



# Cornerstone

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January 2017

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## Come Peace of God—Kerry Cheesman

I lived through the early 60s watching Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others lead peaceful protests for equality of all of God's people. I watched in horror as others turned some of the struggles into acts of violence. I lived through the 60s and 70s watching my friends get drafted and sent to Vietnam (from which many did not return), and participated in peaceful protests to stop an unjust war. I also witnessed those who turned these well-intentioned protests into violent acts as well. I have watched this past year as peaceful protests over fundamental issues of equality and justice in many of our communities have become violent, and as shootings have increased and deaths become a daily news story. Maryann and I pray daily that when our son Joshua puts on his uniform and goes to work helping his community that he will arrive back home safely at the end of the day.

As we enter a new year we find ourselves in an unprecedented time – violence and protests abound all around us. Our country is divided in so many ways that it seems impossible to bring us back together, and the new leadership of our country seems to be trying very hard to keep us from doing so. The New Year will be anything but peaceful and unifying; massive protests will continue, even on the day of inauguration (unprecedented in modern history). Predictions are that violence stemming from the national election will continue to escalate throughout the year. Now more than ever we need to focus on the Prince of Peace, whose birth we celebrated at Christmas but whose message we so easily and quickly forget once the decorations are packed away.

On the second Sunday of Advent last month, our choir sang the beautiful anthem “Come, Peace of God” by Eugene Butler. The words of this song were written by May Rowland, and they speak so beautifully to the need that we as a society have as we start a new year set amidst violence, hatred, sexism, and widening gulfs between those with money and those struggling to survive. Hear again these beautiful words:

*Come, peace of God, and dwell again on earth*

*Come with the calm that bailed thy Prince's birth*

*Come with the healing of thy gentle touch*

*Come, peace of God, that this world needs so much*

*Break every weapon forged in fires of hate*

*Turn back the foe that would assail thy gate*

*Where fields of strife lie desolate and bare*

*Take thy sweet flowers of peace and plant them there*

*Bring selfish lives from shadowlands of loss*

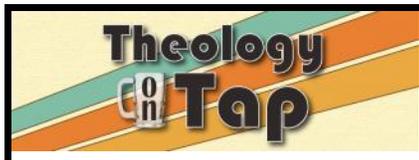
*Into the radiance of the Savior's cross*

Pastor Bob is away at the time of publication. He wishes you and yours a very happy new year!

Many submissions to the newsletter are voluntary contributions from individuals. The ideas expressed do not necessarily reflect the mission or views of University Baptist Church as a whole.

*Where is that gift so precious, yet so lone  
Life finds its brotherhood and love its throne  
Come, blessed peace, as when in bush of eve  
God's benediction falls on souls who grieve  
As shines a star when weary day departs  
Come, peace of God, and rule within our hearts.*

My prayer for this new year is that we will each (individually and corporately) find the Peace of God in our lives and in our communities. And although I do not expect it to happen, I also pray that this new year will bring an amazing turnaround in our country from attitudes of hatred, selfishness, and intolerance to ones of love, respect, and affirmation. This can only happen if we center ourselves on the Prince of Peace and strive to live as Christ taught us to. *"Come, peace of God, that this world needs so much"*.



Friday, January 13, 2017, 7:00pm,  
at the Chop Shop. Come enjoy the  
libation of your choice as we have  
an informal conversation about im-  
portant points in theology and  
ethics. Bring a friend!

## Newsletter Submissions

Newsletter items are due the third Friday of the month.

Also, it is UBC policy that all references to God be inclusive. We will edit to reflect this.

Please contact the office if you have any questions.

## January Readings and Sermon Titles:

### Jan 1, 2017

Beth Short preaching  
Isa 63:7-9  
Ps 148  
Heb 2:10-18  
Matt 2:13-23

### Jan 8, 2017

*New Things I Now Declare*  
Isa 42:1-9  
Ps 29  
Acts 10:34-43  
Matt 3:13-17

### Jan 15, 2017

*How Long?*  
Isa 49:1-7  
Ps 40:1-11  
1 Cor 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42

### Jan 22, 2017

*Has Christ Been Divided?*  
Isa 9:1-4  
Ps 27:1, 4-9  
1 Cor 1:10-18  
Matt 4:12-23

### Jan 29, 2017

*Foolishness*  
Mic 6:1-8  
Ps 15  
1 Cor 1:18-31  
Matt 5:1-12



**Check us out on Facebook!**

Our church Facebook page is **University Baptist Church of Columbus, Ohio.**

We post frequently with church events and happenings. Be sure to check us out!

## So About All This Rain By Julius Mayo

Recently, while helping with a student trip to Los Angeles, I, along with a couple of other staff members got a few hours to ourselves, which we enjoyed by heading to the self-proclaimed "Happiest Place on Earth" (Disneyland). Interestingly, I was *almost* dreading the trip because of online reports that the park is ALWAYS packed the week of Christmas, and that anyone going there at that time is out of their mind. Unfortunately, because I won't likely be heading back out West for quite a while, the day we chose was pretty much our only option. As I was getting ready to travel with my fellow co-workers I was informed that there was a fairly decent chance of rain on that day. As a Midwesterner, this meant almost automatically reaching for the rain coat, longer pants, and layers in case a particularly chilling cold front came in after the rain. This did not mean the same for the hundreds and hundreds of park visitors who had grown accustomed to near perfect weather each and every day. I mean, after all, "it never rains in Southern California."

