



# The Beacon

University Baptist Church

February 2009

Dear UBC Friends and Family,

On Sunday, January 11, 2009 Seattle First Baptist Church overwhelmingly voted to call Tim to become their lead pastor. Tim has told us that he has discerned this as a new calling for him, and accepted the position. While we are very sad to see Tim and Patrick leave us, we wish them well and offer Tim our congratulations on his new challenge.

Many members packed the McAfee Parlor after worship January 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> to talk about this transition. The feelings expressed were that we are a strong congregation who will be able to weather this change. Some of the questions asked and the answers given were:

**How are we handling the transition?** *Since we had to act quickly, Stewardship Council members formed a transition team in December that has been working with Tim. We will make a call for congregational help at our annual meeting or when we identify a specific task. If you are interested in participating in the transition process, contact me.*

**Will we be calling an interim minister soon?** *We have coverage for worship, administration and pastoral care identified for the immediate future. We will be calling an interim minister who has been trained to help in the transitioning process.*

**When will we call a new minister?** *This process can take 1 – 2 years. We will be forming a selection committee and asking for congregational input into selection criteria.*

Please plan on attending our Annual Meeting on February 1<sup>st</sup> for updates about our transition plan.

Blessings,  
Joy Smith, Moderator

Minister of Music  
*Margaret Paynton*

Office Manager  
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UBC Moderator  
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Deadline for the March  
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22<sup>nd</sup>. Please send  
submissions to Meesh at  
[office@ubcseattle.org](mailto:office@ubcseattle.org).

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## UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING – SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>

The 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of University Baptist Church will be on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> after worship. **Please bring a contribution for the potluck lunch!** There will be updates about our transition plan, annual reports from 2008, and the “Seeking the House” Working Group Leads and the Stewardship Council will present an offer to purchase the building. Your input and participation is a valued part of our community; this critical decision in the life of University Baptist Church needs your presence. Please plan to attend the annual meeting.



## HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY:

- 2/3 Eric Brown;
- 2/6 Kate Wren;
- 2/8 Daniel Hannah;
- 2/9 Nathan Kirstein;
- 2/12 Briana Thirloway;
- 2/14 Bob Jeffers Schroder;
- 2/14 Margie Paynton;
- 2/15 Edith Glover;
- 2/15 Larry Mix

## HAPPY BELATED JANUARY BIRTHDAY:

- 1/1 Marie Uwase;
- 1/3 Kathryn Jans;
- 1/3 Deborah Jordan;
- 1/12 Pete Dorman;
- 1/13 Carol Zuercher-Stern;
- 1/17 Gail Foster;
- 1/30 Henry Nielsen;
- 1/31 Paspita Biswas

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

## AMONG OURSELVES

We celebrate the arrival of **Phineas Aaron** to the **Porch** family – **Katie, Josh, and Toby** are all happy for this new little life to be with them at home ... **Mary & Brooke Rolston** celebrated 24 years of marriage in November ... We also celebrate with **Diane Schmitz & Bill Stalder** the approval of Diane's dissertation proposal – now the final stage of this work begins ... We received holiday greetings from our extended UBC family – the **Nsoki family** in Michigan, **Ago & Violy** in California, **Bob Cloud** in Bellingham and former UBC Administrator **Brenna Wolf** ... Young people were home with us for the holidays – **Ethan & Zandi Carlson** from Miami and Oklahoma City; **Erica Badgeley**, home from college in northern California, danced beautifully for the Christmas Eve and Martin Luther King services; **Katrina & Amy Stern** were home – Katrina from Olympia and Amy from studies in India; the medical rotations for **Sarah Reed & Xavi Ortiz** have brought them back to us here in Seattle (yeah!); and **Ashley Smith** was home – we are glad to have been represented at the inauguration of our new president by **Joy, Audrey, and Ashley** – Joy and Audrey will return from D.C. and Ashley will stay there to keep an eye on the new administration ... It was good to see **Annette Klapstein & Rich Gile** in worship in December – they have returned to their boat in Mexico but plan to be home again in June ... It has also been good to see **Alethea & Charles Putnam** in worship and both continue to

