



April 15, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 15

Holy Week & Our Post-Easter Journey

ON WATCH

During this Holy Week, we have an important journey. It started on Sunday when we acknowledged the duality of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. On the one hand, people wanted a triumphant king, a la a reincarnated King David. On the other hand, Jesus showed a different way—one of justice, mercy, and salvation.

The next stop on our Holy Week adventure is Wednesday at noon when we explore Judas' role in this story. Judas is an example of human freedom and God's plan interacting. Judas chose to turn Jesus over to the religious leaders. He was probably motivated by the same desire for a triumphal king on Palm Sunday. He thought the Messiah would kick out the Romans. Instead, Jesus surrendered peacefully.

Then, on Thursday at 7pm, we will gather to remember the final meal Jesus shared with his disciples. During this gathering, according to Luke 22:24-30, the disciples argued over which one was the greatest. Isn't this just like people? We could be in the presence of God and miss the point.

On Friday at noon, we will remember Jesus' death. To those who were watching, it probably seemed like everything was over when he took his last breath. At times, we can live our lives with a Good Friday mentality. Even in the darkest moments, Good Friday is a reminder that it's not over yet.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

12-1PM April 16 | Spy Wednesday

7-8PM April 17 | Maundy Thursday

12-1PM April 18 | Good Friday

11-12PM April 20 | Easter Sunday



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Spy Wednesday

Spy Wednesday is a point in the Holy Week journey when we acknowledge Judas' role in the sacred story. Join us in the sanctuary at 12:00 noon.

Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday is when we commemorate the institution of the Lord's Supper. Join us in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm as we share in the Lord's Supper together. Childcare will be available.

Good Friday

Good Friday is the last Holy Week stop before Easter. It emphasizes the darkness before the light of Easter.

Then, on Sunday, we will celebrate the empty tomb, and we will proclaim, "Christ is risen!"

After Easter, we will be going on a journey. For me, I will begin my sabbatical, I appreciate the church's generosity in giving me this time away. Melanie and I will visit Bonaire for several weeks. Then, I plan to spend some time sailing and writing. I am working on a follow up to my 2020 book *Crossing the Lines We Draw*. This one is called *Overcoming Differences*. I will also be working on *Marine Theology*, which is a look at ecotheology and God baptizing the world. The final period of my sabbatical will be in [La Senda Verde](#), an animal refuge in Bolivia. I will return to the office on Monday, July 28, and be in worship on Sunday, August 3.

While I am gone, the church will go through a program called "Journey Together." As I wrote last week, Rev. Susan Deal will be serving as the Interim Executive Minister while I am away. "Journey Together" is a collection of intergenerational events. These events and activities will weave together our worship themes with church-wide activities. In the coming weeks, there will be more information about each event.

We are all on a journey. For the next three months, our journeys will take us in different directions. In August, we will compare notes and explore how God has been at work through this time. For now, let's not get ahead of ourselves. We still have several stops this Holy Week before we get to Easter and our journey together.

Peace,
Matt



First Quarter Financial Update January-March 2025

Contributions: \$125,750.01
Expenses: \$181,455.86

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 20, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

The Way of Life
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Luke 24:6-12

Anthems:

Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! by Le Doux
Christ, the Lord, Is Risen Again
by John Rutter

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon:

Ushers: Charlotte Bailey, Shirley Clark

UBC Kids
Charlottesville

Easter Egg Hunt!

PRESCHOOL
&
ELEMENTARY

Sunday, April 20
9:45 AM - Children's Suite

Come hear the
Legend of the Easter Egg,
then find your own!
Don't forget your basket!

UBC Kids
Charlottesville

Wed-Sat, June 11-14
Eagle Eyrie Conference Center

PASSPORTkids

Exploring a world without borders.

Have a blast at this church camp with a world missions focus!
For kids who have completed 3rd-6th grades
\$300 per camper
Register now in Realm



The United Gospel Choir is Coming!

There will be no dinner or program on Wednesday, April 16 or 23. Dinner will return on Wednesday, April 30 with a Church-wide Cookout from 5:30 - 7:00.

