



UBC NEWS

University Baptist Church

1219 University Ave SE

Minneapolis MN 55414

Established 1850 at St. Anthony Falls, MN

DECEMBER 2024

From the Pastor

Transformative Work

With the election over, the work continues to spread the Gospel of peace. It behooves us to pay particular attention to our transgender and immigrant friends and family members. The new administration has promised voters to vilify and punish these two groups among others for the crime of being whom they are. Our stance as allies and advocates is increasingly important. We don't know quite yet how these promised policies will play out, but we do know of the fear and trepidation that our trans and immigrant friends express.

I'm heartened that we will be housing asylum seekers during the month of December as a part of the Faithful Hospitality program Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul. It seems like a good hands-on way to provide balm for weary souls. I look forward to



finding out how interacting with these people will open our hearts and minds to imagine and work for a safer and more humane world.

While Minnesota has been a sanctuary state for immigrants, trans folks and people seeking reproductive health care, our state cannot and should not have to carry this burden/opportunity by ourselves. That's the long-term work in which we will be engaged for the foreseeable future. In the meantime, please hold each other in prayer. Support each other as we will need all-hands-on-deck. And open your hearts and minds to the continuing revelation of God (as our church mission statement reads). I for one am so grateful for this brave and transformative community that takes the need for healing action seriously.

Blessings and Peace,

Doug Donley

DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship Theme: Reframe and Reclaim

December 1

Preaching: Doug Donley

Sermon: “Rebirth”

Scripture: Luke 1:26-38

Worship Leader: Gayla Marty

December 8

Preaching: Doug Donley

Sermon: “Revision”

Scripture: Luke 1:39-45

Worship Leader: Deidre Druk

December 15

Preaching: Doug Donley

Sermon: “Rediscover”

Scripture: Luke 1:46-55

Worship Leader: John Medeiros

December 22

Preaching: Doug Donley

Sermon: “Revere”

Scripture: Luke 1:68-79

Worship Leader: Megan Dahlberg

December 24

Lessons and Carols

Worship Leader: Kim Donley

December 29

Carol Sing

Worship Leader: Deidre Druk

DECEMBER FORUMS

Forums are held 11:30-12:30, after coffee time. For the month of December only, we will meet in the sanctuary for forums. We do our best to provide a Zoom option for remote participants. Send your ideas and suggestions for future forums to coordinator Gayla Marty at gaylamarty@gmail.com.

December 1

Please come to a congregational meeting to discuss a proposal to hire a marketing / communications professional, which emerged during our discernment process. The Church Council will present the proposal and potential funding from the UBC Foundation. (See page 7 for more detail.)

December 8—Report from Palestine

Gayla Marty will talk about her travel in Palestine November 4–16 with the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America Friendship Tour. The group stayed in Bethlehem and visited 26 organizations and farms in the West Bank in 10 days, traveling to Jerusalem, Ramallah, Nablus, and Hebron. They witnessed the impact of the war in Gaza, of the wall, and of apartheid practices. More tours are planned in the months to come.

December 15—TBD

December 22—Sanctuary decorating party

Join the fun as we hang the greens, trim the tree, and prepare the sanctuary for Christmas with a potluck lunch and treats.

December 29—No forum

Extended coffee time.

THRIVE Sociologist Presentations

UBC is one of 26 Baptist churches participating in the Alliance of Baptists’ 5-year THRIVE Project. THRIVE objectives:

- Explore and understand race-based privilege and oppression.
- Gain greater clarity about the Alliance’s commitment to racial justice.
- Draw on Baptist theological and ecclesial traditions to dislodge white-biased structures of injustice and enact racially aware practices.

On October 22 and November 12, the THRIVE sociologists—Gerardo Marti, Mark Mulder, and Kevin Dougherty—presented some of their findings, *When White Churches Commit to Racial Justice: Lessons*. Here are links to [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#) of the presentations.

