



Cornerstone

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Pastor's Reflection: My Heart Overflows with a Goodly Theme* —Bob Turner

I have an update for you regarding the plan I announced in last month's newsletter. If you recall, I wrote about the council's decision to organize the church's activities around a series of quarterly emphases that would incorporate worship, service, advocacy, education, and fellowship. According to the original plan, during these three-month periods we would explore a variety of social justice, peacemaking, and theological issues and take concrete actions to live out our faith in those contexts.

At a meeting last week of the group of people who have volunteered to coordinate the plan, we decided to make some modifications. Instead of breaking the year down into quarters, we intend to follow the rhythms of the ecclesiastical calendar that our congregation already observes. To give ourselves plenty of time to get organized, we decided to start in Advent, and have five different emphases throughout the ensuing year instead of four. The schedule will break down as follows:

Period	Duration	Theme	Dates	# of Sundays
I	Advent through Epiphany	Incarnation	Dec 3 – Feb 11	11
II	Lent (Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday)	Transformation	Feb 14 – Mar 31	6
III	Easter tide (Easter Sunday through Pentecost Sunday)	Spiritual Gifts	April 1 – May 20	8
IV	Ordinary Time, part one	Sabbath & Renewal	May 27 – Aug 12	12
V	Ordinary Time, part two	Theology & Ecology	Aug 19 – Nov 25	15

As you can see, following the church year makes for some asymmetrical periods, but if you think of Lent and Eastertide together, you come away with four periods of roughly the same number of weeks. Because of the very different emphases of those two seasons, however, we wanted to differentiate between their themes.

So what happens now? Well, now is when you get involved! We will be looking for volunteers to coordinate activities around the themes for each period. Please take a look at the chart above and see if any of the themes grabs you. We left the themes deliberately broad, so if you have any questions about any of them, or would like some direction about what kinds of activities would fit in each one, please do not hesitate to talk to me

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.

or one of the other members of the coordinating team: **Barbara Bullock**, **Beth Short**, and **David Tomasacci**. We would welcome one or two other members of that group as well.

We look forward to hearing your ideas and seeing the energy and gifts you bring to this new project as we seek to live out our purpose at UBC: to be an effective delivery system for the gospel and a faithful outpost of the reign of God in the University District of Columbus.

Grace and peace,
bob

*A quotation from Psalm 45:1.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

4	Orin Newberry
7	Bill Schultz
13	Tim Spengler
15	Kerry Taylor
24	Richard Hough

Anniversaries

21	Ken & Genevieve Peterson
25	Curtis & Charmagne Hough

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.

Keep Your Fork — Kerry Cheesman

A couple of months ago Maryann and I attended a Scout leader recognition dinner. It was designed to be low cost to encourage attendance – it is important to ensure a good audience when individuals are being recognized for their hard work throughout the years. The food was served using paper plates and cups and plastic silverware (as we often do at UBC during potlucks). The food was delicious and we had great conversations around our table. Then, as folks began finishing dinner and putting their plates in the trash can, one of the leaders of the group went to the microphone and said **“Keep your fork – the best is yet to come”**. The ‘best’ turned out to be a wonderful cake that was our dessert, and if we threw out our fork we didn’t get a piece of it.

As we drove home later that evening I thought over that phrase. Indeed, as Christians, we are also able to say **“The best is yet to come.”** Here in this earthly form we are experiencing the main course, and we move through the stages of life as if moving through a seven-course dinner. But someday we will be with our Lord, and stand in the presence of Christ, which will definitely be *the best*. Nothing we do or have on this earth can compare with the rich and wonderful dessert that is yet to come (in my theology that implies that heaven is made out of dark chocolate, of course – and maybe a side of bacon!).

I am certainly in no hurry to finish my earthly dinner so I can get to the rich and rewarding dessert of heaven – I am enjoying this life (especially Maryann and the grandchildren) and I believe God has a lot more in store for me before God is finished. But just as I envision the dessert waiting in the kitchen after a wonderful dinner (usually one that Maryann has made, since those are the best), I also keep in mind what is to come at some point in the future. That may be to-

morrow or thirty years from now, but that time will come for each of us. What a wonderful dessert that will be!

When I was a child I was constantly reminded that in order to get dessert (which was not an every night occurrence but rather a special treat or reward) I had to try everything on my plate and often finish all that I was served. I may not have appreciated that demand then, but now I thank my parents for those rules. Years later as a parent I made similar rules for my sons – no dessert unless you have eaten your vegetables, for instance. God has also laid down rules for getting to our heavenly dessert. Those rules of preparation (in other words, living our lives here on Earth) are outlined for us in the Bible.

