



# The Beacon

University Baptist Church

February 2008

## PEACE OIL

“You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in God’s house forever.” Psalm 23.5 & 6

Between a table in the presence of my enemies and the promise that I will dwell in God’s house forever, is this odd phrase, “You anoint my head with oil.” It’s odd for us, of course, because this isn’t something we do. But it is an action that has deep significance in the biblical tradition and in the practice of the Church. In the gospel of Mark, it is part of the commissioning of Jesus’ disciples that they should ‘anoint with oil’ those who were sick and the letter of James instructs the leaders of the early church to do the same. Jesus claims the prophetic ministry by quoting Isaiah, “The Spirit of God has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.” And both Luke and John tell stories about women anointing Jesus as a subversive act.

And in this familiar psalm identified with David, anointing with oil was a big deal because it is a reminder that David was anointed king by the prophet Samuel. But there was a big problem. Israel already *had* a king – Saul. So this anointing was an act of revolution – of overturning the present political power. Not a surprise then that what follows immediately are words of promise and assurance – “goodness and mercy will follow me ... and I will dwell in God’s house forever.”

So, when Patrick’s sister Julie gave me Peace Oil as a Christmas gift, I got thinking about this odd tradition. Our Moderator, Martha Bean, has lead us in this ‘seeking the house God has for us’ process and we are asking ourselves what we are being commissioned now to do as the sale of our property goes forward. Our Moderator for 2008, Eric Brown, reminds us in his article inside that we will go through this Change

with a Promise. Perhaps, like this famous psalm, the place between Change and the Promise is an anointing – a re-commissioning to do the work of healing; bringing good news to the poor; perhaps even something revolutionary like reconciliation in a world of hate and violence. Join us in Lent and Easter as we share ‘peace oil’ and the promise from Isaiah, “God has anointed us to bring good news to the oppressed ... to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning.”

May it be so ... Blessings, Tim



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## HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY:

2/3 Eric Brown; 2/8 Daniel Hannah  
2/9 Nate Kirstein; 2/12 Briana Thirloway;  
2/14 Margie Paynton,  
Bob Jeffers-Schroder;  
2/15 Edith Glover, Larry Mix

**If you don't find your birthday here,  
please call the office so we can add it to  
our list.**

**Camp Burton** – the Stewardship Council announces that February will be the kick-off for raising \$2500 to underwrite the furnishing of a room at the new **Retreat Center** which is expected to be ready in June.

**UBMEN** are invited to a Men's Retreat **Feb. 8-9** at Camp Burton titled "Volunteering for Disaster Relief" and featuring Cody Pollington from the national ABMen program and the Rev. Curtis Privett from First Baptist, Missoula. Registration is \$69. Contact Tim at the office for more details.

## AMONG OURSELVES...

Former UBC administrator **Jeff Moses** and partner **John Westerfield** and Jeff's daughter **Elisabeth** sent us holiday greetings from Minneapolis – and a picture of Elisabeth's newly adopted son from Ethiopia, **Henry**; see Tim's office door for a picture! ... We also received holiday greetings from **Nsoki & family** now living in Michigan and had a great time re-connecting with **Rich Gile & Annette Klapstein** who returned to Seattle for the holidays from their sailboat in Mexico ... **Mike & Carol Stern** celebrated 30 years of marriage in December ... We missed **Aaron Burkhalter's** birthday on the

January birthday list but we celebrate his life as he turned 27 on Jan. 13 ... Along with many in the Seattle area, we mourn the passing of **Josephine Archuleta** whose work on behalf of homeless folks will continue among us – **David Bloom** led the memorial service for Josephine at Keystone Church, Jan. 19 ... We were happy to see **Enid Griswold** in church on Jan. 20 as she begins to share her time between Seattle and northern California ... **Jackie Lamont** had a weekend visit that same weekend from son Steve who took her to hear Rick Steves speak on the politics of world travel ... **Kathryn Jans & Elizabeth Patrick** left on a cruise of the Caribbean on Jan. 24 ... We are grateful to welcome **Rhonda Hue** as our newest member – Rhonda was welcomed into membership on Sunday, Jan. 27, and we celebrated our 106<sup>th</sup> year at our Annual Meeting on that Sunday ... **Mona Han** will be traveling to Thailand at the beginning of February to work with refugees along the Thai-

