



May 19, 2026 Vol. 78, No. 20

## ON WATCH

### What Are You Reading?

Recently, I finished reading *The Great Spiritual Migration* by Brian McLaren. In it, the author argues that faith in Christ is not dying, despite discouraging news and declining participation. Instead, he thinks that people of faith are migrating. It was an inspiring and encouraging book. Diana Butler Bass said, "This is Brian McLaren's finest book: a beautiful exploration of a hopeful, joyful, mystical, and just faith that invites Christians to move from fear to love." I highly recommend it.

After finishing *The Great Spiritual Migration*, I picked up *Canoeing the Mountains* by Tod Bolinger. It was okay. The author used management ideas and applied them to Christian leadership in uncertain times. He set his project against the backdrop of the Lewis and Clark expedition, and the analogies between church leadership and an early nineteenth-century exploration of the west felt stretched thin at times. I would not recommend it.

Last weekend, I finished reading Eugene Peterson's memoir *The Pastor*. Using a relaxed narrative style, Peterson told his story. From growing up in rural Montana to attending seminary in New York City to accidentally becoming a Presbyterian, his writing is engaging and flows well. After 29 years in his pastorate, he began an ambitious project which led to creating the

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, May 24, 2026

11:00 AM

**Sermon:**

"Has the Spirit Spoken Recently?"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

**Scripture:**

Acts 2:1-21

**Anthems:**

*Come, Spirit, Come* by Walt Harrah

*Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me*

by William McGuire

## SUNDAY SERVICE

**Deacon:** TBD

**Ushers:** Jimmy Li, Amy Song



**This Sunday is  
Pentecost Sunday!**

**Wear something  
RED!!**

Rev. Megan Sharp, our Associate Minister for Music and College Students, will be traveling in England for the next two weeks with Zephyrus, a community choir that she directs. We wish her a safe and productive trip.

contemporary translation of the Bible called *The Message*. For congregants, reading the memoir of a pastor might help explain ministry life. I highly recommend it.

What about you? What are you reading? If you found a book that you love, please tell me what you loved about it. We grow when we attend our weekly Bible studies. We can also grow through small groups. For some people, worship can be a source of spiritual growth. Yet, picking up a Christian classic can also deepen our faith. Richard Foster's *Celebration of Discipline*, Thomas R. Kelly's *A Testament of Devotion*, Ron Sider's *Rich Christians*, and Roberta Bondi's *Memories of God* are just a few titles that come to mind when I think of a "must read" list. What are yours?

Peace,  
Matt

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### Search Committee Update



SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee has finalized the job description for an Associate Minister for Education and has begun posting it in a variety of places. It is also available on our website. [Click here to view the job description.](#) If you know someone who might be a suitable candidate, please feel free to send them the job description. The committee has begun reviewing applications.



June 22-26  
Rainforest Falls  
[Register here](#)



Summer schedule May - July  
2X a month  
We will be having our Wednesday night dinner this week at 5:15 followed by a program called *Celtic Evening Liturgy*.

Contact the church office,  
to make your dinner reservations.



### New HVAC Unit

The Fellowship Hall has a new HVAC unit. In the picture you see two technicians from Riddleberger Brothers, Inc. getting ready to jack the new unit up into the ceiling.



### Touch-A-Truck Thank You!

Heartfelt thanks to all of you who made our Touch-A-Truck event a success. The temperature and crowds may have been down a bit, but fun and smiles were in abundance!

Many parents expressed their appreciation in words and their children expressed it with their enthusiasm. And on a personal note, watching my one-and-a-half-year-old grandson race from vehicle to vehicle as fast as he could go and looking at himself in the enormous tires was worth every moment of preparation. See you next year. I can't wait!!



Larry Johnson



### Congratulations to Lily Gregg!

We congratulate Lily on her recent promotion to Executive Director of the Charlottesville - UVA - Albemarle County Emergency Communications Center (ECC). Click [here](#) to read the full story.



