



March 18, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 11

God &
Winnie the Pooh

WATCH

[Today's Lenten devotional](#) by Jennifer Hawks brings the simple lessons from Winnie the Pooh and his friends alongside Paul's command in Romans 12:15. In Romans, we read, "Be joyful with those who are joyful. Be sad with those who are sad." In A. A. Milne's books about Winnie the Pooh and his friends, we learn about friendship, love, and appreciating simple joys.

Hawks describes how the various characters in The Hundred Acre Wood embody different emotions. Tigger is full of joy and enthusiasm. He is optimistic and encourages a positive outlook on life. Piglet is full of anxiety and timidity. Throughout the stories, he demonstrates how important it is to face our fears and trust our friends. Eeyore is simultaneously sad, defeatist, dour, and realistic. He represents our need to be compassionate and empathetic. Finally, Winnie the Pooh is content. He is simple. Most of the time, he is fulfilled and teaches us to appreciate life's small pleasures.

In case you cannot tell, I love reading A. A. Milne's books. I appreciate some of the ways Disney has developed Milne's world of The Hundred Acre Wood. The characters are rich and present life lessons that are consistent with the gospel tradition. One example of this consistency comes from Terrence Klein's article "The Gospel According to Winnie the Pooh." In it, he writes, "Holy Communion is Jesus' way of saying, as Christopher Robin once said to Pooh, 'Forever isn't long at all when I'm with you.'"

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, March 23, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

The High Way

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Isaiah 55:1-9

Anthems:

Steal Away arr. White

Shall We Gather at the River
arr. Carter

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Raynell Stokes

Ushers: Cindy Bryant, Brian Guyton

College Dinner: Erin Brown

UBCKids
Charlottesville
Indoor Pool Party!
Smith Aquatic Center

Saturday
April 12
1:00-4:00 PM

1000-A Cherry Avenue
Charlottesville, VA 22903
\$6 per person at the door

CALENDAR

As the human creator of Pooh’s world, Christopher Robin represents divine assurance. In Hawk’s devotion, she writes, “God created us to be in relationship with others, inviting us to share in each other’s highs and lows.” When we learn lessons from literary characters like Winnie the Pooh, we can more effectively live our faith. In Romans 12:15, our faith takes the shape of empathy. “Be joyful” means feeling the joy of those around us. “Be sad” means experiencing sadness with those who are sad.

After reading Hawk’s devotional, I began thinking about other faith lessons from A. A. Milne’s world. If you’re a Winnie the Pooh reader, what are some of your favorite lessons from The Hundred Acre Wood? If not, what are some unexpected places where you find faith lessons?

Peace,
Matt

Prayer Requests*

- Jack & Jo-Ann Averill
- Tony & Patti Barretta
- Alba & Pam Beasley
- Clara Brown
- Leon & Nancy Castle
- Johnny & Gail Ellen
- David & Linda Hendon
- Family & Friends of Thomas Hill
- Doc Litchfield
- Edith Parker
- Melvin & Mildred Spicer
- Bob & Joyce Tennant
- Barbara Weber
- Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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

WEDNESDAY, March 19

- 9:00 Work Team
- 5:30 Wednesday night dinner
- 6:00 Piano Concert
- 6:00 UBCKids Choir
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, March 23

- 8:30 JARC Meeting
- 9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class
- 9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
- 11:00 Morning Worship
- 12:00 College Bagel Brunch
- 4:30 Jubilate Rehearsal
- 6:00 College Dinner

MONDAY, March 24

- 12:30 Missions Council Meeting

TUESDAY, March 25

- 6:30 Prayer Shawl Group
- 7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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





Join us tomorrow, Wednesday, March 19, for dinner at 5:30 and then beginning at 6:00, we will have a special program of piano music, entitled "A Few of Our Favorites...", on our 9' Steinway in the Sanctuary presented by 5 members of The Wednesday Music Club Piano Group. They will be playing selections from Mendelssohn, Shostakovich, Ravel, Poulenc, and Chopin. The concert will also be live streamed. During the concert our children will be enjoying UBCKids Choir.

Childcare is always available.

Click [here](#) to RSVP.

