



The Beacon

May 2010

University Baptist Church
4554 Twelfth Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98105
206-632-5188
www.ubcseattle.org

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Goals are so good. They move us in a direction with focus and conviction and persistence in a way we would never go without that vision.

I have been thinking about the things UBC has accomplished during the last several months, meeting several of our goals for ministry. For example, with only minimal effort and essentially no pain, we collected over 25000 pennies that we gave to the Baby Cupboard of the University District Food Bank.

With a bit more effort, but with very little pain, we collected, made, and mailed 50 hygiene kits to be used in Haiti. Collecting was easy enough, and packaging them at Ginny Bishop's house was fun. CoraLea likely did the most work because she packaged and mailed the kits. I believe that everyone involved—including Cora Lea—would say that the results were worth whatever effort we expended.

With quite a lot of effort, but with little pain and a lot of joy we joined with people from New Beginnings to plan a night of dance, games, desserts, and fun; together we raised over \$4700 for Haitian relief efforts. We made new friends, enjoyed working with each other, and again I believe that all people involved would say that the effort expended was worth the results—even Lin Carlson. Lin coordinated this project, and he will be the first to tell you that if he had been employed, he would not have been able to spend the many hours this job required. Fortunately, he could take the time. He even said that it was fun.

In addition, we have collected many bags of needed items for TeenFeed, \$591 for University Churches Emergency Fund, and an additional \$810 for One Great Hour of Sharing. We have reached out because ministry in our neighborhood has been a goal. This goal helps us focus and stretch. It leads us to reach beyond our walls—beyond our comfort—to places and people we do not know. This ministry goal is our reason for being. We reach out to share our gifts following the Jesus path, and together our gifts reach toward justice.

(Continued on page 3)



Among Ourselves

Congratulations to **David Bloom**, who was honored with the Distinguished Citizen Award by his alma mater, Macalester College. The award recognizes alumni who have demonstrated leadership in civic, social, religious, and professional activities... **Sadie C's** husband Peter traveled to Germany for his grandmother's 90th birthday...**Suzan B-W** and **Paul W** enjoyed a trip to San Jose, where they had a family reunion with son Terry, his wife Tanya, daughter Jennie, her husband Mike, and two grandsons... **Peter H** is in Pittsburgh creating gardens... **Valerie F** will travel to New York City with the Ballard High School (BHS) choir this month, where she will sing at Lincoln Center. **Eva G-J** heard **Valerie** sing a solo of "The Star-Spangled Banner" at a pep assembly at BHS and called it "Amazing!" The entire **Foster** family is looking forward to performing in *The Sound of Music* with the Mountaineers in the Kitsap Forest Theater. The show opens Memorial Day weekend. **Walt F's** mother Beryl suffered a subdural hematoma and is slowly recovering in the hospital. Please pray for her as she prepares to move to a rehab facility. We are also praying for **Shari P**, who had a small stroke and is expected home soon from Anderson House. **Shari and Dan** appreciate the prayers, visits, and support... Congratulations to **Beverly S** on becoming a grandmother and to Bev's daughter Jessica and partner Drew, the proud parents of new baby Jordyn Linda Faith... Congratulations two months in a row to **Margie and Jim P**, who have another new grandnephew, Gavin... **Brooke R** heard from former UBC member Collin Tong that Collin was named 2009 Volunteer of the Year by the Western and Central Washington state chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Collin's wife Linda has early-onset Alzheimer's disease. **Brooke** also enjoyed attending one of **Jessica B's** three-school track meets in which Jessica won second place in the pole vault competition... **Angela FS** and **Carol S** traveled to Yakima for the ABW Ministries conference, Angela as pastor-in-residence and Carol as mission speaker... Mark your calendar for the graduation from UW Medical School of **Xavi O** and **Sarah R** on Saturday, June 5, at 10 a.m. at Bank of America Arena at Hec Edmundson Pavilion. No tickets are necessary. **Hilary P** will receive her master's degree in museology from UW on June 11. Congratulations to all three!... **John and CoraLea's** son John Harvey Doty received the 2010 Excellence in Civic Engagement Award from WSU for his work with Read for Life, a free tutoring program he founded. **John and Coralea's** grandson Evan is excited to have a new job as the technology manager at CalNet Technology in Anaheim... We are pleased to welcome **Enid G** back to Seattle. Enid expects to be here until into the fall. **Priscilla Chong Jue** misses UBC and loves to receive cards c/o Cristwood Nursing Center, 19303 Fremont Avenue N, Shoreline, WA 98133.