### 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.

They discussed overcoming divisions driven by current events, interpersonal relationships, marriage, and more.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

**May 28:** Debby Johnson, Scott Morris

**May 30:** Will Cooke

**May 31:** Matthew Burgess

**June 2:** Jenny Price



In May, the Kittie Colvin Trail Circle is collecting items for AIM (the Alliance for Interfaith Ministries) for Welcome Baskets. These baskets typically go to folks who are formerly homeless and moving into an apartment with absolutely nothing but their clothes and no money to buy these things. There is a collection bin on the first floor outside the church office. See below for a list of needed items:

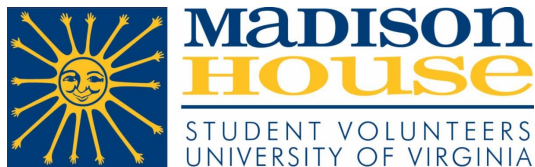
- Shower curtain and/or shower curtain liners
- Shower curtain hooks
- Trash bags
- Tissues
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Toilet scrub brush
- 1 towel, 1 washcloth, 1 hand towel
- Pop up wipes
- Glass cleaner
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush (individually wrapped)
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Laundry detergent
- Bath mat
- Small bathroom size trash can



## Prayer Requests\*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill  
Tony & Patti Barretta  
Ed & Betty Barker  
Alba & Pam Beasley  
Clara Brown  
Leon & Nancy Castle  
Michael & Beth Cheuk on the passing of Beth's mother, Ray Nell Lonvick  
Johnny & Gail Ellen  
Jim Guyton  
David & Linda Hendon  
Larry & Lynn Martin  
Edith Parker  
Barbara Weber  
Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



## Tax Aid

UBC also provides space for Tax Aid in the Fellowship Hall from February to the middle of April. Madison House at UVA provides free tax services for people in our community. [Click here](#) to see a note from Martha Trujillo, their Director of the Tax Assistance Program, sharing the magnitude of people who are helped through this program.

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, May 20

9:00 Work Team  
12:00 Ice Cream Ministry  
5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner  
5:45 Sanctuary Bells Rehearsal  
6:00 Celtic Evening Liturgy  
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### SUNDAY, May 24

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study  
11:00 Morning Worship

### MONDAY, May 25

Church Office Closed  
7:15 Women's Book Study

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



## Ice Cream Ministry

Our ice cream ministry will begin this Wednesday. Please click [here](#) to volunteer for this ministry. A lot of people in the community look forward to this, and we don't want to disappoint them by not having any volunteers to make it happen. We're known as "the ice cream church"! That may not sound like much, but it means "we're known"! Come and share some love with our neighbors. Vanilla and orange cream this week.



## Blood Drives

UBC is working with the American Red Cross to provide space for their blood drives. Other groups are sponsoring the drives but don't necessarily have the space to hold the drive. On Friday, April 24, we hosted a large blood drive in our Fellowship Hall, and we received a note of thanks from their Donor Recruitment Manager, Jason Krech. [Click here](#) to read the note.



## Annual UBC Church Picnic

Sunday, May 31

Join us at 3:00 for games and swimming at Robby & Judy Gough's home. Then at 5:00 we will have fried chicken and drinks provided by the church. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

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The Nominating Committee is at work trying to fill positions on Councils and Committees within the church for the new church year which begins September 1.

Please think of where you would like to serve as there are positions on Church Council, Missions Council, Building and Grounds, Finance, Personnel, and the Stewardship Committee. Where does God want you to use your talents to help UBC do its work within the church and in ministries outside our doors?

Thank you for prayerfully considering where you might serve!

The Nominating Committee Members  
Seth Kodikara  
Jackie Lockwood, Chair  
Tom Moore  
Bill Murray  
Glenna Ohlms



## *deCycles Freedom Ride 2026*

The *deCycles* mission for the past 56 years is to provide an opportunity for youth to uniquely experience the principles of a Christ-centered life; glorify God and practice kindness.

Their mission trip this summer is a challenging 1500-mile journey from Indiana to the east coast to celebrate the 250th birthday of America in Washington, DC on July 4 and later commemorate the 25th anniversary of 9/11 in New York City.

This 20-member youth group will be spending the night here at UBC on Wednesday, July 1.

Any teen or young adult who can ride a bike is welcome to join the trip roster. Beginner cyclists are welcome. For more information, contact their director, [Norman Houze](#).

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## Star Words

If you didn't get a star word and would like one, they are available in the church office.

### 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  
Communications Coordinator - Kayla Riley - socialmedia@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.

**Do you have something to submit to our weekly newsletter?  
Suggestions must be submitted to [linda@universitybaptist.org](mailto:linda@universitybaptist.org)  
by Monday at noon.**

*University Baptist Church*  
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434-293-5106

Connect with us

