



April 1, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 13

Lenten Justice

WATCH

After reading today's entry in the [CBF Lenten Devotional](#), I thought about the relationship between retributive and restorative justice. Retributive justice means the wrongdoer receives a punishment proportional or like the crime. It's not revenge. It's not personal. And it is directed only at the wrongdoing. Restorative justice is an approach that focuses on repairing the harm caused by the infraction. This repair or restoration comes through communication and accountability. It includes victims, offenders, and the community. The goal is healing relationships and addressing the needs of everyone involved.

The author of today's devotion Harold Trulear cites Psalm 106:3. "Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times." As I contrasted these two approaches to justice, I thought about the three parables in Luke 15. In the first one, Jesus asked, "Which of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, doesn't leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until finding it?" (15:3). In the second one, Jesus said, "What woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does ...search carefully until she finds it?" (Luke 15:8). Finally, Jesus told the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32).

In each case, the goal is restoration. The shepherd wants the missing sheep back. The woman wants to find the lost coin. The father wants his son back. The three parables build in a crescendo of loss and restoration. In the Prodigal Son, the father runs to

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, April 6, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

The Free Way

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Philippians 3:13-14

Anthems:

I Will Arise arr. Parker Shaw

Give Me Jesus arr. LL Fleming

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Shirley Clark

Ushers: Tom & Sylvie Moore

College Dinner: Ji Song

UBCKids
Charlottesville
Indoor Pool Party!
Smith Aquatic Center

Saturday
April 12
1:00-4:00 PM

1000-A Cherry Avenue
Charlottesville, VA 22903
\$6 per person at the door

the son. It's a powerful testimony of unconditional love and unwavering forgiveness. He doesn't lecture or judge. He embraces the child, restoring his dignity and reaffirming his place in the family. This is not a reward for good behavior, but a celebration of the child's return. It's a symbol of hope and new beginnings.

In a world fractured by division and frequented by calls for comeuppance, seeking restoration can seem foreign. Yet this is what God constantly does. We might not be able to change the world, but we can change *our* world. We can influence those people we encounter in our orbit, and we can be a light of restoration in a world lust- ing after retribution.

Peace,
Matt



Congratulations to Andrew & Christina Mundell on the birth of their son Ellis Lee on March 20. Ellis weighed in at 12lb. 3oz. and was 22.5 in. long. Proud brother is Cecil Mundell and proud grandparents are Tom & Diane Mundell.



2025 VBS
July 21 - 25



An Update on Worship+Wonder

Even for our youngest worshippers, the Lenten season is a time to prepare for the joyous mystery of Easter. To mark Lent's beginning, we put our "Alleluia"

away in a purple box so it will be extra special when we take it out and say and sing it again. As the Lenten journey unfolds, the children are using the symbols from all the stories we've told so far to make connections between the events in the life of Jesus and his unusual kingship, death, and resurrection. As they make those connections to and within the Gospel story, they are also connecting themselves to God's sacred story.

Looking ahead, Worship+Wonder will enjoy getting to know Jesus in a new way in Easter, through his post-resurrection appearances. Then on June 8, we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday (and finally find out why it is always HOT!!!).

Beginning on June 15, Worship+Wonder will take a break for the summer, but our youngest worshippers will continue their journey of learning and discovery—just in a new space. Instead of leaving the sanctuary, the children will be invited to gather in a special space *in the sanctuary* for a time of creative response to their experience of worship. We need your help! You can help our youngest worshippers in one or more of the following ways:

Now through June 8:

- Volunteer to serve as an Assistant for a session of Worship+Wonder. It's not too late to come see what we are doing!
- Volunteer to sit with the kids in the sanctuary for the first half of the worship service to help guide them through the worship experience.

June 15 through August 10:

- Volunteer to help set up and/or tidy up the children's worship space in the sanctuary.
- Volunteer to attend to the children while they worship in their special space in the sanctuary on a Sunday morning. If you are interested in helping with our wonderful and worshipful kids, please email elizabeth@universitybaptist.org.



Join us tomorrow, Wednesday, April 2, for dinner at 5:30 and then beginning at 6:00, we will look at a devotion from our Lenten Series.

Childcare is always available.

Click [here](#) to RSVP.

Following the service, at 7:00 you are invited to sing with the Sanctuary Choir as they rehearse in the Music Suite.

