



September 16, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 36

ONWATCH Getting Plugged In

Last week, I wrote about “[Invitation & Then What?](#)” Previously, I’ve written about creating an invitational culture before (e.g. [here](#)). Today’s ‘On Watch’ is about getting plugged in.

Getting plugged in is about connecting people with things that make their heart sing. It’s about what energizes people. Different tasks light different people up. We have a group of people who love serving families by providing funeral receptions. It’s an incredible ministry, and I appreciate the care they provide by organizing, buying or making food, setting it up, and cleaning up afterward. It allows a family to gather with loved ones and remember their loved one. It’s also an opportunity for members of our church family to see one another and catch up.

At Martha Wood’s funeral, for example, we need to thank: Michelle Proffitt, Jennifer Baldwin, Martha Ballenger, Jen Bates, Linda Boston, Cindy Bryant, Gail Ellen, Judy Gough, Laura Faye Groff, Pam Hallissy, Jackie Lockwood, Carolyn Lowry, Jen May, Joyce Martin, Laura Martindale, Jeanette Mills, Barbara Moore, Laura Morris, Barbara Murray, Ji Song, Raynell Stokes, Lynda Tweel, Katherine Vaughan, Nelda Vaughan, Shirley Waggoner, Sue Whitt, and Diane Woerner. **Thank you to everyone who helped make it a special time for Martha’s friends and family.**

However, maybe helping with a funeral reception isn’t for you. There are other opportunities. Each week, a dedicated crew makes the

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, September 21, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

Living Water

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

John 4:7-15

Anthem:

Living Water by Tom Trenney

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Laura Morris

Ushers: Tom & Sylvie Moore

College Dinner: Ji Song

Click [here](#) to provide a dinner for our college students.



Help feed our college students this year!

5:30 Sunday night college dinners are for Jubilate

members and UBC college students. Help provide delicious meals for students as a way to care for our UVA neighbors. Sign up as a family, a Bible study group, or grab a friend to help you with set up and clean up. There are now separate sign ups for providing food and/or hosting. Click [here](#) to pick your date.

audio and video possible. This group includes Ezra Flaherty, Bob Gough, Alan Hendricks, Larry Martin, Eddy Tennant, and Jay Wilderman. **Thank them for making our services sound good and making them available online.** We have committees and teams, the Wednesday Work Crew, ushers, greeters, Sunday Bible Study teachers/facilitators, and much, much more.

After we make someone feel welcome and create an experience they will want to have again, then what? We can lean into the steps I outlined last week: (1) Learn people's names. (2) Try to remember them. (3) This is important: call them by name when you see them again. If they forgot your name, that's okay. Tell them your name again and tell the person you are happy they are here. (4) The final step is the key to getting plugged in. Listen carefully. If you hear any clues about what part of UBC life they might find life giving, don't keep it a secret.

This week, will you tell me your favorite part of life at UBC? I would love to hear about it and celebrate what makes it life giving for you.

Finally, to everyone, thank you for everything you do for God at University Baptist Church.

Peace,
Matt



Youth Event
Sunday, September 21
12:00 - 2:00

This Sunday, September 21, all middle school and high school youth are invited to meet in Room 120 for pizza and games following the worship service.



Wednesday, September 17
Dinner starts at 5:15pm
(Note time change!)

Make your dinner reservations [here](#).

Wednesday Night Schedule Changing

Our Wednesday evening schedule has changed slightly. The hope is to allow more time for conversation around the dinner tables, open a space in the weekly schedule for the Sanctuary Bells to resume rehearsals, and to allow those with young children who sing in the Sanctuary Choir to get home before bedtime.

This new schedule is:

5:15-6:30-Dinner

5:45 Sanctuary Bells

6:30-8:00-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary Bells will rehearse from 5:45-6:30 in the Sanctuary balcony. For more information about the Bell Choir, contact [Sheri Owen](#).



Our Pastor on WINA

Dr. Tennant was Jay James' guest on WINA's Morning News last week. He appears on WINA once per month to provide some commentary on the news from a faith perspective. He talked about community issues this month. In case you missed it, you can [hear the interview here](#).

RSVP for the 125th Anniversary Banquet!

If you haven't already RSVP'd for our 125th Anniversary Banquet, time is running out. Deadline for reservations is Sunday, September 21. Click [here](#) to RSVP and choose which meal you would like to have.

