



THE EVANGEL

University Baptist Church

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From Our Pastor . . . The Ties That Bind

The Evangel
December 2011

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Over sixty years ago, a vast migration occurred in this region. In the years immediately following World War II, Southerners moved north following jobs, military careers and marital proposals. Like many urban centers outside the deep south, Washington D.C. and its surrounding communities received a huge influx of people from Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, the Carolinas, Kentucky, Tennessee, and southern Virginia. Many of these newcomers were Baptists who were separated from their families of origin and searching for people who could make them feel at home in their new land.

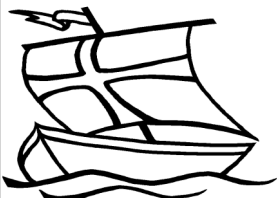


Rev. John P. Burns
Pastor

Baptist Churches often met that need. Folks from the south could find the music they loved, the style of worship with which they were familiar, the hospitality they needed, the food that reminded them of home, even the accent that soothed their ears. They congregated and started new churches or added to the number of existing ones and found a new spiritual family in our area. Many of the people who populated the mother churches of University Baptist and stepped out on faith to build our church, were transplants from southern culture. For decades they nurtured beautiful and meaningful relationships that felt like family here.

Some of those precious folks are still here, but many have gone on to be with God. In their place, however, God is building a new family. Once again, large numbers of people are moving to our area, but not so much from the south. Our congregation is made up of newcomers from New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas, Connecticut, Nigeria, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, Kenya, the Central African Republic, Guyana, the Caribbean, Cameroon and dozens of other areas. Although the places we hail from have changed, our need is very similar to that of our spiritual ancestors. This truth was demonstrated at our recent Thanksgiving Breakfast. Virtually everyone who rose to his or her feet to give thanks came from somewhere else to our community. The majority of the 80 people gathered in fellowship hall were from outside the country. According to their testimonies, they became part of this church because it felt like family. They visited, and after awhile, people knew their names, welcomed them to their pews, loved their children, prayed for their well being, sent cards and letters in troubled times and treated them like they belonged.

As the Christmas season comes upon us, let us celebrate with all our family. Look for people who may be new to our community and welcome them to worship. Learn a few new names. Invite people to sit with you during the services of Advent and especially on Christmas Eve. Take note of new names on the prayer list and send them a card to let them know you are praying for them and ready to help them through their troubled times. Include someone living miles from their family of origin in one of your holiday traditions. Remember how people welcomed you when you arrived, whether it was from points south, north, east or west and pass on that hospitality to those seeking family as they worship with us every Sunday. *Pastor John*



Our Mission Statement:

We are seeking to be transformed by God's love so that we may continue the ministry of Jesus in our congregation, community and world.

Love God.
Love Each Other.
Serve the World.

Music and Christian Education Notes

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS



W. Mark McIntyre,
Associate Pastor for Music
and Education

Sunday, December 4th: Daniel Puckett will be playing saxophone on “Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child” and during the offertory; Susan Hoffman will sing “Emmanuel” by Michael W. Smith made popular by songwriter/singer Amy Grant; Daniel Rodgerson will accompany “Emmanuel” on bass; the organ postlude will be the “Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s Messiah arranged by the famous organist, Diane Bish



Sunday, December 11th: Children will be lay leaders in worship; The Handbell Choir will be ringing “O Come, All Ye Faithful,” “Angels We Have Heard on High,” “Away in a Manger,” and “God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”; Jennifer Gbengou will be soloist on “Born in Bethlehem,” a song made popular by the group, Third Day.

Sunday, December 18th: Juan Guirola will accompany the Sanctuary Choir on congas on the anthem “African Alleluia” by Benjamin Harlan; the organ postlude, “God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen” is arranged by John Rutter, the famous English composer.

Christmas Eve: Ja-Kobe Wiggins plays “Carol of the Bells” on the violin; the youth and children present “A Vary Mary Christmas,” a pageant written by Nick Boone.

Sunday, December 25th: Ben Warner plays “Mary, Did You Know?” on the marimba; hymns on the flute by Daniel Puckett; the organ postlude is the famous “Carillon de Westminster” by the French composer, Vierne.

Bible Study

There will be NO BIBLE STUDY on Sunday mornings, December 25 and January 1. Classes will resume on January 8, 2012.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Pastor Mark

December Birthdays

- 1 Tracey Taylor
Sharon Scott
Patrick Collins
- 2 Charles Mulchi
- 3 Cecelia Whettstone
Etienne Karekezi
- 4 Joanna Burns
Crystal Mitchell
- 7 Joanne Matthews
Beth Anne Coon
- 8 Joan Mulligan
- 9 Alton Beard
Abiodun Ogunmola
- 13 Carly Guirola
Chris Dolan
Rebecca Daley
- 17 Alexander John Casey (03)
- 18 Yvonne Wells-Smith
- 24 Emmanuel Oke
- 29 Nancy Davis
Magee Patch
Taylor Tarter
- 31 David Parsons

January Birthdays

- 1 Jacob Burns
- 4 Rick Anderson
David Jenkins
Cheryl Jones
- 7 Samuel Ramsey-Lucas (02)
David Scott Parsons, Jr.
Carrie Crawford
- 9 Ellie Anderson
Renial Parsad
Tamara Goyea
- 10 Paul Rodgerson
Cheryl (Cherry) Moore
- 11 Mongah Barnard
- 15 Toye Barnard
Leonce KoyaKosso
- 16 Cecil Ramsey
- 20 Helen Peterman
Carol Ramsey-Lucas
Olusegun Goyea
- 21 Savannah Collins
- 22 Genevieve Parreco
- 24 Wayne Bristol
Paul Willis
- 26 Carmella Jones
- 28 Daniel Coon
- 31 Joel Mateer

Prayer Requests

Sickness, Surgery and Recovery: (members): Sue Scott, Terry Gilead, Basmat Parsad, Richard Anderson, Carolyn Scipio, Tracy Chewning, Georgia Watson, Rick Spencer, Connie Smith, Nan Allison, **(friends/family of members):** Jamal Graham, Wardell Broady, Lilian Musher, Betty Johnson, Eric Mirc, Blanche Lockhart, Clyde Casey, Sherry Rupp, Thersa Fritz, Rick Smith, W. O. McIntyre, Jr. (Pastor Mark's Father), Betty Kaley, Janice Henson, Lisa Taylor, Ruth Thornton, Clara Allen, Jeremiah Lusweti, Debbie Fickert, Charles and Joan Conklin-Ewy, Jane Fulker, James Durtro Wagner, Andrew Smith, Peggy Eisenhower, Mack McCardel, Susan Austin, Karen Furguson, Mildred Felts, Paul Larson, Pearl Scipio, Andy Corrigan, Shirley Reid, Ronda Lennon, Sharon Galankos, Edd Jacobs, Meredith Talley, Hattie Pride, Eric Starkey, Paul Robbins, Stacie Taylor, Kathleen McMillan, Bridgett Pickett, Randy Springer, Dr. Dada, Elaine Hoffman, Maxwell Poindexter, William Yancey, Brett Sherry, Peggy Scipio, Carol Benjamin, Devin Tyner, Stan Horyna, **Non-medical needs:** Nan Helm, Berni Stevens, Mark Benhemen, Emily Weant, The Foster Family, Richard Sullivan, Rice and Watson families, **Military:** Erica and Ricky Fields, Elizabeth Gilead in Afghanistan; **Peace Corp:** Anna Cowell, **Homebound:** Hetty Shear, Mary Smith, Genevieve Parreco, Gerri Smith and Esther Schreiner.

Food Pantry Update

As of November 29th, Pantry volunteers packed 20 orders with the potential to feed 55 people. Only 18 of the 20 orders packed were picked up, feeding 49 people.

Thanks for your Support,
Terry

Attendance Update

November Averages

Worship: 145
Bible Study: 64

Letter from Buck Lodge Middle School

Dear Pastor Burns,

Buck Lodge Middle School would like to thank you and the members of the University Baptist Church for your continued generosity with your ongoing outreach program to provide school supplies to our students. The supplies are greatly appreciated by our students, their families and our staff. Being able to provide our students with the supplies they need to succeed in school is especially important during these uncertain economic times. Many of our families need assistance and the ability to offer help at the school makes it easy for them to get what they need. Your kindness and generosity have made a real impact on the daily lives of the Buck Lodge children and they appreciate it. Thank you again for your continued support.

Sincerely,
James T. Richardson, Principal

Christmas Holiday Basket

We distributed 50 baskets for thanksgiving feeding over 50 families. Give \$30 or any amount to help feed those in need. You can donate a Christmas basket in honor or memory of a loved one. Just fill out the order form below and mail to the church or bring it in. The deadline is Sunday, December 11th. The baskets will be distributed on Saturday, December 17th. If you available to volunteer, sign-up in the foyer or call the church office.

Our Thanksgiving offering was the most generous yet, giving many families the makings of a great holiday meal plus a week's groceries. Can we do as well for Christmas? Yes we can!

\$20.00 buys a SHARE food basket with holiday treats and lots of groceries. A \$10 grocery store certificate will also be included.

Give \$30 (or any amount) and help feed our hungry neighbors.

Please return this form and payment to the church by Sunday, December 11th, so we may place the order. Thanks!

Yes, I would like to give \$ _____ to help feed a family in need this Christmas. My name is _____

My gift is in honor of/ in memory of (circle one) _____

My gift is in honor of/ in memory of (circle one) _____

My gift is in honor of/ in memory of (circle one) _____

We need strong helpers to assist in picking up the baskets on Saturday, December 17th, at 11:00 a.m. Plenty of helping hands will make easy and rewarding work when we distribute the food on Saturday, between the hours of 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Please sign up in the foyer.

Questions? See Kenny Swift.