Many times as a child I heard phrases such as, “Do as your brother did and finish your meal,” or “try to be more like your brother” (sometimes I was the brother to be emulated, and that always felt great!). God gave us Jesus to be the one we should emulate while on our earthly journey. Jesus showed us how to treat our neighbors and our enemies alike, how to take care of immigrants and strangers, how to feed the hungry, and so much more. God also demonstrated to us how to show our love to God, how to pray, and how to understand the scriptures. If we do as Jesus showed us, then our God will delight in our journey, and we will be invited to the table for dessert when our days on earth are at an end.

Maybe I had better get my fill of dark chocolate and bacon while I’m here on earth, just in case I’m wrong about heaven!

Campus Ministry — Beth Short

Ohio State's campus will start to come to life again soon as students begin to return for the start of another academic school year.

UBC will have some changes in store for students who visit our church this year. The first major change centers on the development of an official university organization that will be called **UB Waves**. Pastor Bob previously wrote about the roots of this name. Through this group, there will be opportunities for fellowship, learning, service, and whatever other ideas the students come up with.

Through the end of September, we will be providing free lunch for visiting students in hopes that they will develop relationships with each other through these meals that will allow this organization to get off to a good start. If you feed them, they will come!

Our annual Welcome Back Picnic will be August 27 and will feature BW3 chicken wings, games on the lawn and a chance for the entire congregation to enjoy each other and welcome students. We have pre-ordered sunshine for the event. Please plan to bring desserts or salads to share that will augment the chicken. We will also need some help with set up and tear down on that Sunday. This annual event is always a good time and sets a tone that school is back and our neighborhood is alive and active!

There may also be some changes in the worship service intended to make student visitors feel more welcome and comfortable. Our congregation has always embraced change and has always exhibited a friendly, welcoming spirit for all visitors. Many of our college students have noted that sense of welcome. Keep it up, UBCers! Because the first visit many people make to a new church is through its web page or social media platforms, there will also be changes to reflect more vibrancy and activity.

A campus planning group met for many months to put together a plan with recommendations. We set a deadline for our group to go out of business by having a plan to share by July 1. The group was co-chaired by Andrew Newman and Beth Short. Other members included Ken Watkins, Kris Gutierrez, Julius Mayo, Alison Mowery, Jasmine Whiteside, Natasha Woods, and Pastor Bob. Much research went into the group's work, including interviews with ABC and other denominational pastors working in campus settings across the country, and an active review of all campus ministries in the OSU area. Our regional minister, Alan Newton, also served as a resource.

The plan includes other suggestions that would elevate UBC's visibility on campus including developing partnerships with organizations doing work in areas of common interest and providing training on campus that fulfills requirements of resident advisers and others with various training needs.

As Christians, we are called to constantly reinvent ourselves in God's image so we can respond to the changing needs of the kingdom. We will focus on reinventing ourselves at UBC and strengthening our relationship with our biggest neighbor, The Ohio State University. Go Bucks!



Friday, August 11, 2017, 7:00pm, at The Little Bar. Come enjoy the libation of your choice as we have an informal conversation about important points in theology and ethics. Bring a friend!

Making a Safe Church — Patricia Rohrbaugh

Although believing University Baptist Church is a safe place may be comforting, newspaper stories and studies alert people to the dangers that may be lurking anywhere. Since Pastor Bob came to UBC, he has encouraged members of the council to adopt a policy to ensure that all who are in this building will be safe, especially children. American Baptist Churches USA urges all churches to adopt a policy to protect them as does Church Mutual, our insurance company. With that intention, a group has been meeting and gathering resources. It is composed of Alison Mowery, Oliva Riley, Bob Turner, Natasha Woods, and Pat Rohrbaugh.

Local churches have shared ideas and material. One, First Community Church, has extended an invitation to anyone interested to attend a training session they will offer in August. According to Julie Richards, Director of First Church's K-12 Ministries, "Darkness to Light is a nationally recognized and respected two-hour training program whose key focus is teaching how to prevent sexual abuse. There are a few steps all adults can take to safeguard children. Sexuality of any kind can be difficult to discuss with our kids, but one of the best things we can do is have an open line of communication with their children and to present information about sexuality in a developmentally appropriate way through all ages and stages of development."

I encourage everyone who works with children or has children in their lives to attend one of the sessions offered at First Church's North Campus, 3777 Dublin Road, Sunday, August 13 from 7 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. or Monday, August 21 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The cost to attend is \$15 for material. To register visit FCchurch.com/k-12. Only twenty people may attend each class.

