



October 4, 2022 Vol. 73, No. 40

Iona Abbey- Musings on the Miracles

WATCH

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Oct. 9, 2022
11:00 AM

I am going on a spiritual retreat next week. Over the years, I have experienced God during a number of different retreats. Each one was a blessing, and I am lucky to have been able to go on them.

Sermon:
"The Chains That Bind Us"
Mark Snipes

Sometimes retreats are in silence, like the times I've spent at Holy Cross Abbey in Berryville, VA. Other retreats have vibrant leaders, good music, and wonderful worship. One of my favorites was the Greenbelt Festival in 2008 near Cheltenham, UK. We heard speakers like Philip Yancey and John Bell and music from Beth Rowley and Linchpin. There was even a hymn-sing in the biergarten. Retreats come in all shapes and sizes.

Scripture:
Luke 17:11-19
2 Timothy 2:1-15

Anthem:
Accept Our Thanks
(arr. Hodson)

Retreats are an opportunity for growth. Jesus modeled this idea of taking time away for spiritual growth (e.g., Matthew 14.23; Mark 1.35, 6.46; Luke 5.16, and 6.12). On each occasion, Jesus retreated to pray and prepare for what God was calling him to do. By getting away from the distractions of daily life, one can focus fully on listening to God and trying to be attuned to the Holy Spirit.

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Johnny Ellen
Ushers: Herman & Gayle Eaker

Next week, I am going to [Iona Abbey](#) for a retreat led by [John Bell](#). [Iona Abbey](#) is part of the wider [Iona Community](#) and dates back to 563 CE when [St. Columba](#) brought Christianity to Scotland. It is the cradle of Celtic Christianity. George Patison, a theologian and friend, described Iona to me as one of the "thin spaces." Thin spaces (Irish: caol 'ait) is a term to describe places where the physical and spiritual world feel particularly close.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, October 5

9:00 Work Team
10:00 PBJ (zoom)
5:30 Wednesday Night POTLUCK
6:00 Wednesday Night Series
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, October 9

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:15 Youth Lunch
5:00 Jubilate Practice

To get to Iona, I will fly to Edinburgh, take a train to Oban, catch a ferry to Craignure on the Isle of Mull, ride a bus across

Mull to Fionnphort, and, finally, take another ferry to Baile Mòr on the Isle of Iona. From there, I will walk to Iona Abbey. I'm not sure why God puts thin spaces in such out of the way places, but I am looking forward to learning, listening, praying, and growing. For me, the journey is part of the retreat. Traveling to get to the abbey, I will be aware of why I am going and preparing for my time there. Reversing the course to travel home, I will reflect on my experience.

The focus of my retreat is "Musing on Miracles." The description states: "There are over thirty miracles in the gospels; but a combination of science and skepticism seems to have diminished interest in the phenomena. In this retreat we will look at the miracles, not as puzzles to be solved, but as some of Jesus' most profound teaching blocks regarding justice, humanity and God's biases." Over the last few months, I've been rereading these miracle stories in the gospels and thinking about what they mean.

Please pray for me while I am away. I will be praying for you. And, I look forward to sharing the experience with you when I return.

Peace,
Matt

Youth Retreat at Eagle Eyrie, November 11-13

CBF Virginia is hosting the Fall Youth Retreat for grades 6-12 at Eagle Eyrie this November! During this retreat students engage in three different breakout sessions (of their choosing) that cover a variety of subjects including art, recreation, discussion groups, discipleship learning, leadership skills, and fun and games.

Each night there is also a worship service that challenges students to grow in their understanding of God. And this year, yours truly has been asked to preach in the worship services! I will be teaching each day around the theme of laying down burdens, pulling from Matthew 11:28 as the worship theme for the retreat.

Cost per student is \$95, and scholarships are available for UBC families to send their youth to this event. Students must sign up by October 30. Our church will be sharing chaperones with FBC Waynesboro, taking UBC and FBCW students together. Stay tuned for details about an upcoming

MONDAY, October 10

10:30 Bible Reading Group (zoom)

TUESDAY, October 11

6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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!

Oct. 13: Joyce Martin

Oct. 14: Greg Proffitt

Oct. 17: Vicki Miller, Ben Chenault

Prayer Requests

Jack Averill

Barbara Newlon recovering from hip surgery

Sarah Buchanan recovering from back surgery

Ed Lowry

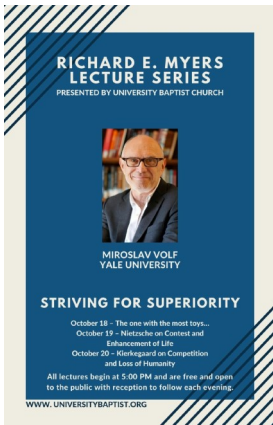
Clara Brown

Anne Smith recovering from pneumonia

Eric Ozkaptan

Thank You

Dear UBC,
Thank you for supporting my family during this challenging time. The reception food was greatly appreciated and really helped us. Thank you for being a great church family!
Best,
Tyler and Emily Haislip



Richard E. Myers Lecture Series

Our Fall Lecture Series features Miroslav Volf from Yale University. He will be presenting lectures in the UBC Lecture Suite beginning at 5:00 pm on:

October 18: The One with the Most Toys....

