



UBC NEWS

University Baptist Church
1219 University Ave SE
Minneapolis MN 55414

Established 1850 at St. Anthony Falls, MN

August 2022

From the Interim Pastor

Dear Friends:

I feel like a broken record each time I say something to the effect of, “I can’t quite believe it’s August already,” and yet, it remains true. The summer is flying by, and it’s easy to miss the precious moments of warmth and beauty if we’re not paying attention. I hope each of you reading this finds the time to stop and enjoy these fleeting summer days and all the ways that they can teach us about God and creation.

One of the gifts of being an interim pastor is the opportunity to see things from a new perspective and offer this new vantage point to the congregation. This is slightly less pronounced for me, not being a newcomer to the congregation, but I have still had the opportunity to approach anew the questions of what it means to be church and how one approaches leadership in such an organization.

How does one combine the prophetic role of a preacher with the servant/shepherd role of the pastor? How does each of us balance our desire to care for one another with the Divine call to the truth telling and earth moving required to bring about God’s beloved community?



These are some of the questions I intend to explore in the sermon series that started yesterday with my sermon on “Faith.” It will be followed the next three weeks by sermons on, “Hope,” “Love,” and “Abide.” The final Sunday in August will feature a, “Fire in the Bones” sermon by Paula Moyer on Reproductive Justice.

In addition to offering sermons, each of you is invited be a worship leader. One of the ways that UBC is unique is that we invite members of the congregation to not only offer a reading or prayer, but to truly lead worship and contribute to its shape and content. If you are interested, please contact Jean Lubke, chair of the worship team.

Jean chaired the worship team through a very productive and engaging meeting last month at which we discussed the theme for the upcoming year, “Beyond the Cross: Liberating Paradise.” I am so excited to experience the ways that we will be challenging what some believe to be the very essence of the Christian faith, the importance of Christ’s death

Continued on page 2

Pastor – Continued

and resurrection. We will explore how our understanding and practice of faith shifts when we come to understand the damage that has been done by that emphasis and when we try to engage the habits of the early church and focus on Christ's life and teaching. I find it so refreshing to my faith to be a part of a church willing to take these risks.

As we take this spiritual journey together, you may find that we challenge or find problems with some piece of Christian tradition that is important to you. If you find yourself in that position, I invite you to remain engaged in the hard work of community and relationships. Share with us the importance of these beliefs and practices that we will challenge, and remember that these challenges come from a place of

wanting to amplify God's love, not to shut down anyone's path to that love.

As I often say, I really only ever preach one sermon, that God loves us and wants us to love each other. Loving each other is harder than it sounds. It is hard work and we are called to it. Let us be brave and do hard things together.

Be well. Do good.

Take care,

Pastor Matty

Photo of tulip in the UBC garden by Jim Ross

AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Aug. 7

Preaching: Matty Strickler

Sermon: "Hope"

Worship Leader: Gayla Marty

Aug. 14

Preaching: Matty Strickler

Sermon: "Love"

Worship Leader: Deidre Druk

Aug. 21

Preaching: Matty Strickler

Sermon: "Abide"

Worship Leader: Anielka Montiel

Aug. 28

Preaching: Paula Moyer

Sermon: TBD

Worship Leader: Howard Johnson

Openings in the Carillon Bell Choir!

Would you like to try ringing bells? Now would be a great time to try! We have a few openings in the choir, and we will be starting new music this fall. No previous bell experience necessary. It is helpful, however, to be able to read music. Cool, white gloves will be provided!

Carillon rehearsals will start on Oct. 19. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 7:30-9 pm. We will play in church about once a month (and Christmas Eve). If you'd like more information or are ready to give bells a try, please contact Jean Lubke (lubk0001@umn.edu).

Possible Trip to Nicaragua in 2023!

Jean Lubke and Deidre Druk are beginning plans for a trip to Managua and León in January / February 2023 to conduct another teacher training workshop. If you are interested in joining them, please contact Jean.

