



September 24, 2024 Vol. 76, No. 39

**The Best is  
Yet to Come**

## WATCH

Cy Coleman set Carolyn Leigh's lyrics to music to create the indelible song "The Best Is Yet to Come" in 1959. Then, in 1964, Frank Sinatra recorded it with Count Basie and his orchestra and Quincy Jones as producer. The song made its mark on American culture and unintentionally points to one of the greatest gospel truths—something is coming, and it's good!

As culture shifts all around us, we adjust our plans and find a new footing. A generation ago, more people attended religious services than do now. This cultural shift means that every religious institution faces challenges. We are no different, yet God is moving in our midst. Despite the cultural challenges, there are many reasons to be optimistic about the future at University Baptist Church.

"Worship + Wonder" presents us with a new paradigm for children's spiritual formation in worship, and Elizabeth's enthusiasm for children's ministry is contagious. The children's choir is building momentum on Wednesday nights. The deacons are reading *Growing Young*, and they embrace the idea that we need to be intentional in how we nurture all people. We are excited about Megan Sharp's arrival on November 3 and praying for the start of her ministry. The Stewardship Committee and Roy Thomas are planning Consecration Sunday for November 10. Our Wednesday ice cream giveaway has taken a life of its own, and we are starting to build relationships with the people who come each week. Alaysia has been doing a great job leading this ministry.

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

**Sunday, September 29, 2024**  
11:00 AM

**Sermon:**

Wise and Powerful Women  
Dr. Matthew Tennant

**Scripture:**

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

**Anthem:**

*The Name of Jesus*  
Craig Courtney

## SUNDAY SERVICE

**Deacon:** Jen May

**Ushers:** Ron Tweel, Ed Barker

**Jubilate Dinner:** Kittie Colvin Trail Circle

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

## Volunteers Needed



Sign up to help us give out ice cream each Wednesday! Click [this link](#) 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. This is a very popular outreach ministry of the church.

Behind the scenes, Alan and Susan have been working on audio improvements. This will be especially noticeable during worship services. We have some new hardware that will help produce a higher quality sound for people in the sanctuary and those who listen on the radio or watch online. By early next year, the audio operator will be at a new desk next to the video operator.

One word that comes up often in our staff meeting, at the Church Council meetings, and in other settings around the church is: momentum. The random sampling of events and actions in the previous two paragraphs point to something happening. God is at work. Things are moving, and they seem to be moving in the right direction.

“The best is yet to come, and won’t it be grand.”

Peace,  
Matt



### Our Pastor on WINA

Dr. Tennant was Jay James' guest on WINA's Morning News last week. He appears on WINA once per month to provide commentary on the news from a faith perspective. This month he joined the program to discuss the “Blessing of the Officers” event being held at 11am Sunday at University Baptist Church. They also discussed community relationships with police and much more. In case you missed it, you can [hear the interview here](#).



### Worship+Wonder Assistants Needed

Every Sunday morning at a particular point in our worship service, our children in grades K-5th are invited to attend Worship+Wonder, a worship experience designed specifically for them.

We are in need of volunteers to help our children for about 20 minutes on Sunday mornings to have a meaningful addition to their worship experience. If you are able to assist in this way, please see the sign-up genius [here](#).

### CALENDAR

#### WEDNESDAY, September 25

- 9:00 Work Team
- 10:00 PBJ Bible Study
- 5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 6:00 "The Great Dechurching"
- 6:00 Music+Missions
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

#### SATURDAY, September 28

- 2:00 UBCKids-Playtime on the Playground!

#### SUNDAY, September 29

- 8:30 JARC Meeting
- 9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class
- 9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
- 11:00 Morning Worship
- 4:30 Jubilate Rehearsal
- 6:00 Jubilate Dinner

#### TUESDAY, October 1

- 7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle
- 7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal
- 7:00 CS Team Meeting

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

A promotional poster for the UBC Youth Retreat. The top half features the text "UBC YOUTH RETREAT!" in large, bold, white letters against a background of a forest. Below this, there are three small photos showing people at a camp. A speech bubble contains the text: "Trust...What is it? What if trust breaks? Can it be repaired?". At the bottom, it says "Friday - Sunday, November 15-17, 2024" and "CrossRoads Camp - Lowesville, Virginia". It also includes the text: "Open to youth in 6th - 12th grades \$125 per person - scholarships available".

