



November 18, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 45

WATCH

Prepare, Give Thanks, & Be Patient

On Sunday, during my sermon, I suggested three things we could learn from Colossians 1:11-20. Prepare, give thanks, and be patient. As we get ready for Thanksgiving and the broader holiday season, these three pieces of advice from Colossians can be helpful.

Preparing is something we already do. This Thanksgiving, we will get together with Melanie's family. Everyone in the family will contribute to the meals during our gathering, and both she and I have cooking assignments. We have been making lists of what ingredients we need to take with us. We are planning what needs to ride in a cooler and what we can pre-mix. Some ingredients might not travel well, so we are planning what to buy when we get there.

Preparing is a natural part of the rhythm of life. People prepare for class and retirement, what clothes to wear, and many, many more things. Since we are all already planning most of the time, Colossians suggests being intentional about it. By spiritually preparing, we can remain aware of God's presence through the ups and downs of life. Spiritually preparing means praying, reading the Bible, or using a devotional app. Sacred Space, D365, and Pray-As-You-Go are all good options. Being spiritually prepared can help us remember to shine the light of Christ in all situations.

Giving thanks is the second piece of advice in Colossians 1. This week is a great opportunity to stop and make a list of our blessings. By

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, November 30, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

No Swords for Christmas

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Isaiah 2:1-5

Anthems:

O Day of God, Draw Nigh

by Eugene Butler

Thou Shalt Know Him

Mark Sirett

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Jimmy Li

Ushers: Jimmy Li, Amy Song

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



College Christmas Feast

All college students are invited to attend UBC's College Christmas Feast on Sunday, December 7, 12:00. Come and enjoy some good food and great fellowship.

writing it down, we can make it into a helpful exercise. Seeing the list grow reminds us of how blessed we are. Making it into a group activity invites others into a mindset of gratitude. Thanksgiving is a great time to exercise gratitude and remember our abundant blessings.

Finally, patience always helps. I cannot think of a situation that would be made worse if people were less patient. In this sense, Colossians is talking about being patient with other people, situations, and things beyond our control. Being patient extends grace to others and reflects the grace God gives to us. Being patient gives people a chance to think and respond. It also gives us a chance to pause before offering an impetuous and ill-advised retort. Patience means thinking before we speak.

These three lessons from Colossians 1 can help us as we celebrate Thanksgiving and get ready for the start of Advent.

Peace,
Matt



Our Blue Christmas service, being held on Wednesday evening, December 17 at 6:00, is a contemplative service with candle lighting to honor the sadness that may accompany this season.

We gather to remember God is good. God is strong. God is near. We are not alone, and we have every reason to hold on to hope.



Our Middle School and High School choir, Voces Laetae, will have their Fall Concert on Tuesday, November 25 at 7:30 pm in the Music Suite. Come and support our youth!



We will not meet for dinner on Wednesday, November 26. Our next dinner will be Wednesday, December 3.

Make your dinner reservations [here](#).



Sunday, Dec. 7: Jubilate and Sanctuary Bells offer special music

Sunday, Dec. 14: Sanctuary Choir offers special music

Sunday, Dec. 21: No-rehearsal Nativity Pageant with UBCKids Choir

Wednesday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve worship at 5:00pm

Prayer Requests*

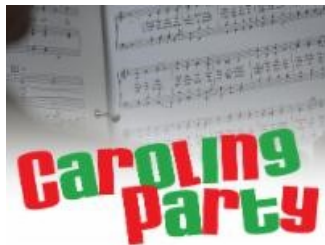
Jack & Jo-Ann Averill
Tony & Patti Barretta
Alba & Pam Beasley
Clara Brown
Sarah Buchanan
Leon & Nancy Castle
David & Linda Hendon
Larry & Lynn Martin
Edith Parker
Nadine Roddy
Barbara Weber
Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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

Alba is recuperating at home now. If you would like to provide a meal for him and Pam check out the [sign up genius](#), or contact Michelle Proffitt at 434-996-5086.



Congratulations to Alba and Pam Beasley, brand new grandparents of Beau Callan Beasley born on November 16 to their son Ben and wife Ashley.



Wednesday, December 10

Come for dinner at 5:15 and stay for the Christmas Carol Sing at 6:00. This is a fun event for the whole family.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, November 26

No Work Team
10:00 PB&J Bible Study
No Wednesday night dinner

THURSDAY, November 27

Church Office Closed

FRIDAY, November 28

Church Office Closed

SUNDAY, November 30

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
5:00 Jubilate Rehearsal
6:00 College Dinner

MONDAY, December 1

4:00 Theology Reading Group

TUESDAY, December 2

7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal
For our most up-to-date calendar, [click here](#).

GIVINGTUESDAY

GivingTuesday is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, Dec. 2, in the United States. It is touted as a "global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world".