Calendar for August

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	11:15 am Meals on Wheels 5 pm Inter Spanish 6:15 pm Beg Spanish	11:15 am Meals on Wheels 7 pm Anti- Racism Group	10 am Garden Team 11:15 am Meals on Wheels	11:15 am Meals on Wheels 4:30 pm Adv Spanish Conversation 6:30 pm Caregiver Support Group		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10 am Worship Joys & Concerns	5 pm Inter Spanish 6:15 pm Beg Spanish	7 pm Memoir Group	10 am Garden Team	4:30 pm Adv Spanish Conversation		12:30 pm Book Group
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10 am Worship Joys & Concerns Noon Council	5 pm Inter Spanish 6:15 pm Beg Spanish 7 pm Knitting Group		10 am Garden Team	4:30 pm Adv Spanish Conversation		1 pm Card Club
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10 am Worship Joys & Concerns	5 pm Inter Spanish 6:15 pm Beg Spanish	7 pm Memoir Group	10 am Garden Team	4:30 pm Adv Spanish Conversation		
28	29	30	31			
10 am Worship Joys & Concerns	5 pm Inter Spanish 6:15 pm Beg Spanish		10 am Garden Team			

ATTENTION

Volunteers urgently needed to serve as President (or Co-President with Denise Roy) and Treasurer (or possibly Co-Treasurer). Volunteers will receive ample training, support, and encouragement, as well as endless appreciation.

What's Going On



Sunday Morning Worship

10 am – Worship in the UBC sanctuary

10 am – Or join via livestream on the [UBC YouTube](#) page (search University Baptist Church Minneapolis MN).

11 am (or when the livestream has ended) – Joys & Concerns in the sanctuary and on Zoom.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID 839 4725 7444 passcode 257750

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83947257444?pwd=cFZCWEdqUkR0RDgwT0JwT3hrQ3FpUT09>



Meals on Wheels – Aug. 1-4 (first full week of the month). Meals are picked up around 11:15 am and the route in SE Minneapolis usually takes less than two hours. We're always looking for substitute drivers. If you have any questions, please contact Marie LaFrance at marielafrance46@gmail.com.

Spanish classes – Mondays (Intermediate 5-6 pm, Beginners 6:15-7:15 pm) and Thursdays (Advanced Conversation 4:30-5:30 pm). If

you are new to Spanish or not yet ready for conversation, the Beginning Class is a great option for you, with focus on vocabulary development and verb conjugation. If you are comfortable with basic Spanish, the Intermediate Class would be a good fit for you. The focus is on reading, writing and discussing. The Advanced Class meets on Thursdays. If you have any questions, please contact Anielka Montiel at anymontiel22@gmail.com or 651-295-4590.

ESPAÑOL

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 870 8785 1406 Passcode: 634591

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87087851406?pwd=K2VPL1NrNWJMSDN3Wm5CeXRZYUNwUT09>



Anti-Racism Discussion and Action Group – Aug. 2 at 7 pm. The Anti-Racism Group has finished reading the book *Trouble the Water, A Christian Resource for Work of Racial Justice* and will meet on August 2 to discuss the book as a whole and to decide next steps.

If you have any questions, please contact Denise Roy at denise.roy@mitchellhamline.edu.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 831 4584 1908 Passcode: 313775

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83145841908?pwd=djhuSmMwZ1NESXZ5SExNOURXa2FNQT09>

Garden Team – Wednesdays at 10 am (weather permitting)

Come help beautify our church gardens! We have tools and gloves available, and will mostly work on weeding, pruning and watering. Park in the Mormon lot or behind the church. Feel free to join us whenever you're available! If you have any questions, please contact Trish Donley at patricia.donley63@gmail.com.



More of What's Going On



Caregivers Support Group – Aug. 4 (1st Thurs.) at 6:30 pm. UBCers who have an elderly parent meet for support. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Lubke at lubk0001@umn.edu.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID 822 6832 6290 Passcode 881907
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82268326290?pwd=SGMrZldnUmsxR0Z2aktyTWISUEpudz09>

Memoir Writing Group – Aug. 9 & 23 (every other Tues.) at 7 pm

Prompts include *Dog Days*, *Summer's End*, and *State Fair* or anything else you feel called to write about. If you have any questions, please contact Trish Donley at patricia.donley63@gmail.com.



ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 831 4584 1908 Passcode: 313775
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83145841908?pwd=djhuSmMwZ1NESXZ5SExNOURXa2FNQT09>



UBC Grace in Contemporary Literature by Women Book Group – Aug. 13 (2nd Sat.) at 12:30 pm. The book this month is *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson. We will meet at Kim Donley's for our annual salad potluck (note earlier time.) If you have any questions, please contact Chris Follett at chrisf2828@yahoo.com.

ZOOM INFO: meeting ID 815 2376 4072 passcode 525996
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81523764072?pwd=Q1hlc2VFdnlOMEl1VWhXNzdKRDdjQT09>

UBC-FCC Knitting Group – Aug. 15 (3rd Mon.) at 7 pm at Jean Lubke's home. The group is made up of stitchers from UBC and First Congregational Church. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Chris Follett at chrisf2828@yahoo.com.



Card Club – Sat., Aug. 20, 1-4:30 pm at Jean Lubke's home. This group meets monthly to learn card-making techniques, share ideas, and make beautiful greeting cards. All materials (except your scissors and adhesives) are provided in exchange for a \$5 minimum donation to Project MN-Leon. Due to the limited space and the need to prepare materials, registration is needed for each month's session. All participants must be fully vaccinated. If you are interested, please contact Jean at 651-295-7525 or lubk0001@umn.edu.



Volunteer Opportunities

Refugee Resettlement

Alight continues to assist newly-arrived Afghan families. Home set-ups are complete. Current volunteer opportunities include assisting with computer set-up, assisting with sorting donations in the warehouse, and assisting new families to "shop" at the warehouse. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, contact Volunteer@wearealight.org. If you have any questions, contact Trish Donley (patricia.donley63@gmail.com/612-386-2856)

Meals on Wheels

UBC has an opportunity to participate in Meals on Wheel on the first full week of the month (**Aug. 1-4**). We have four drivers currently and would love to add one or more to rotate in. Meals are picked up around 11:15 am and the route usually takes 1-2 hours. If you have any questions, please contact Marie LaFrance at marielafrance46@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed:

Communion prep – Contact Terri Wottrich
Garden help – Contact Trish Donley
Ushers – Contact Trish Donley
Worship Leaders – Contact Jean Lubke

Transitions/Congratulations

Evelyn Wottrich is happy to welcome baby sister **Leah Elizabeth Wottrich**. Leah was born 7/24/22 at 5:09 PM, weighing 7 lbs 7 oz. Kenny, Ellen and girls live in St. Louis.

Chris Follett is thrilled to announce her retirement from full-time employment in worksite health promotion, effective July 29.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of **Jim Ufer**, 78, on July 20. Jim attended services at UBC over the years.

Little Free Pantry

We are looking for individuals who might be willing to stop by the church at least once a week to stock the pantry, as well as your donations of money and/or items such as

- Toiletries (toothbrushes, deodorant, sample sized shampoo/body wash/hand sanitizer, razors, feminine hygiene products)
- Boxed mixes that only require water to prepare
- Bars/cracker packs
- Ramen/instant soup in a cup
- Rice/pasta/quinoa
- Canned items with pop tops
- Boxed mac & cheese
- Tuna packets

If you would like to help, please contact Trish Donley, our Little Free Pantry coordinator, at patricia.donley63@gmail.com or put money in the offering plate designated for the Little Free Pantry.

If anyone is available to take Trish shopping to stock the pantry, that would be greatly appreciated.



Special Thank You to **Santos Urbina** for watering the gardens, to **Anielka Montiel** for preparing a calendar of dates when watering must take place within the confines of the watering restrictions in Minneapolis and to **Patrick Mavity** for turning on and off the water tap inside the building so that Santos can water! It takes a village!

Second Baptist Church Receives Scholarships from UBC

Sister church Second Baptist Church of León is very grateful to God and UBC for the spiritual relationship and the donation received from UBC to the school ministry and the Church.

Thanks to that, the school gave scholarships to twelve children in families who have three or more children in school and those who have limited economic resources and also participate on Sundays and activities scheduled by the ministry of the Church.

The photos were taken on the day of the thanksgiving service for the scholarships.



Special Offering for July and August Ministries that Support Nicaraguan Ministries and Programs

Ministries will include the Collegio Bautista (our sister church's school) and scholarship support for students. It might also include other groups we have supported in the past such as AMOS and Second Baptist Church in León. You can send a check and write Nica missions on the memo line, or go to our website to donate electronically. Thank you for your support of our Mission partners!

- The Outreach Committee



UPCOMING PROGRAMMING FOR THE THRIVE INITIATIVE

Fall 2022 Prophetic Imagination Gatherings

September 6/October 4

THRIVE: Knowing the Biblical Story—Being in the Story

—A webinar featuring educators sharing resources and examples of teaching the history of BIPOC in America as that story intersects with the Biblical story.

- Facilitators: Paula Dempsey and Kevin Dougherty
- Presenter: [Susan Shaw](#), Professor of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Ore.

October 4— Meet to follow up sharing plans and strategies emerging from the earlier Prophetic Imagination Gathering where the group will exchange ideas, encourage one another and ask questions.

November 1/November 29

THRIVE: Knowing Your Church's Past—Bringing Justice

—A webinar designed to inspire congregations to explore the past regarding their historical relationship to BIPOC in their context, providing examples and actionable steps.

- Facilitator: Elijah Zeyhoue and Gerardo Marti
- Potential Presenters: Bryan Stevenson and Greg Jarrell

November 29—Meet to follow up and share about what was learned and provide more encouragement. What are we to do with what is uncovered and learned? Questions.



FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Final 2021-22 fiscal year end numbers are similar to what was reported in the July newsletter. Pledges, special and miscellaneous gifts and rents totaled \$288,582 for the year which was \$38,582 more than expected.



Other gifts and miscellaneous income provide 4% of our budget. These are mostly gifts made by pledgers beyond their pledge or from people who did not pledge.

July 1 was the start of the 2022-23 fiscal year. UBC's budgeted operating income for 2022-23 is \$365,885. This includes the final adjusted amount of \$22,875 carry-forward from 2021-22 fiscal year and the Foundation distribution of \$64,720.

The Foundation distribution is 18%, which includes 9% (\$32,053) for the property manager position. The Foundation funds are transferred to the UBC checking account as needed by the treasurer.

Most of our income (52%) comes from the pledges made by members. Per usual the first month of a new fiscal year, total pledges received are less than the pro rata expected.

You can scan this QR code to be directed to our webpage where there are a variety of causes to donate to:



Expected annual rental income for 2022-23 of \$74,000 is 20% of our budget. This is a large increase over last year's \$60,000. This month our largest renter, received a grant and has pre-paid some rent.

Operating Income 2022-23	%	Budget	Expected	Received	Over (short)
Pledge Income	52	\$189,290	\$15,774	4,115	-11,659
Rental Income	20	\$74,000	\$6,167	15,106	8,939
Misc income*	4	<u>\$15,000</u>	\$1,250	240	<u>-1,010</u>
Subtotal		\$278,290	\$23,191	\$19,461	-3,730
Carry-forward from 2021-22	6	\$22,875			
Foundation	18	<u>\$64,720</u>		-	
Total Operating Income	100	\$365,885			
Justice & Outreach		<u>\$15,000</u>			
Total Budget		\$380,885			

*individual gifts, loose offering & miscellaneous income

The dedicated offering for July/August offering is for Nicaraguan ministries and we have received \$200 to date.