Burma border – please keep her in your prayers ... We are grateful that **Patrick Green** got through an automobile accident on I-5 without harm – except for his car which was totaled; on the same day, Patrick was notified that he is one of this year's Red Cross Hero honorees for his work on HIV/AIDS education and will be featured at a breakfast in April ... Please remember **Tim Tribble** in your prayers as he recovers from surgery to restore his voice ... Remember also **Charles & Alethea Putnam** as Charles recovers at home from surgery and faces chemo-therapy in the coming weeks ... Also we keep **John & CoraLea Doty** in our prayers as they both work at recovering from health issues ... Remember **Carol Guthrie** as she recovers from knee surgery at home – we look forward to her 'liberation' ... **Joy Smith** asks us to remember the young woman attacked on the UW campus who is also a survivor of the genocide in Rwanda and friend of the Smith family ... **Ago & Violy** ask us to remember our immigrant neighbors and those who work for justice on their behalf including the people of Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church ... **Susan Vaughan** invites folks to join her team for the June 2008 "Relay for Life of Shoreline/North Seattle" sponsored by the American Cancer Society – Susan will be participating in honor of her sister, Kati Raymond Nanstad who died after a courageous battle with lymphoma ... Thanks to all of you for your gifts that allowed us to send \$228 to **UNICEF** from our Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF boxes in October 2007 and \$389 to the **Church Council of Greater Seattle** from our December special offering.

## FROM THE STAFF

Thanks to all of you for your very generous holiday gift and for your ongoing support of each of us during the year. It is a joy to serve you!  
Margie, Sofia, Meesh & Tim



## From the Moderator

At Cumberland First Baptist Church, my church family in Indianapolis, one of our favorite songs was "Hymn of Promise" by Natalie Sleeth. The first verse goes like this:

*In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

And let me tell you, it meant something for us to sing that song. Cumberland First Baptist went through some tough times in the late 1990's. Change came quickly and often painfully. We took refuge in the Promise that something was coming, something that God alone could see, because frankly we had trouble seeing anything beyond the Change.

Change comes every year to every community. That's life. I think we understand that, but I also think there is a human tendency to minimize Change in order to manage it. This year, with the sale of our property and building, the Change at UBC will hit close to home. It will be difficult (and unhealthy) to attempt to minimize it. So, how will we manage it?

We'll manage with Promise. The Promise that God is at work in our community, transforming lives and opening hearts and minds. The Promise that God has work for us to do and that we are "enough" to do it. The Promise that God is bigger than any opportunity or situation or predicament in which we find ourselves.

There may be times in 2008 when we may need to take refuge in Promise because it's all we have. I hope those times are few and far between.

Most of the time, I expect us to live abundantly in the Promise. Realizing that there is life beyond Change (and through Change and in Change), we know that this is not the time to disengage. It's time to live!

Are we living the Promise?

- Yes! – We have signed an agreement with Bryan Mangum of Service Realty to be our realtor for the sale of our property and building. Bryan has valuable experience in church real estate as well as church financing. We're surrounding ourselves with the right people ("guides" as Tom Nielsen says) as we prepare for Change.
- Yes! – Martha Bean has organized a clean-up day in the kitchen on February 3. We will "clean every surface" and be out in time for the Super Bowl! It's important that we continue to care for our building. Doing so will provide for the health, safety, and comfort of those who live and work in our building. It will also help with any potential sale of the property. Most importantly, it's the right/responsible thing to do. You can bet that there will be many more opportunities to demonstrate good stewardship in the months ahead. Thanks, Martha!
- Yes! – The One Room Sunday School is coming back! We have several individuals dedicated to bringing back a regular children's program during our Sunday morning worship service. What a great example of people coming together to make Promise happen! This is good news, folks!
- Yes! – We're welcoming a new member, Rhonda Hue, to our community. Rhonda is already participating fully in life at UBC and offering her many gifts to us. Welcome, Rhonda! We're glad you're here!
- Yes! – Mona Han will be leaving us for a few months to work on the Thailand-Burma border. Mona is truly a gift to UBC, and we know that she will be gift to those she encounters in her travels. Let's pray for Mona and this opportunity for her to work on the frontlines for peace and justice in Burma. Let's also pray that we can find ways of supporting Mona in her work.