Every act of generosity counts and everyone has something to give. Whether it's making someone smile, helping a neighbor out, or showing up for an issue or people we care about, we each have something to contribute. Identify your gifts, pick a cause that gets you fired up, and give back. Each seemingly small act turns a ripple into a wave of good, transforming society and building the world we all want to live in.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Dec. 3: Esther Tian, Micah Ohlms, Gwynivere Wells, Caleb Brown

Dec. 4: Paul Blincoe

Dec. 7: Judy Gough

Dec. 8: Diane Hogshire, Jim Mann, Tommy Deal



Come join us for a free bus ride around Charlottesville to see the holiday lights with your family on Friday, December 12! We will run the route two times this year. For each run, we will gather in the first floor lobby of UBC. If you don't already have a UBC parking permit, we will have temporary passes available.

First Run - gather between 5:30 and 5:45, depart UBC between 5:45 and 6:00.

Second Run - gather by 6:30, depart UBC around 6:45.

Sign up [here](#)! Please list each family member who needs a seat in a separate line. Younger children are welcome to sit on laps, as it's a bit easier to see out the windows! (You do not need to reserve a seat for a child on a lap.)

Qualified Charitable Distributions

Are you familiar with Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD)? A QCD might reduce the taxes you owe while helping your church. Here's how it works.

If you have an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) and are over 73, you are required to take a distribution from that IRA each year based on the value at the end of the previous year and your age. This is called a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), and generally the distribution is fully taxed as ordinary income. The form of the distribution may be in cash or securities.

A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian to a qualified charity. This direct transfer can be in cash or securities, and it counts toward satisfying your RMD for the year. A QCD reduces your taxable income by the amount of such distribution since it is not included in your income.

Charitable giving is not about taxes. However, the tax benefit from a QCD encourages charitable giving and could enable you to give more money to what you love. With the recent increase in the Standard Deduction, many taxpayers will find that charitable donations no longer have any tax benefit. A QCD can restore some significant tax benefits for charitable donations.



Christmas Poinsettias

This Christmas we will be decorating our Sanctuary with an abundance of poinsettias. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please complete an order form. You can find a

form in the narthex, the church office, or by clicking [here](#). You may take your poinsettia home after our Christmas Eve service.



Global Missions Christmas Post Office

The Christmas Post Office for Global Missions, sponsored by the Kittie Colvin Trail Circle, will be open for "business" on Sunday, Nov. 30. This is a way for you to ex-

change Christmas greetings with other church members and regular attenders without even knowing their mailing address and to support Global Missions at the same time. The "Post Office" box is located on a table in the first-floor lobby outside the Church Office.

Instructions:

- Write the names of the recipients on your cards and place them in the appropriate alphabet slots. [Please include first names as we have multiple families with the same last name (e.g. Martin, Moore)].
- Deposit \$.78 per card (or round up for any additional contribution) into the container on the table or give it to any Kittie Colvin Trail Circle member.
- Please do not include cards for people who do not attend regularly or have moved away.
- Pick up any cards addressed to you or your family. Please do not remove any cards except your own.
- Do not place cards in the box after Sunday, December 24.

ALL proceeds go to the CBF Global Missions Fund.

Stewardship Committee Pledge Status

To date we have received pledges from 47 "giving units" (2/3 of total from 2025) for a total of \$344,752 (62% of amount pledged in 2025). If you have not turned in a pledge, no need to fill out an official pledge card. Just email aohlms@universitybaptist.org or call her at 434-293-5106 with the amount and frequency.



Embracing Neighbors: Nourishing Hope CBF Global Missions 2025-2026

Baptists have been working together for more

than two centuries through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) to make disciples of all nations. CBF supports long-term field personnel serving in 25 countries around the world. Click [here](#) to discover more.

For example, Carson and Laura Foushee serve in Kanazawa, Japan with its international community. Since 2013, they have served in partnership with the Japan Baptist Convention in local congregations in Kanazawa as well as in Tokyo. They were called back to serve in Kanazawa in 2022 for long-term work after studying Japanese and serving in a local church in Tokyo. The Foushees serve alongside Kanazawa Baptist Church to meet the physical and spiritual needs of internationals in their city and prefecture. Internationals account for just two percent of the overall Japanese population and thus are often isolated and under-resourced.

With an understanding of the minority experience in Japan, the Foushees believe the Church can become a place to welcome foreign residents so that they, too, can live full and healthy lives in a nation they call home.

As you can imagine, your generosity in support of the CBF Global Missions Offering and their mission programs will transform lives. From December 1 to December 31, we are collecting donations for Global Missions. 100% of your gifts will support CBF field personnel throughout the world. Our goal here at UBC is to contribute \$3,000 toward the larger CBF goal of \$3 million.



**Children's Christmas
Shoppe
Mark Your Calendars!
Wednesday, December 17**

We will have our usual
Wednesday night dinner in
the Fellowship Hall.

At 5:45 the children will have the opportunity to
"shop" for gifts for their family members in the
Children's Suite. Gifts may be purchased for \$.50
each. All proceeds go to the CBF Global Missions
Fund.

Donations needed: If you have small "treasures"
that you would like to contribute, please drop
them off in the church office or in the preschool
department.

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

