



# UBC NEWS

University Baptist Church

1219 University Ave SE

Minneapolis MN 55414

*Established 1850 at St. Anthony Falls, MN*

**December 2023**

## From the Pastor

### Advent Season

**A**s we shift our calendars to December, we begin a new liturgical year with Advent. I know, Christmas music began piping in the store speakers at the beginning of November. Our across-the-street neighbor put their Christmas tree up while they still had Halloween pumpkins in their yard.



How might we dream of a better world? How might we join Mary, Joseph, and the others in putting their dreams into action? How might all of this relate to the Advent carols we sing, especially of ransoming captive Israel? Or Herod's call for all young children to be slain?

At UBC, we follow more of an academic year, and our year-long focus is "Stay Awake." We're still looking at that theme. But the liturgical year starts with the first Sunday of Advent. How do we mark this new year? About what might we want to stay awake?

Have you ever noticed how much dreaming happens in the Christmas stories? Angels speak to Mary and Joseph and Zechariah and Elizabeth in dreams. Part of what they are ironically telling them is to stay awake, or pay attention, or imagine a better path forward for their little corner of the world.

I pray that the tenderness and wonder of the Christmas season would cause us to pause in our demonizing of our enemies and the call for the slaughter of the innocents. May we spend some time in Advent dreaming of a better, more peaceful, safer world.

Peace, Salaam, Shalom,

Doug Donley

**Photo: UBC sanctuary at Christmas by Gayla Marty**

Pastor Doug's recent contribution to the Baptist Peace Fellowship's website  
<https://www.bpfna.org/news-and-reflections/a-prayer-for-israel-palestine>

## DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Theme: “Stay Awake”

### **Dec. 3**

**Preaching:** Doug Donley

**Sermon:** “Zechariah’s Dreams”

**Scripture:** Luke 1:5-25

**Worship Leader:** Carrie Lubke

### **Dec. 10**

**Preaching:** Doug Donley

**Sermon:** “Mary’s Nightmare”

**Scripture:** Luke 1:26-38

**Worship Leader:** Gayla Marty

### **Dec. 17**

**Preaching:** Doug Donley

**Sermon:** “Mary’s Dream”

**Scripture:** Luke 1:45-55

**Worship Leader:** Deidre Druk

### **Dec. 24 (morning)**

**Preaching:** Doug Donley

**Sermon:** “Joseph’s Dream”

**Scripture:** Matthew 1:18-25

**Worship Leader:** Deidre Druk

### **Dec. 24 (evening)**

Lessons and Carols

### **Dec. 31**

Carol Sing

## DECEMBER FORUMS

Forums are 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. after coffee time.

### **Dec. 3—Dreams and nightmares**

This Advent, Pastor Doug’s sermons will explore the dreams and nightmares of Zechariah, Mary, and Joseph. Join him for a sermon talk-back as we enter this holy season and consider dreams and nightmares of our own and of our times.

### **Dec. 10—The modern abolition movement, part 2**

Today’s abolition movement envisions an end to imprisonment, policing, surveillance, and the reasons they exist. Building on the first forum on this topic last month, Lauren Thrift will take us deeper into the topic with selected video clips from the Alliance of Baptists spring 2023 gathering “To Set the Captives Free” and guide a discussion. Extended videos from the gathering can be found online at <https://allianceofbaptists.org/events/annualgathering2023/> and

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GzCx5GmV8hU&t=9s> .

### **December 17—Sanctuary decorating party**

Potluck and holiday treats in the sanctuary. See page 6 for more details.

### **December 24—No forum**

### **December 31—No forum**

Happy New Year’s Eve! Extended coffee hour



# Calendar for December

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
						<b>9 a.m.</b> Bible Study
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10 a.m.</b> Worship Communion Joys & Concerns <b>11 a.m.</b> Coffee <b>11:30 a.m.</b> Forum/Journeys <b>2 p.m.</b> Sound Mind concert <b>2 p.m.</b> MN Freedom Band concert	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Meals on Wheels <b>5 p.m.</b> Inter. Spanish <b>6:15 p.m.</b> Beg. Spanish	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Meals on Wheels <b>5:30 p.m.</b> Sacred Harp <b>7 p.m.</b> Memoir Group	<b>11 a.m.</b> Handcraft Grp <b>11:15 a.m.</b> Meals on Wheels <b>6 p.m.</b> Choir	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Meals on Wheels <b>4:30 p.m.</b> Adv. Spanish Conversation <b>6:30 p.m.</b> Caregiver Support Group	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Every Meal	<b>1 p.m.</b> Book Group <b>7 p.m.</b> Roots Cellar
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>10 a.m.</b> Worship Joys & Concerns <b>11 a.m.</b> Coffee <b>11:30 a.m.</b> Forum/Journeys <b>4 p.m.</b> Sacred Harp	<b>5 p.m.</b> Inter. Spanish <b>6:15 p.m.</b> Beg. Spanish	<b>7 p.m.</b> Anti- Racism meeting	<b>6 p.m.</b> Choir <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Bells	<b>4:30 p.m.</b> Adv. Spanish Conversation		<b>9 a.m.</b> Bible Study <b>9:45 p.m.</b> Cookie Making
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>10 a.m.</b> Worship Joys & Concerns <b>11 a.m.</b> Potluck lunch and decorate the sanctuary <b>1:30 p.m.</b> Council	<b>5 p.m.</b> Inter. Spanish <b>6:15 p.m.</b> Beg. Spanish <b>7 p.m.</b> Knitting Grp	<b>5:30 p.m.</b> Sacred Harp <b>7 p.m.</b> Memoir Group	<b>6 p.m.</b> Choir <b>7:30 p.m.</b> Bells	<b>4:30 p.m.</b> Adv. Spanish Conversation	<b>7 p.m.</b> Lubke Caroling Party	
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> ☆	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>10 a.m.</b> Worship Joys & Concerns <b>11 a.m.</b> Coffee <b>4:30 p.m.</b> Lessons & Carols	<i>Newsletter deadline</i> No Spanish classes			<b>4:30 p.m.</b> Adv. Spanish Conversation	<b>2-7 p.m.</b> Loaves & Fishes	
<b>31</b>						
<b>10 a.m.</b> Worship/ Carol Sing Joys & Concerns <b>11 a.m.</b> Coffee						

The January newsletter deadline is Christmas Day, so please send contributions to Chris early if you can! [chrisf2828@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisf2828@yahoo.com)

## 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)**

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

**11:30 a.m. – Forum in the lounge (also on Zoom)**

**11:30 a.m. – Bible Study in the library**

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

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



### Bible Study – Dec. 2 & 16 (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.), 9 a.m. On

Dec. 2 we will discuss the conclusion of James and on Dec. 16 we will discuss Christmas scripture. 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@g.com](mailto:DianeEhr@g.com).

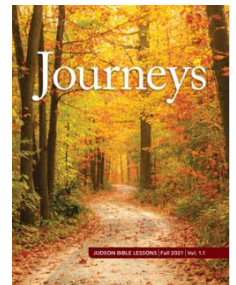
**ZOOM INFO:** Meeting ID: 886 6992 0103 passcode: 613038

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88669920103?pwd=dnozWEYzQUh1RU5HUTFWcVd3ZFZFY1Zz09>

**Why read the Bible?  
Because it continues  
to offer light.**

**“Journeys” Bible Study – Sundays, Dec. 3 & 10, 11:30 a.m.** in the Char Follett Library. With the first Sunday of Advent comes the beginning of a new season of Journeys.

*The lessons in this quarter invite us to be active change agents, intentionally showing up and witnessing God's love, justice, and peace to a broken world in need of healing. One candle gives forth great light in darkness; a community of believers united in the Spirit can be a collective beacon brighter than any darkness that seeks to mute our message or harm humanity. As we embark upon a new year, Advent beckons us to be the light heralding the coming of God's Kingdom (from Journeys Winter 2023-2023)*



Dec. 3 – Community, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Dec. 10 – Hope, Isaiah 40:1-11

Dec. 17, 24 and 31 – Not meeting

If you have any questions or would like to receive a book, please contact Nancy Myers or Diane Ehr.