Member (s) of the Month

This month the church staff would like to recognize Etienne Karekezi as our member of the month. How would you feel if the first time you accepted a major responsibility in the church, the congregation added a huge event to your already intimidating task? That's exactly what we did to Etienne Karekezi, the chairman of our deacons for 2011. After accepting the role for the first time, Etienne was told that the deacons would be involved in providing a twentieth anniversary celebration for Pastor John in addition to all their other duties. Etienne rose to the occasion and gave able leadership to our diaconate both in that endeavor and in everything else they have accomplished this year. So this month, when you see Etienne, thank him for carrying out his duties in such an attentive and helpful way.

Special Thanks

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement and loving words since I found out about my illness. It has been your kindness and outreach that has helped me know that brighter days are ahead for me. God has blessed me with a beautiful family in all of you.
Love and gratitude,
Sue Scott.

Mission 2012 Update

Over one hundred people volunteered for various tasks in our church during Mission 2012. The pastoral staff along with lay volunteers will now organize all the volunteers and communicate with them concerning how and when their service will begin. God will do great things through us all this coming year.

New Members

We welcome Lola Love, Bill and Yvonne Smith and Mack Frost Jr. to our congregation. We look forward to serving the Lord together in coming months and years. If you've been contemplating membership in our church, why not express your desire to join at a service this December?

Order Form for Christmas Decorations 2011
Please fill out this form and send or bring your order with
payment to the church by Sunday, December 4th.

7-inch Poinsettia (8-12 blooms) @ \$14 each.

Circle your choice of Red (R), Pink (P), White (W) or Marble (M)

In memory/honor (circle one) of _____ R, P, W, M

In memory/honor (circle one) of _____ R, P, W, M

In memory/honor (circle one) of _____ R, P, W, M

14-16 inch Balsam Wreath @ \$16 each

In memory/honor (circle one) of _____

In memory/honor (circle one) of _____

*****ALL ORDERS MUST INCLUDE:**

Your Name: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Holiday Schedule

We will have worship both on Christmas morning and New Years Day at our regular worship time of 11:00 a.m. We will **not**, however have Sunday School on either day. Sunday School will start again on January 8.

Crochet/Knitting Ministry

Please consider joining us as we gather with caring hearts and caring hands to pray together, knit/crochet, share experiences, prayer concerns, fellowship, and God's love. We welcome persons of all ages, experienced or beginners and members willing to help in any way.

We gather monthly on the 4th Friday of each month in the Parlor from 7-8:30 pm. Meeting reminders are included in the church bulletin, on the website, facebook and the Evangel. Due to the holiday, our next meeting is December 2, 2011.



Christmas Flowers

You may order Christmas flowers in honor or memory of a loved one. The flowers can also be used to decorate the church during the holiday season. You may pick your flower (s) up after the Christmas service or have it sent to one of our homebound members. Orders are due by Sunday, December 4th. Complete the order form to the left and either mail it or bring to the church .

Christmas Eve Service

All ages should join us at 7:00 p.m. for our Christmas Eve service. This year, our teens and children will provide a short play entitled *A Vary Mary Christmas*, as part of our service. The Christmas play was written and directed by Nick Boone and tells a heartwarming story about the power of hospitality. In addition to the play, we will sing carols, hear Scripture and receive a brief mediation on the meaning of the sacred night. As is our tradition, the service will conclude with candle lighting and the singing of *Silent Night* and *Joy to the World*. The service will conclude at 8:00 p.m.

Baby Dedication

On Sunday, December 11, we will dedicate newly born children to the Lord as part of our worship service. If you have a child you want to dedicate in this service, contact Desa Foster at 301-422-1430 or ubc@attglobal.net at once.



UNIVERSITY BAPTIST
CHURCH

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301-422-1430 Office
301-422-4743 Fax

John P. Burns, Pastor
W. Mark McIntyre, Associate Pastor
for Music and Education
Kenny Swift, Minister-in-Training
Carmella Jones, Intern
Desa Foster, Administrative Assistant
Carly Guirola, Treasurer
Terry Gilead, Financial Secretary

Email: ubc@attglobal.net

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.WEAREUBC.ORG

Upcoming Events at UBC

Wednesday Night Service

December 7 Fall Schedule
December 14 Fall Schedule
December 21 No Activities
December 28 No Activities

Church Council and Commissions

December 5 Church Council Meets @7PM
December 12 Trustees Meet @7PM

Youth and Other Events

December 2 Crochet and Knitting Ministry Meet @7PM
December 4 Youth Group Leaf Raking
December 11 Baby Dedication
December 11 Christmas Caroling Youth Group Meet at @4:45PM
December 13 Community Cafe
December 24 Christmas Eve Service @ 7PM
December 25 **No Sunday School; Christmas Worship Service**
December 26 Church Office Closed
January 2 Church Office Closed

Fall Schedule

5:30 p.m. Dinner
6:00 p.m. iAwesome
6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting
& Children's Choir
7:00 p.m. Bible Study
7:10 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

THE EVANGEL Published monthly by
University Baptist Church
3515 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740-3170
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
3515 Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20740-3170