August Scriptures and Sermons

Date	Liturgical Date	Extremely tentative sermon	1 st Reading	Psalm	2 nd Reading	Gospel
Aug. 6	Pentecost +9	<i>You Give Them Something</i>	Isa 55:1-5	Ps 145:8-9, 14-21	Rom 9:1-5	Matt 14:13-21
Aug. 13	Pentecost +10	<i>I Alone Am Left</i>	1 Kgs 19:9-18	Ps 85:8-13	Rom 10:5-15	Matt 14:22-33
Aug. 20	Pentecost +11	<i>For All People</i>	Isa 56:1, 6-8	Ps 67	Rom 11:1-2a, 29-32	Matt 15:21-28
Aug. 27	Pentecost +12	<i>Civil Disobedience</i>	Exod 1:8 - 2:10	Ps 124	Rom 12:1 -8	Matt 16:13 -20

Assistance Needed — Frank Asher

Dear friends and family at UBC,

Rick and I are seeking to downsize to an apartment soon. Part of that process will be to put our house up for short sale (on Joe Jackson’s recommendation). We need to get the house ready for the big move, and Bob and Joe have both suggested we come to you for help.

We have a lot of stuff both in the basement and on the second floor that we need to sell, donate, or just plain throw away. As part of this process, we will need to clean the floors and clear out the cobwebs from those areas of the house we no longer use. The worst of the cobwebs and dirt is in the basement. The worst of the sorting is on the second floor. (We will have ropes to tie around your waists to make sure you don’t get lost.)

It is going to be an extremely DIRTY day’s work, so if you can help, BE PREPARED!

The day we are setting for this shindig will be August 19, a Saturday. We will start at 9 am. Drinks and lunch will be provided.

If you can help, please let me know, via email at frank.benline@gmail.com, or by text at 614-460-0543. If you prefer, just talk to me in person at church, or call me at that same number.

Thank you, in advance for all your help!

Counting your Steps — Julius Mayo

Last month I joined with a lot of staff at Ohio State and began working to walk at least 10,000 steps a day. The experience has been both rewarding and quite the learning experience. Regarding health benefits, I have noticed that I have more energy to do activities, I think more creatively, and I get to bed earlier each night. On the flip side, however, having more energy sometimes makes wanting to work a little bit longer than needed a tempting option. Thinking “out of the box” might be used to justify a quick “run” up to the local coffee and doughnut shop as still being a healthy activity. And, despite my best efforts, an earlier bedtime does not necessarily mean that I have become a morning person.

This balance between pros and cons can be similar to our Christian journey. Working to ensure that confidence doesn’t turn into abusive pride, faith doesn’t become judgmental piety, and reverence doesn’t become detrimental obsession are all part of the ongoing spiritual balancing act that comes with being a Christian disciple. Through prayer, reflection, and an intentional study of God’s Word we can make sure that we’re not only counting the steps along our Christian path but also making sure our journey counts regarding doing the will of the Creator in the world around us.



Join us as we welcome our OSU neighbors to the 2017-2018 school year!

August 27, 2017—Service with shared meal featuring BW3 wings.

August 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2	3	4	5
	6-9 pm Guiding Eyes Seeing Eye Dog Training				
6 10:30 am Worship	8 6-9 pm Guiding Eyes Seeing Eye Dog Training	9 6:30-9:30 pm CCF	10 6:00 pm Bible Study	11 7:00 pm Theology and Ethics on Tap @ The Little Bar 6:30-10:30 pm CCF	12 10:00 am COM Meeting
13 10:30 am Worship	15 6-9 pm Guiding Eyes Seeing Eye Dog Training	16 6:30-9:30 pm CCF	17 6:00 pm Bible Study	18 Newsletter Deadline	19 9:00 am Cleaning at the Ashers
20 10:30 am Worship Noon—College Student Lunch	22 6-9 pm Guiding Eyes Seeing Eye Dog Training	23 9:30-11:30 am INCH 6:30-9:30 pm CCF	24 6:00 pm Bible Study	25 6:30-10:30 pm CCF	26
27 10:30 am Worship Noon—Student Welcome Picnic	29 6-9 pm Guiding Eyes Seeing Eye Dog Training	30 9:30-11:30 am INCH 6:30-9:30 pm CCF	31		

University Baptist Church — *Progressive • Welcoming • Inclusive*

- **Theology and Ethics on Tap. Friday, August 11, 7 pm.** Meet at the Little Bar
- **Refreshment sign-ups for 2017.** The sheet is up in the Narthex. As you plan for 2017, please consider providing snacks for fellowship after worship.
- **Cleaning Day at the Ashers. Saturday, August 19, 9:00 am.** See inside for details
- **Welcome OSU Students Picnic. Sunday August 27, Noon.** Bring a dish to share and enjoy wings from BW3.



*University
Baptist Church*

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Website: www.ubccolumbus.org

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

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 8/30/17