



UNIVERSITY
BAPTIST CHURCH

UBC NEWS

CELEBRATING 175 YEARS
OCTOBER 2025

1219 University Ave SE
Minneapolis MN 55414

Established 1850 at St. Anthony Falls, MN

From the Pastor

Spirit, Hope, Resilience, Creativity

In recent weeks, our state and nation have been rocked by still more shootings. Children at Annunciation School in Minneapolis were shot during mass. Charlie Kirk was shot on a college campus. Folks have been shot at a homeless encampment, an ICE detention facility, and more schools and churches. We are quick to declare who is responsible, be it the social-media echo chamber, the plethora of firearms, the mental health crisis that betrays easy solutions. And we stay in our respective camps pointing fingers. Does it bring us any closer to a solution?

The grief counselors among us say that we are in collective trauma. And it's messy. And we need to find a way to model a better way forward—even if we don't really feel ready.

Jesus reminds us that if we are to truly be seen as God's children, we need to embrace the hard work of peacemaking. This means calling out the ills of the world and looking at how we have contributed to the dis-ease in which we live.



One of the benefits of a healthy church community is that we try to practice the priorities of Jesus. Look at the Sermon on the Mount. Focus on the first 12 verses of Matthew 5. Jesus prioritizes humility, focus, purity of heart, compassion, and even mourning. He says when you do this, you will be persecuted. But you will be persecuted for all of the right reasons. And you're not alone.

So, as the colors change and we approach the one-year anniversary of the last national election, let us remember that we are part of a great movement of spirit and hope and resilience and creativity. We need each other. Blessed be the movement and the people in it. Perhaps we are the ones for whom God has been waiting.

As we continue to celebrate our 175th anniversary, may we focus our energies on making our little corner of the world an oasis in the storms of life.

Blessings and Peace,

Doug Donley

October Worship Schedule

Worship Theme:
"Faithfulness: Then and Now"

October 5

Preaching: Doug Donley

Sermon: "Holy Love: Ruth and Naomi"

Scripture: Ruth 1:12-18

Worship Leader: Deidre Druk

Ushers: Trish Donley & Terri Wottrich

October 12

Preaching: Doug Donley

Sermon: "Lazarus, Come Out"

Scripture: John 11:1-45 (excerpts)

Worship Leader: Paula Moyer

Ushers: Joel Delikowski & Gene Velasco

October 19

Preaching: Mikah Meyer

Sermon: "Reflections on the Canyon Chorus"

Scripture: Luke 14:15-24

Worship Leader: Doug Donley

Ushers: Trish Donley & Terri Wottrich

October 26

Preaching: Doug Donley

Sermon: "Holy Love: David and Jonathan"

Scripture: II Samuel 1:17-27

Worship Leader: Deidre Druk

Ushers: Joel Delikowski & Trish Donley

OCTOBER FORUMS

Forums are held 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., after coffee time. We do our best to provide a Zoom option for remote participants.

October 5–Hymn Sing / Evaluation

This year, a grant is allowing us to reenvision our blue hymnal, created in 1983, as a new and expanded music supplement to our worship at UBC. We are singing the hymns currently in the blue hymnal and evaluating them as to whether we want to keep them, and if so, identifying changes we want to make. Because there are not enough Sundays in the year to sing all 160, this forum will be devoted to as many as possible that are not scheduled for regular worship. Please come ready to sing!

October 12–Block party! Open doors to our neighborhood!

After worship, grab some lunch from one of the food trucks coming to our street. Then join the welcoming team to host arts, fun, outreach partners, and our Dinkytown neighbors, 12 to 6 p.m. Sign up for a shift or the whole day to be part of this 175th Anniversary event created to connect with the community at our doorstep. See page 3 for more info.

October 19–Sermon talk-back with Mikah Meyer

Did you know UBC is literally across the street from the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, a National Park Service site? Guest preacher and outdoors activist Mikah Meyer visited all 419 National Park Services sites in a three-year tour. He will engage in a sermon talk-back and share more about his experience and ministry as a pathbreaking LGBTQ outdoors person. Learn more about Mikah Meyer on page 9.

October 26–HIV + Homelessness 101

Clare Housing is a community organization and leader in providing care for neighbors living with HIV and experiencing housing insecurity. Staff member Tom Page will give an up-to-date conversational presentation that connects the dots between stable housing, health outcomes, and HIV prevention while lifting up practical ways a congregation can help.

Block Party & Open House - HOSTS NEEDED

Sunday, October 12, 12-6 p.m.

