



# THE EVANGEL

## University Baptist Church

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### From Our Pastor . . . The Ties That Bind

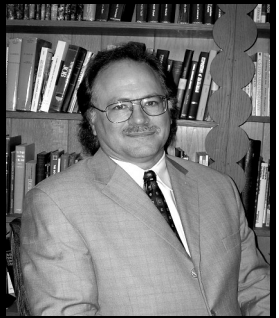
The next step in our visioning process will occur on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m until noon. At that time, Rev. Terry Minchow-Proffitt will meet with us and interpret the results of the Natural Church Development survey that thirty of our members took a few weeks ago. Terry pastored in the Washington D.C. area for many years and knows the unique challenges that this environment poses to Baptist churches. Rev. Minchow-Proffitt left his church in this area to serve a church in St. Louis, Missouri that has a lot of theological similarities to our own congregation. While there, Terry led his church through a process recommended by the Natural Church Development organization. The results were so encouraging to Terry that he went through extensive training to help his own church as well other churches learn from the Natural Church Development process. With his wealth of experience and insight, he can help us understand how to improve on the weaknesses the survey indicated our church has as well as celebrate the strengths the survey identified as well.

On January 30<sup>th</sup>, thirty adults from our congregation who are involved in ministry, small groups and leadership in our church answered about fifty questions concerning the overall life of our church. These questions were designed to measure how our church demonstrates eight key characteristics that have been identified in healthy congregations. Those characteristics are: Empowering leadership, gift-based ministry, passionate spirituality, effective structures, inspiring worship services, holistic small groups, need-oriented evangelism and loving relationships. The answers the thirty people gave to the questions revealed which characteristics our church struggles to implement and which ones we demonstrate to a high degree.

Now our entire congregation needs to hear the results of the survey and receive direction on what we can do next to grow in a healthy manner. **Every person in our congregation is encouraged to attend the meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup> whether they took the survey or not.** Rev. Minchow-Proffitt will go over the results in detail and describe various options we can follow to grow stronger as a church.

Terry will also be preaching in our morning worship service on April 10. He is a very effective and inspiring preacher who will energize us for the steps that come next in our visioning process. Please do your best to attend both the Saturday gathering and Sunday's worship.

Volume 50 Issue 3  
*March*



**Rev. John P. Burns**  
Pastor



#### 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.

*Pastor John*

## Music and Christian Education Notes



**W. Mark McIntyre, Associate  
Pastor for Music and Education**

### The Season of Lent

I always look forward to the season of Lent. Traditionally, it is the time of year leading up to Easter. During this period, many people either take on a discipline, give up something in their life unnecessary or unwanted (self-denial), or volunteer time in meaningful ways and give more of themselves to others. Each year, I vary my response to Lent while remaining conscious of slowing down and praying more purposefully during the 40 days.

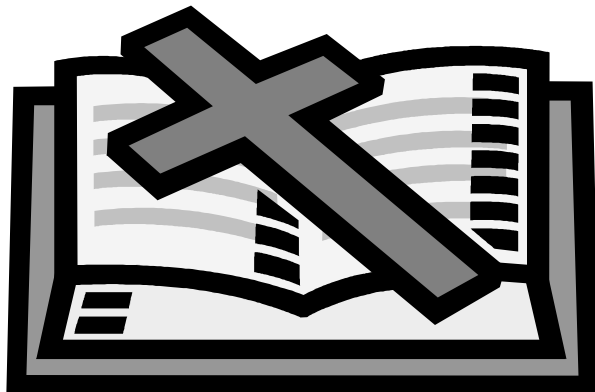
Many years ago, a youth group I was leading made Lenten crosses. One of the youth made for me a cross and it still sits on a large speaker at home opposite another cross the same youth brought back from the Vatican blessed by Pope John Paul II. The small cross has seven holes which house seven candles. Each candle is meant to be lit and extinguished on the Sundays of Lent including Palm Sunday and Easter.

