

# UBC NEWS

University Baptist Church

1219 University Ave SE

Minneapolis MN 55414

Established 1850 at St. Anthony Falls, MN

OCTOBER 2024



## From the Pastor

### Wild Church

A number of months ago, an old friend and colleague suggested I read a book entitled, *Church of the Wild: How Nature Invites Us into the Sacred* by Victoria Loorz. She said that it reminded her of the outdoor education-based youth program at our home church in Cleveland way back in the 1970s. I immediately ordered the book and meant to read it, but it got buried under a pile of papers and other books that I really mean to read.



Fast forward to an August meeting with Jean Lubke and Jane McBride from First Congregational Church. Jane mentioned that the book has spurred on a movement of churches re-engaging with the natural world. They are calling it the Wild Church movement. Using this book as a guide and our innate knowledge, we'll see what we can discover as we engage with the local environment. People from UBC, First Congregational, and University Lutheran Church of Hope are gathering for a Wild Church encounter at Father Hennepin Bluff Park at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 5. It's an intergenerational time of exploring. The park is a stone's throw away from where our church ancestors first gathered in 1850.

One of the insights from the book is a reimagining of the opening lines of John's gospel. You know, "In the

beginning was the Word. The Word was with God and the Word was God."

Victoria Loorz points out that *Logos*, translated as *Word*, has deep meaning that points to ultimate reality. She writes that "many cultures, including Judaism and most Indigenous nations consider the divine a verb, a relationship, rather than a

noun." (p.114). She wonders what Christianity would look like if we translated *Logos* as "Conversation" rather than "Word." Imagine "In the beginning was the Conversation. The Conversation was with God and the Conversation was God." She points out that "the person of Jesus of Nazareth showed up in history at a particularly volatile time of colonization. The noun people of the Roman Empire, speaking Greek, ruthlessly conquered many verb people, including the Hebrew-speaking Jews."(p.116)

I'm looking forward to joining with many of you on October 5th to wonder together. One of the things that will occupy my mind is wondering what our church ancestors thought, felt, saw, heard on the sacred banks of the Mississippi 174 years ago. Will they be some of my conversation partners? Where will God be revealed?

*Continued on page 2*

*Pastor – continued*

I appreciate this opportunity to reframe the way we look at God, the world, and each other. Sounds Wild, and maybe a little redemptive.

See you in church (which is more than a building),

*Doug Donley*

## OCTOBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Theme:  
Reframe and Reclaim

### October 6

**Preaching:** Doug Donley  
**Sermon:** “Suffer the Children”  
**Scripture:** Mark 10:13-16  
**Worship Leader:** Violet Butler

### October 13

**Preaching:** Doug Donley  
**Sermon:** “Tell The Truth”  
**Scripture:** John 4:7-26  
**Worship Leader:** Carrie Lubke

### October 20

**Preaching:** Doug Donley  
**Sermon:** “Peacemaking”  
**Scripture:** I Samuel 25:14-19, 23-25, 32-34, 42-43  
**Worship Leader:** John Medeiros

### October 27

**Preaching:** Doug Donley  
**Sermon:** “Your Best Energy”  
**Scripture:** Psalm 37:1-2, 7-11, 16, 35-40  
**Worship Leader:** Megan Dahlberg

## OCTOBER FORUMS

Forums are held 11:30-12:30, after coffee time. We do our best to provide a Zoom option for remote participants. Send your ideas and suggestions for future forums to coordinator Gayla Marty at [gaylamarty@gmail.com](mailto:gaylamarty@gmail.com).

### October 6—All About You: Iris Guo

Hongting “Iris” Guo is a senior at Roseville Area High School this year on an exchange program through the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE), staying with Jean Lubke. She is from Chengdu, Szechuan province, China. Come welcome Iris and get to know her.

### October 13—Preserving the Trans refuge state: Using your vote for Trans equality

Myrtle Lemon-Todd (he/him + they/them) will talk about what’s at stake for the Trans community in the local elections as well as a peek into the federal level. They’ll talk about their work with Rep. Leigh Finke (DFL, District 66) and the larger Trans Caucus—Myrtle is Rep. Finke’s campaign manager and communications director for the other two elected trans individuals, Kozlowski and Curran—and how these races have affected our legislative landscape over the past two years. They’ll also talk about basic organizing skills and how to get involved and do the work when you see Trans inequality in your day-to-day life. This is part one of a two-part series with a post-election analysis November 17.


