



April 14, 2020 Vol. 72, No. 14

Looking Ahead

With signs of spring and Easter in the rearview

mirror, I cannot help but feel some sense of hope. I looked for the number of new cases of COVID-19 in Virginia, and social distancing is slowing the spread of the novel coronavirus. We must not give up. Keep washing your hands, social distancing, and wearing facemasks. Be vigilant.

For me, it is hard not to look ahead and think about what is next. Recently, someone mentioned to me how nice it would be to reunite for Pentecost on May 31. During the conversation, we both agreed that Pentecost was too soon, but what a wonderful bit of hope! What a great sign of looking ahead to our church family coming back together. Governor Northam's stay-at-home order extends to June 10. The models used by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington predict the last COVID-19 patient will leave the ICU in Virginia on June 25. Social distancing will likely continue in June, though we truly don't know exactly when we can come back together.

The point is not predicting the date but living in the hope of life ahead. Coming together on Pentecost is, of course, too soon. The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost (aka Proper 9 in the liturgical calendar, or July 5) might be safe. Or, we might gather together again on the Ninth Sunday (aka Proper 13 or August 2). We don't know. We do know that the same God who rolled back the stone and rose from the dead will be with people through this global pandemic. We can live in faith. In Christ, the end is not death but life.

At the April Church Council meeting, we discussed one idea for a post-coronavirus UBC project. If you are like me, you might have been doing some deeper cleaning around the house during your time of social distancing. And, like me, you might have come across a number of things that you would like to

WATCH

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

April 19, 2020
11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Pleasant Places"
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Psalms 16

Anthem:

"I Believe"
by Miller
Jubilate

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, April 15

10:00 PBJ Bible Study (Zoom)
7:00 Sanctuary Choir (Zoom)

SUNDAY, April 19

8:30 Finance Committee (Zoom)
9:45 Online Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship (radio and livestream)
7:00 Youth Real Life (Zoom)

MONDAY, April 20

12:00 Missions Council (Zoom)

The Associate Minister Search Committee will meet via Zoom on Sunday, April 26, at 9am.

donate to the Salvation Army or Goodwill. Set those potential donations aside, and when it is safe, bring them to the church. We can have a church yard sale at a to-be-determined-date after we come together. Details will be forthcoming.

For now, keep up your faith. Continue washing your hands, social distancing, and wearing a mask. And, plan for what's next. It will be filled with inspiring worship, edifying Bible study, joyful reunions, and mission projects. I haven't seen the future, but I'm looking forward to it in faith.

Peace,
Matt

Signs of Spring

We recently spotted this robin's nest on the front porch of the church, a lovely reminder of the new life that comes in spring, even during this strange pandemic season.



Other events and activities are being canceled or modified to be online-only when possible. Please contact your group leader or the Church Office with any questions.

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

Prayer Concerns

Pray for our world during the COVID-19 pandemic. Pray for those infected with the virus, for people who are taking care of them, and for all who are especially at risk. Pray for our church family, that we may draw closer, even as we keep a physical distance from one another.



New Planters

Planters are being added to the front of the sanctuary porch, as installation continues on the winning proposal from the UniBap Park Design Competition.



Worship Leadership

Would you like to help lead in worship? Each week we are looking for people to read a Scripture lesson or lead in other ways. Typically this means taking a short video of yourself-- the camera on your phone is perfect for this. Talk to Alba if you're interested!



Greetings from Pastor Rubens

Pastor Rubens, our ministry partner in Haiti, shared a few pictures from worship in his church. Along with thanking us for our support and asking God's blessing, he writes, "I am praying for you every day [during the] corona virus." Let us also pray for him, his church, and his ministry.



Sunday Mornings Online

Even though we are not gathering in person, we are still joining together each Sunday morning for worship and Bible study. We hope you will join us!

Bible Study

At 9:45 am, we begin an interactive Bible Study that is broadcast via [YouTube](#).

We invite you to join in the conversation by adding comments during the session. To download the handout ahead of time, visit universitybaptist.org/live

Worship

Our Sunday morning worship service will begin, as usual, at 11:00 am. We encourage everyone in the congregation to join us from home. As always, you can listen by radio on WINA (1070 AM and 98.9 FM), or you can join us online for our live broadcast. To view the live video broadcast, visit our [Facebook page](#) or click [this link](#) to watch on YouTube.

Cloth Face Masks

Because the CDC now recommends that everyone wear cloth masks if they must leave their homes to perform necessary tasks, we are presented with a unique opportunity for ministry.

There are many in our congregation with the skills required to sew masks, and some of you have already been working on these projects. At the same time, there are many in our congregation who do not have a mask and will need one. Community organizations are collecting masks and helping distribute them to first responders, medical professionals, and residents in need. This is a great opportunity for us to serve.

We have been contacted by a [local organization](#) (Cville Craft Aid) that is inundated with requests for masks. They need our help!

NEEDED:

- people to make masks
 - (note: these are homemade, cloth masks for ordinary use; the manufactured medical-grade masks should be reserved for those in high-risk situations, such as healthcare workers)

Call or email Will Brown at wbrown@universitybaptist.org if you can help.



Need Groceries or Meals?

If you need groceries, meals, or medicines and don't want to go out shopping, let the church office know. Healthy volunteers with a lower risk of serious infection are willing to bring the needed items to your door.

A few people have already volunteered to help with this, but please also let us know if you're willing to be added to the list of healthy shoppers. You can contact the office or email pbrown@universitybaptist.org



Mission Moment

Each Spring UBC has participated in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's National Missions Offering. This emphasis helps support our missionaries right here in the US. For many years, our offering has gone directly to Paula Settle in Nada, Kentucky. With Paula's December 2019 retirement looming, our Missions Council reached out to another CBF field missionary in a county in southeastern Kentucky, Scarlette Jasper. She is enthusiastic and excited to create a partnership with our church. First, a bit about Scarlette. . . . she was commissioned as a field missionary by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in 2014, through **Together for Hope**. She currently serves in areas of persistent poverty in

McCreary County, one of the poorest counties in the United States. She is married, the mother of three children and two grandchildren. She is also a student at Baptist Seminary of Kentucky pursuing her Master of Divinity with a concentration in Pastoral Care and Counseling.

Scarlette is the Director of Olive Branch Ministries, Inc. (olivebranchministriesky.org) Some of the many needs that Scarlette helps address are: working with the homeless, coordinating children's' literacy projects, allocating funds for rent and utility deposits, assisting with transportation costs when families must travel for appointments to distant medical centers, providing heaters or propane in the winter, supporting local schools with clothing, school supplies, food, hygiene items, and helping veterans get needed services. She maintains a small mission house that serves as an emergency shelter and place for pastoral counseling. Like the majority of our field missionaries, Scarlette must raise her own program and project support.

Now that you know a little more about Scarlette's work, won't you prayerfully consider being a part of our National Missions offering that will go directly to Scarlette's numerous community needs? Please use one of the envelopes in the pew racks **to donate** with cash or by check, designated " National Missions". You can also mail your missions offering to the church office along with your regular offering, or make a contribution online.

DID YOU KNOW?

Online and Automatic Giving

Online giving simplifies contributing by allowing for a specific dollar amount to be sent to University Baptist Church on a specific date, thus decreasing the number of checks you have to write. You can set this up to happen automatically from your bank account, or make a single contribution on our website or Facebook page. For more information, visit universitybaptist.org/give or call our church office.

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Connect with us

