

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

January 28, 2020 Vol. 72, No. 4

Church Conference Update

ON WATCH

On Wednesday, January 22, some members of the congregation gathered in the fellowship hall for the quarterly Church Conference. The time was productive and painted an exciting picture of the church's future.

First, Larry Martin presented the 2020 budget. It is an increase from the 2019 budget because it includes a fourth minister. A week earlier, Larry presented a wider picture of the church's finances. Since finishing 2019 almost even, I felt like God was present in the meeting and leading us to adopt an ambitious budget for 2020. The budget reflects our congregation's faith and hope for the future. When someone called the question, the members present unanimously approved the budget.

Second, Kevin Wright made a motion from the Personnel Committee to begin the process of searching for an Associate Minister for College and Youth Students. Again, the congregation unanimously approved the motion. Soon, we will have a called Church Conference to officially approved the search committee.

Finally, there was an update on the process of replacing our 27-year-old hymnals. This topic elicits some deep feelings from those who know and love the hymns in our current hymnal. The other ministers and I want to be sensitive to those who feel like *Glory to God* is too unfamiliar. Hymns and other worship music exist to foster our relationship with God. They should speak to us and help us connect our lives with Jesus. There are countless stories of hymns sustaining prisoners of war and providing comfort for people in times of trial. Quite famously, some people sang "Nearer My God to Thee" as the *Titanic* sank.

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

February 2, 2020
11:00AM

Sermon:

"Bridge ministry & racial
reconciliation"
William Washington

Scripture:

Psalms 15,
Micah 6:1-8,
1 Corinthians 1:18-31,
Matthew 5:1-12

Anthem:

"Ain't God Time to Die"
arr. Johnson

Deacons: Herman Eaker,
Martha Balenger, Alan
Hendricks, Brad Groff, Jim
Moore, Gary Wood

Children's Church: Elizabeth
Mulcahy, Carter Groff

Ushers for February: Cindy
Bryant, Shelly Miller, Lily Pallini,
Ronda Wiley, Barry Willard

Greeters: Peter Ohlms, Charlotte
Bailey

My prayer in recent days has been for some clarity in how to approach replacing the 1991 hymnal. To be honest, I do not know how to proceed. If I do nothing, then it seems like any of Alba's justifications for new hymnals are moot, and I feel like I am not honoring the way God can speak through him. If we proceed, as Church Council suggested we do in their January meeting, then it feels like we do not respect the concerns raised some congregants.

One of my favorite hymns is "Be Strong in the Lord." When I sing it at home, I strum the guitar like Tom Petty in "Free Fallin," play it in 4/4 even though it's written in 3/4, and sing as loud as I can. I change some of the words too. Do you know what? It's okay. Even though we would probably not do it that way in church, I can play it and sing it in a manner that feeds my soul. Just like some of my other favorite hymns, "Be Strong in the Lord" is not in *Glory to God*. I first learned "Be Strong in the Lord" in 2010, when I was 37 years old. A friend told me it was one of his favorite hymns. We sang it, and it became one of mine.

Another one of my favorite hymns is "For Everyone Born." It is not in our current hymnal. It is in *Glory to God*. I first heard "For Everyone Born" in 2018 at University Baptist Church. I thought, "Wow! What an amazing hymn! I'm so glad to be part of a church that sings hymns like this." For those of us who are concerned about unfamiliar hymns in a new hymnal, we must remember that every hymn was new to us at one point. There was a first time when every person heard "Amazing Grace" or "Blessed Assurance."

What do we do about new hymnals? I am still praying about it. Please pray with me.

Peace,
Matt

CALENDAR

JANUARY 25 - FEBRUARY 7

PACEM at UBC

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

9:00 Work Team

6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

6:30 Sanctuary Choir Practice

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

8:30 Church Council Meeting

9:30 Seekers Class

9:45 Sunday Bible Study

9:45 ESOL Class

11:00 Morning Worship

5:00 Acoustic Vespers Service

6:00 Jubilate Practice

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

10:30 Rosewood Bible Study

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

9:00 Tuesday Work Team

5:00 Stanley Hauerwas - Richard E. Myers Lecture Series

7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

5:00 Stanley Hauerwas - Richard E. Myers Lecture Series

6:30 NO Sanctuary Choir

Souper Bowl of Caring

With the Super Bowl this weekend, it is also time for our church's annual participation in the "Souper Bowl of Caring." Our youth will be at the sanctuary doors after worship this Sunday morning to receive contributions for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.

Cville Tax Aid is back!

Cville Tax Aid, a United Way program that provides free tax preparation services to residents of our community with modest incomes, has returned to UBC for another year. Trained volunteers will meet with clients in our Fellowship Hall (after the conclusion of PACEM) on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings, as well as Friday mornings. This program went quite well last year, and we are pleased to welcome back our volunteers for another year of tax preparation.

Sunday Dinners

We need some people to help prepare and/or serve dinner to Youth and Jubilate on Sunday evenings. To learn more and sign up, please click [here](#).



Another year of PACEM at UBC is underway!

Beds are made, our kids left welcome cards on each pillow, and the young adult group served "breakfast for dinner." Please pray for all of our volunteers and guests who will be spending time together these next two weeks.

Thank you to all who have volunteered already. There are still ways you can help, including a few shifts to stay overnight. If you'd like to help, please sign up on the board or contact Laura Morris, Jennifer Wagoner, or Katherine Hamel.

Upcoming Richard E. Myers Lecture Series

Who : Prof. Stanley Hauerwas
When : February 4-6, 5PM
What: "Becoming Human:
Theological Exercises in a Barthian Vein"

Free parking is available both on UBC and 14th street parking lots.

For further information, see our invitation.

<https://conta.cc/35TJp6N>

A black and white poster for the Richard E. Myers Lecture Series. The text on the poster includes: "RICHARD E. MYERS LECTURE SERIES", "PRESENTED BY UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH", "FEBRUARY 4 - 6 5PM", "1223 WEST MAIN STREET CHARLOTTESVILLE VA", "Prof. Stanley Hauerwas Duke Divinity School", "BECOMING HUMAN: THEOLOGICAL EXERCISES IN A BARTHIAN VEIN", "February 4: The Christian Message in the World Today", "February 5: The Christian Message, The Work of Theology, & the New Humanism", "February 6: Christianity and Civil Society", "All lectures are FREE and open to the public.", and "WWW.UNIVERSITYBAPTIST.ORG". A portrait of Prof. Stanley Hauerwas is featured on the right side of the poster.

Candles in Worship

Do you have any thoughts or ideas about the candles in the Sanctuary? Let us know your thoughts: <https://forms.gle/sZGfUJc9t9HZEmQv7>

Save the Date

Ash Wednesday Service - February 26, 2020
Operation Inasmuch (OIAM) - April 25, 2020
Vacation Bible School - June 15-19, 2020

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Connect with us

