

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.

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Global Missions Offering is our highlighted mission partner for the month of December. Global mission giving and the Christmas season have a long history among most of us. Consider a gift that will make a difference on this holiday season.

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

Shepherd's Center of Annandale-Springfield
presents

Lunch N' Life

Thursday, December 17, 2009

Noon - 2:00 p.m.

at

The United Baptist Church

Holiday Musical Program

presented by

The Annandale Singers
of Annandale High School

Register by December 11

Lunch – \$10 per person, \$9 member

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 and an amendment to the 2010 budget.

Unravelings...Wayne Yawn

We have spent the past eleven months during worship in what I want to call a “gestation period,” feeding our minds and souls with the truth, as best we can discern it, of the Biblical stories and texts that will cause us to grow what New Testament scholar John Crossan calls the “radicality of the Kingdom order of God,” as opposed to the “normalcy of civilization” surrounding and wanting to absorb us every day. In short, defining how different Jesus’ order of life is from the world’s normal order of life (what I like to call the “playground order of life.”

Now, beginning November 29th, the first day of the Christian season of Advent, we began the time of “labor pains” that are inevitable if the birth of Jesus, as the Christ, is to occur within us, and through us, to give shape to our personal relationships and to shape our world with justice and mercy. The birth of God’s radical wants, dreams and behavior is inevitably painful because the old dreams of normalcy do not give up easily. Rejecting those as inferior is painful to our dreams, behavior and wants shaped by how we are raised to think, dream and behave. Observed this way, Advent will feel like creating chaos and disaster in the “normal” values and order of society.

If you attended worship the Scripture for the first Sunday in Advent it spoke of **natural** disasters/chaos as the birth pains from our “normal” individual and social order wants, dreams and behavior, which we reluctantly give up control, so that the radical new wants and behavior of God’s Kingdom order can be born in us to respond to the **natural** world’s chaos.

If you attend worship the second Sunday in Advent the Scripture will speak of **institutional** disasters/chaos as the birth pains of the control of old wants, dreams and behavior which we reluctantly give, so that the radical new order of God’s Kingdom wants and behavior can be born in us through Christ to handle **institutions** of your life.

If you attend worship the third Sunday in Advent the Scripture will speak of the disaster/chaos created by our normal human **tribal** wants and behavior that are the birth pains which we reluctantly give, so that the radical new wants and behavior of God’s Kingdom can find “room” at Christmas to take control and we can be born again by changing our **tribal** attitudes.

If you attend worship the fourth Sunday in Advent the Scripture will speak of the birth pains felt as we give up normal wants and behavior of **social status mores** of normal society that we let go reluctantly. But if Christ is to be born with his radical new wants and behavior of God’s Kingdom we must give them up to make room for Jesus’ view of **social mores**.

Going through the pain of giving up the “normalcy of civilization” regarding **nature, institutions, tribalism and social mores** are subjects Jesus addressed needing to be abandoned, if his vastly superior, more powerful, radical way of life is to have room to be born. Come, let us hold one another’s hands and help one another breathe deeply in Jesus’ Good News to cope with the pain of letting the old ways of life go to make room for the new Jesus way of life. Will you help me with my labor pain? Well?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

December

- 2 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists’s 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
- 3 1:00 p.m. Women’s Bible Study (Conference Room)
2:30 p.m. Mended Hearts Ministry
- 6 8:30 a.m. Prayer Group (Conference Room)
10:55 a.m. Worship – *Second Sunday of Advent*
Baptism & Communion in Worship Service
12:15 p.m. December Birthdays Fellowship
- 7 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 8 11:00 a.m. NorthStar Christmas Worship & Luncheon
for Ministers and Staffs, Providence Bapt Ch
- 9 9:00 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
10:30 a.m. Instrumentalist’s Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
3:30 p.m. Knit & Crochet Club (Parlor)
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

ACCA has been included in the *2009-2010 Catalogue for Philanthropy* as “**One of the Best Non-Profits in the Washington DC area.**” A reminder that all donations to ACCA during the November-January period will be matched by the Forrest Foundation as part of ACCA’s Challenge Grant. The needs of our vulnerable neighbors for assistance with rent, utilities, medicine and food are at record levels. Consider a donation to ACCA during these difficult times.

Youth News...Twyla Turner

There will be Youth Missions 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.

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.

Throughout Advent our children will be learning in Children's Church about the spiritual meaning behind many of our Christmas traditions.

Christmas Card delivery is here, 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 greeting 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!!

Thanks to all of the youth who attended our Thanksgiving weekend lock-in and stayed to help decorate the Sanctuary for the beginning of the Advent season. Thanks to **Mac, Camden, Leigh, Kaitlin, Anglea, Kirsten, Lily, Alexis and Jack**, who all helped in one way or another on this project.

Our Kid's Club event was held on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 29. Our children, who all contributed some of their toys to Operation Christmas Child learned more about the children who would be playing with the toys that they each donated. They also learned about what crismons are and each made 2 to put on their Christmas tree at home. **Samantha** made a smiley face because thinking about God makes her happy. **Holly** made many symbols on her crimson that reminded her of Jesus, like a cross. Many thanks to **Mr. Bob** and **Leigh Whitcraft** (who also made crismons) for helping out.

Major Dec. Student Ministry Events---

Nov. 29-Jan. 3--Christmas Card delivery
Dec. 20--Youth Christmas Event
Dec. 24--Christmas Eve Service -4:45 p.m.
Dec. 27--Kid's Club
Dec. 28 or 29--a day in NYC!!
Dec. 30 or 31-- 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 pfcarpenter@yahoo.com.

Rob Banks to Be Baptized Sunday

Rob Banks, who along with his wife and their children, have been worshipping with us for several months now, has requested baptism and to join the UBC family. He will be baptized this Sunday morning, December 6, as part of the worship service. Be present to share this worship time and to support Rob in his decision.

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 _____