This is our chance as the UBC community to welcome and host our neighbors! 13th Avenue between University Avenue and the driveways mid-block will be closed to traffic, providing space for food trucks and fun. Activities will take place throughout the building and outside on the lawn. A professional security service will be on the grounds to help keep everyone safe. Team co-leads are Elwyn Fraser and Claire Mavity with support from the 175th Anniversary Committee.

Sign up in the lounge or contact Claire at s.clairecat@gmail.com or 612-728-8905 and include your name, how you can volunteer, and when you're available.

Then come to church on October 12, ready to stay for the day! Parking is available in the Mormon lot or at University Lutheran Church of Hope.

BOUNCY HOUSE

LIVE MUSIC

FREE DESSERT

Music Performances

See More Perspective
Hand Drum Center
Daniel Gilbert
Rodney Patrick of Sounds of Blackness
Tapestry Folkdance Center Contra Dance
UBC Handbell and Vocal Choirs
DJ Rey
Triple Fiddle
Sacred Harp shaped-note singing group

Food Trucks

Thai Thai Street Food
VBJ's All Natural Vegan Food Truck

Nonprofit Partners

Clare Housing
Division of Indian Work/Food Shelf

And more!

Trans artist market
The day will close with a ticketed Roots Cellar concert by folk/Americana singer-songwriter Jaspar Lepak in the lower-level auditorium at 6 p.m.!

We need volunteers before the party:

- make or buy bars and cookies or other baked goods for the Free Dessert table and bring them on Sunday (WE NEED LOTS!!)
- help with setup on Saturday

We need a total of 20 volunteers on Sunday to host various spaces inside and outside:

- mingle and music space (outdoors under the portico and main lawn area)
- food-truck space
- dance and active art space (indoor stage and open area downstairs)
- quiet/meditative/renewal space (indoor library room)
- cooking space (indoor volunteers to make desserts and bring them out)
- overall space (indoor/outdoor runners to help team leaders Elwyn and Claire resolve arising issues in real time)



Calendar for October

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
			9 a.m. Garden Team 11 a.m. Handcraft Group 6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	6:30 p.m. Caregiver Support		9 a.m. Bible Study
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10 a.m. Worship Bells Play Communion Joys & Concerns 11:15 a.m. Coffee Time 11:45 a.m. Forum/Journeys		11:15 am Meals on Wheels 5:30 p.m. Sacred Harp 7 p.m. Anti-racism Work	9 a.m. Garden Team 11:15 am Meals on Wheels 6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	11:15 am Meals on Wheels 11 a.m. Every Meal 5 p.m. S'mores & Parade		1 p.m. Book Group 2 p.m. Wild Church
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10 a.m. Worship Joys & Concerns 12-6 p.m. Block Party 4 p.m. Sacred Harp 6 p.m. Roots Cellar		5:30 p.m. Sacred Harp 6 p.m. THRIVE Zoom 7 p.m. Memoir Group	9 a.m. Garden Team 6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells			9 a.m. Bible Study
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10 a.m. Worship Joys & Concerns 11:15 a.m. Coffee Time 11:45 a.m. Forum/Journeys	7 p.m. Knitting Group	5:30 p.m. Sacred Harp	6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells			<i>Newsletter deadline</i> 10 a.m. Spanish Conv. 1 p.m. Card Club
26	27	28	29	30	31	
10 a.m. Worship Joys & Concerns 11:15 a.m. Coffee Time 11:45 a.m. Forum/Journeys 4 p.m. Sacred Harp	6 p.m. Hymnal Task Force	5:30 p.m. Sacred Harp 7 p.m. Memoir Group	6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells		2-7 p.m. Loaves & Fishes ON HOLD	

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](#) channel (search University Baptist Church Minneapolis MN).

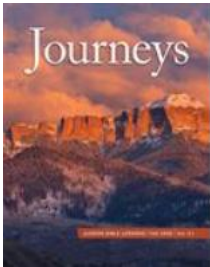
When the livestream has ended - Joys & Concerns (on Zoom)

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID 839 4725 7444 passcode 257750

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

11:15 a.m. Coffee time in the lounge followed by forum

11:45 a.m. Journeys Bible Study in the Char Follett Library. Our meeting is an opportunity to read Scripture together, to learn something new, to ask questions, and to talk about your faith. No preparation is required. Please feel free to come once or regularly. See Nancy Myers or Diane Ehr for more information.



