



August 27, 2024 Vol. 76, No. 35

Thankful
for UBC

WATCH

Recently, I met with several other pastors. As we talked about our congregations, I felt a deep sense of gratitude for you—the congregation of University Baptist Church. We’ve experienced a lot together over the last seven years. Off the top of my head, I can think of a bunch of things we have done together: setting up a live stream, building UniBap Park, developing a partnership with Pastor Rubens in Haiti, feeding 100k+ people with Rise Against Hunger, trying out a Jazz Vespers, starting the Myers Lecture Series, the no-rehearsal Christmas pageant, hosting Ken Medema, starting Spy Wednesday... This is just the tip of the iceberg. We’ve done a lot together.

Through it all, you exhibit openness, patience, and a sense of God’s grace and calling. You are willing to take risks, enter uncharted territory, and trust the leading of the Holy Spirit. We talk about how we can be the light of Christ to our world and the people in our orbit. Again and again, you give tangible testimony of what it looks like to follow Jesus.

Listening to other pastors describe other churches made me wonder if you are grateful for UBC, too. I know that many of you are. You tell me how much you appreciate this church, and I believe you mean it. As much as this congregation is a blessing to me, you are a blessing to each other. You lift each other up in prayer, encourage one another, bring meals to each other in times of need, and act out what it means to be the body of

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, September 1, 2024

11:00 AM

Sermon:

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Anthem:

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
Bradley Ellingboe

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Ray Gaines

Ushers: Herman & Gayle Eaker

Jubilate Dinner: Dinners have resumed.

Click [here](#) to sign up to provide a dinner for our Jubilate students.

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. This is a very popular outreach ministry of the church.

Christ. As a congregation, we should be thankful for what a special body of believers UBC is.

Gratitude, however, is only part of the puzzle. There are people all around us who would be blessed by being part of this great church. Do you have friends or neighbors who might enjoy one of our Wednesday night programs? Do you know someone who might like some of our special services, especially around Christmas or Holy Week? If we open ourselves to the leading of the Spirit, we will see opportunities to share God's grace and invite people to UBC. When we invite them in, they can experience the blessing you and I find each week in this sacred space.

When UBC grows, God's kingdom expands. When new people enter the life of the church, they are blessed. Inviting them to be part of UBC is a gift. It's a chance for them to experience what you experience. Give the gift of inviting someone to UBC this week.

Peace,
Matt



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Sept 7: George Payne

Sept 8: Scott Miller

Sept 9: Sarah Schulte

Sept. 10: Georgina Main, Karley Haskiell

2024-2025 UBC Lay Leaders Report

On Wednesday, August 14 at our Church Conference our 2024-2025 UBC Lay Leaders Report was presented by the Nominating Committee for approval. The report was approved unanimously. These new leaders will take office on September 1. Contact the church office for a copy of the report.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, August 28

9:00 Work Team
4:00 Stewardship Committee Meeting
5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner
6:00 Program TBD
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, September 1

8:30 Church Council Meeting
9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
4:30 Jubilate Rehearsal
6:00 Jubilate Dinner

MONDAY, September 2

Church Office Closed
1:00 Theology Reading Group
8:00 Youth Council

TUESDAY, September 3

7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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



RECEPTION SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Meet our new Associate Minister of Music & College Ministries

On September 7 & 8 we will have an Affirmation of Call weekend for our new Associate Minister of Music & College Ministries. On Saturday, September 7, at 2:00, you will have a chance to meet our candidate. Then on Sunday, we will have a Called Church Conference immediately after worship followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall. If you are able to help with the Sunday reception, please [click here](#) and sign up for one of the slots.

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Johnny & Gail Ellen

David & Linda Hendon

Larry & Lynn Martin

Sylvie Moore

Kaylee Risell

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Bob & Joyce Tennant

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



Sanctuary Flowers

Would you like to reserve sanctuary flowers in honor or in memory of a special person or occasion? Sunday flowers can be reserved for birthdays, anniversaries, or to commemorate other special occasions.

Please submit your request to include your name, the bulletin message, and the desired reservation dates to the [UBC office](#). A member of the Floral Committee will be in touch to confirm your dedication.