be grateful for your prayers as their health stabilizes ... **Enid Griswold** has been with us as she spends some time in her Seattle home before returning to California ... **Susan Vaughan** has asked us to remember the workers at Boeing who may be losing their jobs ... **Bev Spears** asks for prayers for our elected leaders in Olympia as they make decisions and as she reminds them of their responsibilities to all our citizens ... The federal case against former pastor, **Anne Hall**, for protesting at Bangor has been dismissed but Anne has had to face the loss of their family's beloved dog and a worsening situation of her mother's health ... Remember in prayer **Carol Guthrie** who spent some time at Virginia Mason in January and will be re-locating to a care facility after her stay and **Priscilla Chong Jue** who is spending some time at NW Hospital as the medical staff tries to determine what her health situation is ... Both **Elizabeth Patrick** and **David Bloom** lost friends and colleagues in January – they appreciate your prayers for peace ... **Tim Phillips** thanks you all for prayer during the passing of his father on November 15 in Michigan and **Ed Myer** invites your prayers as his father comes to the end of his life in Wenatchee ... Prayers for and blessings to all of you as **Tim & Patrick** begin their new ministry with Seattle First Baptist Church on Sunday, Feb. 1. Thanks to all those who planned the celebration for Sunday, Jan. 25, that sent them on their way with love and blessing.



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

As 2008 drew to a close and my term as UBC Moderator neared, I envisioned us saying goodbye to our home of over 100 years and moving into a new worship space. I never anticipated that in my first month as Moderator we would be saying goodbye to our beloved pastor, Tim.

In Tim’s sermon on Epiphany Sunday, he told us to find our wisdom and follow our guiding light. He had us all read our mission statement, which I recall helping to write with the rest of the congregation at a time when we really needed a guiding light. Of course I thought of the lighthouse in our lovely stained glass window, but I also thought of a wise woman I met a few years ago. She told me that when she was overcome with pain, she envisioned her pain as a black hole in her stomach that would reopen whenever a new sorrow occurred, rekindling all past pain. She said that she then focused on a point in her forehead, a “third eye” that served as her guiding light. When she moved her focus from the pit of her stomach to her “third eye”, her pain receded and wisdom and hope took over.

When I first heard about Tim being selected at Seattle First Baptist, I felt that black hole open up, and I didn’t like the feelings I felt. I shifted my focus to my guiding light and then I was able to see the strength of our wonderful community, hear Tim tell of his new calling, and see the possibilities of the path that lie ahead.

As I listened to my UBC family talk about our transition on January 11<sup>th</sup>, I knew we had all made a significant turn on this journey. At the meeting I was still pondering Bruce Chittick’s sermon (Bruce, you can really preach!) when he asked “Does it matter?” Yes, we will miss Tim, Bruce told us, and no, we are whole and able to move on. Tim has prepared us well.

This year, my friends, we will be envisioning a new future. When the transition team discussed worship plans, Elizabeth Patrick said that the word that came to her mind was “imagine”. We all have loved to hear Matt Paynton sing John Lennon’s “Imagine” and now it seems like it could indeed be a theme for our future.

Tim and Patrick, thank you for all you have given us. Tim, you inspired us to give our gifts, and more importantly, to acknowledge our own worth. And no one has more imagination than you, Patrick. I will always remember coming into the sanctuary to see flames in banners reaching out above the pews, and the Halloween you turned the Social Hall into Hogwart’s Dining Hall, complete with floating candelabras. Because of your gifts, Tim and Patrick, we have even more gifts to keep with us.