Thanks to Lynn for compiling "Among Ourselves" - if you have news to share, contact Lynn or the UBC Office.

5/7 Ed Noyes (IM)
5/11 Suzan Blais-Wilkerson
5/12 Albert Li
5/12 Nzunga Mabudiga (IM)
5/14 Dan Peterson
5/15 Ethan Carlson
5/15 Ralph Haugerud
5/16 Lynn Gaertner-
Johnston
5/18 Ed Myer
5/20 Marilyn Marston
5/24 Kevin Peterson
5/27 Helen Haugerud
5/29 Marian Bock
5/29 John Doty

If your birthday isn't listed here please contact the office so we can add you to our list!

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 Suzan Blais-Wilkerson at:

425-780-1719

(GOALS Continued from page 1)

The last two weeks of April worship we focused on Earth Stewardship. We may have learned new behaviors, and learned about new thinking, and even committed ourselves in a new way, but most of all we reminded ourselves that UBC is a congregation that cares about creation and the creator. We embrace eco-justice knowing that it is not only a world necessity, but also a faithful responsibility and will lead us to yet another act of ministry. Alethea will wash our coffee cups so that we will not need to use disposable cups. We exchanged plants. We ate a “sustainable meal.” What will we do to keep us focused, acting in ways that lead to eco-justice, to keep reminding ourselves that we have embraced eco-justice as another piece of our DNA?

Several years ago during an interview on the Today Show, Bryant Gumbel asked Maya Angelou if she had any more goals she wanted to accomplish; her response was:

“Oh, my Lord, yes ... I want to become a better writer. I'm very serious about it. It's what I am. It's how I describe myself to myself, and [I want to be] a better human being. I'm trying to be a Christian, which is no small matter. I mean it — I'm always amazed when [people] walk up to me and say, 'I'm a Christian.' I always think, 'Already? You've already got it? You're through?' My goodness.”

We give. Giving is in our DNA. We share. Sharing is in our DNA. We change our life choices for the sake of earth care. Caring for the earth is in our DNA. UBC, in order to be UBC, must give, must share, and must care. This is who we are—or maybe better—who we are becoming. The paradox is that while UBC is this giving, sharing, good choice-making, caring community, we also know that we don't already “get it.” We're not “already through” -- we are on a journey, and its completion is the goal of a lifetime.

Blessings,

Nancy

Happy Birthday to these International Ministries' Missionaries:

Ed Noyes (May 7) serves in a region of the Democratic Republic of Congo where over two-thirds of the population depends on agriculture for a living and chronic malnutrition touches one out of every five children. Ed supports and advises Congolese Baptists working for more productive, profitable and sustainable agricultural practices among semi-subsistence farmers.

Nzunga Mabudiga (May 12) teaches theology at the Christian University of Northern Haiti, trains assistant professors in teaching and writing books, administers a scholarship program, and visits and preaches in churches. He is also the Cap Haitien eye clinic administrator and provides needed school and personal supplies for children and university students.

Ordination Council for Margie Paynton – Sunday May 16th

It is a bright moment in our church community when we can name a gift among us, celebrate the giving, and then both recognize and nurture the giver. You will remember the earlier good news that Margie Paynton, our Minister of Music, following her own sense of call as well as the encouragement of many of us, has decided to seek local ordination in our church. The time of her work, in preparation for that step, is nearly complete. The time of *our* work, as the body that would ordain her, is at hand. And that's more good news.

Margie has written a paper that sets out the history of her call and her understandings of faith that have shaped her and the ministry she already brings among us. Her paper is a true expression of herself, set in musical form, words taking the shape of a work of art. Let each of us hear Margie's witness, first through her paper, and then in conversation to come. After that conversation, we will act on our discernment regarding her ordination.

Some among us will ask a sensible question: If Margie is already our Minister of Music, why should we ordain her? We offer a few words about ordination. To ordain someone in a church like ours is to set aside that person for particular purposes and tasks. It is to say that we find and affirm – in a person and in our common life – a particular gift and need that we decide to mark for focused service. In this instance, we would declare that we see in the sum of Margie's gifts and our church's needs a reason to say "yes" to her call to serve. While every ordination in American Baptist Churches is an action of an individual church, some are undertaken to be recognized across the denomination. In those cases the congregation and the person seek approval by that church's wider region. In other cases the church and the individual seek local affirmation only, and then the ordination is recognized by the individual congregation alone. The action to "set aside" Margie proposes that kind of local ordination, one which will set her aside to further her unique ministry among us in faith and art – specifically in music and worship.

