



February 24, 2026 Vol. 78, No. 8

## ON WATCH

### Adding Something During Lent

As we come to the close of the first week in Lent, how's it going? Did anyone give anything up for Lent? The reason people give something up for Lent is to focus on God. If your day begins with coffee, and you give up coffee for Lent, the idea is to think about God each day when you would normally reach for your coffee. However, in the case of giving up coffee (or something similar), you might experience the unintended consequences of grouchiness, resentment, and drowsiness.

Fasting is an integral part of the spiritual life, and giving something up for Lent is, in a manner of speaking, a spiritual fast. If several people give up something together, they can encourage and support each other in the fast. Yet, in my experience, it veers too close to Jesus' warning in Matthew 6:16-18. Jesus said, "Whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

An alternative to giving something up is adding something. On Sunday, I asked, "What is something we can do during Lent to help us prepare for Easter?" Several people offered great

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, March 1, 2026

11:00 AM

**Sermon:**

Believe & Be Glad

Dr. Matthew Tennant

**Scripture:**

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

**Anthems:**

*I to the Hills Lift Up Mine Eyes*

by Jean Berger

*Sing, My Soul, God's Wondrous Love*

by Ned Rorem

## SUNDAY SERVICE

**Deacon:** Shirley Clark

**Ushers:** Mary Jo Hendricks, Ronda Wiley

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

## Childcare Task Force Update

The Childcare Task Force, looking at the feasibility of offering childcare for the community during the week, met on February 17. Cost analysis spreadsheets, including information from other church childcare programs, were examined and discussed. Space considerations are being looked into as well as information from the hospital on what is currently being offered.

suggestions. Clara said, "Kindness." Roy said, "Help someone who really needs the help." Susan said, "Speak words of hope." Each example works. There are many others.

The idea is to take on one thing. Focus on it. And try to do something each day that embodies that one thing. If you picked Clara's example, "Kindness," then try to find something you can do each day to be kind. When you do, think of all the ways Jesus showed kindness when we read about him in the gospels. He healed people who were sick. He included those who had been excluded by everyone else. He listened to people and responded to them where they were.

Lent is the 40-day period (not including Sundays) before Easter. As of today, Tuesday, February 24, we are five days into this season. There's still plenty of time to pick something and take it on during this season. The purpose of Lent is to prepare for Easter and the joy of celebrating Jesus' resurrection. Adding a positive attribute might be just the right thing to do in 2026.

Peace,  
Matt

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### Search Committee Update

The Search Committee for our next Associate Minister held their first meeting on Monday, February 23, via zoom. They talked about the history and process of a search committee and began assembling notes and documents. At this stage, because this is such a significant endeavor, the committee agreed to spend the next two weeks praying. They are seeking God's guidance and insight as we look for the next person God is calling to serve with our congregation. Please pray for the committee: Colleen Baber, Arlyn Burgess, Erin Eaker, Judy Gough, Susan Hellings, Peter Ohlms, Alden Pinkham, and Amy Teachey.



### Lenten Devotionals

A link to daily Lenten devotionals is posted on the homepage of our [website](#). Check it out and enrich your Lenten journey.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Mar. 5: Tom Leland

Mar. 6: Sheri Owen

Mar. 8: Gerald Brown

Mar. 10: Sarah Buchanan, Diane Mundell



### AIM Needs Volunteers

AIM needs volunteers at their Emmett St. office (1807 Emmet St. N. #6A). Volunteers can work as few or as many hours as they like, Monday-Thursday from 9-2. AIM has various programs to help the disenfranchised, those living in poverty, or victims of domestic abuse. Contact AIM at 434-972-1704 for more information.



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

## Prayer Requests\*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill  
Tony & Patti Barretta  
Alba & Pam Beasley  
Clara Brown  
Leon & Nancy Castle  
David & Linda Hendon  
Larry & Lynn Martin  
Bill & Barbara Murray  
Edith Parker  
Barbara Weber  
Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



You'll have many opportunities in the coming year to join together and discuss what it means to be a Baptist at UBC. We'll look at what Baptists believe, how UBC's leadership and volunteers are organized, what we believe about baptism and communion, and the many ministry opportunities here at the church. Even if you've been a member of UBC for years, we think you'll discover something you never knew about us.



