



UBC NEWS

University Baptist Church
1219 University Ave SE
Minneapolis MN 55414

Established 1850 at St. Anthony Falls, MN

May 2023

From the Pastor

Celebrate the present to build towards the future

As May opens, graduation season begins. Classes at the U are ending. Students are stressing over piled up assignments and so little time. The library and the blooming quad compete for attention, accentuating divided loyalties. I have already received invitations to graduation parties. Students are fielding questions about their next steps: internship, travel, job, all/none of the above? Their rehearsed answers shield anxiety and pressure. How long until loan payments start? To live at home or not at home, that is a question.

For us at UBC, it's the time for celebrating another great year together as we slowly emerge from the COVID bubble. It's also time to start thinking about the year to come.

Our April 16th commitment Sunday yielded a great deal of enthusiasm for the year ahead. The Council and the Talent Team are considering all of the pledges of time, talent and treasure. By the end of the month, we'll be printing out our annual report, complete with a proposed budget and slate of officers for the coming year. We'll make those final decisions at the June 11th Annual Meeting.



On the weekend of May 20 and 21, Church Sociologist Mark Mulder will meet with us. Mark is one of the leaders of the Alliance of Baptists Thrive Initiative for Racial Justice. He'll help us ask the right questions about the next steps for great church. He'll also give us some perspective on the wider culture's attitude toward churches in this critical

time. Important questions and discussions.

We seek to get our questions answered and answers questioned.

So, this month, let's give thanks for the year that we have had and use that as a foundation on which to build an exciting future. As the hymn writer said, "Our God hath yet more light and truth to break forth from the word."

Blessings and Peace,

Doug Donley

May 7

Preaching: Doug Donley

Sermon: "Peace and Justice Will Kiss"

Scripture: Psalm 85:8-13

Worship Leader: Megan Dahlberg

May 14

Preaching: Karen Swenson

Sermon: "Holy Matriarchs"

Scripture: Genesis 35:16-26

Worship Leader: Deidre Druk

May 21

Preaching: Doug Donley

Sermon: "God's Holy Movement"

Scripture: Hebrews 5:7-14

Worship Leader: John Medeiros

May 28

Preaching: Doug Donley

Sermon: "Hearing Each Other"

Scripture: Pentecost, is Acts 2:1-11

Worship Leader: Jean Lubke



Spring flowers decorate the sanctuary for Easter.

Photo by Chris Follett

MAY FORUMS

Forums are held in the lounge, 11:30-12:30, after coffee time. We do our best to make Zoom attendance an option with the same link as Joys & Concerns.

May 7: Discernment Brainstorming. Join UBC President Denise Roy and Pastor Doug for an informal discussion about what we want to get out of UBC's intentional discernment/long-range planning process. What are our goals and concerns? What questions should we explore in light of our goals and concerns? Among other things, this discussion will provide an opportunity to consider what we'd like to learn from THRIVE sociologist Mark Mulder during his visit on May 20 and 21. See May 21 forum description (right) and page 7 for more information about Prof. Mulder's visit.)

May 14—No forum

May 21: Challenges and Strategies for Urban & University Churches. THRIVE sociologist Mark Mulder has been working with UBC throughout the THRIVE anti-racism project. He will join us on May 20 and 21 for a series of conversations related to UBC's THRIVE work and upcoming discernment process. During the May 21 Forum time, he will share insights into how urban, university-based churches are faring and adapting to changing circumstances. Prof. Mulder's research focuses on urban congregations and changing racial-ethnic demographics. Mulder is Professor of Sociology at Calvin University and chair of the Department of Sociology and Social Work.

