



November 11, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 44

WATCH

Transition Team Op-Ed

I want to express my appreciation for the people who have served on the Children & Youth Transition Team. Thank you: Susan Hellings, Larry Martin, Laura Morris, Alden Pinkham, Cindy Bryant, Arlyn Burgess, and Megan Sharp. In last week's newsletter, there was a teaser update that hinted at the team's recommendations "for future staffing." Although I have not been involved in the team's work, I can attest to their diligence in listening to the parents, youth, and children. The team considered how we can best minister to these vital constituencies in our congregation, and I want to echo the call from last week's newsletter for us to pray for their work.

Just like when I write an op-ed for [Baptist News Global](#), I am sharing my opinion about their work here. Here's my opinion: We are a congregational body. God speaks through all of us. As a congregational body, we make decisions together. Sometimes we make good and fruitful decisions that bless the church. Other times, we learn from our decisions. Each new day, we continue following where God leads.

If the transition team's recommendation is for additional staffing, then we need to ask, first, is this what God is calling our church to do? If the answer is yes, then God will show us a path forward. If the answer is no, then we need to go back to the drawing board. Second, if this is

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, November 16, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

Everyone Get Busy, Jesus Is Watching

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Anthems:

Walking in the Spirit

by Mark Hayes

The Chorister's Prayer

by Jacob Dishman

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Alden Pinkham

Ushers: Jackie Lockwood, Shirley Clark

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



**Pledge Dedication
This Sunday
November 16
during worship**

This Sunday is your chance to commit your financial and other resources to University Baptist's ongoing ministries for 2026. There will be an opportunity to turn in your pledge card on Sunday morning during the closing hymn. Please plan to be present in worship this Sunday, but if you cannot, mail or deliver your pledge by the 16th.

what God is calling us to do, then how does God want us to do it? Third, are we prepared to invest in God's future? There are more questions we can ask, and for any recommendation, there will be details to work out. Still, the first question must remain: Is the team's recommendation what God is calling our church to do? Keep in mind that God might be calling us out of our comfort zone.

The Bible is full of God calling people out of their comfort zones. When God called Abram (Genesis 12), God didn't say where he was supposed to go. When God called Moses (Exodus 3-4), Moses came up with a bunch of reasons why he couldn't go. When God commissioned Joshua to succeed Moses, Joshua needed reassuring. "Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9). Esther risked her life to save her people (Esther 4). When Jesus called Peter to step out of the boat and walk on water, this was new territory for Peter (Matthew 14:29). This list could go on.

When we consider the report from the Children & Youth Transition Team, we first ask if their report is what God is calling us to do. If so, everything else will fall into place.

Peace,
Matt



Our Pastor on WINA

Dr. Tennant was Jay James' guest on WINA's Morning News yesterday. He appears on WINA once per month to provide some commentary on the news from a faith perspective. He talked this month about the intersection of faith and mental health. In case you missed it, you can [hear the interview here](#).



College Students Mark Your Calendars!

Mark your calendars for the annual Friendsgiving Dinner on Tuesday, November 18 when college students from UBC, UKirk, and Wesley Foundation get together to celebrate the season. The Wesley Foundation is hosting this year. More information to come!



Wednesday, November 12
Dinner starts at 5:15pm
UBC Bells Rehearsal at 5:45
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal at 6:30

Make your dinner reservations [here](#).

Our menu will be:

Pancakes

Sausage

Fried Apples



Come to Jazz Vespers on Friday, November 21 at 5:30pm. Childcare is provided during the service. This is a great event to invite a friend or neighbor to attend.

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Sarah Buchanan

Leon & Nancy Castle

David & Linda Hendon

George Martin

Larry & Lynn Martin

Pat Owen

Edith Parker

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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

Alba is recuperating at home now. If you would like to provide a meal for him and Pam check out the [sign up genius](#). Or contact Michelle Proffitt at 434-996-5086.

My Heartfelt Thanks!

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to this church and the Finance Committee for making it possible for me to take part in our recent mission trip to Puerto Rico. I'm especially grateful for the availability of the Sam Mackey Fund, which helped cover my travel expenses. It's a wonderful reminder of how Mr. Mackey's generous gift continues to bless others and further the ministry of our church. Thank you for your good stewardship and for supporting opportunities like this that allow us to serve beyond our walls.

With gratitude,
Raynell Stokes

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, November 12

9:00 Work Team

10:00 PB&J Bible Study

5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner

5:45 Handbell Rehearsal

6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, November 13

1:30 Personnel Committee Meeting

SUNDAY, November 16

8:30 Finance Committee Meeting

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

12:00 College Bagel Brunch

4:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

5:30 College Dinner

MONDAY, November 17

4:00 Theology Reading Group

TUESDAY, November 18

6:00 Friendsgiving Dinner

7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Nov. 19: Jackie Lockwood

Nov. 20: Jane Thomas

Nov. 21: Judy Shah

Nov. 22: Sue Sears

Nov. 24: Ben Martindale, Andrea Smith

Nov. 25: Dean Tennant

A Huge Thank You!

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of this church the following was done with this year's donations to *Dinner With Andrew*.

The following people were helped:

- James & Wanda
- 3 needy immigrant families
- guests needing shelter and gas
- Haven & Salvation Army folks in transition, and
- gift cards for needy families with pets around Thanksgiving

Blood Drive

Thank you to those who helped set up for our recent blood drive and those who donated. The drive was conducted in partnership with the UVA Tennis Club and the Red Cross. A total of 22 units of blood were collected. Fourteen donors were first time donors.



On Sunday, November 23, the Grounded & Growing Class (formerly Young Adult Class) will begin a study on *Bless This Mess: A Modern Guide to Faith and Parenting in a Chaotic World*. The class meets every Sunday at 9:45 in Room 209. All are welcome!

Congratulations
on Your
New Grandson!



Congratulations to Ray & Nancy Gaines, brand new grandparents of Charles Bell born on November 8 to their daughter Katherine.

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
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.

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Connect with us

