

# 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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Volume 7

June 9, 2009

Issue 23

## Member Memorial

### Plaque Placed In Gallery Hallway

Contains Name and Month and Year of  
Each Member's Death Since UBC Founding

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### Vacation Bible School Is Coming! The Third Week in August

If you are a child or the parent or grandparent of a child, we hope you will schedule your child to attend. Speak with Twyla Turner immediately about your intention to attend! The curriculum theme this year is **CAMP EDGE**.

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### June Mission Night...with prepared meal!

June 17, Dinner 5:45 P.M.; Program 6:30 P.M.

Members from our sister church, Ravensworth Baptist

Presenting a program on the Middle East Situation

As They Recently Experienced It During an On Site Visit

Come and Welcome our Sisters and Brothers! We Birthed Them!

*(NOTE: This will be the last Wednesday night meal or discipleship study until September 16. Our cook has to be away dealing with a family emergency and we will take our usual summer break in July and August.)*

His name is Wiley Drake, and he is glad that George Tiller is dead. Those are his own words, not someone's interpretations of his feelings. He spoke them on his own radio program on June 1. Wiley Drake is Pastor of the First Southern Baptist Church in Buena Vista, CA as well as a former second vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention. George Tiller, one of few doctors in this country who still performed third-trimester abortions, was gunned down in the foyer of the church he attended in Wichita, Kansas shortly after the worship service had begun. Not only is Drake glad that he is dead (referring to him as a "reprobate" and a "brutal, arrogant murderer"), but he also said that the murder was an answer to his prayer for the last year. Later on that same day, Drake added that he is praying the same kind of "imprecatory prayer" directed at President Obama. He was asked directly if he were praying for the death of the President and he answered, "Yes." For Drake, he is just "praying the Word of God, ... repeating what God is saying." He justifies his position by pointing to those Psalms known as imprecatory Psalms (*i.e. Psalm 137*).

Those psalms and prayers are certainly there, as is the attitude they represent. A desire for retribution and for vengeance. Rejoicing in the destruction of enemies and their children. They are in the Bible because the Bible is the story of people. And people (you and I included) are subject to such desires for revenge. That is part of our nature. It is part of the way civilization is and always has been. But the Bible is also the story of the struggle with those urges in light of the covenant-making, kingdom-building God who continues to call his people to rise above those urges and live in creative ways toward one another. You'll note that Drake doesn't quote *Deuteronomy 32:35*, in which God says "vengeance is mine" – not some vigilante's with a gun backed by an "imprecatory prayer warrior." Drake doesn't quote Jesus saying that we should pray *for our enemies*, not for their death. In fact, there is much that he doesn't quote because it would condemn the very thing he is so proud of as being un-Christlike in the extreme.

We all pick and choose which part of the Scripture is more revealing of God. There is ammunition for everyone because the Bible is the struggle between what seems so normal and a radical God calling us to a different way of living. That is why it is absolutely critical for us to affirm (as we do in our Vision Statement – *God, as in Jesus*) that the standard by which Scripture must be understood and interpreted is Jesus of Nazareth. It is in and through Jesus that God has most clearly revealed himself and his expectations for us. If not, then even imprecatory psalms can trump Jesus.

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

**June**

- 10 8:45 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
- 10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists's Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 5:45 p.m. Begin Serving Dinner (Spaghetti)
- 6:15 p.m. NO Youth Missions
- 6:30 p.m. Discipleship Study
- 7:35 p.m. NO Choir Rehearsal
- 11 7:00 p.m. Gideons Meeting (Conference Room)
- 14 8:30 a.m. Prayer Group (Conference Room)
- 12:30 p.m. Renovation Committee
- 15 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 16 11:30 a.m. Shepherd's Center Lunch n Life at UBC
- 17 8:45 a.m. Sandwich Ministry
- 10:30 a.m. Instrumentalists's Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 5:45 p.m. Begin Serving Dinner (Hamburgers)
- 6:30 p.m. MISSION NIGHT (Ravensworth Baptist group – report on visit to Middle East visit)
- 7:35 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**PEW CUSHION  
PASTORAL EXPERIMENT**

Recently any number of worship attenders have commented to Pastor Yawn about their back injuries and difficulties sitting for the entire period of worship in the pews. Many years ago the former FBCA members voted to add pew cushions to the seat portion of the pews in the sanctuary. The impact was softer seats, but it "threw off" the contour of the pew backs designed to fit the contour of the normal adult back. The seat portion of the pew is also contoured, but covered up by the cushion. The cushions also raised the seat portion of the pew, causing the many comments over the years, "My feet dangle and do not reach the floor and my legs either go to sleep or hurt." Frankly some people like the cushions anyway and some do not. Therefore, in an effort to help accommodate all people, Dr. Yawn instructed the custodian to start at the front pew in the front two quarter sections, and remove the pew cushions on every other pew up to the center cross through isle. This is an experiment to help all people be better able to worship without seating pain. If your typical pew now either has or does not have a cushion and you prefer just the opposite, please try either moving one pew back or forward to accommodate your preference. Feedback to Dr. Yawn will be appreciated. Thank you for cooperating in this experiment.

