

# FOCUS!

MAY-AUG 2019

**FOCUS MEETING**  
Sunday, Sept 29  
7 pm, The Chapel



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# Senior Pastor

We go, in large part, because we can. We can, and we feel a sense of calling to do so. We go because in going we are transformed. We go because in going we have the opportunity to share in others' transformations. We go because Jesus went; and Paul; and the apostles. We go because, had somebody long before us not gone, we would not know Jesus, our savior. For these reasons and many more, our church family goes.

We go because we have family all over the world. This summer we went to Honduras. We have family there. We also went to the Dominican Republic. We also have family there. We went to the Navajo Nation, to South Africa, and to Zambia. And in all of those places, we have family. We went to Longview, Texas, because...you guessed it...we have family there. We go because we have family all over the world.

We go because there are needs that we can be a part of meeting. Communities in Central America do not have water. We can be a part of providing it for them. Churches in the Navajo Nation do not have their own buildings. We can build them for them. Families in East Texas do not have wheelchair ramps and other house features for their limited mobility. Our teenagers can build those. Youth in South Africa do not have a connection to or love for the Christian church. We can love them and share with them what Christ and his church mean to us. We go because there are needs that we can be a part of meeting.

We go because we are changed when we do. We see how big God's family and Kingdom happen to be. We see how God uses our small offerings to bring about large differences. We attempt to do things that are hard; that are beyond our comfort zones; that stretch us and sharpen us and change us. We spend quality time with other members of our own local church family and develop bonds that will last a lifetime. We make friends from different cultures and learn to see Christ and his world through their eyes. We learn to love more. We grow in compassion. We become more bold. We bring back all of these changes to our communities, schools, and workplaces, and those places are better because of our going. We go because we are changed when we do.

Whether you ever go on one of these trips, or you go to a place in our little corner of Houston, the spirit of mission is one of UBC's key identities. We recognize that we don't just do church at 16106 Middlebrook Dr. on any given Sunday. We understand that church is who we are, and we take it with us...everywhere we go.

Thanks to all of you who go. Across the street or across the globe. You are missionaries, sent by UBC. You are ambassadors of the Kingdom of God.

Steven Laufer  
SENIOR PASTOR



My twin grandsons, Reed and Barron, celebrated their 4th birthday on September 11th. Since they live in Portland, OR it makes it a touch difficult to be there for these grand celebrations. Adding to the challenge, Diann was out of town on a work assignment, and I was in Clear Lake. But a great part of living in this 21st century is the ability to be present while 2,000 miles away. So, our son FaceTimes (a relatively new verb) us both and we can witness the boys opening their presents.

Reed and Barron think this is just normal. That's because for them it is. They have never known a time before FaceTime. They have never thought twice about seeing Nana and Papa though far away they may be.

As you read the Focus Book, it may give away something about your age, or at least how old we behave. For many have seen much of this already on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or whatever new thing teenagers take refuge in knowing their parents haven't managed yet. But for the rest of us, it is a great way to celebrate the grand things the Lord has done throughout the summer. It's certainly not the same as being present, but it does provide us a taste of the fruit that has been harvested.

So, enjoy reading and seeing the pictures of the many things represented here. And remember, next summer maybe the Lord has plans for you to be present in one or more of these opportunities. Then you can tell your own stories on your favorite social media outlet as you continue in "Becoming a Family of Christ Followers."

Be strong and courageous,

David Mobley  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## FACILITIES UPDATE

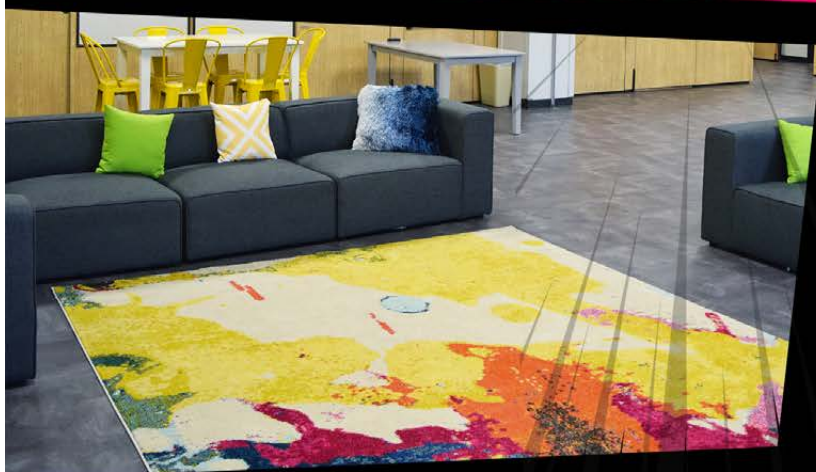
### Student Ministries 3rd Floor Renovations



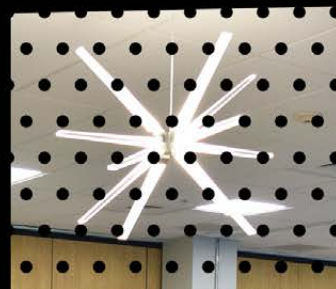
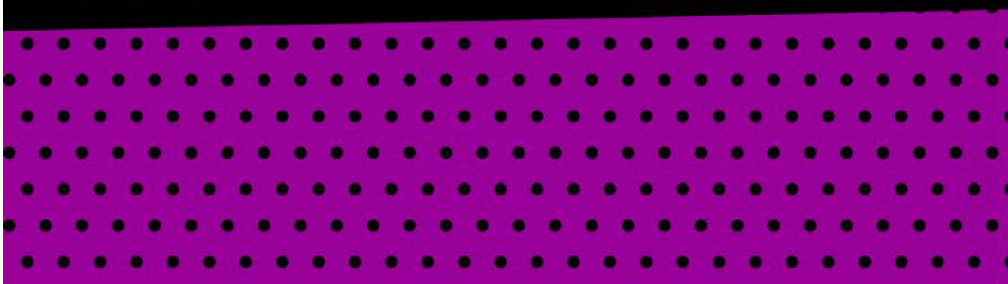
**A SPACE FOR STUDENTS  
TO CONNECT TO  
EACH OTHER AND TO  
GOD IN A DEEPER WAY.**



**WITH NEW HIGH TABLES,  
FURNITURE, TECHNOLOGY  
AND DESIGN, THE WELCOME AREA  
IS AN OPEN, INVITING SPACE  
TO HANGOUT.**



**THE AREA IS NEARLY COMPLETE, AND WE ARE THRILLED  
WITH WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR.**





# FAMILY PICNIC



We had  
a lot of  
fun at our  
4th of July  
Family Picnic!  
Thank you to  
all who came out  
and made it a great  
evening together!





More than 200 people  
gathered at the Pavilion  
to celebrate the 4th!





**Kirk Heuiser**

July 10 at 8:10 AM

Wednesday:

Pray for Kate and Jay. They are both sick and will stay behind at the hotel today with their parents.

Pray for the rest of the team. David and I will be going out today but we are still recovering.

Pray for the community. They have hand dug wells. However, we've drilled in 2 spots over 100 feet deep and no water. I'm not a hydrogeologist so I don't understand. We are trying a third location today.

Dear Lord, we trust in you, in our weakness you are strong. #ubcLWI



Like

View 2 more comments



**Diana Loeffler Bagley** Prayers for Kate and Jay. Also for the rest of the team and for finding water

Like · 3w



**Betty Noe Upton** Prayers for all. ...

Like · 3w



**Kirk Heuiser**

July 10 at 10:09 PM

We ended the week with a bang. Through illness and dry holes we gave it the good college try one last time.