Our task now is to review Margie's ordination statement and prepare to discuss it with her at an Ordination Council our committee is arranging. That Council will be held at 12:30 p.m. following worship on Sunday May 16th. There will be a light lunch for everyone so that we may remain in the sanctuary and engage in the conversation that awaits us. Then we will cast ballots to express our desire to ordain Margie. If we vote affirmatively, there will be a Service of Ordination, now tentatively scheduled for the afternoon of June 27th. In these events, our prayer is that all of us grow in wisdom and stature in the church life we share together.

Our committee has delighted in working with Margie, and we urge all among us to read her paper and hold the two dates mentioned above. As so many times before, each of us participating in these moments will find again the great power of showing up, of hearing and speaking, of discerning and affirming what God is doing among us.

The Ordination Committee for Margie Paynton

Virginia Nielsen, Nancy Darnell, Elizabeth Patrick, Brooke Rolston

[Note: we will have several copies of Margie's paper available in the narthex on Sunday - if you need a copy please contact Meesh in the UBC office: 206-632-5188 or office@ubcseattle.org.]

Youth hold Easter egg hunt for adults!

Yes, this year, our youth stuffed Easter eggs, prepared Easter baskets, and hid them all in the sanctuary. Then they took the occasion another step: they challenged the adults to find everything! Reliable reports suggest it took longer for the adults to find the hidden treasures than it usually takes our youngest children. Highly placed sources confirm more than one youth said, "It's a blast hiding things, making adults find them, and watching them try!"



Above, and having even more fun than usual, UBC Youth Awatef al-Hwaidy, Valerie Foster, Eva Gaertner-Johnston, Kaj Bostrom and Sara Abbasian.

UBC Walking Opportunities

It's May and time for more walks. There will be 3 walking opportunities for UBCer's to gather to walk together. In May we will walk the Burke-Gilman trail.

- May 4 – Meet at the entrance at 40th Ave. NE and NE 52nd. I believe there is a small park there. It is near the Ronald McDonald House.
- May 18 - Meet at the same place as above and we will walk the other direction.
- May 25 – Meet at Mathews Beach Park – Sand Point Way and NE 93rd St – In the parking lot and we will pick up the trail.



Time: 6pm – bring a brown bag dinner as we gather; 6:30pm Start Walking; 7:30 +/- end walk

Terrain: mostly level on paved path

Bring - water, camera (if you like), jackets etc. appropriate for the weather.

Call Tom Nielsen if lost or late – We will walk in any weather. 206-498-2775 (cell)

Join us for some exercise!!!

Save the Date: Bruce Chittick's Ordination Service May 23rd

Bruce's ordination service is being planned for Sunday May 23rd at 2:00pm at Seattle First Baptist Church, with a reception afterwards. Final details to be announced following his ordination council on May 8th.

May Special Offering - America for Christ



Our May special offering is ABC National Ministries' America for Christ (AFC). AFC gifts support ministries that are transforming lives across the United States and Puerto Rico—from addressing Children in Poverty initiatives and resettling refugees violently driven from their homelands to providing evangelism training, developing discipleship resources and leading ministry workshops and conferences. 100% of National Ministries' AFC gifts support the following Program Ministry efforts:

- American Baptist Homes and Caring Ministries
- Campus Ministries Chaplaincy and Pastoral Counseling Services

- Children in Poverty (CIP)
- Church Transformation
- Gender and Cultural Conferences for Church Leaders
- Immigration Concerns and Advocacy
- Intercultural (Multiracial) Seminars and Workshops
- Missional Church Learning Experiences
- New Church Planting Training and Resources
- Prisoner Re-entry
- Refugee Resettlement Initiatives (over 100,000 refugees placed to date)

And much, much more....

UDECC to Present Feasibility Study Results on Sunday, June 6

UDECC and its consultant team will present results of the Ecumenical Campus Feasibility Study at an event on Sunday, June 6th. The presentation will begin at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary at University Christian Church, 4731 – 15th Avenue NE in Seattle. The program will be preceded by an ecumenical potluck dinner in the church's Social Hall beginning at 5:00 PM.

