

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

August 6, 2019 Vol. 71, No. 31

An Important Message from Will

Dear UBC congregation,
I am writing to you today with a request. In the coming weeks, Erin is returning to work as a teacher, a professional move we are both excited about. At the same time, this transition raises the question for us of how best to balance our time between work and parenting. As we have talked and prayed about this question, we feel that for us moving forward, our ideal balance would be for both of us to work about three-quarter time, sharing parenting responsibilities more equally. My request to the congregation is that I reduce my hours at UBC from full-time to three-quarter-time.

Please do not perceive in this request any lessening of my commitment to UBC. I continue to believe strongly in our congregation's mission and our exciting potential for a bright future. My request today is a reflection of my desire to continue being part of this future, in the way that best supports my family as well.

When I approached Matt with this request, he was immediately supportive, and we began to consider the major question this raises: how will this change affect UBC? In general, my weekly hours will be reduced by an average of 10 hours per week, though there will of course be busier weeks and quieter weeks. Details are still being worked out with the Personnel Committee, but I will likely be away a few more Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings, though not drastically so.

Over the past few years of transition and staffing changes, I have taken on several administrative responsibilities. Fortunately, with the hiring of the talented support staff now in place, it is possible for many of those responsibilities to shift to them (e.g., website upkeep, managing building use requests, editing the Word newsletter, and creating brochures and publications). My hope is that this shift will free up more of my time to focus on ministerial responsibilities, lessening the impact that the reduced hours will have on my ministry at UBC.

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

August 11, 2019

Sermon:

"Blessed Are the Peacemakers"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Matthew 5:15

Anthem:

"The Way of Peace"
arr. Curry

Deacons: Lynda Tweel, Brad Groff, Johnny Ellen, Laura Morris, Lynne Gardner, Ray Gaines, Lynda Tweel

Nursery Workers: Aimee Marshall, Laura Faye Groff, Carter Groff

Children's Church: Cindy Bryant, Matteo Pallini

Ushers for August: Shirley Clark, Sally Chewing, Martha

It is a definite change, however, and I want to approach it thoughtfully. I plan to meet regularly in the coming months with Matt and Alba, and with the Personnel Committee, to ensure that the new arrangement is working smoothly and not causing unintended problems. I also plan to log my hours carefully this fall to ensure that I am attending well to both the congregation and my family.

The Personnel Committee has been supportive of the proposed change in my hours, and I continue working with them to finalize the details regarding compensation and the revised covenant we will need to create. I am also in conversation with the rest of our staff to ensure that UBC's ministries will not be negatively impacted by the change. At its meeting last Sunday, Church Council gave its support to this plan. The next step is to bring this proposal to the congregation for approval, which will be on the agenda at our August 28 Church Conference.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me, to Matt, or to our Personnel Committee if you have any questions or input to give. We value your prayerful consideration of this question and appreciate your feedback.

Erin and I are grateful for the love and support we always feel from you, our church family. We look forward to continue serving God with you.

Blessings,
Will

Softball Season Concludes

Our softball team's season has come to an end, and while we didn't quite win the championship, our team had tons of fun.

We say a special thank you to Brad Groff for coaching the team, to John and Sarah Buchanan for filling in when Brad was away, to all the players who participated, and to everyone who came to cheer on the team!



Wood, Joyce Martin,
Jack Wilkerson

Greeters: Betty Barker,
Alan Hendricks

CALENDAR

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

9:00 UBC Work Team

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7

6:00 Sanctuary Choir

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

9:45 Sunday Bible Study

11:00 Worship Service

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13

9:00 UBC Work Team

6:30 Prayer Shawl Ministry

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

No Sanctuary Choir

For our most up-to-date
calendar, [click here](#).

Nominating Committee

Please pray for our Nominating Committee, which is hard at work assembling our lay leadership for the coming year. If you are interested in serving in some way, please let the church office know or contact Sarah Buchanan, Nominating Committee Chair.

Church Council Recap

Here are the topics discussed at last Sunday's Church Council meeting:

- Church Council recommends the creation of a Collegiate Ministry Task Force to discuss and make plans for a reinvigorated collegiate ministry based out of UBC. The proposed Task Force will be presented at the Aug. 28 Church Conference.
- The Buildings and Grounds Committee has reviewed a proposed elevator maintenance contract, but recommends staying with our current contract
- Discussion continues regarding sanctuary audio improvements. We are now reviewing speaker installation options.
- The "UniBap Park" design competition for the green space along West Main Street continues. Church Council will recommend a panel of judges for the church to approve at the Aug. 28 Church Conference.
- Work continues on a new communication kiosk in the Narthex.
- The Soles4Souls collection box is now in place (see below).
- The UBC Work Team has been painting and moving furniture between rooms 114 and 205, and this room swap will soon be completed.
- The Security Task Force has met with local police officers, who did a building safety walkthrough and have offered to provide training to relevant church leaders. The church will hear more from this Task Force as its work continues.
- The Personnel Committee presented the proposal from Will Brown (see above) to shift to three-quarter-time employment. Church Council affirmed this request, which will now come to the congregation at the Aug. 28 Church Conference.
- The Missions Council reports that the Fall Missions Offering this year will go toward GraceInside, specifically supporting the chaplain at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women.

