



July 4, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 27

Happy Fourth of July!

The Fourth of July, or Independence Day, is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The Continental Congress declared that the thirteen American colonies were no longer subject to the monarch of Britain and were now united, free, and independent states. The Congress had voted to declare independence two days earlier, on July 2, but it was not declared until July 4. The day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, picnics, concerts, baseball games, and family reunions. And every 4th of July the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is tapped – although not actually rung – 13 times in honor of the original 13 American colonies.

This coming Sunday, one of the hymns we will be singing is *This is My Song*. Not only is this a familiar and well-known piece of music, *Finlandia* by Jean Sibelius, but the words are worth your consideration.

*This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

As we give thanks today for the country we live in, let's remember that our God is a God of ALL the nations. No one is excluded from receiving God's unconditional love and mercy.

Food Insecurity Series

On Sunday, July 2, we began a new worship series focusing on food insecurity. Food insecurity is not just about feeding people. It's about full inclusion and welcoming people into the family of faith. Everyone is welcome at God's table. Over the next four weeks, we'll be asking ourselves some hard questions.

How do we square the clear biblical teaching about the "year of Jubilee" with land atrocities, especially in our own history? What would it look like to enact justice for

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

July 9, 2023

11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Giving Back the Land"
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Leviticus 25:8-17

Anthem:

"Let Us Talents and Tongues
Employ"(Ellingboe)

First Nations people who lost their land through theft and genocide? There is hope in the Gospel. Jesus came to bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor (Luke 4:18-19).

The following week, we'll ask ourselves, "How do we throw away so much? What's God's message for those of us who have plenty? Is reducing our food waste following God's calling? (Hint: the answer is 'yes').

On July 23, we'll examine the fact that there are students at UVA who do not have enough to eat. When we give away food in our college room, sometimes it's comfort food for someone who has plenty, but there are other times when that food provides sustenance for life. One doesn't need to be in sub-Saharan Africa to be hungry. We have hunger here in Charlottesville, and as the Gospel lesson shows, with Jesus, there can be enough (John 6:1-14).

On the last Sunday in July, we'll ask ourselves, "Is it sustainable?" This is a question that applies to many different circumstances (e.g., new businesses, spending, population growth, etc.). When we look at food supplies and food insecurity, the question can become, "Is it possible to sustain feeding everyone?" According to Numbers, God commanded the Israelites to set aside land for the Levites. Likewise, in Matthew 25, one of the messages of the parable of the 10 bridesmaids is "Be prepared." Or, get ready for what's next, like feeding the next generation.

Join us in worship this summer as we examine together how God would have us, as a church, respond to the issue of food insecurity.

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.

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Lynne Gardner
Ushers: Johnny & Gail Ellen

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, July 5

9:00 Work Team
6:30 Summer Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, July 9

8:30 Church Council Meeting
9:30 ESOL Class
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
1:30 Youth to Decades Arcade

TUESDAY, July 11

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!

July 12: Jen May, Andrew Mundell, Candace Grada

July 13: Amy Cumbia

July 14: Pam Beasley, Donna Ballard

July 18: Brian Mulcahy



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.



Outreach to the Community Around Us

Last week we hosted a session of the Fellowship for Protestant Ethics (FPE) which is a part of the UVA Religious Studies Department. This session was a part of FPE's annual seminar for recent graduates and early career professors of religious studies programs across the nation. We host events such as this, as well as hospital-related groups, as part of our outreach to the university and community around us.



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.

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.



Doc and Sarah Litchfield invite you to join them in celebration of and thanking for their Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary. Come as you are to the Open House Reception at Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Troy, VA, on Saturday, August 19, 2023, anytime between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.

Two requests:

- 1) Please no gifts
 - 2) RSVP by August 4, 2023 to Caren Francis, 2francisboys@gmail.com or 434-882-5654.
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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!



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
- Toiletries – small-size 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-size 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.

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

Connect with us