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill
Tony & Patti Barretta
Alba & Pam Beasley
Clara Brown
Leon & Nancy Castle
Shelby Clements
Johnny & Gail Ellen
David & Linda Hendon
Doc Litchfield
Larry & Lynn Martin
Edith Parker
Melvin & Mildred Spicer
Bob & Joyce Tennant
Barbara Weber
Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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

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 beginning Wednesday, April 23! 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.



2025 VBS
July 21 - 25

New Signage

Back in February, the U.S. District Court of Maryland issued a ruling that blocks ICE (and all Department of Homeland Security agents) from entering houses of worship to carry out enforcement operations unless they have first obtained a warrant signed by a judge or there are exigent circumstances. This ruling is limited to the named plaintiffs in the lawsuit. This includes all CBF partner churches, the Sikh Temple Sacramento and six Quaker Meetings. This decision effectively restores the sensitive location policy that had been revoked by the interim secretary of DHS, ensuring that houses of worship remain free from warrantless government raids. It means that CBF congregations like ours can now continue to worship and minister without the fear of unexpected enforcement actions. The ruling validates the longstanding Baptist commitment to religious liberty, local church autonomy, and the separation of church and state. To notify enforcement agents, the University Baptist Church's Church Council voted to place signage at each of our entrances. If you have any questions, please ask a member of the Church Council or one of the ministers.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

April 23: Jane Anderson

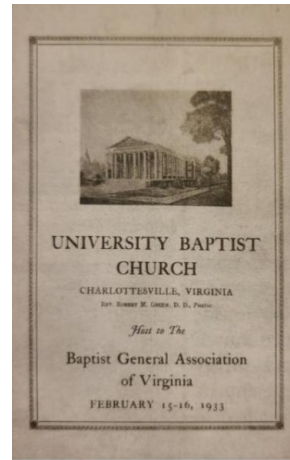
April 24: Steve Mahone, Gail Ellen

April 25: Lauren Cooper

April 26: Carol Anderson, Roy Thomas

April 27: Bob Bryant, Rebecca Jolin, Julia Yates, Linda Weirich

April 28: Chandler Proffitt, Jen Bates



92 Years Ago

UBC hosted the February 15-16, 1933 meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia. The accompanying photo is the cover of the program for the meeting.

"The document included advertisements from 59 local business establishments, including full-page ads for the Charlottesville Lumber Company and the Monticello Hotel." "Music for the convention was furnished by a combined chorus of choir members from University Baptist, First Baptist, First Methodist, First Presbyterian, Christ Episcopal, and Emmanuel Lutheran Churches of Charlottesville."

-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!





We have a softball team!

UBC's softball team is part of the Charlottesville Church Softball League. The start of their season is only a month away. They play their games at McIntire or Darden Towe and always welcome new players. 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.

Holy Week Worship for UBCKids and Families

Maundy Thursday - April 17 at 7pm

- Childcare will be provided in the Nursery
- Children are welcome to attend the service with a responsible adult. They are also welcome to receive communion.
- For parents in Sanctuary Choir, Elizabeth is working to recruit a ministry volunteer to sit with any older kids wanting to attend the service.

Good Friday - April 18 at noon

- Please notify the church office by Wednesday, if you would use childcare to attend this midday service.

Easter Sunday Worship - April 20 at 11am

- As always, childcare will be provided in the Nursery.
- Children are encouraged to attend with a responsible adult.
- For parents in Sanctuary Choir, Elizabeth is working to recruit a ministry volunteer to sit with your kids.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, April 16

9:00 Work Team
12:00 Spy Wednesday Worship
No Wednesday night dinner or program
6:00 UBCKids Choir
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, April 17

7:00 Maundy Thursday Worship

FRIDAY, April 18

12:00 Good Friday Worship

SUNDAY, April 20

8:30 Finance Committee Meeting
9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class
9:45 UBCKids Easter Egg Hunt
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:00 College Bagel Brunch

MONDAY, April 21

Church Office Closed

TUESDAY, April 22

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

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



Thank you to Jen May and Pam Hallissy for planting the lovely pansies in front of the church.



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

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

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

