



June 9, 2020 Vol. 72, No. 22

**#BlackLivesMatter & the Monday  
Protest Outside UBC**

# ON WATCH

When you hear the phrase, “Black lives matter,” what do you think? A few years ago, it seemed controversial, as if it showed preference for one group over another. Some people would respond, “All lives matter.” Unfortunately, this response misses the point.

In 2013, after a jury acquitted the man who killed Trayvon Martin, Patrisse Cullors responded to a tweet from a fellow community organizer, “#BlackLivesMatter.” Her response went viral and many people began using the phrase. At a time when the lives of black people seemed disposable, saying “Black lives matter” resonated as a psalm of lament like Psalm 74. It begins, “O God, why do you cast us off forever... Remember your congregation.” If the psalmist used hashtags, it might have included #YourCongregationMatters.

Now, people cry out, “Black lives matter,” because it still appears that they don’t. According to **a study by the National Academy of Sciences**, black men face about a 1 in 1,000 chance of being killed by police over a lifetime. According to a **CDC study**, people of color experience a disproportionate burden of illness and death from COVID-19. According to the **Kaiser Family Foundation**, African-Americans have less access to healthcare than white people. The list of disparities goes on and on. Saying, “Black lives matter,” is not an attack on other lives. It recognizes the world in which we live and the disparate experiences people have. Proverbs 31:8, “Speak out for those who cannot speak,” tells me to join the movement and lend my voice to those who cannot speak, like George Floyd.

On Monday night, Black Lives Matter Cville organized a protest at the corner of W. Main St. and Jefferson Park Ave. That’s our church address, so we offered hospitality in the name of Christ. Volunteers organized coolers of bottled water and ice and



## SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

June 14, 2020  
11:00 AM

**Sermon:**  
“When He Saw the Crowds...”  
Rev. Will Brown

**Scripture:**  
Matthew 9:35-10:8

**Anthem:**  
"Prayer of St. Francis"  
arr. Pote

## CALENDAR

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

**THURSDAY, June 11**  
6:30 Deacons Meeting (Zoom)

**SUNDAY, June 14**  
9:45 Online Bible Study  
11:00 Morning Worship  
(radio and livestream)

**MONDAY, June 15**  
12:00 Missions Council (Zoom)

snacks. Members of our church family came to the protest to hand out the water and snacks. We opened our doors. We let people sit down and rest in the sanctuary. People filled UniBap Park. We offered a microphone and the use of the church steps. One after another, people stepped up to the microphone and spoke about their experience.

We listened. We learned. Some speeches were stirring. Others were inspiring or informative. A few were not memorable. We ended the evening by joining together and singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

Chanting "Black lives matter" and protesting in front of UBC will not change the world. It seems like a step in the right direction, though. After the event, I was talking with a few of the organizers and they were pleased with the event and the location. I told them that they are welcome to come back. They said they would, and one of the leaders said, "I think I'll be back before the next protest. This seems like the kind of church where I could worship."

I said, "Indeed it is. You are always welcome here."

Peace,  
Matt



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Join us in wishing some of our church family a Happy Birthday this week!

- June 8: Calvin Gregg
- June 11: Will Wagoner
- June 11: Gary Wood

May God bless you all with abundant joy on your birthday and always!

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, as we all face the reality of 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.

---

### 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!

## REPORT OF THE ASSOCIATE MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE

Following the recommendations of the Collegiate Ministry Task Force last fall, UBC appointed a Search Committee to find and recommend to the church a candidate to fill the position of Associate Minister for Students. The Committee, appointed in late February, consists of Sarah Ames, Martha Ballenger, Daniel Harper, Laura Martindale, Rachel Miller, Amanda Ohlms, Roy Thomas and Kevin Wright. We have been meeting since March via Zoom.

We have reviewed numerous resumes and have requested and received written responses to questionnaires from a select group of candidates. Our initial goal was to have the new minister in place for the beginning of the 2020-21 academic year. One of the first questions we addressed was whether, given the pandemic, we should slow the hiring process. We all agreed that, regardless of what the school and collegiate academic year looks like this fall, we need a minister in place to begin building this important ministry to students. Consequently, we have moved ahead.

We are now conducting extended Zoom interviews with a select few candidates, and hope to be in the position of determining “the” candidate with whom we wish to move forward relatively soon. We ask for your continued prayers for our discernment and wisdom as we continue in this process, and we look forward to learning (hopefully soon!) who God has prepared to lead us in this ministry. If you have questions, feel free to contact Kevin Wright or Amanda Ohlms, Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee.



### A Meaningful Use for Fabric

As volunteers from our church continue to make dozens and dozens more masks, we wanted to share one neat story about this time. Sarah Buchanan recently shared that some of the fabric she has been using for her masks came from Helen Mackey. After Helen's death, her son Sam generously shared her sewing materials for people in our church to use. Isn't it amazing to think that this fabric has now been sewn into face masks that are helping keep people safe and healthy: church members, neighbors, and others in our community that we may never meet! Thanks be to God!

### Church Council Recap

Church Council met last Sunday morning via Zoom, attending to various administrative matters in the life of the church. One of these was to review the UBC Regathering Plan that our staff has been preparing, as we look ahead to a gradual increase of activity in our church building, including having some members of the congregation physically present in the sanctuary during worship (tentatively on July 12). After our Deacons review the plan this week, it will be sent out to the congregation. The installation of the UBC Park is progressing well, and the Associate Minister Search Committee reports that its work is also proceeding effectively. Church Council received reports from the church committees and from our ministerial staff.

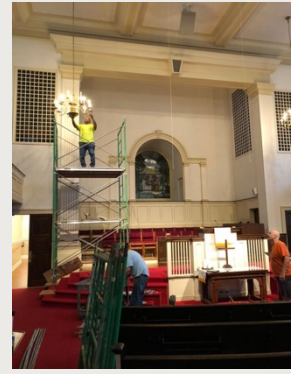
### Get Ready for Bible Study

This Sunday morning at 9:45, our Bible Study will focus on 1 Peter 4: 1-11. As you prepare for our session, we invite you to read through 1 Peter—the entire book if you can take the time, and especially today's passage. You will recall that we examined suffering in our last session, and today we shift to how we live our lives in practical ways. Where do you find this passage challenging? Where do you find it reassuring? In what ways do these exhortations to us as individuals also apply to us collectively as a church family? As you prepare for our time together, take some time to pray through these verses, that we may live as “good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” The handout for the session will be available on our website later in the week so that you can download it before the study begins.



## Speaker Installation

Improvements to our sanctuary audio setup are currently underway, as new speakers are installed to produce a better sound quality. As you can see in this picture, the generous workers also replaced a few light bulbs while the scaffolding was in place!



## Need a Mask??

Volunteers in our church have been hard at work sewing beautiful fabric masks. Do you need one? This expression of love from our talented church members is one way that we can take care of one another. If you do not have a mask yet or if you need another, please contact the church office or one of the ministers so that we can get a fabric mask to you.

## Like to Sew?

We extend our deep gratitude to the volunteers in our church who have already made dozens of fabric masks for others who need them. If you would like to share your skills and join in this effort, call Will Brown or email him at [wbrown@universitybaptist.org](mailto:wbrown@universitybaptist.org)

## 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](http://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.

## 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](http://universitybaptist.org/give) or call our church office.

University Baptist Church  
1223 West Main Street  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
434-293-5106

Connect with us