Church Conference - August 28, 2019

Following a potluck supper at 5:15, we will have a Church Conference at 5:45 on **Wednesday, August 28, 2019**. Topics will include:

- Approval of the lay leadership recommendations from the Nominating Committee for the 2019-2020 year
- Approval of the panel of judges for the "UniBap Park" design competition
- Creation of the Collegiate Ministry Task Force (with members recommended by Church Council)
- Approval of updated covenants for Rev. Alba Beasley and Rev. Will Brown, with Will's covenant reflecting the shift to three-quarter-time employment

INTERFAITH WORSHIP SERVICE "Navigating Troubled Waters"

Monday, August 12, 2019 - 7:00pm
First Baptist Church - West Main Street
Free and Open to the Public, A Unity Days Program

This worship service, sponsored by the Charlottesville Clergy Collective and led by leaders of various faith traditions, will recognize the injustices and trauma perpetrated against races, faiths, and cultures in our Community, including the 2017 racist Alt-Right rally. The service will remember and honor those who stand up for racial, economic, and social justice. It will bring together members of diverse local faith communities to acknowledge the truth of Charlottesville-Albemarle's painful inequitable past and lift up our respective visions of justice, peace, and unity which call us to work earnestly, collaboratively, and with transparency toward the vision of equity.

Soles 4 Souls

Our Soles 4 Souls box is here! Please bring any clothing and shoes you wish to donate. Donations assist in disrupting poverty worldwide. Help us serve those in need, create opportunities and protect the environment! The box will be emptied about once per month.





Ice Cream Social

Save the date! Our annual Ice Cream Social will be held on Sunday, August 25, at the home of Robby and Judy Gough, beginning at 3pm. Hope to see you there!

Woodbrook School Supplies

Mid-July to Mid August UBC is accepting financial donations to facilitate the purchase of school supplies for students at Woodbrook Elementary School in Albemarle County. UBC has assisted Woodbrook students at the beginning of the school term for more than 10 years. More than 65% of the students qualify for free/reduced lunches. Many families have little extra to purchase school supplies. Please prayerfully earmark your donation "Woodbrook School supplies", place in an offering envelope available in our church pews, or drop your check by the office to make this new school year a brighter one for the students and teachers in our neighboring community. Blessings abound.

What are they wearing??

During Sunday morning worship this summer, the choir and ministers will not be wearing robes. This accords with the more casual feel of worship in the summer, as well as the practicalities of warm robes on hot days!

Sunday Bible Study this Summer

Although our Sunday Bible Study classes take a break during the summer months, we offer a combined adult session each week in room 117 at 9:45 for anyone interested. The group will use a DVD series considering daily life in the ancient world. All are welcome.

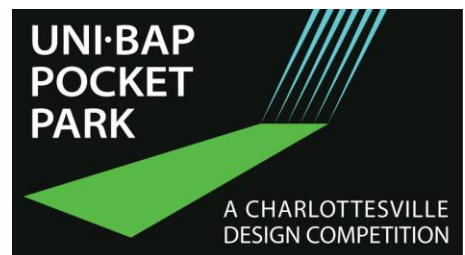
Alba's Sabbatical Continues

We pray for Alba and Pam Beasley as they spend six weeks away this summer for Alba's sabbatical. Our prayer is that Alba will be able to rest, rejuvenate, and return to work with new energy. Alba's sabbatical will last from July 1 until August 15. For worship-related questions while Alba is away, please contact Matt Tennant: matt@universitybaptist.org

During Alba's sabbatical, we are pleased to welcome Caroline Schetlick as our interim Choir Director. A rising fourth-year student at UVA, Caroline is studying music and statistics, and she comes highly recommended by the music faculty at UVA. Please greet her warmly when you see her in worship this July and August.

Competition underway!

The design competition to re-imagine the green space between our parking lot and West Main Street is now underway, with the first expressions of interest coming in. Church Council will recommend to the church a panel of judges, who will select the winning design. With congregational approval, we will build it, and the winner will receive a donation to the charity she or he chooses. If you have any questions or comments, contact the senior minister. The detailed contest description can be found here: universitybaptist.org/unibap-pocket-park



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Connect with us

