

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

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August 9, 2022 Vol. 73, No. 32

The New Development Task Force

WATCH

Our Church Council has created a new task force at UBC. Before you scroll away because this looks like another request of your time, read through to see why it could be a blessing for you. In fact, your faithful time and service is on my mind and at the very heart of this subject. The last two years taught us that people will not return to institutions just because they used to attend. If the last sentence describes you, read it as an invitation to tell me about your journey. What are your feelings about our church? If worship, serving on committees, Bible study, and mission projects are not life giving, then people will no longer come. Everything we do in church has to mean something if we want people to be part of it. There is no doubt the universal church, as well as our own church, are going through a time of transition. Many people are experiencing a faith crisis. However, this transition is our opportunity to push the “reset” button and to grow in our faith together.

The new Development Task Force is not your grandmother’s Stewardship Committee. The focus is on promoting what the church is doing and making sure people see all of the good happening at UBC. This task force is more closely related to communication and cheerleading than to fundraising. If people are excited about what is happening in the life of the church, they will support it.

Stewardship wasn’t always like this. In the days of cultural Christianity, stewardship often seemed to focus on reminding people to support the church. A giving theme highlighted a need, and the committee made sure everyone

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

August 14, 2022
11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Divisive Jesus"
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

Anthem:

Diane Mundell

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacons: TBA

Ushers: Shirley Clark, Vicki Miller

CALENDAR

TUESDAY, August 9

9:30 Staff Meeting
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

WEDNESDAY, August 10

9:00 Work Team
7:00 Sanctuary Choir
Rehearsal

THURSDAY, August 11

6:00 Deacons Meeting

FRIDAY, August 12

6:30 Chinese Student

knew about it. Too often, this approach felt like guilt manipulation instead of getting excited about what God was doing. Those days are behind us.

As we look at ways to reignite a passion for God's work, the Development Task Force will work with the ministers and groups within the church to share information. UBC recently joined the Center for Nonprofit Excellence (CNE), which offers training for people engaged in development. Every member of this new task force will have the opportunity to attend CNE's training. In other words, you will not have to figure this out for yourself.

Looking to the future, we can see how church will be different. We don't know exactly how it will look, but there's no going back to 2019 (or 1950, as some might prefer). However, God is bigger than the changes and challenges we face. God is still active and moving at UBC, and I love seeing the various ways we are adapting for the future.

Would you consider serving on the Development Task Force? It's not a large time commitment. The group will meet about once a month, or 9-10 times per year. After the initial CNE training, they will develop a plan. The ministers and staff will support the task force as they spread the good news about God's work and show the value of UBC as a place to give. If you are interested in being part of this group, let me know.

Coming out of the pandemic, let's reinvigorate our enthusiasm for God's work at UBC. Our mission goes beyond playing church or going through the motions. Let's work together to better serve God, each other, and the larger community.

Peace,
Matt

Thank you, Office Volunteers!

Over the past several months, we have had a rotation of help in the office from faithful volunteers. These folks filled in the administrative gaps while we were in between office personnel, especially helping us get our newsletter and bulletin mailed out to members

Fellowship

SATURDAY, August 13

1:00 Funeral for Ernest

Thomas Singleton

2:00 Funeral Reception

SUNDAY, August 14

9:40 Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

12:00 Town Hall Meeting

6:30 Sundays @ Dairy Market

MONDAY, August 10

1:00 Schleiermacher Reading

Group

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

August 17: Doris Harlan

August 18: Piper Kauffman

August 19: Emily Caton

August 20: Daniel Harper,
Alexis Haskiell

August 22: Daniel Pinkham

No Ice Cream

At this time, our soft serve ice cream machine is out of order. Thankfully, it is an easy fix! We have ordered a replacement part that will fix the machine and await its arrival soon. Stay tuned for when our machine will be back up and running.

Venable Backpack Food Program

We are in need of plastic

each week. We are grateful for all of you!

grocery bags to use for packing food. You may leave them in the church library.



Welcome, Linda Weirich!

Please help us welcome Linda Weirich, our new Office Coordinator! Linda started working in the office at UBC on

August 8. She comes to us with over 20 years of experience working in church administration. She will be in the office Monday through Friday from 9am to 2pm. Stop by to say hello and get to know her next week!