October 19: Nietzsche on Contest and Enhancement of Life

October 20: Kierkegaard on Competition

and Loss of Humanity

All lectures are free and open to the public with a reception to follow each evening.

Wednesday Night Hymn Sing

This Wednesday, October 5, we will enjoy a hymn sing. This is your opportunity to sing all those favorite and familiar hymns. Bring your list of favorites and enjoy a great time of fellowship!

Dinner at 5:30 will be a potluck, with drinks provided, followed by our hymn sing at 6:00. Afterwards, at 7:00, everyone who wants to continue singing can join Will Cooke and the Sanctuary Choir in the Choir/Lecture Suite.

If you have a topic you would like to suggest for a future Wednesday, email Matt (matt@universitybaptist.org) and let him know.



Meals for our Youth Group and for Jubilate

Our youth gather for lunch in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday after worship and Jubilate shares dinner after their rehearsal every Sunday evening. If you would like to help our youth and young adults by providing a meal, either a lunch or a dinner on Sundays, [click here](#) to view the sign up sheet.



Venable School Food Bags Ministry

UBC has partnered with Venable Elementary School for a number of years to provide weekend food bags for children identified as food-insecure. We work with the school social worker who delivers the food to the children's homes. Vicki and Brian Miller shop for the food and buy in bulk. We ask members and friends of the church to help fund this ministry by designating their monetary gifts for this purpose. We are no longer accepting food donations as we have more purchasing power buying in bulk with your donations.

Currently we have three people who deliver the bags to Venable each Thursday. We could use some more volunteers to do this; we deliver the bags between 9:00 am and 12 noon. And, we invite individuals and small groups to pack bags to have ahead of delivery; we are giving out approximately 25-30 bags per week. This is an easy way to be involved in a worthwhile ministry and to help these food-insecure children. Please contact [Jackie Lockwood at jackielockwood46@gmail.com](mailto:jackielockwood46@gmail.com), if you are interested in becoming a volunteer to pack or deliver the food bags.

Remember Jesus' words in Matthew 25:35: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I

**Deacon-Sponsored
Homecoming Lunch**
Sunday, October 23, 12:15 pm
UBC Fellowship Hall

The Deacons are asking for members of the church to help spread the word about this event so as many people as possible know about it! We will be emailing and mailing invitations to members, UBC friends, former members, and Staff, but a personal touch is always welcome.

The menu will be Michie Tavern fried chicken and a potluck for side dishes and desserts. Drinks will also be provided by the church. We hope everyone will pitch in with their favorite sides, rolls, and desserts. This is an opportunity for UBC cooks to shine!

Please plan to attend and to invite others who have a history with UBC.



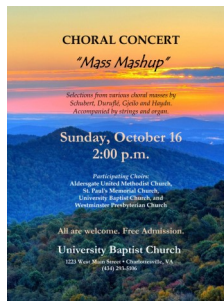
Young Adult Summit

January 13-16, 2023
Ridgecrest Conference Center, Asheville, NC
Cost per person: \$200-\$275
Scholarships available for full-time students!
[Click her to register](#) (transportation from UBC provided at no additional cost)

Adults ages 19-29 are invited to experience a weekend retreat filled with rest, worship, discipleship, and opportunities for the kind of fun break the YOU want! Featuring [Dr. Heather Thompson Day](#) as the weekend speaker and musical artist [Mark Wagner](#) as worship leader, this weekend will give young adults an opportunity to explore your faith at this stage of life and ask questions about how to be Christian when you're not in youth group anymore. More details and full weekend schedule available at alabamacbf.org/yas2023.

Your Help is Needed

The Development and Growth Team is seeking your help and input as we review the communications structure of the church. To this end, we will be sending out a survey in the next few days. The survey will be open for the month of October, closing Oct 31st. Please be on the lookout for this email. You will be able to access the anonymous survey both online and on paper in the church office. We look forward to hearing your responses!