Today we moved a little farther off and drilled at the local soccer field. Jay and Kate stayed at the hotel. They are both feeling relatively better. However, not only did we not find any water we managed to leave 40 meters of pipe and the hammer in the ground.

The pipe isn't such a big deal. They can get a back hoe and pull it out until it's not stuck. It's leaving the community "empty handed" that stings.

Ultimately it was not God's plan for the Tambor community to receive a well (at least for now). Living water will work with them to try and figure out the formation.

This is a new area for them to drill so this may just be part of the growing pains of expanding to a new area. That won't make it any easier tomorrow.

Usually on Thursday we celebrate. This time we will just be saying good bye. There'll be a piñata, but ultimately this will sting.

This year was my twelfth trip. Each community is different. Some are super involved and fun others not so much. (Sometimes people can't get off from work) This community has been one of the best! So like I said before, it's going to sting... #ubcLWI

## Serving Ministries

### Living Water



**Kirk Heuiser**

July 12

We had a fun celebration yesterday in Tambor. The community leaders expressed their gratitude towards us. They also beautifully expressed their continued faith in God. As it turned out it didn't sting so much... Thank you Jesus!



**Beth Richeson Ransom** We will give thanks to God in all circumstances, water or not! Thank you Lord for working through and with the LWI team and people of Tambor. Thank you for being our life-giving water.

Like · 7w



1



**David Pedersen** We discussed this at length. While on the surface some (me included) might have felt disappointment at not completing the well, that was because completing the well at this time was our plan, not God's. In His sovereignty, God accomplished what He wanted to accomplish; the team got to provide hygiene training to the people of El Tambor, love and affirm their children, share the love of Christ and pray with them. We also got to meet and work with the wonderful Living Water staff from Honduras and Nicaragua.

Like · 7w



5



## Navajo

This year marks the 30th Navajo church on the 40th anniversary of the UBC Mission Building team! Our trip to Ft. Defiance, AZ (38 miles north of Gallup) was a huge success on all fronts.

We experienced the mildest weather ever this year. Our 5 am breakfast time meant temperatures were in the low 40's with afternoons barely above 80 degrees.

The cook team did a superb job keeping the team nourished! The cook team is made up of men and women with servant hearts, and they don't necessarily need to know how to cook. A lot of details go into feeding the team each year.







This year, we saw how God worked through the mindset, “people over the project.” Instead of being so focused on what we were doing, we were reminded to focus on the people who were there, the people on our team and the people we were serving.

We had eight rookies, four of them were teenagers, who complemented our full staff of journeymen (those who have made it at least ten trips).

Together the team put down 100 bundles of shingles in six hours, completing the roof in record time.

A plaque was placed in honor of Preston Haynes. He was a true friend and dedicated mission partner for four decades.

Each summer we’re grateful for all those who step up and lead. We have an incredible team of people who are passionate about what they do.





## Zambia

In July, seven UBC members traveled to Lusaka, Zambia to learn about the family preservation ministry that Alliance for Children Everywhere operates there. The team met with Zambian families who have adopted children through the foster-to-adopt program that ACE operates and traveled with ACE's social workers to help families in need of emergency food support. While visiting with those families, the team heard first-hand stories of how God is using ACE's family preservation program to keep the poorest of the poor together in their family units as they fight poverty through job skills training, entrepreneurship courses, savings groups, and discipleship. One of the highlights of the trip was hosting a science camp for the seniors at the high school operated by ACE. The team blew me away with their dedication, preparation, ease with the students, and passion for encouraging the students in their faith. As they led five sessions of hands-on experiments and had time to really get to know each other during science camp. The day ended with a roaring success as we launched 18 bottle rockets to the delight of the entire school.

One of the biggest takeaways for the team was seeing how ACE has partnered with local Zambian churches over the past 20 years ago to build the ministry that exists today. Churches of many different denominations have come together to create eight schools within their own church walls, encourage the people to foster and adopt orphaned children, support vulnerable families through hosting distribution locations, and lend their voice to the government to initiate change, all under the ACE umbrella. The UBC team met with teachers who came out of retirement from government schools to teach vulnerable children so that cyclical poverty can end. They met with ACE's social workers who, by God's goodness, are currently working with the government to institute an emergency foster care program so that orphaned or abandoned children go straight to emergency foster families instead of into institutions. The team saw how when the church is unified, God can move in mighty ways as only our lionhearted King of Kings can. No one knows how long this bubble of God-given favor will last over Zambia, but for now, He is allowing Zambia a season to shine as a light for what a Christ-honoring government can accomplish when it works hand in hand with the Church. The challenges here are great, but the Holy Spirit is providing paths to support families that honor and glorify the Most High in mighty ways. It is so humbling for us to be involved in this work in such a time as this.

A huge thanks to Doug and Bryce Warner, Kevin and Sydney Biekert, and Steve Laufer for their hard work on the trip!









## Student Ministries

### Beach Retreat



Beach Retreat offers high school students a place to disconnect and slow down. The impact of spiritual growth as a community of believers is everlasting.







The primary focus of the weekend is for students to grow in their understanding of faith through Bible studies with their WBS leaders.







## Silver Cliff

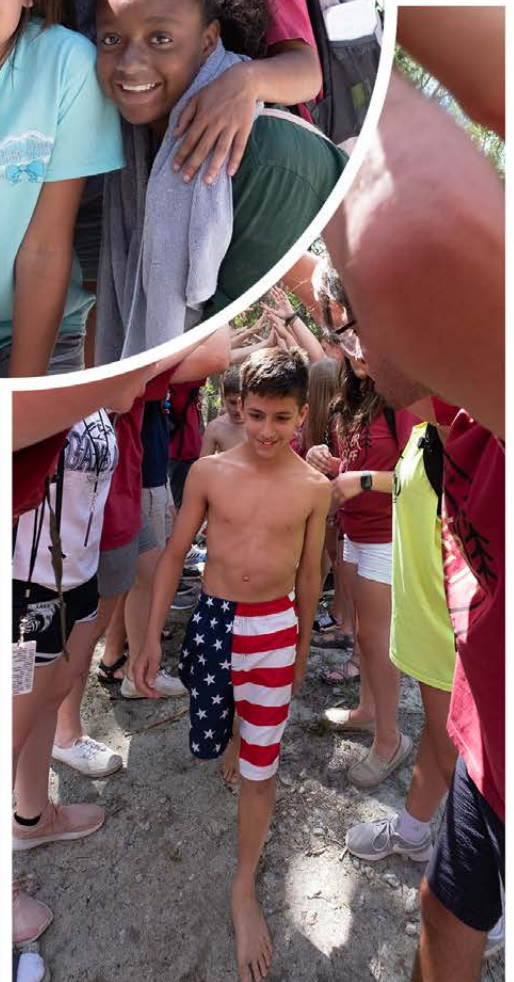
Each summer our intermediate and high schoolers go to Colorado for camp! We asked students to share about the important, the fun, and the big and small moments from Silver Cliff this year. Here's what they said:



I almost didn't go this year because I had already been three times and I thought it was going to be the same thing. But I'm really glad I did go. And every time you're there you are just thinking, I'm really glad I'm here.

Honestly this year's date night/theme night was by far one of my favorite themes out of all four years I've gone. It was "When I'm old..." so we all dressed in what we were going to be like in 20, 30, 40, 50 years. It was so funny we all stayed in character all night and it was all really funny. That was one of my favorite parts.

One of my highs was when we were all able to go speak with Pastor Steve. All of the seniors got together and talked with Pastor Steve about going to college and all of the people that we are going to meet, how we are going to have different views than them and staying strong in our faith. I really liked how it was everyone in our grade and we got to sit down and talk to him. It was a really good conversation.



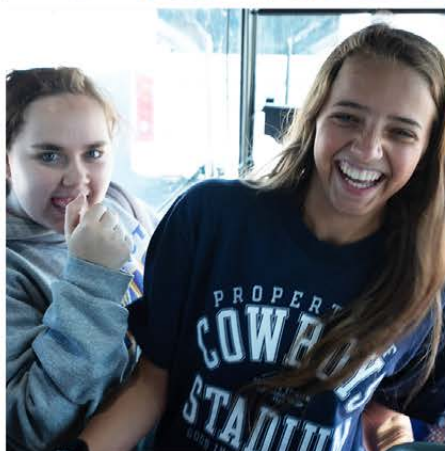




A high for me would probably be the small group time that we had. You can tell why it would probably be a high because we are learning about Jesus, and we're talking to each other. We were all vulnerable with each other. We would talk about struggles that we have and how the message would help us with those struggles. The vulnerability made that so impactful in all of our lives.

The first time I went to Silver Cliff I didn't really have any close friends and so going to retreats and Silver Cliff is how I got close with everyone in our youth group. I can easily say these are some of my best friends now. This was our last year and it's been really hard to say goodbye because this was our last event together. I can say for pretty much everyone it was pretty emotional to go our own ways because we've been together for so long and we've had that time to grow close. It's been such an important part of our lives and it's been a really good time.

Worship was my favorite moment because it was really great to see everyone worshipping together.







I've gone to Silver Cliff all four years. Going in freshman year, it was a little intimidating because you're going to Colorado to go to a church camp, so it was kind of cool but kind of scary. Over the four years it's grown into my second home and going back every year it's like "you're going home" to Silver Cliff again. But it also has turned into a getaway for me. This past year we didn't do a lot of hiking, which we normally do. We spent the time relaxing and getting away from our busy lives here in Houston and it meant a lot to just relax.

It's definitely an escape. You're so far away from everything else. You're on a mountain, there's no cell service and you don't have your phone. It's just you and your close group of friends. It's really cool because you have all of these exciting moments like date night, red belly bonanza, hiking, going to the river, and going white water rafting. There are these really exciting moments but then there are also these really intimate moments. There's quiet time and you get to go off and you're by yourself with your Bible, there's prayer in the midst of God's creation, there's the message with the speaker, worship with the band, and you get to go with your small group and have awesome discussions. So, there's this really great intimate side and there's this really exciting side and I feel like Silver Cliff is the only place that you can get that in a camp.

My high was getting baptized in the river because Silver Cliff is like a second home to me and so that really meant a lot.

So, I went with some of the Senior and Junior guys and we went up the mountain to find this cave that has always been talked about every year I've been to Silver Cliff, but I've never seen it. I actually thought it was a myth until we got there and what's fun about getting to the cave is the difficulty that comes with it. In the last stretch, like 50 feet, the rocks become really loose and start to crumble when you touch them... doesn't really sound like fun but it is. So, we climbed up and got to the cave with a lot of trouble, and it was kind of scary, but it was definitely worth it to get to the cave and to get to see the view of Silver Cliff and Mount Princeton. It was awesome!



UBC Parents, tell me what your students told you about their week at Silver Cliff.

Jeff just said things in a way that really meant something to us. Every guy in our cabin was affected by something he said. 10 out of 10! Amazing! We love Jeff! It was really peaceful this year!

Loved the small group Bible studies and Mr. Ernie the most. ☺ He also loved the music, speaker and rec games.

Mine loved the speaker, color groups, date night, belly flops, and the notes at the end. Great week for all three!!

She had a very good time and the speaker was REALLY good.

Loved the speaker, said the talks and studies really went along perfectly with and reinforced the Bible study we have been doing at home (Seeking Him)! Said he is "happy tired"! They appreciated how the speaker was relatable, shared his personal struggles, and was easy to understand without "dumbing down" his talk for the teens.

Thank you, Kyle and all the leaders, for a great week for our kids!

My daughter said it was the best year yet... said the speaker was very good and felt he was speaking straight to her. Her favorite was getting baptized in the river! ♥ THANK YOU !

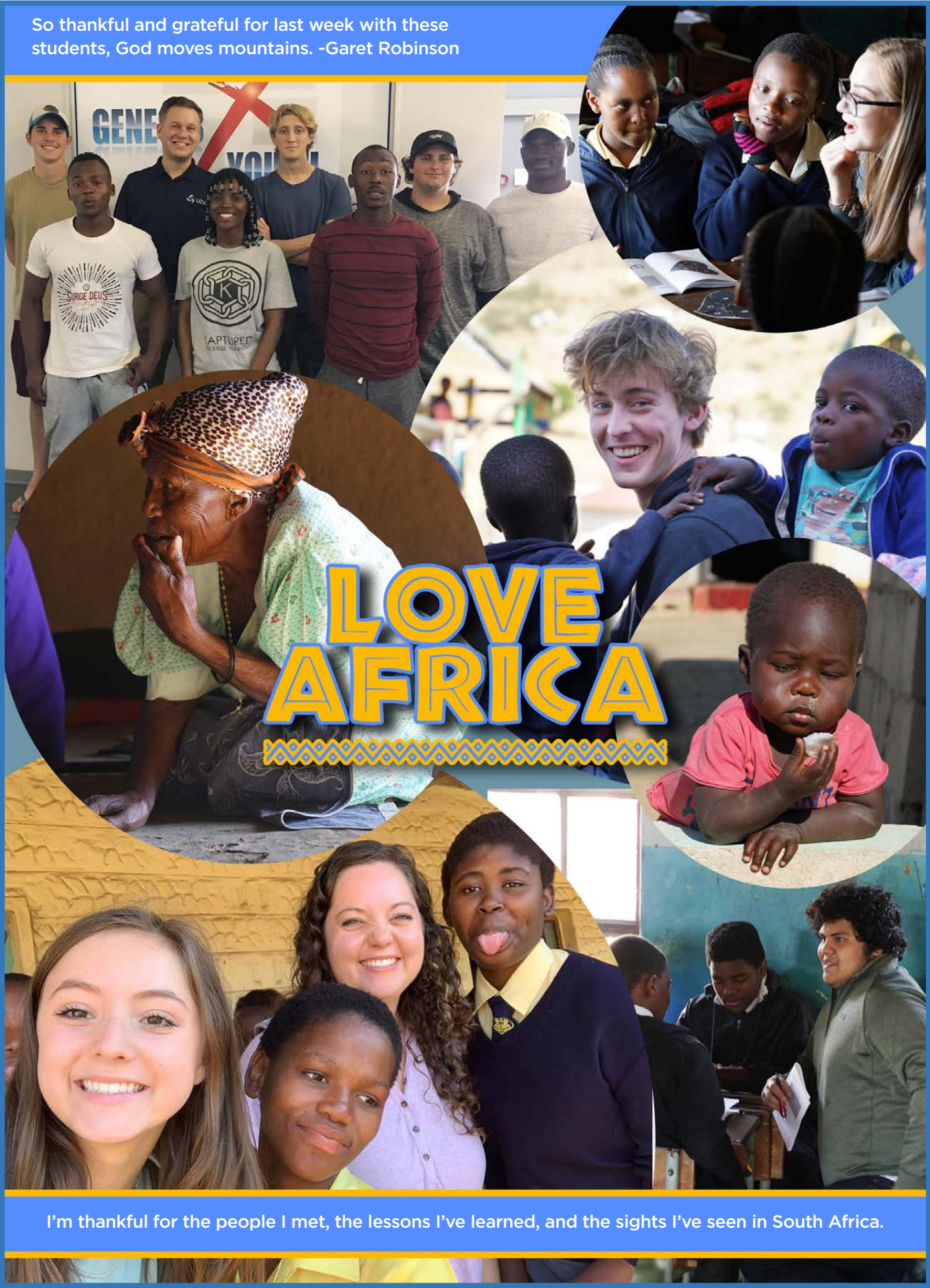
She hasn't shut up yet! She's already looking forward to next year ♥

