

July 11, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 28

## Calling on the Lord

# **NWATCH**

In Romans 10:13, Paul says, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Sometimes the most inclusive verses can be twisted around to sound exclusive. When I read Romans, I see the primary focus on the word, "Everyone." To me, "calling on the Lord" is significant and an integral step in responding to God. The final phrase, "will be saved," begs more questions than it answers.

First, if the invitation is for everyone, why do people put boundaries on God's kingdom? If "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved," why do we think anyone could be excluded? To imagine some people outside of God's love equates to thinking Paul didn't really mean "everyone." Instead, he must have meant some select group. Or perhaps, Paul could have been wrong. Neither matches the tenor of *sola fide* in Romans. *Sola fide* means *only through faith*. In other words, the biblical book of Romans doesn't seem as interested in setting boundaries as it is focused on faith in Christ.

Second, while the invitation extends to everyone and excludes no one, we are participants in God's work. "Calling on the Lord" is our part. We step out. We raise our voices, and we say something. To put this into a graphic and vivid image, picture the criminal on the cross calling out to Jesus (who was also dying). From the hellscape of death by torture, Jesus said, "Today, you'll be with me in paradise" (Luke 23:43).

Likewise, in the depths of a storm, as sailors fight for survival, they call out, "Help me!" God hears them and responds, "Today, you'll be with me in paradise." The

#### SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

July 16, 2023 11:00 AM

#### Sermon:

"Wasting Precious Treasures"
Dr. Matthew Tennant

#### Scripture:

Proverbs 21:20-25

#### Anthem:

"Christ, We See You" (Medema)

#### **SUNDAY SERVICE**

**Deacon**: Raynell Stokes

**Ushers:** Cindy Bryant, Shirley Clark



## Welcome Our Newest Member!

On Sunday, July 2, we welcomed Alden Pinkham into membership. Alden, husband Dan, who has been a member of UBC since 2003, and children Clara and Russell have recently moved back to Charlottesville and resumed their relationship with our church family.

same could be said of any situation in which someone finds themselves at the end of their rope with nothing left to grasp. "Help!" becomes a cry to the Lord even if God remains unnamed. God is not so fragile as to need our acknowledgment when we are scared to death. Paul reflects on God's mystery, "The spirit searches everything, even the depths of God" (1 Corinthians 2:10b).

Finally, what does the phrase, "will be saved," mean? To be "saved" begs the question: saved from what? Most of us who grew up in the church would jump to answer such an easy question. Obviously, Paul must mean, "saved from hell." But does he? Is that what Romans 10 says? In the previous verses, he deconstructs the distinctions the early Christ followers created (e.g., Jewish people versus Greeks). The Russian philosopher Nicolas Berdyaev writes, "To admit hell would be to deny God." (*The Destiny of Man, New York: Harper 1960, p. 268*).

Another possibility is to be "saved from ourselves." We could be saved from separation from God, wallowing in our own pain and misery, and isolation. The message of the gospel is, "No matter what happens, everything will be okay." That's the story of Easter and the hope in Christ we bring with us into each day.

Go ahead. Call on the name of the Lord. God is there, listening, and ready to respond.

Peace, Matt

#### **Dinner with Andrew**

One of the members of our church family has been raising funds to address food insecurity every year since July 2001. On January 1, 2001, Colleen Baber's son Andrew choked on a gummy candy and did not survive. He had been working at Domino's Pizza at the time, and his coworkers wanted to do something to honor his memory. They chose a food drive which fit well with honoring Andrew because few people liked to eat more than he did. Thus, "Dinner with Andrew" began.

This year is the twenty-third year Colleen has been collecting donations in Andrew's memory. In 2020, she switched from collecting and sorting food to taking donations for food gift cards. She gives these cards to families in extreme need through The Jefferson Area

#### **CALENDAR**

WEDNESDAY, July 12

9:00 Work Team

**THURSDAY**, July 13

7:00 Deacons' Meeting

FRIDAY, July 14

6:00 Softball Game

SATURDAY, July 15

**CPR/AED Training** 

SUNDAY, July 16

8:30 Finance Committee Meeting

9:30 ESOL Class

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

MONDAY, July 17

1:00 Schleiermacher Reading Group

**TUESDAY, July 18** 

1:30 Personnel Committee Meeting

For our most up-to-date calendar, <u>click</u> here.

## **Prayer Requests\***

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Alba & Pam Beasley (new address) Sheltering Arms Institute Attn: Alba Beasley Room 3008 2000 Wilkes Ridge Drive Richmond, VA 23233

Leon & Nancy Castle

Al Holliday, Judy Shah, and Family on the passing of Lucille

Ed & Carolyn Lowry

Barbara Newlon

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

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

Food Bank, The Salvation Army, The Emergency Food Bank, and ARC. We can help address food insecurity and be the hands and feet of Christ by supporting this ministry. You can contribute directly through this link, or you can send a check to the church or give online with "Dinner with Andrew" in the memo line.