The June 6th presentation will include three primary elements:

1. Architectural concept
2. Economic modeling
3. Commitment, ownership and governance principles

During the last three years, the 20 members of the UDECC Board, along with UDECC's staff and consultant team, have engaged in a thorough process of defining the project, discerning the opportunities it represents, and balancing available resources with project goals. UDECC has wrestled with the impacts of the recent economic recession and continues to work to find a balance between project benefits and costs.

Please plan to join others from your congregation along with members of the other UDECC congregations, as together we begin to examine the results of the Ecumenical Campus Feasibility Study.

For further information about UDECC, visit www.ecumenicalcampus.org

UBC Stewardship Council Meeting Notes - April 14, 2010

Present: Daniel, Mary Clare, Elizabeth, Mary, Marilee, Joanne, Joy, Suzan, Meesh

The March 2010 minutes were approved as written.

Church Calendar: The SC cancelled the May 15 SC retreat to give a rest to the Pastoral Search Committee members. The next SC meeting will be on May 12.

Clerk: Joanne reported that UBC will hold a newcomer's dinner at Nancy's community room. Joanne suggested that this type of gathering should be undertaken several times a year.

Treasurer/Finance: Mary Clare reported that the current financial loss is close to what was originally predicted. Cash is good; pledges were at 98% last month, but fell to 88% this month.

Church Life: Suzan will be gone for the next 2 Sundays. Jackie Lamont will assist with coffee and name tags.

Learning and Play: A youth sleepover is planned for May. Sadie stated that the youth would be interested in a TAGS (Talking About God Stuff) conversation of their own. A graduation celebration needs to be planned for June.

Mission Support Peace and Justice: \$4800 was raised for Haiti. Joy is planning an event on June 6 that will be a presentation of the history of racism in Seattle.

Pastoral Staff Relations (PSRT): Elizabeth encouraged Meesh to say "no" to requests from UBCC for help with their painting and remodeling.

Pastoral Search Committee: Interviews have continued for the pastoral search. More information will be available soon.

Website Working Group: The website working group will have a proposal for the SC to review soon.

Building Sale: There are three parties interested in the building. Joy suggested that the Property Committee become active. Daniel will talk to Tom Nielson about getting the Property Committee together.

Affiliations: The SC decided not to maintain affiliations with the Baptist Alliance or with Earth Ministry, due to the number of UBC's other commitments for money and time.

Reader-Board: The Sacred Action for Racial Justice (SARJ) group would like the SARJ website on the church reader-board. The SC would like the group to bring a proposal for consideration, including cost.

Submitted by Joanne Wright, Church Clerk

UBC Calendar

- **Sunday May 9th at 10:30am – Mother’s Day worship at UBC.** Join us to celebrate Mother’s Day!
- **Wednesday May 12th at 6:30pm – Stewardship Council meeting** in the McAfee Parlor.
- **Saturday May 15th through Sunday May 16th – University District Street Fair.** Parking may be more limited than usual!
- **Sunday May 16th at 10:30am – Worship at UBC;** David Bloom preaching.
- **Sunday May 16th at 12:30pm – Ordination Council for Margie Paynton** (see page 4)
- **Sunday May 23rd at 10:30am – Worship at UBC;** Pentecost Sunday. We will also take the ABC America for Christ Offering (see page 6).
- **Sunday May 23rd after worship – UBC Quarterly business meeting.**
- **Sunday May 23rd at 2:00pm – Ordination of Bruce Chittick at Seattle First Baptist Church**
- **Sunday May 30th at 10:30am – Worship at UBC;** Memorial Sunday. We will also take the ABC America for Christ Offering (see page 6).

LIGHT TO LIVE IN:

The Biblical Call to Peace Rooted in Justice

Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America Summer Conference 2010

July 12 - 17, 2010

Keuka College, Keuka Park, New York USA

This year’s conference will include a special focus on and for immigrants and refugees. Youth and adults who have immigrated to North America are especially invited to attend. For more information about the conference, go to www.bpfna.org/conference or pick up an information packet from the UBC office.

Registration vouchers available in the UBC office for first-time attendees!



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Seattle, WA 98105

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Interim Minister
Nancy Darnell

Minister of Music
Margaret Paynton

Office Manager
Meesh Cobban

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Deadline for the June issue is Monday May 24th. Please send submissions to Meesh at: office@ubcseattle.org

We are a welcoming and affirming congregation.
We celebrate our diversity in religious background,
sexual orientation, race, age, gender and abilities.