Bulbs to flowers, seeds to trees, caterpillars to butterflies, winter to spring—that all takes effort, energy, time, transformation. In short, living in Promise takes WORK! We've already done a lot of work, and we still have a lot of work ahead of us. That's why my prayer for you, UBC, is that you will be sustained by the Promise—the Promise of things to come, of things to yet to be revealed among us, of things that God alone could possibly see. Now, let's get to it! Eric Brown

# STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MINUTES, DECEMBER 13, 2007

Present: Jackie Lamont, Elizabeth Patrick, Martha Bean, Daniel Hannah, Tim Phillips, Meesh Cobban, Marilee Nielsen, and Lin Carlson

Elizabeth offered a prayer to open the meeting. The November 15<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved.

Pastor's Report: Tim noted that the staff evaluations were completed. Sofia returns on Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. WPSR is planning to move out in February. The WPSR rent is \$500 per month. The pest control fogging appears to have met expectations. Discussion followed on how to take advantage of individuals who have offered to be "building buddies" when help is needed to fix a building problem. Plans to remove old furniture from the third floor on Sunday were reviewed. Elizabeth raised the question of how much storage space is needed when we move. We need some of our teams to look at our storage needs. Elizabeth will recruit representatives for a walk through after church some Sunday. Tim reviewed his responsibilities through February. Soul Soup in January will be held in partnership with Wedgwood Church. Annual reports are due to Sofia by January 18<sup>th</sup> so they can be published in the 2007 Report. Rhonda Hue was asked for UBC membership. Daniel moved, Marilee seconded and the membership request was approved by all. Appreciation was expressed for Tim's sermons.

Church Clerk's Report: Lin has drafted a press release. Martha shared that a reporter of the Seattle Times interviewed her today and we should see an article in tomorrow's paper. The press release will be sent to interested parties.

Financial Team Report: Marilee distributed the January – November financial reports. The good news is we are not in a cash flow problem and our expenses have exceeded our income by only \$1,500. At church on Sunday, the congregation will be encouraged to have their tithing up to date. Our income is much better in 2007 than last year. Our utilities are 9% higher this year than last year. The finance team does not plan to make adjustments the 2008 budget at this time as other changes may occur.

PSRT Report: The following Housing resolution by Eric was presented by Martha and discussed. The resolution is needed for tax purposes. Marilee moved, Jackie seconded and motion was unanimously approved.

## *RESOLUTION:*

*Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits professional clergy persons to exclude from gross income (in computing federal income taxes) a designated allowance paid as part of compensation to the extent used for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and*

*Whereas, Rev. Timothy C. Phillips is compensated by University Baptist Church exclusively for his services as clergy; and*

*Whereas, University Baptist Church does not provide clergy with a parsonage;*

*Therefore it is hereby Resolved, that of the total compensation paid for calendar year 2007 to the aforementioned clergy, the housing allowance pursuant to Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code is as follows: \$17,000*

*Resolved further, that this designation as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2008 and all future years unless otherwise provided.*

MSPJ Team Report: Daniel announced that we are expecting a family to move into the second transitional housing apartment. Meesh will call building users so they are aware of the latest developments.

Seeking the House: Martha reports that we expect have a real estate agent by end of the month. Elizabeth says that Tom Quigley will be our planning contact at U Christian.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Submitted by Lin Carlson, Church Clerk

# STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MINUTES, JANUARY 17, 2008

Present: Eric Brown, Mary Clare Benson, Daniel Hannah, Joy Smith, Bev Spears, Elizabeth Patrick, Tim Phillips, Martha Bean, and Lin Carlson

Eric offered inspirational remarks and led us in singing the Hymn of Promise. December 13<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved as corrected.

Pastor's Report: Tim has a busy February schedule. Chili Fiesta is scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>. Council agreed to Tim's request to use email later this month for approval of perspective members. Camp Burton is asking us to raise \$2,500 to underwrite the furnishing of a room at the new retreat center. The request was approved.

Financial Report: Mary Clare reported that we ended the year with a \$2,000 loss. Pledges were at 102% of budget. The expenses of building maintenance and gas were higher than expected. The building contingency fund was used to cover the amount.

Mission Support Peace and Justice Team: Daniel informed the group that a Mission Summit is scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Chili Fiesta will raise funds for missions. The Children's Center is looking at U Heights as a possible location.

PSRT: Elizabeth reported that the team will begin meeting in February and explore the employee health insurance coverage issue. The coverage issue relates to the anticipated move by the Children's Center.

Learning and Play Team: The One Room Sunday School will begin again in February! Hillary, Bob, Aaron, and Patrick are the moving forces behind this positive development.

Worship Summit: In order to support the worship experience and enable pictures to be taken, we will ask that pictures be taken from the balcony or after the service.