### October 20—A friendship tour to Palestine

The Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America is sending a Friendship Tour to Palestine November 3–16. UBC member Gayla Marty is part of the group, which is led by Allison Tanner (Oakland) and Ashlee Wiest-Laird (Boston), both pastors long engaged with organizations in Palestine and experienced leaders of tours there. Gayla will talk about what called her to join the tour, the itinerary (9 nights in Bethlehem, 3 nights in Nazareth), and the purposes and goals of sending a tour at this time of escalating violence and war as well as the U.S. election. She will share resources from her preparation and seeks your questions and perspectives.

### October 27—Planning UBC’s 175th Anniversary Celebration in 2025

The UBC congregation will celebrate a big milestone in 2025! How would you like to see UBC mark its 175th anniversary? In July 1850, our congregation formed as the First Baptist Church of St. Anthony about 10 blocks from our current location. Through several moves and two name changes, we have consistently engaged in social change and justice as a witness to our times. Come to share ideas and let your voice be heard.

# Calendar for October

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
		5:30 p.m. Sacred Harp	10 a.m. Handcraft Group 6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	9 a.m. Garden Team 6:30 p.m. Caregiver Support Group		9 a.m. Bible Study Noon Lunch for 8 @ Jean Lubke's 3:30 p.m. Wild Church Gathering
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
10 a.m. Worship Communion Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee 5 p.m. Stories @ First	11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels	11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels 7 p.m. Memoir Group	11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels 6 p.m. Choir	9 a.m. Garden Team 11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels	11 a.m. Every Meal 6 p.m. Dinner for 8 at Donleys	10 a.m. Card Club 1 p.m. Book Group
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
10 a.m. Worship Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee 11:30 a.m. Forum 11:30 a.m. Journeys 12:45 p.m. Worship Planning 4 p.m. Sacred Harp	7 p.m. Knitting Group	5:30 p.m. Sacred Harp 7 p.m. Anti-Racism Work	6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	9 a.m. Garden Team		9 a.m. Bible Study 6 p.m. Dinner for 8 at Betty Shaw's
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
10 a.m. Worship Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee 11:30 a.m. Forum 11:30 a.m. Journeys 4 p.m. Sacred Harp		7 p.m. Memoir Group	6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	9 a.m. Garden Team	6 p.m. Homecoming Parade  <i>Newsletter deadline</i>	TBD Pumpkin Gathering 2-4 p.m. PML Fiesta
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		
10 a.m. Worship Bells Play Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee 11:30 a.m. Forum 11:30 a.m. Journeys 4 p.m. Sacred Harp			6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	9 a.m. Garden Team 		

*Trista's in-office hours are Tuesday 12-3 p.m., Wednesday 12-4 p.m., and Friday 12-5 p.m.  
For time-sensitive needs, please text or call 608-343-0831.*

## What's Going On



### Sunday Morning Worship

**10 a.m. – Worship in the UBC sanctuary**

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

**When the livestream has ended – Joys & Concerns (also on Zoom)**

**ZOOM INFO:** Meeting ID 839 4725 7444 passcode 257750

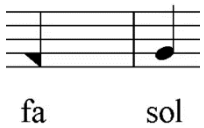
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83947257444?pwd=cFZCWEdqUkR0RDgwT0JwT3hrQ3FpUT09>

### Following Joys & Concerns – Coffee time in the lounge

**11:30 a.m. Forum in the lounge (also on Zoom, use link above)**

**11:30 a.m. “Journeys” Bible Study in the library** If you have any questions or would like a book, please contact Nancy Myers or Diane Ehr.

- October 6** Fortitude Job 38:1-7; 2:1-10; Psalm 26
- October 13** Assurance Hebrews 4;12-16
- October 20** Sovereign Job 38:1-7, 34-41; Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c
- October 27** Persistence Mark 10:46-52



**Sacred Harp Singing – October 1 & 15 (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays), 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Sundays (except the first), 4-6 p.m.** at UBC in Room 303. No experience or talent necessary!

### Faithful In The Fire: The Role of Prophetic Leadership in Polarized Times – Tuesday, October 1, 6 p.m.

A free webinar to help clergy and congregations during these weeks leading up to elections, featuring Rev. Dr. Willard Ashley. Click [here](#) to register.



