



WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO YOU NOW?



A friend once told me that his mentor had one question for him each time they met, and that question was "What is God saying to you now?" That statement never left me as I continued to grow in my Christian faith. I have come to learn that God being the loving and faithful Father that He is will always have a word for our situation and life circumstances. It is important for us to pay attention to his words and thoughts towards us.

In Jeremiah 29:11-13, He says, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call

upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart."

The words that God is emphasizing to us at the United Baptist Church are captured in these 3 phrases;

Knowing God, Believing God, and Obeying God.

We must seek to know the truth about God's word, this is our freedom and liberty to see ourselves through God's lenses. Jesus Christ answered in John 14:6, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." And the book of Psalms 119: 105-106, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my



path." The closer we get to really knowing God, the clearer our vision, direction, and the fulness of life we have always. No doubt, God wants the best for us as a loving Father. I pray that God will give us listening ears and receiving hearts. There is more to know about what God is saying to you now.

Please join us next Sunday Service for more on the blessings of knowing, believing, and obeying God.

Pastor Gabriel Araba

Sunday Service Via Zoom Platform & 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!



EXPERIENCING GOD



Great things are happening at UBC! There are often so much to catch up on and many beautiful updates coming your way. One of the current highlights for us was the start of a Home Bible Study group (HBS Group) with our Amazing Brazilian church family community in the home of Rebecca and Felipe. This beautiful occasion is an answer to prayers.

The group informed Pastor Gabriel and put plans in place with prayers and blessings as they launched on Thursday August 4th, 2022, at 8:00pm. It was beautifully planned, with meet and greet, worship songs, awesome fellowship time, snacks, drinks and sharing on “Jesus is your Way” from unit 1 and Day 1 of the Bible Study guide, Experiencing God.

I was so blessed to be part of the joyful, relaxed, and inspiring atmosphere. It was a great experience, ministering in the Portuguese language which was a blessing to all our Portuguese speaking church family. We will continue to pray for them as they progress and grow in faith. **God is Good-Deus é bom!** **Video Links:** <https://youtu.be/AbwREph5CKw>





WORSHIP- A FRAGRANCE THAT LINGERS

I am reminded of the words of the song- *Jesus, there's just something about that name....like the fragrance after the rain.*

I am reminded that as Jesus' disciples, our lives should be like fragrance in all the spaces we find ourselves; sweet smelling aromas every where we go.

This is how I view worship to God. Offering a fragrance of different smells and aromas to God every single day. This is why we worship- to offer ourselves as a living sacrifice acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship." Romans 12:1 NIV

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17 NIV

In light of this, the worship team and family, took some time off this summer to retreat and refresh through a temporary suspension of our Thursday practice and a recent get together at the Smiths! Not not Brad and Angelina's (The Movie- Mr & Mrs Smith) lol! This time of refreshing allowed us to offer a new fragrance to the Lord through a new song. Yes! The music team is working on a new song which we are excited to share with the house at some point.

"Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods." Psalm 96:1-4 NIV

It was an amazing one on one session with one another, team building activities and just good old small talk about life, dreams and good laughs too - thank you to our Music Director, Lorriane Smith and her husband, Barry Smith, who hosted the music team on July 23rd at their home. We had an amazing time!



L-R- Emmanuel, Brentte, Nicole, Lorraine, Abidemi, Jessica, Jasper, Andrew, Teni, Esther

So, as the music team leads singing and worship times at UBC, we encourage everyone to think about bringing a beautiful fragrance to the Lord through worship and praise. Just like a nice smelling bouquet of flowers or an irresistible smell of your best dish. Bring it through worship in song to God every time we gather.

"Speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord." Ephesians 5:19 (NIV)

Friends, every time you worship, let it be a fragrance that stays all day and all night; like a fragrance after the rain. Give God your best through worship. Release yourself- Raise your voice; raise your hand; shout for joy; clap in excitement; do a happy dance. Rejoice!

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice." Philippians 4:4



IN OTHER NEWS

So, how's it going?

Managing to stay cool during the heat waves
and dry during the downpours?

Welcome to summer in Northern Ontario.

Generally, this space provides highlights from the monthly Board of Deacons and Board of Management meetings, both of which have taken a break for July.

HOWEVER, that does **NOT** mean
that nothing is happening at UBC -

quite the contrary!



Following is a report giving an eye-opening and exciting update of our very dedicated **Outreach Committee's** virtual meetings, plans and activities, **prepared by Susan Van Atte.**

The Outreach Committee (Susan Van Atte, Shelly Bazil-Smith, Charlotte Mandolesi, Nicole Rahaman, Anett Joseph and Pastor Gabriel) met on July 25th with upcoming meetings scheduled for August 8th and 22nd.

