

November 5, 2024 Vol. 76, No. 45



Join us for worship and the Celebration Luncheon on consecration Sunday, November 10. If you have not made a reservation, please contact the church office at (434)293-5106 or email linda@universitybaptist.org to let us know you will be there!

Please note, there will be no edition of The Word published next week.

Peace Amid Uncertainty

WATCH

Today is election day. Tonight, we probably won't know the outcome. These days seem to be filled with uncertainty, and the news repeats (and perpetuates?) stories of division and polarization. Through all the tumult of our contemporary world, Jesus calls us to be a light in the darkness (Matthew 5:14). He also calls us to be the salt of the earth (5:13), which implies that we are supposed to give the world flavor. Yet, the news can be disheartening, especially with wars and natural disasters piling on an already difficult election season. Now, it's finally here. Today is election day.

What comes next? What will happen? Who will win? I don't know the answers to any of these questions, and I cannot predict what will happen.

Still, the central message of the gospel of Jesus Christ is, "Everything's going to be okay." No matter what Sunday, November 10, 2024 11:00 AM Sermon: Till Debt Do Us Part Dr. Roy Thomas Scripture: Malachi 3:8,10; Matthew 6:19-21; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 Anthem: Rejoice in the Lord Always K. Lee Scott

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Shirley Clark **Ushers:** Erin Eaker, Gayle Eaker **Jubilate Dinner:** Click <u>here</u> to sign up to provide a dinner for our Jubilate singers. happens, the future is bright. God holds what is ahead of us, and we do not have to worry about it. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus said, "Don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own" (6:34). We follow a God who can overcome the power of death. "The grave could not contain him" (Acts 2:24).

It's easy to get wrapped up in the latest news and fear mongering. Sometimes the best thing we can do is turn off the news and take a walk. Another good response is to turn to the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) and seek comfort and guidance in scripture. Reading a passage like the Sermon on the Mount reminds us of who we are and why we are here. We are the light. We are the salt. We aren't supposed to be afraid. God's got this.

To exercise our God-given freedom and agency, we can vote. Voting means participating in the process. Even if you don't like your choices, we have a choice today. I encourage you to pray, ask God who most reflects your values, and vote. However, focusing on voting as the only answer to the uncertainty misses the richness of knowing Jesus. We don't have to hang our hopes on our participation, elections (or election outcomes), or what happens to our beloved country. God is God and will still be God no matter what the future holds.

To find peace in an uncertain world, we work on our interior preparedness. Dag Hammarskjöld once said, "Our work for peace must begin within the private world of each of us." To get ready for whatever is to come, we can invest in our spiritual growth. We can act (e.g., by voting), take a walk, read our Bibles, phone a friend, encourage one another, and trust that tomorrow the sun will rise again.

"Be strong and take heart all you who hope in the Lord" (Psalm 31:24).

Peace, Matt

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, November 6

9:00 Work Team
5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner
6:00 Eco-autobiography
6:00 Music + Missions
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SATURDAY, November 9

8:30 Breakfast 9:00 Church-wide Workday

SUNDAY, November 10

9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:00 Consecration Sunday Luncheon
4:30 Jubilate Rehearsal
6:00 Jubilate Dinner

TUESDAY, November 12

11:30 Annie Armstrong Circle6:30 Prayer Shawl Group7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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



Mark Your Calendars!

Join us on Saturday, November 9 for a church workday for the whole family. We will begin with breakfast at 8:30 and then have a list of projects for

all age groups beginning at 9:00. Sign up <u>here</u>. You are welcome to come whenever you are able any time between 8:30 and noon. If you need childcare for the youngest members of our church family, please let the <u>office</u> know.



In this series of Word articles, <u>Elizabeth Dowdy</u> explains what *Worship+Wonder* is and how it is teaching our children to engage the parts of our worship services.

We are taking a break this week but check back in two weeks for the next installment!



Children's Christmas Shoppe Mark Your Calendars! Wednesday, December 4

We will have our usual Wednesday night dinner in the Fellowship Hall.

Children will begin with a short UBCKids Choir rehearsal in the Children's Suite and then have the opportunity to "shop" for gifts for their family members, which can be purchased for \$.50 each. All proceeds go to the CBF Global Missions Fund. There will also be fun Christmasthemed activities for the children and a chance to wrap their gifts.

Donations needed: If you have small "treasures" that you would like to contribute, please drop them off in the church office or in the preschool department.

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Roy Clements

Tommy Deal

Johnny & Gail Ellen

David & Linda Hendon

Larry & Lynn Martin

Kaylee Risell

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Bob & Joyce Tennant

Richard Vaughan

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Nov 13: Wellford Tiller, Vittorio Pallini, Matteo Pallini Nov 16: Ji Song, Seth Brown Nov 17: Emily Gaines Nov 19: Jackie Lockwood



Join us tomorrow, Wednesday, November 6 for dinner at 5:30 and then beginning at 6:00, we will have a program entitled Eco-Autobiography and Music + Missions for the children. Childcare is always available.

Click here to RSVP.

Our menu will be: Hard & soft tortillas Beef & chicken Fiesta rice Black beans Guacamole Salsa Cheese And more..... Dessert

Staff Contact Information:

Following the program you are invited to sing with the Sanctuary Choir as they rehearse in the Music Suite.

Eco-autobiography

During our program on Wednesday evening, we will think about the physical environment of a place where we grew up or have lived.

• How has the physical environment that we grew up in (or have lived in) influenced our (or our community's) health or wellbeing?

• We will give an example of how our physical environment may have contributed to (or been hazardous to) our (or our community's) health or well-being.

Things we will consider as we reflect - were there: sidewalks, gardens, farms, parks, farmer's markets, ample "green space"?

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 Jubilate & 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

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 <u>Facebook page</u> or click <u>this link</u> to watch on YouTube.

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Connect with us