

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 BEING TAKEN

- Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions
- World Hunger through Baptist World Aid
- NorthStar Church Network Missions
- 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 have now been mailed and are available in the pew envelope racks.

NorthStar Church Network stated purpose is *equipping member churches to maximize their mission, ministry capabilities and potential.* As NorthStar Executive Director says, "You (NorthStar churches) are our mission."

RECEIVED TO DATE:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Alma Hunt Virginia Mission | \$638.25 |
| World Hunger - Baptist World Aid | 921.25 |
| NorthStar Church Network Missions | 516.25 |
| CBF Global Missions Offering | 516.25 |
| TOTAL RECEIVED TO DATE: | \$2,592.00 |

UBC CONCERT SERIES

Sunday, November 29, 6:00 p.m.
UBC Sanctuary

Isora Heckel

(accompanied by Charles Potter
and Stephen Gashin)

Ms. Heckel, a long-time friend of Phil Carpenter, has shared her gifts with us as a member of the choir for cantatas and as a soloist in worship services. She has always been a blessing. Now we can show her our appreciation by supporting her in this concert – and be blessed once again.

The concert is Free and a fellowship will follow the event.

CALLED BUSINESS MEETING

A business meeting has been called for Sunday, December 13, during the after-worship fellowship for the purpose of hearing and voting on the report of the Nominating Committee.

PONDERINGS ... Gerald L. Young

This is a great transitional week in American culture. We move from autumn to “the Holiday Season,” and we use several rituals to make this transition. Thanksgiving Day is the unofficial beginning of the holiday season. We kick it off by eating everything in sight that doesn’t move – and a few things that do. Thanksgiving Day rituals also include family gatherings and traditional football games. Food, family, and football! To quote an old beer commercial, “It doesn’t get any better than this.” Many families, however, have at least one person who believes that we ought to actually express some thankfulness on Thanksgiving. That person is usually humored by the rest of the group. “You mean I actually have to think of something I’m thankful for and then tell you all what it is?” In a few moments, we manage to give thanks for those significant things in our lives – food, family, and football, of course! This, however, is the one part of the Holiday Season we want to minimize. Let’s do it first and fast, get it over with, and then we can move on to the rest of the season – which is all about food, family, football, and (most of all) *what I want for Christmas!* So we quickly nod toward “giving thanks” and then quickly submerge ourselves in greed. It’s the American way.

Our consumer culture encourages us at every turn. “You deserve this.” Everything shouts at us, “Buy! Buy! Buy!” And we do. We want to feel that a few minutes of naming things and/or people for whom we are thankful entitles us to participate fully in the consumerism frenzy that follows. So, by Thursday evening, the hard part of the holidays – thanksgiving – will be over, and the fun part will have begun. Then we can head out for Black Friday store openings at 4 a.m. Or 3 a.m. Or midnight!

Our culture will be evaluated on the basis of how well we do during this “fun” part of the holidays. Merchants are counting on you to provide them with up to 80% or 90% of their annual profits during the next five weeks. Wall Street will be watching, and stocks will fluctuate according to the spending we do during this time. There will be almost daily reports about how the season is going – how much is being spent. Even the government will urge us to spend because consumer spending must lead us out of this terrible recession. There will be no such reports about how we are doing as a culture based on our spirit of thanksgiving. Unless they have a profit motive, few will encourage us to spend more thankfulness. Those with ears with which to hear should know that our “thankfulness quotient” is much more important to our well-being (both spiritually and culturally) than is our consumerism. You be responsible to keep alive the thanksgiving spirit in your life for the entire Holiday Season. No one else will do it for you.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Worship Service – 10:55 a.m.

November

- 25 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
- 10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists’s Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- NO Evening Activities
- 26 Thanksgiving Day (OFFICE CLOSED)
- 27 OFFICE CLOSED
- Youth Lock-In
- 28 9:00 a.m. Deck the Worship Hall! (Youth Lock-In)
- 29 8:30 a.m. Prayer Group (Conference Room)
- 10:55 a.m. Worship – *First Sunday of Advent*
- 12:30 p.m. Renovation Committee
- 30 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

December

- 1 11:00 a.m. Prime Timers (Betty Hicks & Charles Potter Christmas Concert)
- 2 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
- 10:30 a.m. Instrumentalist’s Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 5:45 p.m. Begin Serving Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Discipleship Study
- 7:35 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

