

# UBC NEWS



University Baptist Church

1219 University Ave SE

Minneapolis MN 55414

Established 1850 at St. Anthony Falls, MN

January 2024

## From the Pastor

### Calling God to Mind

So much gets made of New Year's Resolutions. You know:

- \* Lose weight
- \* Stay connected with family/friends
- \* Go vegan
- \* Stop being vegan
- \* Be less anxious
- \* Be more realistic
- \* Be more optimistic
- \* Be more...
- \* Drink less
- \* Make every moment count.

You know the drill. It's about living into your best self. It's about being healthy and intentional. Oftentimes these lists don't include going to church more or giving more donations to the cause in which you believe.

There are people who get gym memberships every January. I call them resolutionaries. The idea is great, but the commitment beyond a few days or weeks is hard to sustain.

So, how do we make the resolutions stick? Here's a concept: prayer. Really. Prayer is simply calling God to mind and remembering that you are not alone.



I challenge you this coming year, or at least this January, to pray more. I'm not talking about being in a maudlin state of concern all the time. Rather I'm suggesting that you try out some prayer practices.

Be mindful of the frozen creation and its beauty right outside your window. Give thanks for something every day. Call God to mind and ponder how to love God and love your neighbor.

Prayer is remembering you are not alone. It's having God as your companion and sometimes sparring partner. And imagine if the whole church was praying every day. What changes would we see individually and collectively?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer said that the church has two pillars: prayer and doing justice. You can't do one effectively without the other.

So, let's ponder anew what the almighty might do in us in this New Year.

Blessings and Peace,

*Doug Donley*

## JANUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Theme: “Stay Awake”

### Jan. 7

**Preaching:** Doug Donley

**Sermon:** “Herod’s Delusions and Dreams of Eternal Glory”

**Scripture:** Matthew 2:1-12

**Worship Leader:** Jean Lubke

### Jan. 14

**Preaching:** Doug Donley

**Sermon:** “Get Up”

**Scripture:** Matthew 2:13-15

**Worship Leader:** Megan Dahlberg

### Jan. 21

**Preaching:** Doug Donley

**Sermon:** “Saul’s Awakening”

**Scripture:** Acts 9:1-19

**Worship Leader:** TBD

### Jan. 28

**Preaching:** Doug Donley

**Sermon:** “Lazarus Rising”

**Scripture:** John 11:1-44

**Worship Leader:** TBD

## JANUARY FORUMS

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

### **Jan. 7 – Sanctuary party/take down the greens**

Bring the last of your holiday treats to share while we take down the tree and pack away our sanctuary decorations until next year. Once again—many hands make light work!

### **Jan. 14 – The modern abolition movement, part 2 (rescheduled)**

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> .

### **Jan. 21 – Clearing the clutter**


Trish Donley will lead this forum about decluttering, including ways to get started, common pitfalls, and community resources for donation of items.

### **Jan. 28 – Mid-year budget review**

This is our time to check on how our budget is faring and provide feedback on any adjustments that may be needed.

**From the Pastor:** Thank you so much for the generous monetary gifts you gave to me and the rest of the UBC staff. I feel truly humbled and blessed to serve alongside the good people of UBC.