May 28—No forum

Calendar for May

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels 5 p.m. Inter. Spanish 6:15 p.m. Beg. Spanish	11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels 7 p.m. Memoir Group	11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels 11 a.m. Handcraft Group 6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels 4:30 p.m. Adv. Spanish Conversation 6:30 p.m. Caregiver Support Group		9 a.m. Bible Study 11:30 a.m. Border CrossSing Concert
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10 a.m. Worship Communion Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee time 11:30 a.m. Forum	5 p.m. Inter. Spanish 6:15 p.m. Beg. Spanish	7 p.m. Anti-Racism Group	6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	4:30 p.m. Adv. Spanish Conversation 6:30 p.m. Climate Action Group	11:15 a.m. Every Meal	1 p.m. Book Group
14 <i>Mother's Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19	20
10 a.m. Worship Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee time	5 p.m. Inter. Spanish 6:15 p.m. Beg. Spanish	7 p.m. Memoir Group	6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	4:30 p.m. Adv. Spanish Conversation		9 a.m. Bible Study 12 p.m. Card Club 4 p.m. Mark Mulder
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10 a.m. Worship Bells Play Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee time 11:30 a.m. Forum	5 p.m. Inter. Spanish 6:15 p.m. Beg. Spanish 7 p.m. Knitting Group	7 p.m. Anti-Racism Group	6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	4:30 p.m. Adv. Spanish Conversation 6:30 p.m. Climate Action Group <i>Newsletter deadline</i>	11:15 a.m. Every Meal	
28	29 <i>Memorial Day</i>	30	31			
10 a.m. Worship Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee time	<i>No Spanish classes</i>	7 p.m. Memoir Group	6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. 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 in the sanctuary and on Zoom.

Following Joys & Concerns – Coffee time in the lounge

11:30 a.m. – Forum in the lounge and on Zoom (same link)

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID 839 4725 7444 passcode 257750

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



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 and the Intermediate class focuses on reading, writing and discussing. The Advanced class meets for conversation on Thursdays. If you have any questions, please contact Anielka Montiel at anymontiel33@gmail.com or 651-295-4590. NOTE: No class on Memorial Day, May 29.

MONDAY LINK

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 869 8255 1038 Passcode: 275343

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86982551038?pwd=RnJOWEIEYk13YXhwZjFzN1dPK1Nndz09>

THURSDAY LINK

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

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

Meals on Wheels – May 1-4 (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 marielafrance46@gmail.com.



Memoir Writing Group – May 2, 16 & 30 (every other Tues.) at 7 p.m.

Prompts include *Roads*, *Seasons* or *Redemption* or anything else you feel called to write about. If you have any questions, please contact Trish Donley at

patricia.donley63@gmail.com.

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

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

More of What's Going On



NEW! **UBC-FCC Daytime Handcraft Group - May 3 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.** at First Congregational Church (500 8th Ave. SE) in the Parlor. Some folks find it difficult to drive at night so we've added a daytime meeting (we will still keep the monthly Monday evening group.) Bring your knitting, crocheting, hand sewing or even mending and reapplying buttons! We'll meet once a month on a Wednesday (exact week TBD). Bring your 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 or 612-617-0017 or see Chris Follett for questions.

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



Caregivers Support Group – May 4 (1st Thurs.) at 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.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID 810 4075 0220 Passcode 251436
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81040750220?pwd=bm82eExWUC9EMy9Tb2tHYk0yb1d3UT09>

Bible Study – May 6 & 20 (1st & 3rd Sat.) at 9 a.m. On the 6th we'll focus on Romans 11; on the 20th, Romans 12. New and occasional members are always welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Ehr at DianeEhr@q.com.



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

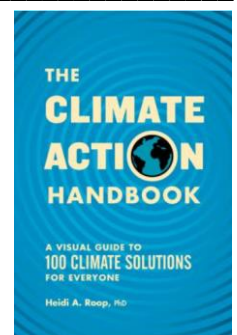


Anti-Racism Group – May 9 & 23 (every other Tues.) at 7 p.m.

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

NEW! **Climate Action Group – May 11 & 25 (2nd & 4th Thurs.) at 6:30 p.m.** In light of the forum discussion on Earth Sunday, we're starting a Climate Action Group on Zoom. We will start with the **overview and the first section (to page 10)** from *The Climate Action Handbook: A Visual Guide to Climate Solutions for Everyone* by Heidi Roop (from the University of Minnesota!) and see where that leads. All are welcome! Let's learn together and support each other in making our earth a better place! Contact Trish Donley with questions or ideas at patricia.donley63@gmail.com or 612-386-2856.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 845 8663 9522 passcode: 385029
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84586639522?pwd=VW5Tejc3ODRCMUVBckJnVlY3R2tydz09>

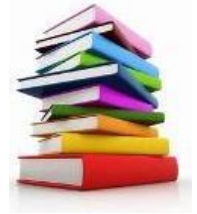


More of What's Going On



Every Meal – May 12 (2nd Fri.) & added date of May 26 from 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.