Thank you all for loving our kids ♥♥♥♥♥





So thankful and grateful for last week with these students, God moves mountains. -Garet Robinson



I'm thankful for the people I met, the lessons I've learned, and the sights I've seen in South Africa.





**Garet Robinson** is with Kyle Wilson at UBC.

July 31 · Houston · 🌐

Over the past couple of weeks, I was able to travel to Port Shepstone, South Africa and spend time alongside the University Baptist Church Student Ministry team as we ministered in the area. This was a great trip and we saw wonderful ministry happening all around us.

For my part, I was able to work with a number of the key ministries of our partner church, Norwegian Settlers' Church in teaching and leadership development. I also got to spend time with our UBC Students that were on the trip. Being able to be partnered with ministries around the world is a great part of our ministry at UBC Houston.

Thanks to [Kyle Wilson](#) for inviting me along and helping me connect with some truly wonderful times of ministry. The pictures below tell a little about our time there, check them out.



**dkylewilson** • Following

Port Shepstone, KwaZulu-Natal



Another beautiful day in ZA, with a few of our favorite people.

7w



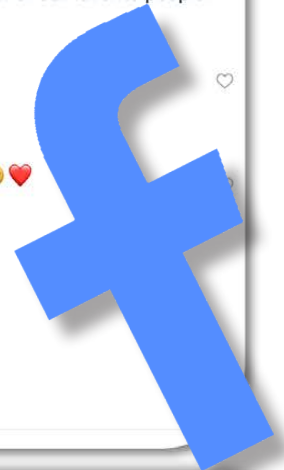
tiredliz ❤️

7w Reply



juleshale\_ 🥰❤️

7w Reply



ubcstudents after Kyle took this selfie he fell off the rock... Jk lol

6w



sim\_cele He blocked his entire team 🤔

6w 1 like Reply



Liked by benjaminsandstrom and 107 others

JULY 19





“

“It’s just something I can do because I can’t always spend money or donate money,” said Coby Balli, a high school senior, “but I can spend my time and my hard labor to help people.”

”





## UM Army

News Report by  
Olivia Sandusky

High school students from around Texas are giving back to their community by volunteering to repair homes over summer.

The groups are part of the United Methodist Church Action Reach-Out Mission, known as the U.M. Army.

They've been in East Texas since the middle of June and are offering their services to residents who are in need.

"It's just something I can do because I can't always spend money or donate money," said Coby Balli, a high school senior, "but I can spend my time and my hard labor to help people."

The projects range anywhere from paint touch-ups to yard work and even small construction projects.

Several members of the group said their favorite projects are usually building wheelchair ramps.

"It helps them to be more mobile and have a better quality of life," Sydney Reagan, one of the team leaders, said. "Otherwise they may not be able to have these projects done at all and then we get to meet them and talk to them. It's just a relational and a service kind of thing."

The projects are all done for free, paid for by the summer fees the students give when they sign up for the summer program.

The group just finished up their Longview projects and are in Kilgore before they head out to Henderson on July 14th.







# CLASS OF 2019



**Evan Dizon**



**David Doerksen**



**Caitlyn Johnson**



**Caleb Johnson**



**Katy Killingsworth**



**Matt Kovich**



**Abby Morris**



**Emrey Mullins**



**Jackson Norfolk**



**Brianne Peters**



**Austin Sumner**



**Nathan Wagner**



**Katherine Whitlock**



**Devon Willis**



**Taylor Bess**



**Audra Carlson**



**Sarah Corley**



**Blair Culbertson**



**Ali Dutton**



**Michelle Ebell**



**Kristen Faber**



**Brendan Fisher**



**Mei Lin**



**Baileigh Martin**



**Jake Mather**



**Marcie Mayeaux**



**William Pfeiffer**



**Kate Richeson**



**Jaden Schneider**



**Kate Skeeter**



**Michael Wolfe**

**SENIOR SUNDAY**  
**YOU'LL MOVE MOUNTAINS, KID**



## Children's Ministries



First  
year of Kinder  
Camp! They did  
everything from tennis,  
to basketball, to soccer, to  
football, to cheerleading,  
to bowling.



Over 50  
volunteers!



Bay  
Area Racquet  
Club partnered with  
us and made the week  
a huge success for the  
tennis players!







# ROAR

## VBS & UBC



**THE KIDS RAISED  
\$7,538 FOR MISSION  
PROJECTS UBCERS  
WERE A PART OF THIS  
SUMMER!**

### WHEN LIFE IS WILD, GOD IS GOOD!

Rachel, a parent of a student volunteer shared this about VBS: "Just wanted to send a note to thank you for the incredible week. You made it possible for my son to volunteer and learn some valuable lessons this week. He felt so responsible filling out that job application. He has so much pride for his effort. He told me today when I dropped him off that he was doing an important work. And he is so right. Thank y'all for all that you do and for all you've done. Not just for the kids attending VBS this week but for the kids volunteering. Finding a place to be a part of service, to see the significance of giving back, and hopefully to foster a love of generosity that will last a lifetime. What you do matters in the life of my family and I am forever grateful. Thank you so much for an incredible week."





## “WHAT’S YOUR FAVORITE PART OF VBS?”

The kids at the end of the day. When they tell their parents that their favorite part of the day was everything.

Going outside

Snack

Everybody coming together and volunteering.

Arts and crafts

The songs because I’m a music lover. I just make up my own moves and just dance to the beat. That’s what makes me love music so much.

The creative things we do in snack time and the creative ideas we do in imagination stations.

I just like it. It’s fun.

Singing songs

Getting to know all the kids

Making new friends and having fun.

Coloring

Getting to meet all my leaders.

Seeing so many different kids that normally don’t go to church here. That are either from other churches or don’t go to church at all that get the opportunity to come here and have a blast and learn about God.

Hanging out with friends.

Watching the kids sing and dance and just getting to be filled with so much joy as they’re learning that God is good no matter what.

Learning about God in a fun way.

Helping out with all the different stations and seeing everyone so happy.

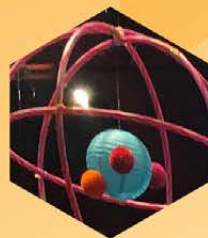
Making a new friend.

Watching the teenagers take their role so seriously and doing such a great job!



# SCIENCE CAMPS

## KAMP KABOOM AND KINDER CAMP SPARK





Kids explored the world of science – from launching rockets to squishing slime – while walking through BASIC elements of faith – Believe, Ask, Serve, Impact, Celebrate.

