



September 19, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 38

## WATCH

### The Kingdom of God Is a Party!

In 1990, Tony Campolo wrote *The Kingdom of God Is a Party*. Citing Luke 17:21, "Behold, the kingdom of God is within you," Campolo pointed to the joy that is life with Christ. He opened with a story about an experience he had in Honolulu. He was still on East Coast time, so he was wide awake in the middle of his first night in Hawaii. He went to a 24-hour diner and sat drinking a cup of coffee. At some point, a group of prostitutes came in. Sitting like a fly on the wall, he witnessed the brokenness of people with few options. He overheard one of them say it was going to be her birthday the next day.

When they left, he asked the staff and regulars if those ladies came in every night. They said they did, so he proclaimed, "Let's throw her a birthday party!" One by one, the regulars in the diner and the staff jumped on the idea. The cook offered to make a cake. A waitress said she could decorate.

The next night, when the prostitutes came in, everyone yelled, "Surprise!" When the party was over and the prostitute left, Campolo didn't know what else to do, so he asked everyone if he could pray. He prayed for the woman and her safety, and he gave thanks for everyone and their participation in the party. The grizzled cook said, "Hey! You never said you were a preacher. What kind of church do you belong to?"

"I belong to a church that throws birthday parties for prostitutes at 3:30 in the morning." Campolo replied.

God's church is a party, but it's an unconventional one. This week, the party continues on Wednesday night

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

September 24, 2023

11:00 AM

**Sermon:**

"Fish Are More Than Food"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

**Scripture:**

John 21:4-8

**Anthem:**

"Hymn of Creation"

Forrest

## SUNDAY SERVICE

**Deacon:** Sheri Owen

**Ushers:** Shirley Clark, Charlotte Bailey

**Jubilate Dinner:** Susan Hellings

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, September 20

9:00 Work Team

11:00 PBJ Luncheon

5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner

6:00 Wednesday Program

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### SATURDAY, September 23

10:00 Rise Against Hunger

### SUNDAY, September 24

9:30 ESOL Class

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

when we take what we've learned from Willis Jenkins and Kate Tarrant and discuss it. Our program this week will be a series of table discussions and opportunities to share. We will keep looking at ecotheology, and I will present some of the ideas and provide questions to prompt our conversation. Make your reservation for the meal and enjoy the food from our wonderful chef Reid Owen. Then, stick around for a discussion about one of the biggest issues facing humanity.

The party will keep going on Saturday morning at Rise Against Hunger (RAH). We've increased our goal to pack 20,000 meals, so we need your help! Register [here](#). If you haven't attended an RAH event before, then you are in for a treat. They are fun, and we get to do good in the few hours we are together. Since we will be labeling the meals from our last event and unloading and loading the truck, we need lots of help. Please sign up if you can.

Return to the cook's question, "What kind of church do you belong to?" We are a church that isn't afraid to talk about tough issues. We come together to feed the hungry, house the homeless, and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ (sometimes with jazzy overtones). The kingdom of God is a party, and we get to be part of it.

Peace,  
Matt



### Sunday Night Dinners for College Students

Sunday night dinners with our college students are off to a great start this year! As I shared at the Church Conference in August, this semester we have instructed our Jubilate students to invite their friends, roommates, and classmates to join us for dinner at 6:30 each Sunday night. As you can see in the photo, those friends have responded enthusiastically! The past two weeks, we have served between 22 and 25 students. There is a large group of young women who are coming each week from the UVA Women's Rugby team, several of whom have never attended church. The meals we are providing each Sunday are creating an opportunity for our church to share love with every student, helping them see that UBC is truly an inclusive family and a place where they are welcomed exactly as they are. We still have three Sundays this semester that need a meal provided - please [click here](#) to sign up with your Sunday Bible Study or your family to provide a meal!

12:00 Youth Lunch & Mission Project  
5:00 Jubilate Rehearsal  
6:30 Jubilate Dinner

### MONDAY, September 25

10:30 Bible Reading Group  
12:00 Missions Council Meeting  
1:00 UniBap Childcare Task Force

### TUESDAY, September 26

6:30 Prayer Shawl Group  
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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

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### Prayer Requests\*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Linda Hendon

Ed & Carolyn Lowry

Barbara Newlon

Jeanne Nye

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Anne Wilkerson

The Family of Judy Scruggs who passed away September 14. Judy was heavily involved in the church here and sang in the choir for decades. Her funeral service will be Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2:00 at Aldersgate UMC.

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

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### Thank You

We were able to provide over 100 students with backpacks, school supplies like markers, crayons, pencils, Kleenex, and more! It was such a gift to see our students be able to choose a backpack and bring supplies to their classroom.

## Music Library

Our church has been blessed with a vibrant music and worship ministry, and at the heart of it lies a treasure trove of musical arrangements and scores in our Music Library. Today, we wish to extend our deepest gratitude to the unsung heroes who have diligently worked behind the scenes to curate and maintain this invaluable resource – our Music Library volunteers.

We unite in heartfelt gratitude to acknowledge the extraordinary contributions of two remarkable individuals, Linda Boston and Nancy Gaines, as well as the countless other volunteers who have harmonized our church through their tireless efforts in the Music Library.

In the background, away from the spotlight, Linda and Nancy have dedicated countless hours to organize, catalog, and preserve our musical heritage. Through their diligent efforts, our Music Library has become a sanctuary of inspiration for our musicians and worship leaders, enriching our worship experiences.

But let us not forget the many other volunteers who have helped in the reorganization of our Music Library. Each one has played a vital role in ensuring our music resources are readily available to all. Their collective efforts have created an atmosphere of unity and collaboration within our church, embodying the very essence of our faith.

To Linda, Nancy, and all our dedicated volunteers, we extend our heartfelt thanks. Your passion for music, your commitment to our church, and your love for our congregation have made a profound impact. Your legacy will continue to resonate in the hymns and melodies that fill our sanctuary.

With heartfelt thanks and warm blessings,

Susan Deal - Intentional Interim Minister of Music

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## Bible Reading Group is Restarting!

Would you like to start off your week with God's Word? Join the Bible Reading Group, restarting on Monday, Sept. 25! We meet Monday mornings from 10:30 - 11:00 AM on Zoom. Each week, we read together a couple of Old Testament and New Testament chapters, as well as a Psalm. We will be picking up with Judges 1, Psalm 87, and 2 Thessalonians 2. Hope to see you there! Questions? Contact [Ben Chenault](#).

Zoom info:

Meeting ID: 916 0543 0566

Passcode: 219720

As a Title 1 school, we have a lot of student need and donations like the ones from your church truly make such a huge impact on our community! Without your support many of our students would not have access to backpacks, water bottles, or basic classroom needs. Thank you so much for your continued support!

Cheryl, Woodbrook Elementary School Counselor

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Wednesday night dinners are back. Come for dinner at 5:30, program at 6:00, and Sanctuary Choir rehearsal at 7:00.

We're asking you to RSVP if you plan to attend the dinner. If you pay in cash, please use one of the envelopes on the side of the wooden box, and put your name on it, so we can credit it to the right person.

Tomorrow's menu will be:

*Classic Spaghetti w/Marinara Sauce*

*Homemade Meatballs*

*Italian green beans*

*Garlic Bread*

*Mixed Greens Salad*

Click [here](#) to RSVP by Tuesday at noon.

Our program this week will be a series of table discussions and opportunities to share led by Matt Tennant. We hope you can attend and invite your friends.

## Church Conference Summary

Following our Wednesday night dinner on August 30, we held a Church Conference to approve the 2023-24 UBC Lay Leaders' Report. Also presented was information regarding the purchase of new "Glory to God" hymnals. (Upon further investigation, it was determined that we need to close the loop with the New Hymnal Task Force, which was created prior to the pandemic, before moving forward.) Watch for a way for individuals to purchase a hymnal in honor of or in memory of a loved one.

Val gave an update of the Youth and College Ministry. Brian Mulcahy is taking over as youth Bible Study leader and is seeking a second adult volunteer to be present to adhere to our Child Protection Policy. The youth will be meeting once a month on Sunday afternoons with varied programming as well as continuing to do events partnered with FBC Waynesboro.

All college students are now invited to dinner on Sunday evenings along with Jubilate. Val is also initiating Thursday morning coffee chats as a new option this semester.

Matt reported that Jazz Vespers will be a monthly worship service at 7:00 on the third Sunday evening beginning September 17 and led by Matt, John D'Earth, and other local jazz musicians.

If you would like to see how you can get involved in what's going on at UBC, click [here](#) for a list of teams, music groups, Bible studies, mission opportunities, and other groups in the church.



### 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.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

**Sept. 27:** Chris Belt

**Sept. 28:** Al Holliday (95 yrs. young!)

**Sept. 29:** Patti Barretta

**Sept. 30:** Sandy Manning

**Oct. 2:** Joseph Johnson, Chris Hellings



### Rise Against Hunger with UBC

We had a great packing event in August. We have now packed 67,824 meals toward our goal of 100,000!

Next Packing Event  
Saturday, September 23  
10:00 - 12:00  
in the Fellowship Hall

Click [here](#) to find out more about Rise Against Hunger (RAH). This is a fun and inter-generational 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!



## 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

