UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

ROOTED IN JUSTICE, WORKING FOR PEACE

1219 University Ave SE Minneapolis MN 55414
Established 1850 at Owámniyomni/St. Anthony Falls, MN

GIVE TO THE MAX DAY— SUPPORT UBC!



UBC will take part in Give to the Max Day again this year! Our 2026 goal is to raise $5,000 for our immigration justice and support ministries. The need is more urgent than ever and we are grateful for your support in helping our neighbors. Please share this fundraiser with your networks. Early giving starts 11/1 and the big day is 11/19!

www.givemn.org/organization/UniversityBaptistChurch

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Update from Pastoral Search Committee.....2
Calendar.....3
Worship Schedule.....4
Forums.....5
What's Coming Up.....6
Pumpkins, Pastries, and Painting.....7
Prepping and Painting.....8
Approaching Advent: Thinking about Palestine.....9
Meet Our Childcare Workers.....11
Financial Secretary's Report.....12
November Birthdays & Anniversaries.....13



UPDATE FROM PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

The pastoral search committee remains hard at work moving towards a new settled pastor. We have reflected on the experience with Cody and learned from it. While our goals and values have not changed, we feel better prepared to speak to those goals and values. Nevertheless, we are reopening the posting for an interim for the remainder of the process. Given the season, we are hoping to have someone in place early next year. Thank you to everyone who has pulled together worship programming for the remainder of the year. It's an incredible testament to who we are and what we can accomplish as a congregation.

Additionally, Diane Ehr has stepped down from the search process. We are looking for someone to fill that spot as soon as possible. We are in discussions with some candidates but if you are interested, please let me know.

Meanwhile, the process for the settled pastor continues. And a key part of that is getting all of your input on what you want and need out of the next pastor. As such, we have a few questions for you to consider:

1. *What is the most important part of UBC to you?*
2. *What do you value most in a pastor?*
3. *What do you say to others when you tell them why you attend UBC?*
4. *If UBC were to change in any way, what would lead you to leave UBC?*
5. *Would you like us to contact you to learn more of your concerns about who should be the next pastor?*

We will be sending these out in separate channels as well. We hope to have as many responses as possible within the next couple weeks.

-Jonathan Lubke, chair

POST-ELECTION DAY COMMUNITY CARE HANGOUT & POTLUCK



First Congregational Church, 500 SE 8th Street, will host a gathering in collaboration with the SE Neighbors Network, for people to come together after election day to process the election season, respond to any threats to democracy, and be in community. There will also be quiet space available for those who need it. Drop by any time between 2 and 8pm on Wednesday, November 4; the potluck will begin at 5pm. If you're able to help—greeting, providing for the potluck, doing dishes—please sign up here.

NOVEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10am Worship Communion & All Saints **11am** Coffee **11:30am** Journeys		**11:15am** Meals on Wheels **5:30pm** Sacred Harp	**11am** Handcraft Group **11:15am** Meals on Wheels **6pm** Choir **7:30pm** Bells	**11:15am** Meals on Wheels **6:30pm** Caregiver Support Group	**11:15am** Meals on Wheels	**9am** Bible Study **1pm** Card Club
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10am Worship **11am** Coffee **11:30am** Forum **11:30am** Journeys **1pm** Council Meeting	**7pm** Memoirs	**5:30pm** Sacred Harp	**6pm** Choir **7:30pm** Bells	**11:15 am** Every Meal		**1pm** Book Group
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10am Worship **11am** Coffee **11:30am** Journeys **4pm** Sacred Harp	**7pm** Handcraft Group	**5:30pm** Sacred Harp **7pm** Racial Justice Team	**10am** Coffee Office Hour **6pm** Choir **7:30pm** Bells			**9am** Bible Study
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10am Worship **11am** Coffee **11:30am** Forum **11:30am** Journeys	**7pm** Memoirs	**5:30pm** Sacred Harp	*Newsletter deadline*	*Thanksgiving; Office closed*		
29	30					
10am Worship **11am** Coffee **11am** Holiday Bazaar **4pm** Sacred Harp						



NOVEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

November 1
Communion
Preaching: Anne Supplee
Sermon: "For They Shall Be Comforted"
Worship Leader: John Medeiros
Ushers: Trish Donley & Terri Wottrich

November 8
Preaching: Anne Supplee
Worship Leader: Paula Moyer
Ushers: Jeanna Brown & Chris Follett

November 15
Preaching: Matty Strickler
Worship Leader: Caroline Lubke
Ushers: Terri Wottrich

November 22
Preaching: Brittany Monson-Moffatt
Worship Leader: Deidre Druk
Ushers: Trish Donley & Chris Follett

November 29
Preaching: Brittany Monson-Moffatt
Worship Leader: Deidre Druk
Ushers: Trish Donley

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

UNABLE TO JOIN US IN THE SANCTUARY?

You can watch the livestream via the UBC YouTube channel. You can also view any service any time on YouTube.

After the livestream has ended,
Joys & Concerns are on Zoom:
Meeting ID 839 4725 7444 passcode 257750
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83947257444?pwd=cFZCWEdqUkR0RDgwT0JwT3hrQ3FpUT09

First Church at 175

First Congregational Church will be celebrating their Founding Day on Sunday, November 15. This event officially begins their 175th anniversary celebration! They would love to have UBC join them on the 15th for worship at 10am followed by a celebratory program and lunch at 11:15am. The address is 500 SE 8th Street—7 blocks from UBC. We will have no forum that day.

From Pastor Jane McBride: "With this event we are entering a season of learning and reflection,a time of integrating the complexities and contradictions of our history into who we are becoming. We will hear the story of our founding(s), intertwining past voices with present perspectives. We will acknowledge our relationship with Dakota people and land, and consider the significance of our founding at Owámniyomni (St. Anthony Falls). And we will acknowledge and celebrate some of our many partners, past and present, who have brought us to this place and who are moving forward with us."

They ask that we RSVP so they know how many people to expect and if there are any dietary restrictions. RSVP at https://firstchurchmn.org/175th/founding-day

FORUMS

Forums are held from about 11:30 to 12:30, after coffee time—or an hour from whenever we start (no later than 11:45!) We do our best to provide a Zoom option for remote participants.

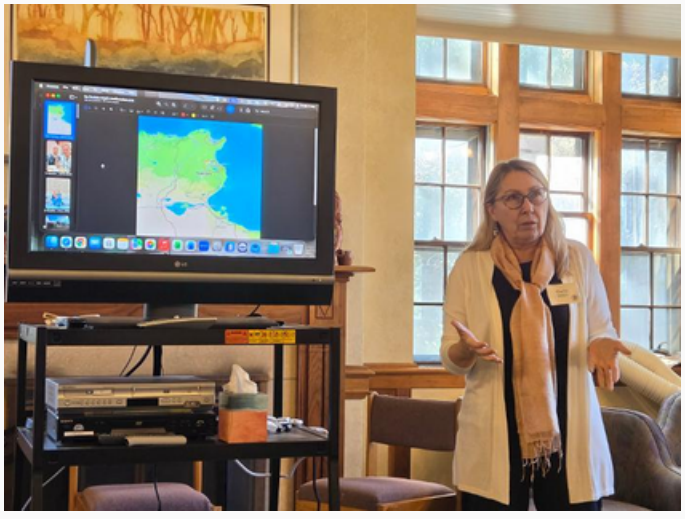
November 1—All Saints—No forum
Extended coffee time, hosted by the UBC children, youth, and families

November 8—Mid-term Election Reflection
Whether the results of the November 3 elections are known or still pending in some races and places, we will devote this forum to reflecting together on the outcomes and our work ahead. Anne Mavity, executive director of the Minnesota Housing Partnership, will be our guest facilitator, bringing experience in bipartisan organizing and her statewide, national, and international perspectives to enrich the conversation.

November 15—At First Congregational Church
We are invited to celebrate the 175th anniversary of FCC's founding, a year after UBC. To honor our longstanding friendship, we are welcome to join them for any of their planned events. There will not be a forum at UBC on November 15 to allow for more of us to join our FCC friends for lunch. **Please RSVP at https://firstchurchmn.org/175th/founding-day/** so they can plan food and space.