# Calendar for January

| SUN   | MON   | TUES   | WED   | THURS   | FRI                                     | SAT   |
|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
|   | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>                                | <b>6</b>  |
|   |                                  | <b>11:15 a.m.</b><br>Meals on<br>Wheels<br><br><b>5:30 p.m.</b><br>Sacred Harp<br><br><b>7 p.m.</b><br>Memoir<br>Group | <b>11 a.m.</b><br>Handcraft Grp<br><br><b>11:15 a.m.</b><br>Meals on<br>Wheels<br><br><b>6 p.m.</b><br>Choir<br><br><b>7:30 p.m.</b><br>Bells | <b>11:15 a.m.</b><br>Meals on<br>Wheels<br><br><b>4:30 p.m.</b><br>Adv. Spanish<br>Conversation<br><br><b>6:30 p.m.</b><br>Caregiver<br>Support Grp | <b>11:15 a.m.</b><br>Meals on<br>Wheels | <b>9 a.m.</b><br>Bible Study  |
| <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>   | <b>10</b>   | <b>11</b>   | <b>12</b>                               | <b>13</b>   |
| <b>10 a.m.</b> Worship<br>Communion<br>Joys & Concerns<br><b>11 a.m.</b> Coffee/<br>Sanctuary<br>Undecorating   | <b>5 p.m.</b><br>Inter. Spanish<br><br><b>6:15 p.m.</b><br>Beg. Spanish   | <b>5:30 p.m.</b><br>Sacred Harp<br><br><b>7 p.m.</b><br>Anti-Racism<br>Group   | <b>6 p.m.</b><br>Choir<br><br><b>7:30 p.m.</b><br>Bells   | <b>4:30 p.m.</b><br>Adv. Spanish<br>Conversation  | <b>11 a.m.</b><br>Every Meal            | <b>1 p.m.</b><br>Book<br>Group                                      |
| <b>14</b>   | <b>15 MLK Day</b>   | <b>16</b>  | <b>17</b>   | <b>18</b>   | <b>19</b>                               | <b>20</b>   |
| <b>10 a.m.</b> Worship<br>Bells play<br>Dedication of<br>Elyas Fraser<br>Joys & Concerns<br><b>11 a.m.</b> Coffee<br><b>11:30 a.m.</b><br>Forum/Journeys<br><b>1:30 p.m.</b> Council<br><b>4 p.m.</b> Sacred Harp | <b>5 p.m.</b><br>Inter. Spanish<br><br><b>6:15 p.m.</b><br>Beg. Spanish<br><br><b>7 p.m.</b><br>Knitting<br>Group | <b>7 p.m.</b><br>Memoir<br>Group   | <b>6 p.m.</b><br>Choir<br><br><b>7:30 p.m.</b><br>Bells   | <b>4:30 p.m.</b><br>Adv. Spanish<br>Conversation  |   | <b>9 a.m.</b><br>Bible Study  |
| <b>21</b>   | <b>22</b>   | <b>23</b>  | <b>24</b>   | <b>25</b>   | <b>26</b>                               | <b>27</b>   |
| <b>10 a.m.</b> Worship<br>Joys & Concerns<br><b>11:30 a.m.</b><br>Forum/Journeys  | <b>5 p.m.</b><br>Inter. Spanish<br><br><b>6:15 p.m.</b><br>Beg. Spanish   | <b>5:30 p.m.</b><br>Sacred Harp  | <b>6 p.m.</b><br>Choir<br><br><b>7:30 p.m.</b><br>Bells   | <b>4:30 p.m.</b><br>Adv. Spanish<br>Conversation<br><br><i>Newsletter<br/>deadline</i>  |   | <b>10 a.m.</b><br>Card Club<br><br><b>7 p.m.</b><br>Roots<br>Cellar |
| <b>28</b>   | <b>29</b>   | <b>30</b>  | <b>31</b>   |   |   |   |
| <b>10 a.m.</b> Worship<br>Joys & Concerns<br><b>11 a.m.</b> Coffee<br><b>11:30 a.m.</b><br>Forum/Journeys<br><b>4 p.m.</b> Sacred Harp  | <b>5 p.m.</b><br>Inter. Spanish<br><br><b>6:15 p.m.</b><br>Beg. Spanish   | <b>7 p.m.</b><br>Memoir<br>Group   | <b>6 p.m.</b><br>Choir<br><br><b>7:30 p.m.</b><br>Bells   |   |   |   |

## 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. – Journeys Bible Study in the library**

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

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



**Meals on Wheels – Jan. 2-5.** This month there is no delivery on Monday, New Year's Day, but we will deliver on Friday instead. 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).

**Sacred Harp Singing – Jan. 2 & 16 (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues.), 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Jan. 14 & 28 (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sun.), 4-6 p.m.** at UBC in Room 303. No experience or talent necessary!



### Memoir Writing Group – Jan. 2, 16 & 30 (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>

**UBC-FCC Daytime Handcraft Group – Jan. 3 (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 (p. 3.)

## More of What's Going On

### ESPAÑOL

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.

**NOTE:** No class Mon., Jan. 1.

**NOTE: NEW MONDAY LINK ZOOM INFO:** Meeting ID: 869 8255 1038 Passcode: 275343  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86982551038?pwd=RnJOWEIEYk13YXhwZjFhN1dPK1Nndz09>

**NOTE: NEW THURSDAY LINK ZOOM INFO:** Meeting ID: 873 6006 8807 Passcode: 886953  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87360068807?pwd=czJQQ3BjZkRQaGhya0lrZUpyakRvdz09>

**Caregivers Support Group – Jan. 4 (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=bn82eExWUC9EMy9Tb2tHYk0yb1d3UT09>



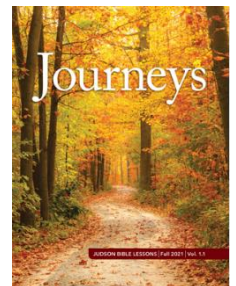
**Bible Study – Jan. 6 & 20 (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.), 9 a.m.** On Jan. 6 we will discuss the Letter of Jude. Jan. 20 text is TBD. New and occasional members are always welcome. No special background, skill, or preparation is required. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Ehr at [DianeEhr@q.com](mailto:DianeEhr@q.com).