## More of What's Going On



**Sound Mind Project's Winter Concert – Sun., Dec. 3, 2 p.m.** at University Lutheran Church of Hope, 601 – 13<sup>th</sup> Ave SE. Doug and Kim Donley sing in this choir that raises money for youth mental health programs, and a portion of proceeds collected during this concert will benefit the Family Partnership. The program will include one of Kim's original compositions, "Stars."

**Minnesota Freedom Band Fall Concert – "Alphabet Soup," Sun., Dec. 3, 2 p.m.** at UBC. Tickets are \$15. For more info, see [minnesotafreeband.org/](http://minnesotafreeband.org/)



**Meals on Wheels – Dec. 4-7 (M-Th first full week of the month).** 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 [mariefraunce46@gmail.com](mailto:mariefraunce46@gmail.com).

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



The Beginning Class focuses on vocabulary development and verb conjugation. If you are comfortable with basic Spanish, the Intermediate Class would be a good fit for you, with a focus on reading, writing and discussing. The Advanced Class meets on Thursdays for conversation practice. If you have any questions, please contact Anielka Montiel at [anymontiel33@gmail.com](mailto:anymontiel33@gmail.com) or 651-295-4590.

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

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



**Sacred Harp Singing – Dec. 5 & 19 (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues.), 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Dec. 10 (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sun.), 4-6 p.m.** at UBC in Room 303. No experience or talent necessary!

NOTE: No singing on Dec. 24.

**Memoir Writing Group – Dec. 5 & 19 (every other Tues.), 7 p.m.** Prompts include *Snow*, *Solstice*, and *Gifts* or anything else you feel called to write about. If you have any questions, please contact Trish Donley at [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>



## More of What's Going On



**UBC-FCC Daytime Handcraft Group – Dec. 6 (1<sup>st</sup> Wed.), 11 a.m.** at First Congregational Church (500 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE) in the Parlor. Bring your craft project and lunch if you like. 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) or see Chris Follett for questions.

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



**Caregivers Support Group – Dec. 7 (1<sup>st</sup> Thurs.), 6:30 p.m.** UBCers who have an elderly parent meet for support. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Lubke at [lubk0001@umn.edu](mailto:lubk0001@umn.edu).

**ZOOM INFO:** Meeting ID 810 4075 0220 Passcode 251436

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81040750220?pwd=bm82eExWUC9EMy9Tb2tHYk0yb1d3UT09>

**Every Meal – Thurs., Dec. 7 (usually the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri.), 11:15 a.m.-1 p.m.** at Marcy Open School in SE Mpls. 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).



**Grace in Contemporary Literature by Women Book Group – Dec. 9 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sat.), 1 p.m.**

The book this month is *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. We will meet in person at Nancy Myers's home as well as on Zoom. Please bring a treat to share. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Follett at [chrisf2828@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisf2828@yahoo.com).

**ZOOM INFO:** meeting ID 815 2376 4072 passcode 525996

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81523764072?pwd=Q1hlc2VFdnlOMEI1VWhXNzdKRDdjQT09>

**ROOTS CELLAR – Beau Baker Band – Sat., Dec. 9, 7 p.m.**

Minneapolis-based singer/songwriter Beau Baker crafts his rhythmically inspired songwriting style with strong vocals to create lush roots-rock Americana music. His focus on guitar led him to explore the complexities of some of his inspirations like Neil Young and Jimmy Page, among others. Tickets are \$20, available at the door or at <https://events.humanitix.com/beaubakerband>



## More of What's Going On



**UBC Anti-Racism Work: Next Steps, Tues., Dec. 12, 7 p.m.** At the forum on Oct. 22, input was collected and recorded to inform priorities for our congregation's racial justice work. Ideas included action, education, material support, types and frequency of meetings, and relationship to our mission. One idea, for regular forums, is already in motion with a series on the modern abolition movement that began in November and continues Dec. 10.

