

Editors: Steph Hattie and Gabriel Araba

THE UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH January 2022 NEWSLETTER

Vol. 0020

Divine Power for Everyday



Every day we may wonder how the day is going to turn out. Sometimes, wishing that we had magical powers to orchestrate things just the way we want them. It is probably not surprising that movie makers create superheroes with powers over earth, water, wind, and all they can think of, having control just at the snap of the fingers to do what is right and it is just a matter of thinking it and doing it, wishing it and having it.

These superheroes are confident to face every day, overcome enemies, get victory wherever, whenever desired and able to withstand daily troubles of life.

The question is, are humans so powerless and puny and always at the mercy of whatever comes their way, good, bad, and ugly? There is one way to find out what the truth is. Let us check out the word of God and what He said about powers to live victoriously in this world, I mean superpowers for Victory and obtaining the promises for a good and Godly life.

From the beginning, You and I were created and given the mandate for dominion, built and manufactured with power to dominate every situation, to have dominion over everything given to us by the Almighty Himself from the seat of the highest power. Wow! see Genesis 1:26-27.

"And God said, let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."

It is an interesting discovery to suddenly wake up one day and realizing that you had dominion all this time. This should change how you see yourself.

The scriptures go further to tell us that **God's divine power** has given us everything that pertain to life and Godliness. 2 Peter 1:3.

"His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence."

These are not just coincidences, God had it all planned out for us to live our best lives. In Jeremiah 29:11, God desires us have sufficiency of all things by the grace of God in Christ. 2Corithians 9:8

"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work"

It is important to know that obtaining God's promises for everyday has conditions, one of which is to love the Lord with all our heart and to show it through obedience to His word. Deuteronomy 28:1

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"Now if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God and are careful to follow all His commandments, I am giving you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.

Faith is the key that unlocks your everyday blessing and victory. Believe and love the Lord, obey His word

and you will begin to experience the deeper things of God and obtaining his promises for every day.

Watch out for sin and doubt, resist the adversary, who comes to steal your powers in exchange for vanity and mundane facts and figures lacking eternal life. Remember you have the power already. Luke 10:19.

"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

This is just a sneak peek of all that is promised by God Almighty, please go into everyday knowing the truth that set you set you free.

Pastor Gabriel Araba

Inptist

The UBC WEBSITE HAS LAUNCHED!!!

Have you visited our church website lately? Check out https://ubaptistchurch.ca/

There are lots of UpToDate information and avenues to connect with our church. You can have a scoop of the Newsletter archive and get to know the team and ministry leaders and many more exciting updates coming soon. Please visit us today. God bless you.



You are invited to the Lord's Table

Communion Sunday Service on February 6th, 2022. Please don't miss it. Communion elements are provided for the in-person attendees. All others, please prepare your own bread or biscuit and Juice/wine to share the Holy Communion together. Pastor Gabriel would pray for the bread and wine. Most importantly, please prepare your heart as well. God bless you.



United Baptist

Sunday Service Via Zoom Platform, Youtube & In-Person

Our Sunday services will continue every Sunday at 10.30am in-person as well as on the zoom platform, in accordance with current APH guidelines.

Please be a part of this amazing time.

For online, Please join church services using the Zoom link below. Zoom link details: **Meeting ID:** 958 598 9328 and Passcode: YmvCuoXa!

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Young Adults Shine!

Our young adults are rising! On Sunday, January 30, 2002, members of UBC young adult group







In-person and online, we had over 30 young adults join our special service.



I love how UBC brings us together. There's no other opportunity here in the Sault. It's cool- OG





Join us next time! February 27,2022@10:30am



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IN OTHER NEWS, January 2022.



The days are **getting longer** - no more it being dark by 4:00pm.

In a mere 4 weeks, the maple sap will be running. SWEET!

In **6 weeks**, we welcome back the earliest migrating birds, returning in numbers.

In **8 weeks**, early spring wildflowers will emerge from the slowly warming earth.

We WILL feel the warmth of the sun on our faces again- Hang in there- Keep the Faith!

Regardless of the seasons, your **Board of Deacon** and **Board of Management**, have hung in there, meeting faithfully the 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, 6:00pm, via the safety of Zoom.

Some Highlights of these meetings.

- Rev. Cid Laity, CBOQ Development Associate, attended via Zoom and spoke to Board members regarding_church
 revitalization. In his message, he said that United Baptist Church (UBC) is a conduit for God's holy Spirit as we renew
 our minds and receive the Holy Spirit to do the things God wants us to do. Stressed was the need to pray and revive
 prayer meetings as we ask God to help us. Rev. Laity spoke of UBC being blessed by God and noted that we are a
 different church today.
- The overall **Outreach Project** is on hold due to COVID restrictions. CBOQ, which has provided the funding for this outreach via grants, has agreed to a **new start date of January 2023.**
- Annette Joseph, UBC Project Co-Ordinator for our proposed Outreach Projects, and Pastor Gabriel have prepared a template for the African-Caribbean Praise Night and are now working on the agenda. This highly successful event, traditionally held in February, will be postponed until a future date.
- Issues with our **coloured printer**, resulted in those who get our monthly Newsletter by regular mail, received black and white copies of the December Newsletter **our apologies**.
 - The Board is actively pursuing a **permanent solution** to this ongoing printer problem.
- To ensure the ongoing, vital, **security** of our new, expensive and highly sensitive sound equipment, locks are being installed on both doors of the mezzanine.
- As requested, a new, clear, acrylic offering box, with a lock, has been ordered for the Narthex.
- Up to \$1,000 has been approved from the **Memorial Fund** for replacing and adding additional **microphones and stands** as advised by The Media Team.
- In support of **Indigenous Reconciliation**, <u>Ojibwe</u> will be included on our church's screen and on our website display of many country greetings in different languages.
- CBOQ supervision of **Pastor Gabriel** ended in December with reports being drafted before the final stage leading to **ordination with CBOQ.**
- Past Newsletters have been posted to **our website** yet to come, updated calendars and more photos
- For the period ending December 31, 2021, **Total Revenue** was \$135,346.13 and **Total** Expenditures were \$133,669.15. **Net income** for the year was \$1,676.98. While ending the year in black, year one of the CBOQ grant for the Outreach Projects (\$14,998) was received in 2021, while the bulk of the expenditures will not occur until 2023.
 - with thanks for Minutes prepared by Susan Van Atte and Mary Ellen Johns

