



June 27, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 26

Community Action Team

WATCH

A month or so ago, Chief Kochis from the Charlottesville Police Department (CPD) reached out to me. He wanted me to join a team of faith and community leaders to discuss ongoing police work and provide insight and advice. I attended my first meeting of the Community Action Team last night (Monday, June 26). When I asked Chief Kochis to describe the team, he said, "The goal is to get community stakeholders together, talk about policies in the police department, and get recommendations about those policies."

Two officers, Chief Kochis and Sgt. Thomas, were present, along with five members of the community. I was the only minister. The officers explained why they do what they do, asked us questions, and sought input. Each monthly meeting will focus on one aspect of police work. At this meeting, we looked at the CPD policy on use of force.

Chief Kochis is trying to reinvigorate community policing. He wants his officers to get involved in the city, and his goal is to have them know the people they serve. Right now, CPD averages one call per day for "shots fired," meaning someone heard or saw someone shooting a gun in the city. There's been an increase in shooting in the city since the pandemic, and many of the shooters are under 18.

After discussing the CPD policy on use of force, we watched three videos from three separate incidents. The videos came from the cameras worn by officers (aka body cams), so we could see the officer's point of view. In

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

July 2, 2023

11:00 AM

Sermon:

"A Place at the Table"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Matthew 25:31-46

Anthem:

"Table of Plenty"(Schutte)

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacons: Shirley Clark, Ray Gaines

Ushers: Cindy Bryant, Ben Chenault

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, June 28

9:00 Work Team

6:30 Summer Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, June 30

6:00 Softball @Darden Towe Park

SUNDAY, July 2

9:30 ESOL Class

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

MONDAY, July 3

1:00 Schleiermacher Bible Study

TUESDAY, July 4

Church Office Closed

7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle

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

the first one, from over a year ago, the officer violated the CPD's policy on use of force. The officer received additional training, disciplinary action, and, ultimately, is no longer with CPD.

The second video was more troubling. It was a call for domestic violence. When the first officer arrived, the 911 dispatcher had received at least 4 calls about the incident. The officer could hear a woman screaming and saw a couple fighting. The question for us was whether or not the officers used appropriate force. We talked about how they could have deescalated the situation. However, because of the potential danger, it seemed like the officers used appropriate force to arrest the suspect. The video highlighted the gray area. Yes, it's possible a clear-headed person could have deescalated things without using force, but the situation also could have deteriorated with terrible consequences. Both Chief Kochis and Sgt. Thomas explained the risks associated with letting a situation deteriorate.

The final video, like the others, was from an officer's body cam. After this incident, someone had complained to Chief Kochis about the injustice enacted by the CPD. The body cam footage showed a very different story. A store owner called 911 because a young man was trespassing. The store owner knew the young man, and the dispatcher identified the man as having several outstanding warrants. The first officer arrived with probable cause to arrest the young man. When he approached the young man, this young man (with outstanding arrest warrants) punched the officer. What followed was a model of de-escalation. The officer maintained his composure, several more officers arrived, and they arrested the suspect without using force.

Watching the final video reminded me of Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God" (Matthew 5:9). I am thankful and humbled that Chief Kochis reached out to me. We spent a long time talking after the meeting and look forward to finding more ways to work together in the future. I am optimistic about the ways CPD is working to make our city safer, and I pray that our church can find ways to support the people who are working to protect and serve us. For example, as we were about to go our separate ways, he mentioned an upcoming gun buy-back program. Wouldn't it be amazing if a *church was a supporter of this program to make our city safer?!?*

Peace,
Matt

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.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

July 5: Adam Price

July 6: Barry Wilson

July 8: Ray Gaines

July 9: Lynda Tweel, Drew Gentry

CPR/AED Training

Our CPR/AED training is scheduled for Saturday morning, July 15, here at UBC. If you have indicated an interest in these classes, please save the date! If you haven't indicated an interest but would like to be included, there is still room. Contact the church office at linda@universitybaptist.org or 434-293-5106.

A WORD FROM VAL

Last chance to sign up!
Questions? Contact Val at
vfisk@universitybaptist.org.



Decades Arcade
Sunday, July 9

A·R·C·A·D·E 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 June 30.



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.



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.



**UBC Once Again
Teams Up with UVA
Hospital**

On Thursday, June 15, University Baptist Church welcomed UVA Children's Hospital patients and their families and AFLAC to our Fellowship Hall.

The young cancer and sickle-cell patients were presented with their own Special AFLAC Duck. These robotic companions help to provide support to the children. The ducks express emotions to help young patients prepare for procedures, communicate their feelings, and more.



Rise Against Hunger with UBC

On July 22, beginning at 10:00 a.m., UBC will host our fourth 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! We've packed just under 40,000 meals so far!

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!

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.



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 sarahbucha@gmail.com.

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

