



# The Beacon

November 2009

## The Season of Thanksgiving

If you follow the church liturgical calendar, you will not find a Season of Thanksgiving. I imagine that our grandmothers and grandfathers of faith just assumed we would give thanks in all seasons. Of course we are a thankful people. We say prayers with scattered words of thanks. We worship in thanks. The worship leader frequently mentions something about thanksgiving during our call to give. We say thank-you to clerks and waitresses and one another. However, in my life, giving thanks can be unthinking and habitual rather than given with the weight of thought and reflective intent. I imagine that can be said for all of us at one time or another. Therefore, I call upon us, the people of University Baptist Church, to enter into a season of thoughtful, intentional thanksgiving beginning on Sunday November 1, and ending on Thanksgiving Day, November 26.

In order to give thoughtful and intentional thanks, we must first take time to acknowledge the gifts we receive. I encourage you to keep a gratitude list for these 26 days. List at least five things at the end of each day for which you are grateful. Include memories you recall that bring you joy or memories that help you make good choices today. Include memories of difficult times that strengthened you and helped you to claim courage and hope for living well today. Include in your list gifts of understanding and gifts of forgiveness. Write the names of people for whom you are grateful, and when you think of UBC, list the specific values and characteristics of this congregation for which you are grateful. As your list grows your impulse to respond will grow until you feel compelled not only to give thanks, but also to give **in** thanks.

At this point begin to give intentional and thoughtful **words in thanks**. Write a note of thanks to someone who said something or did something years ago that made a difference. Thank someone who challenged you or who might have made you angry with difficult truth. Give **thanks with actions**. For acts of kindness, respond with acts of kindness. Give thanks for UBC by taking a vital, active part in the life of this congregation and its ministry. If you haven't made coffee for hospitality, make coffee. If you haven't prayed daily for this people, begin today. Last live intentionally and thoughtfully **in an attitude of thanks**. An attitude of thanksgiving notices the gifts we have; notices opportunities for giving; recognizes how little we can claim to have earned on our own.

Make this month a Season of Thanksgiving in our lives—in the life of University Baptist Church. Give thanks and give in thanks. And by the way, give thanks to God.

– Nancy

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*We are a welcoming and affirming congregation.*

*We celebrate our diversity in religious background, sexual orientation, race, age, gender and abilities.*

## Among Ourselves



### Happy November Birthday:

11/1 Rhonda Hue  
11/4 Violy Reyes  
11/4 Diane Paynton  
11/6 Shari Peterson  
11/6 Bret Peterson  
11/22 Jeff Doty  
11/24 Clarence Bishop  
11/28 Harvey Doty  
11/29 Matt Paynton  
11/29 Patrick Green  
11/30 Priscilla Chong Jue

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 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.

