

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

March 22, 2022 Vol. 73, No. 13

Mulch, Painting, & God's House

ON WATCH

Having entered the CDC-proclaimed "green zone," gathering for events feels less risky. For many, this is a surreal transition. We tried so hard to maintain a safe social distance and remember to bring a mask wherever we went for so long. Moving into a new space feels unusual. Yet, for many people, we can begin revisiting pre-pandemic activities.

This Friday and Saturday, we will have two church work days. The primary goals involve adding mulch to our playground and prepping/painting room 107 (formerly Alba's office). If enough people show up, Alan has a secondary list of other projects. Or, if you are capable of prepping and painting, you might schedule a time to help that fits your schedule.

In Colossians, we read, "Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters, since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3:23-24). When we dig out old mulch, we do it for the Lord. We do it so the playground will be ready when kids gather to have fun at church. When we shovel new mulch into place, we know our sweat is for God's glory—not our own, not our church's, and not for show. As we sand a wall to prepare it for paint, we do the best we can so that God's house reflects our care and devotion.

If you feel led to participate in these work days, that's great and I look forward to seeing you. If you have a schedule conflict but want to help on another day, let us know. We can work with your schedule. If you don't feel comfortable coming out yet, that's okay. Pray for those who will be here. Pray for your church. And, pray for God's blessing on the work this weekend.

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

March 27, 2022
11:00 AM

Sermon

"Stubborn Hopefulness"
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Isaiah 43:16-21

Anthem:

"Out of The Deep"
Arr. Rutter

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacons: Shirley Clark
Ushers: Ron Tweel and
Charlotte Bailey

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, March 23

9:00 Work Team
12:00 Wednesday Treats
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Practice

FRIDAY, March 25

9:00 Mulch mini workday

SATURDAY, March 26

9:00 Mulch mini workday

SUNDAY, March 27

8:30 Missions Council Meeting
10:00 Sunday Bible Study

We can all participate in regathering, and there's no limit to the ways God can use us.

Peace,
Matt



Ukraine Relief

As the Russian invasion of Ukraine rages on, more refugees need our help. So far, our church has sent \$4,470 to help this effort, and we plan to send more. If you feel led to support this mission, designate your gift "Ukraine."



next step for us is to read a book together. Perhaps you'd like to join us?

At last Saturday's Enneagram seminar, eight church members joined Val and me for a morning of rich conversation around this spiritual tool. By the end of the morning, we were all excited about keeping the conversation going. The group decided that a good

11:00 Morning Worship
12:15 Youth Group
5:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

MONDAY, March 28

8:30 Morning Prayer ([UBC Facebook Page](#))

10:30 Bible Reading Group ([Zoom](#))

5:00 Poetry Reading - Sir Michael Edwards

TUESDAY, March 29

9:30 Staff Meeting

5:00 Myers Lecture - Sir Michael Edwards

7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

7:00 Environmental Book Group (Zoom)

For our most up-to-date calendar, [click here](#).

Prayer Concerns

Sympathy to the family of [Ilmna \(Mac\) Deane](#).

A graveside service will be held at Monticello Memory Gardens at 2pm on Tuesday 3/29/22. All are welcome to celebrate her life with us.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Join us in wishing some of our church family a Happy Birthday this week!

April 2: Forrest Marshall

April 4: Catherine Cooper

April 5: William Hendricks

Even if you weren't able to come on Saturday, we'd love for you to participate in this book study. We'll be ordering copies of the book, *The Path Between Us*, which is all about how the Enneagram can help us create healthier relationships with coworkers, friends, family members, and anyone else we encounter. Please let Val or me know if you'd like to join us in this study, and we'll make sure to order you a book and loop you into the conversation about scheduling our first meeting.

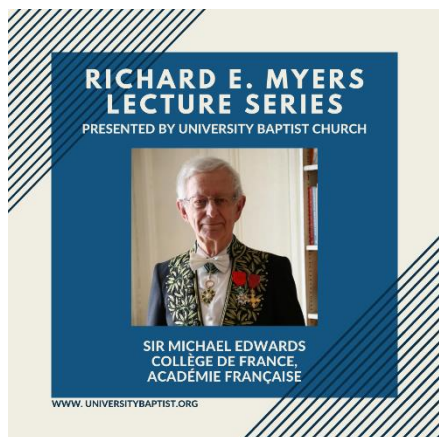


UBC Mini-Workday

Looking to get your hands dirty to help at UBC? We are planning a small work day on Saturday, March 26. The main project is to clean out the old, decaying mulch from the playground and spread new mulch. If we have enough volunteers, there are plenty of other projects around the church! For planning purposes, please let Will Brown know if you can attend: wbrown@universitybaptist.org

Can't come on Saturday? There are also opportunities to help the day before, on Friday, March 25. We could also use a few more wheelbarrows. Even if you aren't able to come to the workday, please let Will know if you can lend us a wheelbarrow for the day. Thanks!

