

# THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

March 3, 2020 Vol. 72, No. 8

## Little Reminders of Faith

As we continue our Lenten journey with "Reminders of

Faith," I wonder what reminds you of your faith? The stones and coins we have set on our communion table use everyday objects to remind us of the gospel story. Coins remind us of the almsgiving in Matthew 6:1-4. Stones remind us of Jesus' temptation in Matthew 4:1-11. What else?

Reminders surround us. The other day, I was washing my hands and remembered when I worked in Chicago twenty years ago. Our offices were on the fifth floor of an old building. I remember one of my coworkers complaining that we never could get warm water from the restroom faucets to wash our hands. The simple act of washing my hands reminded me of him but I cannot remember his name. I wonder what he is doing now. God knows his name, so I prayed for him.

My family was playing a game and someone said something about exercise. My spouse said, "Ping pong is exercise." It reminded me of my grandmother Biscomb. She used to claim that she was in such good shape because she played ping pong. The throwaway comment brought back fond childhood memories of my grandmother crushing me in ping pong. She had a brutal spin. I gave thanks for having a loving family and happy childhood memories.

Reminders from everyday items can become a significant part of our faith journey. The challenge for us is to connect the dots. Remembering a colleague from many years ago is one thing. Thinking of him and saying a prayer for him is another. Remembering my grandmother is one thing. Thinking of her and giving thanks for her impact on my life and for families in general is another. These are two examples of connecting the dots between everyday reminders and baptizing them into my faith journey.

## WATCH

## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

March 8, 2020

11:00 AM

### Sermon:

"Being for God"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

### Scripture:

John 3:1-17

### Anthem:

"God So Loved the World"

*arr. Stainer*

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**Deacons:** John Buchanan, Jeannette May, Sarah Buchanan, Debra Bryant, Carolyn Lowry, Ed Lowry, Lynne Gardner

**Nursery:** Karen Minor, Jacob Morris, Ewing Minor

**Children's Church:** Cindy Bryant, Hunter Cooper

**Ushers for March:** Ian Pallini, Ed Barker, Melvin Spicer, Mildred Spicer, Ron Tweel

**Greeters:** Alan Hendricks, Betty Barker

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## CALENDAR

### TUESDAY, MARCH 3

9:00 Tuesday Work Team

7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail Circle

Reminders can remain just reminders. The work is ours to connect them to our faith. What little things bring back good memories for you? How can you connect the dots and let those everyday reminders encourage your walk with Christ?

Peace,  
Matt

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### Time Change

Remember to set your clocks forward one hour this Saturday night, as Daylight Saving Time begins.

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### Sunday Morning Parking

Great news! Our parking lot was full last Sunday. This means that more people are coming to church. It also means that some guests, visitors, or those with walking difficulties may show up and not see a parking spot. If you are able, please consider parking in the 14th St. Garage or at Stacy Hall on Sunday mornings. Parking is free if you bring a worship bulletin.

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### Prayer Concerns

Please pray for Jubilate's upcoming tour, March 7-12, as they travel to eastern Virginia to sing and work with Habitat for Humanity.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

(NO Wed. Dinner or Program)  
10:00 PBJ Bible Study  
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Practice

### SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Jubilate Tour begins

### SUNDAY, MARCH 8

9:30 Seekers Class  
9:45 Sunday Bible Study  
9:45 ESOL Class  
11:00 Morning Worship  
5:00 Acoustic Vespers Service  
6:00 Youth Real Life

### MONDAY, MARCH 9

10:30 Rosewood Bible Study

### TUESDAY, MARCH 10

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

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

(NO Wed. Dinner or Program)  
10:00 PBJ Bible Study  
No Sanctuary Choir Practice

*For our most up-to-date calendar, [click here.](#)*

### Lenten Series: Reminders of Faith

This year, our theme for Lent is "Reminders of Faith." What reminds us of our faith? Some coins? A few stones? A bucket? A pair of eyeglasses? Some bones? A palm branch? A towel? Each of these items will appear during our Lenten worship services. Each one connects to one of the central scripture passages of Lent. These common items can serve as a prompt for us to start seeing reminders of our faith in Christ daily. Then, the Lenten journey can continue beyond Easter. Reminders from everyday items can become a significant part of our faith journey.