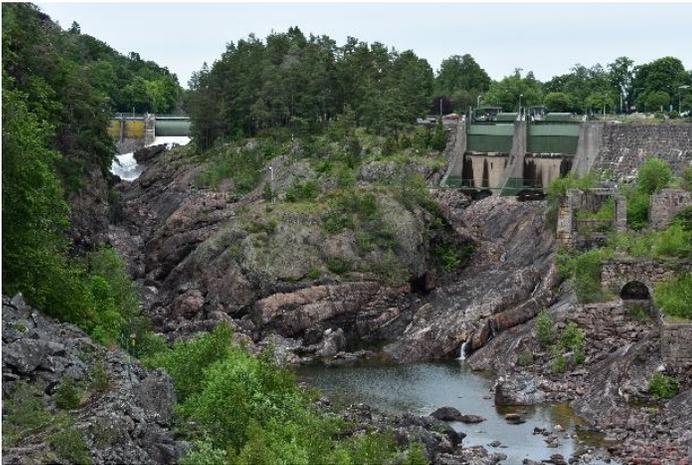
Chris Follett, Financial Secretary

UBC Bell Tour #6 – Scandinavia amid COVID – part 2: Sweden and Denmark

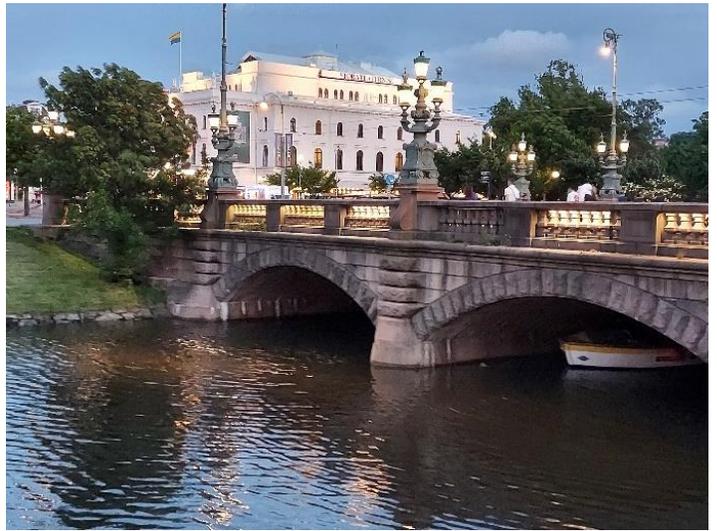
Text and photos supplied by Jean Lubke, Bell Choir Director

UBC Bell Tour #6 – Scandinavia amid COVID – Part 2: Sweden and Denmark

On Friday, June 17th, we traveled from Oslo, across the border into Sweden. We stopped for lunch, exploring, and shopping in Trollhatten (the homeland of Carol Lilygren’s father). The highlight of the visit was the 3 p.m. daily opening of the waterlocks diverting the water from the hydroelectric plant into a side, for the delight of the visitors. That evening we traveled on to Göteborg.



Saturday, in Göteborg, started with Lauren feeling sick and testing positive for COVID. The word went out and everyone needed to test before going down to breakfast. Thankfully, only roadie Jeanne tested positive, and was, so far, asymptomatic. They started their quarantine and the rest of us spent the day exploring, enjoying the Pride Parade, and shopping for materials to create a quarantine spot on the bus!



In the evening, we gave a concert at Lundby Nye Kirke, where Rochelle stepped in and sang one of Lauren's solos and Kim playing her bells. The concert was poorly attended, due to no publicity (again), but very well-received – as you can see by the interest of the audience after the concert (The man smiling at the



camera playing bells for the first time is the Music Director)! And a cousin



of Margie's came and brought documents about her Swedish family and an invitation to return! Our bus driver Serge started helping load and unload the bell equipment for the concerts; he's in the middle of our group photo. (And yes, we do have fun on the tours!)



Sunday was a difficult day. In our new morning routine of COVID testing, Jill, Deidre, and Kathryn (two ringers and a roadie) tested positive. We delayed our departure from the hotel to allow folks as much time to rest as possible. We used Velcro to hang a shower curtain across the bus in front of the back door (and bathroom) creating “sick bay” for our 5 sick friends, then we headed for Jönköping. We arrived an hour before check-in and needed to wait to get into our rooms. After time for a brief clothes change, the decreasing number of ringers (sans all of our roadies) headed to the evening concert at Allianskyrke. Michael and Doug shared Rochelle’s bass bells, Kim continued to play Lauren’s bells, and Jean played Deidre’s bells (except when Rochelle sang, then Margie played Deidre’s and Jean played Jill’s – whew!) It was a good concert – well-played, well-attended, well-advertised by music director Søren Ylenfors (in photo with Jean), and very well-received! It was a good spirit - lifter after a couple of darker days. But when we returned to the hotel, we learned that Expedia had not actually made the change in our reservation they said they did – and the hotel didn’t have room for us for the next night! So, Jean spent the next 3 hours on the phone with Expedia, got nowhere, and finally made reservations at the only place available in central Sweden with 10 rooms available for the next night for 19 people – a dude ranch!



