



UBC NEWS

University Baptist Church

1219 University Ave SE

Minneapolis MN 55414

Established 1850 at St. Anthony Falls, MN

January 15, 2021

From the Pastor

Who Are We?

On January 6th, the feast of the Epiphany, a mob attempted an insurrection, laying siege to the Capital building. The mob was egged on by the President and enflamed by an unchecked social media universe that trades in whatever will get the most clicks and the most likes. These get repeated and even the most outlandish become seen as fact because so many of our friends have shared it.



with the rights to freedom and liberty. It did not allow women to vote. It favored land owners over everyone else. As a country, we have exported election disruptors and supported insurrections. This is sadly, a part of who we are.

People believe that they are too smart to be drawn into conspiracies, therefore when confronted with the truth, instead of being open to new insight, they double down and attack the person who challenges their world view. This spirals out of control and we have what we have seen this past week.

We can make statements and denounce the racism on display. But can we really say that this is not who we are? We need to remember that our founding as a nation included the stealing of land from the original inhabitants. The original constitution considered only white people as fully human beings

And yet, another part of who we are is a people who are convicted and energized by another narrative that seeks to bridge the canyons that are so obvious. We are a people who are woke and mobilized to nonviolently protest when the better angels of our nature are challenged. We are a people who are caught up in the imagination of the resurrection – pointing to a world where violence is no more and peace with justice reigns.

As Martin Luther King Jr, suggested, we need to be creatively maladjusted to the violent narrative of our world. We need to adjust ourselves to the spiritual revival necessary to have our nation truly live into its creed of liberty and justice for all (not just some).

May it be so in this New Year.

Blessings and Peace, *Doug Donley*

2020-21 UBC Worship Theme:
“Repairing the Breach/ Restoring the Streets”
Isaiah 58:12

Jan. 17	Preacher: Rev. Paul Slack in honor of MLK
Jan. 24	“Be Not Afraid, Leaders” Psalm 112:4-9
Jan. 31	“Choose” Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Feb. 7	“Robbery, Riches, Rocks and Refuge” Psalm 62:5-12
Feb. 14	“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” John 15:11-7

**Worship Leaders
Needed!**

If you can help,
please contact Jean Lubke
or Pastor Doug

Calendar for January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:15 am Joys & Concerns 9:45 am Announcements 10 am Worship 11 am Forum 12:15 pm Council	5 pm Inter Spanish 6:15 pm Beg Spanish 7:30 pm UBC-FCC Knitting Group	7 pm Memoir Group	6 pm Choir <i>Newsletter deadline</i>			9 am Bible Study 4 pm Anti- Racism Group
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:15 am Joys & Concerns 9:45 am Announcements 10 am Worship 11 am Forum	5 pm Inter Spanish 6:15 pm Beg Spanish	7 pm Key Doc Group	6 pm Choir <i>Inauguration Day</i>			4 pm Anti- Racism Group <i>Newsletter deadline</i>
24 & 31	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:15 am Joys & Concerns 9:45 am Announcements 10 am Worship 11 am Forum	5 pm Inter Spanish 6:15 pm Beg Spanish	7 pm Memoir Group	6 pm Choir		2-6 pm Loaves & Fishes	2 pm Ani & Frank wedding 4 pm Anti- Racism Group

What's Going On



Sundays (all on Zoom)

- 9-9:15 am** Social time
- 9:15-9:45 am** Joys & Concerns
- 9:45 am** Announcements
- 10 am** Worship service (Social time follows service)
- 11 am** Forum

The service and bulletin will be available on Sunday on both the UBC web site www.ubcmn.org and the UBC Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ubcmn>

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID 839 4725 7444 passcode 257750

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

Bible Study – Jan. 16 (1st & 3rd Sat.) at 9 am. Baptism will be the topic for this meeting. Last time we discussed the baptism of Jesus as recorded in the gospels. On the 16th the conversation will move to baptism in the early church. In preparation you may want to read one or more of the following: Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 2:37-42, 8:12, 8:34-40, 10:25-34, 11:16, 19:1-7, 22:16, Romans 6:1-4, 1 Corinthians 12:13, Ephesians 4:1-6, Colossians 2:12-13, 1 Peter 3:21. New members are welcome! For questions, contact Diane Ehr, DianeEhr@q.com.



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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88669920103?pwd=dnozWEYzQUh1RU5HUTFWcVd3ZFY1Zz09>



Anti-Racism Discussion and Action Group – Saturdays at 4 pm

Jan 16 – No film this week. Megan Dahlberg will lead a discussion of possible action steps for the group beyond discussing films. Please come with your ideas.

