



September 23, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 37

ON WATCH 125 Gifts

Two weeks ago, I wrote about “[Invitation & Then What?](#)” and, last week, this space was dedicated to “[Getting Plugged In.](#)” Today’s ‘On Watch’ is about what enables us to do the work God calls us to do. It is about the money you give to God’s work at UBC. We always invite people to join us. That’s part of who we are. We need to work on helping them get plugged in and find the aspects of UBC life that bring them joy. As participating in the church family becomes part of someone’s life, we want to give them the opportunity to support what they love.

In his book *Secrets of the Millionaire Mind*, Canadian author T. Harv Eker writes, “Money is a lubricant. It enables you to ‘slide’ through life instead of having to ‘scrape’ by” (p. 141). In Finance Committee meetings and presentations, we have referred to the church finances as a lubricant allowing us to do God’s work. And this congregation is incredibly blessed. You who are reading this and those who are no longer here have given money, time, and talent to glorify God through University Baptist Church. Thank you. It is a privilege to serve a church with such a committed and generous church family.

As we look ahead to our October 11-12 125th anniversary celebration, we have been thinking about service. These acts of service commemorate 125 years of being a church and serving our community. The growing number of “acts of service” posters in the hallway is a testimony to how our church family

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, September 28, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

Chesapeake Requiem

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Luke 16:19-31

Anthems:

Set Me As a Seal by René Clausen

Poor Man Lazarus

African-American Spiritual

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Jimmy Li

Ushers: Mary Jo Hendricks, Shirley Clark

College Dinner: Jen May

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



Help feed our college students this year!

5:30 Sunday night college dinners are for Jubilate

members and UBC college students. Help provide delicious meals for students as a way to care for our UVA neighbors. Sign up as a family, a Bible study group, or grab a friend to help you with set up and clean up. There are now separate sign ups for providing food and/or hosting. Click [here](#) to pick your date.

puts faith into practice. I find the posters inspiring. They make me want to get involved, do more, and support this kind of lived faith. Although performing acts of service will continue, financially supporting the church is another way to foster God's work. By giving money, the church can continue building this culture of service and invitation.

With our 125th Anniversary coming up in a few weeks, consider making an additional financial contribution to the church. It would be great to have 125 new gifts in the weeks leading up to the anniversary. These additional contributions will lubricate the ministry as we look ahead to the future. Consider skipping a meal out or something else and give the church what you would have spent. No gift is too small, and whether you financially support the church or not, all are welcome.

Our anniversary weekend is going to be exceptionally exciting. I have been communicating with former ministers, staff, and other guests, and we are looking forward to it. The stories of the past 125 years make me excited about the future.

Peace,
Matt



UBC City of Promise Partnership

For a number of years, UBC has sponsored a food ministry to Venable, now Trailblazer, Elementary School. This year we are beginning a partnership with City of Promise, a non-profit organization whose "goal is to make a positive impact on generational poverty and support a culture of achievement through child-centered, dual generation family self-sufficiency initiatives in Charlottesville."

City of Promise partners with the City Schools and is beginning a program this year to reach Trailblazer students, specifically the Westhaven community. UBC is excited to begin this journey as we learn how best to serve these students by providing weekend meals for them and their families. We will shop for shelf-ready food, and City of Promise will add eggs, bread, and other fresh food items to the bags.

We hope you will support this ministry by praying, donating money, and helping to fill bags at our 125th Anniversary Day of Service on October 4th!

Volunteers Needed



Only one Wednesday left, tomorrow! Sign up to help us give out ice cream before the season ends!

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 week is vanilla, strawberry, and grilled donuts!!***

125th Anniversary Banquet

The 125th Anniversary Banquet Committee is collecting strings of white lights to decorate the Fellowship Hall for the October 11 dinner. Please bring any lights you would like to donate for the occasion and place them in the box outside of the church office.



Come to Jazz Vespers on Friday, October 3 at 5:30pm. This casual worship experience will feature UBC musician Bobby Gregg on saxophone with local musicians Dhara Goradia on bass, Stephan Larue on drums, and Eric Franzen on piano. Childcare is provided during the service. This is a great event to invite a friend or neighbor to attend.

