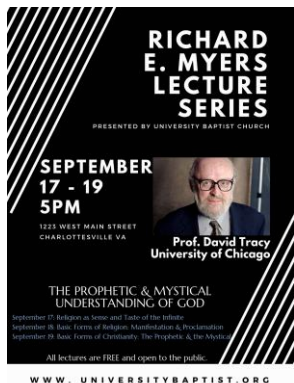


THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Download printable newsletter [here](#).

September 10, 2019 Vol. 71, No. 36



Richard E. Myers Lecture Series September 17-19, 5pm

Lectures begin at 5:00 PM. There will be time for questions at 6:00 PM, and a reception will follow.

All lectures are FREE and open to the public.

Professor David Tracy will present a series of lectures entitled, "The Prophetic and Mystical Understanding of God."

- 9/17: The Range of Faith
- 9/18: The Range of Faith and Reason
- 9/19: The Range of Faith, Reason and Mysticism

More information available at universitybaptist.org/lecture-series/

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

September 15, 2019

Sermon:

"Coins and Calves"
Rev. William Brown

Scripture:

Exodus 32:1-8,
Luke 15:1-10

Anthem:

"God Is Our Refuge and Strength"
arr. Pote

Who Do We Want to Be?

In this space, I have often written about becoming a welcoming church, or how we can be a more invitational church. Today, I want to explore a slightly more fundamental question: who do we want to be?

One answer to this question involves the feel or vibe people get when they enter the building. What do we want them to feel? How do we want them to experience walking into UBC? What do we want their first impression to be?

Often, those of us who make this church home will arrange things to suit us. For example, an extra music stand or flower stand might wander to the northeast or northwest corner of the sanctuary, just under the stairs to the balcony. For an insider, the space might appear to be a good storage area. However, it is often in the line of sight of the live stream. Cameras catch the stored items for

WATCH

Deacons: John Buchanan, Debra Bryant, Laura Morris, Michelle Proffitt, Ray Gaines, Shirley Clark, Sarah Buchanan

Nursery Workers: Judy Gough, Jen Bates, Hunter Cooper

Children's Church: Katherine Hamel, Joey Hamel

Ushers for August: Ian Pallini, Ed Barker, Melvin Spricer, Mildred Spicer, Ron Tweel

posterity. First-time guests might also notice that we store things in our sacred space.

Giving some attention to the first impression we give means putting extra music stands or flower stands away. Usually, this means carrying them a little farther to a closet. The extra effort might seem unnecessary, but it tells others (and reminds us) that we care about our worship space.

What about the vibe? My dream is for families with small children to enter and feel like they are home. I want them to feel like it's okay if their kids act like kids. I want them to experience nonverbal communication that says, "You're okay. Relax. You're home."

How do we do this? For months, we have had little cards in the pews reminding all of us that kids will be kids. They also tell about our nursery and children's church. Recently, we tried some new cards. They have a different color scheme but have the same basic message. Kids are kids. They make noise. They learn through a variety of ways.

We will continue trying new things. We will further develop the coloring table at the front of the sanctuary. We will incorporate children, youth, and college students into worship every Sunday if we can. We hope these steps will help create the feeling that all are welcome.

Does making families with small children feel relaxed and welcome mean that we overlook or exclude different groups? Nein! Non! ;No! Families with small children eventually become families with youth. The younger ones can energize every other demographic. It's part of the bigger picture, and putting energy and effort into developing one group should never be seen as a threat to another group.

Who do we want to be? One part of the answer is a welcoming, invitational, and inclusive community.

Peace,
Matt

"Come to Your Senses"

How do we experience the divine? How do our senses deepen our relationship with God? During the month of September, our worship services will be designed to utilize all of our senses. Join us in worship as we sense God together!

