



January 14, 2025 Vol. 77, No. 2

### Alternative Word

## WATCH

On Sunday, January 5, we invited each person to pick a paper star from a basket. I wrote about these “start words” in this space last week. During that service, our Old Testament lesson came from Isaiah 60:1, “Arise, shine, for your light has come.” The “star words” are a chance for us to take the light we’ve received and shine it forth for other people. If you haven’t come by the office to pick one up for 2025, you still can.

This week, I am thinking about PACEM, our upcoming budget discussion, our ambitious perception of God’s calling, and upcoming youth and college events. As my mind spirals around the continuing signs of vibrant life at UBC, I look back at the word I drew from the basket. It makes me think about what God could be saying to me through that particular word. Then, I thought about another word, a word that could apply to our entire church family: invitation.

You are part of this church family, because someone invited you. Even if you somewhat randomly decided to visit UBC, you made it your church home, because someone invited you to join. Beyond giving thanks for those who invited you to the life in Christ you now enjoy, consider who you could invite? Who might enjoy what we do? For example, are you planning to help with PACEM? If so, do you know someone who feels compassion for unhoused people and might be interested in volunteering with PACEM, too? We plan to offer a blessing for the PACEM volunteers during worship this

### SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, January 19, 2025

11:00 AM

**Sermon:**

A Covenant With the Land  
Dr. Matthew Tennant

**Scripture:**

Isaiah 62:1-5

**Anthem:**

*Now is the Cool of the Day*  
arr. Kevin Siegfried

### SUNDAY SERVICE

**Deacon:** Raynell Stokes

**Ushers:** Amy Song, Shirley Clark

**College Dinner:** Glenna Ohlms

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



### Mark Your Calendars!

Jazz Vespers is returning from January through April!

Join us on the fourth Friday of the month (January 24) at 5:30 in the Sanctuary for a return of Jazz Vespers.

We will be offering extended childcare that will cover the service plus an additional 90 minutes to allow parents to go out and grab a bite to eat.

So this would be a perfect opportunity to invite them to join us on Sunday for the PACEM blessing.

In the "Parable of the Sower," Jesus talks about spreading seeds (Matthew 13:1-9). Some seeds fell on the path, some fell on rocky ground, and some fell among thorns. None of those grew to bear fruit. Not all invitations will yield positive results. Not everyone will be receptive to an invitation, even if it is to something like "blessing the PACEM volunteers." That's okay. Jesus' invitation is to spread seeds.

As a church, we follow Jesus when we invite others to be part of what we're doing. When we think of potential "star words" or guiding principles, creating a culture of invitation is close to the spirit of Jesus' calling.

Who is someone in your orbit who might enjoy something we're doing at UBC? How can you invite them to join us? If you have ideas, share them with me or others in the church. Together, we can learn, grow, and build an invitational culture.

Peace,  
Matt

P.S. Come to the Wednesday program this week to explore "Creating a Spiritual Plan for the Year."



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

**Jan. 25:** Brad Groff

**Jan. 26:** Debra Bryant

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, January 15

8:15 Work Team Breakfast @The Villa

9:00 Work Team

5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner

6:00 Wednesday Night Program

6:00 UBCKids Choir

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

### SUNDAY, January 19

8:30 Finance Committee 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, January 20

Church Office Closed

8:30 UBCYouth Snow Tube Trip

4:00 Theology Reading Group

7:00 Deacons+Church Council Meeting

### TUESDAY, January 21

7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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



### Flowers Bring Great Joy!

If you would like to dedicate flowers for a special remembrance or celebration, please contact [Linda in the Church Office](#) to reserve your specific date to have flowers placed in the Sanctuary during worship.

Available Sundays in 2025 include **January 19, 26; February 2, 9, 16, 23; March 9, 23 and April 6, 27.**

Also, if you delight in working with flowers and enjoy the beauty they provide during UBC worship services, consider joining the Floral Team. We can always use more workers.



## PACEM at UBC Begins Soon!

On Saturday, January 25, at 8:00 am, we will begin our two weeks of offering shelter and food to people in our area without

homes. We will host approximately 40 people each night by providing them with a warm meal and a safe place to sleep.

We need your help! Below are links to the forms you can use to sign up to help set up the Fellowship Hall, donate (snacks, breakfast items, or gift cards), wash towels, or help clean up the Fellowship Hall.

[Breakfast/snack donations sign up](#)

[Volunteer opportunities sign up](#) (laundry, cot set up and take down)

Additionally, we will be collecting donations of:

Toothbrushes (individual, no multi-packs)  
Toothpaste (travel size)  
Tissues (travel packs)  
Lip balm  
Shaving cream (travel size)  
Razors  
Hand lotion (travel size)  
Combs  
Deodorant  
Foot powder  
Reading glasses

Mints  
Cough drops  
Journals/notebooks

Heavy, dark socks (adult men)  
Hand warmers  
Winter hats  
Underwear (men's L, XL, or 2XL)  
Plain white T-shirts (men's L, XL, or 2XL)  
Washcloths

New or gently used adult sized backpacks or duffel bags

## Prayer Requests\*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

David & Linda Hendon

Doc Litchfield

Jackie Lockwood

Carolyn Lowry on the loss of her brother

Mary Ella McCauley

Edith Parker

Kaylee Risell

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Bob & Joyce Tennant

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



Join us tomorrow, Wednesday, January 15 for dinner at 5:30 and then beginning at 6:00, we'll discuss *Creating a Spiritual Plan for the Year*

while the children attend UBCKids Choir.

Childcare is always available.

The menu will be:

*Rotisserie Chicken with Oregano Gremolata*  
*Pan Seared Mediterranean Gnocchi*  
*Roasted Cauliflower and Broccoli*  
*Mixed Greens*  
*Dessert*

Click [here](#) to RSVP.

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

If you'd like to learn more about the work PACEM does in Charlottesville, click the link below.

<https://pacemshelter.org>

Thank you for your generosity as we care for and love our neighbors.

Any questions? Please reach out to [Laura Morris](#), [Katherine Hamel](#), or [Jennifer Wag-  
oner](#)



**Save the Date:  
UBC's 125th Anniversary  
Celebration**

This year, University Baptist Church celebrates 125 years of ministry and service in Charlottesville and beyond!

Join us for a special  
Anniversary Celebration Weekend  
on October 11-12, 2025.

- Saturday, October 11: Banquet celebrating our history and looking to the future.
- Sunday, October 12: Worship celebration giving thanks for God's faithfulness.

We're inviting former ministers and members to join us and may need your help gathering contact information. Please share any details with the church office. Mark your calendars and pray with us as we honor our past and look forward to the future!



### UBC Youth Snow Tubing Trip

Let's go Snow Tubing at Massanutten on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday!  
(Monday, January 20)

Meet at UBC at 8:30 am to board the van. Bring your water bottle and dress warmly for playing in the snow. We'll have 90 minutes of tubing, get lunch, and make our way back to church. ETA 2:30 pm.

Cost: \$40 plus \$10-15 cash for lunch at *Log Cabin Barbecue*.

This is a great opportunity to bring a friend! Share [the link](#) so they can sign up too!



**2025 VBS  
July 21 - 25**

## 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

Custodian: Thomas Hill - 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