Calendar for December

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10 a.m. Worship Communion Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee Time 11:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting	11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels	11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels 5:30 p.m. Sacred Harp 7 p.m. Memoir Group	10 a.m. Handcraft Group 11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels 6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	11:15 a.m. Meals on Wheels 6:30 p.m. Caregiver Support Group		9 a.m. Bible Study
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10 a.m. Worship Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee Time 11:30 a.m. Forum/Journeys 12:30 p.m. Cookie Making 4 p.m. Sacred Harp		7 p.m. Anti-Racism Work	6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells	11 a.m. Every Meal		1 p.m. Book Group
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10 a.m. Worship Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee Time 11:30 a.m. Forum/Journeys 4 p.m. Sacred Harp	7 p.m. Knitting Group	5:30 p.m. Sacred Harp 7 p.m. Memoir Group	6 p.m. Choir 7:30 p.m. Bells		7 p.m. Lubke Caroling Party	9 a.m. Bible Study
22	23	24	25 ☆	26	27	28
10 a.m. Worship Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Potluck Lunch and Decorate the Sanctuary 4 p.m. Sacred Harp		4:30 p.m. Lessons & Carols	<i>Office closed</i> <i>Newsletter</i> <i>deadline</i>			
				Since the January newsletter deadline is Christmas Day, please send contributions early if you can to chrisf2828@yahoo.com		
29	30	31				
10 a.m. Worship/ Carol Sing Joys & Concerns 11 a.m. Coffee Time 4 p.m. Sacred Harp			Trista's in-office hours are: Tuesday 12-3 p.m. Wednesday 12-4 p.m. Friday 12-5 p.m. For time-sensitive needs, please text or call 608-343-0831.			

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 (also on Zoom)

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID 839 4725 7444 passcode 257750

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

Following Joys & Concerns – Coffee time in the sanctuary

11:30 a.m. Forum in the sanctuary (also on Zoom, use link above)

11:30 a.m. “Journeys” Bible Study in the library. If you have any questions or would like a book, please contact Nancy Myers or Diane Ehr.

December 1 - HOPE - Luke 21:25-38

December 8 – PEACE – Luke 1:68-79

December 15 – REJOICE – Philippians 4:4-7

December 22 & 29 – no meeting



December 2-January 1. We will provide shelter for asylum-seeking families who are experiencing homelessness. Approximately 12-15 guests will sleep at the church (using the lounge, nursery, assembly hall, possibly other rooms) and spend their days at work, school or the day center. We will have guests here each night from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. If you would

like to volunteer as an overnight host, please complete the application form and sign up [here](https://interfaithaction.org/what-we-do/projecthome/faithful-hospitality/). Find out more about this program at: <https://interfaithaction.org/what-we-do/projecthome/faithful-hospitality/>

Meals on Wheels – December 2-5. 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.



fa sol necessary!

Sacred Harp Singing – December 3 & 17 (1st & 3rd Tuesdays), 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Sundays (except the first), 4-6 p.m. at UBC in Room 303. No experience or talent

Memoir Writing Group – December 3 & 17 (every other Tuesday), 7 p.m.

Prompts include *Voting*, *Pies*, and *Where was I when _____ happened?* Or anything else you feel called to write about. NOTE: We will not meet December 31. The next meeting after December 17 will be January 7, and every 2 weeks thereafter. If you have any questions, please contact Trish Donley at 612-386-2856 or 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



UBC-FCC Daytime Handcraft Group – December 4 (1st Wednesday), 10 a.m. at First Congregational Church (500 8th Ave. SE) in the Parlor. If you are interested and want to be on a distribution list, please let Marilyn Burns (from FCC) know at mbsnoobear@mac.com.

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



Caregiver Support Group – December 5 (1st Thursday), 6:30 p.m. UBCers who have an elderly parent meet for support. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Lubke at jeanlubke01@gmail.com.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID 829 0006 6861 Passcode 942930
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82900066861?pwd=RUQ1eGhYN1RzWTJCR0VTNG1JNFVsUT09>

Bible Study – December 7 & 21 (1st & 3rd Sat.), 9 a.m. We will discuss Luke 3 & 4. New and occasional members are always welcome. No special background, skill, or preparation is required. If you have any questions, please contact Diane at DianeEhr@q.com.



ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 517 697 6753
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZlNlbnBdcmUeIzTWfmlzRyZm50QT09>



Cookie Making, Sunday, December 8, 12:30 p.m. at UBC. Families and kids of all ages are invited to make and decorate cookies to be served at the coffee time the following Sunday. Request that each family bring one refrigerated cookie dough batch to bake and decorate, although not necessary. Volunteers requested to help so parents can de-stress a bit. For more info, contact Laura Justin or Carrie Lubke.

Sound Mind Project's Winter Concert – Sunday, December 8, 2 p.m. at Nativity Lutheran Church, 3312 Silver Lake Road NE, Saint Anthony. Doug and Kim Donley sing in this choir that raises money for youth mental health programs. Suggested donation: \$25.



UBC Anti-Racism Work – Tuesday, December 10, 7 p.m.

Anyone is welcome to attend.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 517 697 6753 Passcode: 602794
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZlNlbnBdcmUeIzTWfmlzRyZm50QT09>

Every Meal – Thursday, December 12 (usually the 2nd Friday), 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Marcy Open School in SE Minneapolis. 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.



More of What's Going On



Grace in Contemporary Literature by Women Book Group – December 14 (2nd Saturday), 1 p.m. The book this month is *In the Night of Memory* by Linda LeGarde Grover. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Follett at chrisf2828@yahoo.com.

ZOOM INFO: Meeting ID: 517 697 6753 Passcode: 602794
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5176976753?pwd=NG15ZlNlbnBdDcwUeIzTWFMlZmZm5OQT09>

UBC-FCC Knitting Group – December 16 (3rd Monday), 7 p.m. at Kris Felbeck's home. The group is made up of stitchers from UBC and First Congregational Church. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Follett at chrisf2828@yahoo.com.



The 39th Annual Lubke Caroling Party, Friday, December 20, 7 p.m. at Jean Lubke's home - **2215 Ferris Lane, Roseville, MN 55113**. Jean's townhome provides a neighborhood ready-made for easy caroling. So, weather permitting, we will bring our caroling books and carol at a few of the neighbors' and then we'll return to the house for wassail and goodies – and more singing around the piano – this year by the fireplace!

Please come, bring family and friends, bring a Christmas treat to share – and come ready to enjoy the music, food, and fellowship of the season!

RSVPs are very helpful so Jean knows how much wassail to make! Let her know if you can come at jeanlubke01@gmail.com or 651-295-7525. Hope you can join us!

Tree and Sanctuary Decorating and Potluck Party, Sunday, December 22, 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. Please join us after the morning service to decorate the Christmas tree and sanctuary. Many hands make quick work! Please bring a food contribution to share.



Christmas Eve Service – Tuesday, December 24 at 4:30 p.m. Invite your friends and family to the annual Christmas eve tradition at UBC. The service begins with a music prelude at 4:30 p.m., followed by the Christmas story told by various speakers, interspersed with carols, and concluding with a candlelight singing of Silent Night. The service should be finished around 6:15 p.m. The service will be livestreamed and available on [UBC's YouTube](#) channel.

Mark Your Calendar

- January 7** – Undecorate the sanctuary
- January 11** – Roots Cellar - Spencer LaJoye
- January 25** – Roots Cellar - Tim Cheesebrow
- January 31** – Loaves and Fishes
- March 22** – Roots Cellar - Curtis & Loretta



Employee Appreciation

Annually we show our appreciation for our full- and half-time staff members with a monetary gift presented at the end of the year.

Contribute to the Staff Appreciation gift by December 24 using one of the following methods:

- Put your contribution in the offering plate.
- Send your check or make a payment through your bank (payable to UBC, 1219 University Ave. SE, Mpls. MN 55414.)
- Donate online at www.ubcmn.org. Click on the "Giving" button at the top of the page and then select "Staff Appreciation".

If you pay by check, please note "Staff Appreciation" on the memo line. Please do NOT specify any particular staff member; it will negate your tax-deductible benefit and complicate the distribution process. The Personnel Committee will determine the final distribution.

Personnel Committee: *Megan Gunnar Dahlberg, Jean Lubke and Gene Velasco*



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING DECEMBER 1, 11: 30 a.m.