#### **UBC Softball**

The UBC softball season is almost over, but you still have time to join us for the last few innings! Due to weather, last week's game against Abundant Life was stopped in the

4th inning. The score has UBC leading 4-2 with one out for Abundant Life. The game will resume at 6:00 on field 3 at Darden Towe Park on Friday, July 14. If UBC wins, they will play in the final championship game at 7:00. Come join us to cheer on our team!

## **CPR/AED Training**

Our CPR/AED training is scheduled for Saturday morning, July 15, in the Choir/Lecture Suite. 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 Bible Study Leadership Kickoff Event

Saturday, August 19 8:30 - 11:30 am ALL teachers, leaders, and interested members

Come for inspiration, information, encouragement, and team building!



### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**

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

July 20: Tina Stephens, Barbara Newlon July 21: Ismael Moumbossy, Luke Brown

July 25: Leslee Parsons



## **Volunteers Needed**

Sign up to help us give out ice cream each Wednesday! Click this link to add

your name and join us anytime 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.



Doc and Sarah Litchfield invite you to join them in celebration of and thanksgiving 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, <u>2francisboys@gmail.com</u> or 434-882-5654.



## 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 <u>here</u> 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 <u>website page</u> to view all the packing dates and to sign up to help us meet our goal of 100,000 meals!

## WMU Woodbrook School Supplies Project

Since 2008, the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) has collected money and purchased school supplies for the economically disadvantaged children at Woodbrook Elementary School. This project is coordinated by Love INC in cooperation with city and county schools' Family Support Workers.

We will be collecting for this fund during the month of July. The money we collect will help UBC purchase school supplies all year long for these children. This money also helps occasionally with shoes, emergency clothing, hygiene needs, and healthy snacks for these same children during the school year. This year Woodbrook has approximately 570 students on roll.

During good years between 50 and 60% of Woodbrook students have relied on the free or reduced-price lunch program, but that number has increased to 65%. School supplies lists that families are asked to provide at the beginning of the school year are usually more than \$50 for each child (and that doesn't include a backpack or tennis shoes). Just imagine if you are an out-of-work parent with three or more children. Your gifts enable the Woodbrook Family Support Workers to provide the needed school supplies for these less fortunate children.

Please help us make these children's school experience meaningful and productive by making checks or online gifts payable to UBC and earmarked "school supplies."



## 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. If you have a few things you no longer need, please bring them to the collection boxes in the 1st floor lobby. Click here for more information and a list of requested items.



#### Women Thriving in Ministry

Baptist Women in Ministry was launched on March 21, 1983, by a gathering of thirty-three women in a Sunday school room at Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky. In the forty years since, BWIM has expanded from a membership-based affinity group to an independent nonprofit organization, hiring the first full-time executive

director in 2001. Since 2009, BWIM has emphasized assisting candidates and churches in the ministry search process, in addition to offering retreats for college and seminary students exploring a call to ministry and an eighteen-month mentoring program for new ministers. Each summer at the BWIM Annual Gathering, I am honored to listen to some of the *best preaching that the women of this world have ever offered (such as this sermon from the 2022 gathering)!* 

During the CBF General Assembly in Atlanta on June 29, BWIM launched the next phase of growth and development for the organization. Executive Director Meredith Stone cast a vision for a world where women in ministry are celebrated and thriving, with plans for BWIM to expand mentoring and peer learning groups, create new resources for congregations to assess their own culture of gender equity, and to develop a racial equity program for Baptist women of color in ministry. In order to achieve these goals, BWIM launched the Multiply campaign, with a goal of raising \$500,000 in 2023 to support this expansion. Less than two weeks after this launch, over \$405,000 has already been raised!

I want to extend an invitation to each of you to consider ways we can participate in the work of BWIM. You can of course donate to the Multiply campaign, but I hope that you will also take time to look at the resources that BWIM offers on their website, such as the 2021 State of Women in Baptist Life survey. Read about the real experiences of Baptist women who are leading churches and ministries all across the Baptist spectrum. I will attend the BWIM 40th Anniversary Annual Gathering at Broadway Baptist Church in Louisville this October 2-4. If you have any interest in joining us for this exciting celebration, please let me know! I can guarantee you will hear some amazing preaching and find the Spirit of God moving in ways that will inspire us all as we strive to create more equity in the world.

# **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 <u>Facebook page</u> or click <u>this link</u> to watch on YouTube.

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Connect with us





