

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

April 19, 2022 Vol. 73, No. 17

Time to Write

For the month of May, I will be away working on a long-neglected writing project. I appreciate the congregation for giving me this additional time away so I can focus without the distractions of daily church life. For me, researching and writing is a joy-filled exercise. My hope is to return to Charlottesville well rested and rejuvenated in June.

While I am away, Will Brown and Val Fisk will be here and fully present for you. If you need anything, please do not hesitate to call, email, or text either of them. They are both well equipped to handle anything that comes up, and they will be the best judge of what to share with me while I am away. They will give me updates each week to keep me in the loop.

Even though I will not be in Charlottesville, you will not be far from my mind. I plan to invest time in prayer and reflection each day, and I will be praying for you often. I might post pictures occasionally on social media, or I might not. I might share blog posts, or I might not. At this point, I am trying to give myself space to listen to the Holy Spirit and follow where God leads me.

Together we share a sacred calling. God called me to come here. As with all of our ministers, you affirmed that calling through a congregational vote. In this simple process, we have engaged and continue to engage with what God wants from us. Blessing me with a time to step back and reflect on that calling means you take God's voice seriously. I do too. Thus, instead of looking for a particular outcome, please pray for me that I hear the voice of the divine. God is doing an exciting work at University Baptist Church, and I cannot wait to see what happens next.

ON WATCH

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

April 24, 2022
11:00 AM

Sermon

Dr. Matthew Tennant
"Doing What's Right"

Scripture:

Acts 5:27-32

Anthem:

"All Things Bright And Beautiful"

Arr. Rutter

Voces Laetae

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacons: Raynell Stokes

Ushers: Cindy Bryant and Ben Chenault

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, April 20

9:00 Work Team

10:00 PBJ Bible Study (Zoom)

11:00 Wednesday Treats

5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner
Potluck

6:00 After Dinner Fellowship

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Practice

THURSDAY, April 21

7:00 Seekers Class (Zoom)

Peace,
Matt



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

April 27: Bob Bryant

April 28: Chandler Proffitt

April 29: Jen Bates

May 1: Herman Eaker

SUNDAY, April 24

8:30 Missions Council Meeting

9:30 ESOL Classes

10:00 Sunday Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

12:15 Youth Group

5:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

MONDAY, April 25

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

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

TUESDAY, April 19

9:30 Staff Meeting

7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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

Wednesday Dinners Return with Potluck THIS WEDNESDAY!

Let's have dinner! After the Delta wave forced us to hold off on dinners in the fall, and then the Omicron wave complicated things in January, we are at last hoping to resume our Wednesday night dinners. Here's what we're thinking. We'll have a simple potluck dinner on April 20 at 5:30, with plenty of time for fellowship. Then, on April 27, we'll begin weekly dinners at 5:30, with a Bible Study at 6:00. We'll close out with a Parking Lot Cookout on May 25.

April 20 - Potluck and Fellowship

April 27- May 18 - Dinner and Bible Study Series

May 25 - Parking Lot Cookout

More details will follow in future newsletters, but for now, start planning what you'll bring to the potluck on April 20. Hope to see you there!

Looking ahead..... to VBS!!

Vacation Bible School is making a comeback this summer! We will have VBS June 14-17 (Tuesday-Friday), and already have a number of excited families ready to roll! If you would like to be a part of the VBS team and help out that week, email Erin (ehallissy@gmail.com); we would love as many hands on deck as possible for the week's festivities! :)



Sharing a Meal Together... Or Not Quite Yet

This is a tricky time for planning events. Many of us can't wait for this Wednesday's potluck dinner; we are eager to share a meal. Others of us are not ready yet to eat indoors without a mask; we want to come but don't feel safe. Some may choose to attend the event in a mask, not participating in the meal portion. This is a decision that each person must consider, weighing their own health situation and the health of those they encounter regularly. We respect your choice and understand that we will all land in different places.

As a church, this is the dilemma we face. We want to provide opportunities for fellowship, as safely as possible, yet we all do have different levels of risk we feel comfortable accepting. We want to provide room for fellowship without excluding those who need to be more cautious. There's no easy answer to this. And of course, we may need to shift gears as conditions fluctuate.

Whatever each of us chooses, we seek to walk with humility and grace for one another, grateful for the diverse ways we have available for staying connected, even during a lingering pandemic.



Jubilate Homecoming Concert

Mark your calendars! We are thrilled that Jubilate will be presenting its Homecoming Concert at UBC on Sunday, May 1 at 2:00 PM. Hope to see you there!

Fundraising Concert for The Haven

Save the date to join us for a concert to benefit The Haven on Sunday, May 15 at 2:00 PM. This concert will feature the UBC Sanctuary Choir, Voces Laetae, the Voices of Virginia, and the Choirs of Charlottesville High School.



Donations needed for local refugees

Kittie Colvin Trail and Annie Armstrong Circles are joining forces to support current refugee resettling in Charlottesville. As more local businesses provide discounted furniture items, UBC is focusing on necessary items that new home dwellers require. Instead of repurposing furniture, we are now collecting cleaning and disposable items for starting up households.

Laundry baskets are available in the lobby and fellowship hall to receive the following items: *Microfiber mop, cleaning bucket, disposable gloves, toilet bowl brush, swiffer duster, disinfectant spray (Lysol), All purpose cleaner (Lysol), double sided sponges and microfiber cloths, glass cleaner, paper towels, toilet tissue, bathroom cleaner, clorox wipes, broom & dust pan, tall kitchen trash can, tall kitchen trash bags, laundry detergent, dish soap, vacuum cleaner, front door mat, shampoo & toothpaste-men, women, kids; soap.*

We thank you in advance for your generosity!
Sarah & Jen

Read the Bible with Us!

The Monday morning Bible Reading Group finished the books of Leviticus and John this week. Each week we meet for 30 minutes, reading aloud a psalm and a few chapters of the Old Testament and New Testament. If you'd like to join us, this is a perfect time, as we start two new books. You'll find the Zoom link in the calendar above. Always room for more!

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](#).

Writing Leave for Senior Minister

The UBC Personnel Committee recommended and the Church Council approved an additional six-week leave for Senior Minister Matthew Tennant, DPhil, in 2022. From April 25 through June 5, Matt will take time away from UBC to complete a book he has been writing for several years (*Freedom and Existence: The Existentialism of Liberation Theology*). The Personnel Committee and Church Council recognize the additional challenges in leading UBC during the pandemic, and we anticipate that Matt's rest and rejuvenation during these weeks away will boost his return to ministry at UBC.

Val Fisk and Will Brown will share pulpit duties with Reverend Kim Bunns, who has preached at UBC previously. If you have questions, feel free to reach out to the chairpersons of the Personnel Committee (Jen May) or Church Council (Peter Ohlms).

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.

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Connect with us

