



March 21, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 12

Continuing Changes in the Faith Journey

WATCH

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

March 26, 2023

11:00 AM

Sermon:

"That Stinker Made Me Do It"
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

John 15:12-17

Anthem:

"Go Not Far From Me" (Zingarelli)

Last week, I shared the parable of Manolito from José Marín's book *Basic Ecclesial Communities* (Quezon City, Philippines: Claretian 1983). The parable is about the church through the ages and how it needs to continue to change. The world evolves. New technologies make life easier and present new challenges. And, we learn lessons from history. Likewise, the church cannot remain static. It keeps changing. If it doesn't, the church will stagnate.

Recognizing the need to adapt makes me wonder about us. Are there elements of church life to which we cling but have no theological basis? What parts of church life do we do because we've always done them, instead of doing something because it is life giving? What changes do we need to make?

In the 1960s, UBC wrestled with Civil Rights and integration. At some point, a majority of the congregation decided that everyone is welcome here regardless of one's skin color. That decision was a break from the past and a choice the church had to make. Since we are Baptist, we voted to make that choice.

On October 7, 1973, nearly 50 years ago, we voted to ordain Kellan Phipps as our church's first female deacon. Again, this decision was a break from the past. It acknowledges that just because we've always done something (like have only men serve as deacons) doesn't make it right.

What next? God continues to speak and open our hearts. Yet, too often we put a period where God puts a comma. In some ways, theology can be reminiscent of sketch comedy.

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Raynell Stokes

Ushers: Charlotte Bailey, Shirley Clark

Youth Lunch: Susan Hellings

2nd Adult: Lily Gregg

Jubilate Dinner: Sign up at bit.ly/31VptYc.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, March 22

9:00 Work Team

10:00 PBJ Bible Study

5:15 Handbell Rehearsal

5:30 Dinner

6:00 Wednesday Program

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

In sketch comedy, the only rule is, "Yes, and..." When the other actor says something, the response is "Yes, and..." The people on the stage keep building on what the others have done. Our understanding of God builds on what others have done, said, and written before us. As a church, we knew the value deacons bring to ministry. In 1973, UBC said, "Yes, and they don't have to all be men." Thus, the church ordained Kellan to serve.

This Lenten season ask yourself what God is saying to you. Are there changes we need to make in our church? Are there places where we can look back and say, "Yes, and..."? If you think of something, please share it with me. It's amazing to watch the Holy Spirit work through the body of Christ.

Peace,
Matt



Easter Lilies

This Easter we would like to decorate our Sanctuary with an abundance of Easter lilies. If you would like to dedicate a lily in honor or in memory of a loved one, please see the insert in your bulletin or contact [Linda Weirich](#) in the church office to let her know the wording that you would like to appear in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 9. The cost of each lily will be \$12. You can mail a check, drop it in the offering box, or pay online and earmark your gift "Easter Lily." The last day to order is Monday, April 3. You may pick up your lily after the 11:00 am Easter Service on Sunday, April 9.



Sunday Morning Pre-Bible Study Coffee Fellowship

Pre-Bible Study Coffee Fellowship meets on the fourth Sunday of each month. This month the fellowship is being hosted by the Open Minds class. Come by the main hallway outside of the Sanctuary any time after 9:00 am this Sunday to partake of beverages and goodies and some good conversation and fellowship.

SUNDAY, March 26

8:30 ESOL Class
8:30 Missions Council Meeting
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:00 Youth Group
5:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

MONDAY, March 27

10:30 Bible Reading Group (Zoom)

TUESDAY, March 28

11:00 Development Team Meeting
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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

Prayer Requests

Barbara Newlon
Jack & Jo-Ann Averill
Alba & Pam Beasley
Ed & Carolyn Lowry
Ron Kingston
Clara Brown
Eugenie Pierre
Mike Santana on his one-year deployment



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

April 2: Forrest Marshall
Apr. 4: Catherine Cooper



Wednesday Night Dinners



Rise Against Hunger with UBC

On April 15 and 29, UBC will host our first of many meal packing events with Rise Against Hunger! Click [here](#) to find out more about Rise Against Hunger (RAH). This is a fun and intergenerational mission event. There's something for all ages.

Go to our [website page](#) to view all the packing dates and to sign up to help us meet our goal of 100,000 meals!

For the next two Wednesdays, Dr. Scott Spencer will lead our program at 6:00, "Passions of

the Christ." He will explore the Passion story in each of the gospels and emphasize the four distinctive narratives. If you've never heard Scott speak before, check it out. You're in for a treat. He's a dynamic speaker and has a wealth of biblical knowledge. Come for dinner at 5:30 and bring a friend. Dinner will be catered by *Sticks*.

Afterwards, at 7:00, everyone who would like to sing can join Will Cooke and the Sanctuary Choir in the Choir/ Lecture Suite.



Mark Your Calendars for Holy Week Worship!

- Palm Sunday:** 11:00 am in the Sanctuary celebrating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.
- Spy Wednesday:** 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary - Why did Judas betray Jesus? We need this betrayal to have the rest of the story.
- Maundy Thursday:** 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary with the celebration of the Lord's Supper.
- Good Friday:** 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary with the commemoration of the crucifixion.

Fantashia Cooper

On Tuesday, March 14, Annie Armstrong Circle had the privilege of hearing a dynamic speaker at UBC. Women's Rep for FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) at the University of Virginia, Fantashia Cooper, shared her experience in the aftermath of the November 13 tragedy on Grounds.