Grace in Contemporary Literature by Women Book Group – May 13 (2nd Sat.) at 1 p.m. The book this month is *The Women of Brewster Place* by Gloria Naylor. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Follett at chrisf2828@yahoo.com.



ZOOM INFO: meeting ID 815 2376 4072 passcode 525996
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81523764072?pwd=Q1hlc2VFdnlOMEI1VWhXNzdKRDdjQT09>



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

Card Club – Sat., May 20 from 12-3:30 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. All participants must be fully vaccinated. If you are interested, please contact Jean at lubk0001@umn.edu or 651-295-7525.



HOLD THE DATES:

June 4 - Joint baby shower for Anielka & Francisco and Lynnette & Elwyn during the forum time (See page 9.)
June 10 – Tai Shigaki's 102nd birthday
June 11 – UBC Annual Meeting and potluck luncheon, 11 a.m.
June 22-25 – ABC Biennial, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Click [here](#) for more info and to register.
June 26-30 – BPFNA Summer Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Click [here](#) for more info and to register.
June 30 – Loaves & Fishes

FYI – UBC will not be hosting a booth at the Pride Festival this June.

PHOTOS NEEDED!

Dear Group Coordinators: If you have any recent photos of your group's activities, please send to Trista for the website.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Jean Lubke
2215 Ferris Lane
Roseville, MN 55113

(Anielka and Francisco will continue to live at 1860 Butler Ave, South St Paul, MN 55075.)

More of What's Going On



Meeting with Mark Mulder May 20 & 21. THRIVE sociologist Mark Mulder has been working with UBC throughout the THRIVE anti-racism project. Prof. Mulder is Professor of Sociology at Calvin University. His research focuses on urban congregations and changing racial-ethnic demographics. He will join us on May 20 and 21 for a series of conversations related to UBC's place as a university church, our THRIVE work, and the upcoming discernment process. Learn more about Mark in his bio: <https://calvin.edu/directory/people/mark-mulder>.

Here's the (not quite finalized) schedule:

Saturday May 20 at 4 p.m. or so—discussion and supper with Prof. Mulder at UBC. Likely to include some walking in Dinkytown and the U of M campus. Supper will be provided at church.

Sunday May 21—Prof. Mulder will attend worship with us. During the Forum time, he will share insights into how urban, university-based churches are faring and adapting to changing circumstances. We will then have another opportunity for informal discussion over lunch (to be provided). A trip to George Floyd Square Memorial may follow lunch.

Stay tuned for updates in the Sunday Bulletin and Pastor Doug's weekly email.



"For Discernment"

By Meta Herrick Carlson

From the book,

*Ordinary Blessings: Prayers, Poems and
Meditations for Everyday Life*

Discernment is a sacred invitation
To imagine
What's still possible.

The creative labor does not begin with
Researched lists or binary choices.
This is molten and moving.

In fact, it has already started!
You are on the way,
Restless and paying attention.

You are more than the one thing
You thought would be enough
And wasn't.

There is a galaxy of fear and wonder
Exploding in the distance
While your eyes adjust to this light.

What lies in wait
While you remember
The fullness of who you are?

Spring Clean Up

George Floyd Square
38th & Chicago

Sunday May 7, 9am-5pm

- Streets will be closed for safety
- Deep clean the Memorials
- Tidy the People's Way
- Reset Say Their Names Memorial
- Refresh the People's Closet
- Prepare gardens and plant
- Repaint Mourning Passage



Use this link to register:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4ea9a729a5face9-spring#/> or see Lauren Thrift for questions.

Marking the Anniversary of George Floyd's death – May 25-27

George Floyd Global Memorial (GFGM) and the community at George Floyd Square will host a portion of their 3rd Annual Rise & Remember celebration at 38th and Chicago in Minneapolis.