NEWS FROM ACCA

Furniture Needed – The ACCA furniture ministry is in dire need of good, used furniture. The number of requests for furniture in recent weeks has outstripped the calls from people willing to donate furniture. The warehouse is empty and there are people waiting. All types of usable furniture are needed, but there is a special need for bedding, sofas, tables, and chairs. (NO cribs, appliances, or bed frames!) Donors can call Don or Mary Lee DiSpirito at 703-256-9513 for a pick-up on a Saturday morning. Thank you for your help. God bless,

Norman Hicks, ACCA President

Thank You! to the Worship Support Team for again sponsoring the Thanksgiving Luncheon. Thank you to **Tom and Helen Gehr** for cooking the turkey and ham. Thank you to **Gerry Sue Young** for taking the lead in all the arrangements. Thank you to each of you who helped with set up, decorating, cleanup, and serving. And thank you to each of you who provided food for the meal. We have many to be thankful for!

Youth News...Twyla Turner

There will be no Youth Missions on Nov. 24 or 25. We will meet again on Dec. 2 to begin working on our Christmas mission project. Call or email Twyla by Wednesday, at noon, if you need a ride. I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

Thanks to **Emily, Holly, Lillian and Kelly Martindale** as well as **Tiana Clinkscales** for their support of our first Children's Christmas mission project. Each of these children selected and donated one of their own toys for our **Operation Christmas Child** shoeboxes. This is a new Christmas project that you will have the opportunity to help our children's ministry with in the future. Please encourage our young children, as they begin to learn more about missions by letting them know about how proud you are of what they did this year. This project was completed on very short notice with the help of **Leigh Whitcraft**.

Join us this Sunday in Youth Sunday School as we start on this new part of our Bible study. Your input is very important. Come with ideas of topics to discuss as we look at how God's word can help us find answers to daily living.

Remember our annual Thanksgiving weekend lock-in. Traditionally, we lock-in on Friday night (Nov. 27) and help to "Deck the Worship Hall" on Saturday (Nov.28) for the Advent and Christmas seasons. This year we will be unveiling some new chrismons that we have made throughout the year. Put this date on your calendar so that you can join in the fun of decorating for this special time of the year.

Our next Kid's Club event will be on Nov. 29 after church. Put it on your calendar so you can join in the fun. We will have pizza for lunch and make some special things to help us celebrate the holiday season. Make sure to be present to celebrate Christmas.

Christmas Card delivery is coming, The Youth will once again be delivering your Christmas greetings to other church members during this holiday season. We will begin the first Sunday of Advent and continue to deliver greetings through the Christian season of Christmas, which ends January 6th with Epiphany. Any cards not able to be delivered in person by January 3, will be mailed. The youth accept donations for this service which they will use for a Christmas project to be announced.

Make some plans to spend some of your Christmas break from school with some of the special activities we will have planned for the week after Christmas. A day in NYC, Youth Paintball and Kid's Club will all be happening the week after Christmas!! Watch here for more details.

Major Fall Student Ministry Events---

- 2. November 27-28--Youth Lock-in/Deck the Worship Hall
- 4. November 29—Children's Faith & Fun Day (Kid's Club) & Evening Special Music Program
- 6. Nov. 29-Jan. 3--Christmas Card delivery
- 8. Dec. 20—Youth Christmas Event
- 10. Dec. 24—Christmas Eve Service -4:45 p.m.
- 12. Dec. 27—Kid's Club
- 14. After Dec. 25—a day in NYC!! & Youth Paintball

Northern Virginia Chorale (which includes our own Phil Carpenter)

HOLIDAY CONCERT: "REJOICE!"

Saturday, December 5, 7:00 p.m.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Advance ticket purchases are half-priced (\$10 each) and can be purchased from Phil Carpenter at 703-867-0857 or pfcarpent@yahoo.com.

Advance Ticket Deadline Is November 29.

WHITE HOUSE ORNAMENTS

A big "Thank You!" to each of you (and each of your friends) who ordered an ornament this year. I always want several and you make it possible for us to each get a nice discount. The ornaments are now in and if you have not received yours contact me.

Sandy Godwin

TIME TO ORDER POINSETTIAS

The Sanctuary Decorating Committee will be adorning the sanctuary with Poinsettias for Christmas as in years past. If you would like to make this wonderful addition to our Christmas worship experience possible, you may sign up using this form. The cost of each Poinsettia is \$7.00. You may mail in your check or use one of the Pew Envelopes. In either case, please clearly mark the envelope "Christmas Flowers."

Name of Person Ordering _____

Number of Poinsettias Ordered _____

Number of Poinsettias X \$7.00 each _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Given in Honor of _____

Given in Memory of _____

Given to the Glory of God _____