

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

September 16, 2018
11:00 am

Sermon:

"Ask the Animals"
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Job 12:7-13

Anthem:

Creation Sings — arr. Drennan

Deacons: *Scott Miller, Diane Mundell, Ed Lowry, Jack Averill, Rachel Miller, Laura Faye Groff
Nursery Workers: Judy Gough, Catherine Cooper, Shirley Clark, Jen Bates
Children's Church: Sarah Buchanan, Joey Hamel
Ushers for September: Cindy Bryant, Shelley Miller, Lily Pallini, Ronda Wiley, Joe Zhu
Greeters: Ray Kauffman, Scott Morris
Medical On-Call: Sally Chewning

The Word

September 11, 2018

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UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

On Watch

Developing Risk-Taking Mission & Service Ministries (Part 2)

Last week, in this space, I wrote about risk-taking and service ministries. These are the activities of the church that reflect who we are. When we take risks for Christ, we do not expect something in return. You can read last week's column on my blog (<http://www.matthewtennant.org>).

This week, I invite you to consider risk-taking ministry alongside church growth. Many people say they want the church to grow. My question to them is: Do you? Really? Growing churches take risks. Growing churches experience changes. Growing is uncomfortable. Parking becomes more challenging. Sometimes a guest or visitor will sit in the pew where someone has been sitting for many years. New ministries create questions (e.g. When did this start? Who started it? Why didn't I know?).

Many of us have attended church for many years, and we love worship. We love the music. We love the scripture readings. We love the people, décor, liturgies, hymns, social events, and everything else about church. We even like committee meetings! For those of us who love the church so much, risk-taking ministries can feel uncomfortable. We can experience a sense of dislocation. We murmur to someone nearby, "Why is *that* there?"

Risk-taking mission and service ministries bring nothing to the church. Change for the sake of change brings nothing to the church. But, I believe that Matthew 7:7 captures part of the essence of Jesus' ministry, "Seek and you shall find." If we look for meaning in the ministry of the church, we will find it.

Risk-taking ministries reflect who we are and who God is calling us to be. One of the fundamental aspects of being a Christian is sharing God's grace and love with other people. Physically connecting what we confess in worship with what we do sends a strong message to anyone who receives it.

For example, this month we are looking at God and creation (ecotheology). We discussed various ways of connecting our worship space with this theological theme. Three people took the theme, worked together, and created a visual representation from which we can share God's calling to care for creation. Rev. Alba Beasley asked Larry Johnson to build a frame for the pulpit and Sima Brown to decorate it.

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During September we acknowledge as a church family the special contributions of

Will Brown

who is celebrating his

2nd Anniversary as Associate Minister of Community at UBC

and

Thomas Hill

who is celebrating his

36th Anniversary at UBC

Thank you, Will and Thomas.

We appreciate your dedication and hard work!

Welcome, Kim Kelley-Wagner UBC Graphics Coordinator

With a background in graphic design, photography, and fine arts, Kim brings a wide range of skills to her new role at UBC. She has creative experience in both print and digital media, including advertisement design, illustration, website content creation, and marketing campaigns.

At UBC, she will be helping on a variety of projects, including sign creation, publications, visual banners, and our website.



Welcome, Susie Williams UBC Financial Secretary

We welcome Susie Williams to the UBC Staff. She is our new Financial Secretary.

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.



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.

Greg and Sue's programs that foster sustainable self-sufficiency include:

- hunger relief services for immigrant families
- women's empowerment program featuring classes to train and equip Latinas in skills that can be used for personal and family support
- literacy, ESOL, and mentoring program for children and parents
- low-cost immigration legal assistance
- bilingual counseling and pastoral care

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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 Prayer Line (434) 923-0120
 Web Site www.universitybaptist.org

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Concerns

Jim Sivley — UVA Hospital

**Welcome,
New Member!**

We welcome Sam Lee, who joined UBC this past Sunday.



Help Wanted



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

* We need volunteers to provide a light supper on Sunday evenings for the Youth Group and Jubilate. Contact Alba Beasley for more information.



On Watch continued

Together, they created something that physically connects what we confess in worship with what we see in the space. Together, we are more than the sum of our parts.

When we look for the meaning, we can find it. Jesus was right! "Seek and you will find." Taking risks means that not everyone will see or experience the same thing. We can, together as the family of God, help one another see what the other sees. When we work together, the risks we take can push further God's message of love and mercy. When others see God at work in us, they might want to experience it too. Then, taking risks can lead to growth—not only in the church, but we might also grow in Christ!

Peace,
~ Matt



WEDNESDAY, September 12

- 5:30 Supper (Loaded nachos)
- 6:00 Children's Activities
- 6:00 Eco-Theology: Destroying Creation (Genesis 34)
- 7:10 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SUNDAY, September 16

- 8:30 Finance Committee Meeting
- 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

MONDAY, September 17

- 10:30 Bible Study at Rosewood
- 12:00 Missions Council
- 6:30 Deacons' Meeting

TUESDAY, September 18

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

WEDNESDAY, September 19

- 5:30 Supper (Salad bar)
- 6:00 Children's Activities
- 6:00 Eco-Theology: Sharing Creation (Luke 12:16-34)
- 7:10 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal



**Haiti Exploratory Trip
October 2-6**

*Karen Dalton, Anne Keith
Matt Tennant, Beth Wright*

This group will be traveling to Haiti to begin forming relationships with the goal of finding long-term partners for missions.

Please begin praying for this group, for their safety, for discernment, and for success in establishing a partnership for missions outreach for UBC.

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)

Wednesday, September 19
Supper: Salad bar
Program: Eco-Theology: Sharing Creation (Luke 12:16-34)

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

We appreciate meal reservations and cancellations by Monday.

**Facebook Live Stream
Sunday Worship Service (9/9/18)**

5,400 views
Viewer comments came in from:
India (2)
Cambodia,
Dubai
Malaysia
Isle of Wight, UK.



UBC no longer uses a fax machine. The number has been disconnected.

Richard E. Myers Lecture Series
October 23-25 5:00 pm
Prof. David Tracy, U. of Chicago
"The Prophetic & Mystical Understanding of God"