



August 11, 2026 Vol. 78, No. 31

## ONWATCH

### What To Do?

On *Morning Edition* on August 11, NPR covered the one-year anniversary of armed troops on the streets of Washington, D.C. The reporter [raised a question](#) about the normalization of members of the military patrolling U.S. cities. While the reporter Kat Lonsdorf asked a legitimate question, when I heard the story, my question was this: What do people of faith do in response to increasing militarization?

As I thought about this question, "What to do?", my mind ran through various passages. Ephesians 6:10-11, "Be strong in the Lord... put on the whole armor of God." Lamentations 3:22-23, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases... great is [thy] faithfulness." And, in Matthew 28:20, Jesus said, "I will be with you always, to the end of the age." Then, I remembered 1 Peter 3:14, "Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in hearts sanctify Christ as Lord."

The answer is Jesus. Even when things are dark, when times are troubled, we do not need to be afraid. God is with us. These are strange times. It's worth following the news, keeping informed, and trying to listen through the lens of the Holy Spirit. However, we cannot rest in the darkness. We do not stay in troubled seas. We pray, read scripture, gather with our faith family, encourage one another, and trust God is still God.

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, August 16, 2026

11:00 AM

Sermon:

When Suffering Is Real

Dr. Matt Tennant

Scripture:

Lamentations 3:1-6

Anthem:

*You Do Not Walk Alone*

by Elaine Hagenberg

## SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon:

Ushers: Cindy Bryant, Sylvie Moore

## UBC Building Upgrades

This week the flooring in the choir loft is being refinished to prevent damage to the wood from the wear and tear to the finish of the last 30 years, and the wood flooring is being extended to the front of the Sanctuary platform.

Later in August, we will be replacing the floor tile in the two stairwells. We have a combination of tiles that are broken, have come loose, and some that curl up in the winter, creating a safety hazard. In the fall, we hope to install railings on the Sanctuary steps to make it easier to walk up to the pulpit during worship.

In his First Inaugural Address, Franklin Delano Roosevelt said, "Let me assert my firm belief that **the only thing we have to fear is fear itself**—nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance" (emphasis added). The writer of 1 Peter beat Roosevelt by nearly two thousand years, saying, "Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated."

On this anniversary of armed troops patrolling our nation's capital, and at a time when our country has engaged in a strange war with Iran, do not be afraid. Trust God. Lean on one another. And look to the future with hope in Christ.

Peace,  
Matt

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### Our Pastor on WINA

Dr. Tennant was Jay James' guest on WINA's Morning News yesterday. He appears on WINA once per month to provide some commentary on the news from a faith perspective. They discussed engaging college students in community and faith, the low barrier shelter and homelessness, and how to help those who are processing grief. In case you missed it, you can [hear the interview here.](#)

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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.

### Prayer Requests\*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Ed & Betty Barker

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Johnny & Gail Ellen

Barbara Fuller on the death of her sister

David & Linda Hendon

Renfro & Sandy Manning

Larry & Lynn Martin

Edith Parker

Brett & Michele Turner

Ron & Lynda Tweel on the death of Lynda's mother

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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

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### Church Conference Wednesday, August 12, 6:00 in the Fellowship Hall

We will be voting on the 2026-2027 UBC Lay Leaders Report. The Conference will be zoomed for those who are unable to attend. For a copy of the report or for the zoom link, contact the church office.

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, August 12

9:00 Work Team  
12:00 Ice Cream Ministry  
5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner  
**6:00 Church Conference**  
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, August 13

1:30 Personnel Committee Meeting  
6:00 Deacons' Meeting

### SUNDAY, August 16

8:30 Finance Committee Meeting  
9:30 Seekers Bible Study  
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study  
11:00 Morning Worship  
3:00 Ice Cream Social

### MONDAY, August 17

4:00 Theology Reading Group

### TUESDAY, August 18

12:00 Blood Drive

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



Come enjoy some homemade ice cream and a time of fellowship on **Sunday, August 16**, at the Marshall's. Bring your homemade ice cream or ice cream toppings or cookies or brownies, a chair, and your bathing suit.

We will begin at 3:00 with swimming and then enjoy some ice cream at 5:00.



### Dinner with Andrew

One of the members of our church family has been raising funds to address food insecurity every year since July 2001. On January 1, 2001, Colleen Baber's son Andrew choked on a gummy candy and did not survive. He had been working at Domino's Pizza at the time, and his coworkers wanted to do something to honor his memory. They chose a food drive which fit well with honoring Andrew because few people liked to eat more than he did. Thus, "Dinner with Andrew" began.