This year, the *iAwesome* group of youth that meets on Wednesday evenings has been constructing 100 wooden crosses, one for each family who attends worship at University Baptist. Richard Anderson and I have been guiding their work as they sanded, drilled (electric drill press), glued, nailed, and varnished. The youth have learned to use dangerous electrical machinery and the safety involved in doing so. (My first employment was in a machine shop!) They have also written brief meditations for an accompanying booklet.

The devotional booklet focuses on *The Seven Last Words of Christ*. Included are seven devotions, one on each “word” of Jesus from the cross. A scripture, a meditation by one of the *iAwesome* youth, a suggestion to consider during the Lenten season, a prayer and the words to a hymn are included for every “word.”

The suggested time for lighting and reading is each Sunday evening of Lent. In the same manner with which we celebrate World Communion Sunday with believers all around the world, the people of University Baptist, scattered around the region, will be sharing the words of our Lord from the cross together on Sunday evenings in March and April. The *iAwesome* group asks that everyone pause, either alone or with family and/or friends, read the devotion for the week and light one of the seven candles in the cross. May your encounter with God through this small cross and booklet be blessed.

The crosses and booklets will be distributed after worship on Sundays, March 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> for all who attend University Baptist worship. Be sure to pick yours up!



*Pastor Mark*

### March Birthdays

- 4 Wayne Bristol, Jr.
- 5 Tom Rodgerson
- 6 Honi Gaines
- 7 Donna Beard  
Amanda Parsad  
Sarah Stout
- 8 Katherine Friedeman  
Bill Crawford
- 10 Jennifer Gbengou  
Johnny Barnard
- 12 Virginia Radisch
- 13 Nan Allison  
Betty Thompson  
Mary Dolan
- 14 Kris Chewning  
Ray Robinson
- 15 Fran Hajdasz  
Candace Holness
- 17 Cheryl Sutton  
Takia Mitchell
- 22 Dupe Oke
- 25 Carson Smith  
Jon Short  
Shawn Turonis
- 27 Joanne Heintzelman
- 28 Charlie Neidecker
- 30 Basmat Parsad
- 31 Ed Mulligan

### Don't Forget



### FORWARD

Daylight savings time begins Sunday, March 13 so don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead before bed Saturday!

### April Birthdays

- 1 Billy Yancey
- 2 Katherine Sorrell
- 4 Wayne Taylor  
Angello Izere
- 6 Peggy Mulchi  
Joshua Burns
- 9 Judi Tarter
- 12 Susan Scott  
Taylor Boone
- 15 John Salgado  
Godson Ogbuneka  
Alissa Casey
- 17 Anne Berry
- 18 Iyabo Oke  
Desa J. Foster
- 22 Grace Hui Xian
- 23 Lucille Jones  
Mary Caponiti
- 26 Jenelle Nicole Harrison
- 27 Adrian Casey  
Michael Cron

### Food Pantry Update

For the month of February, we packed for 21 families feeding 56 people. We are in need of the following donations: Dried beans, individual packages of flavored oatmeal; canned peaches, pears and peas; corn bread mix and saltines.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED AS SUBSTITUTES. THE PANTRY IS OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY FROM 1:30 TO 3:30PM. IF YOU CAN ASSIST US, PLEASE CALL ME.**