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The Great Canadian Bible Study

Currie McPhail Mission Circle met on Tuesday January 11th, 1:00pm, via Zoom with **Susan Van Atte** (*presently in Florida*) leading the meeting, partnering with **Marie Shacklelton** who, like the rest, was here in the Sault.

Ah, the miracles of modern technology!

The focus of the meeting was a new Bible Study, Titus' Call to Women, prepared by Faye Rennolds for CBWOQ.

It was a departure from our usual emphasis on a particular woman of the Bible, and instead looks at the instructions given to Titus as he leads the church of Crete. The focus is on **relationships**- how women can mentor and encourage other women- how community makes our faith stronger when we share our stories reflecting God's faithfulness.



In a section discussing marriage, helpful marital advice was shared:

- Be kind, honest, show respect and keep communication lines open
- Don't go to bed angry
- Have a mutually agreed sharing of responsibilities
- Be an example to the younger generation

The aspect of **women mentoring women** falls directly in line with one of the goals of **UBC's Outreach** initiative of having experienced women work with single mothers, young families, as well as newcomers to Canada, finding out their needs and sharing practical and successful ideas.



In the business portion of the meeting, **Shirlianne Morrison**, reported that we have

\$1,926.12 in our **account** and that a call had been received from the Executive Director of Baptist Women with thanks for our **generous contribution** this past December of **\$2,836.00**.

We have also made a donation in memory of **Kenna Johns**, a valued member of Currie McPhail Circle, to be honoured in an upcoming edition of **LIVE** - a magazine for Baptist Women.

With is being UBC's turn to **host** the upcoming **World Day of Prayer** on **March 4th** for the hill area churches, of Willowgrove United, Holy Trinity, Community of Christ, St. Gerard Magella and Lady of Good Counsel churches, it was a **unanimous decision** not to host an in-person service, and to research further the option of an online Zoom meeting.

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 8th at 1:30** via the Zoom platform- using the usual Sunday Service link when we will continue with the next portion of the study.

We warmly welcome all interested to join with us in this time of lively and forthright discussion, lots of laughter, warm fellowship, and unfortunately **for the time being**, no lovely lunch will be served.

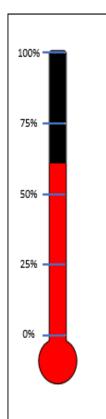
-with thanks for Minutes prepared by Shirlianne Morrison.



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<u>Taking the temperature of our church - Rod Stone Board of Deacons - Chair.</u>



This is the **last in a series** where we will discuss fifteen questions proposed by the Canadian Baptists of Ontario & Quebec **(CBOQ)** in the topic **'Taking the temperature of your church,'** part of the series **Revitalizing Small Churches.**

The statements that the Deacons' Board discussed at the January meeting, as follows:

The morale of our church is good.

When you stop to think about where we were as a church in 2019, 2018, 2017 and back to 2012 or before, it is then that you realize where God has brought us today. **The United Baptist Church is thriving.** Not to say we may now sit back and relax, because there is still lots of work to do. But this brings us to the realization for the most part that the **morale of our church is good!**

The financial indicators of our church are telling us that we are generous givers.

Wearing the hats of chair of finance, acting treasurer and a teller, I see the tithes and donations that our church family contribute. I see that some did not contribute in 2021 at all. I am reminded what my brother-in-law Norm used to say, and I checked the facts to conclude that it is very close to his statement that in 2021, 20% of the church family gave 75% of the tithes and donations. I am pleased that among the 20% are church leaders and Paster Gabriel and Teni, leading by example.

But I am also pleased and humbled by those who contributed what they could. It warms my heart to see a church family member who has a part-time job or low paying position yet are still

diligent in contributing to our Lord's work. I am reminded of Luke 21:1-4 (NIV) As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. "I tell you the truth," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

Now I will take an opportunity to speak of tithing. I do not believe that our God wants you to be like the poor widow and give everything to the church. However, does our God not want us to tithe? What is the difference between giving and tithing? In Leviticus 27:30-32 (NIV) A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord. If a man redeems any of his tithe, he must add a fifth of a value to it. The entire tithe of the herd and flock – every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd's rod – will be holy to the Lord." From this passage, and similar in Numbers and Deuteronomy, Biblical scholars ascertained that tithing refers to one tenth (10%). In the 21st century we do not see parishioners tithing grain or fruit or livestock. But you should be tithing 10% of your income, and of your time, to the Lord. I know in this church we have individuals who are generous with their time, and with their tithes. If you are not tithing, we still give thanks to the Lord that you are contributing.

I challenge you though, if you are not tithing, to try to, and see if the blessing come down from heaven upon you. When as a teenager I started working, earning money, my father taught me about tithing. I have tried over the years to be faithful in this practice. I can testify that I have never missed the money I tithe, and I have been blessed abundantly.