November 22—Report from New Orleans: Alliance of Baptists Gathering and THRIVE
Denise Roy will share notes, photos, and resources from the Alliance gathering, where the theme was "Sacred Memory: Truth-Telling in an Age of Erasure," and from the first convening of THRIVE 2.0, a newly expanded cohort of Alliance congregations working to achieve greater racial justice. What does our membership in the Alliance and THRIVE mean for our congregation in the coming year? As we seek with the Alliance to embody a more just, inclusive, and liberating expression of Christian faith, how can we realize a vision and action for racial justice?

November 29—No forum
Extended coffee time and Holiday Bazaar



REPORT FROM TUNISIA

Gayla Marty, left, talked about her most recent visit to Tunisia at the forum on October 25. This was her first visit since 2019 and her seventh in all, starting with her college year in Tunisia in 1979–80 on a University of Minnesota exchange.

Gayla has been working on a book of memoir essays about Tunisia for several years and hopes that UBC will become her accountability partner for getting it done!

WHAT'S COMING UP

Bible Study meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturday at 9am. Contact Diane Ehr if you are interested.

Book Group will meet every other month for the time being—November 14, January 9, and March 13.

Journeys Bible Study meets during forum time in the Char Follett Library. Let Diane Ehr know if you are interested.

Memoirs Group meets via Zoom every 2nd and 4th Monday at 7pm. A separate Zoom link will be emailed. Let Jean Lubke know if you are interested.

Racial Justice Team will meet on Tuesday, November 17, 7pm.

Coffee Office Hour - Join Brittany for fellowship and conversation on November 18 at 10am at Makwa Coffee House, 2805 Hamline Ave N, Roseville, MN 55113

Zoom link for Bible Study, Book Group, and Racial Justice Team
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZlNlbDcwUElzTWFmLzRyZm5OQT09

Meeting ID: 517 697 6753
Passcode: 602794

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Come down to the Assembly Room after church on Sunday, November 29, and get your Christmas shopping done! More than a dozen artisans from UBC and First Congregational Church will be selling hand-made cards, pottery, crocheting, sewing, embroidery, quilted pillows and table runners, Christmas gift bags, crocheted dish cloths and towels, painted rocks, beadwork, clay ornaments, wool scarves, soaps, houseplants, preserves, and more!

The Bazaar will be at UBC 11am-1pm on Sunday, November 29, and at FCC 11am-1pm on Sunday, December. 13.

Cash and checks are preferred. Some artisans may be able to accept cards or electronic payments. Come buy your holiday presents and support our artisans!

A portion of the proceeds are donated to charity.

CHRISTMAS EVE POINSETTIAS ORDER BY NOVEMBER 29!

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas Eve, please put $15 per plant in one of the special envelopes available in the pew racks or send the money electronically on our website. Poinsettia orders must be made by Sunday, November 29. Note the deadline is earlier this year!

If you would like the poinsettia to be in honor or in memory of someone, please indicate that on the envelope or electronic contribution. Then, feel free to take it home with you after the service on December 24 or December 27.



PUMPKINS, PASTRIES, AND PAINTING!

In early October, our kids picked pumpkins at Pine Tree Apple Orchard, enjoyed treats from the bakery, and headed back to church to paint their pumpkins. Big smiles and one-of-a-kind creations were everywhere!

While the kids painted, parents met with Brittany, our interim pastoral associate, to share dreams and visions for our children's programming. A wonderful time was had by all!

Thank you to everyone who joined us!













PREPPING AND PAINTING UBC SPACES

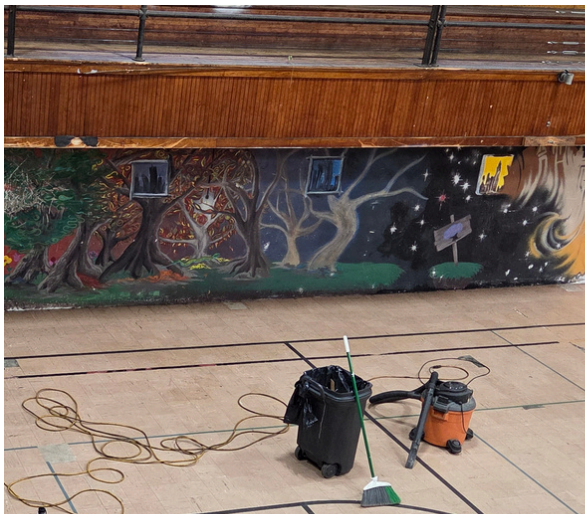
A small but mighty crew tackled big painting projects on Saturday, October 10