Colleen continues this ministry with the support of Domino's Pizza, without whom this ministry could not continue to go forward. This year is the twenty-sixth year she has been collecting donations in Andrew's memory. In 2020, she switched from collecting and sorting food to taking donations for food gift cards. She gives these cards to families in extreme need through The Jefferson Area Food Bank, The Salvation Army, The Emergency Food Bank, and ARC. We can help address food insecurity and be the hands and feet of Christ by supporting this ministry. You can contribute by sending a check to the church or give online with "Dinner with Andrew" in the memo line.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

**Aug. 12:** Gayle Eaker

**Aug. 13:** Diane Woerner, Betty Barker

**Aug. 14:** Kevin Wright, Court Van Clief

**Aug. 15:** Colleen Baber

**Aug. 18:** Theo Gregg, Jenny Schlack

**Aug. 19:** Sam Hellings, David Turner

**Aug. 22:** Dan Pinkham

## Children's Church

Children's Church will be taking a break for the month of July and August and will resume on Sunday, September 13. During this time there will be a table with activities in the Sanctuary for the children during the sermon.

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## Search Committee Update



### SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee has been busy and is making good progress. After speaking with three candidates, they chose to move forward with one and will be making arrangements to speak more with that candidate in the coming weeks. Additionally, the committee interviewed three new candidates and added two as possibilities. They are currently arranging for in-person interviews.

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## New Deacons for 2026-2029

We are grateful to announce the election of four new deacons to serve a three-year term on the Deacon Council: Theresa Guyton, Alan Hendricks, Jim Moore, and Barbara Murray. 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 Barbara Murray and install the other newly elected deacons during worship on Sunday, August 16. Please join us in giving thanks for these four individuals and praying for them as they begin this important work.



## State Missions Offering

Each year we collect a special offering to support missions in the state of Virginia. This August, our missions emphasis will support the chaplain ministry at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women. Our goal is

\$3,000.

From Jerusha Tiller, GraceInside chaplain: As the temperature gets cooler and the leaves change color, I am reminded that God's mercies are new every morning. God continues to work patiently in our lives, transforming us and sanctifying us to the likeness of the image of God's Son, Jesus. What an honor it is to partner with the Savior bringing faith, hope, and love to incarcerated men and women, as Christ says in Matthew 25, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

You can give to this mission project on our website or by mailing a check to the church. Make the check out to University Baptist Church and write State Missions in the "for" line.

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Come for dinner tomorrow evening, Wednesday, August 12, 5:15pm followed by our Church Conference at 6:00 and Sanctuary Choir rehearsal at 6:30.

Contact the church office, to make your dinner reservations.

We need volunteers to prepare and serve ice cream this Wednesday, August 12, or we will need to cancel the event.



### Ice Cream Ministry

Please consider volunteering to help set-up, serve, or clean-up ice cream during a week in August or September, so our devoted friends will have ice cream. Sign up [here](#) or call the church office. Vanilla and orange cream this week.



### Summer Schedule for Sunday Bible Study

Adult classes meeting this summer:  
Seekers will meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays in G14  
New Life will meet each week in Room 120  
All adults are invited to attend either of these classes.  
College class will be meeting for breakfast at Bodo's.  
Youth class and Children's class will be taking a break for the summer.



We will have another blood drive at UBC, sponsored by UVA medical students, on Tuesday, August 18, from 12- 6. Click [here](#) to sign up.



Let's Talk Race (LTR) is offering two new classes. The *Beginner's Guide to Conversations About Race* looks at the biblical, historical, and societal impacts of race and racism in America.

*Conversations About the Latin American Experience* looks at history, immigration, and current day impacts of race and racism on Latin Americans.

You can join either of these conversations by signing up [here](#) for an online class.

### Sermon Manuscripts Available

People have asked if Matt's sermon manuscripts are available, and the answer is, yes. If you would like to receive them, contact [Linda](#) in the church office, and we will add you to the list.



**August 12:** Church Conference in the Fellowship Hall, 6:00  
**August 16:** Ordination and Installation of new Deacons

### Staff Contact Information:

Senior Minister: Dr. Matthew Tennant - [matt@universitybaptist.org](mailto:matt@universitybaptist.org)  
Associate Minister for Music and College Students: Rev. Megan Sharp - [megan@universitybaptist.org](mailto:megan@universitybaptist.org)  
Voces Laetae Director: Will Cooke - [wcooke@universitybaptist.org](mailto:wcooke@universitybaptist.org)  
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Church Administrator: Alan Hendricks - [ahendricks@universitybaptist.org](mailto:ahendricks@universitybaptist.org)  
Social Media Coordinator: Hadessah Johnson Tennant - [socialmedia@universitybaptist.org](mailto:socialmedia@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 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.**

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Connect with us