<https://www.georgefloydglobalmemorial.org/>



Project Minnesota/León Summer Gathering

Sunday, July 9, 2023

3 – 5 p.m.

[Phalen Regional Park](#)

Phalen Park Picnic Pavilion
1600 Phalen Drive, St. Paul

Come for great conversation; an update on the work in León, Nicaragua; and refreshments.

3 p.m. Informal Program

(Feel free to arrive earlier.)

4 p.m. Taco Bar and Beverages

A freewill offering and donations for the work of PML are welcomed.

Pastor Doug discusses the Easter story with the children.

Photo by Chris Follett





**Joint Baby Shower for
Anielka & Francisco and
Lynnette & Elwyn
All Are Invited!!**

When: June 4 during coffee and forum time

Where: UBC Lounge

What to bring: A gift, a card, and/or your well-wishes!

Gift registry info:

Anielka and Francisco are expecting a baby girl at the end of June.

www.babylist.com/list/baby-reg-anielka-montiel

Lynnette and Elwyn are expecting a baby boy in July.

<https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/lynnette-fraser-elwyn-fraser-july-2023-brooklynpark/3N1AQGD7MU0ZC>

If you would like to contribute to a group gift, please let Terri Wottrich know by May 30 at (651) 468-8231 or terri.wottrich@gmail.com.



Santos and Deidre admire his birthday cake at coffee hour on April 16.

Photo by Don Follett

**Border Crossing Community Sing:
Featuring Heritage Choir and Achieve
Language Academy**

Saturday, May 6 at 11:30 am at UBC

This organization rents rehearsal space at UBC. Their mission is to integrate historically-segregated audiences and musicians through the performance of choral music. They envision a landscape where singers and audiences more closely reflect the racial and cultural composition of the Twin Cities.

To learn more about this organization, go to:
<https://bordercrossingmn.org/>

Signs of spring—maple syrup and Easter eggs!



Six UBC children had a fun morning on Saturday, April 8, with their parents and a few grandparents and other grownups. Kim Donley and Pastor Doug made delicious pancakes topped with butter and Donley maple syrup, plus sausage links, with help from Francisco Diaz on the griddle. It was all served on colorful tables in the Shepardson Lounge, each set with crayons and fun things to do. After breakfast, the kids took

their decorated bags outside and searched the UBC lawn to gather more than 50 eggs filled with tiny treats and toys!



Attending this Easter Eve event were Jackson and Clara Hartman, Peter and Andrew Justin, Finn Loch, and Otto Lubke, along with most of their parents, plus Ani Montiel and Francisco Diaz, and church life coordinator Betty Shaw.



A huge thanks to Kim Donley for organizing this great event for our families with young children!



Photos by Jean Lubke and Doug Donley



Special Offering for May and June



UBC's mission offering for the months of May and June will be to support organizations which advocate for and support our LGBTQ+ community. There are groups which provide a voice at the Capitol, free HIV testing and counseling for youth/young adults, and support for the LGBTQ+ community who are victims of violence. If you have suggestions for other organizations, please talk with or email Kim and/or Deidre.

As usual, you can drop your offering in the donation box with a note on the check or envelope, send a check to the church, designate a gift directly from your bank, or use our on-line portal for giving on the UBC website, www.UBCmn.org.

Thank you for your ongoing Outreach support!!

- Kim Donley and Deidre Druk, Outreach Co-Chairs



At the Forum on April 19, Amanda Donley talked about her work at Turningpoint for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence in River Falls, Wisconsin, where she is the sexual assault services coordinator.

Photo by Don Follett

“To Set the Captives Free”

A report on the Alliance of Baptists spring gathering from Lauren Thrift

By Gayla Marty

Lauren Thrift represented UBC at the Alliance of Baptists annual gathering in Atlanta, Georgia, April 21-23. The theme was “To Set the Captives Free,” a theological examination of the criminal legal system and an introduction to the vision of modern abolitionists, grounded in Luke 4:18, the story of Jesus reading from the scroll of Isaiah, “The spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me, he has sent me to announce good news to the poor, to proclaim release for prisoners...” Several hundred attended from across the continent.

