



January 3, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 1

Radical Hospitality and You!

WATCH

Last year, our [goals for the year](#) included spiritual growth, gathering and reengagement, and making a difference in the lives of our neighbors. In many ways, we accomplished our goals. Among our many activities in 2022, some included a big kick-off event for Sunday Morning Bible Study and several new study groups. We picked up trash for a mission project and had an ice cream social. More people engaged with youth, Jubilate, and our collegiate ministries. And many groups used our space.

Now, we are forming our goals for this year. The Church Council will be discussing them this week. Spiritual growth will likely remain part of our goal. Instead of reengagement, perhaps our focus will shift to building deeper relationships and engaging with one another. Making a difference in our community seems to embody our sense of calling, so it will likely continue in some form, too. However, I want to add radical hospitality to our goals.

Recently, I was a vicarious recipient of radical hospitality from [The Church by the Sea](#), Fort Lauderdale, FL, and its pastor Chris Reny. Since mid-December, my sons Dean and Eddy have been in Florida. They are currently sailing around the world, and they went to Florida to make a few repairs. They only planned to be there for a week, but this has stretched on a bit.

When I realized that they would be anchored in Lake Sylvia, in Fort Lauderdale, over Christmas, I looked for a church to recommend to them for Christmas Eve. A quick search on Google Maps led me to [The Church by the Sea](#). It is on the water and a short dinghy ride from their anchorage. I called the church and introduced myself to their pastor. The

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

January 8, 2023

11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Something Strange Beneath the Water"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Matthew 3:13-17

Anthem:

"God So Loved the World"
(Stainer)

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Shirley Clark

Ushers: Cindy Bryant,
Ben Chenault

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, January 4

9:00 Work Team

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, January 8

8:30 Church Council Meeting

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

12:00 Personnel Committee Meeting

church is very similar to UBC, and their pastor Chris Reny and I hit it off. He gave me his cell phone number to share with my sons. Since then, Dean and Eddy have found a Florida family. People have had them over for meals. They let the boys do their laundry, and they had a loving church family to join for Christmas and New Year. Chris and his church extended radical hospitality to two sons of UBC.

Last week, we received an email from a young lady who is finishing her doctorate in occupational therapy at the University of Florida. She will be in 12-week rotation at UVA's Encompass rehab facility. A family friend of hers knew one of our members and recommended that she email us. She needs a place to stay from May 15 to August 4. We have the opportunity to extend hospitality to her. We can pay forward the kindness The Church by the Sea has shown young members of our church. (Aside: Melanie and I are happy to host her, but she's allergic to cats). If you are interested in hosting her for all or part of her visit, please let [me know](#).

As we form our vision for 2023, there will be more opportunities for us to extend hospitality to others. When we do, we are the church being the church, and we get to join God's work in the world. Pray for us, as we listen to the Holy Spirit to discern God's fresh calling this year.

Peace,
Matt

Jubilate 50th Reunion!

Jubilate will be celebrating their 50th Reunion the weekend of April 21-23, 2023. In addition to hotels, they would like to offer housing with UBC hosts. The only meal that might need to be provided would be Sunday morning breakfast. If you are interested in hosting or would like more information, please contact Michele Turner at 434-996-2673 or kmct13@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Meals for PACEM

We are beginning to make plans for our PACEM guests who will be here January 14-28. If you are able to help with meal preparation, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c4ea8aa23a0f58-pacem8> or contact the church office at 293-5106. UBC groups can use our kitchen for food preparation/cooking and serving at approximately 6:15.

MONDAY, January 9

10:30 Bible Reading Group (Zoom)

TUESDAY, January 10

11:45 Annie Armstrong Circle
6:30 Prayer Shawl 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!