October 5 - Integrity: Psalm 26:1-12

October 12 - Discernment: Hebrews 4:12-16

October 19 - Servanthood: Mark 10:35-45

October 26 - Supplication: Mark 10:46-52



Garden Team-Wednesdays, 9 a.m. 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. If you have questions, please contact Betsy Kerr at 612-877-2018 or bjkerr@umn.edu.

UBC-FCC Daytime Handcraft Group-October 1 (1st Wednesday), 11 a.m. at First Congregational Church (500 8th Ave. SE). If you are interested and want to be on a distribution list, please let Marilyn Burns (from FCC) know at mbsnoobear@mac.com.



Bells and Choir Rehearsal-Wednesday evenings in the church sanctuary or lounge. Please see the calendar on page 3 for the current rehearsal schedule.

Caregiver Support Group-October 2 (1st Thursday), 6:30 p.m. UBCers who care for a parent, family member, or friend meet for support. If you have questions, please contact Jean Lubke at jeanlubke01@gmail.com.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID 829 0006 6861 Passcode 942930

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82900066861?pwd=RUQ1eGhYN1RzWTJCR0VTNG1JNFVsUT09>



More of What's Going On



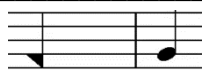
Bible Study–October 4 & 18 (1st & 3rd Saturday), 9 a.m. We will discuss Luke 11-12. New and occasional members are always welcome. No special background, skill, or preparation is required. If you have questions, please contact Diane Ehr at dianeehr82@gmail.com

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 517 697 6753 Passcode: 602794

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZINlYDcwUElzTWFMZm50OQT09>

Meals on Wheels–October 7-10 (Tuesday-Friday 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 questions, please contact Marie LaFrance at marielafrance46@gmail.com.



fa sol

Sacred Harp Singing–Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Sundays (2nd & 4th), 4-6 p.m. at UBC in Room 303. No experience or talent necessary!

UBC Anti-Racism Work–Tuesday, October 7, 7 p.m. We will plan this year's activities. Everyone is welcome to join this monthly gathering.



ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 517 697 6753 Passcode: 602794

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZINlYDcwUElzTWFMZm50OQT09>



Every Meal–October 10 (2nd Friday), 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Marcy Arts Elementary School in SE Minneapolis. Volunteers are needed to deliver meal bags to student backpacks. If you are interested, please contact Denise Roy at denise.roy@mitchellhamline.edu

U of M Homecoming Parade–Friday, October 10, 5 p.m. Once again we'll be making s'mores on the UBC lawn as we watch the parade go right by on University Avenue (around 6:30 p.m.). Come early to beat the street closures. Join us for the fun!



Grace in Contemporary Literature by Women Book Group–October 11 (2nd Saturday), 1 p.m. The book this month is *Becoming Mrs. Lewis* by Patti Callahan Henry. If you have questions, please contact Chris Follett at chrisf2828@yahoo.com.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 517 697 6753 Passcode: 602794

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZINlYDcwUElzTWFMZm50OQT09>

More of What's Going On

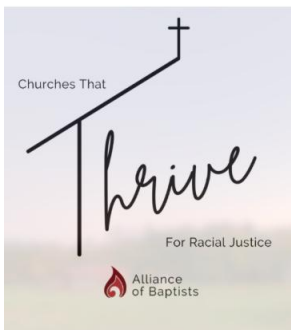


Wild Church Gathering—October 11 (2nd Saturday), 2 p.m. at the Peace statue by Nicollet Island Pavillion with friends from other SE churches. During our time together, we will ground ourselves in scripture, poetry, and song before embarking on a time of wandering. We will close with a time of reflection and sharing. The Wild Church movement invites us to reshape our relationship with creation through outdoor worship. See more info here: <https://www.wildchurchnetwork.com/>

ROOTS CELLAR—Sunday, October 12, 6 p.m. - Jaspar Lepak

Jaspar Lepak (pronounced JAS-per LEE-pack) writes feminist folk songs from the heart—poetic, honest, and “always evocative” (Mostly Minnesota). Her clear, pure voice and classic folk sound have earned comparisons to Kate Wolf and Nanci Griffith. For more info, go to <https://jasparlepak.com/>. Tickets are \$20, available at the door or at <https://events.humanitix.com/jasparlepak>. This concert will close out the block party.

Fun fact: Jaspar was Roger Johnson's guitar teacher and she played at his memorial service.