*Thanks, Terry*

### Attendance Update

### February Averages

Worship: 155  
Bible Study: 45

### Prayer Requests

**Death:** Scott Taylor, **Birth:** Evan William Daley, **Sickness, Surgery and Recovery:** (members): Phyllis Berry, Gerri Smith, Ellie Anderson, Esther Schreiner, Carolyn Scipio, Virginia Kitchen, Tracey Chewning, Georgia Watson, Rick Spencer, Joel Mateer, Genevieve Parreco, Connie Smith, Nan Allison, (friends/family of members): James Durtro Wagner, Andrew Smith, Mark Love, Jody Willenborg, Jane Morrison, Jean Emminger, Peggy Eisenhower, Mack McCardel, Susan Austin, Andrew Washington, Susan B. Law, Karen Furguson, Helen Myers, Tom Belcher, Mildred Felts, Phil Rodgerson, Paul Larson, Pearl Scipio, Andy Corrigan, Betty Kaley, Shirley Reid, Sandy Jones, Ronda Lennon, Michelle Flores, Steve Thaxton, Sharon Galankos, Dennis Haeder, Edd Jacobs, Meredith Talley, Hattie Pride, Eric Starkey, Paul Robbins, Stacie Taylor, Anne Clingenpeel, Kathleen McMillan, Bridgett Pickett, Randy Springer, Dr. Dada, Elaine Hoffman, Maxwell Poindexter, Cindy Harold, 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, Haiti, Richard Sullivan, Rice and Watson families, Darfur; **Military:** Erica and Ricky Fields, Elizabeth Gilead, Iraq and Afghanistan; **Peace Corp:** Anna Cowell, **Homebound:** Mary Smith.

## Up Coming Events

### Youth Group Activities

#### MARCH

3/13/11 (Sunday) – Youth Group 12:30-2pm.

3/27/11 (Sunday) – Roller skating at Wheels Skating Center in Odenton. Leave from the church after worship and eat a fast food lunch before skating. The cost is \$6 for 3 hours of skating, plus \$2 for quad skate rental or \$4 for inline skate rental. Return to the church around 5:45PM.

**Contact person: Kelly Turonis**

#### APRIL

4/15-4/16 (Friday-Saturday) — 30 Hour Famine

**Contact Person: Craig Warner**

4/17/11 (Sunday) — Youth Group 12:30-2pm.

#### MAY

5/15/11 (Sunday) — Youth Group 12:30-2pm.

5/21/11 (Saturday) — Outdoor Recreation Activity (TBA) **Contact Person: Ravi Amin**

### National Missions Offering

From now until Easter, our church will gather a special offering that will be used in its entirety to support mission work throughout the United States. Some of the money collected will be given to the America For Christ offering of the American Baptist Churches USA. The rest of the money will be directed through the Bridges of Hope offering for the Alliance of Baptists. Each Sunday, an insert in the bulletin will give specific descriptions of the ministries these offerings support. There are offering envelopes in the pew racks that can be used for this offering as well as designated envelopes in the envelope box given to all contributors. Any one desiring to support this offering can also take any envelope and mark it “National Ministries” and what is placed inside will go to support these various works of God.

### Help Us Reduce

In an effort to reduce unnecessary expenses and stress on the environment, we need your help. If you see a faucet dripping continuously, let us know. After worship, take your bulletin to the office and place it in the recycle box next to the copier. Turn lights and heat or a/c off as you exit a room, especially those rooms that are used only once a week such as the classrooms upstairs or the library. By recycling, we have already reduced our trash pick up to once a week which has not only reduced costs but has helped with the environment.

### Church Received Two Like-New Computers

The church has received 2 like-new computers along with 2 printers from The Department of Homeland Security through Computers for Learning. Our goal is to provide computer access to our members and we will be receiving more computers in the future. The computers are located in the Library and the Tellers office.



## Lenten Series

Beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 9 and continuing through Easter, we will focus on the “I Am” sayings of Jesus. A complete list of the worship themes and focus Scripture passages are included in this article. This series provides an excellent way to introduce others to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Invited friends, family members and colleagues to worship with you this Lenten season.

Ash Wednesday (March 9)	I Am the Temple	John 2:13-25
Lent I (March 13)	I Am the Living Water	John 4:7-15, 7:37-39
Lent II (March 20)	I Am the True Vine	John 15:1-11
Lent III (March 27)	I Am the Good Shepherd	John 10:7-18
Lent IV (April 3)	I Am the Bread of Life	John 6:48-51
Lent V (April 10)	Visioning Weekend: Guest Speaker	
Lent VI (April 17)	I Am the Resurrection And the Life	John 11:17-27
Maundy Thursday (April 21)	I Am the Light of the World	John 8:12, 12:27-36
Easter (April 24)	I Am the Way, the Truth And the Life	John 14:1-6

### Simple Mission Statement

After weeks of prayerful consideration and several votes, the congregation voted on February 27<sup>th</sup> . . . in a rather ambiguous way as we tried to select a simple mission statement. 89 people voted. 24 chose “Seeking Christ, Changed by Christ, Serving Christ” making it the recipient of the highest number of votes. This would have made it the clear choice except for the fact that 33 people split between “Love God, Love People, Serve the World” which received 15 votes and “Love God, Love Each Other, Serve the World” which received 18 votes. Combining the votes for both similar statements would make some version of that statement the preferred choice. “Worship, Grow, Serve” received 12 votes as did “Connecting, Growing, Serving.” 8 votes were cast for “Listening, Learning, Living and Loving.” The Church Council will look at these results and decide whether some sort of additional process is needed to help the church make a clear choice on this matter or whether the vote taken on the 27<sup>th</sup> gives us enough information to make a final decision.

### Upcoming Flea Market

My family and I will be hosting a flea market on the front lawn of the church on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the flea market is to raise money for continued nursery improvements. We are also hoping it will help draw some of the community to our church. If anyone can donate lightly used goods to the flea market, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Carly or Juan Guirola for further information.



## Announcements and Other News

### Lenten Group: *Pilgrimage of the Soul*

You are invited to join a women's spirituality group that will meet on Wednesday nights during the season of Lent. The group will meet at 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm in the parlor beginning **March 16 to April 20<sup>th</sup>** and will be facilitated by our seminary intern, Carmella Jones. This small group will use the book, *Pilgrimage of the Soul* by Phileena Heuertz to guide us from darkness to transformation. The book tells the story of Phileena's five-month long sabbatical starting with a journey walking the Camino de Santiago and ending with a cottage retreat.

Each chapter title represents a stage of transformation. We will join the author in a contemplative reflection by using the metaphor of pilgrimage to focus on spiritual wholeness that includes examining feminine struggles created by societal, cultural, and religious influences. Our sessions will be interactive and our communication will follow the book chapters as a journey. Envisioning ourselves as pilgrims we will use the chapter titles: Awakening, Longing, Darkness, Transformation, Intimacy, and Union to enable individual exploration of personal experiences and celebrate the lessons and successes of our spiritual journeys.

\*\*\*\*\*Note the Date Change\*\*\*\*\*

### Communication Committee

University Baptist Church has been invited to participate in Maryland Day 2011, set for Saturday, April 30. There will be a Community Faith Booth sponsored by the Chaplain's Office from 1 - 4 p.m., with local church musical groups and bands performing in a concert from 3 - 4 p.m. The Comm Comm has eagerly accepted this invitation, and we'll have informative brochures to hand out, an interactive game for people who stop by, and even a neat giveaway -- possibly frisbees, with our church name and basic information printed on them. Curt Ramsey-Lucas and his band will be performing at 3:00 p.m.

We need some UBC members to staff the booth for a few hours at a time -- we have several people who have said they want to help, but we can always use more volunteers. Please speak with any member of the Comm Comm, or Carol Cron if you have questions or to sign up.

Continued in next column

### Communication Committee

An upcoming project of the Comm Comm will be a pilot listserv. If you are not familiar with listserv, it is a private e-mail group list which you can join. When information needs to be communicated to members of the listserv quickly, a message is posted to the listserv and is then sent via e-mail to members. Information that could be communicated via the listserv could include:

- alerts of changes in services
- committee meeting reminders
- urgent requests for help during the week
- critical prayer requests
- reminders about special events scheduled on days other than Sunday
- updates about services (such as funerals) scheduled "between Sundays"
- notices about special music to be performed on the upcoming Sunday
- scripture and sermon topics for the upcoming Sunday

If you would like to participate in this pilot, please let Desa Foster or Carol Cron know of your interest. If the pilot is successful, we will open the listserv to the entire church. You may e-mail Desa at [ubc@attglobal.net](mailto:ubc@attglobal.net) or Carol at [carol.cron@hotmail.com](mailto:carol.cron@hotmail.com). You will receive instructions on how to sign up using your e-mail address.

The Communications Committee continues to meet on the second Sunday of each month after worship. We discuss how we can improve and enhance the way we communicate externally -- to potential visitors, and internally -- among our members and committees. Kenny Swift is our ministerial liaison.

## Calendar and Other News

# APRIL 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Fourth Sunday of Lent	4	5	6	7	8 National Church Development	9 Visioning Weekend
10 Fifth Sunday of Lent Guest Minister	11	12 Community Café @ noon	13	14	15 30 Hour Famine	16 For Youth
17 Sixth Sun. of Lent /Youth Group; Diaconate Meets	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Easter Sunday	25	26	27	28	29	30 Maryland Day 2011

### Member of the Month

This month the church staff would like to recognize Kathleen Hellington as our member of the month. Kathleen has brought new ideas and vibrancy to our church as she participates in Sunday School, worship and various other ministries. She has enriched our worship service with her ability to play drums and has brought her knitting, cooking and baking talents to serve the mission of our church as well. In addition, Kathleen has introduced us to her husband Bruce who volunteers weekly in our food pantry. This month, when you see Kathleen, tell her thank you for all she does to make this a nurturing church.

If you would like contribute to the Evangel , call the church office. You may share announcements, articles, changes, etc. Email the office at [ubc@attglobal.net](mailto:ubc@attglobal.net) or give us a call at the office 301-422-1430. Contributions from all are welcome!

### Crocheting and Knitting Ministry

All persons who are interested in knitting and crocheting are invited to meet in the parlor on Friday evening, March 25, 2011 at 7:00pm. We are in the beginning stages of forming a knitting and crocheting ministry with the intention of providing prayer shawls and other gifts of comfort to individuals who are experiencing illness or loss. If you can not meet with us on March 25, don't worry, we will meet the fourth Friday of every month. For additional information, please see Kathleen Hellington or Carmella Jones.



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CHURCH

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Kenny Swift, Minister-in-Training  
Desa Foster, Administrative Assistant  
Carly Guirola, Treasurer  
Terry Gilead, Financial Secretary

Email: [ubc@attglobal.net](mailto:ubc@attglobal.net)

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
[WWW.WEAREUBC.ORG](http://WWW.WEAREUBC.ORG)

**Upcoming Events at UBC**

**Wednesday Night Service**

March 9 Ash Wednesday Service

**March 16 No Dinner**

March 23 Full Schedule

March 30 Full Schedule

**Full Wednesday  
Night Schedule**

**5:30 pm Dinner**

**6:00 pm iAwesome**

**6:30 pm Prayer Meeting/  
Children's Choir**

**7:00 pm Bible Study**

**7:10 pm Sanctuary Choir**

**Church Council and Commissions**

March 7 COCF & Church Council Meet @ 7PM

March 13 Administrative Commission Meets @ 12:30PM (Parlor)

March 13 Communication Committee Meets @12:30PM (Library)

March 27 Diaconate Meets

**Youth and Other Events**

March 6 Begin *America for Christ* and *Bridges of Hope* Offering

March 13 Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 13 Lent Begins/Youth Group @ 12:30PM

March 13-20 Warm Nights

March 16 Lenten Group Study (*Pilgrimage of the Soul*)

March 20 Second Sunday in Lent

March 25 Crocheting & Knitting Ministry Meet @ 7PM

March 27 Youth Group Roller Skating @12:30PM

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