meal is \$9.00 per person (\$8.00 for members). Registration needs to be made by calling the office and then sending your check in advance payable to "SCAS" and mailed to SCAS at 7610 Newcastle Drive, Annandale, VA 22003.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

*August 18 - 20*  
*1:00 - 4:00 p.m.*

*Theme:*  
*Camp Edge*

In an effort to reach more children, we are going to try a different schedule this year for Vacation Bible School. If you are willing to help, please let Twyla Turner know of your willingness and availability.

## Unravelings...Wayne Yawn

The church sign read: "Take Time to be Holy!" I wondered what passersby took from that urging? Did they hear recruitment? "Attend worship here in our holy place to please God." Perhaps! Did they hear urging to avoid individual immoral behavior like lying, stealing, or one of the other 10 Commandments? Perhaps! Did they hear urging to practice social justice instead of worship rituals, as did the prophet Micah when he wrote: "What does the Lord require of you: to act justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." Perhaps! Here's what I heard.

I heard encouragement to live holy from the sign. I heard, be whole as God has made me whole, instead of settling for being broken or less than whole or fully human. Certainly, being whole will not exclude any of the above hearings. But let me get practical. How do I be whole? I think I start with discernment. Who did God make me TO BE? Who am I? That leads me to ask, "What do I do without being urged to do it? That reveals my identity; my gifts from God; the power of God in me! The Apostle Paul is helpful at this point to provide me vocabulary for my inclinations, as he did members of early churches, writing in Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 12. The vocabulary includes **Prophecy** which is the inclination to find and tell the truth from falsehood; stepping up to **Serve** anytime need surfaces; **teaching/mentoring** a skill or information; **encouraging** someone who is "staggering;" stepping up to **give/contribute** in the face of need; the inclination to show **mercy** over retribution; the inclination to see or envision more than is obvious given the normal circumstances called by Paul being a **miracle worker**; when confronted with physical or emotional brokenness the inclination to **heal**; when confronted with a group need, the inclination to **help** and when people can't figure out how to tackle a problem or project, the inclination to **administer/organize** it being done.

But these are just some of the inclinations God gives to shape our basic Being/Identity. How do I use these to be whole and not broken, holy and not unholy? I want to suggest I need to find concrete situations in which I can apply my gifts/inclinations (and again I turn to Paul for vocabulary) with **attitudes** of: **selflessness** or honoring others over myself, with **zeal, hope, patience, submission to God** (i.e. prayer or listening to God rather than to some other), **hospitality, blessing** even of adversaries, **mourning** with others, and with the attitude of **humility** rather than arrogance. In other words, in order to be holy I need to take time to discern my gifts/inclinations and take time to deliberately decide to apply my identity with the attitude of **agape type love**, or for the common good, which Paul says is the greatest attitude of all in 1 Corinthians 13. I think this is the definition of being a Christian spiritual person. It is more about being who I am; anywhere I am, by the attitude of agape love who the writer of 1 John said "is LOVE." So, join me in taking time to be holy, for the sake of all persons we engage every day, and ultimately, for our sake of our not missing the wholeness with which God created us and intends for us. Ultimately, I think I want to be holy in the ways I am thinking, because it is not only best for you, but for me. I'm selfish! I want all that God wants for me. And, now, I think I know how he wants to give it to me. Well?

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Worship Service – 10:55 a.m.

### August

- 4-7 Youth Camp
- 5 8:45 a.m. Sandwich Ministry  
10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists's Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 9 8:30 p.m. Prayer Group (Conference Room)  
10:55 a.m. Communion in Worship Service
- 10 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 11 11:15 a.m. YAH Gadabouts Leave for Madigan's
- 12 8:45 a.m. Sandwich Ministry  
10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists's Rehearsal (Sanctuary)  
6:15 p.m. Youth Missions

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## Young-at-Heart Gadabouts Monthly Event

**Tuesday, August 11  
Madigan's at Occoquan  
for Lunch**

**(No set time for return)**

Sign Up Sheet on Bulletin Board in  
News N Do's Hallway

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## Thank you:

*Charles and I would like to thank our church family for the many prayers, calls, cards, and expressions of concern shown during my sister's illness and death. It was very comforting to us during a very stressful and sad time. With gratitude and love,*

Sandie Potter

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**REMEMBER THIS WEEK**, all day every day, Jesus' teaching that you and the body God has given you are the temple/church of God, more so than this or any other facility. So, begin each day in your temple-body remembering the differences between Jesus' attitudes and behavior and the attitudes/behavior the world teaches are best, even normal (the devotional or prayer side of the Christian experience). Then you will be better prepared to courageously respond to events and people as the temple-body of God (the works or practical side of Christian experience).

## Youth News...Twyla Turner

Please be remembering **Erin Gallagher, Emily Sturges, James Sturges and Twyla Turner** as we are attending **StudentLife Summer Camp** this week. Check out what we are doing at Tuscarora Conference Center in Mt. Bethel, PA by accessing StudentLife.com on the Internet.

August is **School Supply Month**. As usual our youth will be collecting school supplies and backpacks during August for students who in need. We will collect supplies any time during the month of August and deliver them during the first week of school to Westlawn Elementary School in Falls Church. We have provided supply filled backpacks to Westlawn for many years and they are well received and used each year. Remember that this weekend is tax free school supply shopping weekend. Check the local news for details of how to save tax on your purchases this weekend.

Our August **Children's Faith and Fun Day** is scheduled for August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Put it on your calendar now!! Invite a friend to join you!

Our next **beach trip** will be postponed until later in August—date yet to be determined. We will go to **Ocean City Maryland** again this time. The cost of the trip is \$20.00. We will depart from the church at 6 am and will return approximately 11 p.m. Please make a reservation for this trip with a deposit of  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the trip cost (\$10.00) ASAP.

For inquiring minds that want to know, plans are currently in the process of being made for a **canoe or canoe and camp trip** in September. Part of this activity will include some items for the Amazing Bible Race. As the details are worked out they will be announced here.

## Vacation Bible School...

is just about here. We are in the final stages of preparation for "**CAMP EDGE**" which will take place on Tuesday-Thursday, August 18-20, from 1-4 p.m.

This year we will be studying about God being with us and seeking to be close to God. We will also learn about God as our teacher and how we can learn from God. On our last day we will learn about God telling us to share with others about Him, and how we can help spread the Good News.

We have three fun filled afternoons planned. Vacation Bible School is for all children and youth ages 4-18. Do you know a child who could benefit from coming to VBS? Why not invite them to join us?

## Your Mission Support Team Wants You to Know about the Following Events ....

### Interfaith Communities for Dialogue Picnic! Everyone Welcolme!

Building Community by Strengthening  
Understanding and Relationships within Our  
Culturally and Religiously  
Diverse Neighborhoods

Sunday, August 9

12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m.

Mason District Park

6621 Columbia Pike

(Covered Picnic Area – Upper Level)

- \* Bring food and refreshments for your family and extra to share.
- \* Bring chairs and/or blankets for your comfort.
- \* Join your Fairfax area neighbors for an afternoon of conversation.
- \* Games and activities for both children and adults (optional).

UBC Members provided eight rides last week for ACCA clients in need of transportation to medical appointments. Thanks to each of you who made this possible, and thanks to Gerry Sue Young for coordinating our work for the week.

### 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,