



April 28, 2026 Vol. 78, No. 17

ON WATCH

Encouragement

Who did you encourage today? Right now, at this moment, consider who you have already encouraged today. Offering someone a little encouragement is a gift. It might be just the thing that person needed at that moment. Or the words you offer might not stick with the person long. Either way, it costs nothing but has the potential to yield fruit beyond our ability to imagine.

When we encourage others, we become God's voice. This doesn't mean throwing around meaningless words or empty comments. We should mean what we say. To find the right words, think of someone and try to see something good. It shouldn't be difficult. God can see all our blemishes and still loves us. If we receive even a tiny bit of that grace, we can extend it to others. When we do, we start to see them as God sees them. Then, finding something good, helpful, positive, attractive, or impactful is easy. When we discover that good attribute, we can say it to the person with sincerity and honesty.

If the answer to the question, "Who did you encourage today?" is, "No one," it's not too late. You can still do it. You might be the blessing someone needs today. Offer a word of kindness, because there is no time like the present.

Peace,
Matt

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, May 3, 2026

11:00 AM

Sermon:

"The Reliability of God's Rule"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Habakkuk 2:2-4

Anthems:

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life
by Harold Friedell

The Way of Peace, Tallis Canon
arr. Sheldon Curry

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Ray Gaines

Ushers: Jackie Lockwood, Shirley Clark



We'd love to celebrate your graduation during our church service on Sunday, May 3!

If you or a loved one is graduating this spring, please send their name, the school they will be graduating from, and any plans

they may have going forward to [Megan](#).

Childcare Task Force Update

Church Council established a task force to study the feasibility of starting a Childcare ministry at UBC. Those on the task force were Matt Tennant, Judy Shah, Judy Gough, Larry Martin, Jim Moore, Alan Hendricks, and Linda Weirich.

Much information was gathered and examined resulting in the following recommendation.

With several other additional and less expensive alternatives for families to consider for their childcare needs and looking at the investment needed to create a childcare ministry, their recommendation to Church Council is not to pursue this ministry at this time.



First Quarter Financial Update January-March 2026

Contributions: \$114,939.96
Expenses: \$156,359.78



Quarterly
Giving
Statements

First quarter giving statements have gone out. If you did not receive yours (either through email or print) or you have questions, please let [Amanda](#) know.



Star Words

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



Join us for dinner tomorrow, Wednesday, April 29, 5:15, in the Fellowship Hall. Following dinner at 6:00, we will discuss UBC 101: Session 4: *Plugging In*

Menu:

Roasted Pork Tenderloin with Chimmichurri (Chicken and Veggie Substitutes)
Warm Farro Pilaf (Ancient Grain served warm with olive, herbs, and spring veggies)
Balsamic-Thyme Mushrooms
Mixed Green Salad
Lemon Olive Oil Cake with Strawberry Glaze

Contact the church office, to make your dinner reservations.



Mark your calendars for our annual Church Cookout in the UBC parking lot on Wednesday, May 6, 5:15pm.





Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed for Children's Church. We're looking for people who are interested in joining a rotating group of people who lead Children's Church or assist as a second adult. You'll get to spend 30 minutes with some of the younger members of our church family, share a short lesson related to the week's message, or teach a craft, hear about the highs and lows of their week, and, most important of all to the kids - and some adults, too - snacks!

If you're interested in volunteering, please reach out to [Melanie Tennant](#) or [Susan Hellings](#).

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

A FREE EVENT FOR FAMILIES
SATURDAY, MAY 9th 2026
9am-12pm



UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH
1223 West Main Street

Join us to see fire trucks, police cars, construction vehicles, and more! Free shirts for all kids. Other activities include face painting, ice cream, a bouncy house, and more!

Save the Date!

If you can volunteer to help with this outreach ministry, contact the church office.



The Virginia Baptist Male Chorale
Concert Monday, May 4, 6pm
in the UBC Sanctuary
Click [here](#) for a sample of their Fall Concert.



In May, the Kittie Colvin Trail Circle is collecting items for AIM (the Alliance for Interfaith Ministries) for Welcome Baskets. These baskets typically go to folks who are formerly homeless and moving into an apartment with absolutely nothing but their clothes and no money to buy these things. There is a collection bin on the first floor outside the church office. See below for a list of needed items:

- Shower curtain and/or shower curtain liners
- Shower curtain hooks
- Trash bags
- Tissues
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Toilet scrub brush
- 1 towel, 1 washcloth, 1 hand towel
- Pop up wipes
- Glass cleaner
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush (individually wrapped)
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Laundry detergent
- Bath mat
- Small bathroom size trash can

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

Bill & Barbara Murray

Edith Parker

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

May 6: Pat Owen, Isaiah Krispin

May 8: Richard Vaughan, Rozelia Dowdy

May 9: Sue Whitt

May 10: Bill Cromwell, Kayla Riley

May 11: Michael Cheuk

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, April 29

9:00 Work Team

5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner

5:45 Sanctuary Bells Rehearsal

6:00 UBC 101: Session 4

6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, May 3

8:30 Church Council Meeting

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

12:00 College Bagel Brunch

2:00 GUTS Training

MONDAY, May 4

4:00 Theology Reading Group

6:00 Virginia Baptist Male Chorale Concert

TUESDAY, May 5

7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle

7:00 Search Committee Meeting

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



Ice Cream Ministry

It's almost that time again! Time to begin offering ice cream to our friends and neighbors on Wednesdays at noon. Check your calendars and see if you can be part of putting a smile on someone's face just by

handing them an ice cream cone. If you can volunteer to help with this ministry, contact the church office.



Our Pastor on WINA

Dr. Tennant was Jay James' guest on WINA's Morning News this week. He appears on WINA once per month to provide some commentary on the news from a faith perspective. They discussed AI, how young people are engaging in faith, the unhoused, and the events in the middle east and his advice on how we should respond. In case you missed it, you can [hear the interview here](#).

Join us on Wednesday, April 29, 6:00, for Session 4 of UBC 101: *Plugging In*. We will conclude our series by introducing the deacon ministry, committees, councils, teams, task force(s), and staff, as well as our system of governance and organization within the church. Come and see what ministries might interest you.



deCycles Freedom Ride 2026

The *deCycles* mission for the past 56 years is to provide an opportunity for youth to uniquely experience the principles of a Christ-centered life; glorify God and practice kindness.

Their mission trip this summer is a challenging 1500-mile journey from Indiana to the east coast to celebrate the 250th birthday of America in Washington, DC on July 4 and later commemorate the 25th anniversary of 9/11 in New York City.

This 20-member youth group will be spending the night here at UBC on Wednesday, July 1.

Any teen or young adult who can ride a bike is welcome to join the trip roster. Beginner cyclists are welcome. For more information, contact their director, [Norman Houze](#).

Search Committee Update



SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee has finalized the job description for an Associate Minister for Education and has begun posting it in a variety of places. It is also available on our website. If you know someone who might be a suitable candidate, please feel free to send them the job description. The committee will begin reviewing applications in a few weeks.



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

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
Communications Coordinator - Kayla Riley - 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.

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

Connect with us

