



May 27, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 21

Gratitude and Grace **N WATCH**

Dear UBC Family,

Over the last five weeks, my sabbatical has been everything I hoped it would be. My time in Bonaire offered the space and time to disconnect and listen to God's voice. From that remote island, however, my father's declining health was never far from my mind. After returning to Charlottesville, my family and I raced to Roanoke to help my parents. Our presence provided some respite for my sister who had been helping them. Thank you. Without the gift of this time away, I would not have been able to be fully present with my mom and dad during the last week of his life.

Many of you have firsthand experience with watching a loved one decline. As I watched my father's strength leave him, I remembered watching my grandmother get weaker in 2017. This was just before beginning my ministry with you. At that time, even though the UBC family and I had just met, you extended such grace to me that I knew God brought us together.

Each day is a gift. When we see someone like my dad Bob nearing the end of his journey, we can be grateful for the impact he had on so many people. For me, his life inspires me to do better, seek Christ more, and extend grace everywhere. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "Seek and you will find" (Matthew 7:7). As I look for grace, reasons to be grateful jump out at me.

For the texts, comments on Facebook and Instagram, and cards, thank you so much. You are the

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, June 1, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

Yeah, but . . .

Rev. Gary Dalton

Scripture:

John 8:3-7

Anthem:

Prayer of St. Francis by Allen Pote

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Ray Gaines

Ushers: Lauren Cooper, Jackie Lockwood

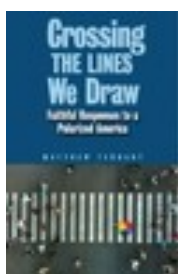


Rev. Gary Dalton

While our pastor, Matt Tennant, is away on sabbatical, we are grateful to welcome a series of guest preachers to our pulpit. Each one brings a unique voice and faithful perspective to our shared journey. This week we're pleased to welcome Rev. Gary Dalton.

body of Christ being God's hands and feet in the world. For the members of the UBC family who drove to Roanoke to attend my father's funeral, I cannot tell you how grateful I am. For everything all of you do, thank you. You are a blessing to me and my extended family. I love you and miss you. Your actions in times like this are a testimony of what it means to be a group of Christ-followers in a family of faith. Thank you.

Peace,
Matt (on behalf of the 60+ family members at my father's funeral)



While Matt begins writing *Overcoming Differences*, consider revisiting his earlier book, *Crossing the Lines We Draw: Faithful Responses to a Polarized America*. It's a powerful reflection on how we can live

with love and conviction in divisive times--and it offers the perfect foundation for what's to come. **Limited copies are available for purchase from the church office for \$10 each.**



We have a softball team!

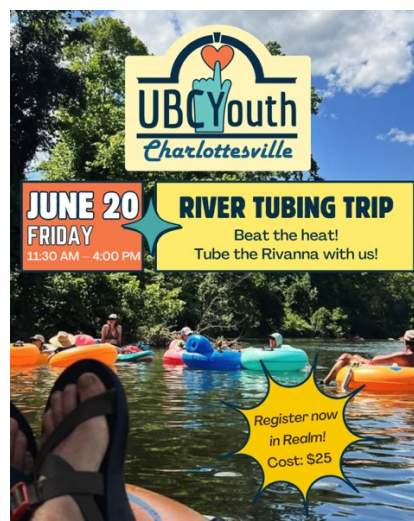
UBC's softball team is part of the Charlottesville Church Softball League. Their next games are Friday, June 6, 6:00 and 7:00 at McIntire 1. If you are interested in playing softball with a fun group of people in a Christian atmosphere, contact Coach George Martin at cva2011@aol.com.

Rev. Gary Dalton served congregations in Virginia and West Virginia as pastor and, over the past 12 years, as interim pastor. He currently considers himself retired. Karen and he have two adult children, Thomas, an aeronautical engineer based in Dallas/Fort Worth, TX, and Emily, an actor based in Washington, D.C. Gary enjoys teaching UBC's Seekers Sunday School Class each Sunday and rock climbing at least twice a week, preferably outdoors if he can and indoors if he must.

