



September 10, 2024 Vol. 76, No. 37

More Love

WATCH

On Sunday, I asked, "What do we need more of?" At first, I offered some suggestions (water, food, and clean habitats for nature). However, in the end, we need more love. James writes, "Faith without works is dead" (James 2:17), so what we believe *must* connect with what we do. If we say we believe something, but don't live like it, our belief isn't real. It's dead.

Since Sunday, I have been thinking about how we can be more loving. It seems like living this belief comes down to micro-interactions. Each encounter and each exchange is an opportunity to be more loving. In every moment, we can make a choice. Do I want to be loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, generous, faithful, gentle, and self-controlled (Galatians 5:22-23)? Or do I want to be something else?

When we fall short, and we all will, we can extend the same grace we give to others to ourselves. Letting yourself off the hook takes away the baggage of guilt and shame. The gospel message isn't about feeling bad. It's about transformation in Christ. As new beings in Christ, we strive to follow his ways. Sometimes we succeed. Other times we don't. In either case, the choices we make are about *this moment*, not reliving past mistakes.

The world needs more love. Each one of us has the chance to be part of this love in every moment of every day.

Peace,
Matt

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, September 15, 2024

11:00 AM

Sermon:

The Sign of the Cross

Dr. Scott Spencer

Scripture:

1 Corinthians 1:17-25

Anthem:

This is My Word

Pepper Choplin

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Laura Morris

Ushers: Charlotte Bailey, Shirley Clark

Jubilate Dinner: 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.



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.



Worship+Wonder Assistants Needed

Every Sunday morning at a particular point in our worship service, our children in grades K-5th are invited to attend Worship+Wonder, a worship experience designed specifically for them.

We are in need of volunteers to help our children for about 20 minutes on Sunday mornings to have a meaningful addition to their worship experience. If you are able to assist in this way, please see the sign-up genius [here](#).

Coming Soon!!

Be on the lookout for a new UBC website coming soon! You'll be able to access the new website the same way you always have. The new site will have a cleaner and updated look as well as updated information. We'll let you know when the new site is up and running!

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, September 11

- 9:00 Work Team
- 10:00 PBJ Bible Study
- 5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 6:00 "The Great Dechurching"
- 6:00 Music+Missions
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, September 12

- 7:00 Deacons' Meeting

SUNDAY, September 15

- 8:30 Finance Committee 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 16

- 7:00 Theology Reading Group

TUESDAY, September 17

- 7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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



Thanks to Our UBC Ladies

After waiting a year for Labor Day sales, we used your generous gift from the bridal shower to purchase a new wash-

er/dryer combination for our home. Photo attached is us at Lowe's! Angela & Josh Mandell

Last Fall the ladies of the church hosted a bridal shower for Angela Li and Josh Mandell which, as you can see from the picture, was greatly appreciated!

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
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.



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](#).

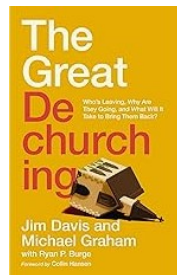


Join us tomorrow, Wednesday, September 11 for dinner at 5:30 and then beginning at 6:00, we'll look at the book, *The Great Dechurching*, while the children attend *All Creation Sings*. Childcare is always available.

Click [here](#) to RSVP.

Our menu will be:
Pulled Pork BBQ
Red Beans and Rice
Corn on the Cob
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.

Ministry in Action

The following is a note from LilyPads Operations Assistant sent to our Annie Armstrong Circle. LilyPads Housing provides no-cost, short-term housing in volunteer host homes for families and friends of pediatric patients undergoing medical care at the University of Virginia, or other medical facilities in Charlottesville, Virginia.

I wanted to send you another quick thank you and follow-up about how the generous gift cards you sent to our organization have been used. All the cards have gone to "heart baby" families. We have a strong relationship with UVA peds cardiology.



Matthew was born earlier this month and is recovering beautifully from his recent heart procedure. I dropped off the gift cards for them the day of his surgery and received the following text from his mother: "Just got back from the hospital. Thank you to the kind people who donated the gift cards! That was definitely a tearjerker for sure!!"



Poppy's family stayed with us for over six months while she was in-patient this year. The attached photo is of her on the first day that she was able to go outside!

Thank you again for your kindness and generosity! Your thoughtfulness has been impactful!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Sept 18: Caroline Centofante, Susan Hellings

Sept 22: Beth Wright, Will Brown, Erin Eaker

Sept 23: Sue Walton

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.

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

