



June 30, 2026 Vol. 78, No. 26

## ONWATCH

### Let's Talk Race

I learned something valuable from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship General Assembly this year even though I wasn't there. Rev. Sharp attended the meeting this year, and when she returned, she told me about a ministry that sounds intriguing: [Let's Talk Race](#). It's an educational ministry focused on racial reconciliation. At a time when people seem as divided along racial lines as ever, learning more about racial reconciliation seems like it could be helpful. Doing so from CBF-minded Christ-followers might be a soft entry point for people in a congregation like ours.

[Let's Talk Race](#) started in 2019, when a white Texas couple named Shelly and David Park felt inspired to begin working on racial reconciliation. The inspiration came from Atatiana Jefferson's death. Atatiana, an African American woman, was fatally shot by a white police officer in her Fort Worth, Texas, home on October 12, 2019. The officer was later convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to nearly 12 years in prison for the shooting. The Parks realized that they needed to learn more about cross-racial understanding. I appreciate their candor and the humility it takes to embark on such an educational journey.

For four years, the Parks led a free class called "Let's Talk Race: A Beginner's Guide to Conversations About Race." Their goal is to teach people, mostly white Christians, the biblical,

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, July 5, 2026

11:00 AM

**Sermon:**

"Don't Mess Around.  
Welcome Everyone!"  
Dr. Matthew Tennant

**Scripture:**

Matthew 10:40-42

**Anthem:**

*The Stranger's Guise*  
by Karen Marroli

## SUNDAY SERVICE

**Deacon:** Ray Gaines

**Ushers:** Jimmy Li, Amy Song



## Church Growth Task Force

We're looking for people who would like to serve on a Church Growth Task Force. If you're interested in finding out more information, [call](#) or [email](#) the church office.

historical, and societal aspects of race in America. [According to Religion News Service](#), Shelley said, "I had been following all these people of color on Instagram and really learning and reading books. Many of them said, 'We're just tired,' and 'White people, we need you to get your people.' And it was like the Lord said very clearly, as I was processing Atatiana's murder, that it was time to do something."

Currently, the Parks lead the "Beginner's Guide" course online, and it's still free. They have one starting on July 7, and it runs for 5 weeks. Anyone [can register here](#). I signed up for the course and invite anyone who is interested in learning more about it to do so, too. I look forward to learning and growing with you.

Peace,  
Matt

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### 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.

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LTR Ministries, Inc. is offering a beginner's guide to conversations about race. Five weekly sessions, 1.5 hours each, will be offered each week at the same time, beginning Tuesday, July 7, 8:00 PM. Each session includes:

- 15-20 min. of discussion
- 45-50 min. of teaching
- another 15-20 min. of discussion

There is minimal homework between sessions. This will be a safe space for honest, and possibly hard, conversations about race. Click [here](#) to register.



Summer schedule May - July  
2X a month  
Our next dinner will be on  
Wednesday, July 8.

Contact the church office,  
to make your dinner reservations.

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### CALENDAR

#### WEDNESDAY, July 1

9:00 Work Team

#### THURSDAY, July 2

1:30 Stewardship Committee Meeting

#### FRIDAY, July 3

Church Office Closed

#### SUNDAY, July 5

8:30 Church Council Meeting

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

#### MONDAY, July 6

4:00 Theology Reading Group

#### TUESDAY, July 7

6:30 Search Committee Meeting

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

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### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

**July 8:** Ray Gaines

**July 9:** Lynda Tweel

**July 12:** Jen May, Andrew Mundell

**July 13:** Amy Cumbia

**July 14:** Pam Beasley, Donna Ballard

## Prayer Requests\*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Ed & Betty Barker

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Johnny & Gail Ellen

David & Linda Hendon

Larry & Lynn Martin

Edith Parker

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



### 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.



### 2026 Deacon Election

Today is the last day to vote for your 2026 Deacons. You can vote online by clicking [here](#), or by calling the church office.

Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration as you choose Deacons to serve UBC 2026 - 2029.

### Ice Cream Ministry

is cancelled this week

due to the extreme temperatures  
and the limitations of our ice cream machine.

### Thank You to Our VBS volunteers!!

We had 22 children here with us this past week Monday through Friday enjoying the experience of getting to know God and having fun doing it with singing, crafts, Bible stories, science experiments, and games.

Seeing the enthusiasm of the children and the VBS Band in worship on Sunday was an uplifting experience.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our VBS week such a success!



## Children's Church

Children's Church will be taking a break for the month of July and will resume on Sunday, August 2. During the month of July there will be a table with activities in the Sanctuary for the children.

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## Search Committee Update



### SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee has been busy and is making good progress. They received quite a few resumes from prospective candidates and have narrowed

them down to three, have had initial interviews, and now follow-up interviews have been completed.

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## 2026 Cooperative Baptist Fellowship General Assembly

Do you remember that feeling when you returned home from summer church camp? You felt tired, but full of the Spirit of God. You felt energized by the love of Jesus and renewed by a week of making new friends and setting time apart from the daily responsibilities and routines of life at home. That is how I felt when I returned from the CBF General Assembly.

**The theme this year was a call to be the bold type.** We were encouraged to find our own path to boldness through creativity, action, thoughtfulness, and all the many ways that the Spirit can move us. I enjoyed meeting other CBF pastors and lay leaders, networking with ministers of music and those who minister to young adults and students, and celebrating the diversity of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. CBF supports the work of justice, addresses issues of hunger and inclusion, and uplifts women in ministry. Thank you for the opportunity to learn more about CBF and gather with other CBF church leaders.

Blessings,  
Megan



A SPIRITUAL BICYCLE ADVENTURE BEYOND BELIEF



SHARE IN THEIR JOY & GROW



## UBC's Woodbrook School Supplies Ministry

Since 2008, UBC, through our Missions Council, has collected money and purchased school supplies for the economically disadvantaged children who attend Albemarle County's Woodbrook Elementary School. This ministry was coordinated by Love INC in cooperation with the local school's Family Support Workers.

Again this year, we will be collecting for this fund during the month of July. While it may seem early (didn't school just get out for the summer?) with school starting in mid-August, it is the perfect time! The money we collect not only helps purchase school supplies for the start of the year, but all year long for these children who sometimes have special needs such as shoes, emergency clothing, hygiene needs, and healthy snacks. This past year Woodbrook had approximately 525 students on roll.

Over the years the percentage of Woodbrook students who have relied on the free or reduced-price lunch program has varied between 60 and 85%. School supply lists that



### Star Words

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

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families are asked to provide at the beginning of the school year would cost between \$75 and \$100 for each child (and that doesn't include a backpack or tennis shoes that are required for physical education classes). Just imagine if you are an out-of-work parent with two, three or more school-age children? Your gifts enable the Woodbrook school staff to provide the needed supplies for these less fortunate children.

Please help us make these children's school experience meaningful and productive by making checks or online gifts payable to UBC and earmark "school supplies."

### 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)  
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 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.**

*University Baptist Church*  
1223 West Main Street  
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434-293-5106

Connect with us

