



September 9, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 35

NO WATCH **Invitation & Then What?**

In this space, I've written about creating an invitational culture before (e.g. [here](#)). Because of our location, we are blessed with lots of people checking out the church. I spoke with a man on Sunday who works in the Battle Building. He is a member of another church, but when he must work on a Sunday, he slips out of work at 11am to join us for worship. We are his local home away from home. We often have people join us in worship who are visiting Charlottesville. Recently, there was a family in worship from Texas. When I spoke to them before the service, I guessed that it was a college visit for the daughter. However, they explained that they were not on a college visit. They were in Charlottesville visiting friends at the Army JAG School. After worship, the family thanked me for such a meaningful experience.

These two examples are the tip of the iceberg of people who come through our doors. The question for those of us who are active in the life of the church is: how can we (a) make them feel welcome, and (b) create an experience they will want to have again. And the answer to this question is that it takes all of us.

Last Sunday, we had over a dozen students stay for the college bagel brunch. This doesn't include the students who had other plans and couldn't stay. However, the successful rate of students who stayed reflects several variables. First, Megan's enthusiasm for this ministry is contagious. Second, Laura Morris gave a warm welcome and

Sunday, September 14, 2025

11:00 AM

Sermon:

Planting New Reefs
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Matthew 13:1-9

Anthems:

The Garden Hymn arr. by James Cram
Take Up Your Cross by Lani Smith

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Raynell Stokes

Ushers: Cindy Bryant, Brian Guyton

College Dinner: Pam & Jim Hallissy

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



Help feed our college students this year!

Our Sunday night dinners not only feed Jubilate mem-

bers at 5:30 each Sunday evening, but we also invite ALL college students to come eat dinner! Help us provide home-cooked and delicious meals for our group as UBC cares for our UVA neighbors. Sign up as a family, a Bible study group, or grab a friend to come help you with set up and clean up. Click [here](#) to pick your week.

made sure the students heard the invitation to the bagel brunch. Third, Hadessah and Seth were in the narthex after worship steering students to the Fellowship Hall stairs. It takes a village, and we are all part of drawing people into God's exciting family at UBC.

After someone shows up, how do we draw them into UBC life? There are some easy steps that all of us can do. (1) Learn their name. Regardless of the age, where the person is from, or how they are dressed, learn their name. (2) Remember it, and (3), call them by name when you see them again. If they forgot your name, that's okay. Tell them your name again and tell the person how happy you are that they are here. (4) Listen carefully, and if you find any clues about what part of UBC life they might find life giving, don't keep it a secret.

Next week, I will share more about how we can help one another get more plugged in.

Peace,
Matt



Jazz Vespers Returns

Come to Jazz Vespers on Friday, September 12 at 5:30pm. This causal worship experience will feature UBC musicians Dean Tennant on piano and Bobby Gregg on saxophone with local musicians Adam Kester on bass and Hares Ragub on drums. Childcare is provided during the service.



Wednesday, September 10
Dinner starts at 5:15pm
(Note time change!)

Make your dinner reservations [here](#).

Wednesday Night Schedule Changing

Our Wednesday evening schedule has changed slightly. The hope is to allow more time for conversation around the dinner tables, open a space in the weekly schedule for the Sanctuary Bells to resume rehearsals, and to allow those with young children who sing in the Sanctuary Choir to get home before bedtime.

This new schedule is:

5:15-6:30-Dinner

5:45 Sanctuary Bells

6:30-8:00-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Beginning this Wednesday, September 10, Sanctuary Bells will rehearse from 5:45-6:30 in the Sanctuary balcony. For more information about the Bell Choir, contact [Sheri Owen](#).



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 about community issues this month. In case you missed it, you can [hear the interview here](#).

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Colleen Baber

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Johnny & Gail Ellen

David & Linda Hendon

Larry & Lynn Martin

Edith Parker

Kaylee Risell

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

Liz Wood & Family on the death of Martha Wood

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

Prayer Requests from our Youngest Members

During Worship+Wonder the kids were asked about any challenges at school. Their answers are below so that we can pray for them as they start the school year.

Clara - Calendar activities are scary, and math is boring.

Harper - I don't want any more storms during the school day!

Seth - There are some wild kids in my class this year, and that's tricky.

Stella - Writing is hard, and I have too much P.E.

Russell - Other kids are arguing and being unkind, and I'm trying to ignore them and do the right thing.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, September 10

9:00 Work Team

12:00 Ice Cream Ministry

5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner

5:45 Sanctuary Bell Rehearsal

6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, September 11

1:30 Personnel Committee Meeting

7:00 Deacons' Meeting

FRIDAY, September 12

5:30 Jazz Vespers

SATURDAY, September 13

9:00 Church Work Day

SUNDAY, September 14

9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

12:00 College Bagel Brunch

4:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

5:30 College Student Dinner

TUESDAY, September 16

7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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



We're having a church workday on Saturday, September 13 (note the date change) from 9:00 - 2:00. Come anytime and stay as long as you like. No special skills necessary, just a desire to help keep our campus and building looking great. There is something for everyone including spreading mulch, painting railings, window cleaning, picking up leaves & sticks, pressure washing playground, etc.



Book Baskets of Charlottesville

Thanks to your many contributions this week to the book drive, UBC has now collected **495 books** for *Book Baskets of Charlottesville*. The Seekers class thanks you for your great participation in this drive and reminds you that this is the last week for contributions. You still have time to add to our collection. The baskets will be at church for any additional donations through Sunday, September 14.



Volunteers Needed

It's that time again! Sign up to help us give out ice cream each Wednesday. 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. ***This week is chocolate and cherry!***



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Sept. 17: Jo-Ann Averill 90 years young, Barbara Moore

Sept. 18: Caroline Centofante, Susan Hellings

Sept. 22: Beth Wright, Will Brown, Erin Eaker

Sept. 23: Sue Walton



"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."
Matthew 25:40

24 Years Ago

In July 2001, Dr. Thomas E. Leland assumed the duties of Senior Minister at UBC. Tom's ministry encouraged UBC to move toward an outward looking congregation. He had a passion for our community and engaging in mission work. Fittingly, Tom's first sermon series from July 29 through August 26 was on "The Mission of the Church". Over the next several years, UBC added multiple initiatives and missions and attracted new people. Tom created a bigger tent, and even people who had not grown up Baptist found their spiritual home at UBC.

125th Anniversary Banquet

The 125th Anniversary Banquet Committee is collecting strings of white lights to decorate the Fellowship Hall for the October 11 dinner. Please bring any lights you would like to donate for the occasion and place them in the box outside of the church office.



Welcome Our Newest Member

We welcomed Mike Sun into our UBC family as a full member on Sunday, September 7 during worship. Mike was baptized here last summer, then returned to China, and is now back as a 1st year UVA student. Be sure to welcome Mike when you see him.

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
Social Media Coordinator: Alaysia Toney - socialmedia@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.

University Baptist Church
1223 West Main Street
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434-293-5106

Connect with us