**Why read the Bible?  
Because both Martin  
Luther and Martin  
Luther King Jr. read it.**

**ZOOM INFO:** Meeting ID: 886 6992 0103 passcode: 613038  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88669920103?pwd=dnozWEYzQUh1RU5HUTFWcVd3ZFY1Zz09>

**“Journeys” Bible Study – Sundays, 11:30 a.m.** in the Char Follett Library.

- Jan. 7 – Mark 1:4-11: DECISION TIME, finding our place in the gospel
- Jan. 14 – 1 Corinthians 6:12-20: FREEDOM, freedom from or freedom for?
- Jan. 21 – Jonah 3:1-5: SOVEREIGNTY, the changing mind of God
- Jan. 28 – 1 Corinthians 8:1-13: LOVE, unity within diversity



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



**Tree and Sanctuary Undecorating Party – Sun., Jan. 7, 11 a.m.** Please join us after the morning service to take down the banners and put away the tree decorations. Many hands make quick work! Coffee time will be in the sanctuary.



## More of What's Going On



### UBC Anti-Racism Work – Tues., Jan. 9 (monthly), 7 p.m.

We will be planning for the year. See page 8 for more information. Subsequent meetings are tentatively scheduled for Feb. 6, Mar. 5, April 2, May 14, and June 11 via Zoom. All are welcome!

**ZOOM INFO:** meeting ID 873 6155 6993 passcode 901519

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87361556993?pwd=YzNkODF0OGRIY0RTZVdwOHZ4V3EyUT09>

**Every Meal – Fri., Jan. 12 (2<sup>nd</sup> Fri.), 11 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 – Jan. 13 (2<sup>nd</sup> Sat.), 1 p.m.

The book this month is *Lucy by the Sea* by Elizabeth Strout. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Follett at [chrisf2828@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisf2828@yahoo.com). NOTE: From Feb.-May we will meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat.)

**NEW ZOOM INFO FOR JAN ONLY:** meeting ID 837 2051 7812 passcode 626992

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83720517812?pwd=M0ZwQUhJWWwzbms2Y09XczRwTlcrQT09>

### UBC-FCC Knitting Group – Jan. 15 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon.), 7 p.m.

at Cynthia Hendricks'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).



**Card Club – Sat., Jan. 27, 10 a.m.-12:30 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 [lubk0001@umn.edu](mailto:lubk0001@umn.edu) or 651-295-7525.

### ROOTS CELLAR – Men of New Hope – Sat., Jan. 27, 7 p.m.

The Men of New Hope is a gospel ensemble originating from New Hope Baptist Church in Saint Paul. They perform across the Twin Cities and beyond with their unique and passionate sound. Tickets are \$20 and available here: <https://events.humanitix.com/menofnewhope>



#### Coming up...

**Feb. 10, Mar. 9, and May 11** – Discernment Retreats  
**Mar. 29** – Loaves & Fishes  
**Apr. 20** – Roots Cellar – Charlie Maguire  
**Apr. 21** – UBC Bell Choir concert  
**Aug. 16-26** – Nicaraguan sister church visit

#### NEW ADDRESS

Jim Ross  
1860 University Ave W  
Room 634  
Saint Paul, MN 55104

## Music in the House!



We are blessed to have a building that serves the community and can host musical entertainment.

Left, The Minnesota Freedom Band played a concert to a full house at UBC on Dec. 3.

Below, Beau Baker Band played in the Roots Cellar on Dec. 9.



### MLK Day Marked on January 15

Martin Luther King Day is a federal holiday held on the third Monday of January. It celebrates the life and achievements of Martin Luther King Jr., an influential American civil rights leader. He is most well-known for his campaigns to end racial segregation on public transport and for racial equality in the United States.

