



June 20, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 25

Welcoming and Helping

WATCH

This week, UBC has become Babylon, and a gaggle of children are giggling, running, eating, and learning in the church. There have been 'God sightings' (you'll hear more about these on Sunday) and stories. They have played the ancient Babylonian game of Wiffle ball (according to Brian, archaeologists recently uncovered a Wiffle ball and bat in some Babylonian ruins). There have been crafts, snacks, and singing.

Vacation Bible School is an opportunity to learn and invite others to learn with us. We begin with a curriculum and adapt it a bit as we get ready for the week. Once we're all together though, we follow the script. The adults who are leading also learn. The children bring a wonderful perspective and challenge us to formulate our faith in ways they can understand. Sheri told me about the conundrum of explaining the song lyric, "God is our refuge," and the Bible verse, "God is our shelter." I wish you could have seen the look she gave me when I suggested that we introduce biblical translation and explain that the Bible was actually written in Hebrew/Greek (& Jesus spoke Aramaic).

According to Jesus, getting the nuances correct isn't the point. He said, "Unless you have the faith of a child, you won't get into the kingdom" (Matthew 18:2-4). We can learn from the children and their priorities. When a child became upset one day, one of the workers asked what would help. The child said, "Snack time." Well, that's not wrong. Snacks can really help sometimes. Otherwise, the rom-com trope of eating ice cream after a breakup wouldn't be a thing.

Babylon's Celebration at University Baptist Church



Sunday, June 25
11 AM - 12 PM

Dress Casual
Kids can show up at 9:30
in the sanctuary

**THE KIDS ARE LEADING THE
SERVICE!**



We look forward to seeing you!

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

June 25, 2023
11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Don't Be Afraid"
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Daniel 6:1-28

Anthem:

"Watching Over You"

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Shirley Clark

Ushers: Tom & Sylvie Moore

As we welcome the children for VBS this week, we talk with them about what to do with our faith. Since our church has been focused on Rise Against Hunger (RAH) this year, we turn our attention to helping those who don't have enough to eat. Explaining RAH to little ones has been interesting, and it has helped us crystalize what we're trying to do. *There are people who are hungry, and we want to help them.*

It's really that simple. So, when you look ahead to the rest of your week, consider how you articulate your faith. Is it simple or complex? Can you explain it in a few words? I always lean on God's love, grace, and mercy. Part of accepting God's gifts is living them out. One way to do so is to feed the hungry. Why? *There are people who are hungry, and we want to help them.*

Think about your relationship with Christ and how you express it. While you're thinking, check your calendar; and if you are free on Saturday, we would love to have you join us for Rise Against Hunger. You can sign up [here](#).

I'm looking forward to seeing you soon. Remember: God loves you and wants to walk in faith with you.

Peace,
Matt

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, June 21

8:30 VBS
5:30 Search Committee
6:30 Summer Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, June 22

8:30 VBS

FRIDAY, June 23

8:30 VBS

SATURDAY, June 24

10:00 Rise Against Hunger

SUNDAY, June 25

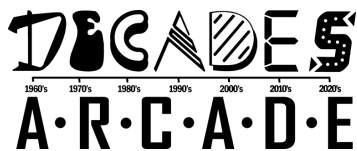
8:30 Missions Council Meeting
9:30 ESOL Class
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship

TUESDAY, June 27

11:00 Development Team Meeting
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

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

A WORD FROM VAL



Decades Arcade
Sunday, July 9

Join us for an afternoon of games at Decades Arcade on the Downtown Mall (418 E. Main St.). Students will be able to play for FREE from 1:30-3:30 pm, followed by ice cream at Chaps. Parents and siblings are welcome to join us for \$12 per person. RSVP to [Val](#) by July 2.

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Jackie Lockwood

Ed & Carolyn Lowry

Barbara Newlon

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Jane Thomas

*In order to respect privacy, limited information is included here.



Youth Trip to Kings Dominion Friday, July 21

Our youth will take our annual trip to Kings Dominion on July 21 along with the youth from First Baptist Waynesboro! All middle and high school students are welcome. Cost for this trip is \$40 each, which includes park ticket and an all-day drink wristband. Students will need to bring money for food. Please note that Kings Dominion does not accept cash in the park. Students will need a prepaid/debit card, credit card, or digital wallet option on their phone.

[Sign up here](#) to register and pay! FBCW will be collecting names and payment for this trip. Adults, please let Val know if you are able to drive or chaperone! (Chaperones go for free and pay for their own meals.) Sign up by June 30.

Deacon Election

The 2023 Deacon Election is taking place June 18th to July 2nd. An electronic ballot was emailed to all active members. Paper ballots are also available in the narthex and in the church office. You may return your ballot to the church office electronically, by U.S. mail, drop off in the church office, or call the church office. For whichever means you choose, please sign the ballot before returning it. Your signature is used for membership verification only. Vote for up to 5 people that you feel meet the requirements to serve UBC as Deacons.

Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration as you choose Deacons to serve UBC 2023 – 2026.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

June 29: Carolyn Lowry
July 3: Valerie Long, Barbara Murray
July 4: Katherine Wagoner



Rise Against Hunger with UBC

This Saturday, June 24, beginning at 10:00, UBC will host our third meal packing event with Rise Against Hunger! Bring your baseball cap, if you don't want to wear a hairnet, and help us pack another 12,500 meals! 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!