Jan. 23 – [Change Comes Knocking: The Story of the North Carolina Fund](#)

Jan. 30 – [February One: The Story of the Greensboro Four](#)

ZOOM INFO (THIS IS A NEW LINK): Meeting ID: 831 4584 1908 passcode: 313775

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

Spanish classes – Mondays (Intermediate 5-6 pm, Beginners 6:15-7:15 pm)

ESPAÑOL

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID 810 5166 8898 passcode 292647

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81051668898?pwd=R1liaXBpMXJRMlFT0liZ2hTZVhXdz09>



Completing Key Documents Group – Jan. 19 (every other Tues.) at 7 pm.

Join other UBCers for accountability to organize/complete your key documents (health care directive, obituary, funeral planning, organizing financial records, etc.). Bring your documents in progress and questions for discussion. If you have any questions, please contact Gayla Marty at gaylamarty@gmail.com.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 810 6944 9838 passcode: 244380

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81069449838?pwd=ZWNIUmMzNXRSYIFYaHJUczk2ZmRoUT09>



More of What's Going On

Virtual Choir Practice – Wednesdays at 6 pm

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 871 8601 2016 passcode: 113703

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87186012016?pwd=SjJ0eGJ2bVN1M1NZK0ljYkkxb1pYZz09>

Memor Writing Group – Jan. 26 (every other Tues.) at 7 pm

We will discuss what the writing process was like for us, we will have a chance to share our work if we choose. The prompts for the next few weeks are: Seasons, Winter, January, Resilience, Essential or any other topic that you feel called to write about. If you have any questions, please contact Trish Donley at crazyazgal@msn.com or call/text 612-386-2856. (See some of the members' work on page 10.)



ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 810 6944 9838 passcode: 244380

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81069449838?pwd=ZWNIUmMzNXRSYFYaHJUczk2ZmRoUT09>



Loaves & Fishes – Fri, Jan. 29 at 1816 Portland Ave. S., Mpls 55404 (new location) Loaves & Fishes has moved from St. Stephen's School to Peace House Community. (We've been at St. Stephen's since 1990.) It's a few blocks NE of St. Stephen's. Parking is available on Portland or there is a small lot on the alley west of the building.

It's a smaller site and so far, the number of guests have been fewer. We'll be doing the same meal that we have done but on a smaller scale. We'll need about four people for preparation sometime between 2-5 pm. and about six people for serving from about 5-6:30 pm. Serving will be preparing to-go containers as we have been doing recently. And we'll need a couple people to help with clean-up until about 7 pm. Let Steve Lee know at steven.lee@thrivent.com or 612-844-8194 or 763-645-9499 if you would like to help.

Wedding for Anielka and Francisco – Sat., Jan. 30 at 2 pm

Anielka and Francisco invite you to join them via Zoom for their wedding.

If you would like to send Ani and Frank your congratulatory greetings, please send them to Anielka Montiel and Francisco Diaz, c/o Jean Lubke, 1860 Butler Ave., South St. Paul, MN 55075



ZOOM INFO: ID 854 7120 6901 passcode 648523

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85471206901?pwd=YmNqUk1RTjNlL1Z2S2YrRXp2WXPnZz09>

UPCOMING FORUMS

Jan. 17–Congregations that THRIVE for Racial Justice

Learn about this project of the Alliance of Baptists, of which UBC is a member, in partnership with Sociologists of Race and Religion. Its goal is to examine white-dominant congregational life and vitality through the lens of the Alliance’s commitment to racial justice and work toward eradicating white supremacy in the Alliance and its congregational partners.

Jan. 24 – Advocating for Housing at the State Legislature

Beacon Interfaith Housing staff member Craig Freeman will share a Zoom presentation about a bill in the Minnesota Legislative session coming up and the difference a rent subsidy would make in our state.

Jan. 31 – Mid-year Budget Review

Feb. 7 – Congregational meeting: Sanctuary

Join us for a congregational meeting and vote on UBC’s involvement as a member of the Minnesota Sanctuary State Coalition, a campaign of the Interfaith Coalition on Immigration to make Minnesota a sanctuary jurisdiction for immigrants among us. Unlike sanctuary congregations (which refers to congregations that either host those who are vulnerable to deportation or supports host congregations), the term sanctuary jurisdictions refers to cities, counties, or states that make their jurisdictions safe for those at risk of deportation.

Feb. 14 – to be announced.

