



June 24, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 25

We will not publish an edition of The Word next week but will return on July 8.



This week, Matt trades mountain trails for cobblestone streets—he has arrived in Bolivia!

His first stop is La Paz, a city perched high in the Andes Mountains. At over 11,000 feet above sea level,

even a walk around the block requires adjustment! These first few days are all about acclimating—getting used to the altitude, recovering from travel, and absorbing the sights and sounds of a place unlike anywhere he's been before.

Though the sailing portion of his sabbatical didn't unfold as planned, Matt spent recent weeks in a restful retreat surrounded by mountains—a quiet season of renewal and preparation. Now, in this new setting, he begins a very different chapter. La Paz is a bustling, high-altitude city rich in culture, history, and vibrant life. It's a different kind of quiet that he's seeking here—not found in silence, but in attentiveness of spirit.

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, June 29, 2025

11:00 AM

**Sermon:**

Holy Disobedience

Mary Kate Deal

**Scripture:**

Luke 2:41-48

**Anthem:**

*Gaudeamus Hodie* by Natalie Sleeth

## SUNDAY SERVICE

**Deacon:** Raynell Stokes

**Ushers:** Erin Eaker, Ronda Wiley



Mary Kate Deal

*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 **Mary Kate Deal**.*

Matt is continuing to pray and journal, giving thanks for the first half of the sabbatical and opening his heart to what comes next—a season that will stretch his body, his spirit, and his worldview.

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

Pray for a smooth adjustment to the altitude and new environment. Pray that his heart remains open and curious as he begins this next phase of the journey. And give thanks with him—for the blessings of rest, reflection, and the privilege of travel.

### This week's spiritual challenge:

Try seeing something familiar with fresh eyes. Whether it's your morning routine, your commute, or your neighborhood—look for God's presence in the everyday. Ask God to help you approach your life with renewed awareness and gratitude. Matt's location may have changed—but the journey of transformation continues. Let's journey with him.

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### Meet Our New Deacons

We are grateful to announce the election of five new deacons to serve a three-year term on the Deacon Council: Debra Bryant, Lily Gregg, Jen May, Scott Miller, and Eddy Tennant. These faithful leaders will help guide and support the life of our church in meaningful ways.

Deacons are elected and ordained to be the lay ministerial leaders of the congregation. They help provide spiritual support, care for the church community, and work alongside staff and church leadership to help guide the mission and ministry of the church.

We will ordain Eddy Tennant and install the other newly elected deacons during worship one Sunday in August—more details to come. Please join us in giving thanks for these five individuals and praying for them as they begin this important work.

Mary Kate Deal is wife to William, mama to 9-year-old twins Dorothy and Adeline, and daughter-in-law to Tommy and Susan Deal. She holds a Bachelor in Music Education from Mars Hill College and a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry from McAfee School of Theology, where she was honored with the John Claypool Preaching Award. When she's not fielding deep theological questions from the back seat, diffusing tween-age dramatics, or tidying up glitter and glue from endless craft projects, she works as a virtual assistant and social media coordinator for clients whose work often centers on social and racial justice.

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### CALENDAR

#### WEDNESDAY, June 25

9:00 Work Team

12:00 Ice Cream Ministry

#### SATURDAY, June 28

11:00 UBCKids @ Waterpark

#### TUESDAY, July 1

7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle

#### SUNDAY, June 29

8:30 JARC Meeting

9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

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



### We have a softball team!

UBC's softball team is part of the Charlottesville Church Softball League. Their next game is Friday, June 27, 8:00 and 9:00 at Mac 2. 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).



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.



## Hosts Needed

The United Gospel Choir of Besançon, France will be in Charlottesville July 16 through July 23. They are excited to meet you and learn more about the city and people of Charlottesville. On Sunday, July 20, they will sing in worship at UBC and on Tuesday, July 22, they will give a concert at Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church. Together with the members of Mt. Zion FABC we have a great opportunity to provide hospitality to our guests. Please contact [Megan](#), if you are willing to host or if you have questions about hosting one or more choir members.

Please save the dates-July 16-23!



*"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*



## 75 Years Ago

On October 4, 1950, the church celebrated its 50th anniversary with a banquet in the Fellowship Hall. Two former pastors, L. C. Northen and William B. Adams, and three ministers who had grown up at UBC spoke at the event. There were seven charter members in attendance. The event was covered extensively by the Daily Progress which highlighted the church's history.



We will gather again on Wednesday, July 9 for dinner and our continuing program *Journey Together*.



### Our Journey Together

After a break to celebrate Independence Day, join us again on Wednesday, July 9th, for the next leg of our **Journey Together!** We'll tune into our five senses to experience how the church's many people, with many different gifts, all together form the **one body of Christ**. Come for dinner and stick around for fellowship, conversation, learning, and creativity. This intergenerational program will be followed by **Family Choir** rehearsal, then regular **Sanctuary Choir** rehearsal with childcare. See you there!



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

**July 2:** Lorenzo Wells

**July 3:** Valerie Long, Barbara Murray, Alex Li

**July 4:** Katherine Wagoner

**July 6:** Barry Wilson

**July 8:** Ray Gaines

### Pictures Needed

Preparations are well underway as we anticipate an important capstone event marking the celebration of our 125 years at UBC. Our banquet, which will be held October 11, will be a time of celebration and recognition as we share memories, interact with former church staff, and thank God for our time together as a congregation. Ed Smith ([edsmith@comcast.net](mailto:edsmith@comcast.net)) and Seth Kodikara ([seth.kodikara@gmail.com](mailto:seth.kodikara@gmail.com)) are gathering photos which reflect our past. They are especially looking for photos taken during the last 25 years in order that we might also reflect on how UBC reacted to challenges such as 9/11, various events at UVA, Katrina, and the homeless needs within our community. We would love to hear from you, if you have pictures, you are willing to share.

Please contact Ed, Seth, or the church office, if you have pictures which you believe would be appropriate for the celebration or the church archives. Hard copies or electronic pictures sent via email will be greatly appreciated.

### 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 orange and vanilla!***



## 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 Megan. It would be great to send a UBC group to Puerto Rico.

## 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

Edith Parker

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 is 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.

The Hospitality House staff have sent a thank-you note for the first collection of items that were dropped off (see below). Thank you for your generosity!

Click [here](#) for an updated wish list and to read the thank-you note!

## Staff Contact Information:

Senior Minister: Dr. Matthew Tennant - matt@universitybaptist.org

Interim Executive Minister: Rev. Susan Deal - susan@universitybaptist.org

Associate Minister for Music and College Students - Rev. Megan Sharp - megan@universitybaptist.org

Interim Associate Minister: Rev. Elizabeth Rickert Dowdy - elizabeth@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

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

*University Baptist Church*  
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Connect with us