At Kamp Kaboom & Kinder Camp Spark, kids became “scientists for a week” and learned by doing REAL experiments! Each morning, kids heard the Word of God during two hands-on science devotionals, played science games and had science-themed snacks, and watched crazy science skits and videos.







**Karen Murphy** updated her profile picture.

July 2 at 12:39 PM · 🌐

28 folks headed out this morning to the Dominican Republic! John 15:12 says "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."



**Janet Myers Kuhlman** is with Karen Murphy and 7 others.

July 4 at 4:39 PM · 👥

Dominican Republic Day 1 :lots of hard work and many bright warm smiles! Oh and three tarantulas 🕷️🕷️🕷️! I've never seen one "in the wild" before! 🙄  
Santiago- orphanage



“  
We are  
preparing for the  
playground... lots  
of clean-out.  
”







“These children’s hearts are so precious. May the Lord bless them and keep them.”



**Janet Myers Kuhlman** is with Karen Murphy and Steve Ebell at Iglesia Bautista Quisqueyana, Inc.

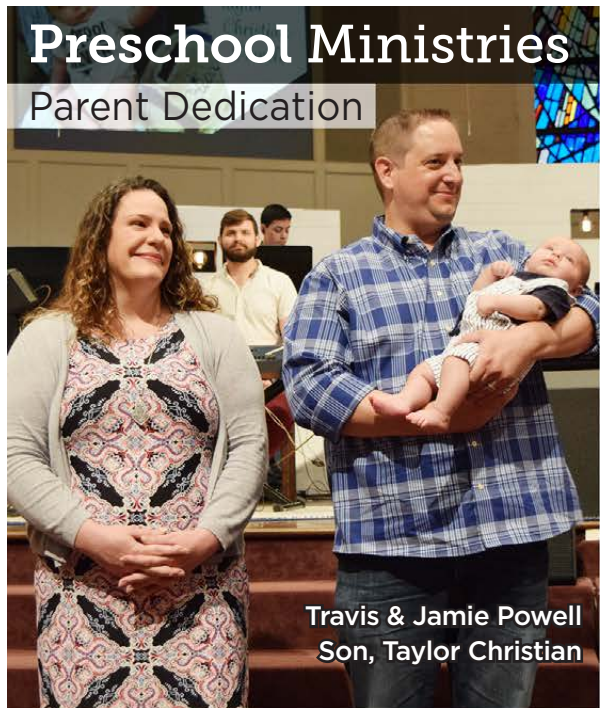
July 7 at 1:06 PM · Santo Domingo Norte ·

We left Santiago and travelled to the capital city, Santo Domingo. Got to visit w Yafreisi our Samuel’s Fund sponsor child and tour the caverns with her:-)



# Preschool Ministries

## Parent Dedication



Travis & Jamie Powell  
Son, Taylor Christian



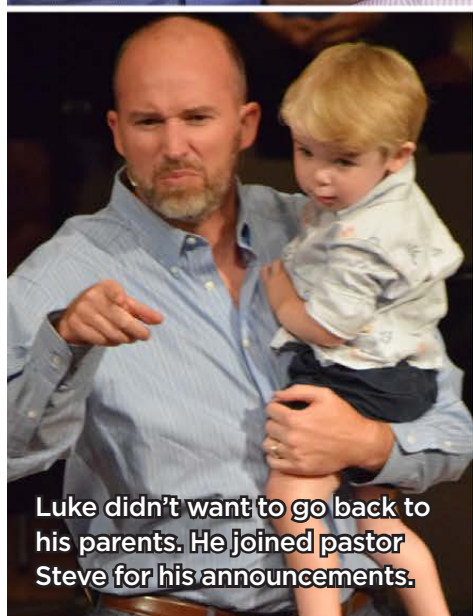
Brad & Audra Smith  
Son, Justin Cooper  
(Sister Savannah & brothers  
Braden, Logan & Nathan)



Maneesh & Vanessa Sharma  
Daughter, Selah Araya



Rob & Becky Mead  
Daughter, Paula Ruth  
(Brother Cory and Sister Gigi)



Shane & Julie Reaux  
Son, Luke Shane Reaux

Luke didn't want to go back to his parents. He joined pastor Steve for his announcements.









## Popsicles on the Playground

Popsicles on the Playground has become a tradition as we welcome summer at UBC. On May 23, it was our largest popsicles event in nine years with 175 people in all! The weather was perfect for preschoolers to splash with their friends and for moms, dads, grandparents, and sitters to visit with one another. A giant waterslide and tropical slip-n-slide kept the older ones busy while the younger ones enjoyed the wading pools. Sidewalk chalk and tricycles were an extra treat at the playground. There was a noticeable hush once the popsicles were given out. However, the stillness didn't last long - it was off for more fun!











# KJOY



**KJOY is Kids**  
learning to serve,  
**Jesus first, Others second,**  
**Youself last.** These little  
ones are big enough to help  
and small enough to make  
a difference!  
-Terri Greer







# PRESCHOOL **PLAY DAYS**



This  
summer, our  
preschoolers  
discovered how the  
Creator of all things  
created us to know  
and love Him.







## Praise Kids

Praise Kids choir presented Praise Him All You Shining Stars for their spring concert on May 5. Nineteen children strummed their very own crafted guitars as they quoted scripture to music. During the spring semester, the children also enjoyed fun crafts and edible snacks, a xylophone and resurrection rolls for Easter. The audience viewed a video at the end of the program and then enjoyed seeing the many activities we do in Praise Kids choir. We are blessed to have Kim Dischler, Leslie Rucker and Michelle Tressler as our directors. They bring so much energy to our choir.

Thank you, all,  
for a great year!





# What are families saying about UBC Weekday Ministries?



My child is always happy coming to and leaving school!

Thank you for spreading His light everyday!

Weekday Ministries is a Christ-centered, loving environment.

Weekday Ministries has a loving atmosphere, varied experiences for the children and child-centered approach.



God shines in Weekday!

Love of God and children shows.

Everyone is willing to help and give support when needed.

My child is loved and is shown the love of Jesus!



I love the flexibility and open communication of the weekday program.

I love that it feels like a family!

We love everything about Weekday!

Quality education in a spiritual and loving atmosphere.





## Farewell to Fours Celebrating Our PreK Kids

In May 2019, we had the privilege of celebrating 52 preschoolers who “graduated” from PreK. We spent the last week of the school year just having fun with these children and acknowledging how wonderfully and fearfully each of them are created!

We had a Farewell to Fours Fun Fair where the children went from station to station creating things, playing with friends....and even creating a bear with the help from the ladies from the Stitches of Love Ministry. They gave away their bears to Officer Martinez of the Pasadena Police Department for him to give to kids that police officers meet in unfortunate situations.

Farewell to Fours Field Day was filled with many outdoor activities. A lot of laughs and a lot of jumping around and a lot of fun filled the day! Even our wonderful teachers got involved in the action!

The week ended with our annual Farewell to Fours Presentation. During the presentation, the PreK children shared with their families what they have learned while they were a part of Weekday Ministries. The children sang songs, read Scripture and shared about God’s love. Each child was then presented with a Read to Me Bible and a Farewell to Fours certificate. All of those in attendance celebrated with cookies and lemonade—and lots of pictures. What a blessing these children and their families have been to UBC.







## Worship Ministries

***We had incredible musical  
guests in worship!***



**Arnold Rawls**  
Metropolitan Opera Tenor

**Tiffany Coburn**  
Vocalist &  
Recording Artist



**9:30 AM**  
**UBC EN ESPAÑOL**  
Spanish Language  
Service

# FOUR SUNDAY SERVICES

EACH WITH A DIFFERENT STYLE  
OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP

**UBC.ORG**

**9:30 AM**  
**TRADITIONAL SERVICE**  
UBC Choir  
& Orchestra

**5 PM**  
**THE BELONGING**  
**NEW EVENING SERVICE!**  
Worship in a casual  
& comfortable space

**11:00 AM**  
**CONTEMPORARY**  
**SERVICE**  
Worship Band



# Communications



***We celebrated 500 followers on the @ubchouston Instagram page!***

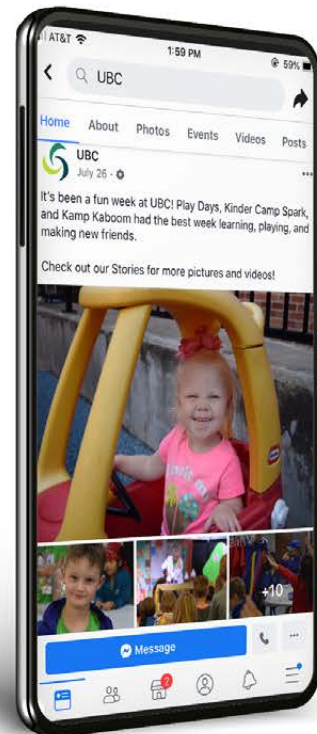
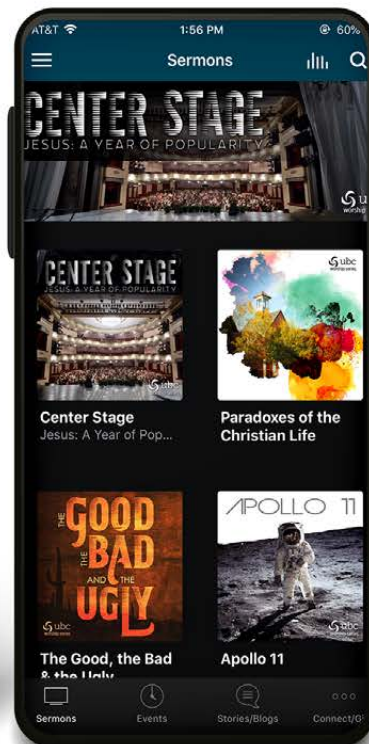


Did you know there is a UBC Houston app?

You can find it in your app store.

Download the latest sermon to watch or listen on the go.

Stay up to date on all events happening at UBC.



Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter for the latest stories and happenings in the UBC family. Look for UBCHouston!



# Attendance Report

WORSHIP AVERAGES			
	9:30	11:00	Totals
May-Aug 2018	483	368	851
May-Aug 2019	487	343	830

ADULT MINISTRY ATTENDANCE NUMBERS		
	Enrolled	Average Attended
May-Aug 2018	862	384
May-Aug 2019	862	375

PRESCHOOL MINISTRY ATTENDANCE NUMBERS (BIRTH-PREK-4)		
	Enrolled	Average Attended
May-Aug 2018	450	191
May-Aug 2019	234	168

*\*Note: Kindergarten was moved from Preschool Ministries to the Children's Ministries in Aug 2018. Last year's Fall quarter numbers included Kindergarten.*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ATTENDANCE NUMBERS (K-5TH GRADE)		
	Enrolled	Average Attended
May-Aug 2018	397	141
May-Aug 2019	407	152

STUDENT MINISTRY ATTENDANCE NUMBERS		
	Enrolled	Average Attended
May-Aug 2018	428	168
May-Aug 2019	450	135

PRESCHOOL AVG.	MAY-AUG 2019
Praise Kids Concert	118
Popsicles on the Playground	175+
PS Vacation Bible School	224
Kinder KJOY Missions Camp	16
Pre-K4 KJOY Missions Camp	15
Right At Home Moms Ministry	32
Ready Set Go Missions at LCM	15
PS Play Days	125
Embrace Life	5
July 4th Family Picnic	200+

ADULT MINISTRY AVG.	MAY-AUG 2019
FM Leadership Appreciation Dinner	143

CHILDREN'S AVG.	MAY-AUG 2019
Chorus Kids Concert	100+
PS/CM VBS Rally Night	150+
Sports Camp	200+ kids & volunteers
PS/CM VBS	1057+ kids & volunteers
Kamb Kaboom	200+ kids & volunteers
Preteen Camp	46 kids & 14 volunteers
Summer Movie Clubhouse	50+ kids & 20+ volunteers
Schlitterbahn	50+
Pirates Bay (Due to rain went to ITZ Pizza)	55+

STUDENT MINISTRY AVG.	MAY-AUG 2019
Beach Retreat	97
Silver Cliff	154
UM Army	33
South Africa	12
IS Escape Room	30+



# Financial Report

## University Baptist Church 11 Months October 2018 to August 2019 (91%)

	Actual	Annual Budget	Remaining	% of Annual Budget Spent
Budgetary Contributions	\$3,335,914			
Ministry Contributions	\$14,393			
Other Income	\$11,156			
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$3,361,463</b>			
Missions Ministry	\$333,591	\$371,500	\$37,909	89.80%
Communications Ministry	\$55,237	\$114,000	\$58,763	48.45%
Serving Ministries	\$14,196	\$18,200	\$4,004	78.00%
Music & Worship Ministry	\$50,565	\$55,800	\$5,235	90.62%
Family Ministry	\$11,342	\$34,500	\$23,158	32.88%
Women's Ministry	\$9,455	\$11,500	\$2,045	82.22%
Adult Ministry	\$39,788	\$69,200	\$29,412	57.50%
Student Ministry	\$58,210	\$62,000	\$3,790	93.89%
Children Ministry	\$39,677	\$49,000	\$9,323	80.97%
Preschool Ministry	\$15,137	\$23,600	\$8,463	64.14%
<b>Total Ministry</b>	<b>\$627,199</b>	<b>\$809,300</b>	<b>\$182,101</b>	<b>77.50%</b>
Administration	\$180,735	\$219,700	\$38,965	82.26%
Personnel	\$1,982,613	\$2,196,000	\$213,387	90.28%
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$2,163,348</b>	<b>\$2,415,700</b>	<b>\$252,352</b>	<b>89.55%</b>
Facility	\$431,868	\$490,000	\$58,132	88.14%
Capital Improvements	\$67,517	\$0	(\$67,517)	
<b>Total Facility &amp; CP &amp; Funding</b>	<b>\$499,385</b>	<b>\$490,000</b>	<b>-\$9,385</b>	<b>101.92%</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,289,932</b>	<b>\$3,715,000</b>	<b>\$425,068</b>	<b>88.56%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$71,531</b>			
	Begin	Activity	End	
Designated Funds	\$521,906	(\$47,205)	\$474,701	
Prior Year Budget Funds	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	
Reserve Funds	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000	
Unrestricted Funds			\$156,782	
<b>Total Cash &amp; Investments</b>			<b>\$1,151,483</b>	
Current Other Assets (a)			\$4,887	
Current Liabilities			\$84,550	
Mortgage/Long-Term Liability			\$0	

Mike Herman, Treasurer

Footnotes:

a) Current Other Assets is Weekday Ministry Receivable and any prepaid expenses.



