February 10, 2026 Vol. 78, No. 6

ON WATCH

Before Lent

Ash Wednesday is February 18. This is the day that marks the beginning of our Lenten journey. Ash Wednesday invites introspection and reflection. It's a time in the Christian calendar when we can pause and consider our mortality. It's also an invitation to embark on spiritual renewal. During our Ash Wednesday service (6pm on February 18), we will offer the imposition of ashes. This symbolizes repentance and the need to be penitent for everything we do that falls short of God's perfection.

Before we begin our Lenten Journey, we have one final liturgical stop. This Sunday is Transfiguration Sunday. In Matthew 17:1-9, Peter, James, and John went up a mountain with Jesus. According to the gospel account, something changed. Jesus' appearance changed. His face started to shine. His clothes became dazzling white. The adjective used in the Greek is *foce*, and it means "luminous."

What happened on that mountain? If we try to imagine a biblical timeline, the Transfiguration event would have happened around year 33 CE. The Gospel of Matthew was compiled and written between 80-90 CE. It could have been such a profound experience that they began telling everyone about it soon after Jesus' resurrection. Communities of Christ-followers repeated this story over the years. I picture people hearing it and trying to envision the experience. I imagine

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, February 15, 2026
11:00 AM
Sermon:
Clever Myths
Afoul of the Spirit's Plans
Dr. Matthew Tennant
Scripture:
2 Peter 1:16-21
Anthems:
Anthem for Transfiguration
by Richard Proulx
I Believe This Is Jesus
arr. by Undine Smith Moore

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Raynell Stokes
Ushers: Cindy Bryant, Shirley Clark
College Dinner: Jane Thomas
Click here to provide a dinner for our college students.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Feb. 20: Megan Buczkowski
Feb. 21: Adam Moore, Ron Tweel
Feb. 24: Mary Jo Hendricks

Peter, James, and John having to tell the story over and over again. I wonder if they ever grew tired of repeating it. Or, did it take them back to that mountain every time they told it?

Before we begin our Lenten journey, we can go to the mountaintop with Peter, James, John, and Jesus. What does it mean to us? How do we picture Jesus? What does it say to us about him to see him transfigured? What, in that moment, do we say? Are we like Peter? Do we struggle for the words? Are we dumbstruck like James and John? Do we have something different?

In life, it's easy to get ahead of ourselves. That's a constant temptation. Instead, enjoy the journey. Lean into each stop along the way. Whatever this season brings, give thanks for it. Let it teach you and speak something new to your soul.

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 poverty, generation Z, and more. In case you missed it, you can hear the interview here.

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.

We will have our Ash Wednesday worship service with imposition of ashes on Wednesday, February 18, 6:00, in the Sanctuary.

Lenten Devotionals

We will be posting on the homepage of the website and on Facebook a daily Lenten Devotional beginning on Wednesday, February 18 (Ash Wednesday). Check it out and enrich your Lenten journey.

New Communications Coordinator

We want to welcome our new Communications Coordinator, Kayla Riley. Kayla began in this position last-week and will be working with social media, our website, and an overall communications plan. She is a fourth year Economics major at UVA and is going to be a wonderful addition to our staff.

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

Laura Martindale & Family on the passing of her father

Edith Parker

Barbara Weber

Jane Whitworth & Family on the passing of her brother

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.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, February 11
9:00 Work Team
10:00 PB&J Bible Study
5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner
5:45 Sanctuary Bells Rehearsal
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, February 12
1:30 Personnel Committee Meeting
7:00 Deacons' Meeting

SUNDAY, February 15
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, February 16
Church Office Closed
4:00 Theology Reading Group

TUESDAY, February 17
11:30 Annie Armstrong Circle Meeting
2:00 Childcare Task Force Meeting
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

For our most up-to-date calendar, click here.

Alliance for Interfaith Ministries

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.

Paint Survey

We are ready to begin the Fellowship Hall paint survey. You can access the survey by clicking here. Please visit the Fellowship Hall to see the paint samples on the wall near the kitchen before voting. Voting will be open until Monday, February 23, 2026. Thank you for participating in this decision.

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.

WEDNESDAY Night MEALS

Join us for dinner tomorrow,
Wednesday, February 11, 5:15,
in the Fellowship Hall.
Our program will be
Hospitality Part 2.

Menu:
Lemon-Garlic Boneless
Chicken Thighs
Roasted Red Potatoes
Garlic Green Beans with Tomatoes
Dinner Rolls
Salad
Dessert

Make your dinner reservations 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
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