Throughout our discernment process, one recommendation was constant - we need a person whose training and expertise are in marketing and communication to help us do what we have not yet been able to do ourselves - get out the message of who we are to people who are looking for a church community like ours. Hiring a marketing / communication professional became one of the main action items for this year under our Direction #1: Refocusing People Power.

The eventual goal for engaging a marketing / communication professional is to communicate about UBC and our work to people and organizations who might want to join our ministries. We see, as a long-term goal, an increase in resources: 1) people (volunteers and potential members), 2) financial funding to help the financial solvency of UBC, and 3) organizations (i.e. other non-profits) with whom we can collaborate with in ministry. The work of marketing and communication will be ongoing, but to start, we are proposing a one-year position with re-evaluation after the first year.

The Personnel Committee took this direction and created the attached job description, which has been approved by the Council. This is not a position for which we already have funding. Therefore, there will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 1 at 11:30 to discuss this proposal and make decisions about the funding.

If you have questions about this proposal before December 1, please contact Jean Lubke, UBC President or Megan Dahlberg, Personnel Chair and UBC Foundation President.

<https://files.constantcontact.com/1bda2f63901/3cf55b35-16e6-4ce7-9d19-2f6ff339c558.pdf>

Handel's Messiah From London to Minneapolis

By Megan Dahlberg

In 1741 when Handel wrote the Messiah, London was a pretty gritty place. There was tremendous poverty. It was not uncommon to come upon a newborn or young infant abandoned and dying on a garbage heap in a street.

The London Foundling Hospital was established to care for unwanted children. I have been there. It still exists, though as a playground site for London's children and a museum. Of course, many women who left their babies there wanted to keep them but couldn't. There is a very poignant exhibit of the talismans that they left with their babies hoping that they would be able to identify them and reunite later when they could support them.

George Frideric Handel's Messiah was a key source of income for London's Foundling Hospital. Handel was a benefactor and governor of the hospital, and he conducted annual performances of Messiah to raise money for the children. He continued to do so until his death in 1759, personally conducting about 36 performances.

On December 8 there is a Messiah Sing with the Minnesota Chorale at St. Olaf Catholic Church in Minneapolis. Several from UBC are going including Ty Wottrich who sings in the Chorale. Registration is



Megan Dahlberg in front of the Foundling Hospital Museum in 2014 with Nick Percey who is working to improve lives of children and families in the UK.

requested. Attendance is free, \$20/person donation suggested. For more information, see <https://www.mnchorale.org/>

We should remember that originally, Handel used profits from this to save babies who would otherwise have died. And we should remember that babies and their parents need our continuing support so that a child does not need to be given up in order to eat.

175th Anniversary Brainstorming

At the forum on Sunday, October 27, we had a lively brainstorming discussion beginning to envision how we would celebrate our 175th anniversary in 2025. We filled the white board with creative ideas with a general consensus of celebrating for a year beginning in July 2025 instead of having a single weekend event. Click [here](#) to see the compilation of notes from that meeting.

We want the celebratory activities to align with our discernment goals, have an outward (versus inward) focus, use the opportunity to build /rebuild relationships with individuals and organizations. One of our first steps will be to create a planning committee, and Elwyn Fraser was the first to volunteer. If you would like to help create our celebration and join Elwyn on the Planning Committee, please let Jean Lubke know.

UBC's Bell Choir Performs at the Children's Theatre



On Saturday, November 9, the UBC Carillon Handbell Choir was invited to give a concert in the lobby of the Children's Theatre on opening night of "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas." We played from a small walkway above the lobby. The staff heard us well as we rehearsed, but when the doors opened and the excited audience filled the lobby and the announcements began, they drowned us out, unfortunately.

Bell Choir members (l to r): Karole Graham, Iris Guo, Jill Easton, Carrie Lubke, Deidre Druk, Kaite Knack, Gene Velasco, Rachel Henzen, Betsy Kerr, Dawn Walker, Janella Wendorf, Quinn Jatzo, Laurie Brazman. Missing: Director Jean Lubke (who took the photos)



Poinsettias to Decorate the Sanctuary

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 with a note identifying it for poinsettias. If you would like the poinsettia to be identified as in honor or in memory of someone, please make that indication on the envelope or electronic contribution.