Feb. 21 – Travels to the Azores and Portugal

On his honeymoon in June 2018, John Medeiros traveled to Sao Miguel, the largest of nine islands that make up the Azores, birthplace of John’s paternal grandparents. One year later, he traveled to Portugal. Come hear John as he reflects on his photos and shares the stories behind them.

Do you have a forum topic or speaker idea?

If you have an idea for a forum or would like to partner on finding forum speakers, please contact Gayla Marty.



January Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Pat Mavity | 20 Nancy Osborne |
| 9 Clyde Ciccarelli | 22 Luisa Garmers |
| 11 Kenny Wottrich, Salome Abungu | 23 Jim Ross |
| 14 Jahmai Walton | 24 Anne Johnson |
| 15 Jim Moravek, Josie Mavity | 25 jay linnell |
| | 26 Sue Wester |

No January Anniversaries

Oops! I accidentally deleted the birthday list in the Jan. 1 newsletter! Here is the entire month’s birthdays.
- Chris Follett

In Memoriam – Char Follett



Char Follett's remarkable life ended early in the morning, Jan. 13. Don, Chris and Cathy were all able to be with her before she passed. She had dealt with congestive heart failure for a number of years, and stayed active and engaged right until she went into the hospital with shortness of breath just six days prior. She did not want to linger or suffer and I think she got her wishes.

As you know, she was a stalwart member of UBC for many years. She saved and enhanced many lives in her career as a psychologist. She was a beloved spouse, mother and grandmother. But most of all she was dear friend, confidant, advocate, caregiver, truth-speaker, and generous soul. We are better because of her presence in our individual and collective lives.

We will have a celebration of life service for her in the coming months, as the family decides when and how to do that. For now, please keep Don, Chris, Cathy and all of those who loved Char in your thoughts and prayers. (A longer article will be in a future newsletter.)

In sorrow and gratitude,

Doug Donley

PRAYER REQUESTS

Gayla Marty asks for continued prayers for her mother and stepdad, Margaret and Dean, as they adjust to their new senior apartment and assisted living due to health challenges, and for the whole family involved in support of various kinds.

The Follett Family ask for prayers as they cope with the death of **Char** – but also prayers of gratitude for a life well-lived (and loved).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Alliance of Baptists – The Revolutionary Love Project Invites Participation in The People's Inauguration on January 21

On Jan. 20, we will celebrate democracy at work as a new President and historic Vice President make an oath of office. Then on Jan. 21, we will come together virtually and make our own commitment to do our part in building a nation with liberty and justice for all. We begin with an inspiring live kick-off event at 11 am CT followed by virtual conversations, musical performances, reflections and visions for America. We invite you to participate with us! We have lesson plans for teachers, templates for faith leaders, guides for parents to create an experience with their children around the dinner table, and more.

For more information about The People's Inauguration: <https://thepeoplesinauguration.org/>

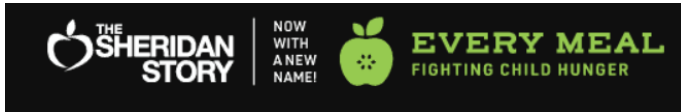
For more information about The Revolutionary Love Project: <https://revolutionaryloveproject.com/>

If you have an announcement for the newsletter or would like to put forth a prayer request, please send the info to Chris Follett at chrisf2828@yahoo.com

SPECIAL OFFERING for JANUARY & FEBRUARY

Every Meal – Fighting Child Hunger

UBC's special mission offering for January and February will be for *The Sheridan Story*—now known as *Every Meal*.



UBC has supported *The Sheridan Story* since early days in its fight against child hunger. “Sheridan” is a reference to the elementary school in Northeast Minneapolis where the organization first began. Its goal was to fill the school-year weekend gaps in food access for children receiving free and reduced meals at school.

From that beginning, *The Sheridan Story* quickly grew to fill food gaps for 10,000 children across 300 locations. It tailored its meal options in light of the diverse communities it serves, allowing families to choose from five different types of meals, including East African, Southeast Asian, and Latinx meals. The organization recently changed its name to *Every Meal* to better communicate its mission to ensure that families in need across Minnesota are provided with enough food to cover every meal, every day of the week, all year long.

Since March, *Every Meal* has responded to the skyrocketing increase in food insecurity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Every Meal* currently provides over 200,000 meals a month across 31 school districts in Minnesota. *Every Meal* has adapted its food distribution methods based on the

learning models implemented by its school partners and has added new sites. Meals are also available at YMCA locations across the Twin Cities, and *Every Meal* continue to work with partners to make food available at libraries, parks, community buildings, workshop centers, and fire stations.