Our menu will be:

Baked Ranch Chicken Tenders
Buffalo Mac and Cheese
Mixed Veggies
Mixed Green Salad
Dessert TBD

Following the service, at 7:00 you are invited to sing with the Sanctuary Choir as they rehearse in the Music Suite.

Please remember that we can park in the 14th Street Garage on Sunday mornings. Just show your bulletin when you leave, and you will not be charged. This



allows our older and less mobile church members and guests to park in our parking lots close to the church. This is a small thing we can all do to bless someone else and make it easier for them to attend church.



Walk With Us Through Lent

The 2025 McCall Lenten Devotional, themed "Hope, Justice & Relationships," invites us to reflect deeply on God's Word through the lens of Jeremiah 29:7 & 11, which calls us to seek the peace and prosperity of our communities while trusting in God's good plans for our future.

Written by a diverse group of CBF family and friends, these devotions offer thoughtful insights that inspire deeper faith and action.

This year's devotional features an expanded "Justice Notes" section, providing key justice statistics and resources to help readers go deeper. It also includes recommended readings, a conversation starter guide and a self-care inventory, as well as excerpts from Maya Angelou and Amanda Gorman.

Click [here](#) for a digital copy of this resource. Contact the [church office](#) if you need a hard copy.



Scarlette Jasper teaches financial literacy to the residents of southern Kentucky and Tennessee

CBF Offering for National Missions Poignant Contrast Between Scenic Vistas and Human Need

This month we will be collecting donations for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship offering for National Missions. Our UBC Missions Council has chosen to send our offering directly to CBF field personnel the Reverend Scarlette Jasper who serves the people of Appalachia.

Scarlette says, "There is a lot of natural beauty here, and a lot of natural resources. However, the state and federal governments own vast swaths of those gorgeous mountains, making them off-limits for economic development." As a result, the communities Jasper serves share a litany of woes: lack of infrastructure, healthcare, transportation, and job opportunities. A large part of Scarlette's ministry is teaching financial literacy. Her main goal is to help families learn how to budget and improve their credit, because credit affects everything in their lives. The people she helps can't get housing, car insurance, or even cell phones until they get their credit in order.

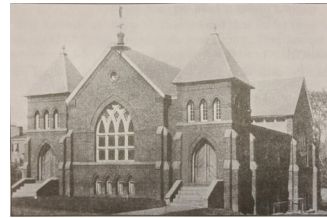
Our goal here at UBC is to contribute \$3,000 toward the larger CBF goal. You can do so by check, noting that it is for National Missions, or online [here](#).



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Mar. 28: Linda Hendon, Alice Batten



125 Years Ago

On Monday, July 29, 1901, the cornerstone of the new High Street Baptist Church was laid with appropriate ceremonies.

While the dedication service for the new building was originally scheduled for November 1901, it actually occurred on January 12, 1902, with an overflow crowd in attendance. Dr. W. E. Hatcher preached from Psalm 27.

The building still stands at the northwest corner of East High and 7th Streets, but has been heavily renovated such that it no longer resembles a church.

-From A People Called: The University Baptist Church and its Predecessor, High Street Baptist Charlottesville, Virginia 1900-2000 by Howard Newlon



Save the Date: UBC's 125th Anniversary Celebration

Join us for a special
Anniversary Celebration Weekend
on October 11-12, 2025.

Click [here](#) to link to our 125th Anniversary webpage!!

Don't forget to purchase your special 125th Anniversary T-shirts in the office for a suggested donation of \$10!



2025 VBS
July 21 - 25

Staff Contact Information:

Senior Minister: Dr. Matthew Tennant - matt@universitybaptist.org

Associate Minister for Music and College Students - Megan Sharp - megan@universitybaptist.org

Interim Associate Minister: Rev. Elizabeth Rickert Dowdy - elizabeth@universitybaptist.org

Intentional Interim Minister of Music: Rev. Susan Deal - susan@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

Education Coordinator: Rev. Tommy Deal—call the church office at 434-293-5106

Organist: Barbara Moore - call the church office at 434-293-5106

Sunday Mornings

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.

University Baptist Church

1223 West Main Street
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434-293-5106

Connect with us

