



June 3, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 22



Matt Tennant is now seven weeks into his sabbatical journey—though it took an unexpected turn this past weekend. After returning home briefly to repair an engine, Matt had a workshop accident that resulted in several stitches in his arm. Thankfully, there was no nerve damage, and all digits are intact.

In true sabbatical spirit, Matt is leaning into this pause, continuing intentional rhythms of prayer, reading, and writing as his arm heals. He hopes to set sail again this weekend and resume the next leg of his journey.

### SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, June 8, 2025

11:00 AM

**Sermon:**

Pentecost Anyway

Rev. Dr. Will Brown

**Scripture:**

John 14:8-17 (25-27)

**Anthem:**

*African Pentekoste* by David Lantz III

### SUNDAY SERVICE

**Deacon:** Michelle Proffitt

**Ushers:** Lauren Cooper, Mary Jo Hendricks



Rev. Dr. Will Brown

*While our pastor, Matt Tennant, is away on sabbatical, we are grateful to welcome a series of guest preachers to our pulpit. Each one brings a unique voice and faithful perspective to our shared journey. This week we're pleased to welcome Rev. Dr. Will Brown.*

When he does return to the open water, life aboard the boat will once again be simple—even sparse—but full of beauty and quiet purpose. Each day offers space to reflect, pray, read, and write, surrounded by nothing but sky and sea.

Matt continues working on both of his writing projects. *Overcoming Differences* is beginning to take shape as he reflects on how we can move beyond polarization and toward Christlike compassion. Meanwhile, *Marine Theology* is unfolding not just in words, but in lived experience. When Matt writes about the ocean as a symbol of God's grace and our call to ecological care, he does so from the perspective of someone immersed in creation—literally.

He's also staying connected to his spiritual practice through journaling and attentive silence—listening for God's voice in the rhythm of the waves and the stillness between tasks.

### How can we pray for Matt this week?

Pray for continued healing and strength, for smooth sailing ahead, and for clarity as he writes and listens for the Spirit's leading.

### This week's spiritual challenge:

Let creation teach you. Whether it's a sunrise, a patch of grass, a bird's song, or a summer breeze—pause and let nature turn your thoughts to God. Read Psalm 104 this week and let it shape your prayer life.

As Matt prepares to set sail again, may we continue journeying with him—hearts open, eyes lifted, and faith deepened.

---

## 2025 Deacon Election

Our 2025 Deacon Election is now concluded. Thank you to all of you who took the time to vote for your new deacons. After the votes are tallied and phone calls made, we will share the results with you.

Rev. Dr. William Brown is pleased to return to the pulpit at UBC where he served as an associate minister from 2016 to 2022. Will received a B.A. from UVA, an M.Div. from Yale Divinity School, and a D. Min. from Duke Divinity School. Having served as a chaplain at Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital and at Westminster-Canterbury of the Blue Ridge, Will is now writing a book about gender and faith. Will and Erin, who met in Jubilate and were married at UBC, are thrilled that their 3 kids also know this community as their church family.



Join us in the narthex and on the front steps for birthday cake and ice cream!





While Matt continues to write *Overcoming Differences*, consider revisiting his earlier book, *Crossing the Lines We Draw: Faithful Responses to a Polarized America*. It's a powerful reflection on how we can live with love and conviction in divisive times--and it offers the perfect foundation for what's to come. **Limited copies are available for purchase from the church office for \$10 each.**



We're excited to announce *a new summer offering* for kids at UBC--**Mini Music Camp!**

Instead of our traditional VBS, we're hosting a three-day music experience filled with singing, instrument-playing, movement, and games. The theme is "**God, Our Protector,**" and we'll explore stories from the Bible about how God was present with people and kept them safe.

This is open to our church family and friends --*all are welcome!*

Come join us for joyful music-making and faith-filled fun.

## The United Gospel Choir is Coming!

**Who?** This summer, in partnership with Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church, we will have an opportunity to host a visit from the United Gospel Choir of Besancon, France.

**When?** The choir is coming to Charlottesville on Wednesday, July 16 and departing on Wednesday, July 23.

**What?** During their visit we will create a combined choir with the United Gospel Choir, UBC choir members, and Mt. Zion FABC choir members.

**Where?** We will give one or two performances and sing in worship at UBC on Sunday, July 20.

**How to help?** If you are interested in offering space in your house to host one or more of the visiting choir members, please contact [Megan](#). There also will be opportunities to help with meals and transportation during their visit.

**Please save the dates-July 16-23!**



## Volunteers Needed

It's that time again! Sign up to help us give out ice cream each Wednesday. 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 is a very popular outreach ministry of the church. ***This week is pineapple and cherry!***



We will meet for our Wednesday night dinner this week on June 4 at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall where we will continue our summer theme of Journeying Together.

Click [here](#) to RSVP by Tuesday at 5:00.

At 7:00 our Sanctuary Choir will rehearse in the Music Suite.



*"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40*



### Our Journey Together

During these weeks of sabbatical, Matt is not the *only one* on a journey. As a church of people from all walks of life, part of our purpose is to journey together on life's paths.

Throughout this spring and summer, we are following a path together to learn more about how we can trust God, follow Jesus, grow in our faith, and be a community together. Sometimes the trail may seem challenging. We might not always be sure where we are going. But we journey on this path— together.

Whether you join us in stages or for every step along the way, we look forward to journeying together with you.

### IDEAS FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, GROUPS LARGE AND SMALL

- Donate clothing and/or other items to Salvation Army or Good Will
- Read stories to shut-ins or nursing home residents
- Donate to and/or assist at Blue Ridge Area Food Bank

Your own ideas are welcomed!!