We rejoice and congratulate **Bev Spears**, who has accepted the position of director of the Statewide Poverty Action Network... Congratulations also to **Ralph Haugerud**, whose geologic map of the North Cascade range in Washington has been published. To see the map and learn the details, visit the USGS website at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sim/2940>... **Mike Stern** will present a concert at the Secret Garden Bookstore on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. , featuring his most recent CD, *We All Have Wings*... **Annette Klapstein's** son **Michael Stephens**, who grew up at UBC, will be dancing at Town Hall on November 8<sup>th</sup> at 8p.m. in the World Premiere of Evan Flory-Barnes' *Acknowledgment of a Celebration*, part of the Earshot Jazz Festival... **Erica Badgeley** is pleased to be back home and attending the University of Washington. You can see Erica perform at a faculty dance recital (original pieces choreographed by UW faculty) on December 3-6. Information is available on the UW calendar at this link: <http://depts.washington.edu/uwdance/calendar.html>... Erica is traveling to San Francisco this month to visit school friends... Mark your calendar for Thursday, December 17, at 7 p.m. if you would like to hear **Valerie Foster** and **Eva Gaertner-Johnston** perform in the winter concert at Ballard High School... **Jessica Badgeley** has joined the dive team at her high school and says, "It's really fun!" **John Mix (Joanne Wright's son)** has begun the culinary arts program at Seattle Center and is excited about following his passion for cooking... We rejoice that **Megan Walker** is the advisor for the Gay-Straight Alliance at her school and that the GSA recently sponsored a successful dance... Many blessings to **Hilary Pittenger**, who has been asked to serve on Camp Burton's board... We pray for a happy, healthy delivery for **Lisa Nordlander (Susan Blais-Wilkerson's daughter)**, who is expecting a baby this month, and we rejoice with Great Aunt **Margie Paynton**, whose niece gave birth to a 10 pound 7 ounce baby girl in October... We are grateful to **Rhonda Hue** for coordinating the hopeful workshop Understanding Cultural Competence led by Dr. Caprice Hollins, and we thank all who made the Festival of the Spirit an event to remember, especially **Mona Han, Brooke Rolston**, and our youth... We thank **CoraLea Doty** and **Jackie Lamont** for the beautiful lighthouse banner in our sanctuary... **Sara Abbasian** enjoyed the visit from her Salt Lake City friend Karen Carter last month... We are delighted that **Sarah Reed** is back in Seattle, having completing a neurology rotation in Idaho... **Xavi Ortiz** has been working hard on starting a health education program at Casa Latina (a center for day laborers in Seattle) as part of a student organization, Al-Shifa... **Rosie Yee** has been visiting friends and family in California... **Puspita Biswas** requests prayers for her son and other medical personnel who are in Afghanistan on a medical mission until next spring. Puspita will spend Thanksgiving with her son's family on the East Coast... Others among us have requested prayers for friends and family members struggling with illness and loss. We pray with **Mary Clare Benson, Joanne Wright, Hilarie Pittenger, Mary Rolston, Rhonda Hue, Margie Paynton, Daniel Hannah, Susan Vaughan, Joy Smith, and Pete Dorman**. We pray for **Alethea Putnam** and all who continue to grieve the passing of our friends Charles Putnam and Carol Guthrie.

– 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.

## Tell Your Story of Coming Home

One of our Advent themes this year is “Come Home for Christmas,” and the Advent meditation booklet will include our stories of coming home.

Please consider telling your story for inclusion in the booklet. Deadline: November 22.

Our stories of coming home may be linked to Advent and Christmas, but they do not have to be. They may be stories of hope, longing, preparation, invitation, celebration, love, joy, and family. Or they may be about the absence of hope, the feeling of being unprepared or of being left out when the invitations have been extended.

To offer your story for inclusion in the Advent booklet, please do one of the following: (1) Email your story to Lynn Gaertner-Johnston at [lynngaertner-johnston@comcast.net](mailto:lynngaertner-johnston@comcast.net) or [lynng@syntaxtraining.com](mailto:lynng@syntaxtraining.com); (2) Phone Lynn at 206-782-3855 to tell your story and have Lynn type it; (3) Get together with Lynn to have her record your story and type it for you.

The American Baptist Women’s Association (ABWA) is meeting on Saturday, November 7, at 11:30 a.m. in the McAfee Parlor to tell their stories too. All women are welcome! For details, call CoraLea Doty at 206-363-7181.



### UBC Social Corner

#### Lunch & Bowling - Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup>

We have plans for an outing that is packed with great food and a chance to make some turkeys. Let’s start the day out right...we will meet at the Amante Pizza & Pasta Restaurant in Shoreline at 2pm on November 7<sup>th</sup> and have a yummy lunch. I have been to this restaurant many times and they have great food. See coupon # C85 in your 2010 Entertainment Book.

Next, we will head on over to Spin Alley and arrive at 4pm for bowling. Can you get three strikes in a row? If so, you will be the Turkey Champ! See coupon # E91 in your 2010 Entertainment Book. Give me a shout out if you can attend, so I can let those hard-working folks at Spin Alley know how many lanes to save for us! Carpooling is encouraged so give me a call for a hook-up to these places. Yours, Rhonda - [compliancewiz@yahoo.com](mailto:compliancewiz@yahoo.com) or 206-245-8116.



Here are the addresses for those who do not have an Entertainment Book:

Amante Pizza & Pasta:  
12319 Roosevelt Way NE  
206-362-6666

[www.amantepizzaandpasta.com](http://www.amantepizzaandpasta.com)

Spin Alley:  
1430 NW Richmond Beach Road  
206-533-2345

[www.spinalley.com](http://www.spinalley.com)

November is the time for Stewardship. We collected pledges on November 1<sup>st</sup> and will vote in our new officers on November 15<sup>th</sup>, which will be my last quarterly business meeting as moderator. Therefore, this is a good time for me to reflect on Stewardship and volunteering.

One year ago we elected Barack Obama to the presidency and so many people world-wide were filled with hope about change and motivated by his message of volunteerism. I'm sure we were all wishing for an end to the wars, a turn-around in the economy, major improvements in the environment and a final health care plan immediately, but big changes take time. And then it's hard to keep up momentum and volunteer time and money over and over again. But when can we ever stop? When one problem ends, another arises.

I admit, I am tired from all of the work we've had to do this year at UBC. There are days when I wonder if I really want to go to another meeting. But when I do, I am met by some wonderful people who have volunteered their time to be there with me. I am welcomed into the fold and feel a sense of community and accomplishment and actually feel more energetic when I leave than when I came.

I have been amazed by what we have all accomplished this year. I am impressed by how we kept up momentum with the departure of our pastor and the ongoing (and seemingly never-ending) sale of our building. Sometimes I need to remind myself to have faith in ourselves and our future together. I am excited to be a part of the pastoral selection committee as we gather information and move on to the next phase of defining what we want from a new pastor. I was excited by all the ideas discussed at our retreat and eager to get started. We do have energy for change!

Now it's time to think about how we will volunteer our time to our UBC community next year. We need pledges of time as much as we need pledges of money. We need coordinators and leaders of either a team or an event or refreshments after church. We need team members and event and task volunteers. I wish I could inspire the way Obama inspired us all last year. I would love to see many people step forward to say they are willing to volunteer for UBC next year. I worry about those who have held offices for years and may want a rest. I appreciate all of you who have donated your time in various ways over the years.

Neither the challenges of the country, the world or UBC have been nicely resolved this year. But we've made progress. Please step up and say "Yes I can!" as we form new teams and select new leaders. And then when we gather for Thanksgiving in a few weeks, we can give thanks for our good work in the past and look confidently toward our future.

– Joy Smith

## November 15<sup>th</sup> - Quarterly Business Meeting after Worship

After worship on November 15<sup>th</sup> please join us for our final business meeting of the year – we will elect the 2010 Stewardship Council and approve the 2010 budget. **See you there!**

# Thanksgiving

On November 22<sup>nd</sup> we will celebrate Thanksgiving with a Bounty Table. Please bring your gifts to worship so that we can dedicate these offerings and distribute them the following week - here are some items needed now by people in our communities and around the world:

## University Churches Emergency Fund

The University Churches Emergency Fund (UCEF) was created in 1986 to provide information, referral and financial assistance to people in need residing in Northeast Seattle and to the homeless, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or disability. Our primary focus is to provide eviction protection to keep families and individuals from becoming homeless or to provide assistance to homeless families and individuals moving into housing.



UCEF strives to provide quality assistance to our clients. Both our terrific staff and numerous wonderful and dedicated volunteers work with our clients, one on one, and take the time to listen, determine financial need, problem solve and provide comprehensive referral services, as necessary. Our clients often tell us that this level of personal service is rare. UCEF accepts donations of time, money, travel size toiletries, toothbrushes, toothpaste and dental floss; socks, gloves and trial size lotions are especially needed right now.

## Help Provide Coats and Winter Gear to People From Burma

Panther Lake Community Church and Japanese Baptist Church pooled resources recently to provide a number of coats for people from Burma. Shoes are also desperately needed. Can you help provide much needed winter wear for these people from a climate much different from ours? You can donate coats, gift certificates or make donations payable to Evergreen Association to help purchase warm winter wear and we will pass them along.



## Join Soles4Souls in Thanks4Giving!

**Soles4Souls accepts all types of shoes: athletic, running, dress, sandals, heels, work boots, cleats, dance, flip flops, just as long as they are new or gently worn.**



Soles4Souls, the shoe charity, needs help from your congregation to support their Thanks4Giving program. This unique event will touch the lives of thousands of individuals during the Fall season, when most of us are enjoying the warmth and safety of our homes, families and friendships. Of course, there are millions of people without any of these, and during the upcoming holidays we are working to provide much-needed relief in an otherwise bleak time. Thanks4Giving is a unique opportunity for people to be thankful for what they have by sharing with those less fortunate the gift of shoes. Visit [www.soles4souls.org](http://www.soles4souls.org) or talk to Marilee if you have any questions.



**Donations of the following items are especially needed right now:**

- Socks (UCEF)
- Gloves (UCEF)
- Trial-size lotion (UCEF)
- Winter Coats (Burmese people)
- Gift Certificates to Value Village or Pay-less Shoes (Burmese People)
- New or gently-worn shoes - any style (Soles4Souls)

# November at UBC

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This month's special offering:



American Baptist International Ministries offers faith-based life-giving support to people on all six continents. Abolishing human trafficking, relief work, resources for children's ministry, training volunteers and full time instructors for education and short term loan programs to help the poor help themselves are just a few of the important works that our donations support through this agency.

**Note: UBC Choir rehearses every Sunday morning at 9:15am in the Sanctuary.**

**Sunday November 1<sup>st</sup> 10:30am – All Saints Day, Pledge Sunday and Communion.** On November 1<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate All Saints Sunday. We want to remember and honor those, who in the past, worked to give us our present, as we work to provide a future for UBC. Elizabeth Patrick will be preaching. Please also return your 2010 pledge forms to the finance team by this Sunday so they can plan for next year's budget.

**Tuesday November 3<sup>rd</sup> – Election Day.** Your ballots must be postmarked or dropped in a ballot drop box by this day; if you have any questions go to <http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections.aspx>.

**Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm in the McAfee Parlor – From Jesus to Christianity Study Group.** Everyone is welcome - please let Nancy know if you are interested in joining: [nrdarnell@comcast.net](mailto:nrdarnell@comcast.net) or 206-632-5188.

**Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm at Burien Community Church – Seattle Baptist Union Annual Meeting.** Burien Community Church is located at 16241 19th Ave SW, Burien WA, 98166.

**Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup>, 11:30am to 1:30pm in the McAfee Parlor – UBC's Women to Meet to Tell Their Stories of Coming Home.** All women are welcome to share a potluck lunch and tell their stories of coming home. The ABWA story-telling get-together ties to the UBC advent theme of "Coming Home for Christmas." Each Sunday in Advent our worship will touch on the themes of light, hope, longing, preparation, joy, family, and love. At our lunch meeting we will tell our stories of coming home, whether that coming home is literal, figurative, joyous, despair-filled, linked to Christmas, or not. With the permission of the tellers, excerpts of these stories will appear in our Advent meditation booklet, coordinated by Lynn Gaertner-Johnston. RSVP for the potluck by calling CoraLea Doty at 206-363-7181. Call Lynn Gaertner-Johnston at 206-782-3855 with questions or suggestions for the Advent booklet.

**Also Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm – UBC Social Corner Lunch and bowling.** Let's start the day out right...we will meet at the Amante Pizza & Pasta Restaurant in Shoreline at 2pm on November 7<sup>th</sup> and have a yummy lunch. Next, we will head on over to Spin Alley and arrive at 4pm for bowling. Give me a shout out if you can attend, so I can let those hard-working folks at Spin Alley know how many lanes to save for us! Carpooling is encouraged so give me a call for a hook-up to these places. See UBC Social Corner on page 3 for addresses and more details. Yours, Rhonda – [compliancewiz@yahoo.com](mailto:compliancewiz@yahoo.com) or 206-245-8116.

**Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am – Intersection of Faith: Tradition,** Nancy Darnell preaching. Scripture: Romans 14.

**Sunday November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm – Interactive Children's Concert by Mike Stern at Secret Garden Bookshop.** UBC's Mike Stern will sing and sign copies of his new CD for children, "We All Have Wings." His music will appeal to children of all ages, as well as to their parents & teachers "We All Have Wings" was recognized by a 2009 Parents Choice Award indicating a wholesome product that helps children enjoy developing physical, emotional, social or academic skills. For more information about this event call 206-789-5006 or go to

(Continued from page 6)

[www.secretgardenbooks.com](http://www.secretgardenbooks.com); Secret Garden Bookshop is located at 2214 NW Market Street. You can also find out more about Mike's music at [www.mikesongs.net](http://www.mikesongs.net).

**Wednesday November 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm in the McAfee Parlor – Stewardship Council meeting.**

**Also Wednesday November 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm at Seattle First Baptist Church – Malalai Joya speaks about her new book *A Woman Among Warlords*.** At age 25 Malalai Joya was elected to the National Assembly of Afghanistan. Because she spoke the truth and defended women, the warlords drove her out of parliament. She calls for an end to America's support for the warlords and withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan. Admission is free, contributions to Afghan Women's Mission will be accepted. Seattle First Baptist Church is located at 1111 Harvard Ave.

**Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm in the McAfee Parlor – From Jesus to Christianity Study Group.**

**Sunday November 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am – Intersection of Faith: Spirituality and Works**, Nancy Darnell preaching. Scripture: Psalm 113 and other passages.

**Also Sunday November 15<sup>th</sup> – Quarterly business meeting after worship** – this will be an important meeting to approve the budget for 2010 and next year's Stewardship Council.

**Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm in the McAfee Parlor – From Jesus to Christianity Study Group.**

**Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:30am – Intersection of Faith: Thanksgiving. World Mission Offering & Bounty Table** (see page 5). Nancy Darnell preaching. Scripture: Colossians 2:6, Ephesians 5:3 and Matthew 8:2-4.

**Also Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup> – Deadline for the December *Beacon*, and deadline for contributions to the Advent Meditation Booklet** (see page 3).

**Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving – no study group.**

**Thursday Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> & Friday Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> – UBC Office closed.**

**Sunday November 29<sup>th</sup> – Advent begins**, Margaret Paynton preaching.



## Looking ahead to Advent and Christmas

Advent begins on Sunday November 29<sup>th</sup> this year. Every week we will have Advent candles and lights, music of the season, drama and dance. We will also have space for meditation and healing, as we remember our lost loved ones.

The theme for this year is "Come Home for Christmas," and we hope you will come home to UBC this season.

**November 29<sup>th</sup>: Advent I Light (Hope)**  
Margaret Paynton preaching.

**December 6<sup>th</sup>: Advent II Longing (Peace)**  
Communion; Nancy Darnell preaching.

**December 6<sup>th</sup>: Special evening worship, time TBA**  
"Healing Pregnancy Losses" with Elizabeth Patrick and Rev. Vincent Lachina.

**December 13<sup>th</sup>: Advent III Celebration (Joy)**  
Choral music and meditation; Nancy Darnell preaching.

**December 20<sup>th</sup>: Advent IV Family (Love)**  
Meditation; Nancy Darnell preaching.

**December 24<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Eve Service at 7:00pm**  
Candlelight, scripture, song, and story. Christmas Eve gathering in the McAfee Parlor afterwards.

# UBC Stewardship Council Meeting Notes - October 14, 2009

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Present: Nancy D., Joy S., Joanne W., Brooke R., Mary R., Jackie L., Rhonda H., Martha B., Mary Clare B.

Minutes of the previous meeting were discussed and accepted as revised.

Teams: Attendees at the meeting discussed the length of time each had served in their current positions so we could look forward to future leadership in the Stewardship Council and future members in church teams.

Moving Pews: Nancy reported that Tom Nielson and Bob Taylor are planning to move the pews this coming Friday. The potential buyers of UBC building don't care if they are moved.

## Pastor's Report:

- The cost of the new sound system will be \$12,000 (including sales tax). The money will come from the insurance company before the purchase the new equipment.
- UBC has a new license to print music to be used for congregational singing.
- Nancy distributed a calender that includes key dates through December.

Church Clerk: Joanne passed out a membership list with inactive members noted. Joanne proposes to send letters out to inactive members to request that they let UBC know if they want to maintain their membership.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Clare reported that UBC has a net loss at the end of this year. Pledges are down this year.

Building Rental: Another Baptist congregation has requested to rent the Social Hall every Sunday at 2pm. Martha is coming up with a clear set of rental conditions for tracking insurance, cleanup, etc.

The Sacred Conversation on Race: The Steering Group will be meeting soon to determine next steps in the conversation. Bev Spears made an announcement to the Evergreen Region Baptist Churches Black Caucus that UBC is having a focus on discussions on race. Rhonda reported that the Baptist Peace Fellowship asked about our Oct. 22 workshop with Caprice Hollins and would like a report from Rhonda on the workshop.

Pastoral Selection: The Pastoral Selection committee is meeting 2 times per month in the Robbins Library and is compiling a demographic survey and description of the congregation.

Building Sale: UBC received a backup offer in addition to the offer the church accepted. We are one month into the feasibility study by the potential buyers. They have a 90-day feasibility timeline. Martha sent out a request asking sorters to provide a status report so the teams can get started again on the Big Sort.

Submitted by Joanne Wright, Church Clerk.

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**Deadline for the December issue is Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup>.**  
Please send submissions to Meesh at: [ubcseattle@gmail.com](mailto:ubcseattle@gmail.com).