# Membership Report

## UBC Membership Additions

May–August 2019

### MEMBERS RECEIVED BY BAPTISM

- Abigail Bresnik
- Keila Burnikell
- Jake Del Sardo
- Seth Misegades
- Sydney Padron
- Shane Reaux
- Savannah Simpson
- Travis Smithson

### MEMBERS RECEIVED BY LETTER

- Robert E. Byers
- Sandra L. Byers
- Barbara Carlson
- Stan Carlson
- Carl Dole
- Celia Dole
- Alan Goss
- Teresa A. Goss
- Adelee Morrison
- Christopher B. Morrison
- Amanda Pfeiffer
- Jonathan W. Pfeiffer
- Julie E. Reaux

### MEMBERS RECEIVED BY STATEMENT

- Jane Valencia
- William Valencia

## UBC Membership Deletions

May–August 2019

### MEMBERS LETTERED OUT

- Scott Butler, Jr.
- Shelbi Smith Butler
- Jim Clarkson
- Mary Lynn Clarkson
- Andrew Johnston
- Grace Johnston
- Dale Lonsford
- Yolanda Lonsford
- Mary Lee Santarelli

### MEMBERS BY ERASURE

- Huey Barnett
- Sabra Barnett
- April Evans
- Ellie Evans
- Kami Evans
- Kurt Evans

### BY DEATH

- Bill Baker
- Martha Krueger
- Noma Light
- Pete Reeder



# Administrative Report

## Minutes for Special Called Business Meeting

May 19, 2019

12:30 pm in Worship Center

The called business meeting was called to order by Dr. Steven Laufer. There were 30 members in attendance for the meeting. Dr. Laufer presented a recommendation from the Executive Council.

Recommendation from the Executive Council:

After three years of litigation with the Robert Bryan Estate, UBC has been awarded partial interest in a commercial lot adjacent to 1085 Hercules Ave. (close to Bank of America on Diana).

Congregational approval is required to liquidate the property.

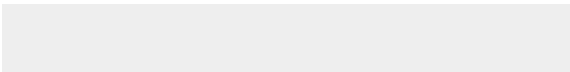
We have received an offer of \$230,000 which is \$8 per SF, the going rate in Clear Lake for commercial property.

The Executive Council recommends we accept the offer.

Since this is a recommendation from the Executive Council, we only need a second which was given by Todd Hamilton. A vote was approved unanimously by a showing of hands.

Steve asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Wayne Hale and a second by David Henry. The meeting was adjourned.

Virginia Thomas  
Church Secretary





# Focus Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2019

The Focus Meeting was held on the 3rd Floor at University Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday June 2, 2019. Dr. Steven Laufer, Senior Pastor called the meeting to order and led the group in prayer. There were 54 people in attendance.

## BOOK OF REPORTS DATED JUNE 2, 2019

- Senior Pastor's Report page 4
- Executive Director's Report page 5
- Facilities Update Report pages 6 - 7
- The Church Family Picnic Report page 5
- Serving Ministries Report pages 9 - 13
- Faith@Home Ministries Report page 14
- The Caregivers Seminar Report page 15
- Parent Connect Conference Report page 16
- The Date Night Report page 17 along with the Soul Care Training Report
- Care Ministries Report page 18
- Adult Ministries Report page 19
- Women's Ministries Report pages 20 - 21
- Young Adult Ministries Report page 22
- Student Ministries Report pages 22 - 25
- Children's Ministries Report pages 26 - 29
- Preschool Ministries Report pages 30 - 34
- The Weekday Ministries Report pages 35 - 37
- Worship Ministries Report pages 38 - 40
- The Attendance Report for Weekend Bible Study and Worship page 41
- The Financial Report pages 42 and 47
- A full report of the membership changes during the period January - April page 43.

During that period, 12 were received by baptism; 10 by letter; and 12 by statement.

### Requests for letters

- Denton Davies
- Lesley Davies
- Nathan Kapner
- Mary Kapner
- Sharon Ott

### By Erasure

- Lynne Long
- Lavoyda Williams

### By Death

- Mamie Atkinson
- Rana Peper

The changes in membership were reviewed and the requests for letters were approved by voice vote after a motion by Wayne Hale and a second by David Ward. A prayer was offered for those leaving, that they would be productive in their new churches and for new members who had recently joined UBC by Dr. Garett Robinson.

The minutes of the January 27, 2019 Focus Meeting and minutes for a Special Called Business Meeting on February 10, 2019 are on pages 44 -45 of the Book of Reports dated June 2, 2019. The minutes were approved as written by voice vote after a motion by Laura Vincent and a second by Kathy Ozenberger.

The UBC Foundation Report is on page 46 of the Book of Reports dated June 2, 2019.

Steve Laufer presented the names of messengers going to the SBC Annual Meeting and the CBF Annual Meeting. Garett Robinson is going to the SBC Annual Meeting and Lora Doremus is attending the CBF Annual Meeting. These two individuals were approved by voice vote after a motion by Mark Kuhlman and a second by David Henry.

Donna Cox, Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented a recommendation from the Nominating Committee for Dr. Joe McCollum to be a member of the Deacon Nominating Committee for a three-year term and for Aaron Colunga to be a member of the Nominating Committee for a three-year term. Since this is a recommendation from the nominating committee a motion is not needed but a second was given by Kirk Heuser and the recommendation was approved by voice vote.

Dr. Laufer asked for a motion to end the meeting. A motion was given by Steve Johnson and a second by Debbie Tupin.

Dr. Laufer closed the meeting with a prayer.

Virginia Thomas  
Church Secretary



# Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed Budget

October 2019 – September 2020

Account	FY 2020 Proposed	FY 2019 Budget	Notes
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$ 3,820,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,715,000</b>	
Missions	\$ 382,000	\$ 371,500	10% of budget
Communications	\$ 114,000	\$ 114,000	
Serving	\$ 18,200	\$ 18,200	
Music and Worship	\$ 59,500	\$ 55,800	Sunday Evening Service, Pastoral Business funding
Family Ministries	\$ 41,500	\$ 34,500	Moved Funding from Adult and Music Ministries
Women Ministries	\$ 11,500	\$ 11,500	
Adult	\$ 63,700	\$ 69,200	Moved funding to Family Ministries
Student	\$ 66,400	\$ 62,000	Additional event and equipment funding
Children	\$ 55,000	\$ 49,000	Additional funding for events and Kinder
Preschool	\$ 23,600	\$ 23,600	Reallocated Kinder funding to single mom ministry
<b>MINISTRY EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 835,400</b>	<b>\$ 809,300</b>	
Administration	\$ 219,600	\$ 219,700	Minor allocation updates
Personnel	\$ 2,275,000	\$ 2,196,000	Music, Spanish, Audio Eng positions; Compensations; Sabbaticals
Facility	\$ 490,000	\$ 490,000	

## Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Budget

As we close FY2019, there are many exciting updates to celebrate:

- The launch of our third worship offering, UBC en Espanol,
- The launch of our fourth worship offering with our Sunday night service, The Belonging,
- Moving kindergarteners to children's ministry to make space for our growing preschool,
- Developing new ministry partners in Brookwood, West Houston, South Texas, and Colombia,
- Continued growth in our college ministry,
- Welcoming our new Pastor of Worship,
- Launch of our student third floor renovations.

In FY2020, we look forward to continued ministry opportunities at UBC, in our community, our city and our state and globally. We also launch several new initiatives around our mission of "Becoming Christ Followers":

- Evangelism Emphasis
- Spiritual Life Assessment
- Leadership Development

To continue with our current ministry opportunities and to launch these new initiatives, it is with gratitude and confidence that the Executive Council is proposing a 2.8% increase in the budget for FY2020. Though the increase is modest, it represents a fifth straight year of increased ministry funding. Detailed budget allocations will be available at the Budget Review Meeting.