**Composite Mass
Concert**

On Sunday, October 16, 2:00 pm, the choirs of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, St. Paul's Memorial Church, University Baptist Church, and Westminster Presbyterian Church will present an afternoon of choral music. The concert "Mass Mashup" is accompanied by strings and organ and features movements from various choral masses by Franz Schubert (Mass in G), Maurice Duruflé (Requiem Mass), Ola Gjeilo (Sunrise Mass) and Joseph Haydn (Missa Sancti Joannis de Deo). This is a free concert, and all are welcome.



King's Dominion Trip
Saturday, October 15
Carpool from UBC at 10:00 am
Cost per student: \$32 (that's HALF of a full price ticket!)

Come ride the rollercoasters all afternoon! Park opens at 12:00 pm; Halloween Haunt begins at 7:00 pm. Students who want to stay for the Haunt are welcome to do so; those who do not want the scares can leave the park with Val by 6:45 pm. Sign up [HERE](#).

Development and Growth Team Update

As referenced in Matt's "On Watch" column last month, the Church Council recently established the UBC Development and Growth Team to study and make recommendations to Church Council, and then the congregation at large, for the development of an energetic set of programs that will: (1) create enthusiasm for and participation in all aspects of the life of the church; (2) encourage generous giving to support the church's financial needs and obligations; and (3) present those programs in a manner that will attract new visitors and members to the church.

This newly-formed and enthusiastic Development and Growth Team has hit the ground running! Members Ben Chenault, Ed Lowry, Jim Moore, and Beth Wright have been meeting weekly with UBC staff and are excited to involve more members of the congregation. Please keep an eye out for future announcements requesting participation in a congregational survey, volunteers, and a town hall meeting! **Check out Matt's Friday email for a link to the survey!** For more information, contact [Beth Wright](#).



State Missions Offering

Each fall we collect a special offering to support missions in the state of Virginia. This September, our missions emphasis will support the chaplain ministry at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women. Our goal is \$3,000. You can give on our website or by mail-

ing a check to the church (Make the check out to University Baptist Church and write State Missions in the "for" line). Here is some information from Chaplain Jerusha Moses, whose ministry our offering will support:



Dear friends, Due to "separation of church and state," Gracelnside is a nonprofit Christian ministry that places chaplains inside Virginia's prisons so that lives may be transformed through the grace of Jesus Christ. As a Gracelnside chaplain, I am dedicated to meeting the spiritual needs of all residents of Virginia's state prisons. I currently serve in Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women, providing one-on-one pastoral care, conducting worship services, and working with the Department of Corrections staff in offering rehabilitative programs. I am also responsible for scheduling all religious programs conducted by volunteers representing many faith traditions like Islam, Messianic Judaism, Wicca, Buddhism, Seventh Day Adventism, and Protestantism.

As the temperature gets cooler and the leaves change color, I am reminded that God's mercies are new every morning; God continues to work patiently in our lives, transforming us, and sanctifying us to the likeness of the image of God's son, Jesus. What an honor it is to partner with the Savior bringing faith, hope, and love to incarcerated men and women, as Christ says in Matthew 25, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Bio: Chaplain Moses is an ordained Baptist minister. She completed her masters degree in divinity and a doctorate degree in ministry at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond. She majored in biblical studies and obtained a masters degree in theology at the Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. She taught World Religions as adjunct faculty at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her doctoral project was in the field of grief and loss. She lives in Richmond with her fifteen-year-old daughter,

a stage 4 cancer survivor. Her grandparents were a major influence on her life; they retired from the Department of Corrections in India and told her bedtime stories of their work in Corrections. The stories took deep root in her impressionable heart and are the reason for her passion for prison ministry today.

Church Council Update

Church Council met last Sunday and discussed many positive things happening and challenges, as we continue to regather from the pandemic. Our Touch-A-Truck event last Saturday was attended by over 350 people. Based on this community response, we plan to have another Touch-A-Truck next spring.

We also affirmed the upcoming Christian Education ministry that Tommy Deal has agreed to lead. Tommy brings many years of experience in ministry to this role.

Our ministry to students is growing as evidenced by the numerous college students you see in worship each week, and our Youth group continues to gather each Sunday after worship. More volunteers are needed to supply meals and assist with activities.

In the staff personnel area, Marcus is reducing his social media outreach efforts as he devotes more time to family. We will be hiring a UVA student intern to assist with social media for this semester and possibly next semester.

An area of challenge is our financial giving. Our contributions decreased during the pandemic and continue to be below our needs. Our Finance Committee and the new Development and Growth team are working to assess our financial picture long term. Your continued support of the budget is vital.

Save the Date

Sunday, October 16 - Composite Mass Concert
October 18-20 - Myers Lecture (Miroslav Volf)
October 23 - Homecoming Dinner
November 1 - Blood Drive

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.

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Connect with us

