

# THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

November 19, 2019 Vol. 71, No. 46

Creating an Invitational  
Christmas Season

## WATCH

Over the last few days, I have seen people putting up Christmas lights in my neighborhood. It might seem early to me, yet the lights are a reminder of the holy season about to begin. On Sunday, we celebrate Christ as King of our lives. Next week is Thanksgiving. Then, Advent begins and our ecclesiastical calendar points us toward celebrating the incarnation of our Lord.

For many people, it will be a bit of a blur. Holiday shopping, parties, special concerts, light tours, AQPTS, and rehearsals—these things can fill up the holiday season. With so many activities and events, the annual reminder to “remember the reason for the season” always seems appropriate. By making worship a centerpiece of your Advent and Christmas, remembering why we celebrate gets a little bit easier.

What about sharing that joy? We share our joy through cards and gifts and by including people in our festivities. Another way to share the joy is to invite people to come to worship with you. Whether it is the Children’s Christmas Pageant (December 8), which is super cute, or the Sanctuary Choir singing Kirke Mechem’s “Seven Joys of Christmas” (December 15), inviting someone can transform their season.

An invitational culture means a space where we regularly include new people. Last week, we saw an invitational culture in real time. During worship, we emphasized how much we welcome everyone to stay for the Harvest Luncheon. The Deacons and caterer Mike Wood provided a winning combination of food and fellowship. Several first-time visitors stayed for the meal and said they would be back.

**SERVICE OF HOLY  
WORSHIP**  
November 24, 2019

**Sermon:**

"Paul's Example"  
Dr. Matthew Tennant

**Scripture:**

Revelation 1:12-18,  
Luke 23:39-43,  
Acts 20:32-35

**Anthem:**

"We Gather Together"  
*arr. John Ness Back*

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**Deacons:** Peter Ohlms, Carolyn Lowry, Ed Lowry, Ed Smith, Esther Tian, Lynda Tweel, Lynne Gardner

**Nursery Workers:** Karen Minor, Catherine Cooper, Hunter Cooper

**Children's Church:** Debby Johnson, Miles Jolin

**Ushers for November:** Shirley Clark, Sally Chewning, Martha Wood, Joyce Martin, Jack Wilkerson

**Greeters:** Alan Hendricks, Betty Barker

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## CALENDAR

Who do you know who would be blessed by UBC at Christmas?  
Invite them to a particular activity. I can't wait to meet them!

Peace,  
Matt

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### Stewardship Sunday

Please prayerfully complete and bring your 2020 Pledge Cards with you to worship this Sunday, Nov. 24.

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### Church Conference Announcement

On Wednesday, November 20, 5:45 PM, we will have our quarterly Church Conference in the Fellowship Hall. In addition to updates from committees, we will hear the full report from the Collegiate Ministry Task Force (CMTF) and their recommendations for building a vibrant collegiate ministry.

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

9:00 Work Team

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

5:15 Church Dinner  
5:45 Church Council  
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Practice

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

9:30 Seekers Class  
9:45 Sunday Bible Study  
9:45 ESOL Class  
11:00 Morning Worship  
6:00 Jubilate Practice  
6:00 Youth Real Life

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

10:30 Rosewood Bible Study

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

9:00 Work Team  
9:00 Sanctuary Decorating  
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

5:15 No Dinner and Program  
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Stewardship Sunday

Please prayerfully complete and bring your 2020 Pledge Cards with you to worship this Sunday, Nov. 24.

### A special thank you note from Jim & Laura Martindale!

"Our family would like to thank you, our church family, for your love and support of all us after the passing of Jim's dad. From flowers and cookies to visits, check-in texts, cards and prayers, we appreciated it all. Thank you for being there for us. from Jim, Laura, Ben, Nick and Zach Martindale"



### 2020 Pledge Cards

The pledge Card for 2020 has been mailed out last week. We're looking into 2020 at University Baptist Church, and your contributions are critical to support God's mission here and abroad. We are deeply grateful for the ways you participate in the life of the church! Please return your pledge card by mailing it to the church office by Nov. 24, or placing it in the offering plate on Sunday, Nov. 24.

## VBF Scholarship is available!

As a General guideline, you must be a full-time student and a member of a Virginia Baptist church. Since these are annual scholarships, you are welcomed and encouraged to apply each year.



VIRGINIA  
BAPTIST  
FOUNDATION

VBF Scholarship  
application at  
[VBFINC.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS](http://VBFINC.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS)

Apply by  
January 31, 2020



MUSIC TO  
THEIR EARS

## 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 Saturday, December 14.
- The WMU will add a \$15 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 for "Christmas Dinner in a Bag."
- **The food item list**
  - 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



## Potential New Hymnal for Review

Interested in reviewing the new hymnals we are considering for UBC? Come by the office sometime and take a look at one of the copies we have available. Feel free to flip through and see if your favorite (or least favorite!) hymns are included. We appreciate your feedback.

## Support Wahoos for AQPTS!

It's that time of year again and exam season approaches! Support our Wahoos by signing up to support A Quiet Place to Study (AQPTS). We need volunteers to staff AQPTS **December 8-15th, 1:00-10:00 PM each day**. We also need volunteers to provide delicious snacks to fuel studying during this time, snacks can be delivered December 7-14th.

## Dedicate a Poinsettia in Memory or Honor of Loved Ones

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the church sanctuary for Christmas, in memory or in honor of a loved one, call the church office with the names of those you will be honoring. Then send a check for **\$10 per plant** payable to UBC or drop it in the offering plate on Sunday. Place your poinsettia order by Monday, December 9. You may take your poinsettia home at the close of the Christmas Eve service.



## Church Building Repair

The second floor is still underway and will finish in about a week. The rooms on the second floor are still accessible most of the time. Although we are excited about the improvements to the hallway flooring, we apologize for causing you any inconvenience in the process.



## Wednesday Night Dinners

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.

Thanks to Larry, who has volunteered to be our dinner chef. Here is our November Wednesday night menu and schedule:

- **11/20** - Turkey Dinner
  - Church Conference, including a report from the Collegiate Ministry Task Force
- **11/27** - No Program (Thanksgiving)

Looking ahead to December:

- **12/4** - Service of Remembrance
- **12/11** - Children's Christmas Shop and Fun Night

## Save the Date!

- Jubilate Lessons & Carols - Dec. 8
- A Quiet Place to Study - Dec. 8-17
- 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



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Connect with us