The budget details will be explored at the Budget Review Meeting on September 22nd at 7:00 in the Chapel. The Focus Meeting on September 29th will be a vote on the budget with minimal discussion.

Please be in prayer for good stewardship as well as for the plans God has for us.

Prayerfully,

The Executive Council  
 Richard Simmons, Chair  
 Steve Laufer, Senior Pastor  
 Brynda McCormick  
 Cory Thompson  
 Robbie Kimbrough  
 Skip Inbody  
 David Mobley, Executive Director



# UBC Foundation Reports

## Student Scholarship Recipients

The UBC Foundation is honored to recognize the 2019 UBC Foundation's O'Neil Christian Leadership Scholarship recipients, each receiving a \$2,000 scholarship:

Audra Carlson

Kate Skeeter

David Doerksen

Katherine Whitlock

Michelle Ebell

Congratulations to these worthy students!

## UBCF Grants for 2019

- 4B Disaster Response Network (4bresponse.org) – a summer internship for intern, Joseph Klein, was funded for \$3,000

- Colombia Indigenous Leadership Training Seminar was funded for \$3,600

- 3rd Floor Renovations funded for \$6,000 going toward furniture in the reception area

- Summer community event for HouseLA received \$500 for children's activities

Total funding for scholarship and ministries for 2019 was \$29,100.

## Seminary Student Scholarship Recipients

The UBC Foundation is honored to announce three seminary students who received a \$2,000 scholarship:

Rachel Halloran received her second seminary scholarship from UBCF. She is in her second year at Baylor's Truett Seminary, pursuing the joint master's program Truett offers with the traditional M.Div. and J.D.

Joshua Mobley received his second seminary scholarship from UBCF. He attends Durham University in Durham United Kingdom and is pursuing his PhD in Theology.

Joshua Morris received his first seminary scholarship from UBCF. He is enrolled in the Masters of Divinity program at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.



## Special Events

**Spring Dine Out to Donate** – Thank you to the following restaurant partners for participating in our Spring Dine Out to Donate and helping UBCF raise over \$1,000 for the event:

BJ's

Angelo's Pizza & Pasta

Savannah Café & Bakery

Chick-fil-A

Red River BBQ and Grill

Grazia Italian Kitchen

Blaze Pizza

Jimmy Changas

Seabrook Waffle Co.

**Fall Dine Out to Donate** - Monday, October 21

**UBCF Golf Tournament** – Monday, November 11 at Bay Oaks Country Club, 12 p.m. start

Four-person scramble format with shotgun start

Box lunches available

Live auction, door prizes, dinner and awards will be held afterwards

Registration is now open online at [ubc.org](http://ubc.org)

## UBC Foundation Planned Giving efforts:

Please visit [www.ubcfoundationlegacy.org](http://www.ubcfoundationlegacy.org) for information on ways you can support the Foundation through your estate plans, and sign up to receive our monthly newsletter with valuable information about savvy living, finances, tax updates and what's happening in Washington.

Please like the UBC Foundation of Houston Facebook page to stay up to date on our latest news.

Thank you for your support.

# Nominating Committee

## Recommendations

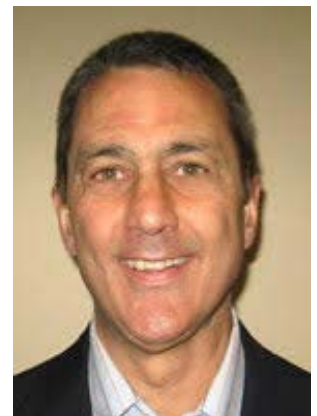
### Jeff Jackson -Trustee

Jeff earned his bachelor's degree in accounting and his MBA from UH. He received his Doctor of Educational Administration (EdD) at Baylor University. Jeff expanded his audit experience while working for Ernst & Whinney, now Ernst & Young. In 1985 he joined the faculty of San Jacinto college as an accounting professor where he is currently the faculty advisor to the Baptist Student Ministry (BSM) as well as the co-advisor for Phi Beta Lambda, a national student business organization. While a member at Golden Acres Baptist Church for 30 years, Jeff taught Sunday School and served as a deacon as well as a trustee. Jeff and Donna attend the 9:30 worship service where he plays trombone in the orchestra and Donna sings in the choir.



### James Blanding - Trustee

Jim attended college at Virginia Tech, where he earned a BS ('76), MS ('77) and PhD ('86) degrees, all in Mechanical Engineering. His work experience has been primarily with the DuPont Company (33 years), in Delaware and Texas. Early in his career, Jim also worked at Virginia Tech (3 years), teaching undergraduate ME, and with Union Carbide (2 years). He has been semi-retired for 4 years, doing engineering consulting part time. Jim and his wife, Maureen, have lived in the Clear Lake area for 30 years where they raised their two children, who still live in the Clear Lake area with their families. Jim has served as the UBC Choir President and has been very involved in the music ministry. He attends the 9:30 service and is a member of the 11:00 Empty Nesters WBS Group. Jim has served UBC in a variety of ways such as table hosting with the Lighthouse ministry, serving at the Tapestry Dinner, planning and organizing the three July 4 events, and working with events such as the Caring Ministry, Harvey dry-wall work, Fall Festival, and set-up for the Christmas program.



### Marty R. Chenault -Treasurer

Marty received his BBA in Accounting from the University of Houston. His experience includes accounting, financial management and planning, tax and treasury services for small closely held companies, public (SEC registered) companies, emerging businesses, international and domestic companies, as well as churches and nonprofits. He has also been a guest lecturer at Howard University, and an instructor at national tax conferences. He is a part-time CFO for several small businesses and holds his CPA licenses in Texas and Virginia. Marty, his wife, Karla, and their daughter have lived in the Clear Lake area for 21 years where he has been involved in a myriad of community work outside the church including his position as Treasurer for the Seabrook Rotary Foundation. Marty's 33 years of experience in accounting include nine years of international CPA firm experience in Washington, DC. While a member of UBC, he has served on the Finance Committee and as Treasurer for many years. He also served as treasurer during UBC's reorganization to the Executive Committee and Executive Director Governance.





## Travis Grindstaff – Executive Committee (EC)

Travis joined UBC in 1989 during his junior year at Clear Lake High School. He attends the 9:30 service with his wife, Allison, and his two daughters. He has served in many capacities throughout the years. Travis has been the Committee Chair for the Pastor Search Committee for Pastor of Serving, and he has been on the deacon nominating Committee. Travis has also served as the Preschool Ministry Teacher Volunteer Coordinator. He has served as a greeter and has taught in both the preschool and children's ministry. Travis currently teaches Intermediate Students at 11:00 am and also assists with CRAVE on Sunday evenings. He enjoys assisting with youth Bible study at Bay Area Turning Point. He has been a participant in the Dominican Republic Family Serving trip. Travis received his BS in Accounting from the University of Houston and has worked for the past eleven years for Quanta Services, Inc. in various roles ranging from Controller to his current position as Director of Procurement.



## BGCT Messenger List

### BGCT Convention

November 17 – 19, 2019 in Waco

1. David Mobley
2. Steve Laufer
3. Randy Cox
4. Donna Cox
5. Butch Peters
6. Karol Peters



**UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
16106 Middlebrook Dr Houston TX 77059  
281.488.8517

*visit us at*  
**ubc.org**