

June 4, 2024 Vol. 76, No. 23

Pastoral Care for the Climate NWATCH

Greetings from Beaufort, NC. I am attending the <u>Pastoral Care for the Climate</u> retreat at the Duke Marine Lab. It is put on by Creation Justice Ministries, Anabaptist Climate Cooperative, and Duke's Nicholas School of the Environment. Day one included lectures from <u>Jerusha Matsen Neal</u>, <u>Doug Kaufman</u>, <u>Toddi Steelman</u>, <u>Nina Balmaceda</u>, and <u>Lisa Campbell</u>. Each one gave a fascinating presentation about place and various iterations of the question, "Where do I stand?"

As I listened to their presentations, I thought about how easy it is to connect scripture to caring for God's creation. When we reduce our emissions, we reduce our contribution to climate change, and by reducing our contributions to climate change, we care for our neighbors (Luke 10:25-37). When we use reusable bags instead of plastic ones, we reduce plastics in our waterways, and we undermine the false prophets (2 Peter 2, Jude) that tell us it doesn't make a difference. When we care for the environment, we become active participants in solutions instead of bystanders (Obadiah).

In between sessions, again and again, my mind raced to passages that do not seem to connect to ecotheology, but they do. In addition, they don't require interpretative acrobatics to make the connection. Lisa Campbell's presentation looked at the role of social networks in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence. Churches played an integral role in recovery. In Toddi Steelman's research with wildland firefighters, she found churches and religious leaders were

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, June 9, 2024
11:00 AM
Sermon:
What's Next?
Dr. Matthew Tennant
Scripture:
Jude 14-16
Anthem:
Amazing Grace
arr. Bruce Stevenson

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Jackie Lockwood Ushers: Ron Tweel, Shirley Clark College Dinner: Will resume in August



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. instrumental in disseminating information and providing a place for people to gather. We have a valuable role to play as we respond to the current climate crisis and promote a message of hope for the future.

On Monday evening, we worshiped together using resources from the Wild Church Network. The experience was unlike our weekly gatherings. We gathered in a circle at dusk, and Doug Kaufman provided some instructions. Someone read some scripture, Doug said a liturgy, someone prayed, and then we spent 15 minutes walking around the natural area on Pivers Island. We reconvened when someone started singing, "This Little Light of Mine." Doug invited people to share what nature said to them during our time of reflection. People shared different things, but a pod of dolphins interrupted us. Our worship service paused as we watched the dolphins. Then, I spoke, and when I was done, a dolphin exhaled in a loud "Pfff" sound right behind me. I said, "That was dolphin for 'Amen.'"

The world speaks to the presence of God's glory. If we open ourselves, we can hear the world proclaim the goodness of the Lord. God invites us to be co-creators and stewards of this planet. What we do with this invitation is up to us.

Peace, Matt

A Note about the Screening of *Bad Faith*

Tomorrow night, we will host a screening of *Bad Faith:* Christian Nationalism's Unholy War on Democracy. It is free and open to the public. Christian nationalism is a complex subject, and we cannot pretend to completely treat it with the screening of one documentary. This is the start of a conversation. Later this summer, we will invite some guests to share more about this subject and lead some discussions. Tomorrow, we are just watching the documentary. There will be no scheduled discussion. Also, please note that the documentary is rated 16+ for foul language. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for engaging in what could be a difficult and timely subject.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, June 5

9:00 Work Team 10:30 NomCom Meeting 5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner 6:00 *Bad Faith* Documentary

THURSDAY, June 6

7:00 Deacons' Meeting

SUNDAY, June 9

9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class 9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study 11:00 Morning Worship 12:00 VBS Volunteer Meeting

TUESDAY. June 11

6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

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

> Join us as we celebrate summer together as a Church Family.



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

Barbara Newlon

Kaylee Risell

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Bob & Joyce Tennant

Wellford & Nell Tiller

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!

June 17: David Hendon, Matthew Tennant, Michael Harding, Alan Hendricks June 18: Shirley Clark, Jack Averill (celebrating 90 years!), Henry Alexander



Join us on Wednesday evening, tomorrow, for dinner at 5:30 and a program beginning at 6:00.