Join us tomorrow, Wednesday, August 28, for dinner at 5:30 and a program entitled *Otium Sanctum: Experiencing the Divine in Moments of Leisure* for youth and adults beginning at 6:00 and *All Creation Sings* for the children. Child-care is always available.

Click [here](#) to RSVP.

Following the program you are invited to sing with the Sanctuary Choir as they rehearse in the Music Suite.

Otium Sanctum: Experiencing the Divine in Moments of Leisure

These are tumultuous times. Just a quick look at the news will provide plenty of examples. Beyond the news, we all have ups and downs in our lives. During turmoil, the psalmist reminds us that "God is our refuge." What seems like turmoil today can be nothing tomorrow--we might look back and laugh--or it can be a bitter memory that takes a lifetime to get over. Either way, God is with us in the middle of it all, and when the storm clouds begin to gather on the horizon, the psalmist writes, "Be still and know that God is God." The act of "being still" is an extreme challenge, because we place such great value on productivity. On Wednesday, we will explore *otium sanctum*. *Otium Sanctum* is "holy leisure," and it is an affront to the value we place on productivity. Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God," reminds us to calm down and embrace "holy leisure." Come to church on Wednesday to learn about *otium sanctum* and how to experience it.



State Missions Offering

Each year we collect a special offering to support missions in the state of Virginia. This August, our missions emphasis will support the chaplain ministry at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women. Our goal is

\$3,000. You can give on our website or by mailing a check to the church (Make the check out to University Baptist Church and write State Missions in the memo line). Here is some information from Chaplain Jerusha Tiller, whose ministry our offering will support:

Sharing the Light

COVID hit institutions hard: schools, childcare programs, hospitals, retirement homes, nursing homes, and prisons were affected. At Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women, we had additional challenges like staffing shortage of both officers and volunteers, and as a result our religious programs were affected. Our program numbers dwindled as schedules shifted and older preachers refrained from entering the prison systems. Inmates struggled to find the strength to beat these challenges.

Life does not have to be perfect to be wonderful. In the summer of 2023, after the worst wave of COVID passed, 38 inmates recommitted their lives to Christ. Some accepted Jesus for the very first time. Both Protestants and Messianic Jews reached out to me to be baptized in the "pool" we have in the chaplain's office. Today, 6 months later, looking at these pictures, I see inmate Byrd who passed away last week after an illness. She testified to the saving grace of Jesus in her life while she was doing well. She gave her witness in our church of 100 inmates every time she was discharged from the hospital. He who began a good work in us is faithful to complete it, in due season. Weeping may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

Bio: Chaplain Tiller is an ordained Baptist minister. She completed her master's degree in divinity and a doctorate degree in ministry at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond. She majored

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-fourth 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 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 [here](#), or you can send a check to the church or give online with "Dinner with Andrew" in the memo line.

in biblical studies and obtained a master's degree in theology at the Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. She taught World Religions as adjunct faculty at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her doctoral project was in the field of grief and loss. She lives in Richmond with her seventeen-year-old daughter, a stage 4 cancer survivor, and her husband Martin Tiller and his daughter. Her grandparents were a major influence on her life. They retired from the Department of Corrections in India and told her bedtime stories of their work in Corrections. The stories took deep root in her impressionable heart and are the reason for her passion for prison ministry today.

Staff Contact Information:

Senior Minister: Dr. Matthew Tennant - matt@universitybaptist.org

Interim Associate Minister: Rev. Elizabeth Rickert Dowdy - elizabeth@universitybaptist.org

Intentional Interim Minister of Music: Rev. Susan Deal - susan@universitybaptist.org

Jubilate & Voces Laetae Director: Will Cooke - wcooke@universitybaptist.org

Office Coordinator: Linda Weirich - linda@universitybaptist.org

Financial Coordinator: Amanda Ohlms - aohlms@universitybaptist.org

Social Media Coordinator: Alaysia Toney - socialmedia@universitybaptist.org

Church Administrator: Alan Hendricks - ahendricks@universitybaptist.org

Sunday Mornings

Worship

Our Sunday morning worship service begins 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

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Connect with us