2025 Deacon Election

The 2025 Deacon Election is underway May 18 through June 1. An electronic ballot was emailed to all active members, or you can click [here](#). Paper ballots are also available in the narthex and in the church office. You may return your ballot to the church office electronically, by U.S. mail, drop off in the church office, or call the church office. For whichever means you choose, please sign the ballot before returning it. Your signature is used for membership verification only. Vote for up to 5 people that you feel meet the requirements to serve UBC as Deacons.

Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration as you choose Deacons to serve UBC 2025 - 2028.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

June 6: Sarah Craddock, Arlene Propst
June 7: Jim Hallissy, Michael Mundell
June 8: Calvin Gregg

UBCKids & UBCYouth Summer Plans Q&A

Monday, June 2, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Elizabeth will host a Q&A session on Zoom about summer plans for UBCKids and UBCYouth for parents, teachers, chaperones, volunteers, and anyone interested! Watch for an email from Elizabeth with the Zoom link.



Join us in the narthex and on the front steps for birthday cake and ice cream!

The United Gospel Choir is Coming!

Who? This summer, in partnership with Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church, we will have an opportunity to host a visit from the United Gospel Choir of Besancon, France.

When? The choir is coming to Charlottesville on Wednesday, July 16 and departing on Wednesday, July 23.

What? During their visit we will create a combined choir with the United Gospel Choir, UBC choir members, and Mt. Zion FABC choir members.

Where? We will give one or two performances and sing in worship at UBC on Sunday, July 20.

How to help? If you are interested in offering space in your house to host one or more of the visiting choir members, please contact [Megan](#). There also will be opportunities to help with meals and transportation during their visit.

Please save the dates-July 16-23!



Volunteers Needed

It's that time again! Sign up to help us give out ice cream each Wednesday. 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 is a very popular outreach ministry of the church. *This week is pineapple and cherry!*



Our Journey Together so far...

During these weeks of sabbatical, Matt is not the *only one* on a journey. As a church of people from all walks of life, part of our purpose is to journey together on life's paths.

Throughout this spring and summer, we are following a path together to learn more about how we can trust God, follow Jesus, grow in our faith, and be a community together. Sometimes the trail may seem challenging. We might not always be sure where we are going. But we journey on this path— together. To prepare and equip us for our journey, last Wednesday night we began making **hiking sticks**. We also started making **charms**, one to symbolize each week of the journey and the stops we visit along the way. So far, our journey has included:

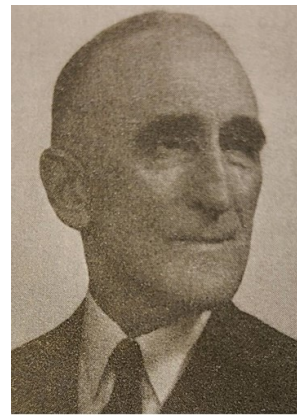
- 1. A Knapsack** – To kick off our journey, Tommy preached “Are We There Yet?” He reminded us that thoughtful journeys begin with plans, preparations, packing — and prayer.
- 2. The Number “66”** – In “A Library of Stories,” Pastor Anna reminded us of the stories, songs, and wisdom that come in the 66 canonical books of our Bible.
- 3. A Book** – “God’s Word Is for Everyone” – This week, on Wednesday night and Sunday morning, we will continue to learn how the Bible equips each of us for life’s journeys.

Ahead on the journey, we will learn more about the Fruit of the Spirit, the Disciples, the Church, and the World.



"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

86 Years Ago

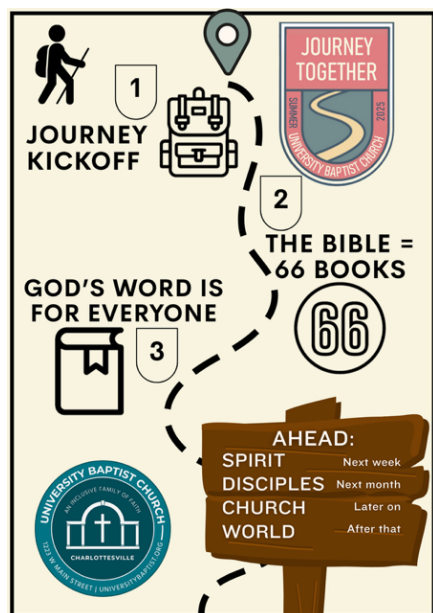


In November 1938, Dr. Cecil Cook persuaded First & Merchants National Bank to sell the church building at 1223 West Main Street back to UBC for the \$60,000 the bank had in it. The bank was persuaded