Joy Smith

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## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF SOLES+SOULS

Over the last year, this congregation has contributed nearly 150 pairs of shoes, boots and sandals to the Soles4Souls organization. Your contributions have benefitted many in underdeveloped countries or areas where people are trying to recover from disasters of one kind or another, including Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. Soles4Souls has distributed nearly 4 million pairs of shoes since it started its work after the Asian tsunami in 2004.

The National Geographic “The Green Guide” includes Soles4Souls in an 8-page story highlighting efforts of shoe charity to distribute shoes across the world. It is estimated that more than 300 million children are shoeless worldwide. Please visit the web site [www.Soles4Souls.org](http://www.Soles4Souls.org) for additional information..

I will continue to collect gently used shoes, sandals and boots as long as people continue to bring them to UBC. Your support is greatly appreciated. – Marilee Nielsen

## UBC TRANSITION TEAMS

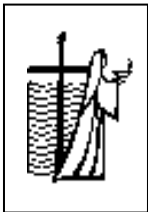
Our Stewardship Council created some transition teams to serve UBC during this time of pastoral change. The three teams are Administration, Worship, and Pastoral Care of the UBC community.

Marilee Nielsen is creating a schedule of UBC ordained ministers who will be on call each week. Meesh will have that schedule and it will be in the bulletin, on the website, and the newsletter.

The transition team is the following people:

- **Administration:** Joy Smith, Daniel Hannah, Marilee Nielsen, Eric Brown
- **Worship:** Elizabeth Patrick, Bruce Chittick
- **Pastoral Care:** Brooke Rolston, Jackie Lamont, Marilee Nielsen

If you have questions, you may call Joy Smith, our Moderator, or any of the members of the Transition Team.



### UBC AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN

Our little light has received an energy boost from Lynn Gaertner-Johnston who has offered her services as coordinator. American Baptist Women across the U.S. are working to recognize the needs and desires of women who are wanting fellowship and opportunities to serve and learn about World, National and Local Missions.

Our Sister Church, Seattle First Baptist, will be hosting our "Spring Rally" in April. There will be a live missionary to share experiences and challenges with us. Prayer, group hymn singing and always music – instrumental or vocal selections – to enrich our day. We enjoy together a meal (lunch, always a treat) and have time to visit with others from our area.

Our own women gathered Monday, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, to celebrate us and have a chance to socialize and recognize that though we have uncertain times ahead, there is a plan for our church and we will find it. We rejoice in our leadership.

We have been carrying on with the traditional duties of ABC, keeping the White Cross Quota filled. New quilts for our church family babies are still being distributed. We have had two meetings; the third was to be at Christmas time but was postponed due to the inclement weather.

Thanks to all who helped with the White Cross contributions to India: \$150.00; the Kodiak Baptist Mission: \$75.00; and Panama: \$75.00. – CoraLea Doty

### THANK YOU FROM THE UBC STAFF

Thanks to all of you for your generous gifts to the staff during the holiday season. It is a blessing to be in ministry with you ...

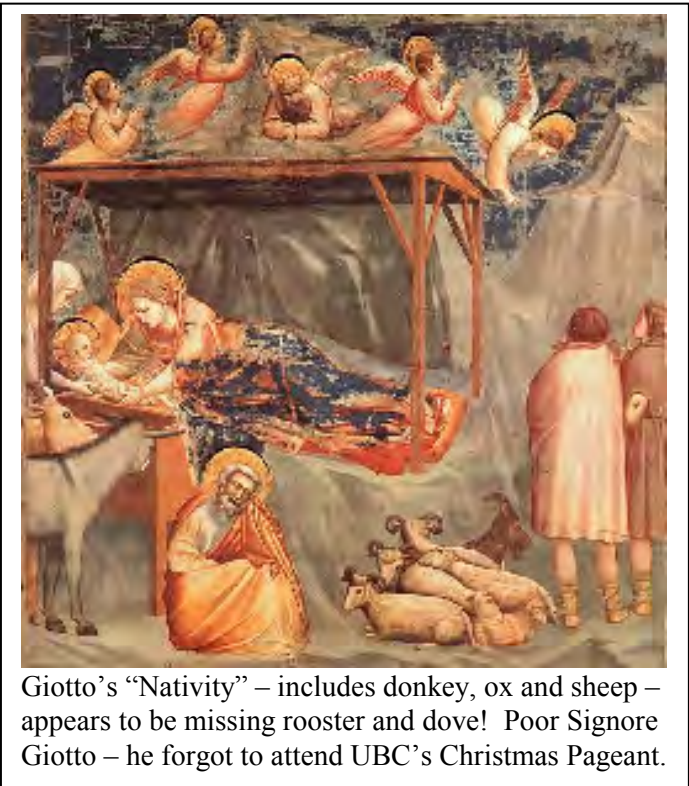
*Meesh, Margie, Tim and Bruce*

# UBC YOUTH ENACT CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – “THROUGH OTHER ANIMAL EYES”

The snow and ice could delay it, but they couldn't stop it! The Youth Group's Christmas Pageant, postponed from the Sunday before Christmas, had to wait until Christmas Eve, and then it seemed the timing was about right.

Based on an idea from Eva Gaertner-Johnston, directed by Sadie Cunningham, script by Brooke Rolston, “Through Other Animal Eyes” told the story of the birth of Jesus through the eyes of animals other than the humans we know most commonly from Luke's gospel account.

Each animal began, “It all started with me!” claiming to be the one most responsible for the events of the original Christmas night, some taking still more credit for our even knowing of the Bethlehem birth. Sara Abbasian played a feisty rooster, Jessica Badgeley was a soothing dove, Valerie Foster portrayed a “ba-a-a-d” and savvy sheep, Eva lumbered in as an ox on a mission, and Brooke was a slow and tiresome donkey. Humans playing as humans: Ciara Prentice was Mary, Kaj Bostrom was Joseph, and Sadie provided the voice of the innkeeper, while Erica Badgeley, Audrey Smith and Lisa Rolston were “youthful” shepherds. An insurgent camel, played by Walt Foster, tried repeatedly to get into the action, but was told to “wait until next year!” when camels will have a place in Matthew's telling of the Christmas story.



Giotto's “Nativity” – includes donkey, ox and sheep – appears to be missing rooster and dove! Poor Signore Giotto – he forgot to attend UBC's Christmas Pageant.

The carol known as “The Friendly Beasts” set the frame of the story, the congregation singing each verse as the action moved along. At the close, Margie Paynton directed the choir in a choral setting of the same song. The production came as a reminder to all participants, and hopefully the congregation, that the story of Christmas begins with each of us, that our stories are important, that they are part of God's story, and that it's still important for us all to tell.

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## UBC WORSHIP FORUM

Our Worship Forum to plan worship for Lent and Easter will meet on Saturday, February 7, 2009.

We will convene at 10 am and we will have coffee and something to eat. Any one who is interested in helping to plan our worship for the Lenten season is invited. We will look at the lectionary scriptures and share our thoughts. We think about banners and music, and other ways in which we journey through the season.

Mark your calendar now. UBC = U BETTER COME!

Questions? Contact Elizabeth Patrick at [lizpatrick2@comcast.net](mailto:lizpatrick2@comcast.net) or 206-283-4090

## 2009 UBC CASCADE MEADOWS WINTER RETREAT FEBRUARY 13-16

Cascade Meadows is a Baptist Camp 14 miles east of Stevens Pass. There is a beautiful, rustic lodge with several bunk rooms, two common areas, a kitchen and restrooms with showers. There are several smaller buildings at various distances from the lodge that sleep 8-10 people.

The Camp can accommodate up to 50 people. **Prices per person over age 5 are \$80 for Saturday morning through Monday lunch. Many people come in Friday evening; if you wish to do so add \$25, for a total of \$105.** Make checks payable to “UBC” and designate “winter retreat”. Some scholarships may be available – contact Lin Carlson for assistance.

