

May 30, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 22

Living Out the Pentecost Fire

Last Sunday, I asked two questions:

- 1) What is the most meaningful part of your faith?
- 2) How can you share it with others?

On Pentecost, during the invitation, I asked everyone to think about the most meaningful part of their faith. When we think about God, worship, or coming into the sanctuary, what sets our hearts on fire? Some people will share the same answer. Others will have unique responses. It doesn't matter as much what inspires us as long as something does.

The second part of my invitation on Sunday was about sharing this excitement with others. I asked, "How can you share the fire of your faith with others?"

To some who have grown up in Baptist circles, my questions might smack of old-school evangelism, at best, or disingenuous proselytizing at its worst. Neither is my goal. To me, faith is living and exciting, and it's worth sharing. If we only come to church because that's what we have always done on Sundays, then we miss the point.

At Pentecost, the Spirit poured down, and everything Jesus taught and did became manifest in human action. No longer were Christ-followers directly dependent on Jesus as a visible person for all of the answers. Jesus' followers formed a community. "All who believed were together and had all things in common" (Acts 2:44). The responsibility of proclaiming Jesus' message of the

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

June 4, 2023

11:00 AM Sermon: "God Who Made Us, Christ Who Calls Us" Rev. Val Fisk

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

Anthem:

"Come Before His Presence Singing" (Purifoy)

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Larry Johnson, Debby Johnson **Ushers:** Sally Chewning, Bob Gough

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, May 31

8:30 Work Team Breakfast @The Villa 9:00 Work Team 10:30 PBJ Bible Study Brunch 6:30 Summer Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, June 4

8:30 Church Council Meeting9:30 ESOL Class9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study11:00 Morning Worship3:00 Church Picnic

kingdom of God, loving our neighbors, and proclaiming liberty for the captives shifted to his followers. This is a living faith.

When we consider what is most significant about our faith to us, then we can ask with openness and honesty, "Is this something worth sharing?"

When I was young, talk of heaven and hell wasn't as interesting as Jesus' interactions with people. What I found most interesting was Jesus' radical, counter-cultural message of loving the other, proclaiming justice, and care for God's creation. This still fascinates me. That's why I talk about it so much.

Part of living out Pentecost and being a family of faith is sharing what each of us finds interesting. Thus, what is the most meaningful part of faith to you? How can we as a church share it? When you have a moment, send me an email or give me a call. Or, better yet, let's get together for coffee or lunch. I would love to hear your answers to these questions. Focusing on what's important and talking about it will help us grow in Christ.

Peace, Matt

Deacon Election

It is that time of year once again to elect Deacons to serve as leaders in our church, ensuring spiritual health and well-being. Expect a draft ballot by email or U.S. mail this month. This ballot is a list of all church members living in the central Virginia area who are physically able to serve. The purpose of this ballot is for your review. If your name is listed, and you are unable to serve as a Deacon, please contact the church office to have your name removed. Likewise, if your name is missing, and you are willing to serve as a Deacon, we apologize for the omission and ask that you also let the church office know to add your name.

MONDAY, June 5

10:30 Bible Reading Group (Zoom) 1:00 Schleiermacher Reading Group

TUESDAY, June 6

11:30 Annie Armstrong Circle Lunch 7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail (Zoom)

For our most up-to-date calendar, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Prayer Requests

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Ed & Carolyn Lowry

Barbara Newlon

Melvin & Mildred Spicer



Volunteers Needed

Sign up to help us give out ice cream

each Wednesday! Click <u>this link</u> to add your name and join us any time between 10:30 and 11:30 to help set up and/or between 11:30 and 1:30 on the front steps to serve the ice cream.

Do These Belong To You?

Leftover plastic plates and serving dishes are on the table in the Fellowship Hall. If any of these are yours, and you would like to have them, please take them with you. Anything remaining will be donated to the Salvation Army.



What is an Endowment Fund?

An endowment fund is an investment fund held by a non-profit like UBC. Our endowment fund is funded by way of donations. The funds have specific policies

concerning investments and withdrawals, as well as usage of the funds. Our policies specify that the principal remain untouched and only the investment income can be withdrawn for use in the operation of the church or for new ministry initiatives, such as our ice cream ministry during the summer, which allows us to interact with our neighbors in an invitational and meaningful way.