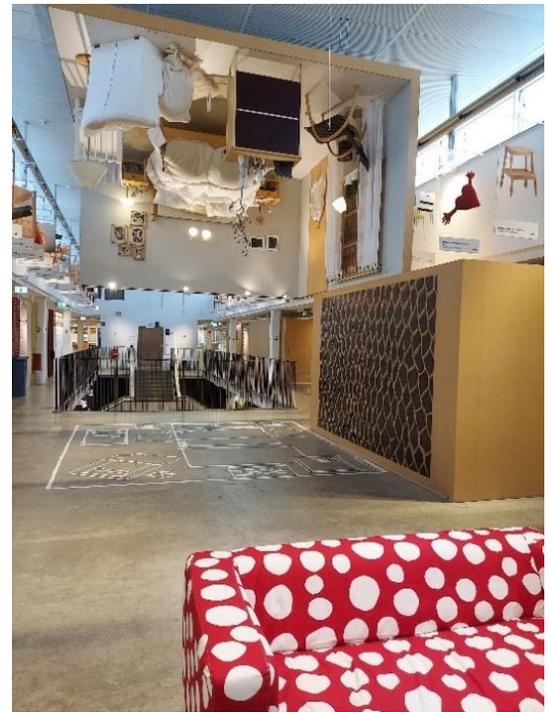
Monday, Whee – no one else tested positive!! We packed up – again – and headed to the adjacent city of Husqvarna – the home of the Husqvarna armament and sewing machine headquarters (and maker of the sewing machines that Karole sells!). We toured the Husqvarna museum, located in the original factory building on the stream and waterfall that had powered the factories. We saw the variety of items (starting with rifles) the company has made and is still making. Then back in the bus, down the road through central Sweden, a stop at a grocery store (the ranch is in a remote location and only has breakfast), and then we finally arrived at the JA B&B Ranch – a lovely family farm complete with horses (and 2 week old foal), goats, a rabbit, dogs, and barn cats. They had done a good job of decorating to make the place look like the Old West of the U.S. (and equally culturally inappropriate). Between thunderstorms, we had the chance to make our own dinners, hang out with the new foal and his mother, play darts, and pet the dog s.







Tuesday – Since we were so far south, we were only a few kilometers from Åmhult, the headquarters of IKEA (employer of Jonathan); so, we modified our agenda and made a detour to see the IKEA museum and have lunches of their famous Swedish meatballs! We learned about IKEA’s founder, the history of their products and designs, and their commitment to environmental and community sustainability. Michael tried the “dinner dance” – the steps the researchers discovered that women take while making a dinner. (The developers actually interviewed women to help design the most effective kitchen!) Then we were back on the road to the southern tip of Sweden and took the underwater tunnel into Copenhagen, Denmark – the last stop on our tour! Our hotel was right downtown, only a few blocks from Tivoli and the train station; and we had time left for an evening on the town!