to do this because the congregation under Dr. Cook's leadership agreed to raise \$20,000 (two or three million in today's dollars) by January 1, 1939. A committee of three, J. R. Hayes, A. C. Miller, and W. H. Sadler joined Dr. Cook in the fundraising effort.

A letter in the Religious Herald tells the story of a Presbyterian who gave Dr. Cook a large donation after dining in a local restaurant, but the vast majority of the money was raised in small amounts of a nickel, dime or quarter at a time. It was said that Dr. Cook would ask for people's change as they left the grocery stores, so the money was raised by February 1st.

Whether you join us in stages or for every step along the way, we look forward to journeying together with you.



CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, May 28

9:00 Work Team
12:00 Ice Cream Ministry

THURSDAY, May 29

11:00 Spicer Funeral
1:00 Spicer Reception

SATURDAY, May 31

3:00 Ingrid Flaherty Recital

SUNDAY, June 1

8:30 Church Council Meeting
9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship

MONDAY, June 2

7:00 UBCKids & UBCYouth Summer Plans Q&A

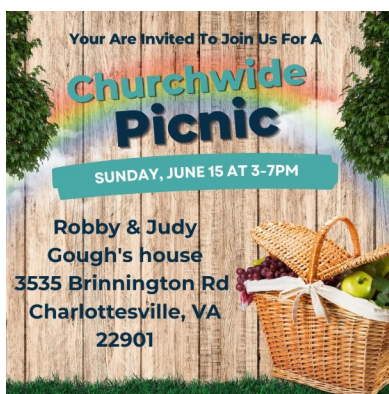
TUESDAY, June 3

7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle

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



We will NOT meet tomorrow, May 28. Join us again on Wednesday, June 4.



UBC will provide chicken and drinks. You are invited to bring a side and/or a dessert.



Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Cindy Bryant

Leon & Nancy Castle

Johnny & Gail Ellen

David & Linda Hendon

Doc & Sarah Litchfield

Joyce Martin

Larry & Lynn Martin

Mary Ella McCauley

Edith Parker

Mildred Spicer & Family on the passing of her husband, Melvin

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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

Collection for the University of Virginia Hospital Hospitality House

Through the month of June, the Kittie Colvin Trail Circle will be collecting items for the UVA Hospital Hospitality House. The Hospitality House, located on 14th Street, offers overnight rooms at a very reduced rate to people from out-of-town having out-patient treatment at the hospital and the families of patients in the hospital. The Hospitality House has 20 bedrooms and 8 kitchenettes for the guests to use, but they have a hard time keeping them stocked.

If you have a few things you no longer need, toiletries you have collected during your travels, individual snacks, paper goods, or forks and spoons leftover from a picnic, please bring them to the collection boxes in the 1st floor lobby.

Requested items:

- forks and spoons, real or plastic (they have hundreds of butter knives)
- bowls, real or paper
- plastic storage containers (the disposable kind food comes in from the store is fine)
- individual-sized shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, or soap
- detergent pods - All free and clear preferred
- fabric sheets - All free and clear preferred

Many thanks for helping us support this vital community ministry.

Ahead on the journey, we will learn more about the Fruit of the Spirit, the Disciples, the Church, and the World.

The funeral for Melvin Spicer will be Thursday, May 29, 11:00 in the UBC Sanctuary. A reception will follow at 1:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Parking is available in the 14th Street Parking Garage at no cost, if you show them your funeral bulletin on the way out.

Visitation is at Hill & Wood Funeral Home on Wednesday, May 28, 5:00.

Staff Contact Information:

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

Interim Executive Minister: Rev. Susan Deal - susan@universitybaptist.org

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

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

Maintenance Assistant: Hunter Cooper - 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