Last Sunday we celebrated Pentecost, which is often referred to as the birthday of the church. Traditionally, this is the perfect time to consider giving a special birthday gift to the church in the form of a donation to the endowment fund. Questions? Contact the church office at linda@universitybaptist.org or 434-293-5106.

Thank you!

UBC Family,

Thank you for the wonderful reception, love offering, cards, gifts, and dear conversations. The time I was fortunate enough to serve as your Music Director will forever remain a treasured era in my life. Much love to you always. I look forward to seeing you near the end of summer. Will Cooke



Summer Choir!

Singing in a choir is cheaper than therapy, healthier than drinking, and more fun than working out!

Come join our SUMMER CHOIR! Wednesdays at 6:30 (beginning May 31) in the Choir/Lecture Suite.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

June 7: Jim Hallissy, Michael Mundell June 8: Calvin Gregg June 10: Clara Wheeler June 11: Pam Dean, Gary Wood, Will Wagoner



Softball Schedule

Did you know that UBC has a softball team? Below is their schedule for June.

June 2, 6:00 & 7:00 vs United Methodist June 9, 6:00 & 7:00 vs All Saints

All games are played on Friday at Darden Towe Park, Field 1, except June 2 which is on Field 3.

If you're interested in playing or just finding out more information, contact <u>George Martin</u> at cva2011@aol.com.



VBS 2023 Monday-Friday, June 19-23 9 - 12 noon (drop off begins at 8:30) For ages 4 (by June 19) - 12

Join us in Babylon, where we'll explore what life was like for Daniel and his friends, captives in a strange land. You'll craft cool projects in the Marketplace, laugh as you play Bible-times games, visit with Daniel, and eat some interesting food. Plus, you'll meet lots of new friends!

To register your child(ren), click here.

Questions? Contact Melanie Tennant at meltennant@yahoo.com or 804-577-0319.



Save the Date for our Annual Church Picnic, Sunday, June 4

Our annual church picnic is Sunday, June 4, at the home of Robby & Judy Gough, 3535 Brinnington Road, C'ville 22901. Join us at 3:00 for swimming, 5:00 for the egg toss, and 5:30 for supper. The church will provide drinks, chicken, and hotdogs. Bring a side and/or dessert and your lawn chair. This is always a great time to get together, share a meal, and enjoy a time of fellowship.

Sunday Bible Study for All!

I have been so encouraged by your continued faithfulness every Sunday morning as you lead out in our Sunday Bible Study ministry. We "re-started" after an over-extended Pandemic break, and we "re-started" tracking attendance.

Attendance has been a basic attempt to "count" those in attendance. We have encouraged each other to look at our class rolls and reach out to those we haven't seen and extend invitations to others to join in our Bible study time.

We are saddened by the fact that as Will Cooke leaves us, so does David Waters, our beloved and faithful Youth Sunday Bible Study leader. I really have tried to convince him to stay! I know that God has provided in this body a couple of people who love young people and want to have eternal impact in their lives. If this is you, please talk with me or Rev. Val Fisk.

We have good momentum right now with our Sunday Bible Study for All. We want to continue as best we can. As we are now approaching summer, I want to encourage you not to look back but keep moving forward!!!! We will not suspend Bible study during the summer. We will work to keep going strong and work through, and hopefully overcome, any summer blues.

Every one of us will be gone some during the summer. This is expected and encouraged. We all need this time away with family and others to rejuvenate. So, make plans for when you are away. As you have during the fall, winter, and spring, encourage another to "sub" for you. This is a great opportunity to prepare someone to be a study leader. If you need any assistance, please let me know.

Lastly, I want all of our SBS Leadership to reserve on their calendars Saturday morning, **August 19**, 8:30 - 11:30. I am planning to lead us in a "Sunday Bible Study Leadership Team Event." We will be encouraged, inspired, and maybe learn something, too! I will build some time in for each leadership team to spend some time in their space to "spruce it up." (You know, go ahead and toss out the old lum that we never went back to use, and get rid of old supplies and items not needed.) We have some of the most excellent educational space in any church I have been a part of, and I want us to maximize its potential! Now that we have a good start, let's keep it up! Thank you!!!!!

~~Tommy Deal, Education Coordinator

Sunday Mornings

Worship

Our Sunday morning worship service will begin 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 <u>Facebook page</u> or click <u>this link</u> to watch on YouTube.