Click here to RSVP by Tuesday at 5:00.

Our menu tomorrow will be: Chicken Al Pastor Roasted Garlic & Cilantro Rice Roasted Cauliflower Pineapple Salsa Dessert

Our program will be a screening of the documentary *BAD FAITH*, a searing new film that highlights the history behind the rise of Christian Nationalism in the U.S. and the threat it poses to our democracy. View the trailer *here*.



Sanctuary Flowers

Would you like to reserve sanctuary flowers in honor or in memory of a special person or occasion? Sunday flowers can be reserved for birthdays, anniversaries, or to commemorate other special occasions.

Please submit your request to include your name, the bulletin message, and the desired reservation dates to the <u>UBC office</u>. A member of the Floral Committee will be in touch to confirm your dedication.



Kitchen Items Needed for Love, INC Clients

The Kittie Colvin Trail Circle of the UBC Woman's Missionary Union will be collecting kitchen items for the clients of Love INC (Love In the Name of Christ). Love INC is a non-profit Christian organization whose mission is to mobilize local churches and individuals to transform lives and communities, bringing local people and resources together to meet the needs of our neighbors.

We ask that you share from your abundance rather than spend money on something new. As you clean and organize your kitchen, or pack up an elder's home, set aside these items to share with the less fortunate of the Charlottesville area.

Items that Love INC is specifically asking for are bowls, plates, utensils, cups and glasses, silverware, and pots and pans. Collection boxes will be located at UBC, in the first floor lobby near the church office, through the month of June. For more information contact Sarah Buchanan at sarahbucha@gmail.com.

Opportunities to Serve!

Have you been thinking, "No one has ever asked me to serve on that committee!"? Now's your chance! The Nominating Committee wants to know how you would be interested in serving at UBC. Click here to take our survey. Want to know more about some of these groups? Click here to browse the Leadership Manual.

LOST®FOUND

If you have lost something that you've been unable to find, please stop by the church office. We have a growing collection of lost & found items.



UBC Softball

Schedule:

June 7 Towe 2 6:00 & 7:00

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



On the Move Together for Hope: Virtual Walk-Run-Ride-Swim-Go! For Poverty Alleviation in 338 Counties of Persistent Poverty

13.1, 26.2, 50, 75,100, 140.6 miles or more this summer. Set your own goals, choose your place and days. Walk, ride, run, swim (row, paddle, trail hike, trail run, exercise) and dog walking.

New This Year: Exercise Time (log your time: yoga, weightlifting, aerobics, etc.). Get there any way you can!

Log your miles May 15 through August 15, 2024. Support the good work of Together for Hope (TFH) and the Together for Hope partner or friend of your choice. Set a goal and get moving this summer and earn a really cool tshirt. Log your miles or time each week on the Runsignup website. Register by July 15 to get the cool t-shirt. Register here for the UBC team.

Deacon Election

The 2024 Deacon Election is taking place June 16 through June 30. An electronic ballot will be emailed to all active members. Paper ballots will also be available in the narthex and in the church office. You may return your ballot to the church office electronically, by U.S. mail, drop off in the church office, or call the church office. For whichever means you choose, please sign the ballot before returning it. Your signature is used for membership verification only. Vote for up to 5 people that you feel meet the requirements to serve UBC as Deacons.

Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration as you choose Deacons to serve UBC 2024 – 2027.



Coming Soon!
Save the Date
VBS 2024
June 17- 21
9:00 - noon
We are going to
Camp!

Click <u>here</u> to register.

VBS Donations Needed

Our VBS 2024 *Camp Firelight* is just around the corner. Our volunteers are in need of some supplies for the children.

- 15 Plain T-shirts (color doesn't matter) (JoAnn Fabrics has these)
- 4 Bags Polyfil Stuffing
- 6 Packs Hershey chocolate bars (6 bars in each pack)
- 6 Bags Large Marshmallows
- 6 Boxes Graham Crackers Breakfast items for workers - Mon-Fri (muffins, bagels, donuts)

Click here to sign up for donations. Items may be dropped off in the church office by Wednesday, June 12.

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