### 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 Asheville, NC. Let's have a good showing from UBC this year!

## Anti-Racism Work Update

At its Dec. 12 meeting, the Anti-Racism group met to explore ideas for the rest of the program year. The group agreed to meet monthly, generally over Zoom on Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m. The next meeting will be on Jan. 9, and we will continue planning for the year. Subsequent meetings are *tentatively* scheduled for Feb. 6, Mar. 5, Apr. 2, May 14, and June 11. All are welcome!

Each month, the Anti-Racism group will also sponsor a racial justice forum. On Nov. 12, Lauren Thrift shared inspiration and lessons from the 2023 Alliance of Baptists Annual Gathering, *To Set the Captives Free*. The Gathering focused on the modern abolition movement, which envisions an end to imprisonment, policing, surveillance, and the reasons they exist. Lauren will follow up with a second forum on the abolition movement on Jan. 14, MLK Birthday weekend.

The Anti-Racism group also explored a number of other ideas, including:

- Supporting Native American encampment residents, such as those living in [Camp Nenookaasi](#), an Indigenous-run encampment in Minneapolis at 13th Avenue South and East 23rd Street.
- Reading [Hidden Roots of White Supremacy: and the Path to a Shared American Future](#) by Robert P. Jones. *Hidden Roots* reckons with church doctrine that justified five centuries of colonization by European Christians. Along the way, Jones explores connections between colonial history and more modern racial violence in the US, including the connection between the lynching of three Black circus workers in Duluth and the mass execution of thirty-eight Dakota men in Mankato.
- Promoting healing by opening ourselves to our own history and the stories of Native people through the [Minnesota Council of Churches Healing Stories Project](#), including:
  - Experiencing a Sacred Sites Tour led by Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs (Mohican) and Kelly Sherman Conroy (Oglala Lakota). The tours offer an opportunity to learn about Minnesota history from a Native perspective through storytelling and reflection. We are looking at a tour in late spring or early summer and hope to collaborate with other Southeast Minneapolis congregations.
  - At a forum, learning from a Healing Stories speaker about Native American spirituality, local history, and barriers to free practice of Native religions.
- Participating in [Minnesota Humanities Center programs](#) such as day-long field trips exploring indigenous sacred spaces in St. Paul or the history and future of the Rondo neighborhood.
- Learning about the Settled movement, which explores [creative solutions to homelessness](#).
- Learning about and supporting [Think Small](#), whose mission is to advance quality care and education of children in their early years.

In addition, UBC's anti-racism efforts through the THRIVE project and otherwise, will be an important part of the discernment workshops scheduled for Saturdays Feb. 10, Mar. 9, and May 11.

- Denise Roy

We are looking for people who might be interested in representing UBC at exciting gatherings this coming spring and summer:

- April 12-14 in Charlotte NC—[Alliance of Baptists Annual Gathering, Decolonizing the Great Commission](#)
- July 15-20 Mars Hill University near Asheville, NC—[Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America Peace Camp](#)

We hope to send one person to each gathering. Pastor Doug will also attend. Please contact Pastor Doug or Denise Roy if you might be interested in attending one of these.



## Christmas Cookie Decorating Party



UBC kids (and some parents) gathered on Saturday, Dec. 16 at UBC to decorate Christmas cookies. The result is the spread right (**photo by Chris Follett**), served on Sunday, Dec. 17 for the sanctuary decorating party.

Pictured above (l to r): Peter, Andrew, Otto, Jackson, Clara with dads Jonathan and Jon.  
**Left photo by Doug Donley**

## Sanctuary and Tree Decorating Party

Some of the cookie makers. Back row, l to r: Frank, Anielka, Valeria, Lynnette, Elyas, Elwyn; front row: Clara, Jackson, Peter, Andrew, Otto, Eli.

**Photos by Laura Justin**

*Continued on page 10*





**Sanctuary and Tree Decorating Party,  
continued**



Yonathan helps decorate the tree.



The fully decorated tree



Peter, Jackson, Clara  
and Andrew prepare  
the garland.

**Photos by Chris Follett**



## Caroling Outing



Jean Lubke's annual Christmas caroling party on Dec. 22 was in her new townhouse development, where former UBCers Carolyn and Andy Collins live (in photo on right.)

Left photo, Deidre is at the front of the group (of about 30 friends and family). Afterwards, all partook of wassail and treats at Jean's.



## Christmas Eve Service



Lynnette, Elwyn and Elyas as Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

The manger scene

Red candles were lit in all the windows.



Photos by Chris Follett



Tai Shigaki looking great at Christmas in Chicago!