Building Maintenance: Martha is developing a list of folks who will be on call to assist with the building. A February 3<sup>rd</sup> work party has been scheduled after church to clean the kitchen top to bottom.

Seeking the House: Eric reported that we are in the process of signing a contract with the realtor. Upon the recommendation of the Shared Parish Working Group, the Stewardship Council moved the following: *University Baptist Church enter into negotiations with University Christian Church with the intent of leasing space from them in the future.* Motion will be brought to the congregation.

Martha reported on the University District Ecumenical Parish and Campus meeting. The agenda for January 27th annual meeting was discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm  
Submitted by Lin Carlson, Church Clerk

## LENT & EASTER 2008

### PEACE OIL

We've heard enough about the *other* kind of oil and all politics that go with it. Imagine 'peace oil' – oil that supports and encourages cooperative interaction between Israelis and Palestinians ... and it's good for you! Tasty too! **David Sokol** from Olive Branch Enterprises will be with us on **Sunday, Feb. 3**, as we begin our Lent/Easter season to present and sell Peace Oil – Israelis and Palestinians working together. Olive oil exports maintain an industry vital to the well-being of Palestinian farmers and their communities. A healthier economy for Palestine means hope for peace and security. Be part of Isaiah's promise – literally – "give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning." Please join us and invite your friends on February 3. Peace Oil will be available at UBC throughout Lent & Easter. Learn more at [www.peaceoil.biz](http://www.peaceoil.biz).

### LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6

Join us for an Ash Wednesday gathering at 6:00 p.m. in the McAfee Parlor. We begin with a light meal of palm soup bread and oil and then prepare for the season with an interactive time of readings and reflection.

### THURSDAY, FEB. 14 – AN ALTERNATIVE VALENTINE'S DAY GATHERING

Forget the Hallmark hype. Single, married, or partnered, join us for dinner and a movie at 6:00 p.m. in the McAfee Parlor. We begin with a light meal and then, at 6:30, we see *Chocolat* – a 2001 movie with Johnny Depp and a Lenten theme ... really! Of course the chocolate fountain will also make an appearance. Don't be lonely on Valentine's Day. Join us!

### SNOW RETREAT

Plan now to join us at Cascade Meadows Camp, **Feb. 15-18** (Presidents' Day Weekend), for time to relax, read, play, and have fun in the snow -- no program just time for being together. Retreat registration forms will be available mid-January in the Narthex or call the church office and the forms can be sent via mail or email. The deadline for registration is Sunday February 10<sup>th</sup> so we can plan for meals and space.

### THE FREEDOM OF LIMITS: ACCEPTING LIFE ON LIFE'S TERMS – A LENTEN RETREAT

February 29-March 2 at Rainbow Lodge. A retreat drawing from Parker Palmer's *Let Your Life Speak* and Kurtz and Ketchum's *The Spirituality of Imperfection* led by Tim Phillips, Cathy Fransson (Seattle First Baptist Church) and Roman Catholic educator and theologian Dr. Gretchen Gundrum. This retreat explores the question: How do our human limits actually enhance our freedom. Contact Tim for more information or a registration form. Cost: \$125 per person double occupancy / \$150 single room.

### HOLY WEEK

**Palm Sunday**, March 16, Music and Celebration

**Maundy Thursday**, March 20, 6:00 p.m. meal and service at 6:30 p.m.

**Good Friday**, March 21

Noon U-District Ecumenical Service

7:00 p.m. Northside Evergreen service at Wedgwood Church

**Easter**, March 23, Worship with music, dance, and message from Mark 16.1-8. Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt follow the service.



# WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

Every Sunday

9:00 a.m. Choir rehearses in the Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Bible Study in the McAfee Parlor

10:30 a.m. Worship and Children's Program

- Sunday, Feb. 3:** "You anoint my head with oil." Psalm 23  
An introduction to the Lenten theme. Tim preaching.
- Sunday, Feb. 10:** Lent I  
"And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many that were sick and healed them." Mark 6.13. Elizabeth Patrick preaching.
- Sunday, Feb. 17:** Lent II  
"The Spirit of God is upon me, because God has anointed me to preach good news to the poor." Luke 4.18 / Isaiah 61.1
- Sunday, Feb. 24:** Lent III  
"... she began to wet his feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment." Luke 7.38. Dramatic telling of this story by Marilyn Marston. Tim preaching.