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Johnny & Gail Ellen

David & Linda Hendon

Larry & Lynn Martin

Edith Parker

Judy Shah

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



UBCKids Choir is happening on Sunday mornings this fall. Sheri Owen is leading the elementary children in a time for music on Sunday mornings as part of their Bible Study. They will sing seasonal songs and songs that coordinate with the Bible stories they are learning. The children will offer some of their songs in worship when they are ready. A huge thank you to Sheri for offering her time and talent.



Day of Service - October 4
10:00 - 12:00 noon
UBC Fellowship Hall

As part of our **125 Acts of Service**, we invite you to join us for a hands-on morning of service and fellowship. Together, we'll make a difference for our community and beyond by working on several meaningful projects:

- **Create toiletry kits** for Fluvanna Correctional Center for women
- **Assemble food bags** for Trailblazer school
- **Write encouraging note cards** for UBC members
- **Bring toys** to be delivered to UVA Children's Hospital

Toy Donations for UVA Health Children's

UVA Children's welcomes **brand-new toys** only.

Please note that they cannot accept:

- Used toys or books
- Waterbeads
- Handmade items
- Items that promote violence (e.g., plastic guns or swords)
- Gift-wrapped items

Some great donation ideas:

- Play-Doh
- Coloring books
- Crayons or colored pencils
- Card games
- Individual Lego kits
- Bubbles
- Chapter books

To make giving even easier, UVA Children's has an **Amazon Wish List** of items used almost every day:

[UVA Children's Hospital Wish List](#)

Come ready to serve, share, and celebrate our church's 125th Anniversary by blessing others in our community.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, September 24

9:00 Work Team
10:00 PB&J Bible Study
12:00 Ice Cream Ministry
5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner
5:45 Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, September 25

2:00 Stewardship Meeting

SUNDAY, September 28

9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:00 College Bagel Brunch
4:00 Jubilate Rehearsal
5:30 College Student Dinner

MONDAY, September 29

1:00 Missions Council Meeting

TUESDAY, September 30

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

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



Book Baskets of Charlottesville

The Seekers class would like to thank you all for joining them in their book drive done as an act of service for the 125th anniversary. The baskets and posters are down. The books have been counted and boxed and are ready for pick up. We are happy to announce that UBC will be contributing **560** books to *Book Baskets of Charlottesville*. For us it has been an act of service, but for many local kids it means books of their own. Thanks for your help with this wonderful donation of books.



With less than a month left before we celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the founding of University Baptist Church, the planning committee is hard at work preparing for a ceremony filled with memories. Previously, Ed Smith and Seth Kodikara had requested photos to be sent that document life in the last 25 years of University Baptist Church.

Ed and Seth would now like to offer their sincerest thanks for the many materials that have been shared over the last months. Moreover, they would like to request that no more photographs be sent so that they can focus all their efforts on editing and finalizing the presentation of these memories.

Please be sure to keep up with The Word, where links to the resulting collection of pictures will be shared after its initial presentation at the 125th Anniversary Celebration!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Oct. 2: Chris Hellings

Oct. 4: Tom Mundell

Oct. 6: Caspian Wells

Oct. 7: Tony Barretta



Wednesday, September 24
Dinner starts at 5:15pm
(Note time change!)

Make your dinner reservations [here](#).

Menu:

Turkey
Stuffing
Sweet potato casserole
Green beans
Salad
Assorted pies

Wednesday Night Schedule Changing

Our Wednesday evening schedule has changed slightly. The hope is to allow more time for conversation around the dinner tables, open a space in the weekly schedule for the Sanctuary Bells to resume rehearsals, and to allow those with young children who sing in the Sanctuary Choir to get home before bedtime.

This new schedule is:

5:15-6:30-Dinner

5:45 Sanctuary Bells

6:30-8:00-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

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
Social Media Coordinator: Alaysia Toney - 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.

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Connect with us