At the Dec. 12 Zoom meeting, the forum input will be considered and next steps identified for the coming year. Everyone interested in UBC's racial justice work is welcome. Contact Denise Roy if you would like to receive the October 22 forum notes.

**ZOOM INFO:** meeting ID 852 2522 8584 passcode 243086

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85225228584?pwd=OCsrak1RQTM3MmthVHJL3BBbjhodz09>

**Cookie Making, Sat., Dec. 16, 9:45 a.m.-1 p.m.** Families and kids of all ages (including infants) are invited and can arrive at any time in that window at UBC to bake cookies. Request that each family bring one refrigerated cookie dough batch to bake and decorate, although not necessary. Volunteers requested to help so parents can de-stress a bit. For more info, contact Laura Justin or Carrie Lubke.



**Tree and Sanctuary Decorating and Potluck Party, Sun., Dec. 17, 11 a.m.** in the sanctuary. Please join us after the morning service to decorate the Christmas tree and sanctuary. Many hands make quick work! Please bring a food contribution to share (but no sweet treats!). Cookies will be provided by UBC children and families (see above).

**UBC-FCC Knitting Group – Dec. 18 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon.), 7 p.m.** at Jean Lubke'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).



**The 38th Annual Lubke Caroling Party, Fri., Dec. 22, 7 p.m.** at Jean Lubke's home - **NOTE NEW LOCATION: 2215 Ferris Lane, Roseville, MN 55113**

Jean's new townhome provides a neighborhood ready-made for easy caroling. So, weather permitting, we will bring our caroling books and carol at a few of the neighbors' houses (bring your boots, mittens, and scarves!) and then we'll return to the house for wassail and goodies – and more singing around the piano – this year by the fireplace!

Please come, bring family and friends, bring a Christmas treat to share – and come ready to enjoy the music, food, and fellowship of the season!

RSVPs are very helpful so Jean knows how much wassail to make! Let her know if you can come at [lubk0001@umn.edu](mailto:lubk0001@umn.edu) or 651-295-7525. Hope you can join us!

## More of What's Going On



**Christmas Eve Service – Sun., Dec. 24 at 4:30 p.m.** Invite your friends and family to the annual Christmas eve tradition at UBC. The service begins with a music prelude at 4:30 p.m., followed by the Christmas story told by various speakers, interspersed with carols, and concluding with a candlelight singing of Silent Night. The service should be finished around 6:15 p.m. The service will be livestreamed and available on [UBC's YouTube](#) channel.

**Loaves & Fishes – Fri., Dec. 29, 2-7 p.m.,** 1816 Portland Ave. S., Mpls 55404. Parking is available on Portland Ave. or in the small lot on the alley west of the building. We'll need about four people for preparation between 2-5 p.m., about six people for preparing to-go containers from 4:30-6 p.m., and a couple people to help with clean-up until about 7 pm. Let Steve Lee know if you can help at [steven.lee@thrivent.com](mailto:steven.lee@thrivent.com) or 612-844-8194 or 763-645-9499. *Next date: Mar. 29.*



### Poinsettias to Decorate the Sanctuary

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas, please put \$15 per plant in one of the special envelopes available in the sanctuary or send the money electronically with a note identifying it for poinsettias. If you would like the poinsettia to be identified as in honor or in memory of someone, please make that indication on the envelope or electronic contribution.

**Poinsettia purchases must be made by Mon., Dec. 18.**

### First Congregational Church Advent Marketplace December 10

On Sunday, Dec. 10, during coffee hour (until 12:30 p.m.) at FCC (500 8<sup>th</sup> Ave SE), vendors will offer a variety of items, perfect for gift shopping, and will be donating a portion of their proceeds to a cause or charity of their choice. Please be aware that not all vendors are able to take credit cards, so be sure to bring cash or your checkbook.