Greeters: Barbara Fuller

CALENDAR

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

9:00 UBC Work Team
12:00 Annie Armstrong Circle
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

5:15 Church Dinner
5:45 Mission Reports: Roy & Jane Thomas and Kathy Wilson
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Practice

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

9:30 Seekers Class
9:45 Sunday Bible Study
11:00 Worship Service
6:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

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

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

9:00 UBC Work Team
5:00 David Tracy-Richard E. Myers Lecture Series

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

5:00 David Tracy-Richard E. Myers Lecture Series
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Practice

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

Prayer Concern Updates

We celebrate with Martha Wood, who has moved from the healthcare unit back to her own apartment at the Colonnades!



Happy Staff Anniversary!

This month we recognize the "Staff Anniversary" for Will Brown, Thomas Hill, and Pheobe Brown. Will has served UBC for 5 years, Thomas for 37 years, and Pheobe for 1 year. Thank you for your years of faithful service to University Baptist Church!

Did You Know?

A small Hispanic congregation meets in our church building each Sunday evening for worship and Bible Study. At one recent worship service, their guest preacher was Pastor Robin Cifuentes from Retalhuleu, Guatemala. He is pictured here with his sister, an active participant in our local Hispanic congregation.



Introducing our new Giving Kiosk!

Have you seen our new Giving Kiosk? This device enables members and guests to contribute to UBC using a credit card. While it is especially useful for Wednesday night suppers, yard sales, special events, and fundraisers, we will also have it available on Sunday mornings for anyone interested in giving by credit card. Feel free to give it a try sometime, and let us know if you have any questions!

Coffee and Cookies

Join us on Sunday mornings after worship for coffee and cookies on the porch. Use this opportunity to greet visitors and better get to know your church family.

Youth Real Life

Our youth group meets from 6pm until 8pm each Sunday. Everyone in grades 6-12 is welcome!

Serving Dinner

Want to help Jubilate and our Youth? Sign up to re-heat and serve dinner (food provided), 5:30-6:30, on Sunday evenings. Please sign up [here](#). Thanks!

Soles4Souls

Our Soles4Souls 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.

<https://soles4souls.org/>



Wednesday Nights this Fall

Each Wednesday night, dinner will be served beginning at 5:15. We will pray and begin the evening's program at 5:45. Dinner reservations are not required.

Please note that we will not meet for dinner every week, including a break for the month of October. Our hope is to keep the dinners fresh and exciting, without the burden of an unending commitment. Here is our upcoming Wednesday night schedule:

- 9/11 – Mission Reports: Roy & Jane Thomas and Kathy Wilson
- 9/18 – **No Community Dinner. Lecture Series upstairs (reception to follow)**
- 9/25 – Collegiate Ministry Town Hall

Join Us in Sunday Bible Study

Our regular Sunday Bible Study classes have resumed. If you haven't found a class yet, now is a perfect time to try out a new class, or to get back involved after some time away. All are welcome to join us for study and fellowship, beginning each week at 9:45!

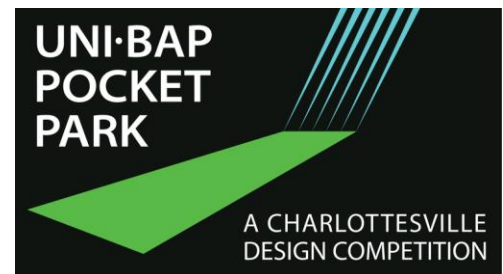
Flowers Bring Great Joy

If you would like to dedicate sanctuary flowers for a special remembrance or celebration, the 2019 Floral Calendar is posted in the first floor hallway. Sign up on the calendar AND email or call Sarah Buchanan to reserve your special date. There are several Sundays still available: Sept 29, Oct 6, 13, 20, 27, and Nov 3. I will order the flowers for \$45, unless you want to provide them yourself. You can drop a check earmarked "sanctuary flowers" in the offering plate, or send to the church office. If you love flowers, enjoy arranging them, or want to learn how, please contact Sarah at 434-409-9064 or sarahbucha@gmail.com and join us on the Floral Team.



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. At the August 28 Church Conference, 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.



So far we have had architects and landscape architects express interest in our project from New York, North Carolina, South Africa, India and Pakistan. We are excited to see what designs our contestants come up with! If you know anyone who might wish to compete please share our link: universitybaptist.org/unibap-pocket-park

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Connect with us

