

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

January 7, 2019 Vol. 72, No. 1

College Students, Acoustic
Vespers, & Boldness in
Christ

WATCH

As we start 2020, two items have been on my mind: college students and “acoustic vespers.” Are they connected? If so, how?

First, consider college students. What is our signature ministry? What does our church do better than anyone? Where do we put our energy? Answering these questions is important as we follow God into the future. As a church, we talked about a new collegiate ministry for much of 2019, and in 2020, we need to make a decision. Is this something we are going to do? Or not?

If we start a collegiate ministry and call a minister to focus most of her attention on building this ministry, all of us must be committed to making it successful. In part, we will be making a financial commitment, so we should only move forward if we do so with our eyes open. Our January 15 Community Conversation (6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall) will outline the financial cost of this new ministry. However, the more significant investment will be through our time and prayers as we seek to make this our signature ministry.

Second, what is an Acoustic Vespers? A new worship service at 5:00 PM on Sundays, starting January 12. We intend to reach out to people who do not already come to UBC. It is not about bringing more people into the church for the sake of building up the Kingdom of UBC. The other ministers and I want to share the transformational encounter we have had with Christ with others. If people who do not go to church elsewhere experience Christ at the Acoustic Vespers, we will be doing what God called us to do.

We decided on the name Acoustic Vespers because it will be a service of prayer in the evening (vespers) and we will accompany the hymns with acoustic guitar. It will be a simple service and probably last about 30-40 minutes. Some weeks,

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

January 12, 2020
11:00 AM

Sermon:

“Wet, Awkward, & Redemptive”
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Isaiah 42:1-9,
Matthew 3:13-17

Anthem:

“Lord I Want to Be A Christian”
arr. Hogan

Deacons: Alan Hendricks, Laura Martindale, Diane Mundell, Johnny Ellen, Jeanette May, John Buchanan

Children's Church: Pam Hallissy, Hunter Cooper

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

Greeters: Brad Groff, Martha Ballenger

worship will be contemplative. Other weeks, it will be livelier. Generally, there will be a welcome (including a Psalm and invocational prayer), hymn, scripture and prayer, another hymn, a homily, one more hymn, and a benediction. This format is not etched in stone but will give us a place to start. We will keep what is working and change what doesn't.

As Alba, Will, and I discussed this service with the deacons, one of my main concerns was drawing people away from Sunday morning worship. Even if the aggregate number of people worshipping at UBC on a Sunday goes up, it might be discouraging if we split between two worship times. The deacons advised me that we cannot control who goes to what service, and if we try the Acoustic Vespers and it leads to more people experiencing God's grace at UBC, the service will be a success. I trust their wisdom.

Finally, we must be bold in the name of Jesus. It is 2020. The church has lots of vibrant ministries. There are so many things to excite us. To add a worship service and consider making a collegiate ministry our signature program, we need more bandwidth. If we cancel a program or ministry now, we might restart it in a year or two when we have greater bandwidth. Right now, we need fewer ministries. By cutting something, we will have more energy to give to God for what we are doing. Which one do we want to cancel? Please pray about this question. Every ministry in our church makes someone's heart sing. Even if you don't care about something, someone else does. We should tread carefully here.

At the end of Ephesians, there is a prayer for boldness in Christ (6:19-20). What about us? Can we be bold in the name of Christ?

Peace,
Matt

CALENDAR

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

9:00 Work Team
5:30 Security Task Force
7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Practice

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

6:30 Deacons Meeting

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

10:30 Butch Woerner Service

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

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
6:00 Youth Real Life
6:00 Hispanic Worship

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

10:30 Rosewood Bible Study

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

9:00 Work Team
1:00 Annie Armstrong Circle
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

5:30 Wednesday Dinner
6:00 Conversation on Church Finances
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Practice

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

6:30 Joint Deacons & Church Council Meeting

Sympathy

Sympathy to Diane Woerner and family at the death of her husband, Karl "Butch" Woerner, on January 2.

A service will be held at UBC on **Saturday, January 11, at 10:30am.**

Sympathy

Sympathy to Sarah and John Buchanan after the death of their daughter, Cecilia Camacho, on December 21.

Acoustic Vespers Service

"Acoustic Vespers," our new evening worship service, will take place each Sunday evening at 5pm in the Choir/Lecture Suite, beginning January 12.

