

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

September 9, 2018  
11:00 am

### Sermon:

"God's Covenant to Preserve Creation"  
Dr. Matthew Tennant

### Scripture:

Genesis 8:18-9:7

### Anthem:

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*  
— arr. Harlan

**Deacons:** \*Erin Brown, Alice Batten, Bill Jesser, Diane Mundell, Donna Marshall, Michelle Proffitt

**Nursery Workers:** Judy Gough, Suzanne Smith, Will Wagoner, Carter Groff

**Children's Church:** Shirley Clark, Connor Marshall

**Ushers for September:** Cindy Bryant, Shelley Miller, Lily Pallini, Ronda Wiley, Joe Zhu

**Greeters:** Charlotte Bailey, Peter Ohlms



## Did You Know?

This past Sunday the worship service had 7,000 views on Facebook. 7K! The video was shared 16 times, and several comments were recorded, some from foreign countries, including Norway and the Philippines.

## Welcome, Susie Williams!

We welcome Susie Williams to the UBC Staff. She is our new Financial Secretary. Susie brings extensive experience to her new role at UBC. Originally from Rutherford, NJ, she worked for 22 years at Frederick Douglass High School in Prince George County, Maryland, where she was the school's Business Manager and their varsity cheerleading coach. In 2015 she moved to Greene County, living in the house originally built by her great-grandfather. After her retirement from her school position, she remains busy working on a doctorate degree in business management, and she is excited to join the team at UBC.

Although Sue Walton has officially retired, she is continuing to work part time in the church office through September and is working with Susie on training and transition issues. As Sue concludes her years with us, we will have a celebration of her dedicated service.



# The Word

September 4, 2018

Vol. 70, No. 35

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

## On Watch

### Developing Risk-Taking Mission & Service

Risk-taking mission and service ministries bring nothing to the church. Humanitarian projects after a national disaster will not bring new people into the church. Feeding people who live with food instability does not do something for the church. Partnering with a church in Haiti will not necessarily bring in new members. Each of these activities do, however, mirror living out our calling in Jesus Christ.

Many churches are program-driven. They have activities and events. Each one has a clear objective. For example, a new study of Genesis focuses on discipleship and applying the Bible to daily living. Each program fits with the life of the church. And programs can dovetail with the mission of the church. In the example of a new Bible study, the program will (a) draw inactive members to greater involvement, (b) attract new members, and/or (c) teach a valuable lesson for the church, such as stewardship or commitment.

Programs are not bad. In fact, they can be unequivocally good. Yet, programs are not inherently connected with the mission of the church. Drawing inactive members to greater activity is good. Attracting new members is good. Teaching valuable lessons is good. Each case is a bit self-serving. The church benefits when new people start coming or inactive people get more active.

Risk-taking mission activities are different from the sorts of programs described above. Risk-taking mission

means listening to God and going where God leads. In some ways, something only qualifies as a risk-taking mission if we gain nothing in return. We do it because we feel God calling us to do it.

Mark 7:24-30 tells the story of the Syrophenician woman's faith. She found Jesus and asked him to heal her daughter. He had no incentive to do so. Healing the woman's daughter would have cost him some credibility because she was not part of his tribe. He responded with a metaphor for the Jewish Messianic theology. "Let the children be fed first. Don't take their food away and throw it to the dogs." Jesus implied she was a dog.

The Syrophenician woman's pithy response changed Jesus' mind. "Even the dogs under the table get the children's scraps." Jesus healed her daughter. His action was a risk-taking mission. The Bible is full of these kinds of risky ministries. Jesus took so many risks that he upset the social norm and ended up on a cross. The one thing the Bible lacks is a clear program designed to grow the fledgling church.

What risk-taking mission and service ministry is God calling you to do? What is God calling University Baptist to do? How does God want us to step away from concern about our own future and to move in faith?

Peace,  
~ Matt

## WMU State Missions Offering

This fall's WMU (Woman's Missionary Union) State Missions Offering will go to Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) field personnel (missionaries) Sue and Greg Smith. The Smiths are serving the first-generation Latino immigrant community located in Fredericksburg, Virginia, through a CBF mission that they founded called LUCHA Ministries. LUCHA is the Spanish word for "fight" or "struggle."

The Smiths' ministry goals center on helping Latino immigrant families to live better, healthier, more productive lives in the United States, with opportunities to integrate fully into their communities.

We will be collecting this special State Missions offering for Greg and Sue Smith throughout the month of September. You can use the envelopes in the pew racks, or write a check to UBC and earmark it for State Missions.

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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Concerns**

Jim Sivley — UVA Hospital

**Sympathy**

Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Heidi Stobbart, who died September 2. The funeral will be Monday, September 10, at 10:00 am at UBC. Heidi was a faithful worship participant by way of YouTube each week and considered UBC her church.

**Welcome, New Members!**

We welcome Herman and Gayle Eaker, who joined UBC this past Sunday.



**Thank You**

Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer quilt you sent. I have enjoyed using it and find it gives not only warmth but also comfort. Thank you for remembering me at this difficult time.

— Doris Moore  
 (letter received by the Prayer Shawl Ministry)

*“Singing in a choir is an absolutely unique experience. It is one of the most important things in the world. Where else do you have everyone doing the same thing at the same time without the use of special equipment and for a greater purpose, and no one is sitting on the bench?”*

*Jan Loepky*

**Join the Sanctuary Choir!**

**Bible Study at Rosewood will resume Monday, September 17**

**PBJ Women’s Bible Study**  
 (Prayer, Bible study, Joyful Fellowship)

Wednesdays, 10:00 -11:45 am will resume September 12  
 “Praying the Psalms,” 6-part study  
 Contact Lynn Martin if you are interested. (434-977-8090 or [Lmartinx2@comcast.net](mailto:Lmartinx2@comcast.net))

**THIS WEEK**

**WEDNESDAY, September 5**

- 5:30 Supper (Salisbury steak)
- 6:00 Children’s Activities
- 6:00 Eco-Theology: God’s Covenant
- 7:10 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**SUNDAY, September 9**

- 9:00 Fellowship
- 9:30 Seekers Bible Study
- 9:45 Bible Study
- 9:45 ESOL Classes
- 11:00 Worship Service
- 6:00 Real Life - Youth
- 6:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

**TUESDAY, September 11**

- 9:00 UBC Work Team
- 9:00 Painting Group
- 10:00 Staff Meeting

**WEDNESDAY, September 12**

- 5:30 Supper (Loaded nachos)
- 6:00 Children’s Activities
- 6:00 Eco-Theology: Destroying Creation”
- 7:10 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Photo from recent Prayer Shawl Ministry weekend retreat



**You Can Help**

We need volunteers to provide a light supper on Sunday evenings for the Youth Group and Jubilate.

Contact Alba Beasley for more information.



**Wednesday, September 12**

**Supper:** Loaded nachos, Beans, Spanish rice

**Program:** “Eco-Theology: Destroying Creation (Genesis 34)”

If you wish to be on the permanent Wednesday Night Supper list, contact the Church Office (293-5106 or [office@universitybaptist.org](mailto:office@universitybaptist.org)).

**We appreciate meal reservations and cancellations by Monday.**

Look for the Recycling Bins!



**Help Wanted**

We need some filing and clerical help with the Music Library. Contact Alba Beasley for more information.