



September 3, 2024 Vol. 76, No. 36

Opportunity
to Be Welcoming

ON WATCH

Last October and November, I wrote a seven-part 'On Watch' series titled "You Are Welcome" ([part 1](#), [part 2](#), [part 3](#), [part 4](#), [part 5](#), [part 6](#), and [part 7](#)). In April of this year, I [revisited the series](#). This weekend, we have an opportunity to be welcoming. In truth, we've had multiple opportunities since July. In fact, we have the chance to welcome strangers into our church family every week. However, in July, you made Rev. Dowdy and her daughters feel like part of the family. Over the last several weeks, you've made students and newcomers to the area feel welcome. This weekend, you have the chance to welcome our new Associate Minister for Music and College Students.

On Friday, you will receive an email with a full introduction and a copy of her covenant. On Saturday, the congregation will get to meet her and begin to get to know her and her family. On Sunday, she will have a leadership role in worship, and after church, we will vote to affirm her calling as our newest minister.

The formal introduction, chance to meet her, and time to worship together are part of our amended process of calling a new minister. Over the weekend, you will get to know the new Associate Minister for Music and College Students. You'll hear about where she's from, her education and experience, and meet her family. This means that you will know her, but she won't know you yet.

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, September 8, 2024

11:00 AM

Sermon:

Faith That Works

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17

Anthem:

I Hunger and Thirst
arr. by Kevin Siegfried

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Shirley Clark

Ushers: Ron Tweel, Ian Pallini

Jubilate Dinner: Pam Hallissy

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



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.

Over the next few months, you have the opportunity to be welcoming to her and her family. You have the chance to make her feel like this is her church, and we are part of each other's lives. This is the real chance to be the family of Christ. When you invite her over for dinner, when you take her out for coffee or meet her for lunch, and when you invite her into your life, you will practice the art of being welcoming.

God gives us opportunities to be the hands and feet of Christ each day. Take them and celebrate the gift of being part of the family of University Baptist Church. Let us be a welcoming family of faith.

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-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.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, September 4

9:00 Work Team
5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner
6:00 "The Great Dechurching"
6:00 Music+Missions
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, September 6

7:00 Joint Deacon & Council Meet the Candidate

SATURDAY, September 7

10:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
2:00 Church Meet & Greet

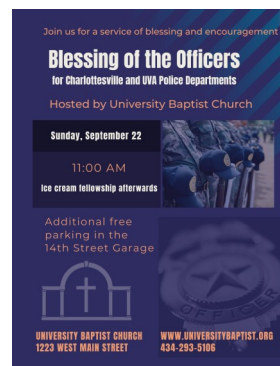
SUNDAY, September 8

9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:00 Church Conference
12:30 Reception for new Music Minister
4:30 Jubilate Rehearsal
6:00 Jubilate Dinner

TUESDAY, September 10

11:30 Annie Armstrong Circle
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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



CPD Blessing of the Officers

Join us on Sunday, September 22, 11:00, for a service of blessing and encouragement for our Charlottesville and UVA Police

Departments. Invitations have been given to over 200 officers. Following the service there will be an ice cream fellowship on the front steps, or, in case of inclement weather, in the Fellowship Hall.

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
Tom & Diane Mundell
Kaylee Risell
Melvin & Mildred Spicer
Bob & Joyce Tennant
Barbara Weber
Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



RECEPTION SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Meet our new Associate Minister for Music & College Students

On September 7 & 8 we will have an Affirmation of Call weekend for our new Associate Minister for Music & College Students. 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.



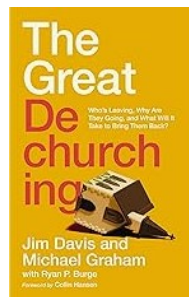
Join us tomorrow, Wednesday, September 4 for dinner at 5:30 and then beginning at 6:00, we'll look at the book, *The Great Dechurching*, while the children attend *All Creation Sings*. Childcare is always available.

Click [here](#) to RSVP.

Our menu will be:

Honey Garlic Chicken Breast
White Rice
Roasted Brussels Sprouts
Mixed Green Salad
Dessert

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



"The Great Dechurching"

It is greater than the First and Second Great Awakening and every revival in our country combined...but in the opposite direction. Yet precious little rigorous study has been done on the broad phenomenon of dechurching in America. Jim Davis and Michael Graham have commissioned the largest and most comprehensive study of dechurching in America by renowned sociologists Dr. Ryan Burge and Dr. Paul Djupe.

The Great Dechurching takes the insights gleaned from this study to drill down on how exactly people are dechurching with respect to beliefs, behavior, and belonging.

This book gives the church in America its first ever deep dive into the dechurched phenomenon. You'll learn about the dechurched through a detailed sketch of demographics, size, core concerns, church off-ramps, historical roots, and the gravity of what is at stake. Then you'll explore what can be done to slow the bleed, engage the pertinent issues winsomely and wisely, and hopefully re-church some of the dechurched.



Volunteer Opportunity

We need volunteers to help with many indoor and outdoor tasks to enhance our building. Tasks for the coming months include:

- window & windowsill cleaning
- window blind cleaning
- spreading mulch
- pressure washing
- painting railings
- painting the UniBap park bench
- other tasks that you see that need to be done.

You can do the task individually or with someone from the work team on a schedule that suits you. We will get you setup with supplies. For questions or to volunteer, contact [Alan Hendricks](#).



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Sept 11: Jordan Johnson, Leon Castle (turning 90 years young), Destiny Bonilla, Alba Beasley

Sept 12: Randy Whitlow, Jude Diederich

Sept 13: Adrienne Canterbury

Sept. 14: Nick Martindale

Sept. 15: Anne Smith

Sept. 16: Ed Smith, Lynne Gardner

Sept. 17: Jo-Ann Averill, Barbara Moore

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.

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Connect with us