Prayer Requests

Pray for Jack Averill who is recovering from Covid and pneumonia.

God's comfort for Larry Johnson on the death of his sister's husband.

Town Hall Meeting & Charcuterie Party, Sunday, August 14

Please join us for a Town Hall Meeting in the Fellowship Hall after worship on August 14. This meeting will be focused on dreaming together about the next several years of life at UBC, events and projects we hope to complete, and ways we desire to see our congregation thrive as a presence in Charlottesville and Albemarle County. Come with your imagination and thinking cap ready to jump into the discussion!



Please also bring one or two items to add to a charcuterie table for the event! Cheeses, cured meats, fruit, nuts, crackers, hummus - pick something you like and throw it on the table alongside everyone else's favorites. (Take a look at this photo of the charcuterie that Rev. Fisk built for Jubilate back in the spring if you need some ideas.)

A Thank You from Suzanne Smith

Dear UBC family,

Many years ago, when I left my position as organist here to go to a new ministry, I wrote a poem for the choir. With apologies to Joyce Kilmer, it began "I think that I shall never see a place as great as UBC."

Those words are still true. Margie and her bereavement team, Michelle and Katherine and those who prepared the food they brought, and all of you who have called, emailed, and sent cards have reminded me of the Spirit which fills this congregation. With deepest gratitude, Matt, Emily, and I send our thanks for your care for us after Mac's death. Suzanne Hilton Smith

Donations ending for Afghan families

Thank you, UBC donors, for the many gifts of new and used items to support the recently settled Afghan SIV families in Charlottesville. It is impossible to calculate or overestimate the positive impact your generosity had in our community. Now that all have established homes in the area, we are closing the donation door. Annie Armstrong and Kittie Colvin Trail Circles may reach out to you in the future for specific donations, but for now, our home-start-up efforts are complete. Thank you so much for sharing with these lovely Afghan families. They feel blessed indeed!

Church Conference on August 24

We will have our next Church Conference on Wednesday, August 24 at 6pm after supper. Details about supper to follow.

At this Church Conference we will vote on the Nominating Committee Report, updates to our Constitution & Bylaws, and formally accept Will Brown's resignation. You can view a summary of the proposed updates to our [Constitution and Bylaws here](#), read over the full versions approved in 2018 [here \(constitution\)](#) and [here \(bylaws\)](#), and read through the full drafts including 2022 updates [here \(constitution\)](#) and [here \(bylaws\)](#). Significant changes in the proposed drafts include reduction of the number of Active Deacons from 21 to 15, insertion of new sections and numerous wording changes to incorporate provisions for electronic meetings, deletion of the provisions for absentee balloting, addition of a position description for the Church Administrator and inclusion of that position as a non-voting member of Church Council, and numerous other minor changes to improve the clarity and consistency of the documents. Anyone who would like to receive a printed version in lieu of these digital links can call the church office to request the documents be mailed, or can come in during regular office hours to pick up a copy.

Thank you to those who have served on the Joint Administrative Review Committee (JARC) over the past year, reviewing these documents and preparing for this update: Alan Hendricks, Jim Hallissy, Martha Ballenger, and Elizabeth Mulcahy.

Save the Date for Touch-A-Truck Saturday, September 24

We are bringing back Touch-A-Truck in 2022! The UBC Deacons have already begun working on details for this event, gathering partners from the community to provide the trucks and other vehicles, finding food vendors and face painters, and planning for this to be a great outreach event to families in the community. Anyone who is willing to volunteer to help with the event should let Matt Tennant know or reach out to a UBC Deacon for more information.

The Post-Pandemic Church Bible Study

CBFVA BIBLE STUDIES
2021-2022



Imagine the Post-Pandemic Church
Lessons from Ezra

August 14 – Part 4 The Path Forward: Options 1 & 2 (pgs 37-41)

Join this Sunday morning discussion group in the Fellowship Hall. It starts at 9:40 and follows the CBFVA Resource "The Post-Pandemic Church – Lessons from Ezra." [Download the handout here](#) or pick one up in the church office.

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 yellow/medium Community Level, which means the CDC is recommending masks for people at high risk. Masks are currently 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

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Connect with us