### Save the Date

The summer conference of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America~Bautistas Por La Paz (AKA Peace Camp) will take place **July 15-20, 2024** at Mars Hill College outside of Ashville, NC. Let's have a good showing from UBC this year!

### Coming up...

**Jan. 7** – Undecorate the sanctuary

**Jan. 27** – Roots Cellar – Men of New Hope

**Apr. 20** – Roots Cellar – Charlie Maguire





## Employee Appreciation

Annually we show our appreciation for our half-time and full-time staff members with a monetary gift presented at Christmas. This year our staff has continued to go above and beyond as we all continue to adjust to life in the time of COVID. They have responded to our need to be back together, while working to keep us safe and healthy. They have all tackled these challenges with willingness, flexibility, and grace.

### Contribute to the Staff Appreciation gift by Dec. 24 using one of the following methods:

- Put your contribution in the offering box in-person.
- Send your check or make a payment through your bank (payable to UBC, 1219 University Ave. SE, Mpls. MN 55414.)
- Donate online at [www.ubcmn.org](http://www.ubcmn.org). Click on the "Giving" button at the top of the page and then select "Staff Appreciation".

If you pay by check, please note "Staff Appreciation" on the memo line. Please do NOT specify any particular staff member; it will negate your tax-deductible benefit and complicate the distribution process. The Personnel Committee will determine the final distribution.

Personnel Committee: *Megan Gunnar Dahlberg, Jean Lubke and Gene Velasco*



UBC friend Ruby Rott recently marked her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Doug attended the festivities in River Falls, WI.

**Photos by Doug Donley**



### December Birthdays

- 2 Kim Donley, Greta Garmers
- 5 Betty Shaw
- 6 Andrew Justin, Edmund Meinerts, Colleen Moravek
- 8 Lisa Roy
- 9 Peter Justin
- 15 Rachel Acevedo Hoffman
- 16 Jan Vaughan
- 27 Bob Carman, Jonathan Smith

### December Anniversary

- 31 Randy DeMent & Mike Lambert

## UBC Congregation to Begin Discernment Process

What are you doing on Feb. 10, Mar. 9, and May 11, 2024? Hopefully, helping define the future of UBC!

Are you wondering what the future will be for UBC in the next three to five years? What should be the focus of our internal and external ministries? How does our anti-racism work fit our future? What are the roles of our 100-year-old building and our endowment in meeting our goals?

The UBC Council has decided it's time to embark on another discernment process. We are contracting with two consultants from Rochester, MN, experienced in congregational discernment, strategic planning, and spiritual direction. Travis Beck is the Director of Worship, Music, and the Arts at Mount Olive Lutheran Church; and Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan serves the church in areas of spiritual formation. Mount Olive is a church struggling with many of the same social justice issues that UBC does.

Our process will focus around three retreat Saturdays – **Feb. 10, March 9, and May 11** – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. University Lutheran Church of Hope has graciously allowed us the use of their Heritage room and their Chapel (and their parking lot!) for our use these three days. A light breakfast, lunch, childcare, and a Zoom link for those unable to join in person will be provided. Please put these three dates on your calendar.

On Feb. 10, we will begin the day with an environmental scan, creating a shared awareness of where we've been as a congregation, where we are now, and what awaits us. In the afternoon, we will

create a shared, practical vision of our desired future based on the group's hopes and dreams.

On Mar. 9, we will begin by identifying underlying obstacles and barriers that could prevent our vision from becoming a reality. After lunch, we will identify areas of focus that address the blocks and barriers and move us toward our vision.



On May 11, we will set and prioritize goals for the 2024-2029 planning years, beginning with the first year. We will develop a first-year calendar, and establish accountability for the first-year accomplishments.