### Called Church Conference

There will be a Called Church Conference this **Sunday, March 8**, after morning worship, to vote on the members of the Search Committee for the new Associate Minister for Students. Nominees for the Search Committee were selected in accordance with our Bylaws, as follows:

- Nominated by the Nominating Committee: [Sarah Ames](#), [Martha Ballenger](#), [Amanda Ohlms](#), [Roy Thomas](#)
- Nominated by the groups "Closest to the Work": [Daniel Harper](#), [Rachel Miller](#)
- Nominated by the Deacons: [Laura Martindale](#)
- Personnel Committee Designee: [Kevin Wright](#)



### Youth Lock-In

Our recent youth lock-in had 18 youth participants, who started the evening with a rock-climbing expedition in a local gym, before returning to the church for a night of games, food, movies, and... not much sleep! Thank you to the parents who helped out and drove the youth to go rock climbing, and a



special thank you to Laura Martindale for spending the night as a chaperone!

### Church Council Recap

At its meeting last Sunday, Church Council heard updates on a number of projects, including the implementation of the UBC Park upgrades following the design competition, the approval of the search committee for the new Associate Minister position, and the September church retreat planned by our deacons. The Security Task Force is planning an upcoming training exercise, purchasing new walkie talkies (for nursery, children's church, etc.), and reviewing our evacuation procedures. We are currently reviewing proposals to improve the sanctuary sound system and will need to buy new wireless microphones within the next couple of years. Alba Beasley reported that a Hymnal Task Force has been formed to review various options for new hymnals. The Missions Council reported that it is initiating a new relationship with Scarlett Jasper, who does rural poverty ministry similar to that of our long-time partner Paula Settle, who recently retired. Alan Hendricks reported on several administrative items, including the upcoming installation of a new copier in the office, and more notably, the hiring of Lexi Woodson to provide administrative support in the office. Church Council's next meeting will be Sunday, April 5.

### Wednesday Night Dinners and Programs

There will be no dinners and programs during the month of March. Our plan is to resume the dinners later in the spring, during the Easter season. Details will be announced in The Word as that time draws closer.

### Offering Collection during Lent

During the season of Lent, our offering collection will take a different form, as we seek to consider the various ways people give to the church financially and otherwise. Our Deacons have decided not to pass the offering plates during these six Lenten Sundays, but instead to provide several locations where people can place their offering before or after the service. Our worship will still have a time of reflection which will be thematically integrated into the service.

### Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4, 3pm, at the home of Donna and Forrest Marshall.

- Bounce house, corn dogs, bunny cake
- Bring a basket to collect the eggs.
- Bring your kites, fishing poles, balls, and riding toys.

If you're planning to come, please bring 1-2 dozen plastic eggs filled with candy to the church by the week before. (No Peanuts!)

*RSVP to Will Brown*



# DID YOU KNOW?

Volunteers from our church regularly come and spend time in the Prayer Room on the 3rd floor. They pray for concerns that have been shared, pray for our church, and send PrayerGrams. If you'd like to participate in this ministry, or to learn more about it, talk to Betty Barker or any members of the Intercessory Prayer Team. If you have prayer concerns to share with the team, simply contact the church office.

## Acoustic Vespers

You are invited to join us each Sunday evening, 5:00-5:30pm, for a relaxed time of worship in our sanctuary. Our hope is that this service will provide a worship opportunity for those unable to attend worship at 11am, while also being an easier entry point for college students and others who may not be drawn to a morning worship service. Come worship with us!

## Volunteer Needed

Interested in greeting people new to our church? We are looking for someone to serve as a Greeter at our Acoustic Vespers service, helping guests to feel welcome. Talk to one of our ministers for more information.

## 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](#).

## Offering Envelopes

If you use offering envelopes and need more, please contact the church office. We print them in the office and will happily print more if you have run out. Please come by anytime to pick them up or contact the office and we will send them to you.

## Save the Date

[Jubilate Tour](#) - March 7-12

[Lecture Series](#) - Remi Brague - March 24-26

[Easter Egg Hunt](#) - April 4

[Operation Inasmuch \(OIAM\)](#) - April 25

[Church Picnic](#) - June 1

[Vacation Bible School](#) - June 15-19

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Connect with us