Take a picture of your Act of Service and then [fill out this form](#) to tell us about it. If you are having trouble with the form or need to turn in your information a different way, contact [Amanda](#).



UBC's very own Barbara Moore has provided the soundtrack for more than 400 weddings in the UVA Chapel over the past 60 years, offering grace, warmth, and musical beauty to generations of couples. In this heartwarming article, Barbara reflects on her remarkable journey, sharing favorite memories and the joy she's found in a lifetime of service. Read the full story [here](#).

## CALENDAR

**Saturday, June 7, 2025**  
**Rise Against Hunger at UBC**  
10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon



### WEDNESDAY, June 4

9:00 Work Team  
12:00 Ice Cream Ministry  
5:30 Wednesday night dinner  
6:00 Wednesday night program  
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### FRIDAY, June 6

8:00 & 9:00 UBC Softball

### SATURDAY, June 7

10:00 Rise Against Hunger Packing Event

### SUNDAY, June 8

8:30 JARC Meeting  
9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class  
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study  
11:00 Morning Worship  
12:00 Pentecost Celebration

### TUESDAY, June 10

6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

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



### Puerto Rico Mission Trip in November

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia is building a partnership and long-term presence with

teams, churches, and efforts in Puerto Rico. Several teams from Virginia have traveled to the island in the past year, and they'll be sending another team in November.

If you would like to travel and serve with a team from CBF Virginia to Puerto Rico, please save the date of November 3-7, 2025. They will plan to take up to 8 volunteers on this mission trip.

During this trip, they plan to provide hands-on assistance and financial support to relocate the electrical generator at Iglesia Bautista de Quebrada, Inc., enabling them to rebuild classrooms and offices damaged by Hurricane Maria.

A secondary but important effort is to continue to cultivate relationships with churches in Puerto Rico and to identify opportunities for collaborative partnerships.

If you are interested in joining this trip in November, please reach out to Mean. It would be great to send a UBC group to Puerto Rico.



UBC will provide chicken and drinks. You are invited to bring a side and/or a dessert.



## Prayer Requests\*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Johnny & Gail Ellen

David & Linda Hendon

Doc & Sarah Litchfield

Larry & Lynn Martin

Mary Ella McCauley

Edith Parker

Mildred Spicer & Family on the passing of her husband, Melvin

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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

## Collection for the University of Virginia Hospital Hospitality House

Through the month of June, the Kittie Colvin Trail Circle will be collecting items for the UVA Hospital Hospitality House. The Hospitality House, located on 14th Street, offers overnight rooms at a very reduced rate to people from out-of-town having out-patient treatment at the hospital and the families of patients in the hospital. The Hospitality House has 20 bedrooms and 8 kitchenettes for the guests to use, but they have a hard time keeping them stocked.

If you have a few things you no longer need, toiletries you have collected during your travels, individual snacks, paper goods, or forks and spoons leftover from a picnic, please bring them to the collection boxes in the 1st floor lobby.

Requested items:

- forks and spoons, real or plastic (they have hundreds of butter knives)
- bowls, real or paper
- plastic storage containers (the disposable kind food comes in from the store is fine)
- individual-sized shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, or soap
- detergent pods - All free and clear preferred
- fabric sheets - All free and clear preferred

Many thanks for helping us support this vital community ministry.

Ahead on the journey, we will learn more about the Fruit of the Spirit, the Disciples, the Church, and the World.





## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

**June 11:** Pam Dean, Gary Wood, Will Wagoner

**June 17:** David Hendon, Matt Tennant, Michael Harding, Alan Hendricks



## We have a softball team!

UBC's softball team is part of the Charlottesville Church Softball League. Their next games are Friday, June 6, 8:00 and 9:00 at McIntire 1. If you are interested in playing softball with a fun group of people in a Christian atmosphere, contact Coach George Martin at [cva2011@aol.com](mailto:cva2011@aol.com).

### Staff Contact Information:

Senior Minister: Dr. Matthew Tennant - [matt@universitybaptist.org](mailto:matt@universitybaptist.org)

Interim Executive Minister: Rev. Susan Deal - [susan@universitybaptist.org](mailto:susan@universitybaptist.org)

Associate Minister for Music and College Students - Rev. Megan Sharp - [megan@universitybaptist.org](mailto:megan@universitybaptist.org)

Interim Associate Minister: Rev. Elizabeth Rickert Dowdy - [elizabeth@universitybaptist.org](mailto:elizabeth@universitybaptist.org)

Voces Laetae Director: Will Cooke - [wcooke@universitybaptist.org](mailto:wcooke@universitybaptist.org)

Office Coordinator: Linda Weirich - [linda@universitybaptist.org](mailto:linda@universitybaptist.org)

Financial Coordinator: Amanda Ohlms - [aohlms@universitybaptist.org](mailto:aohlms@universitybaptist.org)

Social Media Coordinator: Alaysia Toney - [socialmedia@universitybaptist.org](mailto:socialmedia@universitybaptist.org)

Church Administrator: Alan Hendricks - [ahendricks@universitybaptist.org](mailto:ahendricks@universitybaptist.org)

Education Coordinator: Rev. Tommy Deal—call the church office at 434-293-5106

Organist: Barbara Moore - call the church office at 434-293-5106

Maintenance Assistant: Hunter Cooper - call the church office at 434-293-5106

## 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*  
1223 West Main Street  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
434-293-5106

Connect with us