UBC is here now for us because generations of UBCers before us took care of the congregation and eventually the building and our endowment. It's now our turn to discern the future of UBC for us, for our children, and for our grandchildren. **And we really need all voices and all perspectives! Please plan to participate.**

If you would like to help our consultants plan the sessions to best fit the needs of UBC, we could use your ideas on the Design Team. The Design Team may have a 30-60 minute webinar with the consultants once a month to gather information, help frame organizing questions, and determine the most effective strategies for moving the discernment process forward. Our next meeting will be Mon., Dec. 4, at 2 p.m.. If you are interested in serving as a member of the Design Team, please contact Jean Lubke.

- *Jean Lubke, Congregational President*



## All Saints Communion Sunday – Nov. 2



Bell banner of all the Saints who have passed.



Congregants gathered around the table for communion during All Saints Sunday.

Photos by Chris Follett





## “What’s that straw on the church lawn all about?”

By Betsy Kerr, Garden Team Coordinator



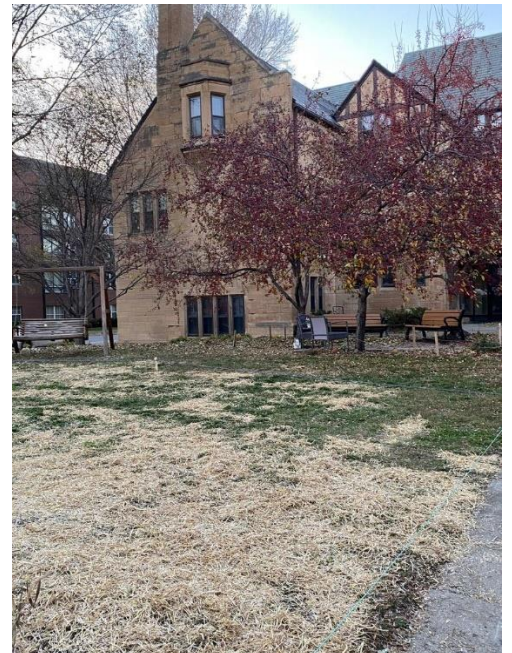
If you’ve been to church lately, you’ve noticed the straw on much of the lawn area. This was the last step in the dormant seeding project undertaken by the Garden Team in mid-November. The decision was made to try to improve the state of the lawn by laying down a bee lawn seed mix, a process which involved a number of steps and a lot of helpers. Folks who participated in the operation: Randy DeMent, Trish Donley, Doug Donley, Chris Follett, Margie Garmers, Betsy Kerr, Marie LaFrance, Patrick Mavity, and Barb Patterson.

As you may know, the lawn suffered a bit from the removal of the basswood tree in May 2022, and it was quite overrun by some very hardy weeds, which we learned were Prostrate knotweed (*Polygonum aviculare*). Some



of the Garden Team—in particular Chris, who deserves the title Chief Weed Warrior—had been working on removing these and other weeds throughout the summer. The first step in the seeding project was to schedule an additional weeding session. Yet more weeding happened on the day we did the actual seeding. The idea was not only to reduce the future growth of such weeds, but also, very importantly, to improve the soil-to-seed contact. To that end, Patrick started the process by mowing the existing lawn to the lowest possible height.

But before any of that happened, some research and planning were required. Trish Donley did the lion’s share of the research, providing us with very helpful information from the U of M Extension Service on the process of dormant seeding and on bee lawns. Dormant seeding refers to seeding in late fall for germination in spring, which saves both water and labor, since the winter snows and spring rains provide the necessary moisture. Here are the “Quick Facts” about bee lawns from the U’s page on [“Planting and maintaining a bee lawn”](#):



- Bee lawns have flowers mixed in with turfgrasses such as fine fescues and Kentucky bluegrass.
- The flowers of a bee lawn provide food (nectar and pollen) for pollinators.
- Bee lawns are environmentally friendly because they are managed using low-input methods that generally use less fertilizer and pesticides.
- Bee lawns can still be used recreationally by your household like a regular lawn.
- A bee lawn can attract over 50 species of native bees.