On the day we went to Disney, however, it did, and *hard*. We're talking buckets, of rain non-stop for several hours. For the vast majority of the park goers this meant running (quite briskly) for the exits, for others, it meant wandering around somewhat aimlessly, completely in disbelief that it could rain that hard, for so long in Southern California. For my friends and I, who consider rain instead of snow in December a blessing, things were quite different. Taking into account that it was supposed to rain, we had ridden all of the outdoor attractions first, just before a light misting rain had begun. And then during the downpours, we had walked by the huddled masses of people hanging out beneath overhangs and makeshift umbrellas to ride to our hearts content in a virtually empty amusement park.

Reflecting back on the day, I wonder if we as Christians sometimes think it never “rains in our lives” because things are going so well. Being prepared through reflective faith and actions based on the Creator’s Word is the only way to truly be prepared for when the storms come in our lives. When we do this, often times in the challenges we dread, may turn into opportunities that we never imagined. Oh, what a wonderful God we serve!



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

- 4 Beverly Holmes
- 6 Libby Newberry
- 7 Jonathan Riley
- 11 Natalie Turner
- 14 Meredith Hughes
- 14 Sarah Turner
- 16 John Besch
- 19 Helen Spengler
- 21 Frank Benline
- 27 Nathan Cheesman

### Anniversaries

None in January

Please contact the office with any additions or corrections to the Birthday and Anniversary list.

## Support Ministry Update By Leslie Floyd

We are still in a holding pattern regarding the bell tower. We have forwarded the Verden bell contract for removal of the bell on to David Ball, our church attorney, for his input. After a conversation with Jessie Brown, who is our representative of Verden, this seemed the best direction to take at this time.

The parking lot has been patched and we will try in the spring to get it coated and re-stripped. No company was available in the late fall to do it.

The circulating pump on the boiler has been replaced.

The elevator has been upgraded by Schindler and finally received approval by the state inspector. Due to delays by Schindler, the committee will be exploring other elevator companies for future contracted maintenance work.

The ceiling in the sanctuary is leaking and we have contacted our roof repair company to address the issue.

Peebles-Herzog has been called to tune the organ and provide a written estimate of repair work. This will be the first tune-up in about 5 years. The repair recommendations at that time were put on hold so we need to be prepared for some work on it. Let's be in prayer that it won't cost too much.

## Past Members Kirk and Nancy Gay to Celebrate 50 Years of Marriage

Kirk and Nancy Gay are celebrating 50 years of marriage. Children and grandchildren are holding a reception on Sunday, January 8 from 2-4 pm at Maple Grove United Methodist Church, 7 W. Henderson Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43214. All are invited to share in the celebration. Please no personal gifts. Instead, please donate canned goods, staples, or cash to the Clintonville Resource Center.

# January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 10:30 am Worship	9	10 6:00 pm <u>New Jim Crow</u> Book Study	11 6:00 pm <u>New Jim Crow</u> Book Study 9:30-11:30 am INCH 6:30-9:30 pm CCF	12 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Practice	13 7:00 pm Theology and Ethics on Tap @ the Chop Shop 6:30-10:30 pm CCF	14
15 10:30 am Worship Annual Meeting/Potluck	16	17 6:00 pm <u>New Jim Crow</u> Book Study	18 9:30-11:30 am INCH 6:30-9:30 pm CCF	19 7:30 pm Choir Practice	20 6:30-10:30 pm CCF	21
22 10:30 am Worship	23	24 6:00 pm <u>New Jim Crow</u> Book Study	25 6:00 pm <u>New Jim Crow</u> Book Study 6:30-9:30 pm CCF	26 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Practice	27 6:30-10:30 pm CCF	28
29 10:30 am Worship	30	31 6:00 pm <u>New Jim Crow</u> Book Study				

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*University Baptist Church* — Progressive • Welcoming • Inclusive

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**Annual Meeting and Annual Report.** The church's annual meeting and potluck will be January 15, immediately after church. Please bring a dish to share and join us. Also, if you are responsible for a ministry area report, please submit it to the office by January 9.

**Refreshment Sign Ups for 2017.** The sheet is up in the Narthex. As you plan for 2017, please think of signing up to provide snacks for after service.

**Book Discussion Groups – Tuesdays at 6 pm; Wednesdays at 7 pm.** We are reading *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander.

**Pledge Card Reminder.** Pledge cards for 2017 have been mailed out. We have received about a 50% response. If you have returned yours, thank you! Otherwise, please be sure to get your card turned in as soon as possible. Extra cards are in the Narthex. Thank you for your continued support of UBC.



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Pastor—Rev. Bob Turner  
Moderator—Frank Benline  
Choir Director—David Tomasacci  
Pianist—Mollie Rausch  
Office Manager—Kerry Taylor  
Nursery Care—Liliya Yang

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**Worship—10:30 a.m.**

**Children's Sunday School—2nd  
and 4th Sundays—10:30 a.m.**

**Office Hours**

**Tues.-Fri. 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

**Return Service Requested 1/31/17**