

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

September 24, 2019 Vol. 71, No. 38

**To Hear, or Not to Hear?
(Or, what's our vision?)**

WATCH

We can paraphrase Shakespeare's famous line from Hamlet and apply it to our church. Instead of "To be, or not to be," I ask "To hear, or not to hear, that is the question." This question occurred to me when a child babbled a little too audibly for some congregants. I struggled with another question, "Why are we here?"

In my response, someone expressed concern that we were giving too much emphasis to one group: children—or families with children. I can see how emphasizing reaching out to one group might make another group feel displaced or neglected. I hope that it is clear that none of the ministers would ever want to make anyone feel unimportant.

Let me be clear: God loves everyone! Jesus is for all people. The Holy Spirit is present for everybody.

I would take it a step further and say that God wants everyone to feel welcome in the church. If you feel like focusing on one group displaces you, then we need to work on creating space for you. If you feel like we deemphasize ministering to you, then we need to do a better job of meeting your spiritual needs.

What is our vision? To share God's grace with our community and grow in faith. Children, students, and college students are part of our community. They are part of the vision. But, working people and retirees are too.

If our main focus is to grow in faith and share God's love with our community, we should see it in various ways. The ongoing conversation about a collegiate ministry is part of the outreach to our community. It's not the end. If a collegiate ministry takes root and begins to grow, we can let it flourish while shifting attention to another group. I don't want to scare anyone, but I can envision a future outreach ministry to retirees... working

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

September 29, 2019

Sermon:

"Thou Mastering Me"
Dr. Matt Tennant

Scripture:

Psalms 94:9, 16-17, 22
Revelation 1:17-20

Anthem:

"Jubilant Canticle"
arr. John Ness Beck

Deacons: Brad Groff, Debby Johnson, Donna Marshall, Larry Johnson, Peter Ohlms, Wellford Tiller

Nursery Workers: Judy Gough, Jacob Morris, Mary Jo Hendricks

Children's Church: Shirley Clark, Carter Groff

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

Greeters: Betty Barker, Alan Hendricks

professionals... members of the medical community across the street... The possibilities are limitless.

The most beautiful part of the future is our blessed space. Sometimes maintaining it can seem like a burden, but I see it as a blessing. All of the ministry possibilities can fit in our sanctuary. God and our UBC forebearers have given us a wonderful place to participate in God's kingdom.

Each piece of the ministry puzzle at UBC fits with our vision to grow in faith and share Christ with our community. The music ministry feeds our growth and provides opportunities to serve and worship. Jubilate keeps us connected with the University. The Rosewood Bible Study helps our members who live at Rosewood grow, and it is outreach to an often-forgotten group of people. Bible study is the way we grow in faith. Our Haiti partnership and other mission programs helps us grow and live out our faith.

To hear, or not to hear? To me, it's not about whether we can hear the sermon over the sound of a child, but can we hear the Holy Spirit leading us? I pray we can. And, I pray that we keep listening and keep following. I believe that God has an incredible future for UBC!

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!

This Wednesday: Give Input on Collegiate Ministry at UBC!

There will be a Collegiate Ministry Town Hall conversation at 5:45 on Sept. 25, after the usual church dinner. UBC recently created a Task Force discussing the future of collegiate ministry, and this is an important opportunity for the Task Force to hear from the congregation. Please come on Wednesday, ready to share your feedback and ideas.

Deacons Meeting Recap

Our newly ordained and installed Deacons held their first meeting of the term last week. Discussions centered around how deacons can best serve the congregation, particularly through the Circle of Caring Teams. They also discussed logistical matters to ensure they are effectively fulfilling their roles. If you have any questions about the ministry of our Deacons, please contact our new Deacon Chair, Debra Bryant.

CALENDAR

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9:00 Work Team
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

5:15 Church Dinner
5:45 Collegiate Ministry Town Hall
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Practice

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

11:00 Hugh Garnett Funeral

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

9:30 Seekers Class
9:45 Sunday Bible Study
11:00 Worship Service
6:00 Jubilate Rehearsal
6:00 NO Youth Real Life

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

10:30 Rosewood Bible Study
5:30 Security Task Force

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

9:00 Work Team
7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

6:30 Sanctuary Choir Practice

CONCERNS

Sympathy to Bryan and Leslee Parsons and family, after the death of Bryan's father, Bill Parsons, on September 20.

Sympathy Jim and Laura Martindale and family, after the death of Jim's father, Larry Martindale, on September 19.