**UBC-FCC Daytime Handcraft Group – October 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday), 10 a.m.** at First Congregational Church (500 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE) in the Parlor. If you are interested and want to be on a distribution list, please let Marilyn Burns (from FCC) know at [mbsnoobear@mac.com](mailto:mbsnoobear@mac.com).

**Bells and Choir Rehearsal – Wednesday evenings** in the church sanctuary. Please see the calendar for specific times.



**Garden Team – Thursdays, 9 a.m.** Come help beautify our church gardens! We have tools available and will work mostly on weeding and pruning. Parking is available in the Mormon lot, library lot, or behind the church. Feel free to join us whenever you're available! If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Kerr at 612-877-2018 or [bjkerr@umn.edu](mailto:bjkerr@umn.edu).

## More of What's Going On



**Caregiver Support Group – October 3 (1<sup>st</sup> Thursday), 6:30 p.m.** UBCers who have an elderly parent meet for support. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Lubke at [jeanlubke01@gmail.com](mailto:jeanlubke01@gmail.com).

**ZOOM INFO:** Meeting ID 829 0006 6861 Passcode 942930

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82900066861?pwd=RUQ1eGhYN1RzWTJCR0VTNG1JNFV5UT09>

**Bible Study – October 5 & 19 (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.), 9 a.m.** We will discuss Luke 1 & 2. New and occasional members are always welcome. No special background, skill, or preparation is required. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Ehr at [DianeEhr@q.com](mailto:DianeEhr@q.com).



**ZOOM INFO:** Meeting ID: 517 697 6753 passcode: 602794

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZINlbnBdcmUeIzTWfMlZyZm50QT09>



**Wild Church Gathering – Saturday, October 5, 3:30 p.m.** at Father Hennepin Bluff Park (by the Stone Arch Bridge, on the same side of the river as UBC). We will join together with friends from First Congregational Church and University Lutheran Church of Hope. The Wild Church movement invites us to reshape our relationship with creation through conversation with the other peoples with whom we share this earth – plants and animals, birds, rocks, water and air. Learn more [here](#), or by reading the book *Church of the Wild*. During our time together, we will ground ourselves in scripture, poetry and song before embarking on a time of wandering. We will close with a time of reflection and sharing. This is an intergenerational gathering, and especially fun for children.

**Stories @ First – Sunday, October 6, 5-7 p.m.** at First Congregational Church, 500 8<sup>th</sup> Ave SE. Our friends at First Church love to create community through storytelling and want to share this experience with you! Join us to tell a story or listen to others tell theirs! We'll have snacks and mocktails. If you would like to tell a story of creating, please [review our guidelines](#) and be in touch with [Sarah Almén](#) to sign up.



**Meals on Wheels – October 7-10.** Meals are picked up around 11:15 a.m. 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](mailto:marielafrance46@gmail.com).

**Memoir Writing Group – October 8 & 22 (every other Tuesday), 7 p.m.**

Prompts include *Car Trips*, *First Apartments*, *Side B* or anything else you feel called to write about. If you have any questions, please contact Trish Donley at 612-386-2856 or [patricia.donley63@gmail.com](mailto:patricia.donley63@gmail.com).



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

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

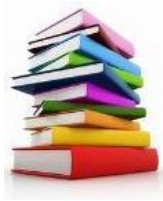
**Sign up in the lounge to attend a lunch or dinner for 8 in October. See calendar for dates.**

## More of What's Going On



**Every Meal – October 11 (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday), 11 a.m.-1 p.m.** at Marcy Open School in SE Minneapolis. Volunteers are needed to deliver meal bags to student backpacks in their lockers during the school day. If you are interested, please contact Denise Roy at [denise.roy@mitchellhamline.edu](mailto:denise.roy@mitchellhamline.edu).

**Card Club – Saturday, October 12, 10 a.m.** at Jean Lubke's home. This group meets monthly to learn card-making techniques, share ideas, and make beautiful greeting cards. Due to the limited space and the need to prepare materials, registration is needed for each month's session. If you are interested, please contact Jean at [jeanlubke01@gmail.com](mailto:jeanlubke01@gmail.com) or 651-295-7525.



