



November 18, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 45

WATCH

Happy (almost) New Year!

This Sunday is Christ the King Sunday. It's the last day of the liturgical year. The following week will be the start of Advent and a new year for the church. For many people, next week marks the *beginning* of the holiday season, not the end of a church year. In the U.S., Thanksgiving is November 27, and in Christian churches, November 30 is the first Sunday in Advent. The next few weeks kick off a frenzied season of parties, gift buying, preparing and sending cards, special concerts and events, and rich worship services. So it might not feel like the end of the church year.

Advent and Christmas mark the beginning of the liturgical calendar because we need the reminders. Advent is the season of anticipating Jesus' arrival. The different themes (hope, peace, joy, and love) remind us of different aspects of encountering God. We have hope because of God's promises. We experience peace because God is with us. We find joy when we fellowship with other believers in harmony. We embody God's love in the faith community. Advent is a pre-Christmas gift to lean into a season of waiting and anticipation.

For self-diagnosed intellectual Christians, Christmas can be problematic. Most of what we find during Christmas Pageants comes from Luke 2:1-20. Matthew focuses on Joseph's experience, angel encounter, and Jesus' name. Then, it jumps to Epiphany, which we will celebrate on January 4 (though the Feast of Epiphany is on January 6).

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, November 23, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

Where Do We Go From Here?

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

1 Colossians 1:11-20

Anthems:

In Thee, Almighty King

by Dan Forrest

King Jesus Is A-Listening

arr. William Dawson

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Shirley Clark

Ushers: Erin Eaker, Gayle Eaker

College Dinner: Susan Hellings

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



Come to Jazz Vespers on Friday, November 21 at 5:30pm. Our musicians will be Bobby Gregg on saxophone, Eric Franzen on piano, Joseph Nichols on

bass, and Ben Eisenberg on drums. Child-care is provided during the service. This is a great event to invite a friend or neighbor to attend.

Mark, the first of the gospels to be written, begins with a fully grown-up Jesus. So does John. Paul's epistles don't give much attention to Jesus' biography, so those who wrestle with what to do with Jesus' birth story can be forgiven.

For the rest of us, Luke provides a rich, earthy view of Jesus. He came from a humble background. He, who is God-incarnate, entered the world the same way every one of us did. He was born. He cried. He was cold. He grew. He learned to talk. Everything we experience, he experienced. And that's the point of Luke's story. God is with us.

The new year on the church calendar might fall on a busy time for us. However, it presents a four-week opportunity to wait and then kicks off a celebration. During the period of waiting, we can learn more about what God-incarnate means for us. Then, at Christmas, we get to see the way God identifies with us. We are not alone in our struggles, because God has gone through them, too.

So happy new year! Be open and celebrate what God can teach us through this season.

Peace,
Matt

My Heartfelt Thanks!

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to this church and the Finance Committee for making it possible for me to take part in our recent mission trip to Puerto Rico. I'm especially grateful for the availability of the Sam Mackey Fund, which helped cover my travel expenses. It's a wonderful reminder of how Mr. Mackey's generous gift continues to bless others and further the ministry of our church. Thank you for your good stewardship and for supporting opportunities like this that allow us to serve beyond our walls.

With gratitude,
Raynell Stokes



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!



Wednesday, November 19
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:

Turkey
Sweet Potatoes
Lima Beans
Rolls
Pie



College Students
Mark Your
Calendars!

Mark your calendars for the annual Friendsgiving Dinner on Tuesday, November 18 when college students from UBC, St. Paul's, and Wesley Foundation get together to celebrate the season. The Wesley Foundation is hosting this year.

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

Family & Friends of Margaret Via who passed away on November 7. A celebration of life will be held on Friday, Nov. 21, 10:30 am at St. Paul's Memorial Church. Click [here](#) for the obituary.

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
on Your
New Grandson!**



Congratulations to Ray & Nancy Gaines, brand new grandparents of Charles Bell born on November 8 to their daughter Katherine.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, November 19

9:00 Work Team

5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner

5:45 Handbell Rehearsal

6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, November 20

7:00 Deacons' Meeting

FRIDAY, November 21

5:30 Jazz Vespers

SUNDAY, November 23

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

12:00 College Bagel Brunch

4:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

5:30 College Dinner

MONDAY, November 24

12:00 Missions Council Meeting

TUESDAY, November 25

6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

7:30 Voces Laetae Concert

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.

A Huge Thank You!

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of this church the following was done with this year's donations of \$1,550 to *Dinner With Andrew*.

The following people were helped:

- James & Wanda
 - 3 needy immigrant families
 - guests needing shelter and gas
 - Haven & Salvation Army folks in transition, and
 - gift cards for needy families with pets around Thanksgiving
-



On Sunday, November 23, the Grounded & Growing Class (formerly Young Adult Class) will begin a study on *Bless This Mess: A Modern Guide to Faith and Parenting in a Chaotic World*. The class meets every Sunday at 9:45 in Room 209. All are welcome!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Nov. 28: Christina Mundell

Nov. 29: Harper Burgess

Nov. 30: Brian Guyton



Youth Event
Sunday, November 23
12:00 - 2:00

This Sunday, November 23, all middle school and high school youth are invited to meet in Room 120 for pizza and games following the worship service.



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 this month about the intersection of faith and mental health. In case you missed it, you can [hear the interview here](#).



Sanctuary Flowers

Would you like to reserve sanctuary flowers in honor or in memory of a special person or occasion? Sunday flowers can be reserved for birthdays, anniversaries, or to commemorate other special occasions.

Please submit your request to include your name, the bulletin message, and the desired reservation dates to the [UBC office](#). A member of the Floral Committee will be in touch to confirm your dedication.

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

