



The Beacon

University Baptist Church

October 2011

COME JOURNEY WITH US

During the UBC Fall Retreat at Camp Burton, our faith community shared stories of how we came to be a part of this family. The turns and twists that brought us together were extremely interesting. Yet, there was one thing that kept all stories together: each one of us knew someone who was already involved with UBC.

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We are a welcoming and affirming congregation.

We celebrate our diversity in religious background, sexual orientation, race, age, gender and abilities.

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"The Longest Journey" by Norma Desmond

Embarking on a journey alone could be exciting and invigorating; but it can also be challenging and even a bit scary. This is why personal invitations are always better than just praying or hoping that people will show up at church on any given Sunday (or any other activity.) It is the personal invitation that works best! As our sharing of the journeys during the retreat taught us, we are all one family, related to each other as friends or kin, but related nonetheless...

Come, journey with us, and extend that invitation to those whom you know. Paul, the great writer and philosopher of the Christian faith, once wrote: "...how can people call for help if they don't know who to trust? And how can they know who to trust if they haven't heard of the One who can be trusted? And how can they hear if nobody tells them?" (Romans 10.14, *The Message*) How can anyone hear if nobody tells them!

Our community - and any faith community of any theological orientation - should never feel shy when it comes to sharing our message. It has obviously worked for us who are already in... why

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wouldn't it work for someone outside? When you get a wonderful gift, there are two ways of reacting: by sharing it or by hiding it. I prefer to think that our faith community is such an important part of our lives that we want to share it with everybody. It is very possible that there are people among your circles who are looking for a community just like ours.

Happy Birthday!!!

October

10/5 Xaviera O

10/7 Lori T

10/13 Patrick R

10/18 Linwood C

10/20 Jim P

If your birthday isn't listed here, please contact the office so we can add you to our list!

Journeying together is a marvelous and wonderful thing. Journeying together is challenging and exciting. Journeying together is an experience full of surprises and adventures...

I encourage all of us to go out and share your experiences at UBC with others: friends, family, acquaintances, co-workers... even strangers! Invite them to join you in this journey and to walk with you and with the rest of us as we continue to experience community and wholeness and healing and peace and love together.

With you in the journey,
Pastor Manny



BPFNA is coming to Seattle! The board meeting of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America will be hosted by UBC **October 27th-30th**. We have the opportunity to provide housing, transportation and meals for board members during their time here. Please contact Marilee N (marnielsen@aol.com) or Elizabeth P (revepat@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping. Stay tuned for other specific ways in which you can help.

Marilee N.

Other Important BPFNA dates:

Wednesday, October 26 – BPFNA dinner at Seattle First Baptist Church

Thursday, October 28 – BPFNA All-Church Potluck Dinner

Among Ourselves

We extend our deep condolences and prayers to **Virginia N** and her daughter **Debbie** on the passing of Debbie's husband, Steve, after a long struggle with leukemia. **CoraLea D** accompanied Virginia to Steve's memorial service in Spokane Valley and said it was a wonderful celebration of his life... We also express sympathy to UBC pet owners whose homes are quiet after the recent deaths of their animal friends: **Susan and Michael V**, for their dog Dusty; **Sadie and Peter C**, for their cat Babette, and **Lynn, Michael, and Eva G-J**, for their dog Chica... You can hear **Eva G-J** play in the Ballard High School (BHS) orchestra's fall concert on Tuesday, October 25, at 7 p.m. and hear **Valerie F** sing in BHS's choir concert on Wednesday, October 26, at 7 p.m. Then mark your calendar ahead to Thursday, December 15, at 7 p.m., when you can hear both **Valerie** and **Eva** in the school's winter concert... Remember the Lake City Lions Flea Market on October 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring gift items hand-crafted by **Heather S and Jackie L**. The market takes place every second Saturday at the Lake City Community Center, 12531 28th Avenue NE, next to the Lake City Library. **Heather and Jackie** enjoyed seeing **Cass N** there in September... This month's travelers include **Carol S** to Peru, **Marilee and Tom N** to Canada's Maritime Provinces, **Ginny B's** daughter Marilyn to Italy for work and pleasure, and **Lynn G-J** to North Carolina for work and a visit with college friends... **Shari and Dan P** and **Joy S** enjoyed hearing **Mike S** and friends in concert recently. Mike's rousing music had Shari standing up for justice, despite the recent gout bothering her foot... **Kathryn J's** most youthful day each week is the one she spends babysitting friends' 7-month old baby, Davis. Kathryn loves it! In like fashion, **Mary and Brooke's** granddaughter **Grace** gladdened our hearts at the fall retreat... It was a joy to see **Pete D, Kathy M, and Xaviera O** and her fiancé **Jose** at recent worship services. **Xavi** was just finishing her work delivering health care in a prison... As always, **Ed M** feels very rewarded by his part-time work at the clinic. He spends plenty of time advising immigrant patients to return to the healthy diet and exercise habits they had back at home.



"Family" by Ivan M.

UBC Youth Have Lasting Impressions from Honduras Trip 10 Years Ago

On July 2, 2001, six youth from University Baptist Church joined 5 youth from Seattle First Baptist Church to visit the Bonito Oriental Parish in Honduras. Their leaders were Rev. Anne and Dr. Dave H. from UBC and Rev. Ashlee W. from Seattle First Baptist. They set out to meet with UBC friend, Jennifer C, who lived in Honduras, and with her help, to learn about the lives of the people in the city and country, and to have them learn about the youth in Seattle.



Kendra K and Harvey D Get Ready to Paint

Anne said that they were surprised when Jennifer insisted that the first visit would be a home stay with rural families. Upon reflection, Anne felt that this was a wise move to enable the youth to become engrossed in the culture. I asked the UBC youth what they found memorable at the time of trip and to reflect back on something that has been meaningful to them since then.

Kendra K said:

Ashley and I spent the beginning of the trip in the small village of Roco Blanco. We spent a couple of nights there. We stayed with a family while Anne and David stayed up the road. Staying with this family was very memorable. We were welcomed into their home and their community. They shared their village with us, allowing us to try and milk the cows (I wasn't very good), and I played soccer with the men in the village on their soccer field, something that women in the village did not do. They opened their homes to us and welcomed us and introduced us to their culture.

Ethan C said:

The family that we stayed with in the mountains was extremely generous. They had no electricity, no running water, and had to hike quite a long way to get in to 'town,' but they obviously worked very hard to make us comfortable. They gave up their beds for us to sleep in, and fed us before the rest of the family (and probably in much larger portions). Even though there was a language barrier, I didn't feel like that kept us from being able to interact and share with them. Living with them for a couple days definitely made me appreciate how rich of an experience you can have, even with very little resources.

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Ashley S said:

The trip to Honduras was my first experience traveling to a developing country. It was a shocking experience to see a world so different from what I knew and it was difficult when I realized how privileged I was and how others in the world get by with so little. But spending time with the community and living in homes, as we did, allowed me to see beyond that; instead of feeling pity or guilt for our different circumstances, I was impressed by the resourcefulness and touched by the hospitality of our guests. I learned to respect the capabilities and accomplishments of people in the developing world. This perspective has guided me in my career in international development.

After a few days in the country, the youth returned to Bonita Oriental where they attended mass and shared their experiences from their home-stays. They then moved in with urban families and had meetings with people from the parish, and with Casa Luna to learn about land and environment issues and women's issues, and with Garifunas, people who were descendents from Africans brought to the Americas as slaves.



Youth Group Members

During this time, they were stopped on a road by people who had set up a roadblock to stop the pineapple trucks to get the attention of the local government. The townspeople had been promised electricity for many years and felt that this was the only way they could get the attention of the mayor. Jennifer translated for the youth, who wanted to stay to see how this would end. All of these experiences have left a lasting impression.

Kendra K:

One afternoon we visited a domestic violence center. It was very interesting to learn about how Honduras was dealing with issues of abuse and what seemed to be its burgeoning area of protecting women in a culture where the image of the family was so important. It has reminded me how far we have come in the US from a place where abuse was a hidden secret which people endured in silence.

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Ethan C:

I remember that while driving one day we came across a huge traffic jam. Apparently some local townspeople had blocked the road as a protest, which I believe had to do with getting electricity wired to the community. Cars were backed up as far as we could see, but remarkably no one seemed to be getting upset by the inconvenience. There were people walking through the street selling food and drinks, and I remember we were even able to walk up to where the road block was and watch some of the discussion that was going on. I can't remember how long we stayed there, but eventually something was resolved and we were able to pass through!

Ashley S:

Jennifer C. was very inspiring. She was a resource with encyclopedic knowledge of Latin America and great sensitivity for the people there. I was amazed when she told us her story of when she was jailed--and UBC was working so diligently to get her out--that, ironically, she wanted to stay! She said that she bonded with other women activists in prison, as they organized protests and shared knowledge, and that she didn't want to leave them.

This trip inspired and enriched the lives of the young people of our church. I asked them to tell us what they are doing now:



Youth Kendra looking back in Bonito Oriental

Kendra K:

I am currently a masters student in the general clinical psychology program at Eastern Michigan University. I just finished my second year. I have one more year left. This September I am starting my practicum where I will be working at a county mental health clinic with children who have been traumatized. I am also working on writing a paper for publication on the barriers to mental healthcare utilization.

Ethan C:

That trip was definitely one of the best experiences I have ever had! I'm currently working in Los Angeles recording and producing music.

Ashley S:

I live in Washington, DC and work as a Technical Program Officer for Systems Strengthening for the USAID | DELIVER PROJECT at John Snow, Inc. I work in the area of supply chain management of health commodities--ensuring that donations and purchases of health commodities

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Trip coordinators Anne and Dave H and Jennifer C with Ashley S

(everything from malaria bed nets, to flu vaccines, to condoms, contraceptives and ARV drugs) reach all the clinics where people go to receive health care. We build local capacity in logistics so the governments in these countries can develop the infrastructure, resources and skills to ensure that their entire country has a reliable supply of vital health products.

We are proud of our young adults who have utilized the experiences with which we helped to provide them. UBC members have believed that learning about other cultures and people of different economic situations helps us to be better citizens of the world. One of the goals of our Peace, Justice and Reconciliation team is to make such experiences available to UBC members and youth in the future.



Bonito Oriental, Colón Today, AP Photo

The other young adults who were along on this trip were not available to respond in time for this article. But know that we are proud of their accomplishments as well. Harvey D., Amy S. and Katrina S. have all moved on to college, careers and families. We applaud all of you.

Joy S.

- ▶ **Live the Word**
- ▶ **Proclaim the Word**
- ▶ **Be Transformed**

October is *World Mission Offering* throughout our denomination, the American Baptist Churches, USA. This offering supports the work of dozens of missionaries around the world. Some of the projects that this offering supports are: conflict transformation, refugee resettlement, clean water projects, medical assistance for

victims of natural disasters, temporary housing for women and children victims of domestic violence... and many other programs.

UBC has committed \$1,000 from our annual budget to support this offering. Your pledges, weekly offerings, and tithes are the reason why we can send this money. Please make sure you read the stories of transformation that will be distributed as inserts in your Sunday bulletins, and make sure to stay up to date with your pledges. Our sisters and brothers around the world will appreciate your help.



You can also make additional donations on-line by visiting International Mission's website at:

<http://www.internationalministries.org/items/79>

Discovering Mary Magdalene



A discussion group
sponsored by the
Learning & Play Team at UBC

Thursdays in October
(6th, 13th, 20th, 27th)
6:30 p.m. - Conference Room
Led by Heather S. & Sadie C.

Join us for this adventure!

Update on Volunteer Projects

Two volunteer projects are underway at UBC. These initial projects were identified by the Peace, Justice and Reconciliation Team as a result of congregation discussions about mission which include a December 11, 2010 Mission Summit and the January 30, 2011 discernment on mission sharing.



The first project is volunteering with a New Life literacy program that is led by the Coalition for Refugees from Burma (CRB). Mona H reports that last year CRB facilitated a literacy class for adult refugees from Burma. Students in the class were non-literate or semi-literate, and the class helped them develop their speaking, listening, and some of the foundational skills necessary to begin to learn to read and write in English. On September 1st, CRB volunteers helped with ESL Material development; a variety of activities such as finding or drawing images of different things, printing, cutting, laminating and putting materials together. CRB provided music, food, and beverages. Everyone had a lot of fun working on creating new ESL materials. Beginning the last week of September, volunteers will assist the instructors during the new weekly class in Kent. Please contact Mona H. at monahan@allburmarefugees.org or crbvolunteers@yahoo.com at CRB if you want to help or have questions about this project.



The second project is providing after school tutoring to students at Concord International Elementary School- La Escuela Internacional Concord in South Park. The school currently provides dual language instruction in Spanish and English for kindergarten and first grade students. Dr. Norma Zavala, school principal, is very excited that tutoring will begin in October. A volunteer training is schedule for October 5th. Please contact Lin at carlinson@aol.com or 206-940-7155 if you want to participate.



Thanks to the UBC folks that have responded to these volunteer opportunities!

*Lin C
and the PJR Team*

Photos courtesy of Mona H.

From the Moderator

Last weekend we held the UBC fall retreat at Camp Burton. Focusing on a theme of Journeys, we explored our own journeys through reflecting on our “spiritual time line,” journeys of others through their hymns, playing together and celebrating our community. It was a good and valuable time.

Often when we reflect on the journey of UBC we ask “Who can we find to journey with us? Who would gain from being part of the UBC family?” These are valid and important questions to ask as we seek to be the people God is calling us to be. We have much to offer people.

In reflecting on the retreat, however, another question of journey came to me: “Who are we called to join on their journey? What would we gain by being co-travelers with others not in our community?”

The Peace, Justice and Reconciliation Team is asking us to do just that as they present to us opportunities for service. The current projects of volunteering with the Burmese Refugee Program and/or tutoring in a South Seattle School are two projects that will call us to walk with others.

I encourage your involvement. Let’s see where walking with others takes us!

Tom N.



An **open study group** with Pastor Manny
On Sunday, October 2nd, 16th, and 30th
At **12:30 pm** – **The Gathering Place** (downstairs)
To **explore** our faith and the Bible
Currently discussing our *“Baptist Identity”*
Bring your brown bag lunch and let’s chat...



Where's the Pastor?

If you want to schedule a visit or a conversation with Pastor Manny, please make sure that you call the office or email at pastor@ubcseattle.org.

(The following calendar shows activities and meetings in which the pastor is participating. Please note that you can call the office to schedule appointments or visits at any time. Visitation times are not published on the calendar. The times of the meetings are not showing in this calendar.)



October - World Mission Offering Month!

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2 - Worship / World Communion Sunday - "Lunch w/ Pastor" study group
3 DAY OFF	4 - Worship Planning Mtg -Worship Team Mtg	5 - PSRT Mtg.	6 -Mary Magdalene Study	7- Pastors' Covenant Lunch	8- Advent Worship Summit - Cong. Care Mtg.	9 - Worship - Learning & Play Lunch
10 DAY OFF	11	12	13 - Comm. Team mtg. -Mary Mag- dalene Study	14 - Ever- green An- nual Meeting	15 - Ever- green Annual Meeting	16 - Worship - "Lunch w/ Pas- tor" study group - Finance mtg.
17 DAY OFF	18 - Racial justice group mtg - PJR Team Mtg.	19 - Steward. Council Mtg.	20 - Beacon Deadline -Mary Mag- dalene Study	21	22 - Young Adults Nature Walk	23 - Worship
24 /31 DAY OFF	25	26 - BPFNA Dinner at SFBC	27 - BPFNA Board Mtg. -Mary Mag- dalene Study	28 - BPFNA Board Mtg. - All Church Pot- luck Dinner	29 - BPFNA Board Mtg.	30 - Worship - "Lunch w/ Pas- tor" study group

October UBC Calendar

- ◆ Sunday, October 2 - Worship, PJR Meeting, Lunch with the Pastor
- ◆ Tuesday, October 4 - Worship Team Meeting
- ◆ Wednesday, October 5 - Pastoral Staff Relations Team Meeting
- ◆ Thursday, October 6 - Mary Magdalene Bible Study
- ◆ Saturday, October 8 - Advent Planning, Congregational Care Meeting
- ◆ Sunday, October - Worship, Learning & Play Team Lunch
- ◆ Thursday, October 13 - Mary Magdalene Bible Study, Comm. Meeting
- ◆ October 14 - 15 - Evergreen Region Annual Meeting
- ◆ Sunday, October 16 - Worship, Finance Team Meeting, Lunch with the Pastor
- ◆ Tuesday, October 18 - Working Group on Race, PJR Meeting
- ◆ Wednesday, October 19 - Stewardship Council Meeting
- ◆ Thursday, October 20 - Beacon Deadline, Mary Magdalene Bible Study
- ◆ Saturday, October 22 - Young Adults Nature Walk
- ◆ Sunday, October 23 - Worship
- ◆ Tuesday, October 25 - Caring and Coping
- ◆ Thursday, October 27 - Mary Magdalene Bible Study
- ◆ October 27 - 29 - BPFNA Board Meeting
- ◆ October 30 - Worship, Lunch with the Pastor

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Deadline for the November issue is Thursday, October 20. Please send items for the *Beacon* to: office@ubcseattle.org

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