Variety Show! - Save the Date

Jubilate will be joining with the Youth of UBC to present a Variety Show on Friday, October 18 (7:00 pm) and Sunday, October 20 (noon luncheon after worship). This will be a fund raiser for both Jubilate and for our Youth. Please come join us!

Thank you note to Peter Ohlms!❤️

Thank you, Peter Ohlms, for serving as the Chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee for the past year. We appreciate your dedication to UBC and the many hours you have devoted to the upkeep and improvement of our facilities. Thank you!

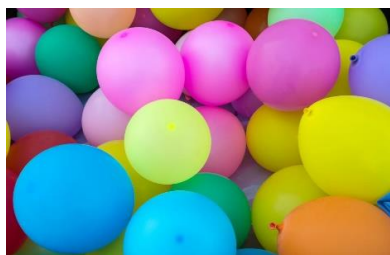


Jubilate Update from Alba

I am happy to report that, after starting with 8 Jubilate members returning, we have doubled in size! We are now up to 16, and we will continue to recruit throughout this semester. We made contacts with 60+ students who expressed an interest in Jubilate at the Fall Activities fair on grounds the day before classes began. We also made another 60+ contacts to students who expressed an interest in choral singing during the student orientations this summer. We have one student from Ghana, one from China and another from Sweden. I am meeting with 6 of the members in individual lessons because they have never sung in a choir and musical notation is not familiar to them. Please pray for Jubilate as we continue to grow!

Alan's Staff Anniversary

This month we observe the staff anniversary for Alan Hendricks, thanking him for his two years of volunteering as our Church Administrator! His organization, leadership, dedication to UBC have contributed greatly to our success as a church. Thank you for your faithful service to University Baptist Church! God bless you!



State Missions Offering - Last Call!

The Fall Missions Offering we are collecting in September supports the ministry of GraceInside, specifically designated for the chaplain at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women. If you would like to make a donation, you may give online, use one of the offering envelopes in the pew rack, use a credit card at the giving kiosk, or mail a check noting that it is for the Fall Missions Offering.

CBFVA Newsletter

Check out the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Virginia **newsletter**! You'll find University Baptist Church mentioned twice: as the recipient of \$25,000 in grant funding for collegiate ministry (p. 2), and as the host site for a statewide Youth Summit event this January (p. 5).

Volunteer Sign Up!

Would you be willing to give back to our church community? We have two regular Sunday opportunities this fall for members, friends and families to participate in church life.

Volunteer to **acolyte on Sunday mornings**, light the candles and open the Bible as we begin Sunday morning worship together. [Sign up here.](#)

Volunteer to **serve dinner to Jubilate members and our youth group** on Sunday evenings. [Sign up here.](#)



If you have questions or other, please contact Pheobe Brown - pbrown@universitybaptist.org
Find out how to get more involved by [clicking here!](#)

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!

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 during the month of October. Our hope is to keep the dinners fresh and exciting, without the burden of an unending commitment. Here is our Wednesday night schedule:

9/25 – Collegiate Ministry Town Hall

October – Break - No Wednesday dinners

11/6 – Charlene Greene: History of Race in Charlottesville

11/13 – Mark Snipes, CBFVA & MLK Weekend

11/20 – Church Conference

11/27 – No Program (Thanksgiving)

December programming TBA

Building Hosts

UBC hosts a great variety of community events. Musical, worship, therapeutic and community orientated events are happening weekly! For each event we need a UBC member to act as a building host. What does being a building host mean? Simply that you are present for the event to lock and unlock the doors, answer any questions the building users might have and make sure the church office is looped into problems that may arise. It's a simple occasional volunteer task with a big impact! If you would be willing to have your name on the list of building hosts please contact Pheobe Brown – pbrown@universitybaptist.org.

Flowers Bring Great Joy

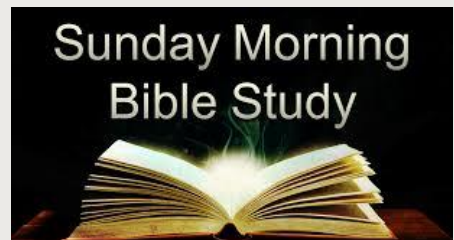
If you would like to dedicate sanctuary flowers for a special remembrance or celebration, the 2019 Floral Calendar is posted in the first floor hallway. Sign up on the calendar AND email or call Sarah Buchanan to reserve your special date. There are several Sundays still available: **Oct 6, 13, 20, and 27.** 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.

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!



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Connect with us

