

# THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

October 15, 2019 Vol. 71, No. 41

A New Hymnal?

## WATCH

Is it time to consider a new hymnal? I can imagine the audible gasp at the question, but consider this:

- According to Howard Newlon's history of UBC, we purchased our current hymnals in 1993. They have served us for over a quarter of a century.
- Our hymnals were published in 1991. Much has changed in the last 28 years. We have changed. Our sensitivities have changed. We have printed updated versions of hymns that are in our hymnals.
- Recently, we tried to order some large-print hymnals for congregants to see better. Unfortunately, our 1991 hymnal is no longer in print. The cheapest we could find a used large-print edition was \$100. Prices went up from there. A new hymnal would have large-print editions available.
- People write new hymns all the time. The Hymn Society, Hymnary.org, and other websites offer access to these hymns. Sometimes people update old ones. Other times, they create new stanzas and set them to familiar tunes. Alba has tremendous skills in finding these new lyrics and uses software to arrange them for us to sing.

What does this mean? Am I suggesting fixing something that is not broken? The current (1991) hymnals are in good condition. Few require replacement from overuse. I suggest that we begin *thinking* about new hymnals. Replacing our hymnals will cost about \$7,500, and it will not completely eliminate hymn inserts in the bulletin. I am certain it will reduce our hymn inserts, but not eliminate them.

Are there any other reasons to consider new hymnals? Yes. We identify as an inclusive congregation and recognize the depth of theological expressions. Some hymns go back to a time before

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

October 15, 2019

### Sermon:

"When Changes Happens"  
Dr. Matthew Tennant

### Scripture:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8  
Isaiah 43:14-21

### Anthem:

"Christians We Have Met to  
Worship "  
*arr. Larson*  
"Beautiful Savior"  
*Fettke*

**Jubilate & Sanctuary Choir**

"You Say"  
*Daigle, arr. Wise*  
**Jubilate**

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**Deacons:** Jimmy Li, Gary Wood, Alice Batten, Erin Brown, Raynell Stokes, Scott Miller, Ed Smith

**Nursery Workers:** Aimee Marshall, Suzanne Smith, Carter Groff

**Children's Church:** Shirley Clark, Matteo Pallini

people were sensitive about their language about God. Were they wrong back then? Not necessarily. Yet, today, we chose our words carefully to reflect how we understand God's presence and Jesus' transforming love. Several newer hymnals will more closely reflect who we are and who we understand God calling us to be.

Is there a perfect hymnal? No. *Glory to God* (Westminster John Knox 2013) is a great hymnal but it doesn't have everything. What are some of your favorite hymns? Let us know and it will help us as we explore possible replacements for our hymnal.

Finally, let me share a story with you from a recent Sunday. We had a first-time visitor with us. He came because he heard we are a welcoming congregation and progressive in our theology. He was generous enough to tell me what he really thought after the service—he mostly liked it. The sermon spoke to him. The choir moved him, and he appreciated our organist. But, he said that he almost left during the first hymn because it repeatedly used the masculine pronoun for God. I think he was exaggerating a bit and there is no way to escape some pronoun usage. However, we believe God transcends gender, so maybe we could do better about presenting an inclusive God.

Our hymnal is our baseline. It is where we default for selecting hymns in our worship service. Being intentional about which hymnal we use sets the baseline with our theology, or close to it. Please pray about whether God is nudging us to replace the hymnals that have served us for the last twenty-six years. If you have questions or thoughts, share them with one of the ministers. I look forward to seeing where God is leading us.

Peace,  
Matt

***Ushers for October:*** Cindy Bryant, Shelly Miller, Lily Pallini, Rhonda Wiley, Barry Willard

***Greeters:*** BJ Blincoe, John Buchanan

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## CALENDAR

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

9:00 Work Team

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

6:30 Sanctuary Choir Practice

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

5:30 Security Task Force

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

8:30 Finance Committee Meeting

9:30 Seekers Class

9:45 Sunday Bible Study

11:00 Worship Service

12:00 Jubilate Variety Show

No Jubilate Rehearsal

No Youth Real Life

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

10:30 Rosewood Bible Study

12:00 Missions Council Meeting

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

9:00 Work Team

6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

6:30 Sanctuary Choir Practice

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## No Wednesday Dinner during October!

### Variety Show!

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

### Help Needed for Yard Sale at UBC

Later this month, we will be holding an estate/yard sale at UBC, helping Sam Mackey find new homes for items from his and his mother's house. The sale will be October 24-26, with all proceeds going to UBC. We have: furniture, kitchen items, electronics, some antiques, tools, an extensive album collection and lots more. We need volunteers to help this run smoothly. An online sign-up sheet will be available soon, or you can contact Pheobe Brown in the church office.

## Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Group

As part of our outreach ministry with the UVA hospital, we will soon be the host site for another support group led by the hospital's social work team. This pregnancy and infant loss support group will meet on Tuesdays in November and December. Please feel free to share the word with anyone you know who may be interested. Thank you for making this important ministry possible.



### Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support Group

Tuesdays, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.  
November 5 – December 17 (no group November 26)

Join with others who have been impacted by pregnancy and/or infant loss. This 6-week peer group for individuals or couples will provide an opportunity to share experiences, give and receive support as well as promote healing and well-being after a loss.

The group is open to anyone, no matter the timing of loss. Parking, light refreshments and childcare are provided.

Meetings are held at University Baptist Church  
1223 West Main St. Charlottesville, VA 22903

Pre registration required (for planning purposes)  
To pre-register: Email Morgan Taylor, LCSW, MPH  
mlt3p@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu



## Save the Date!

- Harvest Luncheon - Nov. 17 after morning worship
- Jubilate Lessons & Carols - Dec. 8
- Youth Winter Summit - Jan. 17 ~ 19 ; Several hundred youth from around the state will be at UBC for the weekend.
- PACEM - Jan. 25 ~ Feb. 8

## Whistle Words: An Invitation

"Whistle Words" is a writing project that helps women reclaim their sense of selves after a life-changing cancer diagnosis. UBC has hosted several sessions of this group, and another is upcoming. If any women in our congregation would like to participate in this six-session guided writing workshop series, you are invited. Learn more at [www.whistlewords.org](http://www.whistlewords.org) or talk to Will if you have any questions. The next series will be Friday mornings, Oct. 18 - Nov. 22, 9:30-11am.

to heal yourself, use music to move inward

Join other women on similar cancer journeys for a six-week guided writing workshop series.

Writing is our tool, not our goal.

Fridays, Oct. 18 - Nov. 22  
9:30-11 AM

Register by calling Gina  
(454.297.4870)

University Baptist Church  
1223 West Main Street  
Charlottesville, VA  
(Free parking on site)

Sponsored by  
UVA Cancer Center

Learn more at [www.whistlewords.org](http://www.whistlewords.org)

## Teacher for Grades 3-5

Interested in teaching a children's Sunday School class? We're looking for one more teacher to be part of the rotation teaching our 3rd-5th graders, teaching every third month. If you'd like more information, talk with Will or Erin Brown.

## Venable Bags

With another school year underway, we have begun providing bags of food for 13 children at Venable Elementary School to sustain them through the weekends. If you would like to contribute to this project, you are welcome to bring in food items or contribute financially so that we can buy food in bulk. Thank you!

## 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!

## Shop at AmazonSmile

and Amazon will make a donation to:

University Baptist Church

Get started

amazon smile

## 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: October 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.

*University Baptist Church*  
1223 West Main Street  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
434-293-5106

Connect with us