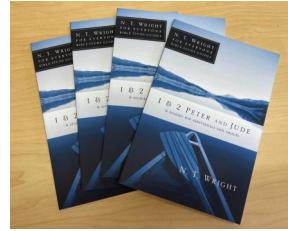
Volunteers Needed

Sign up to help us give out ice cream each Wednesday! Click [this link](#) to add your name and join us any time between 10:30 and 11:30 to help set up and/or between 11:30 and 1:30 on the front steps to serve the ice cream.



Needed: Faux Summer Fruits & Vegetables

The floral team needs life-sized faux summer fruits and vegetables for a Sanctuary display in July for our "Sharing from our Abundance" sermon series. If you have artificial summer fruits or vegetables you no longer use, or would be willing to loan, we would appreciate them. There will be a box in the first-floor lobby to receive them. They are needed by Sunday, June 25. Questions? Contact [Sarah Buchanan](mailto:sarabucha@gmail.com) at sarabucha@gmail.com.



New Study Beginning

Are you interested in studying some of the New Testament with a few others and haven't decided when or with whom?

Everyone is welcome to join our Young Adult Class, led by Ben Chenault, Sunday mornings at 9:45 in Room 209, to delve into the Books of 1 & 2 Peter and Jude with scholar N. T. Wright as Guide.



Collection for the University of Virginia Hospital Hospitality House

Through the summer, the Kittie Colvin Trail Circle will be collecting items for the UVA Hospital Hospitality House. The Hospitality House, located on 14th Street, offers overnight rooms at a very reduced rate to people from out-of-town having out-patient treatment at the hospital, and the families of patients in the hospital. The Hospitality House has 20 bedrooms and 8 kitchenettes for the guests to use, but they have a hard time keeping them stocked.

If you have a few things you no longer need, toiletries you have collected during your travels, pots and pans from cleaning out grandma's house, or snacks leftover from a BBQ, please bring them to the collection boxes in the 1st floor lobby.

Requested items:

- Laundry detergent pods (no liquid or powder), ALL Free and Clear is preferred
- Fragrance Free dryer sheets
- Coffee k-cups, individually packaged sweeteners and creamers, tea bags
- Toiletries – small sized shampoo and conditioner, soap and deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste, shaving cream, razors, lotion, combs, brushes, and feminine products
- Non-perishable food items such as canned soups, canned tuna or chicken, canned fruit and vegetables, individual quick meals such as ramen noodles, rice-a-roni, small jars of peanut butter and jelly, pasta and pasta sauce, small containers of pancake mix and syrup, popcorn, trail mix, Jell-O and pudding cups, small bags of chips, cookies or crackers
- Bottled water
- Small sized pots and pans, cookie sheets, baking pans, and forks

We will deliver the things periodically throughout the summer and continue collecting through Labor Day.

Questions? Contact Sarah Buchanan sarabucha@gmail.com.

Sunday Bible Study for All!

I want to invite all of our Sunday Bible Study leaders, class leadership, and everyone interested in helping influence Charlottesville via quality Bible study to reserve on your calendar our "Kick-off Event" Saturday, August 19, 2023. That morning from 8:30 – 11:30 we will meet in the Fellowship Hall for fellowship, inspiration, and some encouragement in our roles as leaders. We will end with each leadership group spending a few moments in their rooms to "clean up, straighten up, and throw out" so that our space offers the most hospitable and encouraging atmosphere possible. Don't forget: Saturday morning, August 19, 2023, 8:30 – 11:30.

In March of this year, we began to track our attendance for Sunday Bible Study. The reason we do this is much more than "counting noses and nickels." Many of us remember the Sunday School 6-point Check system when we marked on our envelopes that we 1) gave an offering, 2) were in attendance, 3) read Bible daily, 4) prayed daily, ... To be honest I cannot remember all of them, and not really sure the ones I've listed were included. So, this is a test for those who do remember and can recall what points we checked off on Sundays to be "good Baptist Sunday School attenders."

Please, don't get me wrong; this had a purpose that I'm sure was beneficial. It was a weekly reminder that there are things we as "disciples" should do. Nor do I know when this system stopped. The one thing it did was help those who led the Sunday School ministry to have a gauge of how well, or not, it was doing. As a relative newcomer to UBC I do not have institutional knowledge of past attendance.

What I do know is that since March at least a few of us have become more cognizant of the impact regular participation in Bible study has in disciple making. And, like most everyone else, the Pandemic invited us all to forego most all regular things we once participated in, including in-person worship and Sunday School (i.e., weekly Bible study with other disciples of Jesus.) Since we began tracking attendance, we have averaged 59 for Sunday Bible Study, with the highest Sunday being 73 and the lowest 38. (We are not sure if this was correct, because we were unable to get real attendance checks for all classes.)

One thing we all should be mindful of is to decide to attend Sunday Bible study regularly. Members and leaders alike should continually invite others to join them, especially those who once attended regularly prior to the Pandemic. We say, "Bible Study is for everyone," and we mean it. Why don't you give it a try this next Sunday?

~~Tommy Deal, Education Coordinator

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.

University Baptist Church
1223 West Main Street
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434-293-5106

Connect with us