Thanks to Chris Follett, Randy Huyck, Betsy Kerr, Steve Lee, Claire and Patrick Mavity, and Alan Patchin, the Assembly stage (below, top left photo) is patched and primed, and more than one wall in the gym (all the other photos) is primed and painted! Some of the less scary art from the murals is being preserved while still giving the gym a freshening. Carrie Lubke sorted Christmas greenery in preparation for possible outdoor Advent decorating. If you would like to do any painting in the gym or stage on your own time, please see Jean Lubke or Patrick Mavity.











APPROACHING ADVENT: THINKING ABOUT PALESTINE

By Gayla Marty

Since I visited Palestine two years ago, so many Bible stories have become less abstract and distant to me. With a group of four clergy women, I stayed in Bethlehem, passed the Shepherds' Field outside town several times, and felt the narrow distance between Jerusalem and Bethlehem. The purpose of our visit was to listen, to sit in solidarity with Palestinians under fierce oppression of a modern-day empire that wields weapons paid for with our tax dollars, and then to bear witness, to become allies for the vulnerable and silenced.

Advent begins this year on November 29, the Sunday immediately after Thanksgiving. As we look forward to the season of long nights, of stories by firelight in the evenings—candles or hearth side, we will encounter familiar texts about the coming of Jesus into our perilous world. I want to recommend a couple of books as resources for this sacred time. I have copies of both to lend.

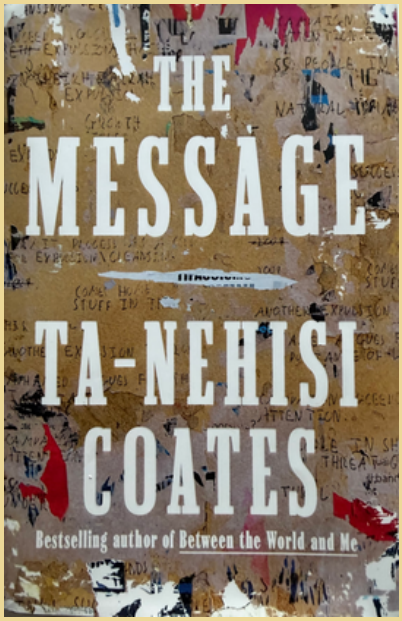
***The First Advent in Palestine: Reversals, Resistance, and the Ongoing Complexity of Hope*, by Kelley Nikondeha (2022)** has quickly become a favorite Advent resource for many congregations. The table of contents alone will tell you a lot:



1 Silence and Suffering: The Maccabees
Israel | 1 & 2 Maccabees, Lamentations
2 God's Peace Campaign: Zechariah
Jerusalem | Luke 1:5–25
3 Formed by Galilee: Mary
Nazareth | Luke 1:26–38
4 Mothers of Advent: Mary & Elizabeth
Ein Kerem | Luke 1:39–56
5 A Hospitable Birth in a Hard Economy: Caesar's Census, Jesus's Birth
Bethlehem | Luke 2:1–7
6 Visible and Invisible: Shepherds and Angels
Bethlehem | Luke 2:8–21
7 Generations: Joseph
Bethlehem | Matthew 1:18–25
8 Unexpected Hope: Herod, Magi, and a Star
Bethlehem | Matthew 2:1–12
9 Even After God Arrived: The Holy Family, Mother Rachel, and the Slaughter of the Innocents
Bethlehem & Egypt | Matthew 2:13–18
10 Homeland, but Not a Home: Holy Family, Return from Egypt
Nazareth | Matthew 2:19–23

Books continued on page 10

Another resource is the powerful and astonishing four-part essay ***The Message*, by Ta-Nehisi Coates (2024)**. This is a short book, addressed to students in his writing classes. Its four free-standing essays build upon each other; the fourth, "The Gigantic Dream," is half the book. It recounts Coates's travel to Palestine in May 2023 for a writing conference and investigative reporting, visiting many of the same sites and some of the same people that my 2024 cohort visited.