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Colleen Baber

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Johnny & Gail Ellen

David & Linda Hendon

Donna Marshall & Family on the passing of
Donna's sister

Larry & Lynn Martin

Edith Parker

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

Liz Wood & Family on the death of Martha
Wood

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

Prayer Requests from our Youngest Members

During Worship+Wonder the kids were asked about any challenges at school. Their answers are below so that we can pray for them as they start the school year.

Clara - Calendar activities are scary, and math is boring.

Harper - I don't want any more storms during the school day!

Seth - There are some wild kids in my class this year, and that's tricky.

Stella - Writing is hard, and I have too much P.E.

Russell - Other kids are arguing and being unkind, and I'm trying to ignore them and do the right thing.



Day of Service - October 4
10:00 - 12:00 noon
UBC Fellowship Hall

As part of our **125 Acts of Service**, we invite you to join us for a hands-on morning of service and fellowship. Together, we'll make a difference for our community and beyond by working on several meaningful projects:

- **Create toiletry kits** for Fluvanna Correctional Center for women
- **Assemble food bags** for Trailblazer school
- **Write encouraging note cards** for UBC members
- **Bring toys** to be delivered to UVA Children's Hospital

Toy Donations for UVA Health Children's

UVA Children's welcomes **brand-new toys** only.

Please note that they cannot accept:

- Used toys or books
- Waterbeads
- Handmade items
- Items that promote violence (e.g., plastic guns or swords)
- Gift-wrapped items

Some great donation ideas:

- Play-Doh
- Coloring books
- Crayons or colored pencils
- Card games
- Individual Lego kits
- Bubbles
- Chapter books

To make giving even easier, UVA Children's has an **Amazon Wish List** of items used almost every day:

[UVA Children's Hospital Wish List](#)

Come ready to serve, share, and celebrate our church's 125th Anniversary by blessing others in our community.



Book Baskets of Charlottesville

The Seekers class would like to thank you all for joining them in their book drive done as an act of service for the 125th anniversary. The baskets and posters are down. The books have been counted and boxed and are ready for pick up. We are happy to announce that UBC will be contributing 560 books to *Book Baskets of Charlottesville*. For us it has been an act of service, but for many local kids it means books of their own. Thanks for your help with this wonderful donation of books.



Volunteers Needed

Only two Wednesdays left, tomorrow and next week! Sign up to help us give out ice cream before the season ends! Click [this link](#) to add your name and join us any time between 11:00 and 12:00 to help set up and/or between 12:00 and 2:00 in the narthex to serve the ice cream. ***This week is mango and raspberry!***

125th Anniversary Banquet

The 125th Anniversary Banquet Committee is collecting strings of white lights to decorate the Fellowship Hall for the October 11 dinner. Please bring any lights you would like to donate for the occasion and place them in the box outside of the church office.



With just under a month left before we celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the founding of University Baptist Church, the planning committee is hard at work preparing for a ceremony filled with memories. Previously, Ed Smith and Seth Kodikara had requested photos to be sent that document life in the last 25 years of University Baptist Church.

Ed and Seth would now like to offer their sincerest thanks for the many materials that have been shared over the last months. Moreover, they would like to request that no more photographs be sent so that they can focus all their efforts on editing and finalizing the presentation of these memories.

Please be sure to keep up with The Word, where links to the resulting collection of pictures will be shared after its initial presentation at the 125th Anniversary Celebration!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Sept. 25: Susan Deal
 Sept. 26: Nicole Dawson
 Sept. 27: Chris Belt
 Sept. 28: Al Holliday
 Sept. 29: Patti Barretta
 Sept. 30: Sandy Manning



Welcome Our Newest Member

We welcomed Mike Sun into our UBC family as a full member on Sunday, September 7 during worship. Mike

was baptized here last summer, then returned to China, and is now back as a 1st year UVA student. Be sure to welcome Mike when you see him.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, September 17

9:00 Work Team
12:00 Ice Cream Ministry
5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner
5:45 Sanctuary Bell Rehearsal
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, September 21

8:30 Finance Committee Meeting
9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:00 College Bagel Brunch
12:00 Youth Lunch & Games Event
4:00 Jubilate Rehearsal
5:30 College Student Dinner

MONDAY, September 22

12:30 Missions Council Meeting

TUESDAY, September 23

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

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

Staff Contact Information:

Senior Minister: Dr. Matthew Tennant - matt@universitybaptist.org
Associate Minister for Music and College Students: Rev. Megan Sharp - megan@universitybaptist.org
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
Organist: Barbara Moore - call the church office at 434-293-5106
Maintenance Assistant: Hunter Cooper - call the church office at 434-293-5106

Sunday Morning 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
1223 West Main Street
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434-293-5106

Connect with us