Beyond donating money, UBCers also volunteer to help *Every Meal* fulfill its mission. Even in COVID times, Pastor Doug and others have participated in socially distanced food packing events. In “normal” times, UBC supports *Every Meal* by partnering with First Congregational Church and University Lutheran Church of Hope to provide food to students at Marcy Open School. On the 2nd Friday of each month during the school year, UBC volunteers, including stalwarts Anne and Roger Johnson, deliver about 30 bags of weekend meals to classrooms and lockers while students are at lunch or recess.

The rate of child hunger in Minnesota has reached the highest level in decades and is expected to remain at a high level for some time. To keep up with the rising food gaps, *Every Meal* needs to raise more funds so that every child has every meal. Your donation will help *Every Meal* fight child hunger during this historic pandemic and beyond.

If you would like to help, please send your check to UBC with “Every Meal” in the memo line or donate via the UBC website.

- Denise Roy

Online Giving Available

You can now donate funds electronically via the UBC website. Here's how it works. First, go to ubcmn.org and scroll down to the middle of the page and click on [DONATE HERE](#). This will take you to several options to donate to (pledge, Fellowship Fund, monthly mission offering, etc.) Click on one of them and indicate how much and often you want to give. Please choose the option to add a small amount to your gift to help reduce processing fees. You may want to set up an account with Vanco, our administrator, to keep track of your giving. If you have any questions, please see Denise Roy or Nancy Myers.

Outreach Committee Call for Volunteers

The Outreach Committee is looking for a couple (or more!) volunteers for the following activities. If you are interested, please contact Outreach coordinators John Medeiros or Kim Donley.

NEEDED: Volunteer needed to help report on homeless outreach opportunities.

This person would research and report on various homeless outreach organizations UBC supports. This would include checking on web sites of organizations and keeping up with what they are doing and possibly write an occasional newsletter article about the organizations' activities, or other information our congregation might be interested in.

This person does NOT need to attend meetings or be the church representative; just keep apprised of what some of these groups are doing and communicate to the church. This is an ideal opportunity for those who are retired or semi-retired who would like to be involved with the church remotely!



UBC sign. Photo by Doug Donley

NEEDED: Coordinator of UBC's Little Free Pantry (as well as donations of items)

This involves coordinating/collecting the donations. We hope to stock the following items:

- Toiletries (such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes)
- Ramen noodles
- Instant soup (not canned)
- Boxes of macaroni and cheese
- Granola/breakfast bars and other snack foods
- Socks, hats, gloves

NOTE: the following items are NOT recommended for the pantry:

- Liquids of any kind
- Canned goods (these expand in the winter cold)
- Perishables

Until we find a volunteer coordinator, anyone with items to donate should contact John Medeiros at johnthomasmedeiros@gmail.com.



UBC's Little Pantry.
Photo by David Lesniaski

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT



As of the end of 2020, operating income totals \$138,000. Compared with the pro-rate expectation, that's a surplus of \$19,800.

of our members chose to pre-pay their pledges in Dec. As a result, income from pledgers as of year-end is \$103,300, a surplus of \$15,100.

Expected annual rental income of \$50,000 is 16% of our budget. Through Dec., we've received \$29,600 versus \$25,000 expected.

Other gifts and miscellaneous income provide 3% of our budget. Income to date is \$5,100 vs. \$5,000 expected.

UBC's projected operating income for 2020-21 is \$304,900. This includes the \$20,407 carried-forward from 2019-20.

Most of our income (58%) comes from the pledges made by members. Expected pledge income for the 2020-21 fiscal year is \$176,455. On a pro-rata basis, we'd expect \$88,200 at the end of six months. Some

The percentage of our budget which comes from the Foundation has increased this year. The regular withdrawal, based on past earnings, is 7% of the budget. The extra withdrawal, to fund the facilities supervisor position, is \$26,000 or 9% of the budget. The Foundation Funds are transferred to the UBC checking account as needed by the Treasurer.

Operating Income	%	Budget	Expected	Received	over(short)
Pledge Income	58%	\$176,455	\$88,200	\$103,300	\$15,100
Rental Income	16%	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$29,600	\$ 4,600
Other income*	3%	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,100</u>	<u>\$ 100</u>
Subtotal	78%	\$236,455	\$118,200	\$138,000	\$19,800
Carry-forward	7%	\$20,407			
Foundation	16%	<u>\$48,000</u>			
Total Operating	100%	\$304,862			
Justice & Outreach		<u>\$15,000</u>		\$4,343	
Total Budget		\$319,862			

*individual gifts, loose offering & miscellaneous income

Our budget anticipates \$15,000 in designated Justice & Outreach programs over the course of the year. Gifts for special offerings can be mailed to UBC.