THRIVE meeting—Tuesday, October 14, 6 p.m. via [Zoom](#). As we reflect on our time as a learning cohort so far, come with thoughts on the following questions:

- In your context, how are you discerning moving from prophetic imagination to prophetic action? How has your congregation and community moved toward action already?
- How can you and your congregation be equipped to meet this political and historical moment?
- What is bringing you delight in these current times?

Memoir Writing Group—October 14 & 28 (every other Tuesday), 7 p.m.

Prompts include *UBC Memories*, *Crying/Tears* and *Your First Sunday at UBC*. If you have questions, please contact Trish Donley at 612-386-2856 or patricia.donley63@gmail.com.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 517 697 6753 Passcode: 602794

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZlNlYkRwUElzMWFmLzRyZm5OQT09>



UBC-FCC Knitting Group—October 20 (3rd Monday), 7 p.m. at the home of Kris Felbeck. The group is made up of stitchers from UBC and First Congregational Church. If you have questions, please contact Chris Follett at chrisf2828@yahoo.com.

Spanish Conversation Group—October 25 (4th Saturday), 10 a.m. at Curioso Coffee Shop, 1712 Marshall St NE, Minneapolis. Join folks from UBC and First Congregational Church to practice your Spanish. If you have questions, please contact Deidre Druk at deidredruk@aol.com.



More of What's Going On



Card Club–Saturday, October 25, 1 p.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 or 651-295-7525.

Loaves & Fishes–Friday, October 31, 2-7 p.m. ON HOLD

Our friends at Peace House made the hard decision to no longer host Loaves and Fishes due to safety concerns. They are looking for a new site. We will keep everyone updated when we know more about another location.



ROOTS CELLAR CONCERTS

Sunday, October 12, 6 p.m. – Jaspar Lepak
Saturday, November 8, 7 p.m. – Rachael Kilgour
Sunday, February 22, 7 p.m. – Katie Dahl/Hope Dunbar/
Rj Cowdery
Saturday, April 11, 7 p.m. – Crys Matthews



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November 2 - All Saints service with communion followed by a potluck

November 8, 9 a.m.-noon - Hymnal retreat at UBC—childcare and food will be provided.

November 16 forum - Building tour

Center Stage

UBC has a talented community and we want to start sharing your upcoming events! Do you have a concert, presentation, exhibit, performance, or other event that you'd like to share? Send details to marketing@ubcmn.org!



UBC had a billboard on the West Bank which was up for the month of September.

Mikah Meyer, Guest Preacher, October 19

In the short film [Canyon Chorus](#), world record traveler and Minneapolis resident Mikah Meyer and his mentor Larry journey by raft down Utah's Green River through Desolation Canyon. The trip centered around joy and recognizing the important people in our lives. Part of the story involves Mikah's journey to all 400+ National Park Service sites that led him to move to Minneapolis after seeing and choosing from the entire country! Come hear the update to that National Parks story when Mikah preaches at UBC about the importance of symbols that celebrate who we are.



National Parks expert Mikah Meyer has been described as a Professional Road Tripper by REI, but he's much more than that: a classically trained singer, social media personality, and frequent speaker everywhere from Amazon.com's headquarters to National Park Foundation galas.

Raised as a Lutheran preacher's kid in the flat state of Nebraska, Mikah is passionate about exploring all types of outdoor locations and helping people of divergent backgrounds find joy and common ground through their shared love of nature. This advocacy was seen at the 2024 Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival and the Banff World Tour through his diverse adventures, including runs across the states of Minnesota, Mississippi, and Nebraska, and his three-year, world-record-setting road trip to all of America's National Park Service sites.

Mikah is the creator of the Outside Safe Space symbol, which is sold at park gift shops and recreation stores including REI nationwide and is currently being worn by over 100,000 people in the United States as a non-verbal signifier of LGBTQ+ allyship in outdoor, rural, and active spaces.

He has been featured by *The Today Show*, NPR, *Late Night with Seth Meyers*, *The Guardian*, and *National Geographic Traveler*. Read more at mikahmeyer.com

Grant Awarded for National Registry of Historic Places Application

UBC received notice at the end of September that we've been granted \$7,500 by the Minnesota Historical Society for the historical preservationists New History to write the complete national application for our beautiful, old building to be listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. This is the last step in the process before being reviewed at the national level for acceptance on the registry. A listing on the registry would give us permission to apply for "brick and mortar" grants to repair the envelope of our building (roof, stonework, windows, doors, etc.). First Congregational Church has received almost a million dollars in these grants since they've been listed. The Minnesota Historical Society's grant signals that they believe our church has a good chance at qualifying. The New History team will provide a tour of our building for us on November 16.