Poinsettia purchases must be made by Sunday, December 22.

The Roots Cellar Concert Series

By Loretta Simonet

Reprinted with permission from the November 2024 issue of *Minnesota Bluegrass* magazine.

There's a gem of a music listening room right in Dinkytown, near the University of Minnesota's Minneapolis campus. The concert series known as "The Roots Cellar" is named for the roots music it features, as well as for the lower level of University Baptist Church, where it's held.

The "roots" also go way back to the beginnings of the congregation, when they performed baptisms in the Mississippi River! Founded in 1850, eight years before Minnesota became a state, the congregation went through several names and locations before they built their present church at 1219 University Ave SE, Minneapolis, in 1921. Throughout its 174 years, the congregation has been characterized by progressive theology and a strong commitment to peace and justice issues. Early members were involved in the abolitionist movement and women's suffrage. The 1960s were marked by programs of social action and issues involvement. Pastor Kenneth Huyck marched in Selma, Alabama, for civil and voting rights back then.



The Roots Cellar Concert Series is the brainchild of Pastor Doug Donley, who has led the congregation since 2001. He started the series as a way to further their mission to reach out to the community, providing meaningful music. Doug

told me, "It's all about welcoming the larger

community in. Our building is a resource that doesn't belong to us, but belongs to the community, and so it should be shared by the community."

Doug said that "Dinkytown has been a mecca for decades for singer-songwriters." He lamented that the smaller venues with more affordable tickets prices have disappeared. He continued, "That was the kind of place we needed to accentuate and support and this is the kind of music that I really like. And so, a lot of it is self-interest; I get to hear the artists that I really like, and get my friends around to hear it too. We started this whole thing to support the community of musicians and people seeking to hear great music at an affordable price in a really informal setting."

The series showcases an eclectic mix of traditional and roots musicians ranging from blues to bluegrass, folk, and Americana.

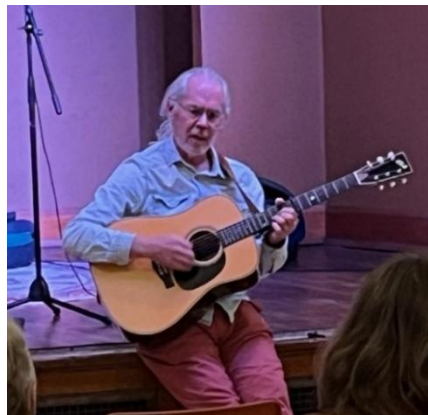
The venue is ADA accessible, with an elevator available to access the concert hall in the lower level, and snacks are available. You can learn more and get tickets at <https://www.ubcmn.org/roots-cellar-music>

Here's the schedule for the rest of the season. All shows are at 7 p.m.

January 11, 2025 - Spencer LaJoye

January 25, 2025 - Tim Cheesebrow

March 22, 2025 - Curtis & Loretta



Mark Kreitzer at the Roots Cellar November 16.
Photo by Doug Donley

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Most of our income (58%) comes from pledges made by members. Our pledges are running behind but I expect that to change as people tend to give more in December.

Rentals are running ahead thanks to sporadic rentals of the gym and assembly hall. Rental income of

\$72,004 covers approximately 20% of our budget. Other gifts and miscellaneous income provide 4% of our budget and the UBC Foundation distribution is 18%, which includes (\$34,401) for the property manager position.

Operating Income 2024-25	%	Budget	Expected	Received	Over (short)
Pledge Income	58	\$203,834	\$84,931	\$76,793	(\$8,137)
Rental Income	20	\$72,004	\$30,002	\$31,986	\$1,984
Misc income*	4	\$15,000	\$6,250	\$6,065	(\$185)
Subtotal		\$290,838	\$121,183	\$114,844	(\$6,338)
Foundation Contribution	18	\$61,732		-	
Total Operating Income	100	\$352,570			
Justice & Outreach		\$15,000		\$5,280	

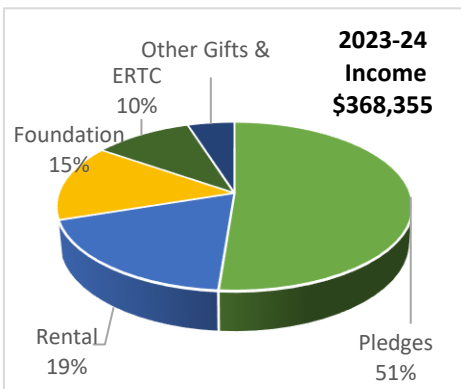
*individual gifts, loose offering & miscellaneous income

The dedicated offering for November and December is for Justice Issues. We have received \$580 to date.

- Chris Follett, Financial Secretary

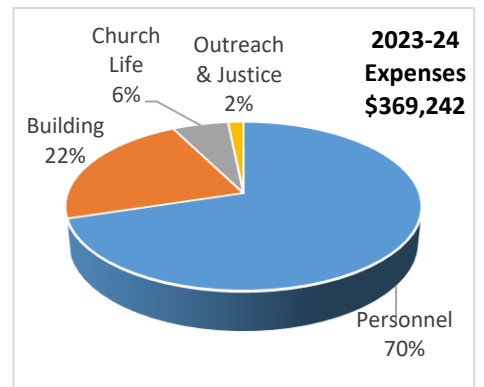
Financial Updates

The Council accepted the 2023-2024 year-end financial reports at our November Council meeting. We ended the year with a deficit of less than \$2K, which was great news considering we thought we might have a deficit of closer to \$55K. We were helped by under-spending and ERTC (Employee Retention Tax Credit) funds from the federal government, a holdover from the COVID years.



As the pie charts show, personnel costs are our highest expenses (70% of budget for human resources

expenses for pastor, music director, administrative assistant, property manager, janitor, choir soloists, child care workers, and livestreaming technician). Building expenses (insurance, utilities, maintenance, lawn care and snow removal - minus staff and capital projects) represent 22% of our annual expenses. Leaving the remaining expenses (8%) for ministry and outreach.



Individual / family pledges continue to be our largest source of income (51%); rentals at 19% nearly cover the 22% building expenses; income from the Foundation (15%) is used to cover the Property Manager salary, capital improvements, and help balance the general operating budget.

We will take a detailed look at the 2024-2025 financial progress at our Mid-Year Budget Review at the forum on Sunday, January 26. If you'd like to see any interim financial reports, please ask Denise Roy or another member of the Council.

- Jean Lubke, UBC President



We delivered 5 bags and a box of winter clothes to refugee services at the Minnesota Council of Churches. Karole Graham and Kim Donley were met by Noah who graciously accepted our donations. Thank you to everyone who donated clothes for this ministry!

Photo of Noah and Karole by Kim Donley.

Thanks to some hard workers, Room 309 was transformed into the temporary nursery so that our guests via Faithful Hospitality can use the current nursery.

Photo by Doug Donley



SPECIAL OFFERING FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Justice Issues

The Outreach missions for November and December are focused on programs that tackle justice issues in the Twin Cities. In the past, these have included homeless organizations, voting rights groups, refugee services, LGBTQ+ groups, etc. Your donations are appreciated as we try to heal our cities and neighborhoods.

You can drop your offering in the offering plate, send a check to the church, designate a gift directly from your bank, use the QR code on the right, or use our online portal for giving on the UBC website, www.ubcmn.org/giving. Thank you for your ongoing outreach support!!

Kim Donley & Karole Graham, Outreach Team Co-Coordinators



You can scan this QR code on your phone to be directed to our web page where there are a variety of causes to donate to.

FORUMS

Annessa Ihde of Faithful Hospitality led a discussion and Q&A at the forum on **November 10** about families seeking asylum here in the Twin Cities and the role of sanctuary churches. UBC will house people in December.



Myrtle Lemon-Todd (below) returned **November 17** for Part 2 of a two-part series about trans-rights and about working to make Minnesota even more equal.



On **November 24**, Denise Roy (above with mic, along with Doug Donley and Jean Lubke) updated us on the meeting they attended in October of the 20+ churches in the U.S. and Canada that are part of the THRIVE grant from the Lilly Foundation through the Alliance of Baptists.