Recent Special Offerings include the following:

<u>current giving</u>	<u>last year's</u>	
\$845	-	American Baptist Missions
\$200	\$800	World Missions
\$425	\$995	Retired Ministers & Missionaries
\$25	\$538	America for Christ
\$1,495	\$2,333	Total for ABC Missions

Nancy Myers, Financial Secretary

Contributions from the Memoir Group

“Restaurant”

By Harriet Johnson

When we told our neighbors that we would be moving to Walker Place in August of 2017, our friend Ann Carter was excited for us. “You'll be living in my old neighborhood where I lived before I was married to Tom and moved here, and you just MUST go to Gigi's Cafe on 30th St. Tom and I went there the night we were engaged! Gigi's is a neighborhood treasure!”

A few weeks after moving in Cork and I decided to try out this famous Gigi's, and on a warm summer evening we walked the very long block up to the cluster of old shops which included a hardware store, a corner grocery and a restaurant with tables outside on the broad sidewalk.

There were all types of folks at the tables eating, snacking, and drinking wine or lemonade and there were pet doggies lying beneath their feet, too, enjoying the beautiful evening out of doors. When we stepped inside, we found a welcoming waitress with pink hair and tattoos and silver hoop earrings and cooks hurrying in and out behind the counter.

The menu was in chalk on a blackboard, and the counter had an enclosed section beneath with tempting baked goods, some bowls of salad, and a pie tin of quiche with a few missing pieces. “Tell me your order”, the waitress explained, “and I'll bring it to your table wherever you want to eat. You can get your water and utensils over there, and pay me, Nora”. It all seemed very efficient and casual so we searched around for an indoor table in a quiet corner.

We decided later that the food was exceptional, the atmosphere was just like some of our favorites in Dinkytown, and we would come back!

The next summer we made a point of bringing visiting relatives with teenage kids to Gigi's when they came to see us at Walker Place. It was the kind

of place where our niece could get her favorite salad bowl, the kids could get Thai Chicken Sandwiches, and the one young nephew who only ate French Fries could get his fill. The dress code was shorts or jeans; comfort clothes as well as comfort food was the rule at Gigi's. When Lee, Jessica, Alex and Sydney came for a visit, we knew where to take them after a walk in the nearby park.

In the fall of 2019, when Cork was no longer with us, Brad and I walked up to Gigi's for supper together when he came over on Saturdays to help me fathom insurance forms and outstanding bills I needed to master. It wasn't the Walker Place Dining Room that lured us when we took a break; it was the long walk up the block through the falling leaves to supper at Gigi's. There Brad could get his favorite Rice Bowl with Chicken and I could have my Quiche and we could relax at the wooden table.



One night I left my purse hanging on my chair when we left, but Brad hurried back to retrieve it later with no problem at all. Honesty was the rule at Gigi's!

In March, 2020, our visits to Gigi's ended with the arrival of COVID-19; most customers stayed home in lonely isolation and cleaned out their cupboards to cook for themselves.

And when the tragic death of George Floyd exploded on the streets of south Minneapolis on May 25, all of the residents of Walker Place stayed secluded inside, listening to the screams of fire engines and the roars

Continued on page 11

Harriet – continued

of helicopters overhead while our faithful staff members worked extra shifts, covering for others who could not get to work without public transportation. We really did not know what was happening in the world outside of Walker Place except for the scenes on TV.

It was two months later when I finally took the long walk back to Gigi's on one of my walks-for-exercise. I

was shocked and saddened to see the CLOSED sign on the door and boarded up doors after vandalism. No more inviting lights shining through the windows; no more tables on the sidewalks for chatting neighbors; no more doggies waiting for a crumb to drop beneath the table. No more fragrant quiche. It was bleak and quiet. We had lost our Neighborhood Treasure.

UBC Building Use Until Further Notice

UBC building is open to all renters, staff, and visitors with the following guidelines:

- Groups may be no larger than 10 people in one space (including the sanctuary) without advance permission from UBC.
- Social distancing of at least 6' must take place.
- All people must wear masks in the common areas of the building (entryways, halls, bathrooms, kitchen, lounge, sanctuary, etc.) They must wear masks in their own spaces IF there is more than one person in the room.

Congregational worship will continue via Zoom and Facebook Live for the foreseeable future. We hope to worship together in the sanctuary when it is safe to do so.



Frost on the trees. **Photo by Dan Dahlberg**

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