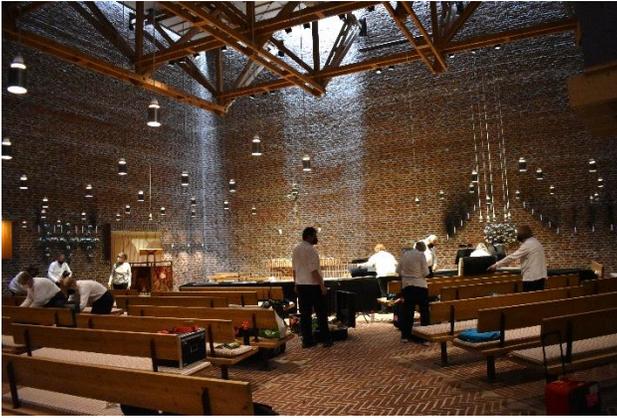


Wednesday - our lucky streak ran out – Michael tested positive. Thankfully, Lauren and Jeanne were now out of quarantine, and Jill was feeling much better. The morning was open for more sightseeing, steeple climbing (ask Doug), and a canal cruise. Copenhagen is the city of bicycles; they are everywhere. The train station even has a double-decker bike parking lot!



Then we headed to our last concert – at Islev Kirke, with one of the more interesting architectures. The holes in the bricks are for acoustics. It's the first purple organ casing we'd seen! With Michael out and Lauren and Jill back, Kim and Rochelle took Michael's bells, I kept Deidre's bells, and we dropped the Majors pieces. The concert was a wonderful end to the tour – well-played, well-attended, and well-received with a standing ovation demanding an encore (they wanted even more!). We celebrated a successful set of concerts with wine in the hotel atrium to end the day.





Thursday – No one else tested positive! And now Jill and Deidre could enjoy their last day finally out of quarantine. Folks explored more; Laurie and Janella travelled to Odense to visit Laurie’s cousins! And we packed the suitcases for our return home and said our goodbyes to the six travelers staying on for more adventures (without their bell luggage!) – Doug, Kim, Betsy, Robbie, Carol, and Janella.



Friday – The 12 travelers arrived at the Copenhagen airport at 3:00 a.m. (The Copenhagen airport has LOUSY signage – and is seriously short-staffed!) After waiting in a line for two hours, we made it to the gate only to find nowhere to grab coffee or breakfast. At least “bathrooms” (odd blue permanent Port-a-Potties in the middle of gate area) were close and had water for our empty bottles.

The flight to Paris was easy. The Paris airport was not; it made Copenhagen look good. A two-and-a-half hour layover was a flurry from one tarmac, on bus #1, through one terminal, elevator, 40 min wait for bus #2 in a crush of humanity, bus #2, more lines, run down hallway to gate – just in time to board (not time for bathroom break or lunch).

The flight home was easy. Glad to get to MSP (where is the GREAT signage!) – we find Karole’s passport in my purse (instead of hers), and



two of the base bell cases and Lauren’s suitcase did not arrive with us. We said goodbye on the curb and loaded most of the bell luggage into the two cars picking up the Lubkes. The first bell case was delivered at 9:30 p.m. (The other bell suitcase was delivered Monday. Lauren’s suitcase was delivered even later.) Whew! And now they are talking about another tour in 2025 or 2026! Thanks for all the prayers and support!



**UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH
COVID-19 PROTOCOL
FOR USE OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

INDOOR GUIDELINES

- For worship services and other formal and informal group gatherings, masks and six-foot distancing are required for all, whether or not vaccinated, including while singing and while speaking in-person during Joys & Concerns. Those speaking from the pulpit may remove their masks while speaking.
- Tenants and others who are alone in their own offices do not need to wear masks.
- Sanitizing hands and surfaces is strongly encouraged.

OUTDOOR GUIDELINES

- Masks and six-foot distancing are strongly encouraged; this includes singing.

Updated 9/19/2021



August Birthdays

- 10 Bev Bullard
- 13 William Mavity, Nancy Myers
- 15 Margie Garmers
- 16 Leona Juergens
- 17 Claire Mavity, Alan Ehr
- 19 Amanda Donley
- 21 Holly Hanson
- 22 Laura Justin
- 26 Roger Johnson

August Anniversaries

- 4 Terri & Ty Wottrich
- 7 Kim & Doug Donley
- 22 Gayla Marty & Pat Mavity
- 30 Lu & Bob Carman

UBC NEWS

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University Baptist Church

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Rev. Douglas M. Donley, Pastor

Rev. Matty Strickler, Interim Pastor

Please send contributions by

the 25th of the month to

Chris Follett, Editor at