The seed mix we chose was the University’s original Bee Lawn Mix, developed by the U’s Bee Lab. This particular mix contains five turfgrasses referred to as fine fescues, plus three flowering plants for the bees: white Dutch clover, creeping thyme and self-heal. And don’t worry—the bees that like these flowers are not the kind that sting!

So back to the process. Randy and Doug had previously filled in the hole where the tree had been and leveled it off. After Patrick’s mowing, a team of six people assembled to do final weeding, rake leaves and any other debris from the lawn

surface, rough up the bare soil areas, spread the seed with a drop spreader (Marie became an expert at this), and spread straw by hand on top of the seed. The straw is intended to protect the seed from birds or other critters and reduce wind and water erosion of the seed. Ideally, there would be no foot traffic on the seeded areas until well into next summer, to give the seed the best conditions for germination and establishment.



According to the U’s page on [Dormant seeding your lawn](#), “this method generally works best when the newly seeded areas are covered with several inches of snow soon after seeding that remains in place over the entire winter.” Dare I say, “Pray for snow!”?!?



**Photos of workers by Doug Donley  
All other photos by Betsy Kerr**





## **Bienvenidos a Nazareth Belén y Cairo Díaz!! Welcome to Nazareth Belén and Cairo Diaz!**

Francisco Diaz's sister and father arrived Friday evening, Nov. 24 from Nicaragua. Cairo will be staying here until mid-February. Belén will be living here through the Humanitarian Parole program for two years. They will be living with Francisco and Anielka. They will both be taking English classes at the International Institute; Belén will be looking for a job in health care as she just graduated with her medical degree. Cairo is a retired biologist.

**Photo by Chris Follett**

---

## **Dedication of Valeria Susana Diaz Montiel – Nov. 26**



Parents Anielka Montiel and Francisco Diaz, along with Frank's father Cairo and sister Belén, rejoiced in the dedication of their daughter Valeria, officiated by Pastor Doug Donley.

**Photos by Jean Lubke**



## FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Most of our income (57%) comes from pledges made by members. As of Nov. 26. we are ahead of where we would expect due to some pre-paid pledges.



Expected annual rental income is 21% of our budget. Patrick does a great job renting out spaces that don't have a regular tenant.

Other gifts and miscellaneous income provide 5% of our budget. We have had some generous donations of late.

The Foundation distribution is 17%, which includes \$33,399 for the property manager position. The Foundation funds are transferred to the UBC checking account as needed by the treasurer.

Operating Income 2023-24	%	Budget	Expected	Received	Over (short)
Pledge Income	57	\$187,940	\$78,308	\$87,311	\$9,003
Rental Income	21	\$70,000	\$29,167	\$28,372	(\$794)
Misc income*	5	<u>\$15,000</u>	\$6,250	\$10,018	\$3,768
Subtotal		<b>\$272,940</b>	\$113,725	\$125,701	\$11,976
Carry-forward from 2022-23	0				
Foundation	17	<u>\$54,066</u>			
Total Operating Income	100	<b>\$327,006</b>			
Justice & Outreach		<u>\$15,000</u>		\$6,235	
Total Budget		<b>\$342,006</b>			

\*individual gifts, loose offering & miscellaneous income

The dedicated offering for Nov/Dec is for Justice Organizations and we have received \$980 to date.

The dedicated offering for Sept/Oct was for Nicaraguan Ministries and we have received \$1,915 to date (of that total, \$560 was designated for scholarships and \$600 for the Tai Shigaki Travel Fund.)

Chris Follett, Financial Secretary



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.

### UBC Wish List for 2023-24

These are items that don't fit in the budget but would be really nice to have.

1. A new church sign on University Ave. that faces oncoming traffic.
2. A big welcoming banner on the west side of the building visible to people driving or walking on University Ave.
3. Funds for a marketing communications consultant and/or graphic designer.
4. Funds for assistance migrating financial records from Money 2005 to QuickBooks Online.
5. Upgrade or replacement of our playground equipment.
6. Update blue hymnal.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Meals on Wheels

UBC has an opportunity to participate in Meals on Wheels on M-Th of the first full week of the month (**Dec. 4-7**). Meals are picked up around 11:15 a.m. and the route 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).

