

What's Happening for Women

April

- 4 - John Rutter's Requiem, 6pm, @UBC Chapel
- 5 - Easter Sunday, services at 8am, 9:30am, and 11am
- 10 - UBC Care Night, childcare for WBS group fellowships
- 17-19 - Women's Ministry Leadership Retreat
- 18 - Right@Home Moms Mega baby Sale, 7:30am-12pm @UBC Chapel
- 19 - New to UBC lunch following the 11 o'clock service

May

- 8 - UBC Date Night
- 16 - Run4Rand benefitting Student Ministry Missions to Africa
- 28 - Popsicles on the Playground, 9am @UBC
- 31 - Senior Graduation Sunday

June

- 6-7 - Weekend to Remember Marriage Conference
- 15-19 - VBS

UBC Groups for Women

Tuesdays, 10am-12pm

EB 226 - Why Do You Believe That by Mary Jo Sharp

Tuesdays, 7pm

EB 228 - led by Karol Peters

Wednesdays, 9:30am-11:45am

3rd Floor Lounge - Right at Home Moms

Thursdays, 9:45am-12pm

EB 226 - Precepts - Lord, I Want to Know You by Kay Arthur

EB 222 - Crossing Cultures

EB 210 - Why Do You Believe That by Mary Jo Sharp

Sundays

9:30am, EB 202 - Second Wind led by Pamm Muzlay

11 am, EB 209 - The Lydia Group for Working Women led by Angie Reeves

11 am, EB 102 - Journey to Joy led by Debbie Hampton

Connect with us

Facebook: Women of UBC

Pinterest: UBC Women

Twitter: @ubchouston

Need to talk to someone? Contact Lora Doremus at lora.doremus@ubc.org or 281-488-8517.

Questions about programs? Contact Michelle Smith at michelle.smith@ubc.org.

Want to contribute to future newsletters? Let us know!

Joy

April 2015



The Music of Spring

"Hope is hearing the music of the future. Faith is dancing to it now." — Unknown

Can you see the buds of April flowers and hear the splash of April showers? Hurray, it's time to celebrate the hope of spring! Green tulip shoots are poking through the melting snow in the north, and the cherry and peach blossoms are popping open in the south. Bye-bye gray days of winter. Hello red, yellow, pink, and blue!

"Hope springs eternal" would be an appropriate title for the display happening outside our windows...and inside our hearts. Because, thankfully, Jesus, our eternal hope, never goes out of season. He's always encouraging our hope to grow and our faith to bloom—especially through the dry and difficult seasons of our lives:

"Even the wilderness and desert will be glad in those days.

The wasteland will rejoice and blossom with spring crocuses. Yes, there will be an abundance of flowers and singing and joy!" (Isaiah 35:1-2)

Hope is the music of spring, the joyous melody of God's eternal love and his promises of blessings given to us. So let's sing along!

Wait, are you too shy to sing? Don't be, because singing praises to God is not about the quality of the voice, it's about the quantity of the heart. Can't hold a tune? No problem, because faith, hope, and love are the notes God listens to. Singing, an outward expression of faith, also strengthens your inward faith.

How? As American evangelist Dwight Moody put it, "If we can only get people to have the words of the love of God coming from their mouths, it's well on its way to residing in their hearts."

Rejoice with the blooms of spring, sing a new song of praise, and let your heart dance with joy. For God's hope springs eternal!



The Word

"Sing a new song to the Lord, for he has done wonderful deeds."

—Psalm 98:1

Pinterest Corner

Follow us on Pinterest at
UBC Women



Garden Hose Wreath: Make this beautiful summer wreath with just a water hose, some twisty ties, ribbons, and few garden decorations.



Keep Celery Longer:
Did you know celery will last for weeks? Wrap unwashed in foil and refrigerate.



Marshmallow Treats: Melt chocolate chips or chocolate bark in the microwave. Dip marshmallows in the melted chocolate then dip in sprinkles of your choice. Let sit on wax paper to cool. Peanut and egg free treats.

Need teacher gifts?

We've got you covered! Join us **May 2nd from 12-2 in the Chapel** to make all those end of the year gifts you need. Allie Demurs will lead us in making all kinds of special one-of-a-kind gifts that say thank you from the heart. Supplies provided.

Questions? Contact michelle.smith@ubc.org.



A Woman of Note

Do you know which Christian woman wrote over 8,000 songs, more than any other writer in the twentieth century?

Fanny Crosby was left blind at six weeks of age due to poor medical care. She felt the loss of her sight was a gift from God so she could write songs for His glory. "Blessed Assurance" and "To God Be the Glory" are two of the most popular hymns she penned. Paid on average about two dollars for every song, Crosby never became rich but was certainly rich in her faith.

When she was ten years old, Crosby could recite from memory the four Gospels and the first four books of the Old Testament. Born in 1820, she lived to be 95 and was always thankful for the gift of her blindness: "I could not have written thousands of hymns if I had been hindered by the distractions of seeing all the interesting and beautiful objects that would have been presented to my notice."

Crosby wanted to be remembered as a mission worker. She spent the majority of her time working in urban missions serving the poor and forgotten. Many of her hymns reflect her work in the inner city of New York. She gave much of her own earnings to the poor and used her own notoriety to bring light to the plight of those in need.

Fanny Crosby did not let her own circumstances keep her from service to the Lord and others.

*Perfect submission, all is at rest!
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.*
(Blessed Assurance, words by Fanny Crosby, music by Pheobe Knapp)

Missions: They're Closer Than You Think

When we talk about missions, we always think of going to another country or to another state. We think about driving downtown and serving food to the poor or traveling to another town to help rebuild after a disaster. All of these missions are good and needed, but there is another mission field that is much closer to home.

It's next door. It's the parent next to you on the bleachers. It's the person in the cubicle next to you. It's the person who served you food at dinner last night. Our own neighborhood is our everyday mission field.

Did you know that 48% of people aged 13 - 31 consider themselves to be agnostic or atheist? The number only goes down slightly to 40% for 32 - 50 year olds (www.barna.org). This means that almost half of people younger than 50 in the United States see no need for God or faith in their lives.

If those numbers do not worry you, they should. The message we have to share, that Jesus came to earth, died for our sins, and was resurrected, has eternal consequences for believers and non-believers alike.

How do we change this trend? Relationships.

We listen to people. We let them tell their stories and we ask them questions. We live our lives transparently. We do what the Bible tells us to do: "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." (1 Peter 3:15)



Serving in missions means building relationships with the people you encounter every day. Give your heart over to Christ. Give answers to everyone who asks why you have hope and *listen* to their stories.