“It was a really profound experience,” Lauren told the UBC Racial Justice group on Tuesday, April 25. “I don’t have words yet for my own reflections.” With questions from the group, she described the gathering and the many activities of the weekend, including some of the many photos she took to create a PowerPoint presentation for us.

Lauren flew to Atlanta Friday and stayed in the conference hotel. The gathering was held mostly at Oakhurst Baptist Church, with worship, lectures, workshops, and lunch meetings of Alliance communities. The Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America hosted a reception on Saturday.



Oakhurst Baptist Church.
Photos by Lauren Thrift

The gathering’s keynote speaker was human rights lawyer and researcher Derecka Purnell, J.D., author of *Becoming Abolitionists: Police, Protests, and the Pursuit of Freedom*. In addition, the program featured eight presenters and preachers, plus leaders and panelists for eight workshops.

Each day Lauren attended a break-out session workshop, one on intersectional tools for the Alliance and another on “Womanistcare and Sistheology: A Divine Movement by Black Women to Care for Themselves and Each Other in Community.” She took a field trip to the King Center, too, in the neighborhood of Ebenezer Baptist Church, where Martin Luther King Jr. grew up and served as a pastor.

She also attended the THRIVE community dinner and met Mark Mulder, one of the project sociologists, who will visit us in Minneapolis May 20-21.

“It was one of the best conferences I’ve been to,” said Lauren. “It was seamless—everything just flowed. The organizers really understand how adults learn.”

Abolitionism today

In the United States today, nearly 2 million people are incarcerated, and 40 percent of them are African Americans. There is a direct line between this current reality and the origins of U.S. policing in control of enslaved people. Abolitionism today is defined as (from the conference web page) *a political vision with the goal of eliminating imprisonment, policing, and surveillance and the reasons they exist by creating lasting alternatives to punishment, imprisonment, and threats to public safety. Abolitionists offer a bold new vision of what our society could be if we were more creative and courageous in our approaches to justice.*

Continued on page 13

Alliance – continued

“Before I went, I did not know what I thought about ‘abolish the police,’” said Lauren. “The conference helped me understand the modern abolitionist



Martin Luther King, Jr.’s boots and travel alarm

movement. ... The theology was stunningly brilliant. What moved me was the sense of solidarity with people involved with some really serious issues and doing the action.”

Actions in Atlanta right now include Stop Cop City and Defend the Forest, an effort to stop the building of a massive militarized police training facility modeled

after Israeli urban-warfare-style policing, where officers from Minneapolis and across the nation would be sent. “So that directly affects us here in Minnesota,” she said.

“Nobody was saying, ‘Gut [the police] and leave us to the wolves,’” she explained, “but we’re going to have to completely redesign it from the bottom up. My focus now is how to not get in the way. How do I not be the well-intended liberal who slows things down as I work to understand it? How do I follow these Black leaders in Atlanta, in Minneapolis, across the nation? I watched the first episode of the 1619 Project on the flight home. In the words of the Black Atlanta leadership, ‘This is our Selma.’ I am now convinced this is our Montgomery Bus Boycott, our Civil Rights Act, our time to choose to follow Black leadership.”

When asked about the general outlook or pulse of the gathering, Lauren cited a Martin Luther King quote inscribed at the King Center: We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.

“What I felt from the clergy [at the conference] was

the power of the Holy Spirit,” said Lauren. “There’s a sense that they’re part of something where they may not see the results. It did not have the feeling of fear. ... I was so emotionally moved at the joy and love of the spirit.”

Lauren’s Georgia roots

Lauren was born in 1983 at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, because her first hometown of Douglasville didn’t have a hospital. Although Lauren moved away from Douglasville to South Carolina and then Tennessee after she was 4 years old, the family would drive back to see her grandmother, Louise Thrift, for Sunday dinner from time to time over the years. Since Lauren hadn’t seen her grandmother in



Grandma Louise, Sam and Lauren.

10 years, and being so close at the Alliance gathering, she rented a car and met up with her boyfriend Sam Pitmon, who got a cheap flight to join her for a day. Together they drove 45 minutes to Douglasville to visit Lauren’s grandmother. In June, Grandma Louise will celebrate her 90th birthday. Since she doesn’t cook anymore, and to continue the Sunday dinner tradition, they enjoyed a good southern dinner at Cracker Barrel.

To learn more about the Alliance of Baptists spring gathering 2023, see <https://allianceofbaptists.org/events/annualgathering2023/>

Next month: Part 2. Lauren will describe the theology of abolitionism in more depth.

Volunteer Opportunities

Meals on Wheels

UBC has an opportunity to participate in Meals on Wheels on the first full week of the month (**May 1-4**). 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.

Little Free Pantry

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

- Toiletries (toothbrushes, deodorant, sample sized shampoo/body wash/hand sanitizer, razors, feminine hygiene products)
- Boxed mixes that only require water to prepare
- Bars/cracker packs
- Ramen/instant soup in a cup, 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 meals over weekends and school breaks for families of children who receive free and reduced meals when school is in session. UBC is scheduled to distribute at Marcy Open School on the **second Friday of each month (May 12)** from 11:15 a.m. to about 1 p.m. We are also helping out on **May 26**. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Denise Roy at denise.roy@mitchellhamline.edu

Drivers for Sanctuary Guests

Our family has had many more needs than we anticipated: Doctors, dentists, eye, prescription and Limb Lab appointments, grocery and bank errands, soccer, bus card, phone and miscellaneous tasks. Even if you can only help out one time a month YOU will make a difference because the core team is very small and has been doing all of this! Don't worry if you don't speak Spanish!

If you can help or have any questions, please contact Deidre Druk at DeidreDruk@aol.com or 651-755-6631.

Volunteers Needed

Communion prep – Contact Terri Wottrich

Sunday School Coordinator – Contact Gayla Marty

Ushers – Contact Chris Follett

Worship Leaders – Contact Jean Lubke

Worship Technology Support - Contact Personnel Committee (Megan Gunnar, Jean Lubke, Gene Velasco)

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

As we head towards the end of our fiscal year, UBC's income remains healthy.

Most of our income (52%) comes from the pledges made by members. As of April 23, pledges are running slightly ahead as some folks have already paid their pledge in full. Please let me know ASAP if you have any changes to your expected pledge.

Expected annual rental income is \$74,000 (20% of our budget.) This is a large increase over last year's \$60,000. Income to date for this item reflects a surplus as our largest renter received a grant and pre-paid some rent. In addition, we've received more than anticipated income from miscellaneous renters.



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

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

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



Operating Income 2022-23	%	Budget	Expected	Received	Over (short)
Pledge Income	52	\$189,290	\$157,742	161,214	3,473
Rental Income	20	\$74,000	\$61,667	66,626	4,959
Misc. income*	4	<u>\$15,000</u>	\$12,500	13,884	<u>1,384</u>
Subtotal		\$278,290	\$231,908	\$241,724	9,816
Carry-forward from 2021-22	6	\$22,875			
Foundation	18	<u>\$64,720</u>		-	
Total Operating Income	100	\$365,885			
Justice & Outreach		<u>\$15,000</u>		10,627	
Total Budget		\$380,885			

*individual gifts, loose offering & miscellaneous income

The dedicated offering for Mar./April was for Peace organizations and we have received \$400 to date.

Chris Follett, Financial Secretary

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.

Please contact Chris Follett if you would like to donate toward these items.

Photographic Exhibit and Symposium
Art and Faith
Bridging the Jewish and Black
Communities

A landmark house of worship in North Minneapolis will be celebrated May 10-11.

Built in 1926 as a synagogue at 810 Elwood Avenue N, it was purchased in 1957 by the First Church of God in Christ. It is a bridge between the Jewish and Black communities in North Minneapolis and a window into their intertwined experiences.

It's also a rare example of southern Romanian synagogue painting and approved by the Minnesota State Historical Preservation Office for nomination to the National Register for Historic Places.

