

# THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Service for Justice & Peace  
Tonight, Tuesday, November 15,  
6:00 pm in the UBC Sanctuary  
All are welcome!

A Service for Justice and Peace

Tuesday, November 15, 2022  
6:00 PM | University Baptist Church

Join us for a community service of prayer in  
response to the violence at UVA this week.  
All are welcome.



November 15, 2022 Vol. 73, No. 46

## Gun Violence (again!)

## WATCH

Once again, someone's wanton actions force us to deal with gun violence. So far, we don't know much. Here's [what we know](#): a shooting incident with multiple fatalities occurred at the University of Virginia in the vicinity of Culbreth Road. Three people are dead and two were taken to the hospital.

We are created to be in communion with God. Ephesians 4:4-5, "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all." When considering God and humanity, any human violence is against God. Whether it is a mass shooting or micro-aggression, when we act against another person, we act against God. In other words, God didn't create us to shoot one another.

Ephesians 4:15 says, "Speaking truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ." To disassociate our faith with gun violence misses an opportunity to share the love of Christ. God is love and those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in that one. Violence does not reflect God's love. Preventing violence with violence begets more violence. Why did that person shoot people? We don't know yet. We may never know.

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Nov. 20, 2022

11:00 AM

### Sermon:

"Making Christ the King Isn't Easy"  
Dr. Matthew Tennant

### Scripture:

Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Luke 1:68-79

### Anthem:

"Crown Him With Many Crowns"  
arr. Pelz

## SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Martha Ballenger  
Ushers: Tom & Sylvie Moore

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, November 16

8:30 Work Team Breakfast

9:00 Work Team

10:00 PBJ Bible Study (Zoom)

5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner

6:00 Wednesday Night Series

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

When confronted with horrific acts of violence, we can weep with those who mourn (Matthew 5:4), but if we do nothing, our empathy is meaningless. Transformation in Christ means putting our faith into practice. We seek to console those who are weeping, and we seek to prevent further violence with more effective gun safety, better public health, and other measures to reduce unnecessary death and destruction.

Speaking the truth in love is not an end in itself. Speaking the truth is the first step toward repentance, change, and transformation. God weeps for those who died on UVA Grounds on Sunday night. God weeps for the killer, too.

How many shootings will it take until we realize that our system is broken? Following Christ means challenging the status quo, and it might mean taking an unpopular position. Serious faith leads to changing the world. We have the power to end gun violence. The question is: do we have the will? What kind of world are we creating for the next generation? Even if we solve other existential crises facing humanity (e.g., climate change, economic upheaval, etc.), no one will want to live in a world in which we continue killing each other.

Pray for peace. Pray for an end to violence.

Peace,  
Matt

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## A WORD FROM VAL



### A Prayer for UVA Students and Community

Creator God, giver of life, defeater of death - gather your people into your arms and bless them. As we struggle with the mysteries of life and death, may all those who are affected by this tragedy feel your loving presence. For those who were killed, those who were wounded, those who are traumatized, and the many grieving, Lord, hear our prayer. In the days that come, may we all bind together in peace and justice, seeking to carry on the work of hope and healing in our world. For all the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Virginia, and especially for those who knew and loved Devin, Lavel, and D'Sean, Lord, hear our prayer. Christ, have mercy. Amen.

### THURSDAY, November 17

6:30 Friendsgiving Dinner

### SATURDAY, November 19

11:00 Lila Marshall Memorial Service

12:00 Lila Marshall Reception

### SUNDAY, November 20

8:30 Finance Committee Meeting

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

12:15 Youth Lunch

5:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

### MONDAY, November 21

10:30 Bible Reading Group (Zoom)

1:00 Schleiermacher Reading Group

### TUESDAY, November 22

9:00 Sanctuary Decorating

11:00 Development & Growth Team Meeting

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!

**Nov. 24:** Ben Martindale, Andrea Smith

**Nov. 25:** Dean Tennant

**Nov. 30:** Jim Sivley

## Friendsgiving Dinner for Students

On Thursday, November 17, at 6:30 pm, our church will co-host a Thanksgiving meal for college students from UBC, The Wesley Foundation, and UKirk, the student group from Westminster Presbyterian Church. Past events with our groups gathering together have been a hit, and everyone enjoys the chance to socialize with more friends! UBC is providing the turkey and cranberry sauce for this dinner, with side dishes and desserts provided by members of our co-hosting churches. All students are welcome to come enjoy this FREE dinner - just [RSVP at this link](#) to let us know you are coming!

Want to contribute to the dinner? Consider dropping off a bottled beverage for the event next week! Sodas, lemonades, or teas can be dropped off to Val or in the church kitchen with a "college dinner" label.



### Wednesday Night Series - "Why should we care about \_\_\_?"

This Wednesday, November 16, our topic will be, "Why Should We Care About Gun Violence? "

Dinner at 5:30 will be turkey, sweet potatoes, green beans, stuffing, rolls, and pumpkin pie, followed at 6:00 by our discussion. Afterwards, at 7:00, everyone who would like to sing 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](mailto:matt@universitybaptist.org)) and let him know.

## Prayer Requests

Barbara Newlon recovering from hip surgery

Sarah Buchanan recovering from back surgery

Ed Lowry

Jack Averill

Alba & Pam Beasley

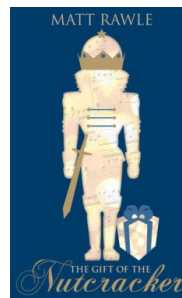
Richard Vaughan recovering from surgery

Jim & Joanna Sivley

Former member Nancy Lynch & Family on the loss of her husband, Lane.

Family of Lila Marshall - Memorial Service Saturday, Nov. 19, 11:00

Margaret Fitch & Family on the loss of her husband, Peter



### Advent Bible Study *The Gift of the Nutcracker* by Matt Rawle

*The Nutcracker* was first performed in 1892, and quickly became a holiday tradition, one that continues for many families to this day. In *The Gift of the Nutcracker*, Matt Rawle takes a look at this Christmas classic in a new way—through the lens of faith. In this four-week Advent study, Rawle uses the iconic tale to help us understand God's greatest gift of the Christ child and of the kingdom Christ came to build.

If you are interested in doing the study as a group, contact [Tommy Deal](mailto:Tommy Deal) ([12tdeal55@gmail.com](mailto:12tdeal55@gmail.com)) or [Susan Hellings](mailto:Susan Hellings) ([susan.eg.hellings@gmail.com](mailto:susan.eg.hellings@gmail.com)).



## Join us This Advent Season

- Sunday, November 27, 11:00 - Advent Worship
- Sunday, December 4, 11:00 - Jubilate Lessons & Carols
- Sunday, December 11, 11:00 - Children's Christmas Pageant
- Sunday, December 18, 11:00 - Sanctuary Choir Lessons & Carols
- Saturday, December 24, 5:00 - Christmas Eve Worship
- Sunday, December 25, 11:00 - Christmas Morning Worship



## 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](http://alabamacbf.org/yas2023).

## 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

