

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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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 partners:

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. The emphasis kicks off with

MISSION NIGHT

Emphasis: Virginia Baptists

Wednesday, September 16

Prepared Meal begins at 5:45 p.m.

***Guest Speaker: Jim Ailor, Northern
Virginia Field Strategist for the Virginia
Baptist Mission Board***

NEWS OF TWO SPECIAL PEOPLE

September 13, we received with great regret the resignation of **Charles "Rocky" Rockholt** as Director of our Special Education Sunday School Ministry, effective November 1, 2009. Mr. Rockholt has served Christ in this position for so many years that he and this ministry are inseparable in the minds of our people. His declining ability to get around without great pain is the reason for his resignation. We will plan a time of recognition and gratitude in October. We also need to prayerfully consider the future of this ministry and its need for leadership to step up to minister unto those who many consider "the least of these" where Jesus said he would be found and experienced. Interested? Feel a calling to pick up this work? See a Pastor.

48 YEARS AGO LAST WEEKEND, Betty Hicks began accompanying our choir and congregational singing, serving as both organist and pianist at different times. We would not be who we are as a church without Betty! She knows our history and our people better than most. She helps every Tuesday in the office to mail out this newsletter. Betty has her hands all over us as a touching blessing. And though this is not one of those anniversaries we mark for staff on "the fives" with a more formal recognition, we want to remind every congregant so you can express a personal gratitude to Betty. Bless you Betty for being such a profound blessing to all of us.

PONDERINGS ... Gerald L. Young

I'm reminded quite frequently these days that I am "old school," or "old fashioned," or any one of several other expressions which share the word "old." Football season began this weekend, and once again I am amazed at the physical intensity of the collisions. They are violent. But I'm also totally repulsed by the prima donnas who demand personal attention when football is the ultimate team game. I understand that football is an emotional game, and I'm not talking about the spontaneous expression of emotion after a big play. I'm talking about the player who joins three others in making a tackle and then comes running out of the pile and goes twenty yards up the field beating on his chest. I think to myself, I wish the other ten players on his team would take the next play off and see how well this guy does all by himself against eleven other guys. But it's all part of the self focus of our culture. Michael Jordan is inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame. He says there may not be an "I" in team, but there is an "I" in win. Serena Williams on center court at the U.S. Open tennis tournament goes crazy and threatens a line judge because she is called for a foot fault. How dare she be treated like someone who is subject to the rules of the game. But then, I'm old school, or maybe just old.

And it's not just sports. A Congressman shouts at the President as he addresses a joint session of the Congress. He is certainly entitled to disagree with the President and even voice that disagreement, but you don't do it in that setting unless you think it is all about you and your opinions. Kanye West interrupts an awards ceremony because he thought some one else should have won. When you combine all this self-centeredness with a culture that actively promotes trash-talk from the athletic field to talk radio to town meetings to "discuss" health care reform or some other issue, this is what we get. I've even been in churches – thankfully, not here – who act no better than any of the above. Pogo was right. The enemy is us.

Every year at the John Leland Center, I interview incoming students as part of a profile we do. One of the questions they are asked is: Do you believe that the best way to build an ideal world is to convert everyone to Christianity? I get an amazing array of answers. I've often thought what my answer would be to that question. As it is stated, it seems simple. My answer would be, No. I would first have to see a perfect Christian before having any such hope. Too many self-proclaimed Christians are part of all the behaviors mentioned above. If the question asked about Christ-follower rather than Christianity, I'd have a different answer. The world would be better if we were all Christ-followers, but it still wouldn't be ideal. At least not as long as I was part of the group.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Worship Service – 10:55 a.m.

September

- 16 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
- 10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists' Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 5:45 p.m. Begin Serving Dinner (Chicken & Rice)
- 6:15 p.m. Youth Missions
- 6:30 p.m. MISSION NIGHT: Jim Ailor (BGAV)
- 7:35 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 20 8:30 p.m. Prayer Group (Conference Room)
- 21 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 22 10:30 a.m. NorthStar Church Network Ministers Fellowship at Crosspoint House
- 23 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
- 10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists' Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 5:45 p.m. Begin Serving Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. Youth Missions
- 6:30 p.m. Discipleship Study
- 7:35 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Fall Programs Resume October 1

Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Teacher: Rev. Twyla Turner

Open to all women

Mended Hearts Ministry

Thursdays, 2:30 p.m.

ALL are welcome – No special skills needed

FLU SHOTS DATE SET

The date for our annual **Flu Shot Clinic** is **Sunday, October 18**, following worship and the After Worship Fellowship, from 1pm - 2pm in the church Conference Room. We will need to have 30 people sign up, so please add your name(s) to the register posted in the News 'n Dos Hallway downstairs. This is the annual regular flu serum and is furnished by INOVA. The cost will be \$25, but is covered for those who have Medicare Part B (bring your card).

Youth News...Twyla Turner

Youth Missions will start again for the school year on Wednesday night, September 16. We will meet at the Youth office at 6:15 p.m. We will pack the school supplies for delivery to Westlawn School. Next week we will meet and spend some time working in the church library as well as talking about this year's mission program. Call or email Twyla by Wednesday, at noon, if you need a ride. Hope to see you to begin a new year of missions.

Please finish reading Deuteronomy (23-end) for **Sunday School** for September 20. Hopefully, we will all be back together this week and we can 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 **canoe and camp trip/retreat** will take place on the weekend of September 25-27. You must make a reservation for this trip. Reservations are due by Sunday, September 20th. Email or call Twyla to make a reservation. The plan for the weekend is as follows: 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 weekend will include participation by all in 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 1 and beginning leg 2. Your presence is very important.

Major Fall Student Ministry Events---

Mark these events on your calendar now so that you can participate.

October 3—Youth Paintball

October—9-11 Junior High Weekend—

Eagle Eyrie Retreat Center

Theme—Up2U! Theme Verse: Hebrews 12:1-2

October 18-- Cropwalk

October 25—Cox Farms—Children and Youth

October 31—Youth Paintball

November 14-Youth Paintball

November 15—Children's Faith & Fun Day (Kid's Club)

November 24—Thanksgiving Mission Project

November 27-28--Youth Lock-in/Deck the Worship Hall

December 12—Youth Paintball

Dec. 13—Kid's Club Christmas Event

Dec. Christmas Mission Project

Dec. 20—Youth Christmas Event

IMPORTANT EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

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

Emergency Preparedness, Financial Stability,
Avoiding Scams, and more for older adults and those
who care for them

SHEPHERD'S CENTER OF ANNANDALE SPRINGFIELD

Adventures in Learning:

Open House Registration

September 30, 10am - 12noon

John Calvin Presbyterian Church

Two Classes: *Concepts of Sheol...Gehenna...Hell*
History and World Affairs

Shepherds Center Fundraiser

Tuesday, September 22 at 8:00 p.m.

The Little Theatre of Alexandria presents

The Foreigner

Tickets: \$20

Next Lunch n Life: October 22

**PROGRAM: *Jerusalem Women Speak:*
*3 Women, 3 Faiths, One Shared Vision***

Three women from Abrahamic faiths speak

George Mason Friends USED BOOK SALE

Rare and unusual books, children's books

George Mason Regional Library

7001 Little River Turnpike

Oct. 22, 5-9pm

Oct. 23, 10am-6pm

Oct. 24, 10am-5pm

Oct. 25, noon-5pm