### Little Free Pantry

We are looking for individuals who might be willing 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 Deidre Druk, Outreach co-chairs.

### Every Meal

UBC participates in *Every Meal*, a program that distributes bagged food for families of children at Marcy Open School who receive free and reduced-cost meals. UBC is scheduled on the **second Friday of each month (Dec. 8)**, 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).

### Request for Tutors

My name is Kayme Vang and I am a volunteer coordinator at Reading Partners Twin Cities, an education nonprofit that partners with schools in underserved communities to provide elementary school students with the foundational literacy skills they need to read at grade level. We do this by mobilizing and training community volunteers to provide one-on-one, individualized literacy tutoring to students in our program, using a structured, evidence-based curriculum. No prior experience is needed to become a tutor volunteer, and we provide initial and ongoing training and support.

Ascension Catholic School and St. John Paul II Catholic School are two of the schools that we work closely with in Minneapolis. These schools are in dire need of tutor volunteers and I am reaching out in hopes that members of your congregation are willing to extend a helping hand. We need the support of our community members and volunteers who can dedicate a minimum of one hour a week to our program.

Kayme Vang (she/her)  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Reading Partners Twin Cities

[kayme.vang@readingpartners.org](mailto:kayme.vang@readingpartners.org)  
(651) 362-0430

### Looking for Volunteers

**Coffee hosts** – Sign up in the lounge  
**Communion prep** – Contact Terri Wottrich  
**Sunday school teachers** - Contact Megan Dahlberg  
**Ushers** – Contact Chris Follett  
**Worship leaders** – Contact Deidre Druk

### A note from our Korean friend, Chang Kiu:

Reading the news on 'This Week at UBC' is one of the great joys that I am being connected to the UBC. The picture of the flower garden in front of the church reminds me many memories with the friends there for nearly half century.

We are managing well. I stay in my hometown during the weekday, and then drive to Chuncheon where Insook lives. She is supervising a project which is funded by Samsung for the junior high students in Chuncheon City. She has been doing the work for seven years for the students from low-income families. It is purely a volunteer work, and she enjoys much.

I have 3-4 kids every afternoon Monday to Friday in my science lab. Such activities were impossible for three years when covid-19 swept the country. But we are not worrying the pandemic much now. I published a book, like a lab manual, last July. It was possible by the support of some chemists who encouraged me writing based on the experiments that I taught for ten years.

John, our older son, lives in Indiana. He has a son, 10 years old. He works for an automobile company there. Jin, the younger son, lives in Incheon. He has a daughter and a son. He also works for an automobile company. We see them once a month.

Sometimes we wonder if we can travel to the US and see you and friends in the UBC again. But we realize it is not likely at our ages. The UBC newsletter is the big comforter. We always think we are blessed because of those good friends in the UBC.

Please keep good health!

Love and respect,

Chang Kiu

## Special Offering for November & December Justice Issues

The Outreach missions for Nov. and Dec. are focused on programs that tackle justice issues in the Twin Cities. In the past, these have included homeless organizations, voting rights groups, refugee services, LGBTQ+ groups, etc. Your donations are appreciated as we try to heal our cities and neighborhoods.

You can drop your offering in the donation box, send a check to the church, designate a gift directly from your bank, use the QR code below, or use our online portal for giving on the UBC website, [www.UBCmn.org](http://www.UBCmn.org).

Thank you for your ongoing Outreach support!!

*Kim Donley and Deidre Druk,  
Outreach Co-Chairs*



### **UBC NEWS**

*Published monthly*

**University Baptist Church**

**1219 University Ave SE**

**Minneapolis, MN 55414**

**612-331-1768, [info@ubcmn.org](mailto:info@ubcmn.org)**

[www.ubcmn.org](http://www.ubcmn.org)

**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)