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Gary & Karen Dalton on the passing of Karen's mother

Johnny & Gail Ellen

David & Linda Hendon

Family & Friends of Thomas Hill

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.



Walk With Us Through Lent

The 2025 McCall Lenten Devotional, themed "Hope, Justice & Relationships," invites us to reflect deeply on God's Word through the lens of Jeremiah 29:7 & 11, which calls us to seek the peace and prosperity of our communities while trusting in God's good plans for our future.

Written by a diverse group of CBF family and friends, these devotions offer thoughtful insights that inspire deeper faith and action.

This year's devotional features an expanded "Justice Notes" section, providing key justice statistics and resources to help readers go deeper. It also includes recommended readings, a conversation starter guide and a self-care inventory, as well as excerpts from Maya Angelou and Amanda Gorman.

Click [here](#) for a digital copy of this resource. Contact the [church office](#) if you need a hard copy.



Scarlette Jasper, CBF field personnel serving 10 counties in southeastern Kentucky and eastern Tennessee

CBF Offering for National Missions: Domestic Violence, Homelessness, Medical Crises, Bats, and More

We are wrapping up our collection of donations for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship offering for National Missions. Our UBC Missions Council has chosen to send our offering directly to the Rev. Scarlette Jasper who serves the people of southeastern Kentucky and eastern Tennessee.

Scarlette has been involved in nonprofit work with disadvantaged communities for more than 27 years, serving in leadership positions locally and nationally for various organizations. She was commissioned by the CBF in 2014. Now, Scarlette is the Director of Olive Branch Ministries, which serves individuals and families in crisis, including individuals experiencing homelessness, survivors of domestic violence, families in financial and medical crisis, hunger, home repairs, and even a bat infestation.

Our goal here at UBC is to contribute \$3,000 toward the larger CBF goal. You can do so by check, noting that it is for National Missions, or online [here](#).



Figure 6-2. Construction of University Baptist Church can be seen on the far left side of the picture of the Upper Main Street Building (Library, University of Virginia)

97 Years Ago

"The cornerstone of University Baptist Church was laid on September 28, 1928." Because the event took place in a driving rain-storm, there are no photographs from that day.

The minutes of the Virginia Baptist Board of Missions and Education list the contents of the cornerstone as: a copy of the Holy Bible, copies of the minutes of the Albemarle Baptist Association, BGAV, and other documents. The High Street cornerstone was inserted into the wall in 1975.

The accompanying photo is the only known photograph of the church building under construction.



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!



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

 **UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH**
BAPTIST CHURCH CHARLOTTESVILLE

UNIVERSITYBAPTIST.ORG

The United Gospel Choir is Coming!

Besancon, France is one of the sister cities of Charlottesville. This summer we have a special opportunity to partner with Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church to host a visit from the United Gospel Choir from Besancon, France. The choir is coming to Charlottesville on Wednesday, July 16 and departing on Wednesday, July 23. During their visit we will create a combined choir with the United Gospel Choir, UBC choir members, and Mt. Zion FABC choir members. We will give one or two performances and sing in worship at UBC on Sunday, July 20. We will also have opportunities to spend time with the visiting choir at shared meals and outings.

If you are interested in offering space in your house to host one or more of the visiting choir members, please contact Megan. If you are unable to host, but would like to help out, there will be opportunities to help with meals and transportation during their visit.

Please save the dates-July 16-23!



CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, April 2

9:00 Work Team
5:30 Wednesday night dinner
6:00 Lenten Series
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, April 3

10:00 Stewardship Committee Mtg.

SATURDAY, April 5

4:00 Ordination Service
5:00 Reception

SUNDAY, April 6

8:30 Church Council Meeting
9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:00 College Bagel Brunch
4:30 Jubilate Rehearsal
6:00 College Dinner

MONDAY, April 7

4:00 Theology Reading Group

TUESDAY, April 8

11:30 Annie Armstrong Circle
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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

Reception Following the Ordination of Megan Sharp

Following the Ordination Service for Megan Sharp on Saturday, April 5, 4:00, we will have a reception in the Fellowship Hall. If you are able to help with the reception, please see the signup genius [here](#).



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

April 9: Nell Tiller, Connor Marshall

April 10: Barbara Fuller

April 11: Rossie Carnes

April 12: Nelda Vaughan

April 14: Pete Whitt

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

