

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

December 9, 2018  
11:00 am



Second Sunday of Advent

### Sermon:

"Changes in Attitudes"  
Dr. Matthew Tennant

### Scripture:

Luke 3:1-6

**Deacons:** \*Raynell Stokes, Jim Moore, Martha Ballenger, Michelle Proffitt, Ray Gaines, Wellford Tiller

**Nursery Workers:** Judy Gough, Catherine Cooper, Lindsay Marshall, Mary Jo Hendricks

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

**Greeters:** Charlotte Bailey, Peter Ohlms  
**Medical On-Call:** Sally Chewning

# The Word

December 4, 2018

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Vol. 70, No. 48

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA



## Sanctuary Choir

Presents

*Gloria — Vivaldi*  
*Christmas Day — Holst*  
Sunday, December 9

## On Watch

### Are we building toward something?

Advent started last Sunday. This is the season of looking ahead to Christmas. We kicked off Advent with a Hanging of the Green worship service. In an hour, the sanctuary is transformed. Before, it was our beautiful worship space. After, it was a magical collection of signs of the season. Each sanctuary decoration points to something in our tradition.

Does Advent build to something? What about the church? Is the church building to something? Children get excited at Christmastime. Usually presents provide the excitement. What will Santa bring? The anticipation is part of the process. If presents randomly showed up, they would lose some of their magic. In every generation, we can watch children develop an understanding of how the cultural practice of Christmas and Christmas presents works. At some point in the autumn, their parents begin asking what they will ask Santa to bring. Some kids get into and pore over their lists. Others never catch the bug.

In church, the cycle of building and growing goes beyond Advent and Christmas. We seek to share God's grace with the world around us all year. Such good news would seem to be a breakthrough in this world of pain and struggle. Presenting a community where people can belong to one another should be more profound than a present on Christmas morning. Yet, if we do not prepare for it, jumping straight to inviting people into our community of God's grace is a bit like skipping Christmas preparation and going directly to gift-giving.

We build up. We plan. We set the stage. We get ready for the breakthrough. When the plan gets boring, we keep at it. We keep setting the stage. We keep refining our invitation. We keep reevaluating how we do what

we do and honing our ability to help people connect in a variety of ways in our community. We repeat the message. We find creative new ways to share the message. It will get boring. It will seem like we have tried something before. We will go for periods without any discernable results.

We keep going. Just as a child cannot skip waiting for Christmas morning and Santa's visit, we cannot skip Advent and go straight to Christmas. Likewise, we cannot skip the buildup and try to jump straight to the breakthrough. We can reach a breakthrough by an accumulation of steps, one after another, turn by turn. It should feel like an organic evolutionary process.

When we hope for church growth, one of the temptations can be to try new things. We start looking for a miracle moment—some new program that will bring in lots of people. Jesus did not start with a program. He started by sharing God's love with the people around him. He reflected light into darkness. Moment by moment, he loved. He loved his disciples. He loved the Pharisee Nicodemus (John 3). He loved the unnamed woman at the well (John 4). He loved the sick people that he healed on the Sabbath (John 5).

This season, let us build toward something. Let us build excitement as we move through Advent. But, on a deeper level, let us keep building something at UBC. Let us get ready for what God is doing in our community.

Peace,  
~ Matt

### CBF Global Missions Offering

During the month of December we are collecting money for the CBF Global Missions Fund. Our goal is \$3,000.



Everyone is Invited to an

## Open House

At the Home of

*Matt & Melanie*

*Tennant*

*(and Dean & Eddy)*

Sunday, December 9

2:00 to 5:00 pm

945 Raymond Road  
Charlottesville

Preparing the Sanctuary for Advent with Greenery, Wreaths, Candles, the Crèche, and the Chrismon Tree



Jubilate singing at The Lodge at Old Trail this past Sunday evening

## UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

1223 West Main Street  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
Phone (434) 293-5106  
Prayer Line (434) 923-0120  
Web Site [www.universitybaptist.org](http://www.universitybaptist.org)

### CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



### Concerns

Jack Averill — UVA Hospital  
Jim Sivley — UVA Hospital

### Sympathy

Christian sympathy is extended to Chris Owens and his family at the death of his mother, Ruby Owens on December 2.