Photos by Chris Follett

Volunteer Opportunities

Every Meal

UBC participates in *Every Meal*, a program that distributes bagged food 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, 11 a.m. to about 1 p.m. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Denise Roy at denise.roy@mitchellhamline.edu

UBC History Research

At the Minnesota History Center, UBC has 19 boxes of files and other materials. If you would like to join a team going over to the History Center sometime Wed-Sat, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1-4 p.m., please contact Gayla Marty at gaylamarty@gmail.com

Meals on Wheels

UBC has an opportunity to participate in Meals on Wheels on M-Th of the first full week of the month. Meals are picked up around 11:15 a.m. and the route in SE Minneapolis usually takes 1-2 hours. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a ride-along, please contact Marie LaFrance at marielafrance46@gmail.com

NEW Volunteer Opportunities

Grant Writing

We have a couple of grants to write this winter - one for rewriting our blue hymnal and a safety one. If you have any interest in helping the grant-writing team, please contact Jean Lubke.

175Th Anniversary Committee - See page 8.

UBC / FCC Collaboration Task Force

UBC and First Congregational Church are exploring ways to collaborate in ministry. Pastor Donley and Jean Lubke are looking for 2-3 additional open-minded individuals willing to explore possibilities to join the task force. We have been meeting once a month. If

Little Free Pantry

Our pantry has again been stolen and is in the process of being replaced. When it returns, we are looking for individuals 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 Karole Graham, Outreach Coordinators.

Looking for Volunteers

Coffee hosts – Sign up in the lounge

Communion prep – Contact Terri Wottrich

Ushers – Contact Chris Follett

Worship leaders – Contact Megan Dahlberg

175th Anniversary Committee – Contact Jean Lubke (for now)

you are interested, please contact Pastor Doug or Jean Lubke.



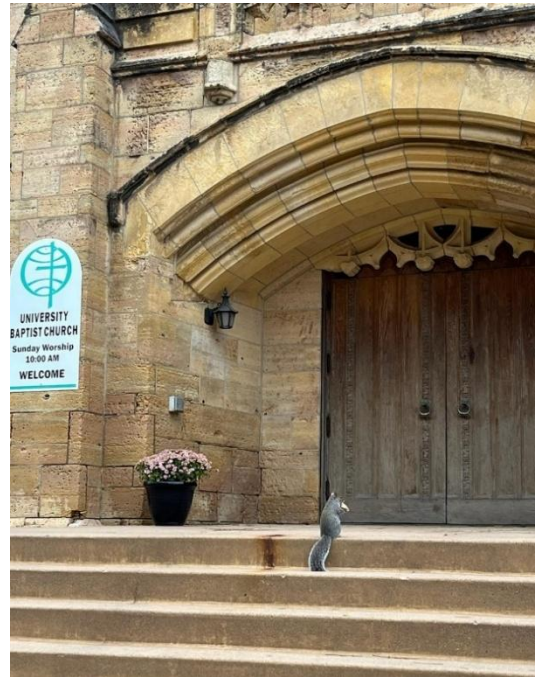


December Birthdays

- 2 Kim Donley, Greta Garmers
- 5 Betty Shaw
- 6 Colleen Moravek, Edmund Meinerts, Andrew Justin
- 8 Lisa Roy
- 9 Peter Justin
- 15 Rachel Acevedo Hoffman
- 16 Jan Vaughan
- 27 Jonathan Smith

December Anniversary

- 31 Randy DeMent & Mike Lambert



Even the rodents stop by UBC to pray!
Photo by Doug Donley

Card Table Needed

The UBC / FCC Card Club is growing. We had 11 people at Jean Lubke's house on Saturday, November 16 making Christmas cards! We are in need of more card tables. If you have a folding table you are no longer using, or find one at a thrift store, please let Jean Lubke know.



This is one of the three Fothergilla shrubs (in the witch hazel family) located opposite the playground. The strange name is from the name of the 18th-century English physician and plant collector Dr. John Fothergill, who was known for introducing American plants to Britain.

Photo and text by Betsy Kerr

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