Events will be held at the University's Urban Research and Outreach Center, 2001 Plymouth Avenue N., and online. Free, but registration is required at <https://z.umn.edu/8j6x>

Wednesday, May 10, 4-7 p.m.

Exhibit opening
Lecture by synagogue historian Dr. Samuel Gruber
Reception

Thursday, May 11, 9am-3:30 p.m.

Symposium
Lectures
Community roundtable discussion
Tour of the First Church of God Christ



Peter Mayer played to a full house at the UBC Roots Cellar on April 22.

Photo by Deidre Druk



Stella Wright, one of Betty Shaw's granddaughters, won (for the second time) the State Poetry Out Loud Contest. She read her poems at the worship service on April 30 and will go on to the National Poetry Out Loud contest May 9-10 in Washington D.D. Read more here: <https://www.mprnews.org/episode/2023/04/03/poetry-out-loud-winner-stella-wright-reads-her-favorite-poems>

<https://www.poetryoutloud.org/>

Contribution from the UBC Memoir Group

It Was Normal

By Paula Moyer

I was born in Oklahoma City in 1952. From the time of my birth, I was surrounded by various practices designed to make racial differences unavoidable and unforgettable. On my birth certificate, for each parent, there is a capital “W” typed on the asking for “color or race.”

If you have ever wondered whether Oklahoma was truly a Southern state, consider this about the 46th state to join the Union in 1907. Many of the white people who came to “settle” or expropriate land in Oklahoma were dispossessed Southerners who had lost their land in the Civil War – like my ancestors, who hailed from Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia. Not surprisingly, then, the first bill passed by the Oklahoma State Legislature was the bill that enshrined into law racial segregation: State Senate Bill #1. Yes, “de jure” or “by law” racial segregation was considered important enough to be the first bill for the new legislature to pass. As I recall, the state senator who introduced the bill was a shirttail ancestor of mine. When I was growing up, my relatives took great pride in their Confederate heritage and in this ancestor.

Small wonder that the “colored only” signs that were everywhere didn’t register in my brain as something that was wrong until I was old enough to read the

newspaper. And yes, they were everywhere. When my father started working for the FDIC, he was out of town during the week and home on weekends. Most of the time he and his coworkers carpooled or caravanned together to the assigned town of the week. But occasionally they took the train. On one of those Sunday evenings, my mother, brothers, and I took Daddy to the station and waited with him until his train was announced. It was one of those romantic, old-fashioned stations with big wooden benches.

Just past the benches were the bathrooms. And the signs were right there over the doors: “Whites Only” and “Colored.” The same signs were over the water fountains.

And I thought nothing of them. Not until I was reading the newspaper one day. There was a photograph of a Black man standing next to a set of water fountains and pointing at the signs above the fountains. He was nicely dressed in a suit, tie, and fedora, but there was a grim, tight look to his face.

So while I was immersed in racial designations my whole life, I was not aware. And that’s the purpose: to make white supremacy seem normal. Something you would never question.

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Fare for All is an organization which sell packs of fresh produce and frozen meat at up to 40% off of retail prices.

Anyone can shop for discounted groceries at different sites throughout the Twin Cities. Use the link below and enter your zip code and find out what is available near you! You can choose from produce packs, meat packs, and other discounted grocery items.

<https://www.thefoodgroupmn.org/groceries/fare-for-all/>



Doing Some Spring Cleaning?

At this time of year, many of us might find ourselves doing some spring cleaning and decluttering. In addition to thrift stores, here are some organizations you can consider donating your used items to:

Bridging:

<https://bridging.org/give-stuff/acceptable-items-to-donate/>

Donate Good Stuff:

<https://www.donategoodstuff.org/>

Your local **Buy Nothing** group on Facebook



May Birthdays

- 2 John Lee
- 3 Caroline Lee, Lu Carman
- 14 John Medeiros
- 19 Bill Allen
- 25 Stephanie Leervig
- 27 Ty Wottrich
- 28 Chundra Walton, Jadzia Gray

May Anniversaries

- 2 Wendy & Ryan Kellogg
- 4 Kym & Adam Wilbrecht
- 25 Zack & Rebecca Lee Lomax

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the 25th of the month to

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