**Grace in Contemporary Literature by Women Book Group – October 12 (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday), 1 p.m.** The book this month is *Joan is Okay* by Weike Wang. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Follett at [chrisf2828@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisf2828@yahoo.com).

**ZOOM INFO:** Meeting ID: 517 697 6753 Passcode: 602794  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZlNlYmRlcWUeZlZTWmFmLzRyZm50QQT09>

**UBC Anti-Racism Work – Tuesday, October 15, 7 p.m.** We will hear about the THRIVE cohort meeting in Annandale, Virginia, October 7-9, and next steps for THRIVE. We will also discuss progress on recruiting a group to participate in the Sacred Reckonings training (see item on p. 7). As always, we will share ideas for antiracism actions and resources (see Gayla's review of *The Dawn of Everything: A New History of Humanity* on p. 10).



**ZOOM INFO:** Meeting ID: 517 697 6753 Passcode: 602794  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZlNlYmRlcWUeZlZTWmFmLzRyZm50QQT09>



**UBC-FCC Knitting Group – October 21 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday), 7 p.m.** at Ruth Lemire's home. The group is made up of stitchers from UBC and First Congregational Church. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Follett at [chrisf2828@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisf2828@yahoo.com).

**U of M Homecoming Parade, Friday, October 25, 6 p.m.** We'll again be making s'mores as we watch the parade go right by the church lawn. Come join us!



**Project Minnesota-Léon Fiesta, Saturday, October 26, 2-4 p.m.** at Lake Harriet United Methodist Church, 4901 Chowen Avenue South, Minneapolis. See Deidre Druk if you have questions.

**Pumpkin Gathering, Saturday, October 26, time TBD** for the UBC children and families at Pine Tree Apple Orchard followed by Halloween decoration and treat making for coffee hour the next day. See Carrie Lubke for more details.



**Future Roots Cellar Concerts**  
November 2 – Mark Kreitzer Band  
November 16 – The Eclectics  
January 11 – Spencer LaJoye  
January 25 – Tim Cheesebrow  
March 22 – Curtis & Loretta



AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA

Serving as the hands and feet of Christ

## Faith in Action: Pastors and Faith Leaders Role in Addressing Domestic Violence Webinar

**Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 6 p.m.**

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, a time dedicated to bringing awareness to this devastating issue impacting all of our communities – an issue 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men will unfortunately experience at some point during their lifetimes. And yet, churches, pastors and faith leaders are uniquely equipped to be both a place of refuge and hope, when they take the steps to build their knowledge and skills to provide effective support.

Join Safe Haven Ministries, one of the only faith-based domestic violence organizations in the country, to learn more about domestic violence, its prevalence and steps you can take to better support individuals and families impacted by this type of abuse.

Click [here](#) to register

## Sacred Awakenings

As we try to make sense of our place in the whole antiracism/reparations discussion, we stumbled across a group of people who are doing similar work. This work is about more than making a land acknowledgement or even a statement decrying the Doctrine of Discovery.

As mentioned in the forum on September 29, the Antiracism Group and UBC Council decided to take advantage of an intensive series of training sessions called Sacred reckonings. You can find out more at <https://www.sacredreckonings.com/>. (Also, watch the video there that we showed at the forum.)

We'll look at many aspects of reparations: Truth-Telling, Spiritual Practice, Relationships, Political Solidarity, and Wealth Return. The training sessions (all on Zoom) will happen on November 22, 23, and three evening sessions in the New Year. If you want to be a part of this, please let Denise Roy or Doug Donley know.

## FINDING A PATH TO FORGIVENESS

Last April, UBC hosted the remarkable Forgiveness Project installation. Is forgiveness something you've been thinking about in some area of your life?

Louisa Hext, curator of the Forgiveness Project exhibit, is also a consultant, coach, and teacher. She invites us to consider her upcoming course, *Embracing Forgiveness: Forging the Path!*, to be offered in two series this fall:

**October 1, 8, 15, 22** — four Tuesdays, 6:30–8 p.m. on Zoom [open to all](#)

**October 24, 31, November 7, 14** — four Thursdays, 12:30–2 p.m. on Zoom [through OLLI / U of M Extension](#)

More offerings and resources are available. Louisa would also be willing to create a course for UBC if there is interest. Learn more about Louisa and her courses at [www.consultantshext.com](http://www.consultantshext.com).



Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline. Support, resources and advice for your safety:  
**1-800-799-SAFE (7233)**



## QUEER SPACE collective

From all of us at QUEERSPACE collective, thank you for your generous donation!

Because of friends like you, LGBTQ+ youth in Minnesota have a strengthened LGBTQ+ support network to help them develop their sense of pride in who they are, where they come from, and where they want to go!



## clare housing

HOME • HEALTH • HOPE

Thank you for University Baptist Church's generous August gift to Clare Housing and for your caring support that has spanned over a decade. Consistent contributions like yours are vital to our ability to continue our work and expand our impact, all while building a community that believes housing is a human right.

### Special Offerings for July and August

**Our special offering for July** was to SE Minneapolis ministries and organizations. We collected \$580 and divided it evenly between the Division of Indian Work/Food Shelf, SE Seniors, and the University Area Sanctuary Coalition.

**For August**, our focus was emergency needs and we collected \$405, which was sent to the Haitian Community Help and Support Center in Springfield, Ohio. Their community of refugees has been under attack since an incorrect report was shared in the presidential debate that the refugees were eating people's pets.

Thank you for your donations and support for special missions!

*Kim Donley and Karole Graham, Outreach Coordinators*



### Winter Clothing Needed

The Minnesota Council of Churches Refugee Services is looking for donations of winter gear for recent arrivals, many of whom have come from warmer climates. They are looking for coats, boots, hats, scarves, mittens/gloves. If you have gently worn items in your closets, would you consider donating them? We will collect them here at UBC throughout the month of October and deliver them to MCC. Thank you for supporting our new neighbors.

*Kim Donley and Karole Graham, Outreach Coordinators*

You can help with Hurricane relief by giving to One Great Hour of Sharing via the UBC website.

<https://www.ubcmn.org/giving>



## Getting to Know You – Violet Butler



### How did you find UBC?

I found UBC initially through my friend (and fellow attendee) Zena. We were both looking for a church to go to that was close to where we each respectively lived. She said she wanted to try UBC one Sunday, in large part due to the inclusive flags being flown. I agreed to come join her, and I've been coming to UBC ever since.

### What do you like the most about UBC?

The thing I like most about UBC is the warmth of the congregation. One of the biggest hangups I had about coming back to church in my adult life was a fear of being the outsider in a congregation. A lot of the churches back home in Indiana are tight knit communities that I think often inadvertently make newcomers feel unwelcome because everyone else already knows each other. The members of UBC have always made me feel welcome and appreciated, even when it was my first time attending a UBC service. That warmth and openness has kept me coming back week after week.

*This feature highlights a member of our UBC family, answering select questions from a list provided.*

### What is your favorite accomplishment?

My favorite accomplishment is probably my undergraduate thesis. I wrote my thesis on the history of disco in small town America. Writing it was a labor of love and I'm very proud of the final product I managed to produce. I got to learn so much about an area of history that I didn't know much about, and put a new layer of meaning to a genre of music that I often listen to. Being able to contribute as a college student to a wider world of academics and scholarship was a very rewarding experience, even if it was a lot of work at the time.

### Who is the most influential person in your life?

I think the most influential person in my life is my mother. She raised my brother and I as a single mom for most of our lives and I think that's always inspired me to work towards my own goals in life. She's still the person I call for advice, even if, as she reminds me, she has no clue on how to be a law student. My mom has always pushed me towards my own goals, even when I wanted to give up or take the easy way out.

### What's your biggest pet peeve?

My biggest pet peeve, one that I think I picked up from my mom, is when people leave the lights on when they're no longer using a room. It's just a little thing but I remember my mom always turning lights off behind her and I guess it's just stuck with me.



## Book review by Gayla Marty

*The Dawn of Everything: A New History of Humanity*

By David Graeber and David Wengrow

Picador, 2021

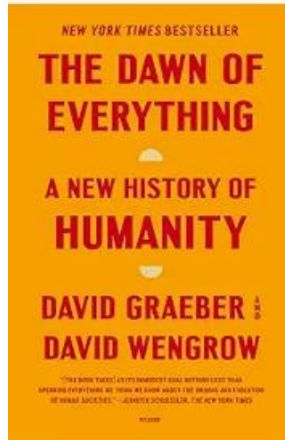
692 pp. (including 166 pp. of notes, bibliography, and index)

Two professors walked into a bar (okay, a pub, since they were working in London). For the next two hours, they had a great time picking apart the latest bestselling book about how humans got stuck in our current situation (say, Jared Diamond), or why things aren't as bad as we think (Steven Pinker). They enjoy the conversation so much that they meet again the next week, and the next.

That isn't exactly what happened but what I imagine about how the co-authors of *The Dawn of Everything* came to write this book. According to them, "It began as a diversion from our more 'serious' academic duties: an experiment, a game almost, in which an anthropologist and an archaeologist try to reconstruct the sort of grand dialogue about human history that was once quite common in our fields, but this time with modern evidence."

According to Graeber and Wengrow, most of the world is stuck in an outdated view of human origins and development as a linear path from hunter-gatherers to farmers to city-dwellers to complex civilizations to monarchies and then states. They realized that their own fields are at fault for failing to effectively communicate to the public about the huge amount of evidence from archaeology and anthropology around the world, a lot in the past 20 to 30 years, that thoroughly debunks the old linear view. In the end, they felt compelled to write this book as an attempt to lay harmful myths to rest and show us that we are not hopelessly stuck.

I am grateful. A year ago I discovered *The Dawn of Everything* and in August I listened to it by audiobook through the library. It's what I've been waiting and looking for.



I told the anti-racism working group about it in September (they're the ones who suggested I write this review) because of what I learned about the Indigenous critique of European culture and about the long history of slavery, two things among so many. For example, I probably have heard of Kandiaronk (1666-1715), a Huron-Wendat statesman-philosopher, but not by name and not nearly his whole story. I had never heard of what archaeologists call the Hopewell

Interaction Sphere, an ancient network of sites centered in Ohio used for about 600 years up to 500 CE for interaction among groups across virtually all parts of North America. I had no idea that Indigenous societies along the Pacific coast of North America practiced slavery as early as 1850 BCE in the region north of what is now Oregon, rejected slavery in the area now known as California, and left evidence of violent resistance to slavery in the "shatter" zone between.

I was interested to learn about what the authors identify as three primordial freedoms and three elementary forms of domination: the freedom to move, to disobey, and to create or transform social relationships (p. 426); and control of violence (sovereignty), control of information, and individual charisma. Sovereignty is the form of domination they ascribe to the rise of private property. Rome's legacy in our language and law regarding property, and most specifically human property, stands out as a poisonous example.

Graeber and Wengrow discuss *schismogenesis*—people's tendency to define themselves against one another—as a factor that can operate on broader  
*Continued on page 11*

*Everything – continued*

social level, as well, helping to shape cultural differences.

As much as I've read and studied the history of agriculture, I was shocked to read about the lack of evidence for an agricultural revolution! What the evidence does show is that humans avoided for millennia agriculture that could tie them down in any way. That makes total sense.

In fact, the archaeological and anthropological record is full of evidence for societies that were peaceful for very long periods, where art was the center of life, where people traveled long distances, and cities thrived without monarchs and hierarchies. Most

commonly, women played critical roles in innovation and decision-making. Graeber and Wengrow refer to the Greek notion of *kairos*, "one of those occasional moments in a society's history when its frames of reference undergo a shift [...] and, therefore, change is possible." Amen to that.

Last of all, I want to add that the structure of this book is unusual and the voice and style engaging—almost conversational. I want to explore more of both authors' books. Sadly, David Graeber, born in New York and an activist in such movements as Occupy, died in Venice in September 2020 of pancreatitis, which his wife ascribes to COVID-19. I plan to put his name on our bell banner for All Saints this year.

## Discernment Activities Progress Update

### Refocusing People Power

- Transferred Google drives to new UBC Google Drive
- Approved job description for a Marketing and Communications professional
- UBC's Council and First Congregational Church's Council approved intentional conversations to explore collaborative ministry opportunities (Wild Church joint activity, adding each other's announcements in Sunday bulletins)

### Solving Building Issues

- Received our first building grant from the Minnesota Historical Society for \$10K to hire an historic preservationist to write the Property Evaluation for the National Registration application process. Signed the contract with New History; Lauren Anderson will be the lead preservationist. Had a forum on 9/22 to explain the process.

### Opening Our Doors Within and Without

- Including Chinese, Russian, and Japanese in our worship experience, along with Spanish
- Will have an "All About You" forum on 10/6 about Hongting (Iris) Guo
- Doug, Denise, and Jean will be attending the Alliance THRIVE conference in DC in October. Will share their findings in a forum in November.

## FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Most of our income (58%) comes from pledges made by members. Pledges are where we would expect them.



Other gifts and miscellaneous income provide 4% of our budget. We have received some generous gifts this month.

Expected annual rental income is \$72,004 (20% of our budget.) Current reported rental income is on track. In fact, we received some back money for the Roots Cellar.

The Foundation distribution is 18%, which includes (\$34,401) for the property manager position.

Operating Income 2024-25	%	Budget	Expected	Received	Over (short)
Pledge Income	58	\$203,834	\$50,959	\$52,475	\$1,517
Rental Income	20	\$72,004	\$18,001	\$17,215	(\$786)
Misc income*	4	\$15,000	\$3,750	\$5,279	\$1,529
Subtotal		<b>\$290,838</b>	\$72,710	\$74,969	\$2,259
Foundation Contribution	18	\$61,732		-	
Total Operating Income	100	<b>\$352,570</b>			
Justice & Outreach		\$15,000		\$2,995	

\*individual gifts, loose offering & miscellaneous income

The dedicated offering for September and October is for Nicaraguan Ministries/Tai Shigaki Travel Fund and we have received \$810 to date.

- Chris Follett, Financial Secretary

### SPECIAL OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER Nicaraguan Partners and Tai Shigaki Travel Fund

The Outreach mission focus for September and October is our Nicaraguan partners and the Tai Shigaki travel fund. In the past, these funds have included scholarships for students attending the church-sponsored school, the church in Léon, Project Minnesota-Léon and AMOS (a ministry of sharing).

You can drop your offering in the offering plate, send a check to the church, designate a gift directly from your bank, or use our online portal for giving on the UBC website, [www.ubcmn.org/giving](http://www.ubcmn.org/giving) Thank you for your ongoing outreach support!!

*Kim Donley & Karole Graham, Outreach Team Co-Coordinator*



You can scan this QR code on your phone to be directed to our web page where there are a variety of causes to donate to.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Every Meal

UBC participates in *Every Meal*, a program that distributes bagged food over weekends and school breaks for families of children who receive free and reduced meals when school is in session. UBC is scheduled to distribute at Marcy Open School on the second Friday of each month, 11 a.m. to about 1 p.m. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Denise Roy at [denise.roy@mitchellhamline.edu](mailto:denise.roy@mitchellhamline.edu)

### UBC History Research

At the Minnesota History Center, UBC has 19 boxes of files and other materials. If you would like to join a team going over to the History Center sometime Wed-Sat, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1-4 p.m., please contact Gayla Marty at [gaylamarty@gmail.com](mailto:gaylamarty@gmail.com)

### Meals on Wheels

UBC has an opportunity to participate in Meals on Wheels on M-Th of the first full week of the month. Meals are picked up around 11:15 a.m. and the route in SE Minneapolis usually takes 1-2 hours. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a ride-along, please contact Marie LaFrance at [marielafrence46@gmail.com](mailto:marielafrence46@gmail.com)



### October Birthdays

- 14 Anna Lovat
- 19 Lilly Wright
- 21 Clara Meinerts
- 23 Anne Supplee
- 24 Morgan Gray
- 26 Don Follett
- 27 Carrie Lubke
- 28 Atherton Wiseman

### October Anniversaries

- 15 John & Jinsil Lee
- 23 Lucas Moravek & Pete Dawson
- 26 Mindy & Steve Lee

### Little Free Pantry

We are looking for individuals 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, mac & cheese
- Rice/pasta/quinoa/
- Tuna packets

If you would like to help, please contact Kim Donley or Karole Graham, Outreach Coordinators.

### Looking for Volunteers

**Coffee hosts** – Sign up in the lounge

**Communion prep** – Contact Terri Wottrich

**Garden Team** – Contact Betsy Kerr or show up at 9 a.m. on Thursdays

**Sunday school teachers** – Contact Megan Dahlberg

**Ushers** – Contact Chris Follett

**Worship leaders** – Contact Megan Dahlberg

### UBC NEWS

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Rev. Douglas M. Donley, Pastor

*Please send contributions by*

*the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to*

*Chris Follett, Editor at*

[chrisf2828@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisf2828@yahoo.com)