Wednesday Nights in January

We will have two Wednesday night dinners and programs in January. Dinner begins at 5:30 with the program at 6:00.

On January 15, we will have a Community Conversation looking at the overall financial situation of the church, a key consideration in possibly hiring a minister to focus on collegiate ministry.

- Menu: Ham / Baked Apples / Mac & Cheese

On January 22, we will have a Church Conference to approve the 2020 budget for UBC, which includes making a decision about whether to hire an additional minister, and we will also welcome any feedback from the congregation about the proposed new hymnals before a final decision is made.

- Menu: Rotisserie Chicken / Mixed Veggies / Salad

PACEM at UBC

January 25-February 7

During these two weeks, UBC will be feeding and housing approximately 45 homeless men each night. How can you help?

We like to offer personal hygiene items to our guests and are collecting 50 of each of the following:

- toothbrushes
- travel size toothpaste
- chopstick
- hand warmers
- travel packs of tissues
- pairs of long, thick socks



In addition, we are collecting:

- individually wrapped peppermint candies
- cough drops
- journals/notebooks
- new or gently used adult sized backpacks or duffel bags
- travel size shaving cream
- disposable razors
- travel size hand lotion
- underwear (L and XL)
- plain white T-shirts (L and XL)
- combs
- \$5 gift cards to CVS, McDonald's, or Subway

- Any of these items you can donate is appreciated. Collection boxes will be in the lobby on Sundays and Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays. Please send in items by Friday, January 24.
- Sarah Buchanan is organizing meal preparation, so please contact her with questions or to volunteer to make dinner one evening.
- Below is the breakfast-to-go item donation sign up page. You can contact Laura Morris, Katherine Hamel or Jennifer Wagoner if you have questions.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090948AFA622A20-pacem>
- Also, be listening and looking for opportunities to volunteer to help with laundry, stay overnight, set up and take down cots, and pick up linens from the Haven.

This ministry takes many hours and many hands. Thank you for your support!

-Laura, Jennifer, and Katherine

CBF's Youth Winter Summit is coming to UBC!

UBC will be hosting the CBF Youth Winter Summit Martin Luther King Weekend (January 17-19, 2020). Youth will begin arriving from all over the state on Friday evening. We need 3-4 volunteers Friday (5-10:30 PM) to help check in youth groups and orient them to the building and surrounding area. Saturday we will need 2 volunteers in the morning to provide directions and navigation assistance (8 AM – 10 AM), 2 volunteers around lunch for directions etc. (11 AM – 1 PM) and 2 volunteers around dinner (5 PM – 7 PM). We will also need 2 volunteers Sunday morning 7:30 AM – 11:00 AM. The groups will hold a large worship service in the sanctuary before departing. Any and all help is most appreciated! We hope to welcome over 300 youth to our community this weekend and we can't succeed without your help!

If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Pheobe, pbrown@universitybaptist.org.

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>

New stock donation account

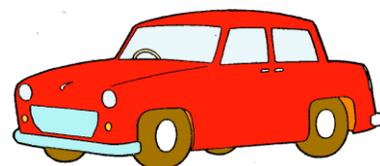
UBC has just opened a new stock donation account through TD Ameritrade. Anyone who wants to contribute marketable securities to UBC should contact Jane, jkim@universitybaptist.org for new stock transfer instruction.

Many thanks to George Payne for helping to setup new account.

Looking for a housing space for Sam's Corvette

Debra is looking for a place to park Sam Mackey's car under cover for an indefinite period of time. If you have a garage or barn etc. with unused space and would be willing to house Sam's 1976 Corvette, please contact Debra Bryant, debra.l.bryant@gmail.com.

The car will need to be driven periodically to keep it in good repair, so access is needed.



Upcoming Lecture Series

On February 4-6, 2020, 5pm, Professor Stanley Hauerwas will give us very influential lectures as a title of "Becoming Human: Theological Exercises in a Barthian Vein"

For more detailed information, please look into <https://universitybaptist.org/lecture-series/>

UBC Cancellation Policy

In the event of bad winter weather, announcements of any cancellations or changes in worship or church activities will be made on our church website, Facebook, and local media outlets. We will make an announcement usually no later than 8am Sunday or 1pm for Wednesday evening activities.

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Connect with us

