

October 15, 2024 Vol. 76, No. 42

Consecration Sunday Is Coming November 10

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's stewardship committee and church council have selected the Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. Consecration Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday November 10, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an Estimate of Giving Card does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship Roy Thomas will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship on November 10. Following the worship service there will be a free Celebration Luncheon, catered by Michie Tavern.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Diane Mundell, Church Council Chair



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.

Before I can share with you about the next item that goes into our Worship Bags, I need to tell you about the stories that form the heart of Worship+Wonder. Each item is introduced by a story that illustrates the meaning of what we do in worship.



The first story is simply called, "The Light." In it, a candle is lit for each child and adult present by drawing close to the Christ candle in the center. As each candle is lit, I name the child and say, "Name, here is your light." After we have enjoyed our lights, I extinguish each votive and rename the child, saying, "your light is being

changed." The change is the same for each light that is extinguished. The light goes from being in one place to being all around us in the room, and even going beyond the room into the world.

When Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world," he connected himself to the ancient practice of invoking God's presence with flame. When I use each child's name and declare that Christ's light is in them, I connect each of them individually to God's presence and Christ's light. The story points out that, even as 8 or 10 votives are lit from the central candle, its light is not diminished; there is more than enough light to go around. When We Gather and draw near to the Lightit grows!

You may like to watch a video of our next story, "The Deep Well". It is a parable, though not one Jesus told (that we know of), about what is possible when we take our time. Jewish theologian Abraham Heschel likened the practice of Sabbath to a great cathedral that, instead of being built with wood or stone, is carved out of time. The story of "The Deep Well" encourages the kids to think of Worship+Wonder as



WHAT PERCENTAGE OF MY INCOME IS GOD CALLING ME TO GIVE?

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, October 20, 2024 11:00 AM

Sermon:

Why Do We Give What We Give? Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

1 Chronicles 29:1-2, 14-17

Anthem:

Be Thou My Vision
Sorenson

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Michelle Proffitt

Ushers: Jackie Lockwood, Mary Jo Hen-

dricks

Jubilate Dinner: Annie Armstrong Circle Click <u>here</u> to sign up to provide a dinner for our Jubilate singers.



Join us in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, October 27 immediately following our worship service to celebrate Rev. Susan Deal's time with us as our Intentional Interim Minister of Music. If you are able to help by providing food for the reception, sign up here. If you would like to contribute to a love offering for Susan, you can do that with a check or online and by writing love offering in the memo line.

holy time, not to be rushed, but needing our full attention to think deeply about things others might hurry past. Our Mindfulness Jars help us do just that.

To illustrate our action of Praise, the story of "The Circle of the Church Year" tells about the cycles of our seasons and the rhythms of congregational life. It says, "the Church took time in a line and tied the two ends together, (...) because for every beginning, there is an ending, and for every ending, there is a beginning." We learn that the Church also tells time in color, using white and gold for the most holy mysteries, blue and purple for times of waiting and preparation, green for ordinary, "growing" time, and red for the special celebration of Pentecost!



We use ribbons of these colors to make a bookmark. Later, I will teach them how to use their bookmark to mark the hymns

that will be sung or the Scripture passages that will be read in worship. Praising God is a combination of spontaneous, Spirit-led response to God's presence and thoughtful, advanced preparation. Ministers plan, musicians rehearse, and readers practice, all so worshippers can encounter the living God. Worshippers can also prepare their hearts for praise by finding and reading the texts and finding and learning the hymns.

Out of these first three stories, we have initiated the three practices that will begin every session of Worship+Wonder. Whenever we gather, we light a candle, settle ourselves, and locate where we are in the Church year. The repetition of these practices is already beginning to impact our kids! They are asking to do the important jobs of lighting the candle and moving the arrow to the next block in our circle. They are learning the practices that define our worship and our faith. They are learning to worship.



UBCKids Fall Farm Day Saturday, October 19

UBCKids and Families, let's go PLAY on the FARM!!! First, explore

the farm as a family: pick the perfect pumpkin, collect a bouquet of fall flowers, and play on the tractor playground. Then, join in a UBC family hayride, work with friends to solve the Story Maze, and roast marshmallows at our campfire! Bring your own picnic or buy lunch/dinner from the food truck. S'mores makings will be provided. Camp chairs and wagons are welcome. Sign Up HERE *before noon on Friday* to reserve your discounted tickets, then make payment to UBC for \$10 per person; kids 4 and under are FREE. Daytime admission is good from 10:00am to 5:00pm. (All-day admission to stay past 5:00pm is \$15 per person.) **Dress** for the weather! See you there!!!!!



UBCYouth Flashlight Corn Maze Saturday, October 19

Hey there, UBCYouth! Come join us for an evening of fun on the farm as we tackle one of the best corn mazes in Virginia!

