

SERVICES OF HOLY WORSHIP

February 25, 2018
11:00 am

Sermon:

“Denying Ourselves”
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Mark 8:31-38

Anthem:

Assurance — Beck

Deacons: *Ed Smith Debby & Larry Johnson, Johnny Ellen, Peter Ohlms, Nelda Vaughan

Nursery Workers: Karen Minor, Arlene Propst, Ewing Minor, Jacob Morris

Children’s Church: Erin Brown, Chandler Proffitt

Ushers for February: Shirley Clark, Sally Chewning, Martha Wood, Joyce Martin, Jack Wilkerson

Greeters: Betty Barker, Alan Hendricks

Medical On Call: Sally Chewning

The Word

February 20, 2018

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Vol. 70, No. 7

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

On Watch

Thoughts About the Latest Mass Shooting

We need to define some terms before we can look at the most recent mass shooting.

First, the terms:

po·lit·i·cal (pə'lidək(ə)l)

- relating to the ideas or strategies of a particular party or group in politics.
- interested in or active in politics.

the·o·log·i·cal (THēə'lājək(ə)l)

- relating to the study of theology.

I wanted to define these two terms because I do not mean to venture into politics. However, any discussion relating to the proliferation of mass shootings in the United States becomes political. If one tends toward the Democratic party, then one is more open to gun safety laws. If one tends toward the Republican party, then one leans toward less legislation on guns. Despite what the pundits say, neither position is objectively correct, nor is this a case of moral relativism.

Second, what can we say about the most recent mass shooting? What does God say?

The man accused of shooting 17 people at Parkland High School in Florida purchased his firearms legally. Restricting access to firearms might have made it more difficult for him to kill so many people. Could he have accomplished the same result with stolen guns? Yes, but he would have had to steal them first. Could he have killed as many people in a different way? Possibly.

God created humanity to be in communion with God. Ephesians 4:4-5 says, “There is one body and one Spirit,

just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.” When considering God and humanity, any human violence is against God. Whether it is a mass shooting or micro-aggression, when we act against another person, we act against God.

Ephesians 4:15 says, “Speaking truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.” To talk about God but politicize violence misses an opportunity to share the love of Christ. God is love and those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in that one. Violence does not reflect God’s love. Preventing violence with violence begets more violence.

God weeps for those who died at Parkland High School. God weeps for the killer. If we can take any lesson from any part of the Bible, we know that God does not go back to life-as-usual after a catastrophe. God demands transformation. Speaking the truth is not an end in itself. Speaking the truth is the first step toward repentance, change, and transformation.

Let us disassociate gun violence with political parties. Let us connect gun violence with our theology. Where are we on this journey? Do we need to repent? Change? Be transformed? If we sign a petition or call our representative in Congress, let us not call as a Democrat or Republican, but as Christians who seek God’s Kingdom.

Let us continue praying for God’s wisdom and guidance. Let us read the Bible for answers. Let us keep this conversation going.

Peace,
~ Matt

Called Church Conference
Wednesday March 7, 6:15 pm
Vote on the 2018 Budget

UBC’s Worship Service Is Now Available LIVE Online!

Find the link on our homepage:
universitybaptist.org/

The weekly services are still available live on WINA 1070 AM and 98.9 FM and archived on the UBC website.

Coming Soon . . . \$1 Book Sale

The Youth need donations of **books, Books, and more BOOKS** for the sale. Collection boxes are located in the First Floor Lobby and in Fellowship Hall.



Proceeds will go to help fund the Youth Summer Mission Trip.

The Youth are making crosses to be placed in the sanctuary during Lent.



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Sympathy

Christian sympathy is extended to Pam Dean and her family at the death of her mother, Doris Spicer, on February 13.

Wednesday, February 28

5:00 Supper: Vegetable soup, chili, Salad

6:15 Program: Budget presentation and discussion

UBC 2018 Budget Schedule

Copies of the proposed budget will be sent this week by mail or email to members of the congregation, and copies will be available on Sunday, February 25.

Wednesday, February 28, 6:15 pm
 Presentation & Discussion of Proposed 2018 Budget (Congregation)

Wednesday, March 7, 6:15 pm
MEMBERS VOTE ON THE 2018 BUDGET



Want to get a photo in the UBC Pictorial Directory?

Want to get a new photo in the Directory?

Pictorial Directory Photos Will be Taken Sunday, March 11 and 18

No Appointment Needed
 More details to come

- ◆ Want to put something on the church calendar?
CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE!
- ◆ Have something to go in the newsletter?
SUBMIT IT BY NOON ON MONDAY!

Backpack Mission Program

Every week we pack 17 backpacks for the Venable School Backpack Program to help students who receive free lunch at school during the week, but don't have enough to eat at home over the weekends. That comes to:

- ◆ 34 shelf-stable individual milks
- ◆ 34 breakfast food items
- ◆ 68 lunch/dinner items
- ◆ 34 snacks
- ◆ 34 individual juice items

Your ongoing donations of food and money help us meet this need every week. For a complete list of items go to: The UBC Website

Collection boxes are located in the First Floor Lobby and in Fellowship Hall.

NOTE:
 The "Milk Shelf" is full for now.

PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!
OIAM 2018
 (Operation InAsMuch)
Saturday, May 5

This is University Baptist Church's own local mission outreach effort. It is a focused one-day, church-wide, hands-on ministry for the benefit of those within the Charlottesville area.

There will be projects for all ages, all interests, and all skill levels.

Sign-up Luncheon—Sunday, April 15
 Immediately after Worship

Plan to be a part of this ministry!

<< SAVE THE DATES >>
Vacation Bible School
 (No Afternoon Camp)
June 18-22 9:00 am to Noon



THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY, February 21

- 10:00 PBJ Women's Bible Study
- 5:00 Supper (Meatloaf)
- 6:00 Prayer Time
- 6:00 Children's Mission Program
- 6:15 "Words Matter"- Lenten Study
- 7:10 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, February 22

- 9:30 Pre-K Play Group

SUNDAY, February 25

- 8:30 Faith & Justice Comm. Mtg.
- 9:00 Fellowship
- 9:30 Seekers Bible Study
- 9:45 Bible Study, ESOL Classes
- 11:00 Worship Service
- 12:00 Lunch, Snow Tubing
- 6:00 Jubilate

MONDAY, February 26

- 10:30 Bible Study at Rosewood

TUESDAY, February 27

- 9:00 UBC Work Team
- 9:00 Painting Group
- 10:15 Staff Meeting
- 6:30 Prayer Shawl Ministry Mtg.

WEDNESDAY, February 28

- 10:00 PBJ Women's Bible Study
- 5:00 Supper (Vegetable soup & chili)
- 6:00 Prayer Time
- 6:00 Children's Mission Program
- 6:15 Budget Presentation/ Discussion
- 7:10 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal