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Seattle, WA

Deadline for the May issue is  
Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Please  
send submissions to Meesh  
at: [office@ubcseattle.org](mailto:office@ubcseattle.org).



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# The Beacon

University Baptist Church

April 2009

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## Greetings from Nancy

Thank you for calling me as your interim pastor. I am excited to be here at University Baptist Church. You are a forward-thinking congregation with an eye on mission. I want to celebrate with you and support you as you move into a new phase of ministry. I am also glad that I will experience both your current, historic space as well as your move to new space. Transitions are typically more difficult than we imagine, but transitions can lead to wonderful transformations. I look forward to meeting you and getting to know you in the weeks ahead. Please always feel free to call me with questions, concerns, or anything else that comes to mind. If you or someone you know would like to visit with me, please tell me. I will first visit those who have difficulty getting around, and anyone who is experiencing medical or other life difficulties. I do, however, promise never to visit without calling first.

I was able to attend Tim's installation at First Baptist. I had previously met Tim, but I do not know him personally. I have, however, heard wonderful things about him from you and others, and I was certainly happy to meet him again on Sunday. He was warm and welcoming, and I'm certain that UBC continues to have deep feelings surrounding his move. Not only are you experiencing the loss of Tim at UBC, but also Patrick. He obviously brought energy, a loving spirit, and great creativity to this congregation, and I recognize that you miss him, too.

We have wonderful worship days ahead. Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter are coming quickly. Spring is in the air and daffodils are a welcoming yellow at the church door.

Not only are the daffodils welcoming, but so are you. Thank you for your words and gestures of welcome and encouragement. The potluck on Sunday was delicious and gave me a chance to chat with several of you.

I will have business cards printed very soon with all of my contact information. In the meantime, feel free to leave me messages at church. I will check my messages at least daily including my days off and when I am out of town.

Again, thank you for allowing me to accompany you on this journey. It will be a great adventure.

Blessings,

Nancy



## HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY:



Rich Kemp 4/1  
Cass Newell 4/2  
Melissa Thirloway 4/3  
Beverly Katterman 4/9  
Walt Foster 4/12  
Sheri Amundson 4/14  
Enid Griswold 4/14  
Megumi Kobayashi 4/19  
Bob Taylor 4/19  
Mae Bell 4/20  
Michael Vaughan 4/20  
David Bloom 4/21  
George Chaloner 4/23  
Dave Gordon 4/23  
Marilyn Pulliam 4/25  
Sadie Cunningham 4/26  
David Mahowald 4/28

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

## Among Ourselves

We rejoice at the arrival of **Nancy Darnell**, our interim minister, who joined us in worship on March 22. That day we celebrated 25 years of hot meals prepared and served by Saturday Kitchen volunteers, among them **David Metzger, Angie Bartels, Edith Glover, Joanne Wright, Rhonda Hue, Daniel Hannah**, and hundreds of others ... A good contingent of UBC members attended the installation of our dear friend **Tim Phillips** at Seattle First Baptist Church and were able to greet **Tim's mother Mary** and **sister Frances**, who were in town to attend the service. It was a treat to see our **Patrick Green and Glenn Law** again too! ... **Bruce Chittick**, our gifted intern, said goodbye to us on a recent Sunday on which he planned the service and preached eloquently. We are blessed to have had **Bruce** with us, and we send birthday wishes to his son **Spencer**, who just turned 2 ... Congratulations to **Shari and Dan Peterson**, who traveled to Port Townsend and celebrated their 57<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary! Shari has been playing her viola with the New Baroque Orchestra, most recently at Trinity Episcopal Church ... Our prayers are with **Clarence Bishop**, who awoke unable to see on March 22, and with **Virginia Nielsen**, who recently spent the night in the hospital and awaits the results of tests ... We are happy to hear that **Priscilla Chong-Jue** is feeling stronger and hopes to be at

church soon ... **Carol Guthrie** is adjusting well to assisted living in Totem Lake. Call her at 425-821-1199 and plan a visit ... **Charles Putnam** is at home enjoying word games. Call him if you are a word lover and want to schedule a challenge ... **Joy Smith** sends word that **Ashley Smith** and **Seth** were touched and grateful for the money members and friends sent in support of Seth's legal defense. We send our prayers for a fair hearing for Seth, whose trial is April 9 ... Congratulations to **Audrey Smith**, who has gotten a resident advisor job for her second year at U. of Puget Sound. **Audrey** traveled to Los Angeles during her spring break ... **Tom and Marilee Nielsen** just returned from an elderhostel in Texas ... The **Gaertner-Johnstons** are on the Big Island of Hawaii for spring break week. **Lynn G-J** gives thanks that she finished a quarter of teaching in the MBA program at UW, and **Aaron Burkhalter** gives thanks that he has survived another round of job cuts at his newspaper ... Thank you to **Mona Hon** and **Rosie Yee**, who with the showing and discussion of the movie "Total Denial" increased our knowledge of human rights abuses in Burma ... Congratulations to former UBC Church Administrator **Brenna Wolf** and her **new husband Pietro** – they wed in Eugene, OR in late February and are living there while Brenna works on her PhD ... Huge thanks to **Elizabeth Patrick**, who for many weeks has been responsible for planning our fine worship services. You can have your Fridays back now, Elizabeth, with our grateful blessings!

– Thanks to **Lynn Gaertner-Johnston** for compiling "Among Ourselves." If you have news to share, contact Lynn at [lynngaertner-johnston@comcast.net](mailto:lynngaertner-johnston@comcast.net) or leave a message with the UBC office: 206-632-5188.



Remember... We have an *active Congregational Care Team* at UBC. If you or someone you know at church is sick, needs pastoral care or has prayer concerns, please contact Jackie Lamont, our Congregational Care Team Coordinator, at 206-985-7927 or [jblamont@mindspring.com](mailto:jblamont@mindspring.com)

If you could help by making a meal, visiting or writing a card please contact Jackie.



## From the Moderator

It's worth volunteering to help with "The Big Sort" just to look at "The Big Sort" box. It contains color-coded inventory sheets, pens, markers, tape, rubber bands, paper clips, safety pins, file folders, and of course, instructions. Team leads have titles of "History Buff", "Documents Docent", and "Charity Champion". As I've seen this organization come together, I've thought how much I'd like to invite all of the volunteers into my garage!

Bruce Chittick's last sermon with us was entitled "Clearing out the Clutter". He, too, spoke of wanting to be free of the clutter in his house, but also of how Jesus cleared the clutter of money changers and vendors from the temple. We see more clearly without the clutter, which includes our vision of God and God's call in our lives.

Even if we weren't selling the building, clearing the clutter is a good thing for our congregation. What good are boxes of items with historical significance if they are lost in the clutter? We have to take them out and look at our past to understand ourselves better. What good are all of the accumulated items we have stored all over our building? Perhaps keeping unwanted items is preventing us from making room for what is now important.

Rev. Naomi Kirstein from Wellspring Church in Des Moines, Iowa preached on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Following her sermon and a conversation with her about their Missional Church, we spent time imagining our future missions. With the closure of the Saturday Kitchen, we celebrated the many years of service our community has provided for this important mission and imagined how we could continue without a kitchen. Discussions at Soul Soup led to the idea of providing box lunches. Mona Han and Rosie Yee hosted a viewing of "Total Denial" a documentary about the Western-financed pipeline in Burma that led to human rights abuses by the Burmese military. We discussed the needs of Burmese refugees in Seattle. Imagine how we could help.

We are busy with exciting work that is different from the work we have done in the past. In addition to preparing to move out of our building, welcoming our interim minister and imagining our future missions, we will soon begin the task of searching for our new pastor. Everyone will have an opportunity to participate in this process as we will begin with an all-church one-day retreat in May.

We have many opportunities for you to become involved. Thank you for your participation however you are able. The "Big Sort" volunteers have done good work and have had a great time doing it. I am amazed by what we've been learning about ourselves as we sort through our past and imagine our future. Clearing out the clutter is as rewarding as it is liberating.

– Joy Smith

### April Events at UBC -- Please join us for these important events!

- 🌸 **Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday. UBC Worship at 10:30am** with Rev. Darnell.
- 🌸 **Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday.** We'll have a simple meal at 6:00pm in the McAfee Parlor, followed by reflective worship with Rev. Darnell.
- 🌸 **Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday.** The UBC Choir will sing at the Evergreen Easter Sunrise Service at St. Ignatius Chapel on the Seattle University Campus at 7:30am. **UBC Easter Worship at 10:30am** with Rev. Darnell. **Be sure to stay after worship for Easter Brunch and the annual egg-hunt for children!**
- 🌸 **Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> – UBC Quarterly Business Meeting follows worship.**

# Seeking A New Pastor

With Tim's resignation in January, UBC began the process of calling our next pastor. We called the first phase of our process the Transition Phase, February 1 – March 21. During that time, much of the "pastoral work" at UBC was performed by our leadership and by the ordained folks among us. Also during that time, the Pastor/Staff Relations Team began and completed the task of finding an interim minister. With the arrival of that interim minister, Rev. Nancy Darnell, on March 22, UBC has entered a new phase in the process – the Interim Phase. During this phase, Nancy will assume the pastoral duties at UBC on a three-quarters time basis. This will free us – the leadership, members, and friends of UBC – to complete our Big Sort, to make our transition to a new space, and to define our identity and our role as a church without (our own) walls. And, if that's not enough, we will also start our search for a permanent, full-time pastor too!

The UBC By-Laws give the task of finding a pastor to the Ministerial Selection Team. This team will "investigate the qualifications and merits of all prospects and applicants" for the position of pastor and will recommend a candidate to the UBC membership.

According to our by-laws, the Ministerial Selection Team is to consist of seven members. Three members are determined by virtue of their office: these are the Moderator (Joy Smith), the Moderator-Elect (Daniel Hannah), and the Pastor/Staff Relations Team Lead (Elizabeth Patrick). The remaining four members are to be selected from the membership at large.

The Pastor/Staff Relations Team and Stewardship Council have discussed the process as defined in the bylaws and have received additional directions and advice from Marcia Patton, Executive Minister for Evergreen Association. While we want to give everyone an opportunity to participate, we only have four positions open and we want to make sure the Team represents a cross-section of the congregation. We also plan to name two alternates in the event that a team member has to withdraw from the team.

We will be holding a one-day retreat in May to kick off the selection process by giving everyone an opportunity to discuss what traits in a minister are important. Our Selection Team members will serve as facilitators to get into their roles as congregational representatives. Participating in the selection team will be an important and time-consuming commitment. If you are a member of UBC and are interested in serving on the team, please consider:

## **The Ministerial Selection Team Will...**

- **Preserve Confidentiality** – The workings of the Ministerial Selection Team are to be in confidence. No names or other identifying details of persons under consideration are to be revealed by any team member at any time. For the protection of the process and of the candidates, confidentiality is essential.
- **Reflect The UBC Community** – The Ministerial Selection Team's primary task is to find the best person to be the pastor of UBC. To do this the team will collect data and form a "profile" of UBC. This will require listening to UBC members and friends, facilitating discussions (including the 1-day retreat in May), and developing other methods of gathering feedback.
- **WORK** – The Ministerial Selection will be a very active team. We anticipate that each team member will need to devote 15-20 hours per month to this team. Of course, the workload will vary from month to month depending on the phase of the search. Work will include team meetings, gathering information about the UBC community, reading personnel profiles, listening to recorded sermons, visiting candidates (yes, some travel may be involved), interviewing candidates, and lots of soul-searching deliberation. Keep in mind that this process could last anywhere from one to two years.

If you feel that you are able to commit to the work of the Ministerial Selection Team, please contact Joy Smith (joyaaasmith@comcast.net). The selection process will involve weighing the needs of the team as well as the interests and availability of those who have expressed their desire to participate. We will present the Ministerial Selection Team and launch the selection process at our quarterly business meeting on April 26th.

## Youth Serve In Saturday Kitchen... Look Toward Our Future

As our Saturday Kitchen ministry approached its end, the Youth Group volunteered to be part of its food distribution among our hungry neighbors. Valerie Foster and Sara Abbasian worked with leaders Hilary Pittenger and Brooke Rolston. Our task was to bring extra canned and packaged food out from the storage room, bag some of the basic offerings (like peanut butter, beef stew and diced tomatoes) and give those sacks to our Saturday Kitchen guests. There were extra goods for guests to choose from also. And the words of thanks from the dozens who came were gifts to us.



As our morning work was winding down, Eva Gaertner-Johnston was able to join us. We thanked Kitchen leaders David Metzger and Angie Bartels, and went to the second floor parlor. We sat in silence for a short time, then reflected on what we had just experienced. After playing a few rounds of Scattergories, we shared our ideas about youth-oriented things that should go with us when we move our church life from our current building to a new one. It was a good day in the life of our Youth Group.

Brooke Rolston

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## Donate DTV Converter Box Coupons

As many of you know, on June 12, 2009, all local television stations in Seattle will switch from analog to digital transmission of their broadcast signal. Many of you, undoubtedly, are already prepared for the transition. (You are good to go if you subscribe to Cable or Satellite, have a digital TV, or already have a converter box.) Reclaim the Media, in partnership with the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund, is working to ensure that everyone in our community is ready, including immigrant communities, public and low-income housing, nursing homes, and others.

The Federal Government has established a coupon program to provide every household with up to two \$40 coupons for digital-to-analog converter boxes. Some folks who need converter boxes may not be able to get coupons. (For instance, residents of group or nursing homes without separate room or box numbers, public housing community rooms, etc.) Others have allowed their coupons to expire. (They are only good for 90 days.) There has recently been a waiting list for the coupon program, but now new funding from the stimulus package has ensured that coupons will begin flowing again in the next week.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We are asking you to apply for two coupons and, when they come in the mail, DONATE the second one (or both if you are already DTV ready) to Reclaim the Media to distribute to those who are in need of them. Send your extra coupons to: 4408 Delridge Way SW, Seattle, WA 98106 or you can bring them to the UBC office or simply hand them to Daniel Hannah or Rhonda Hue.

Apply for the \$40 converter box coupons at [www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov) or by telephone: 1-800-DTV-2009.

Thank you for your help! – Daniel Hannah

## Faith Advocacy Day:

### Members and Friends of UBC Advocate for People in Need in Olympia



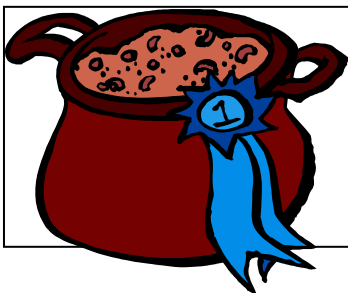
On February 17 hundreds of members of churches around Washington came to Olympia for Faith Advocacy Day. The largest turnout in years was spurred largely by reports of state legislators and the Governor making severe cuts in human services in order to balance a budget that anticipates a great revenue shortfall.

People of faith met at United Churches of Olympia, training themselves and each other to be effective advocates on issues of education, housing, hunger and health care – attending workshops and discussion groups – and then went to legislators’ offices to urge them to see their first responsibility as the protection of those among us who are most vulnerable when the state’s “safety net” is weakened.

The work of bearing witness on behalf of those most at risk continues as a budget is formally proposed, debated and adopted. With echoes of the choral anthem “I’ll Be A Witness” – offered on the Sunday honoring our quarter century of ministry through Saturday Kitchen – how can we do less than give our best effort with those who hunger and thirst?

To contact your state legislators, find their names, addresses and phone numbers online at [www.seattlelwv.org](http://www.seattlelwv.org) – the site of the League of Women Voters of Seattle – look for “They Represent You (TRY) 2009”. And do not cease praying for those who serve officially in the state’s capitol – they face difficult work and excruciating decisions – and for our own Bev Spears whose professional advocacy there continues through the current legislative session.

– Brooke Rolston



**The Annual Chili Fiesta** will be delayed due to the many other activities currently underway. If you are interested in coordinating this event in future months, please notify our volunteer coordinator, Rhonda Hue.

## Stewardship Council Minutes – March 12, 2009

Present: Joy Smith, Daniel Hannah, Jackie Lamont, Rhonda Hue, Elizabeth Patrick, Bruce Chittick, Martha Bean, Mary Clare Benson and Joanne Wright Joy opened the meeting with prayer. A motion was made to approve the Feb. 12, 2009 SC Minutes. The minutes were approved as distributed.

### Discussion Topics:

- UBC lists (membership, email, bulletin) need to be updated. Joanne will work on updating these lists, with the assistance of the finance team and SC.
- A Search Committee must be elected to start the search for a permanent minister, possibly as soon as the next Quarterly Business Meeting in April. The committee would consist of 4 elected positions, and 3 positions assigned from the Stewardship Council in accordance with the bylaws. Two alternates should also be elected. We need to start soliciting names from people interested in serving. A description of the committee positions should be written, indicating the amount of commitment and time required, which will be substantial. The Search Committee may hold a retreat in May to discuss what to look for in a new pastor.
- The congregation will also have to vote on the lease agreement with University Christian Church.
- Volunteers will be needed for many current and near term efforts: the Big Sort, spiritual care, Search Committee for a new minister, Chili Fiesta, Mission Support and the Shared Parish. Team leads need to identify what their volunteer needs are.

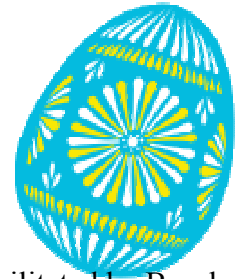
### Team Reports

- Interim Team: The American Baptist Biennial Conference will be held on June 24-28 in Pasadena, California. Tim and Patrick usually attended these conferences. UBC may want to send someone this year. Martha and Rhonda expressed interest in going. The Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists are represented at this conference. Attendance may also be a good way to find ministers that could be considered for ministry at UBC.
- Pastor Staff Relations (PSRT): Meesh is now working 40 hours per week. Most of her hours are as office manager, with 7 hours per month on building issues. Nancy Darnell's first Sunday with UBC will be on March 22.
- Treasurer: Mary Clare provided financial reports for the time period ending February 28, 2009. We have had a loss of \$3800, but budgeted for more loss. Pledges are low right now – people are slow in paying pledges. UBC has fewer renters, so rent is lower than it was previously.
- Church Life: Jackie Lamont reported that an American Baptist Women meeting would be held at Seattle First Baptist Church. Cora Lea will be working on kits for Burma.
- Building Team: Martha presented the Big Sort Box, with files for each floor, and supplies for labeling items. The Box is to be kept in the office so anyone can have access to it. Martha urged lead for special items, such as books, history, or music to sort first, so other teams would not repeat the same task. Floor leads should coordinate with special items team leads to discuss items that may require additional consideration before making a decision about where the item should go.
- Mission Support/Peace & Justice (MSPH): Lin Carlson submitted a memo to the MSPJ team, stating that he would be unable to organize a Chili Fiesta this year. The Chili Fiesta is held in April. The SC decided to hold off on consideration of the event, since the church is in transition so many events are planned.
- Fellowship Fund: Currently there are no guidelines for how the Fellowship Fund is to be distributed. The SC, after some discussion, agreed that the pastoral care person or minister should make decisions about how the Fellowship Fund should be handled, and that no guidelines need to be written. The SC agreed that cash should not be given to people; money should be paid directly to the person or agent that is providing food, shelter, etc. Daniel stated that he would make a proposal for a schedule of Fellowship Fund offerings to provide support for the fund.

Submitted by Joanne Wright, Church Clerk

**Next Stewardship Council Meeting: Wednesday April 15, 2009**

## April at UBC



*Every Sunday ...*

9:15 Choir rehearses in the Sanctuary

10:30 Worship & Children's Program

- ☼ **Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00pm – Soul Soup.** Sacred Conversation on Race, facilitated by Brooke.
- ☼ **Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am – 2:30pm – ABW Spring Rally, Seattle First Baptist Church.**
- ☼ **Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday, Holy Week begins.** The University District Ecumenical Parish (UDEP) will gather at **9:15am** on “The Ave” between NE 45<sup>th</sup> & NE 47<sup>th</sup>. **UBC Palm Sunday Worship at 10:30am** with palms, wonderful music. Scripture: Mark 11:1-11.
- ☼ **Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday.** Simple Meal and Worship at 6:00pm at UBC. Scripture, Communion, Reflective worship.
- ☼ **Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday.** Noon Good Friday Service as part of UDEP Holy Week at University Temple United Methodist Church, 1415 NE 43<sup>rd</sup>.
- ☼ **Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday.** Evergreen Easter Sunrise Service with the UBC Choir at 7:30am, at St. Ignatius Chapel, Seattle University campus – chapel is close to 12<sup>th</sup> Ave and E Spring St. UDEP Sunrise Service at 7:00am at University Lutheran, 1604 NE 50<sup>th</sup>. **UBC Easter Worship at 10:30am followed by Easter Brunch and an egg-hunt.** Scripture: Matthew 28:1-10. Brooke Rolston will help our youth prepare the egg hunt celebration for children following worship.
- ☼ **Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> – UBC Stewardship Council meeting.**
- ☼ **Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> – Worship at UBC.**
- ☼ **Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> – Worship at UBC; Quarterly Business Meeting Following worship.**