Her presence was integral to Marlee M. who reached out to Fantashia upon her admittance to UVA Medical Center. What a blessing and comfort God provided through Fantashia after Marlee's injury on Grounds.

For more information on Fantashia's work with FCA, click [here](#).



- March 26 - Youth Group, 12:00-2:00 (adult volunteer needed)
- April 2 - Palm Sunday - Youth Group, 12:15-2:00 (meal & adult volunteer needed)

April 9 - Easter Sunday - no Youth Group



Music Ministry Update

As you know, Will Cooke announced that his last day with us will be May 21. Please mark your calendars to be here on Sunday, May 21, for a reception for Will. You will hear more about the details and a love offering for him as that date approaches. For now, we are pleased to announce that the Rev. Susan Deal has accepted the position of Intentional Interim Minister of Music. She will begin working with us on May 22. Her goal is to keep our music ministry vibrant and prepare for the next chapter in UBC's incredibly rich music tradition. Please thank her for agreeing to step in when you see her. Also, we are in the process of forming a Search Committee to find the next person to lead our music program. More details on the search process will be forthcoming. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Tennant in the church office or Jen May of the Personnel Committee.



Save the Date & Celebrate

Volunteers Extraordinaire
(Hint - Richard V., Ed S., & Alan H.)

Potluck Luncheon
Sunday, April 16, 2023
12:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

UBC will provide the entree, dessert, and beverages for our luncheon. You are encouraged to bring your favorite side dish to share (salad, veggies, pasta). Come prepared to celebrate this amazing trio of church volunteers!

Children's Activity Bags

Children are an important part of our church, and we love worshiping with them. In the narthex you will find some children's activity bags, designed to help children engage in worship in their own way. Each bag contains a children's bulletin based on that Sunday's sermon text and other activities. Please feel free to take one for your child(ren). At the end of the service, keep any artwork you'd like and leave the bag/clipboard on your pew.

AED & CPR Training and Health & Wellness Ministry

Would you like to receive training on how to use our church's AED* or how to perform CPR? CPR is an emergency life-saving procedure performed when the heart has stopped beating. The benefits of performing immediate CPR "Hands-only" (NO mouth-to-mouth contact) FAR outweighs any risks and can double or triple chances of survival. ANYONE can easily use the AED (in conjunction with CPR), without fear of causing harm. The AED machine analyzes the person's heart rhythm and will announce EXACTLY what to do.....or, not do. Getting more people trained will keep all of us safer. If you are interested in receiving training on either or both, please let [Linda](#) know in the church office. She will keep a list and will let you know when we schedule the training. Also, if you are already currently CPR trained, we would like to know that as well. If you are interested in getting involved in the Health and Wellness Ministry, please let Linda know that, too. For more information, contact the [church office](#).

*An AED, (or **automated external defibrillator**), is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest.



Making Disciples

Jesus commanded, "Go and make disciples." By definition a disciple is, according to Dictionary.com: "noun – a person who is a pupil or an adherent of the doctrines of another." Specifically, a distinction is stated under "Religion": one of the 12 personal followers of Christ; one of the 70 followers sent forth by Christ in Luke 10:1; any other professed follower of Christ– thus ALL followers of Christ.

Hey! That's YOU and ME! Have you never thought of yourself as a "disciple?" Did you think you weren't qualified? Refer back to the first paragraph, last part of last sentence: "ALL followers of Christ."

In this Baptist world in which many of us grew up, the church relegated "disciple making" to Discipleship Training (aka Church Training, Training Union). I will not take time to delve into what happened there. But suffice it to say that Sunday Bible Study IS our endeavor to "make us disciples." Like our younger generations, there are groups of adult-devoted disciples who meet for fellowship, unity, prayer, and to explore God's Word for us today.

If you are not currently attending, or thanks to COVID-19 stopped attending, and sense a spiritual desire to connect with others in your walk as a Christ follower, I encourage you to consider the offerings we have. Over the next several weeks, I will offer introductions for some, and a refresher for others, to know the various adult class offerings you may choose from to continue your journey of becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ.

If you are interested and would like to talk with me to learn a little more, I would love the opportunity to talk with you. At this point, I will ask you to call the office, and they will give you my phone number.

Tommy Deal - Education Coordinator



National Missions Offering

Each Spring UBC has participated in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's National Missions Offering. This emphasis helps support our missionaries right here in the US. UBC's offering supports the ministry of Scarlette Jasper, a CBF missionary working in southeastern Kentucky, where UBC has been partnering with missionaries for many years. Scarlette was commissioned by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship as a field missionary in 2014 and now serves one of the poorest parts of the United States. There, she is the director of [Olive Branch Ministries, Inc.](#), which works to address the needs of the local community. Some of the many needs that Scarlette helps address are working with the homeless, coordinating children's literacy projects, rent and utility aid, assisting with transportation costs for distant medical appointments, providing heaters or propane in the winter, supporting local schools with supplies, and helping veterans get needed services. She maintains a small mission house that serves as an emergency shelter and place for pastoral counseling. You can see her most recent projects on her [Facebook page](#). Even through the challenges of the pandemic, Scarlette has remained active in her community to help with their needs.

Like the majority of our field missionaries, Scarlette must raise her own program and project support. Our goal this year is to raise \$3,000 to support Scarlette and her work in Kentucky.

This year, please consider offering your thoughts, prayers, and financial support to our National Missions Emphasis. When donating online, specify "National Missions" to ensure that your offering is sent to Scarlette.

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