Bring your flashlight or headlamp, because we are going through the maze IN THE DARK! We'll celebrate our success with s'mores at our campfire. You can eat dinner before you come, pack your own, or buy it from a food truck at the farm. Transportation to Liberty Mills Farm is up to you, but we will be happy to give you a ride home at the end of the night! Just let Elizabeth know your plans. Sign Up HERE before noon on Friday to reserve your discounted ticket(s). Then make payment to UBC for \$12 per person - cash, check, or online. Arrive anytime after 6:00pm. (If you'd like to come earlier, all-day admission is \$15 per person.) Dress for the weather! See you there!!!!



Join us tomorrow. Wednesday, October 16 for dinner at 5:30 and then beginning at 6:00, we'll look at the book, Vote Jesus Christ, while the children attend All Creation

Sings. Childcare is always available.

Click here to RSVP.

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

CAUTIONARY TALE FOR EVANGELICALS AND

"Vote Jesus Christ"

On Wednesday, we will continue looking at the book, Vote Jesus Christ by F. Scott Spencer. Our discussion will be led by the author, Scott Spencer. This is a fun and fascinating book describing the Jesus of the Gospel of Luke as if he were

running for public office. Strange as it sounds, it is in fact a genius way to show how Jesus was campaigning for God, God's kingdom, and God's people to live a new kind of story—not according to the cut-throat politics of the world but based on the theme of love for God and love for neighbor.



Mark Your Calendars!

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



Our Pastor on WINA

Dr. Tennant was Jay James' guest on WINA's Morning News yesterday morning. 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 breaking news in our community that involves law enforcement. In case you missed it, you can hear the interview here.



October is Clergy Appreciation Month. UBC is blessed to call three very hard-working ministers our own, Matt, Elizabeth, and Susan. The work of a minister doesn't just happen on Sunday mornings but every day of the week. Their love for God and care for people is ever present, even though it may go unnoticed at times. This month, we pause to encourage and commend our faithful leaders who point us to God, pray for our souls, perform important ceremonies, and promote spiritual well-being for our families. We encourage you to let our ministers know how much you appreciate their diligence in whatever way you desire.

Personnel Committee



To sign up to give blood, use the gr code above or click here.

Prayer Requests*

Kevin Adams at the passing of his mother

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.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, October 16

9:00 Work Team 5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner 6:00 "Vote Jesus Christ" 6:00 Music+Missions 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SATURDAY, October 19

2:00 UBCKids Fall Farm Day 6:00 UBCYouth Flashlight Corn Maze

SUNDAY, October 20

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

MONDAY, October 21

7:00 Theology Reading Group

TUESDAY, October 22

6:30 Prayer Shawl Group 7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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

SAVE THE DATE

THE STRANGER:

A Sacred Duty. a Human Struggle

Three experts will discuss these vital and timely questions:

Tom Gutherz, Senior Rabbi, Congregation

Khizr Khan, member of the Supreme Court Bar, activist on Islamophobia and anti-Semitism

Walter Kim, President of the National

MODERATOR: Jessica Andruss,

WHEN:

First Session Oct 21 7:15-8:45 pm

WHERE: First Presbyterian Church on Park St

SPONSORS:

Welcoming Great Charlottesville First Presbyterian Church of Charlottesville Rumi Forum

Congregation Beth Israel Westminster

Presbyterian Church UVA Office of the Provost for Academic Outreach



Our Missions Council at Work!

Our Missions Council recently submitted a grant application to the Bama Works Fund and received \$5000 for

Trailblazer (formerly Venable) food bags that we distribute to the school. These funds will be used to purchase food for the children's bags.

It's Here!!

The new UBC website is up and running! You can access the new website the same way you always have. The new site has a cleaner and updated look as well as updated information. We do ask you to allow us a grace period as we make necessary tweaks and additions.



New Member of the Family!

Caspian Wells was born on Sunday, October 6, weighing in at 5lb. 13 oz. Proud parents are Lorenzo and Kelly Wells and proud grandparents are

Larry and Debby Johnson.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

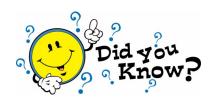
Join us in wishing some of our church family a Happy Birthday next week!

Oct 20: Linda Boston
Oct 24: John Brown
Oct 25: Christian Proffitt

Oct 26: Zach Martindale, Raynell Stokes,

Elizabeth Mulcahy, Amy Song Oct 28: Jessica Haney, Jeanne Nye

Oct 29: Caroline Wagoner, Molly Shifflett



Did you know that with our church management system, Realm, you can have access to your profile, your giving, the church directory with pictures, and many church documents like the church by-laws, constitution, and leadership manual. And that's just a short list of what is available to you when you set up your login for Realm.

If you don't have a login yet and would like to set one up, contact <u>Linda</u>, <u>Alan</u>, or <u>Amanda</u> in the church office.



We're Getting There!

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

us will be November 3, so we're getting close.

Marking the Hour with a Handbell!

Maybe you've noticed that we have begun marking the hour for

Sunday worship with a handbell. The reason for this is that the

organ is undergoing repairs, and the chimes have been removed. They will not be replaced for several months, so we will be enjoying the handbell for a while longer.

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

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

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



Connect with us