The Committee is assisting our **new Project Coordinator, Shelly Bazil-Smith**, as we move forward to implement our Outreach Projects, **gratefully funded by several CBOQ grants in 2020**, on hold until now.



Discussed at our meeting was a **CREO proposal** drafted by **Ola Olatunbosun** with Ola invited as a guest to the meeting. *While CREO is not part of the church's Outreach Program*, Ola is seeking approval to use the church on occasion to hold events that **provide opportunities for creative expression among young adults**. Future events may also take place at other locations. Being proposed is a **Water Colour Event** to be *tentatively* held at UBC on Friday, August 19th. The church's Board of Management will meet on August 17th to discuss a revised CREO proposal.

Thank you to those who have provided supplies and monetary donations to CREO.

From the CREO proposal -

*The **theme of Creo is creativity**. Creo is a program intended to help the youth find ways to express their creative abilities. Our aim is to provide training and spaces that involve honing one's creativity. Creating outlets all over the WORLD that involve different methods of artistic expression.*

This was also created with the intent to combat drug use in Sault Ste Marie among young adults.



Vacation Bible School



With a theme of **Under the Sea**, a very successful program was held during the week of July 25th with an average of **15 students attending**. Under the leadership of **Shelly Bazil-Smith**, the children had an amazing time filled with stories, songs, indoor and outdoor activities.

Big smiles greeted us each morning!

The pictures and videos tell it all.

Video Links: <https://youtu.be/9jkQvVncTas>

A special thanks to our **volunteers** **Isabella, Angelyn, Krista, Marcella, Jason, Romi, Timi, and Susan.**

We couldn't have done it without you!



An official graduation will take place Sunday August 14, 2022, as part of the church service.
VBS was funded by Currie McPhail Circle 's donation from their 2021 Fall Mission Sale.

MOVIE NIGHT- August 26th, 2022

Movie Night – planned for Friday, August 26th downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.



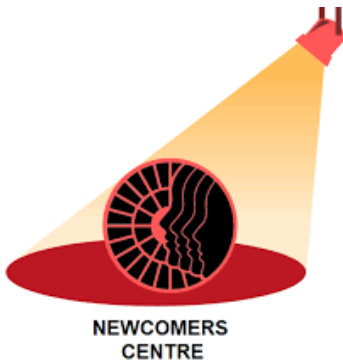
Pajamas, mats, and blankets encouraged. Popcorn will be available and drinks at a minimal fee. Details to follow after the next Outreach Committee meeting. *Mark your calendar.*



To celebrate the end of summer, a **Family Fun Day** is proposed with a **tentative date of Saturday, September 10th 11:00am-2:00pm** (proposal under development). Church and neighbourhood families and those outside our own church family will be invited.

Stay tuned for more information about a fun filled day of activities.

-----Volunteers will be needed, so give it some thought. -----



Interested in Information: Newcomer and RNIP information???

As part of our Outreach Project, **we surveyed single and young parents** and a number reported an interest in hearing about **supports available to newcomers to Sault Ste. Marie** and the process of becoming a permanent resident. Our committee reached out to secure speakers on these topics and received a positive response.

The Outreach Committee will host **two separate information sessions**, at which each speaker will present their respective topics. One of these speakers will be from the **Newcomer Center**, which is a government-funded resource for newcomers to Canada. The second speaker will be from the **Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot (RNIP) Program Committee** attached to the City of Sault Ste. Marie. Keep posted for dates once confirmed.....

Young Adults Event

The Moran family has generously offered their property for an **outdoor barbecue and bonfire** for our **young adults**. A suggested date was Sunday evening, September 18th, but stay tuned closer to the event for a confirmation.



- Heartfelt thanks to Susan for preparing this article.

'Moon Over Kipling' Musicfest and BBQ



Sat. Sept 17 at
Camp Norland in Kipling (Deer Lake)
Featuring Illrd Fox Bluegrass Band
and musical friends from Kipling, Warren, River Valley,
Thessalon, Elliot Lake, North Bay and more!

Starts @ 3 pm, last band on at 7 pm

Then jamming!!!

Note: UBC donated several beautifully handcrafted cutting boards made by **Nicholas Sprague** pre-covid

Silent Auction throughout day, including country landscape painting by Gloria Hansen, formerly of Kipling

Admission by donation, proceeds to Camp Norland Children and Family Camp

Come join us for good music, good food, good fun!