### Star Words

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

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, February 25

9:00 Work Team  
10:00 PB&J Bible Study  
5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner  
5:45 Sanctuary Bells Rehearsal  
6:00 Program  
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### FRIDAY, February 27

5:30 Jazz Vespers

### SUNDAY, March 1

8:30 Church Council Meeting  
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study  
11:00 Morning Worship

### MONDAY, March 2

4:00 Theology Reading Group

### TUESDAY, March 3

12:00 Security Task Force Meeting  
7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle Meeting  
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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

## Google Calendar for Congregational Activities

We now have a calendar for congregational activities outside of the church. If your child (or you) has a sporting event, a play they are participating in, or a musical performance, this is where we would post it, so others can attend and support them. This calendar is only visible to those who request to view it. If you have an event to add to the calendar or would like to be able to view the calendar, contact [Amanda Ohlms](#).



Join us on Friday,  
February 27, 5:30  
in the Sanctuary  
for our Jazz Vespers

## Paint Survey

The votes are in! 43 people filled out the survey. 28 voted for 6204, 13 voted for 6176, and 2 didn't vote for either color. The winner is 6204 Sea Salt!



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## Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza

On Saturday, February 28, 10:00 am - 1:30 pm, the American Guild of Organists is presenting "Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza, a program for student pianists (4th grade - high school), who are invited for an organ demonstration, lunch, and an opportunity to play the organ. The event will take place at Christ Episcopal Church, 120 W. High St. Our organist, Barbara Moore, will be there and invites any interested young people to participate. The cost is \$15. Click [here](#) for the registration form.

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## MLK Community Celebration Sunday, March 1, 4:00 pm at PVCC

UBC partnered with Mt. Zion this past summer to host a visit from the United Gospel Choir from Besancon, France. We are again partnering with Mt. Zion FABC, along with other community churches, to present the MLK Community Celebration. Rev. Megan Sharp is working with the 100+ adult community choir and the children's community choir for this event. Mark your calendars and plan to attend and support this community-wide event.

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## Missing Maps!

A set of maps that were on an easel in the Open Minds classroom (Room 120 - Conference Room) have been missing for awhile. If anyone knows where they might be, please notify the [church office](#).



Join us for dinner tomorrow, Wednesday, February 25, 5:15, in the Fellowship Hall. Following dinner at 6:00, we will have the first week of our Lenten Series: Celtic Evening Liturgy entitled *The Joy of Forgiveness* based on Matthew 18:10-14 and Psalm 32.

Menu:

*Baked Potato Bar  
Pulled Pork and Chicken  
Assortment of Toppings  
Mixed Green Salad  
Dessert TBD*

Make your dinner reservations [here](#).



The 2026 Souper Bowl of Caring, themed "Small Gifts, Big Impact," mobilized communities nationwide to fight hunger, raising thousands of food items and dollars for local food charities.

The campaign encouraged individuals to contribute even modest donations, such as a dollar or a food item, during the Super Bowl weekend, turning the excitement of the Big Game into meaningful support for neighbors experiencing food insecurity. Here at UBC we raised \$842 for the Souper Bowl of Caring. Thank you!



### Why do we read the gospel from the floor mic?

We read the gospel from the floor mic, instead of from the pulpit, because we want the gospel lesson to be among the congregation. It's a small act, but it symbolizes our shared ownership of God's word. We believe in the priesthood of the believer, so words from God don't come from a priest or minister. They come directly from the Bible, and it is accessible to all.

### Pacem 2026 at UBC is Finished!

We are so grateful to the many volunteers who made our participation in PACEM possible. Thank you to everyone who shopped, cooked, baked, served, washed dishes, did laundry, made cots, unpacked or packed cots, donated toiletries, snacks, and breakfast items, made welcome bags, and shared time visiting with our guests. This ministry requires many hearts and hands. Thank you for showing love and kindness to our neighbors.

Laura and Katherine

#### 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)  
Office Coordinator: Linda Weirich - [linda@universitybaptist.org](mailto:linda@universitybaptist.org)  
Financial Coordinator: Amanda Ohlms - [aohlms@universitybaptist.org](mailto:aohlms@universitybaptist.org)  
Communications Coordinator - Kayla Riley - [socialmedia@universitybaptist.org](mailto:socialmedia@universitybaptist.org)  
Church Administrator: Alan Hendricks - [ahendricks@universitybaptist.org](mailto: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.

*University Baptist Church*  
1223 West Main Street  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
434-293-5106

Connect with us