Photos by her niece, Debbie Mieko King Burns



**From Our Mission Partners**



Dear UBC: On behalf of the board and staff, thank you for your gift of \$300.00 designated toward General Fund / Fondo general. We depend on committed peacemakers like you to be able to carry out our mission to gather, equip, and mobilize peacemakers worldwide. I invite you to join us in prayer for our ministries of peace and justice all around the world.

From **Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America**

Dear UBC L & F volunteer team: During this season of gratitude, we want to express our appreciation to you for passionately supporting and advancing the mission of Loaves & Fishes. Together we are making significant strides toward reducing barriers to hunger in Minnesota. Thank you for being an essential part of our mission.

From **Loaves & Fishes**



Dear Pastor: Your congregation's commitment to our region is important to us as we join together in God's work in our community. As your Executive Minister, I do not take these gifts lightly. I understand all the pulls on a congregation's financial resources and give thanks that you continue to make supporting the denominational family a priority.

From **Rev. Dr. Sandra Hasenauer, Executive Minister, ABCRGR.**



## UBC Congregation's Discernment Process Begins with a Survey

**O**n Saturday, Feb. 10, we begin our congregational discernment process. We will gather in person and virtually (via Zoom) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at University Lutheran Church of Hope, 601 – 13th Ave. S.E., just blocks away from UBC (with lots of parking!). For those attending in person, a light breakfast, lunch, childcare will be provided.

Consultants Travis Beck and Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan, from Mount Olive Lutheran in Rochester, MN will guide us in our first session when 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.

To help us prepare for our environmental scan, we will be gathering data on financial trends, membership trends, milestones of UBC, analysis of our historic building, trends of our Dinkytown community, and ... hopes of our UBC community. The data booklet will be available for review prior to Feb. 10.

**Soon we will send out a congregational survey that we will need EVERY UBCer (members and friends) to complete.** The survey will be available online and on paper. There will be several questions about you – what do you want / need UBC to be, what do you hope

for the discernment process, your demographics, activity levels – and a registration form for the February and March retreats. **Look for the survey in the next few weeks in Pastor Doug's Monday emails and printed versions in the sanctuary.**

On March 9, we will begin the day 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 are interested in serving as a member of the Discernment Design Team, please contact Jean Lubke.

*Jean Lubke, Church Council President*



## FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Most of our income (57%) comes from pledges made by members. With half of the fiscal year over, we are ahead with pledges as some people have fulfilled their pledge.



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        | \$93,970  | \$113,466 | \$19,496     |
| Rental Income              | 21  | \$70,000         | \$35,000  | \$34,231  | (\$769)      |
| Misc income*               | 5   | <u>\$15,000</u>  | \$7,500   | \$18,648  | \$11,148     |
| Subtotal                   |     | <b>\$272,940</b> | \$136,470 | \$166,345 | \$29,875     |
| 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>  |           | \$6,995   |              |
| Total Budget               |     | <b>\$342,006</b> |           |           |              |

\*individual gifts, loose offering & miscellaneous income

The dedicated offering for Nov/Dec was for Justice Organizations and we have received \$1,100 to date.

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.

## 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 (for Jan. it will be T-F) (**Jan. 2-5**). 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 [marielafance46@gmail.com](mailto:marielafance46@gmail.com).

### 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 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 the non-summer months (Jan. 12)**, 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).

### 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

## Special Offering for January and February

### ABC Ministries

Our outreach mission focus for January and February will be for ministries within the American Baptist Churches USA which are not already receiving funds through the UBC budget.

This includes: Retired Ministers and Missionaries Fund, and One Great Hour of Sharing as well as others. Thank you for your help to support these important national ministries.

You can drop your offering in the donation box, 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](http://www.UBCmn.org).

Thank you for your ongoing Outreach support!!

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



Birthday twins! Kim Donley and Greta Garmers celebrated their mutual Dec. 2 birthdays together.

Photos by Doug Donley



### January Birthdays

- 1 Pat Mavity
- 11 Kenny Wottrich, Salome Abungu
- 14 Jahmai Walton
- 15 Jim Moravek, Josie Mavity
- 20 Nancy Osborne
- 22 Luisa Garmers
- 23 Jim Ross
- 24 Anne Johnson
- 25 jay linnell, Otto Lubke
- 26 Sue Wester
- 30 Lynnette Fraser

### January Anniversary

- 30 Anielka Montiel & Francisco Diaz

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