In Memorium—Ruby Rott



Ruby Rott, who spent several decades as an active member of UBC, passed away on September 15 in River Falls, WI. She was 91.

Her memorial service was on September 28, and Pastor Doug Donley officiated per Ruby's request of many years ago. Here is a link to her [obituary](#).

Notes of condolence can be sent to her daughter Katy Call, 425 Hwy 65, Roberts, WI 54023.

Re-Imagining "Inclusive": The Work of the Hymnal Task Force

By Paula Moyer

Rating hymns by tune and lyrics. Looking for sources for social-justice hymns. Honoring the "blue hymnal's" legacy while setting a new bar for 'inclusive language': Does the language in our music welcome all? These are some of the tasks the Hymnal Task Force has taken on.

Our goal: a new, congregation-developed collection that is fitting for our times. Toward that end, we will continue to rely primarily on the 'blue hymnal' and inserts (and evaluations by worshippers) in the coming weeks.

Among some of our initial findings/realizations:

- a mix of timeless and new hymns will continue to be part of our worship experience;
- we don't have to reach "consensus" on every entry;
- some hymns just have to be sung to know if they'll work.

The hymn re-imagining project is funded by a \$16K grant from the Calvin Institute.

Watch for more updates as our work progresses.

UBC is Hiring Child Care Workers

Sunday mornings and
Wednesday evenings, \$16/hour

Contact info@ubcmn.org



Meal Train for Ivan and Erik

Please sign up to deliver a meal as Erik recovers from surgery mid-October.

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/yyodw1>

Criminalizing Mercy: Sanctuary and Government Repression of Migrant Justice

The Sanctuary Movement is a movement of hospitality that propelled faith communities' practices of loving neighbors. While it has taken different forms throughout the years, the movement's roots of interfaith solidarity and mutual transformation still provide lessons for those committed to migrant justice today.

Join us October 21–23 as we explore the history, challenges, and future of the Sanctuary Movement in the struggle for migrant justice.

This event is jointly sponsored by the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, University Baptist Church, the University of St. Thomas, and the Faith-Based Working Group of the Minnesota-Dakotas Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). Details for each event are below:



Agenda

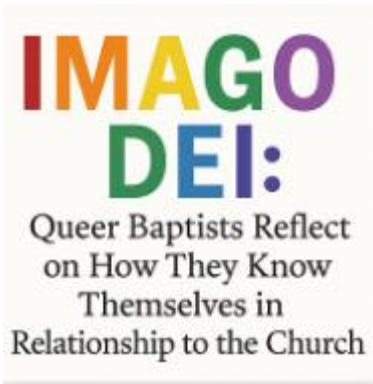
We will begin on **Tuesday, October 21, at 7 p.m.** with a community conversation for faith communities interested in sanctuary work during this political moment. We will hear first-hand accounts from those who have participated in previous iterations of the Sanctuary Movement, and the conversation will be facilitated by [Dr. Sergio González](#). Registration is required for this event, which will take place near the U of M campus. The exact location will be shared after registration.

[Dr. Sergio González](#) will deliver the keynote lecture, **Criminalizing Mercy: Sanctuary and Government Repression of Migrant Justice**, as a part of the [Shurden Lectures](#) on **Wednesday, October 22, 7 p.m.** This event will be held at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul campus. As the co-creator of the podcast [Sanctuary: On the Border Between Church and State](#), Gonzalez will offer insights about the state of faith community involvement in migrant justice.

We will conclude the events with a lunch presentation and conversation with Minnesota State Representative Sandra Feist (DFL-New Brighton) at the University of St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis on **Thursday, October 23, 12:30 p.m.** The theme will be: **What is the optimal role of state and local government in immigration policy?** This dialogue will focus on the direct impact of the current administration's actions and policies upon Minnesotans. How are these actions impacting Minnesota's communities? How are these actions being perceived? This conversation will address how state and local governments may respond to the new normal of enforcement-focused federal immigration policy.

Register: You are invited to attend all three events, but advance registration is required for each. If you can't join us in person, you can sign up to receive a recording of the lecture. [Please register at this link](#) and we hope to see you there!

From the Association of Welcoming & Affirming Baptists (AWAB)
Sharing Our Stories:
Call for Submissions to Imago Dei



What does it mean to be both queer and Baptist? For many, the answer is complicated. Some of us were nurtured by Baptist churches even as those same churches struggled—or outright refused—to affirm us. Some walked away, weary of hypocrisy. Others stayed, even at great personal cost. And more and more of us have found ways to live fully and faithfully, both queer and Baptist, urging the church to wrestle honestly with these questions.

A new book project, *IMAGO DEI: Queer Baptists Reflect on How They Know Themselves in Relationship to the Church*, is inviting personal essays from queer Baptists across the spectrum of experience. This collection will bring together stories of gratitude, grief, resilience, and courage from those who have navigated life at this intersection.

The book will feature an introduction by Rev. Dr. Cody Sanders, former AWAB Board Member, now Associate Professor of Congregational and Community Care Leadership at Luther Seminary, and a leading voice in LGBTQIA+ spiritual care. Cody's scholarship and ministry have long helped the wider church listen more deeply to queer voices.

Your invitation

If you are a queer Baptist with a story to tell, this is your chance to add your voice. The editor, Dr. Paula Garrett, is welcoming submissions of personal essays that explore the complexity, tension, and beauty of being both queer and Baptist.

Essays should:

- Offer a carefully crafted personal reflection.
- Be no longer than 20 double-spaced pages.
- Be submitted by January 30, 2026, to Paula Garrett at pgarrett@warren-wilson.edu.

This is more than a call for papers; it's a call to witness. By sharing your story, you help shape the narrative of how queer Baptists know themselves and how we continue to call the church into fuller faithfulness.

About the editor

Dr. Paula Garrett is Professor of English and American Studies at Warren Wilson College in Asheville, NC. She offers numerous queer studies courses there. Her primary research area is in 19th-century women, including their understandings of same-sex relationships. She is currently an MDiv student supported by AWAB Education Partner, the Baptist House of Studies at SMU's Perkins School of Theology. A Baptist preacher's daughter and sister, Paula is deeply interested in the center of the Venn diagram between queer people and people of faith. She and her wife, Donna Read, live in Swannanoa, NC, with their teenage son, Read. They are members of AWAB member congregation, First Baptist Church of Asheville.

Welcome Back Potluck Picnic–September 7



Food, fellowship and sunny weather were enjoyed at our annual picnic on September 7.

Above: Diane, Ty, Karen and Howard chatted.

Right: Don, Kevin D., Laura and Peter relaxed under the crab apple tree.

Below: Lauren, Kevin B., Nancy, and Trish hung out.

Photos by Betsy Kerr



UBC at 175

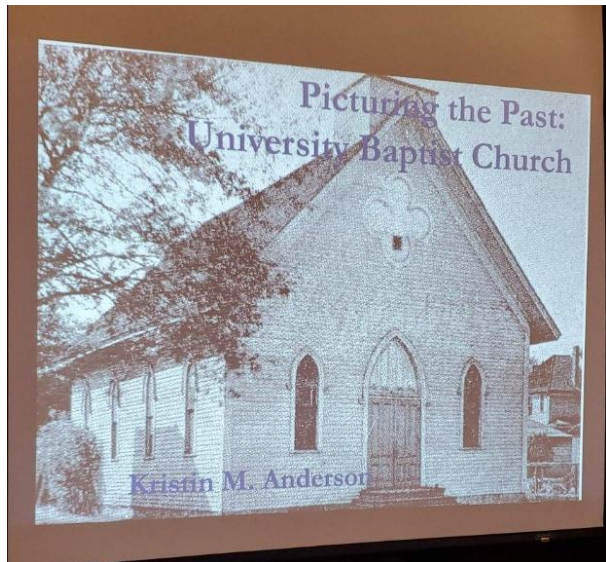
Picturing the Past: An Illustrated Presentation

By Kristin Anderson



Kristin Anderson, professor emerita of art history (left), spoke at the forum on September 20 about the different buildings and locations that UBC has occupied since 1850. The building in the photo lower left was built in 1870, originally on 2nd Street SE, then moved three blocks to 5th Street SE. The other UBC building sketches are shown below, including the photo of present-day UBC in the center.

Photos by Chris Follett



Right: UBC without the front hedges, 1960s?

Come to the forum on November 16 to learn more about our building and get a guided tour!





Give to the Max Day 2025: Celebrate 175 years of UBC!

This year, UBC will be a part of the excitement that surrounds Give to the Max Day in Minnesota on November 20! The tagline for GTMD25 is “giving that gathers us,” which is fitting as we continue gathering to celebrate our 175th anniversary.