## Youth News...Twyla Turner

There will be **NO Youth Missions** on June 10 or June 17 because Twyla will be in Iowa.

There will be **Sunday School** this Sunday, June 14th. Emily Sturges will be leading as you all continue to work on your quizzes of the **Amazing Bible Race** through week 7. Emily will lead as you work on the quizzes together. Please be present to support Emily as she leads you and turn in all completed quizzes to her to have them recorded on line. We will finish the quizzes through week 7 on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> and start week 8 Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Try to complete some material at home this week and bring it to Sunday School on Sunday morning so that you can contribute to the group effort. Please bring your runner's log and Bible so that you will have the information you need for the quizzes.

If you would like to earn some **Disciple Dollars or need service hours for school**, please contact Twyla. Some of you have already talked to me about this and I have opportunities available. If others are interested or need hours please let me know so that we can help others and at the same time help ourselves.

### **PLEASE NOTE ---DATE CHANGES---**

The youth will have their special focus **Mission Project** on Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at the usual time of 6:15 p.m. to find out more about our location and to plan the activities that we will do with the young homeless children we will be ministering to during the summer.

June 23<sup>rd</sup> will be a day trip to **Virginia Beach**. Depart 6 am return 10 pm. Cost \$20.00. If you plan on attending, please notify Twyla by email at [tbeachlover@gmail.com](mailto:tbeachlover@gmail.com) by June, 16<sup>th</sup>.

June 25<sup>th</sup> will be a day trip by bus to **NYC**. Depart 4:30 am return 12:30 am. Cost \$45.00 plus food. You may bring food or buy, but you must eat. If you plan on attending, please notify Twyla by email at [tbeachlover@gmail.com](mailto:tbeachlover@gmail.com) by June, 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Paintball** is coming on June 27. Cost \$25.00 per person. If you plan on attending, please notify Twyla by email at [tbeachlover@gmail.com](mailto:tbeachlover@gmail.com) by June, 20<sup>th</sup>.

The youth **End of School/Summer Kick-off Pool Party** will be one week later (June 28) than usual this year to allow students to spend the day with their Dads on Father's Day.

June 30 will be a special event for the children in our congregation. It will be **Children's Fun Day** and will include a Bible story and craft and a pool party.

July 1-2 will be a **lock-in** for the members of the **Amazing Bible Race Team**. We will be completing the team challenges of leg 1 in order to get credit for them for our team. If you are on the team please plan to attend this lock-in. Everyone is needed for maximum points.

**Vacation Bible School** is coming this summer. If you have **any** interest in helping or attending, and have not yet spoken with Twyla, please do so immediately. Feedback from potential attendees and workers show that mid to late August will be a better time for our VBS this year, so we will be working toward that.

## Time to Remember Graduates (FINAL CALL)

With the end of the school year nearing, so is the time when we will recognize those of the UBC extended family who will be graduating. We want to join in celebrating that achievement. Please provide us with the names, schools, and degrees (if applicable) for the graduates in your family so we can include them in an upcoming issue of *The Vision*. You can use a bulletin insert on Sunday to report your graduate(s) or you can report your graduate(s) to the church office by phoning 703-256-5900.

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## The Shepherd's Center of Annandale Springfield Wants You to Mark Your Calendar for The Coming Event

**JUNE 16, 2009**

Next **Lunch N Life**

The United Baptist Church

11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$9.00 (\$8 for SCAS members)

Phone 703-941-1419 for reservation

**"The Middle East – Behind the Headlines"**

Bill Kirby, Retired Foreign Service Officer

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## Phone Committee Seeks

Two Additional Callers

Sue Korcel, chairman, announces her gratitude to two persons who would be willing to join her committee to phone a short list of members to "spread" appropriate information about church members and events, usually of short notice, to make sure members do not get left out on pertinent information. Homebound members may find this something that will make them feel more a part of the church ministries. Contact Sue: 703-256-4430 or the Office at 703-256-5900.

**Twyla Turner will be on vacation  
from June 10 through June 17.  
Remember her and Verle as they travel  
to the Midwest.**