

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

April 21, 2020 Vol. 72, No. 15

Sabbath Keeping

N WATCH

The Sabbath is the only day of the week in the Bible that gets a name. Since the eighth century BCE, people have been observing it as a day of rest. Amos 8:5 suggests it as a time when people did not work. Hosea 2:11 and Isaiah 1:13 refer to the Sabbath as a time of offerings. The fourth of the Ten Commandments is "Observe the sabbath day and keep it holy" (Deuteronomy 5:12). Yet, in contemporary times, keeping a sabbath becomes a challenge.

Too often, we fill our time with work, school, or other activities. Contemporary culture celebrates the busy schedule. Taking time to rest and rejuvenate can appear unproductive or lazy. Sometimes it seems like twenty-first-century America has made work into a religion. Questions like, "What do you do?" mean "What is your vocation?" not "What do you do to grow as a person?" or "What do you do to enjoy life?" Imagine answering, "What do you do?" with the following: "I cook meals for shut-ins once a week." The person asking the question might feel confused and follow up with, "What do you do the rest of the time?" The answer could be, "I spend most evenings with my family and try to get together with friends a few times per week." It would feel like to two people were talking past one another. The questioner might say in exasperation, "I mean, what do you do for a living?" Keeping a sabbath does not prohibit having a vocation. It complements work. By having a weekly reset, we can be better prepared for what is ahead. If the sabbath time begins dictating the way a person lives, it can feel Pharisaic. In Mark 2:27, Jesus said, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath."

During these days of staying at home, we have an opportunity to practice sabbath keeping like never before. Seen as a chance for spiritual growth, God can use our free time to speak to us. By

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

April 26, 2020
11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Renewing Faith"
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

1 Peter 1:17-23

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, April 22

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

SUNDAY, April 26

9:00 Associate Minister Search Committee Meeting (*Zoom*)
9:45 Online Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship (*radio and livestream*)
7:00 Youth Real Life (*Zoom*)

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.

Prayer Concerns

Pray for our world, as we all face the reality of the COVID-19

quieting our minds, slowing our pace, and opening ourselves, we can experience God in new ways. We, who are blessed to be able to maintain social distancing, can experience the reset that comes during a sabbath.

Peace,
Matt

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!

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](#) that is inundated with requests for masks. They need our help!

pandemic.

Pray for those infected with the virus, for people who are taking care of them, and for all who are especially at risk.

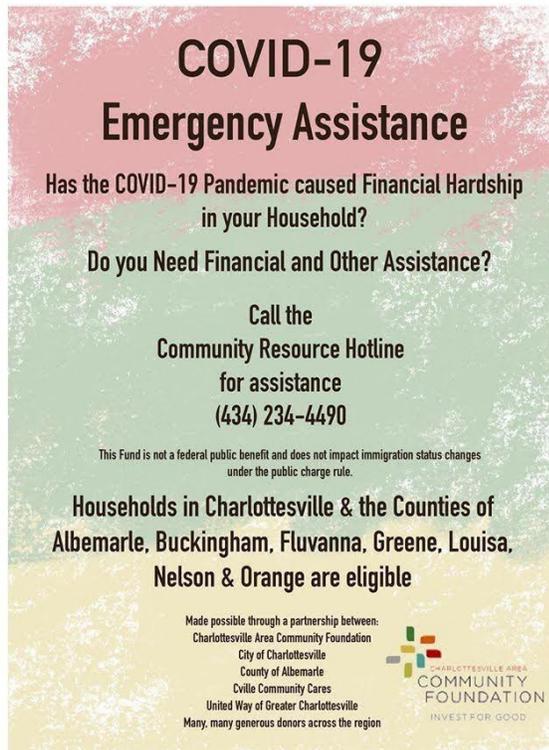
Pray for our church family, that we may draw closer, even as we keep a physical distance from one another.



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.



**COVID-19
Emergency Assistance**

Has the COVID-19 Pandemic caused Financial Hardship
in your Household?

Do you Need Financial and Other Assistance?

Call the
Community Resource Hotline
for assistance
(434) 234-4490

This Fund is not a federal public benefit and does not impact immigration status changes
under the public charge rule.

Households in Charlottesville & the Counties of
Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa,
Nelson & Orange are eligible

Made possible through a partnership between:
Charlottesville Area Community Foundation
City of Charlottesville
County of Albemarle
Cville Community Cares
United Way of Greater Charlottesville
Many, many generous donors across the region

CHARLOTTESVILLE AREA
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
INVEST FOR GOOD

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

Let's Share!

During this season of social distancing, we'd love to use this newsletter to help us stay connected as individuals. Would you be willing to help? Each week we'd like to share a mini-interview with a church member, so that we can hear updates from one another. We need your help! Simply write a short answer to the three questions below, and email them to Lexi in the church office, or call the office at 434-293-5106. Her email address is lwoodson@universitybaptist.org

- 1) What has been the biggest surprise to you about the COVID-19 pandemic?
- 2) What has been the biggest inconvenience?
- 3) What has been an unexpected blessing?

We hope to hear from you soon!



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, she made us aware of another CBF field missionary in a county in southeastern Kentucky.

Our Missions Council reached out to this missionary, 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 CBF in 2014. She 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, coordinates children's literacy projects, allocates funds for rent and utility deposits, assists with transportation costs when families must travel for appointments to distant medical centers, provide heaters or propane in the winter, supports 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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