### Financial Stewardship

You can still send a pledge card to the church office or put it in the offering plate on Sunday.

### Wednesday, December 5

**5:00 Supper:** Meatloaf, Mashed potatoes, Green beans

**6:15 Program:** Christmas Carols and Stories

### Holiday Lights Tour

**Sat., December 8, 5:00 pm**

Join us for a **Podluck Dinner**, **Cookie Decorating**, and a **Free Bus Ride** around town to see the lights.

Find details and sign up [here](#).

### AQPTS

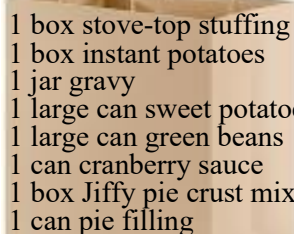
#### (A Quiet Place To Study)

Volunteers are still needed to host students in **Fellowship Hall** **December 9-17 from 1:00 pm to 11:00 pm each day** as they prepare for exams.

If you can be there for a **couple of hours** or prepare snacks and goodies for the students, check the sign-up board or contact the Church Office.

### Christmas Dinner in a Bag

- Put all items in a paper or reusable fabric grocery bag and place them on the Fellowship Hall stage **by Sunday, December 16**.
- The WMU will add a \$10 Food Lion gift card for turkey or ham.
- The bags will be delivered to Love INC to be distributed to needy families for Christmas.
- If you can't do the shopping, we welcome donations for the gift cards. Make checks payable to UBC and earmark them "Christmas Dinner in a Bag."



1 box stove-top stuffing mix  
1 box instant potatoes  
1 jar gravy  
1 large can sweet potatoes  
1 large can green beans  
1 can cranberry sauce  
1 box Jiffy pie crust mix  
1 can pie filling

### Preschool/Children's Christmas Night

**Wed., December 12, 5:30 pm**

#### Free Pizza Dinner

Christmas Shop Gifts for family members can be purchased for 50¢ each. Youth will help children select and wrap each gift. (All proceeds go to the CBF Global Missions Fund.)

Little Manger There will be dress-ups for play and picture taking.

#### Ornament Making

#### Cookie Decorating (and eating!)

Parents are invited to join their children in all activities (except the Christmas Shop!).

### Christmas Post Office



The Christmas Post Office for Global Missions, sponsored by the Kittie Colvin Trail Circle is a way for you to exchange Christmas greetings with other church members and regular attenders and to support Global Missions.

The "post office" box is located on a table in the first floor lobby.

See the November 27, 2018 edition of The Word for complete information.

We are always thankful for the service and dedication of Law Enforcement, First Responder, and Military Personnel. Pray especially at this time for Thomas Martin, Chandler Proffitt, and Ben Martindale.

### UBC Cancellation Policy



In the event of bad winter weather, announcements of any cancellations or changes in worship or church activities will be made on our local TV stations; Radio AM WINA 1070 and FM 98.9, ESPN AM 1450, FM WVTF 89.7, Z95.1, 3WV 97.5, and The Corner 106.1; on the home page of our website; and in our phone greeting message. We will make an announcement usually no later than 8 am Sunday or 1 pm for Wednesday evening activities.

### Poinsettias

If you would like a poinsettia placed in the church in memory or in honor of a loved one, please place your order by submitting a check payable to UBC for **\$10.00 per plant by Monday, December 10**.



#### WEDNESDAY, December 5

- 5:30 Supper (Meatloaf)
- 6:00 Children's Activities
- 6:15 Christmas Carols & Stories
- 7:10 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

#### SATURDAY, December 8

- 5:00 Holiday Lights Tour

#### SUNDAY, December 9

- 9:00 Fellowship
- 9:30 Seekers Bible Study
- 9:45 Bible Study
- 9:45 ESOL Classes
- 11:00 Worship Service
- 1:00 AQPTS
- 6:00 Real Life

#### MONDAY, December 10

- 10:30 Bible Study at Rosewood
- 1:00 AQPTS

#### TUESDAY, December 11

- 9:00 UBC Work Team
- 9:00 Painting Group
- 1:00 AQPTS

#### WEDNESDAY, December 12

- 1:00 AQPTS
- 5:30 Preschool/Children's Christmas Night
- 7:10 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal