



October 24, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 43

ON WATCH

You Are Welcome Here (Part 4)

What's your favorite part of being in the UBC family? Friends, music, worship, seeing the children, the sanctuary, the church's history, traditions, chance to sing hymns, your circle, choir, Jubilate, opportunities to do good, Rise Against Hunger, learning, spiritual growth, working with the work crew, the food . . . I'm sure there are more things people might name as their favorite part of being in the UBC family (or, maybe not). Either way, when we list our favorite things, they are the life-giving activities of UBC life.

Few people would shout, "Serving on committees," when asked about their favorite thing at UBC. My evidence comes from the challenge to find people who are willing to serve. Please don't misunderstand me. There are some saints who thrive on committees, and we thank God for them every day. Giving them opportunities to serve where they feel called is part of being welcoming.

This gets to the crux of this series of articles. Welcoming people means meeting them where they are and becoming the kind of church where we can plug people in where they feel called to serve. If we have more people who want to sing in a choir than the average church, then we will have a disproportionately large choir based on the size of our congregation. And we do. Having people who like to work means that we can prepare 106,056 meals for the hungriest people on the planet. And we did.

The question each of us needs to answer is: What is our favorite part of being in the UBC family? When we answer

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

October 29, 2023

11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Standing Faithfully in a Faith-Needing World"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Revelation 7:9-17

Anthem:

"The Family of Faith"

Joseph Martin

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Shirley Clark

Ushers: Cindy Bryant, Ben Chenault

College Dinner: Click [here](#) to provide dinner for our college students.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, October 25

9:00 Work Team

10:00 PBJ Bible Study

5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner

6:00 Handbell Rehearsal

6:00 Wednesday Night Program

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SATURDAY, October 28

11:00 College Trip to Kings Dominion

that question, we need to find ways to feed that ministry. When we see areas in church life that energize a lot of people, we should be fanning the flames of the Holy Spirit. In John 3, when Jesus answered Nicodemus' question about being born again, he said, "The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So, it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit" (John 3:8).

When the Holy Spirit is moving, we follow. Sometimes we can see the movement of the Spirit by watching what energizes God's people. Last week, I wrote about how becoming a welcoming family might involve some changes to the way we are organized. Regarding changes, I quoted Edwards Deming, "Two basic rules of life are: 1) Change is inevitable. 2) Everybody resists change."

Deming was a business theorist and was describing corporations. However, he could have been writing about churches. Next year, the Joint Administrative Review Committee (JARC) will evaluate our structure and suggest any necessary changes. As we seek to be God's people, follow the Spirit, and focus on life-giving ministries, what structural changes do we need to make?

Peace,
Matt



Called Church Conference

A Church Conference is being called for Wednesday, November 1, 6:00 pm to consider the purchase of new hymnals and any other matters relating to such purchase.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Nov. 1: Jim Guyton

Nov. 2: Janeth Bibb

Nov. 6: Kyndall Foster, Cassidy Guyton

Nov. 7: Isabella Canseco, Peter Centofante, Charlotte Centofante



SUNDAY, October 29

9:30 ESOL Class

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

1:30 Youth @Bowlero

5:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

6:30 College Dinner

MONDAY, October 30

10:30 Bible Reading Group

TUESDAY, October 31

7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Linda Hendon

Ed & Carolyn Lowry

Barbara Newlon

Chris Owens

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Bob & Joyce Tennant

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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

A WORD FROM VAL



CBF Virginia Youth Retreat Registration

Join us for a fun weekend away! The annual CBF Virginia Youth Retreat will take place at Eagle Eyrie November 10-12. This year's theme is "Noticing the Sparks of God," and we will learn about how God works in our lives, our church, and our world. Students will leave from the UBC parking lot at 6:00 pm on Friday and arrive back to UBC during morning worship on Sunday. Cost per student is \$95. Scholarship assistance is available. You can view more details about the retreat [here](#).



October is Clergy Appreciation Month. UBC is blessed to call three very hard-working ministers our own: Matt, Val, and Susan. The work of a minister doesn't just happen on Sunday mornings but every day of the week. Their love for God and care for people is ever present, even though it may go unnoticed at times. This month, we pause to encourage and commend our faithful leaders who point us to God, pray for our souls, perform important ceremonies, and promote spiritual well-being for our families. We encourage you to let our ministers know how much you appreciate their diligence in whatever way you desire.

Blessings to All,
Personnel Committee



January-September 2023

Contributions: \$361,791.34

Expenses: \$480,628.31

Third-quarter giving statements are coming out this week. If you do not receive yours (either through email or print) or you have questions, please let Amanda know.

(aohlms@universitybaptist.org)



Rise Against Hunger with UBC We did it!

Thank you for helping us reach our goal. We set out to pack 100,000 meals with Rise Against Hunger in 2023, and as of Saturday, October 21, we packed 106,056 meals! We reached this goal in 7 packing events over the year. If anyone would still like to contribute, the cost per meal is \$0.40. So, for \$40, you could pay for 100 meals.

We also want to express our deep gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this ministry this year. On behalf of the starving people who will receive the meals we packed, thank you.

We will have available at our Wednesday night dinner food from some of the meals we packaged for Rise Against Hunger. Come and sample what the meals actually taste like!

Note: We will not have a packing event in November.



Come for dinner at 5:30, program at 6:00, and Sanctuary Choir rehearsal at 7:00.

Tomorrow's menu will be:

Roasted Chicken Breast
Pasta with fall squash, spinach, and mushrooms
Roasted Brussels Sprouts
Mixed Green Salad
Assorted Cookies

We will also have available some food from some of the meals we packaged for Rise Against Hunger. Everyone is invited to sample one of the meals.

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

Our program this week will be led by Rev. Fisk. Val will be sharing what she learned at the Youth Ministry Conference she recently attended. We hope you can attend and invite your friends.

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