Registration forms and more information are available in the UBC Office and Narthex; if you would like forms sent to you please contact Meesh at 206-632-5188 or office@ubcseattle.org. **Please register as soon as possible. Please help us have a firm count on February 8th so that we can buy the proper amount of food and assist in arranging transportation.** We will be assisting in organizing carpooling, as parking is limited.

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### A RIVER OF RACIAL DIFFERENCES

On January 8<sup>th</sup> two dozen of us gathered for the third of our Sacred Conversations on Race based on the study guide, “Troubling the Waters.” And that night it was all about *water*!

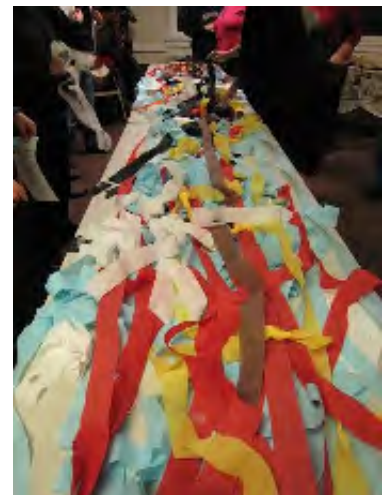
We remembered the waters of creation in the beginning of Genesis, as well as the waters of the river of life spoken of at the close of the Book of Revelation. And we read and discussed the primal events in the garden of creation, those moments between the serpent, Eve, Adam and God... and the twisted story of Cain and Abel, and the awful judgment of God... asking what we could see of the intention for human relationships and godly order in these early accounts... wondering what we could learn from them of privilege and preference.

Then we heard an account of a trip down the Colorado River and the revelation of the river’s striking, even stunning, changes in color and texture due to the confluences of many tributaries flowing into the river’s channel. And then we “made” our own river, running streamers of blue crepe paper the length of a table, depicting waves and eddies and even a sudden fall.

With all that preparation done, we tried first to imagine, and then to portray new colors of crepe paper strands, the influx into the river of the streams of the peoples which make a “river of America” – first the Native Peoples, then the Europeans, then the African Blacks, then the Hispanic/Latina/Latino/Mestizo peoples, then peoples from Asia and then peoples from Arab lands and the Middle East. What we made was a profusion of colored strands, tangled, knotted, rising to the surface and plunging down again. And what we learned was how little we knew of the peoples and cultures represented in those strands of paper.

Each person left with an assignment to listen and learn from people of different colors and cultures. It’s an Epiphany task, a seeking and watching for new light. Anyone who couldn’t come that evening may join in the work. Copies of the page describing the assignment are in the narthex.

The next gathering for our Sacred Conversation is February 5, again following Soul Soup in the McAfee Parlor. This will be the last Troubling the Waters session until we resume at the start of Lent. Anyone may see Diane Schmitz, Bruce Chittick or Brooke Rolston for more information.



# STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MINUTES JANUARY 15

Present: Daniel Hannah, Cora Lea Doty, Jackie Lamont, Brooke Rolston, Rhonda Hue, Tim Phillips, Martha Bean, Elizabeth Patrick, Joy Smith, Bruce Chittick, Mary Rolston, Kathryn Jans, Mary Clare Benson, and Joanne Wright

Joy opened the meeting with prayer. A motion was made to approve the December 30, 2008 SC Minutes. The minutes were approved.

Pastor's Report: Tim provided the Pastor's Report, summarizing key dates for 2009 and a summary of several transition topics. Tim noted that his report includes notes on Myanmar from a meeting he attended at Japanese Baptist Church. More help is needed to assist with additional refugees coming to our region. UBC should stay in touch with Japanese Baptist Church to identify how UBC can provide support. Tim also highlighted that a volunteer will be needed to be the supervisor for Bruce Chittick. Joy recommended that the Transition Team make a decision.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Clare reported that we have positive a positive balance of \$1400. Our income is at 102% of our projected income. Some givers have been contributing more money than they had pledged.