### Mark Your Calendars!

UBC Youth Retreat  
November 15-17, 2024  
CrossRoads Camp  
for all 6th - 12th graders  
To reserve your spot,  
or if you have questions,  
contact Elizabeth.



### Fence Painters Needed

Last Friday, three volunteers from Emerson (formerly GE) joined us to help prime our playground railings as part of the United Way Day of Caring. We appreciate their labor and the fellowship while we

worked. Now that a section of the railings has been primed, it needs to be painted. If you would like to assist in painting a section, please contact [Alan Hendricks](#).



### Opportunity to Feed the Homeless

On Wednesday nights we frequently have leftovers from our dinners. We contacted The Haven, a day shelter for the homeless in Charlottesville, and asked if they could use this leftover food. They immediately responded with a yes.

This is a wonderful opportunity to feed the hungry right here in our own community. If you could help with transporting this food to The Haven twice a month on Wednesday or Thursday mornings, please contact [Linda](#) in the church office.

### Coming Soon!!

Be on the lookout for a new UBC website coming soon! You'll be able to access the new website the same way you always have. The new site will have a cleaner and updated look as well as updated information. We'll let you know when the new site is up and running!



### UBCKids Playtime on the Playground!

UBCKids and parents, drop in for an afternoon playdate on the playground at Elizabeth, Rozelia, and Jesse's house! Galaxie Farm, our new neighborhood, is off Scottsville Road (Route 20) just south of Mill Creek Drive. Park along Galaxie Farm Lane. Our playground is "incredible"! But it isn't well-shaded. Sunscreen and/or hats might be useful. Light snacks and drinks will be provided. Our townhouse will be open for restroom use. (In the event of rain, we will reschedule.) See you soon!

### Prayer Requests\*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Johnny & Gail Ellen

David & Linda Hendon

Larry & Lynn Martin

Kaylee Risell

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Bob & Joyce Tennant

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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

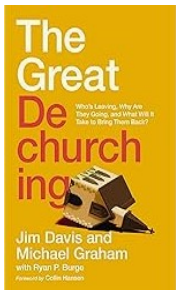


Join us tomorrow, Wednesday, September 25 for dinner at 5:30 and then beginning at 6:00, we'll look at the book, *The Great Dechurching*, while the children attend *All Creation Sings*. Childcare is always available.

Click [here](#) to RSVP.

Our menu will be:  
*Red Wine Braised Beef*  
*Mashed Potatoes*  
*Roasted Carrots*  
*Crusty Bread*  
*Mixed Green Salad*  
*Cake*

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



### "The Great Dechurching"

It is greater than the First and Second Great Awakening and every revival in our country combined...but in the opposite direction. Yet precious little rigorous study has been done on the broad phenomenon of dechurching in

America. Jim Davis and Michael Graham have commissioned the largest and most comprehensive study of dechurching in America by renowned sociologists Dr. Ryan Burge and Dr. Paul Djupe.

*The Great Dechurching* takes the insights gleaned from this study to drill down on how exactly people are dechurching with respect to beliefs, behavior, and belonging.

You'll explore what can be done to slow the bleed, engage the pertinent issues winsomely and wisely, and hopefully re-church some of the dechurched.



### UBC Youth and Parents Decades Arcade Party!

UBC Youth and parents, let's get together! We've booked Decades Arcade on the Downtown Mall for 2 hours on Sunday afternoon, October 6. We'll

have pizza, drinks, and dessert. And we will play! Pinball, anyone?!? Meet outside Decades at 3:45 pm. We MUST go in TOGETHER. RSVP with your number to Elizabeth [here](#)!



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

**Oct 2:** Joseph Johnson, Chris Hellings

**Oct 4:** Margaret Fitch, Tom Mundell

**Oct 7:** Tony Barretta

**Oct 8:** Ed Barker



### A Work in Progress!

Our Wednesday work team is busy preparing an office for our new Associate Minister for Music and College Students, Megan Sharp.

On September 8, after our worship service, Megan was affirmed for her new position at UBC by a vote of the congregation. She is currently transitioning to her new position with us, while upholding her commitment to her current position, and will be officially with us on Sunday, November 3. We look forward to welcoming her to our worship leadership team.

## Staff Contact Information:

Senior Minister: Dr. Matthew Tennant - matt@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

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*

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Connect with us

