



THE UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2021

Editors: Steph Hattie and Gabriel Araba Vol. 0009



GOD CARES about everything that concerns you

Many times we think God is too occupied with heavenly administration that He will not have time to care about what is happening in our lives or how we feel from time to time. His word tells us that God sympathizes with our weaknesses and He is touched by the feelings we feel even when they are deep and personal.

Let us remember that all over the scriptures one of the most used titles for God is Father. Jesus Christ taught us to refer to God as Father as He did in Matthew 6:9, that God is approachable and longs for us to talk to Him always about everything.

God is not just a Father, He is a Good Father: The kind of Father that cares, Loves and Blesses with gifts.

The scripture says in 1 Peter 5:7 that you are His personal concern. The book of John 3:16 tells us that He so much Loves you that He had to sacrifice so much to save you and give you the opportunity for abundant life and forgiveness. **What a Great and caring Father He is.**

Make room in your busy day to talk to Him today. He is listening intently for your voice today. He really cares for you. God bless you. Pastor Gabriel Araba.

AFRO-CARIBBEAN SPECIAL EVENT- ONLINE VIDEO PRODUCTION

As we look forward to the unfolding of God's promises this year, we are excited as the inspired idea to pioneer and host the Afro-Caribbean event in Sault Ste Marie is catching on.

We now have participation and support from the all across the Evangelical Ministerium as well as generous individual donations.

The support has been awesome and inspired by the Love of God. The United Baptist Church will be premiering the video production on February 27, 2021. This will be on our social media platforms - Facebook, Instagram and the Newly created YOUTUBE CHANNEL (Search for **UNITED BAPTIST CHANNEL** on Youtube). We are grateful for God's favour upon us all at such a time as this.





JOIN US ON MARCH 7, 2021 SUNDAY SERVICE VIA ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN-PERSON

Our Sunday services will continue every Sunday at 10.30am on the zoom platform and we will have the in-person service when conditions permit.

All safety precautions are observed and we always have an awesome time. Please join online church services using the Zoom platform.

Zoom link details: **Meeting ID: 958 598 9328** and Passcode: **YmvCuoXa!**

YOUNG ADULT BOARD OF MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVE

We are excited to explore the opportunity of having the Young Adults represented on the Board of Management. Conversation are on-going as we look forward to the election of a volunteer among the young adults.

We have been blessed with a new and vibrant group of Young adults who are growing and increasingly participating in the church. Please pray along. There are greater things ahead of us.

We would also like to this opportunity to invite more members into this group. You are welcome!



JOIN THE UBC MEDIA CREW

Are You Talented-Tech Savvy and Really Creative? Do you enjoy working with Photos, Videos, Computer softwares and making things happen? Do you like social Media things?. Then the UBC MEDIA CREW is the right place for you.

Email us at ubaptistchurch@shaw.ca

COMMUNION SUNDAY SERVICE IN FEBRUARY 2021

Communion Sunday Service on March 7 2021. Please don't miss it. Please prepare your own bread or biscuit and Juice/wine to share the Holy Communion together. We would have Pastor Gabriel pray for the bread and wine. Please prepare your heart as well.



MUSIC COMMITTEE



We are looking to build a team of young adult and youth singers at the United Baptist Church. Contemporary inspiration music is a great way towards contributing to revitalization our church and a beautiful avenue for young people to use their talents for God. Please spread the word. Watch out for new participation of talented young adults in our music team very soon.

MEN OF HONOUR- Online Zoom Meeting

They say “Men do not cry.” They say “Man Up!” Do men really have the heart to care, to love and make a difference in community? These and more questions will be addressed in The United Baptist Men of Honour Zoom Meeting. Let us talk about further advancing our men’s group. Please join us; calling all men to make a difference on the March 13th, 12noon-1:00pm.

Zoom link details: **Meeting ID: 958 598 9328 and**

Passcode: **YmvCuoXa!**

Let join hands to build and bear each other Up.



PRAISE & PRAYER ON ZOOM

Some great things about Prayers:



- It is the way Earth connects with heaven.
- It is communicating with our Heavenly Father
- Prayer is a force that moves mountains
- Prayers secures the future, resolves the past and maximizes the present.

We have learnt that Payers are effective and they make much power available.

James 5:16 **“The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”** Please join us

MONTH OF MARCH	DAY	TIME
Saturday	March 13th	10:30 am
Saturday	March 27th	10:30 am
Please use the zoom link details: Meeting ID: Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9585989328?pwd=TG1FUeIvc2tjcjJCZHMwTC84T2hDUT09	Meeting ID: 958 598 9328 Passcode: YmvCuoXa!	+12042727920,,9585989328 # Canada +14388097799,,9585989328 # Canada

In other News- February 2021



As we near the one-year mark of a world-wide deadly and completely life-encompassing pandemic, we can take heart in knowing that both your Board of Deacons and Board of Management continue to meet monthly via Zoom.

The meetings are both encompassing and productive, making significant progress in updating our technology *-a necessity during these times* - setting the foundation for upcoming outreach programmes, and so much more.

Highlights of these meeting:

- Sandra Lyons and Charlotte Mandolesi agreed to Co-Chair the Board of Management.
- The Board of Management is seeking representation from the Youth Group.
- Recruitment for a part-time secretary is ongoing.
- An AV (Audio Visual) Committee is seeking members to advise on and operate UBC's AV equipment.
- Harry Davis, Sandra Lyons, Linda Mador, and Verna Scott have agreed to assist Nicole Rahaman with Telling.
- February 26th is the launch date for the Afro-Caribbean Event video with community involvement.
- Updates were provided regarding the Website development.
- Discussion took place regarding groups returning physically to the church building. In-person worship services will commence the first Sunday of March. All gatherings must adhere to COVID protocols.
- For 2021, staff wages will increase by 1% and as per the increase in the cost of living.
- While year-end financials are, as yet, not complete, UBC ended the year in the red but in a more favourable position than the projected budget.
- The sub-committee of Susan Van Atte, Rod Stone and Steph Hattie will begin deliberating in early March on updating our present Constitution - input from the church family is encouraged and welcomed. Copies of the current Constitution are available from the office.
- Discussion is ongoing regarding our 50+ year tradition of a combined Good Friday Service with Willowgrove United Church as it would be our turn to host. How best to proceed will be determined by Provincial Covid protocols at that time, as well as, hopefully, the soon arrival of Willowgrove's new pastor, the Rev. Hati Mvundura. Due to travel restrictions as well as unfavourable weather conditions, Pastor Mvundura, who is originally from Zimbabwe, and was pastoring a church in northern British Columbia, is yet to arrive.
The fate of our enjoying the much anticipated and appreciated hot cross buns remains uncertain.
- With numerous new names being added to our church family, the Care Call List is in the process of being up updated, expanded and revised.

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The Season of Lent



According to the Miriam Webster Dictionary, **LENT** is the 40 weekday period from Ash Wednesday (February 17, 2021) until Easter Sunday (April 4, 2021) during which time some may choose to "give up" some earthly pleasure - *think wine, chocolate, meat* - as a form of penance.

During Lent, the cross is draped in purple, the colour of royalty, representing Jesus as the King of Kings.

For Easter Sunday, the cloth is white, signifying Christ's resurrection.

Our cross at UBC, while not one that we traditionally see in photos, has its own special significance.

In past years, a large tree that filled the baptistery at Christmas, was donated by Hotchkiss Tree Farm and others, and was used for our Chrismon Tree.

Then, the branches were removed, and the trunk was made into a cross to be used at Lent.

In the past decade, the decision was made to utilize the convenience of an artificial tree, so our present day cross is the trunk of our last "real" tree, and so, of special significance to the UBC Church Family.

Thanks to Roger Johns for setting up the cross and to Pastor Gabriel for the photo.

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According to our Constitution, the Church Directory is to be updated annually February. Thanks to the diligence of Sandra Lyons and Wendy Bergeron, the 2021 Directory is now available from the office, either digitally or in print.



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Traditionally, our Annual Meeting is held during the second week of February, with a Love Lunch Potluck following the morning Service, and then the Annual Meeting.

Given the present Covid situation, the decision has been made to defer the meeting and always delicious potluck to a time when it will be safe for all to attend and participate.

Stay tuned for details as they are determined.

A Reminder....

If you, or someone you know, are purchasing hand soaps from Bath and Body Works, **upon request**, free, complimentary, clear cellophane gift bags are available.



These bags are the ideal size we have been searching for to use with preserves and other items for the Brunch, whether conditions at the time permit a "real" Brunch, or a one-day sale as was held in 2020.

Please place any bags you may get- *preferably kept flat* - in the provided box on the Narthex table.

Our thanks- The Brunch Committee.

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Currie McPhail Mission Circle met Tuesday, February 16th, via Zoom and telephone. It was so nice to see and hear ladies we had not talked to for a month. The meeting was led by Verna and Steph, with several others helping with Bible reading and prayer.



The study was taken from the CBWOQ magazine "LIVE" and written by Linda Ellsworth, former Director of Camp Norland who lives in North Bay and has been our guest speaker for Women's' Sunday several times in the past.

It was titled ENCOURAGE LOVE/INSPIRE GOOD- Called to Love, introduced by a short video that explained AGAPE love, which is God-given, Pure and Mandatory.

All were encouraged to continue with their offerings- either through the mail slot (envelope labelled *Missions*) or in the box provided on the Narthex table. Thanks to Pastor Gabriel for managing the Zoom platform and facilitating the video.

UPCOMING EVENTS

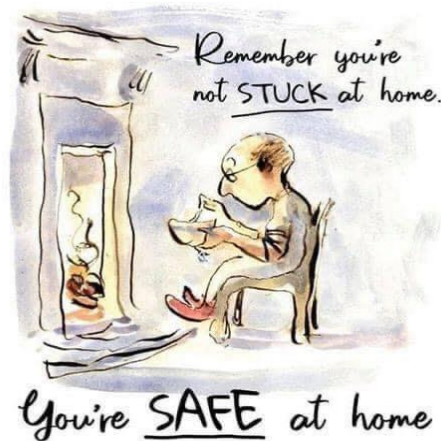
March 5th - *Local World Day of Prayer* - would have been our turn to host the Hill area churches.

March 8th - *International Women's Day* - guest speaker- Cissie Graham Lynch

March 16th- *Currie McPhail Circle*- details to follow

April 20-23rd -*Encourage love- Inspire Good* - Baptist Women's' Spring Conference- speaker- Karen Wilson, president of the Baptist World Alliance.

- Verna Scott



And just in case you are ever on Jeopardy, or it comes up in a casual conversation - *when we can actually have one face to face again:*

- The space between your eyebrows is called a glabella
- The way it smells after the rain is called petrichor
- the rumbling of your stomach is actually called wamble