Finance Report: Mary reported that some pledgers have stated that they may not be able to pay all that they have pledged. Year end statements are ready to be sent by mail. Rhonda suggested that statements be sent by email to save paper. Mary Clare noted that statements must be printed to be considered a legal record, but they can still be sent by email, then printed.

Pastor Staff Relations (PSRT): Elizabeth suggested that Meesh's hours be extended by up to 6 additional hours per week. There was a general consensus that office hours should be increased to staff the office more fully after Tim leaves. PSRT will work with the Finance Team to evaluate the additional cost and offering Meesh additional work hours. Pastoral care givers will need a way to receive messages from those in need of care. It was decided that Line #2 (Tim's current confidential line) would be used for these messages. Pastoral care givers could access the line remotely to get messages.

Seeking the House that God has for Us: There is a new offer for our building. A motion was made and passed to present the offer to the congregation for voting at the February 1 Annual Meeting. To inform the congregation prior to the Annual Meeting, an announcement would be made in church, and an email will be sent with details of the offer.

Transition Team: The Transition Team has made a proposal to give Tim permission to officiate at a memorial service if requested by a family. The proposal was passed. The SC did not place a time limit on this permission. Martha stated that an honorarium would be necessary for a service. Joy and Bruce suggested that UBC determine guidelines for honoraria for memorial services, as we already have for weddings. There was discussion and consensus that members of the SC would invite people new to UBC to the Annual Meeting during church this coming Sunday. Mary Clare agreed to be a delegate to the Evergreen ABC. She would report to the SC. An evaluation needs to be made of who should be on or taken off the list of people that can sign checks for the church.

## Discussion Topics:

### Party for Tim

A party for Tim is scheduled for January 25 from 3:00 – 5:00 pm. There are volunteers for food, set up and clean up. A program will include the choir, youth and other events.

### New Pastor and Interim Pastor

Joy suggested that the SC check the by-laws to start a search committee for a new pastor. Bruce recommended that UBC consider what we want from an interim pastor. The PSRT will look into getting an interim minister. Others would be invited to become involved. PSRT would call a meeting of the congregation to discuss what UBC would want the interim pastor to do. Elizabeth suggested UBC have a one-day retreat at Camp Burton to discuss the issue.

### University Christian Church (UCC)/Moving UBC

Elizabeth stated that UBC is close to finalizing a lease with UCC.

### Annual Meeting

The SC decided that a potluck lunch should be planned for the Annual Meeting. A motion was made and passed to have the congregation vote to elect Rhonda for the SC for Volunteer Coordinator, and for Mary Clare as UBC's representative on the Evergreen ABC.

Submitted by Joanne Wright, Church Clerk

# FEBRUARY AT UBC

*Every Sunday ...*

9:15 Choir rehearses in the Sanctuary

10:30 Worship & Children's Program

**Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>** – Worship & Communion. Bruce Chittick preaching; UBC Annual Meeting with Potluck Lunch follows worship.

**Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>** – Soul Soup Sacred Conversation on Race with Diane Schmitz at 6:00pm.

**Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>** – UBC Team at Saturday Kitchen; also UBC Lent/Easter Worship Summit from 10am – Noon (see page 5).

**Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>** – Bev Spears preaching. Deadline to register for Winter Retreat (see page 6).

**Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup>** – Soul Soup discussion on lectionary texts with Bruce Chittick at 6:00pm.

**Friday Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> to Monday Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>** – UBC Winter Retreat at Cascade Meadows (see page 6).

**Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** – Bruce Chittick preaching at UBC; UBC Winter Retreat at Cascade Meadows continues.

**Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>** – Soul Soup discussion on lectionary texts with Bruce Chittick at 6:00pm; UBC Stewardship Council meets at 7:00pm.

**Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Brooke Rolston Preaching.

**Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>** – Ash Wednesday