This year, our goal will be to get 175 donations of \$18.50 each, to honor our founding 175 years ago in 1850. 175 donations is a lofty goal, but with your help, we can exceed it! Once the



campaign begins, we'll be asking you to share our fundraiser with your networks. If 35 of you get five friends to make a donation, we'll meet our goal in no time.

Early giving for GTMD25 begins on November 1. Stay tuned for more info as we go, including ways you can increase our chances of extra prizes from GiveMN!

www.givemn.org/organization/UniversityBaptistChurch

Another Successful Grant Application—\$40K!

UBC received the good news at the end of September that we were selected to receive the 2025 MRC Palmer Grant from the American Baptist Foundation. We will receive \$40K to continue our discernment around work Solving Building Issues.

Over the next year we will participate in a series of facilitated retreats using [Rooted Good's Good Futures Accelerator](#) to help us determine the best uses of our beautiful, old building and to help us make our ultimate decision about the building's future. We will have some workdays when we can come together and clean up, paint, and repair parts of our building. Childcare and refreshments will be covered for both. We will have training for other livestream technicians and a manual created for our system. We will have funds to extend our marketing work and to improve/upgrade our microphones and lights in the front of the sanctuary. Our goal will be to nearly double our rental income by increasing the use of our building from 30 percent to 50 percent, which would bring in enough income to cover all annual building costs.

More information will be coming in the subsequent months.

Financial Secretary's Report

Pledges make up almost half of our income. Three months into the new fiscal year and we are running ahead in that category as several people have already contributed their annual pledge in full. Rent is fairly predictable, with sporadic rentals happening throughout the year. Since we are early in the fiscal year, rent appears behind without that additional income yet. In addition to the regular distribution, the Foundation contribution includes funds to cover the facilities supervisor and marketing positions.

Operating Income 2025-26	%	Budget	Expected	Received	Over (short)
Pledge Income	47	\$207,933	\$51,983	\$59,777	\$7,794
Rental Income	18	\$80,000	\$20,000	\$17,014	(\$2,986)
Misc income*	7	\$31,500	\$7,875	\$3,824	(\$4,051)
Subtotal		\$319,433	\$79,858	\$80,614	\$756
Foundation Contribution	27	\$118,811		-	
Total Operating Income	100	\$438,244			

We have received \$1,073 so far for our Nicaraguan partners and the Tai Shigaki Travel Fund, recipients of the dedicated offering for September and October.

- 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 for 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 León, Project Minnesota- León and AMOS (A Ministry of Sharing). Thank you for any assistance you can provide!

You can drop your designated 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.

Thank you for your ongoing outreach support!!

Kim Donley and Karole Graham,
Outreach Team Co-Coordiators



Scan this QR code to be directed to our web page where there are a variety of causes to donate to.

Rain Garden Makeover

By Betsy Kerr



Barb Patterson, Doug Donley, Chris Follett, Trish Donley, Betsy Kerr, Marie LaFrance

This photo by Sharon. All others by Chris Follett

To assure the best possible flow of rainwater through the swales or rock-lined channels that carry water from the building downspouts to the gardens themselves, the channels needed to be cleared of accumulated silt and other

Can you imagine picking up literally hundreds of small rocks from the ground and then putting them back? Well, that's what happened in the UBC rain gardens the last two weeks of September, thanks to the labor of a dedicated team of workers under the leadership of Barb Patterson. Barb is a Sacred Harp singer who has played a pivotal role in the development and maintenance of the rain gardens from their installation four years ago to the present.



New helper Jenny (in dark shirt), Barb and Sharon work on the main swale with Betsy and Trish (near University Ave.) work on planting.



Part of the main swale emptied

debris. In addition, the stones needed to be reconfigured to create the least resistance to the water flow. This was accomplished for both swales (the one in Adele's Garden by the portico and the main one leading to the garden along University Avenue) with two work days in the last two weeks. Workers included several UBC Garden Team volunteers plus a small team recruited by Barb. What a great example of teamwork as this Herculean task was accomplished with much cheerfulness and quite expeditiously. A huge vote of thanks to Barb and her team and to the UBC volunteers!

Continued on page 18



Betsy and Trish planting Pussytoes

Rain Garden - continued

And that's not all. Our garden designer from Metro Blooms, Jen Ehlert, came to assess the gardens a few weeks ago and made some planting and design suggestions. Barb offered to purchase these native plants which were ordered by Metro Blooms and picked up by Barb. If you look carefully, you will see tiny Pussytoes on the outer edge of the large basin to the east of the sidewalk, and some small clumps of Penn Sedge along the smaller basin to the west. Barb also brought along plenty of mulch to protect the new

plantings to help them make it through the coming winter. Our friend Ivan has graciously offered to water the new plants every other day for a few weeks so the roots can get established before cooler temperatures set in.

