



October 28, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 42

WATCH

Something Good Today

James 3 opens with echoes of Romans 3:23, "All have sinned." James 3:2 says, "All of us make many mistakes." Where James diverges from Romans is their focus. Romans 3:21-26 is about righteousness through faith. James 3:1-12 is about our words. The latter part of James 3:2 says, "Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle."

When we think about how we live our faith, a great place to start is with our words. What we say matters. Reflecting Christ today begins with what we say. To me, James' acknowledgment that we make "many mistakes" is comforting, because no one is perfect. We might try to say the right thing but misspeak. Or, we might hope to say something kind and then realize that the other person thought we meant something else—something unkind. Instead of begrudging the other person, the opening of James 3:2 extends grace to such situations.

James 3 uses three analogies to better understand the impact of our words: horses, ships, and fire. First, it says, "If you put bits in the mouths of horses, you guide their whole bodies." Then, it turns to a maritime example, "Look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, November 2, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

Hopes & Nightmares

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Anthems:

Gently Lord, O Gently Lead Us
I Pharadisi arr. by Brad Richmond

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacons: Ray Gaines, Rachel Miller

Ushers: Tom & Sylvie Moore

College Dinner: Ji Song

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



will of the pilot directs." Finally, we read, "How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire!" This last example has become too real in recent years with the proliferation of wildfires. They often start with something very small.

James says, "The tongue is small but has a great impact," and "The tongue is a fire." Instead of letting our words start a wildfire, we can use our words to encourage others, affirm the people we meet, extend gratitude, and say something positive. Greeting someone and smiling costs us nothing. If they ignore us, that's okay. If they respond, that's even better. When we see the effort that someone puts into doing something, we can tell them we appreciate it.

Each one of us can do something good today, and it can start with our words.

Peace,
Matt



Two UBC members, George Martin and Hugh "Doc" Litchfield, will be inducted into the **USA Softball Hall of Fame of Piedmont Virginia** on November 15, 2025. George is being inducted for "Meritorious Service" and Doc as a "Player". Members of Doc's family will be in attendance to receive his award. The induction ceremony will be held in Bedford, VA.



Our Senior Minister, Matt Tennant, had an article printed in *Baptist News Global* entitled "Don't Shoot the Boats". This appears in the Opinion section of the publication and is a commentary, from a pastoral and theological perspective, on the policy of the U.S. military in sinking Venezuelan vessels. Click [here](#) to read the article.



October is Clergy Appreciation Month. UBC is blessed to call two very hard-working ministers our own, Matt and Megan. The work of a minister doesn't just happen on Sunday mornings but every day of the week. Their love for God and care for people is ever present, even though it may go unnoticed at times. This month, we pause to encourage and commend our faithful leaders who point us to God, pray for our souls, perform important ceremonies, and promote spiritual well-being for our families. We encourage you to let our ministers know how much you appreciate their diligence in whatever way you desire.



Wednesday, October 29

Dinner starts at 5:15pm

UBC Bells Rehearsal at 5:45

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal at 6:30

Make your dinner reservations [here](#).

Our menu will be:
Rotisserie Chicken
Mashed Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables
Salad
Rolls
Pie



Third Quarter Financial Update January-September 2025

Contributions: \$405,567.55
Expenses: \$529,018.82



125th Anniversary Celebration (video, slides, and pictures)

Recognizing the interest of so many members to revisit the PowerPoint program from our 125th anniversary banquet and to provide a "first opportunity" to those who were unable to attend, we have provided a link [here](#) to our 125th Anniversary website page. Here you will find access to the video program as it was presented at the banquet, access to the folder of pictures that were taken at the banquet, and access to the PDF file where you may casually view each slide, reflect on former friends, and your many fond memories associated with them. Please feel free to send the link to out-of-town friends who may have lost contact or were unable to attend. We also urge you to view a variety of banquet pictures on UBC's Facebook page.

From my perspective, the aggregate of these pictures reflects our rich legacy, how UBC has effectively and responsibly adapted as society remains in a constant state of flux. There is no doubt in my mind that UBC will have a similar celebratory 150th anniversary event in a few short years. As I have stated before and **firmly believe**, God has great plans for our church and its people. Finally, one more "shout out" to Susan and her committee for this deeply memorable celebration and for so many memories which will last for a lifetime. Well done thy good and faithful servants.

--Ed Smith

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, October 29

9:00 Work Team
5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner
5:45 Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, November 2

8:30 Church Council Meeting
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:00 College Bagel Brunch
4:00 Jubilate Rehearsal
5:30 College Dinner

TUESDAY, November 4

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

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

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Sarah Buchanan

Leon & Nancy Castle

David & Linda Hendon

Larry & Lynn Martin

Pat Owen

Edith Parker

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



Congratulations Alaysia!

Our Social Media Coordinator, Alaysia Toney, is leaving us. Alaysia has been with us for 2 ½ years taking pictures, creating posters, and making sure our presence on various social media platforms remains up to date. This has been a part-time position, and she has now accepted a full-time position elsewhere. We will be sorry to see her leave but congratulate her on this upward move!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

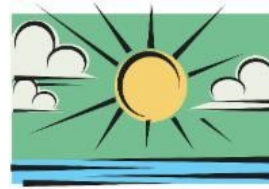
Join us in wishing some of our church family a Happy Birthday!

Nov. 6: Cassidy Guyton, Megan Sharp

Nov. 7: Isabella Canseco, Peter Centofante, Charlotte Centofante

Nov. 8: Jeanette Mills, Amy Teachey

Nov. 9: Mary Sheler



COMMEMORATION of the FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Reading of Names on All-Saints Sunday

As part of our All Saints worship service on November 2, we will read the names of members of the church who have died since last All Saints Sunday (Nov. 1, 2024). You are also invited to add names to the list of those read aloud in worship.

Please send names (and pronunciation guide) of loved ones who have died since last All Saints Sunday to Linda Weirich by Tuesday, October 28 at 5:00 pm. The reading of names and lighting of candles will help us to continue to recognize the great cloud of witnesses surrounding us (Hebrews 12:1).



Quarterly
Giving
Statements

Third quarter giving statements went out last week. If you did not receive yours (either through email or print) or you have questions, please let Amanda know.

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

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.

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Connect with us