Lecture Series



We have several copies of [Sir Michael Edwards's](#) book *Untimely Christianity*. In it, acclaimed poet and literary scholar Michael Edwards calls for a countercultural Christianity that recovers the Bible's radical otherness and renews our habits of attention to its message--to its revelation of a God who is not merely a set of doctrines but a person, someone we can know. Edwards's work is an eloquent, prophetic effort to recapture the revolutionary power of the Bible to transform the way humans view the world and how they live in it. Rich in theology, philosophy, poetry, biblical interpretation, and cultural criticism, *Untimely Christianity* invites readers of all kinds to encounter the Bible anew, as "a continuous questioning of the reader and a prodigious expansion of reality."

If you wish to borrow a copy, please contact the office. More information about the book is available [here](#).

Lenten Worship Series

Two years ago this month, everything changed. March 2020 in Charlottesville began as a normal month and ended with the emergence of a global pandemic. Now, in March 2022, we look back on these two years of COVID-19 and all we have experienced alongside it: losses and grief, bitter national and state elections, nationwide conversations about race, and so much more. How have our lives changed during these two years? What have we learned? What has God been teaching us?

As a project for one of my Doctor of Ministry courses at Duke Divinity School, I (Will B) crafted a lectionary-based Lenten worship series that reflects on various aspects of the pandemic experience: mortality and control, our place in the created order, gathering and presence, work and the economy, racism and repentance, politics and power, and finally, hopefulness in the face of it all. We will be using this series as a guide for our Lenten sermons and worship services at UBC.



National Missions Offering

Each Spring UBC has participated in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's National Missions Offering. This emphasis helps support our missionaries right here in the US. UBC's offering supports the ministry of Scarlett Jasper, a CBF missionary working in southeastern Kentucky, where UBC has been partnered with missionaries for many years. Scarlett was commissioned by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship as a field missionary in 2014, and now serves one of the poorest parts of the United States. There, she is the director of Olive Branch Ministries, Inc (olivebranchministriesky.org) to address the needs of the local community. Some of the many needs that Scarlett helps address are: working with the homeless, coordinating childrens' literacy projects, rent and utility aid, assisting with transportation costs for distant medical appointments, providing heaters or propane in the winter, supporting local schools with supplies, and helping veterans get needed services. She maintains a small mission house that serves as an emergency shelter and place for pastoral counseling. You can see her

most recent projects on her Facebook page, here: <https://www.facebook.com/Olive-Branch-Ministries-766161053487938>. Even through the challenges of the pandemic, Scarlett has remained active in her community to help with their needs.

Like the majority of our field missionaries, Scarlett must raise her own program and project support. Our goal this year is to raise \$3,000 to support Scarlett and her work in Kentucky. This year, please consider offering your thoughts, prayers, and financial support to our National Missions Emphasis. When donating online, specify "National Missions" to ensure that your offering is sent to Scarlett.

Lenten Bible Study

This Sunday, we will continue an in-person study for the season of Lent. Instead of a deep-dive Bible study, our focus will be more devotional. We will meet at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall and conclude by 10:30. Dr. Matthew Tennant will lead these conversations. [Click HERE](#) to download the study guide for March 27.

To enhance conversations among the participants, we will not offer an online option. For those who are unable to attend but still want to join a group, the Open Minds class does offer a hybrid option. Contact Debra Bryant or Ed Lowry for details. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Tennant.

Volunteer Opportunity - The Soft Serve Returns!

As we look at the weather warming up these next few days, we have pulled the soft serve machine out of its winter storage! If you'd like to help hand out ice cream on Wednesdays, we'd love to have your help. It's easy and fun, brightening everyone's day. All you need to bring is a smile (and maybe sunscreen). You can [sign up to help here](#).

Sunday Mornings

Worship

Our Sunday morning worship service will begin at 11:00 am. We encourage everyone in the congregation to join us in whatever way you feel safe and comfortable at this time, whether in person or virtually. As always, you can listen by radio on WINA (1070 AM and 98.9 FM), or you can join us online for our live broadcast. To view the live video broadcast, visit our [Facebook page](#) or click [this link](#) to watch on YouTube.

Masks & Social Distancing

University Baptist Church continues to follow the [recommendations of the CDC](#) as they are updated. At this time, Charlottesville and Albemarle have been assessed a green/low Community Level, which means the CDC is not recommending people wear masks. Masks are now optional at UBC events. Of course, individuals are welcome to continue wearing masks if they feel more comfortable doing so, and University Baptist Church will continue to welcome all folks into our worship services, with or without a mask. As we monitor the COVID case levels in our area, we will release updates notifying the congregation of any changes.

University Baptist Church
1223 West Main Street
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434-293-5106

Connect with us