Many thanks to Barb Patterson for her dedication to assuring that the UBC rain gardens continue to be the beautiful and fully functional resource they were intended to be. Our gratitude goes out as well to the UBC workers and Barb's team members who did the hard work to accomplish this project. Bravo to all!



Barb and Sharon at Adele's Garden



Workers Sharon and Dick

Stories from Our History

UBC's Loaves & Fishes Participation

By Steve Lee

UBC started serving meals with the Loaves & Fishes program in the summer of 1990. Initially Dick Beamer, Michael Stoughton, and Steve Lee were the organizers and led the efforts. Over time Michael left UBC and Dick and Steve picked up some more responsibilities. Later Dick moved away and Steve led the whole program after that.

We've served nearly 32,000 meals over about 140 events over the past 35 years. Hard to believe that we have been involved in this program for 20 percent of the whole history of UBC.

We serve in months that have five Fridays, on that fifth Friday, so about four times per year. We've served as few as 94 guests and as many as 438. Our standard menu is baked chicken with a vegetable, buttered bread, and fruit. Our volunteers are UBC members, their friends, families, and co-workers.



Most of our time up until the pandemic was at St. Stephen's School in south Minneapolis. During the pandemic

Loaves & Fishes moved to using the kitchen in Peace House a few blocks north and east of St. Stephen's. We used to serve our meals to guests who came in to dine. Now we make to-go boxes for them to take home to eat.

One of the highlights I remember from early days in the program was having after-parties. Volunteers would meet up at someone's house after we were all done to eat, drink, and celebrate the job done.

We've had challenges over the years. More than once we've had to deal with frozen chicken. We get the chicken in 40-pound boxes, sometimes we had a huge block of chicken we've had to thaw. It really slows down the process if you need to dump large blocks of frozen chicken in the sink to thaw enough that you can pull them apart. And baking takes longer too when you're starting with frozen pieces.

We had at least one time when the ovens weren't going to be usable. Luckily, we heard about it ahead of time so we could switch up the menu. We tried making chili that time. It was faster to prepare, but a lot harder to clean up.

We've set off the fire alarms and had a visit from the Minneapolis Fire Department.

Since the move to Peace House, we miss the interaction with the guests, but we can still see that we're meeting a large need in our community. And our chicken remains very popular.

Looking for Volunteers

Coffee hosts - Sign up in the lounge

Communion prep - Contact Terri Wottrich

Garden team - Contact Betsy Kerr or show up Wednesday morning.

Meals on Wheels - Contact Marie LaFrance

UBC history research - Contact Gayla Marty

Ushers - Contact Chris Follett

Worship leaders - Contact Megan Dahlberg

175th anniversary - Contact Gayla Marty.
Help is needed at the October 12 Block Party.



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 Jinsil & John Lee**
- 20 Katie MacAulay & Jacob Beier**
- 23 Lucas Moravek & Pete Dawson**
- 26 Mindy & Steve Lee**

UBC Social Media: A Lot to Like!



Are you following UBC on Facebook and Instagram? If not, look us up and hit that follow button! And while you're at it, would you please "like" the posts you see? In addition, give a thumbs up to our videos on YouTube and subscribe to the [UBC channel](#).

The algorithm behind what social media shows you operates with a bit of a snowball effect: the more likes a post gets, the more feeds it will show up in. Perhaps you've noticed that sometimes you post something and it gets a lot of likes, and sometimes you post something equally engaging and it hardly gets any attention. What gives? Part of it is timing, part of it is what's being posted, and part of it is the algorithm deities at work, favoring posts with a lot of likes. Next time you see a post from UBC, give it a like so that more people can see the great work we do here!

2025-26 UBC Wish List

These are items that don't fit in the budget but would be really nice to have. Please contact Chris Follett if you would like to donate toward these items.

1. A big welcoming banner on the northwest side of the building visible to people driving or walking on University Avenue (\$300)
2. Upgrade or replacement of our playground equipment
3. New bell table covers (\$3,000)
4. Wiring and electric stoves for apartment and lounge kitchen (\$6,000)
5. New furniture (couch, chairs, etc.) for nursery (\$3,000)
6. Additional benches under the crab apple tree (\$2,500)

UBC NEWS

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the 25th of the month to

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