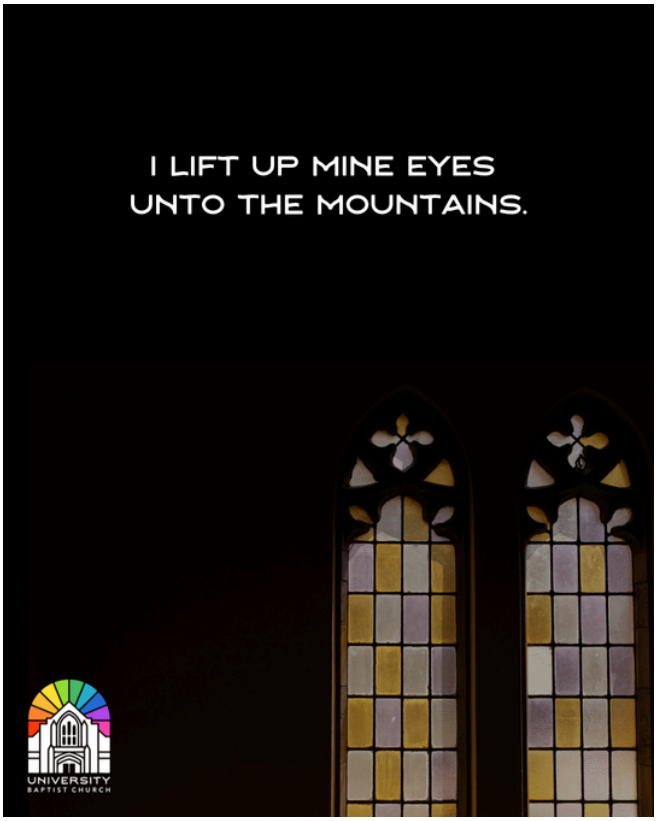


This essay opens in the World Holocaust Remembrance Center, Yad Vashem, and proceeds to connect past and present, racism in America with oppression in what we call the Holy Land. He also traces his own error as a journalist and begins a "bid for reparation" in the writing of this essay. As we approach our national Thanksgiving observance on the pathway to Advent, I urge every one of us who cares about Israel, Palestine, and racial justice everywhere to read it.

In the pulpit: Laura Justin, shown below, is one of several UBCers who has stepped up to provide the sermon while we are in transition.



Do you have a favorite Bible verse? Maura, our marketing manager, is collecting them for social media. Please send your favorite verse (or verses!) and why it speaks to you to marketing@ubcmn.org.



MEET OUR CHILDCARE WORKERS

UBC now has five childcare workers, all but one of them new this fall. They are a lovely group of people and the kids are really enjoying being with them.

First, there is **Caulin Belford**. Caulin was born in Minneapolis and grew up in Circle Pines. As a kid Caulin wanted to be a K9 cop or marine biologist! He is now a junior at the U pursuing a degree in environmental engineering. In what little free time he has, he likes to play video games, modify clothing, and hang out with friends. Asked where he would like to travel if he could go anywhere, he says the Philippines or Galapagos Islands. The marine biologist dream isn't quite gone, huh, Caulin? He found us through his good friend Jezmyn.

Jezmyn Rindahl (they/them) started with the UBC nursery last year. Born in Willmar, they grew up in Paynesville and attended Paynesville Lutheran Church. They have always wanted to be a teacher, noting that their mother was one. They are in their third year in theatre arts at the U. In their free time they love to draw, paint, make collages and actually any craft they can get their hands on. They especially like to watch movies with friends while crafting! They found out about us because they have two roommates who are studying early childhood education, saw our posting, and told them about it because they knew that Jazmyn loved working with kids.