Jan. 12: Thomas Bibb

Jan. 15: Eric Devairakkam

Jan. 16: Katherine Hamel

Jan. 17: Emily Haislip, Erin Brown

Prayer Requests

Barbara Newlon

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Alba & Pam Beasley

Aimee Smith Marshall

Jim Sivley

Shelley Miller

Family of Lu Overbeck

Bob & Patti Badgett



Wednesday Night Dinners

Wednesday night dinners will resume in February, after we have finished hosting PACEM.



Global Missions Christmas Post Office

Thanks to all who participated in the Kittie Colvin Trail Circle's Christmas Post Office this year. Over \$420 was raised for Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global Missions. At \$.60 a card, that represents over 700 greetings!

Not only did the greetings add to the joy of the season for our own UBC family, but every dollar raised will provide additional much-needed relief to the people of Ukraine.

The post office boxes will be put away this week, but any remaining cards will be left on the table in roughly alphabetical order until Sunday, January 15. Some of you have received emails letting you know that there are cards for you, but even if you did not receive an email, please check the table for any cards in your name, when you are in the building.



Reserve Your Special Date, Flowers Bring Great Joy!

If you would like to dedicate sanctuary flowers for a special remembrance or celebration, the 2023

Floral Calendar has been posted in the first-floor hallway. Sign up on the calendar AND email Sarah Buchanan at sarahbucha@gmail.com to reserve your special date. I will order the flowers from Agape Florist for \$60, unless you want to provide them yourself.

Please make checks and online donations payable to UBC and earmark "sanctuary flowers."

If you love flowers, enjoy arranging them, or want to learn how, please contact Sarah at 434-409-9064 or sarahbucha@gmail.com, and join us on the Floral Team. Sometimes it can be as simple as taking an already made arrangement out of the refrigerator and placing it in the sanctuary or watering live plants.



Birthday Cake Kits for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank

Can you imagine having a child or other loved one who is having a birthday and not being able to give them a birth-

day cake? Birthdays are meant to be celebrated, but in the past few years many people have fallen on hard financial times, and that shouldn't be a reason not to celebrate.

Did you know that you can make a cake with just a cake mix and a lemon lime soda? You can!

Items to include in a birthday cake kit:

- 9x13 disposable aluminum foil pan - the ones that come with lids are nice, but not absolutely necessary
- a box of cake mix (any flavor you like)
- 1 can of Sprite or other lemon-lime soda (store brand will work) in case the recipient doesn't have eggs or oil
- container of icing
- birthday candles
- include a large note that says:

Birthday Cake Kit:

You can make a cake without oil or eggs just by mixing the cake mix with the lemon-lime soda. Then bake according to the directions on the back of the cake mix box. "Happy Birthday!"

Pack it all in the aluminum pan and wrap it up with Saran wrap.

Collection boxes will be located in the first-floor lobby and on the stage in the fellowship hall (while we are hosting PACEM, there will not be a collection box in the fellowship hall). We will collect through Sunday, January 29.

Offering for Global Missions

During the month of December, we normally collect donations for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Offering for Global Missions. Since early this year, our focus has been on ways we can provide relief and assistance to those missionaries who are working in Ukraine or working with the refugees who have fled that country.

For this year, we are going to direct our Global Missions offering to the CBF Ukraine Relief Fund. 100% of your gifts will support the long-term presence of CBF field personnel serving the Ukrainian people. Our offering goal at UBC is to contribute \$3,000 toward this CBF fund.

Durable Medical Equipment

Durable Medical Equipment of varying kinds is available through UBC. Many of these items are not covered by insurance, so if you have a need for any sort of durable medical equipment, check with the church office at 434-293-5106 or linda@universitybaptist.org, and we will check on what is available at that time. One person who was able to avail themselves of this resource commented, "Never in a million years did I think I would be excited to find loaner DME, but I am grateful. These items will help me tremendously through my recovery."



Young Adult Summit

January 13-16, 2023

Ridgecrest Conference Center, Asheville, NC

Cost per person: \$200-\$275

Scholarships available for full-time students!

[Click here 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 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.

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