Sophie Sears just joined our crew. Sophie was born in Methuen, MA, and grew up in Derry, NH (rural dairy farming country). She was raised in a Melkite Catholic community and went to a church called Our Lady of the Cedars. She notes it was a very tight-knit community, with breakfast together after every Sunday mass. As a kid she wanted to be an actor or mortician. She is now a sophomore pursuing her degree in mortuary science at the U. She says she really wants to do something that has a big impact on her community, and to be able to help people during the worst times of their lives. Her goal is to work for a funeral home that provides funerals for people who either don't have next of kin, who have been disowned or isolated, or whose next-of-kin can't afford the exorbitantly high costs of traditional funerals. In her free time, she loves acting, especially Shakespeare. Someday she would like to visit her extended family in Moscow, where she has not been since she was little. She found out about us through a poster on campus.

Will Legg, who just started attending UBC, is also planning a career in mortuary science! I asked Will to put up posters around campus (perhaps the one that Sophie saw), and while doing so Will realized that the job on Wednesday evenings would work well for him. He was born and grew up in Vancouver, WA, just across the river from Portland, OR. When he was young, he would attend his grandparents' Presbyterian church. He is a freshman at the U completing pre-recs for his degree in mortuary science. For his free time, he loves to do photography and volunteer.

Last but not least, we have **Sasha Shukalovich**, born in St Louis Park. As a kid she always wanted to be an architect! Now, however, she is a sophomore at the U pursuing a degree in MATH! For fun she loves to rock climb, read, and play rugby. She found out about us from her friend Lily who worked at UBC last year.

Drop by the nursery and say hello. Or, for Will who is in the pews on Sunday, say hi during coffee hour.

—Megan Dahlberg

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

We are one third into the current fiscal year. Our pledge income numbers are healthy but rentals are running behind projections. (This report only includes income, not expenses. We will review the status of our budget at the mid-year budget forum in January.)

Operating Income 2026-27	%	Budget	Expected	Received	Over (short)
Pledge Income	49	$186,857	$62,286	$67,590	$5,304
Rental Income	24	$90,000	$30,000	$17,428	($12,572)
Misc income	7	$26,000	$8,667	$11,079	$2,413
Subtotal		**$302,857**	$100,952	$96,097	($4,855)
Foundation Contribution	20	$76,820			
Total Operating Income	100	**$379,677**			

We received $1,285 for the September/October special offering for immigrant/asylee needs.

—Chris Follett, Financial Secretary

2026-27 UBC WISH LIST

The following items don't fit in the budget but would be really nice to have. Please contact Financial Secretary Chris Follett if you would like to donate toward these items.

1. Update or replacement of our playground equipment
2. New bell-table covers ($3,000)
3. New furniture (couch, chairs, etc.) for the nursery ($3,000)
4. Two additional benches under the crabapple tree ($2,500)
5. Fireplace insert for the parlor
6. Wiring and electric stoves for the apartment and lounge kitchens ($6,000)
7. New appliances for the lower-level (big) kitchen and wiring for an electric stove ($20,000)
8. Refinish gym balcony, wood floor, and replace gym floor
9. Baptistry heater ($700)

The funds to refinish the gym balcony/floor (#8 left) have been donated. THANK YOU to an anonymous donor!!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Stella Wright
4 Megan Gunnar Dahlberg
7 Becca Donley
9 Jin Lee
11 Antonio Luca Snyder
20 Cliff Dahlberg
27 Francisco Diaz
30 Kymberly Wilbrecht



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

26 Christiane Frey & David Martyn

Please note – the deadline for the December and January newsletters will be the 23rd.

INTERESTED IN JOINING UBC?

We would love to learn more about you and help you learn more about UBC. We'll arrange time for a chat about Baptist beliefs, our congregation, and the logistics of joining. Please contact Paula Moyer, our New Member Facilitator, at paulamoyer52@gmail.com or 651-279-4152.

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.

CENTER STAGE

UBC has a talented community, and we want to share 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!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Coffee hosts
Sign up in the lounge
Communion prep
Contact Terri Wottrich
Meals on Wheels
Contact Marie LaFrance
Ushers
Contact Chris Follett
Worship leaders
Contact Megan Dahlberg

UBC NEWS

Published monthly
University Baptist Church
1219 University Ave SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612-331-1768
info@ubcmn.org
www.ubcmn.org

Please send contributions by the 25th of the month to Chris Follett, Editor, at chrisf2828@yahoo.com

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH