

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

September 15, 2020 Vol. 72, No. 35

“Practicing Patience”

N WATCH

Some years ago, I was trying to fix my bike and realized that accessing the gears required a special tool—a gear cassette lock-ring tool. I didn’t have one and my progress came to a standstill.

When I am working on something, I want to get it done. In this case, I had the time and was ready to repair my bike. Not having the tool stopped my progress. Being self-reliant is generally a positive attribute. A willingness to jump in and get the job done completes tasks.

Since I wanted to fix my bike right then, I tried everything. Wedging some needle-nose pliers into the gaps didn’t work. A flathead screwdriver didn’t work. A hammer would be effective at bending the pieces but would do nothing to help. The only thing that made sense was to give up, go inside, and look up the tool online. It cost less than \$8. But I would have to wait until it arrived to keep working.

Opportunities to learn patience surround us. In Galatians 5:22-23, patience is the third fruit of the spirit. James 5.7 frames patience as an edict. “Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains.”

The old saying, “Patience is a virtue,” dovetails with our faith. Jesus demonstrated patience with Pharisees, Sadducees, scribes, a lawyer, an unnamed woman, and, even, his closest disciples. They all did things to frustrate him. He reacted and often used the circumstances as teaching moments. Still, he usually did not lose his patience.

Between Paul, James, and Jesus, we have a solid basis for practicing patience in our faith journeys. *Practicing* is the

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

September 20, 2020
11:00 AM

Sermon:

“Finding Wins”
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Ezra 8:31-36

Anthem:

"Not For a Moment"
(Andrews)

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, September 16

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

SUNDAY, September 20

8:30 Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom)
9:40 Online Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
(radio and livestream)
2:00 Jubilate Rehearsal (Zoom)
7:15 Youth Real Life (Zoom)

MONDAY, September 21

12:00 Missions Council Meeting
(Zoom)

operative word. Patience doesn't come naturally to most people. If it comes easily to you, don't worry—there are other things you can work on. We all have spiritual blemishes and God is with us as we seek to grow.

For those of us who will mess up the end of a bike gear cassette for the lack of an \$8 tool, practicing patience is a spiritual discipline with practical implications. Being patient is not only good for repair projects, it is good for relationships. It allows us to pause and extend grace to one another. When Paul refers to it in Galatians, each fruit of the spirit fosters deeper faith. When James instructs Christ-followers to be patient, the idea connects with having perspective and taking the long view. In his analogy, farmers cannot plant and then grow impatient for the crop to grow. They must wait.

By focusing our spiritual growth on one thing, like patience, it becomes easier to digest. We can say, "Today, I will be patient in a situation in which I normally wouldn't." The following day, we can try to be patient in 2, 3, or more situations. With more practice, being patient gets easier. This is how we can grow.

We will still fall, but God extends grace, picks us up, and lets us try again. That's practicing patience.

Peace,
Matt

Time for Prayer and Contemplation

In the strangeness of this pandemic, with schedules and plans upended, how do we remain grounded and centered in God's presence? I hope you are finding ways to set aside time for reflection and prayer, building time with God into the rhythms and routines of your life. In that spirit, I'd like to invite you to join me, as you are able, in some regular times of prayer and contemplation. This will be informal; just drop in as you're able, as often as you'd like. For now, here's the schedule:

- Mondays, 8:30-8:40am – **Morning Prayer** – on Facebook Live
 - A quick prayer to start our week on the right foot
- Thursdays, 1:00-1:20pm – **Lectio Divina** – on Zoom
 - A practice of reading Scripture contemplatively, with times of silence and listening for God's spirit
-

To join the Monday Morning Prayer, just visit our [UBC Facebook page](#).

To join the Thursday Lectio Divina sessions, we'll use the same Zoom info as Sunday Bible Study:

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85381408096?pwd=MzdkVG9JZ2x0M2JFK01KNINjSWtqUT09>

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

Condolences to [Shelley Payne](#) on the loss of her sister Cyndy Hair.

[Bob Harris](#) - Martha Jefferson Hospital

[Nell Tiller](#) - UVA Transitional Care Hospital

[Nat Howell](#) - UVA Transitional Care Hospital

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.

**A WORD
from
WILL**

- Meeting ID: 853 8140 8096
- Passcode: 954000

Please let me know if you have any questions. I hope to see you there!
- Will

Upcoming Ordination

As a Baptist church, UBC understands one aspect of its calling to be recognizing and setting apart those whom God calls to ministry. After the congregation voted to call Val Fisk as our Associate Minister to Students, Val requested that the church ordain her to the gospel ministry. An ordination council was selected and set forth a plan for the ordination process, including completing a 2500 word ordination paper addressing the question, "What does it mean to follow Jesus today?"

Please be in prayer for Val and the council as they meet this week to discuss Val's journey of faith and her response to the posed question. Members of the ordination council include Gary Dalton, Rachel Miller, Amanda Ohlms, Suzanne Smith, Roy Thomas, and CBF Virginia representative Mark Snipes. Matthew Tennant is serving as chairperson for the council.

State Missions Offering

Each fall we collect a special offering to support missions in the state of Virginia. This September, our missions emphasis will support the chaplain ministry at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women. Our goal is \$3,000. You can give on our [website](#) or by mailing a check to the church (Make the check out to University Baptist Church and write State Missions in the "for" line.). Here is some information from Chaplain Jerusha Moses, whose ministry our offering will support:



Dear friends,

Due to "separation of church and state," Gracelinside is a nonprofit Christian ministry that places chaplains inside Virginia's prisons so that lives may be transformed through the grace of Jesus Christ. As a Gracelinside chaplain, I am dedicated to meeting the spiritual needs of all residents of Virginia's state prisons. I currently serve in Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women, providing one-on-one pastoral care, conducting worship services, and working with the Department of Corrections staff in offering rehabilitative programs. I am also responsible for scheduling all religious programs conducted by volunteers representing many faith traditions like Islam, Messianic Judaism, Wicca, Buddhism, Seventh Day Adventism, and Protestantism.

As the temperature gets cooler and the leaves change color, I am reminded that God's mercies are new every morning; God continues to work patiently in our lives, transforming us, and sanctifying us to the likeness of the image of God's son, Jesus. What an honor it is to partner with the Savior bringing faith, hope, and love to incarcerated men and women, as Christ says in Matthew 25, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Bio:

Chaplain Moses is an ordained Baptist minister. She completed her masters degree in divinity and a doctorate degree in ministry at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond. She majored in biblical studies and obtained a masters degree in theology at the Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. She taught World Religions as adjunct faculty at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her doctoral project was in the field of grief and loss. She lives in Richmond with her thirteen-year-old daughter, a stage 4 cancer survivor. Her grandparents were a major influence on her life; they retired from the Department of Corrections in India and told her bedtime stories of their work in Corrections. The stories took deep root in her impressionable heart and are the reason for her passion for prison ministry today.



Sunday Bible Study

As we enter the new school year, we have resumed our online Bible Study. There will be a few changes from the spring, which we hope will improve the ability to interact and share with one another.

The Bible Study will be held over Zoom, without any in-person component in the sanctuary. The link to join will be the same each week:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85381408096?pwd=MzdkVG9JZ2x0M2JFK01KNINjSWtqUT09>

Meeting ID: 853 8140 8096

Passcode: 954000

Schedule:

9:40-9:50 fellowship and informal conversation

9:50-10:00 prayer concerns and prayer time

10:00-10:30 Bible study

For those unable to use Zoom, we will also stream our Bible study on YouTube--but only from 10:00-10:30. (The time of fellowship and prayer will remain private to those on the Zoom call.)

During the month of September, Will Brown will lead a study focusing on the book of Ezra. Examining the Hebrew people's return from exile in Babylon, we draw insights for our own experience in 2020. Our sessions will have lots of time for discussion. We hope to see you there!

UBC's Favorite Hymns

For a couple of weeks now, we have been asking you to send a list of your favorite hymns to Alba. This list can be as long or as short as you want it to be – these are YOUR favorite hymns. To make this process a little easier, we have placed some of our Sanctuary hymnals on a table just outside the Sanctuary and down the hall from the Church Office. Please feel free to come by and borrow one of these hymnals to use in worship and devotions at home, and to remind you what your favorite hymns are.

Alba will be accepting your lists of favorite hymns through the month of September. Please feel free to email them to abeasley@universitybaptist.org.

We will share the top 10 favorite hymns, but at some point we will share ALL the hymns that are your favorites. It is our plan to use them in worship services from this fall into 2021!

Thank you for helping us identify University Baptist Church's favorite hymns!



Thank you!!

Many thanks to our Floral Team, and especially Jeannette May, for adding flowers to the front of our church. The bright colors are a lovely addition to our building, sharing joy with the many cars and pedestrians that pass our front steps each day.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

September 16: Ed Smith, Lynne Gardner

September 17: Jo-Ann Averill, Barbara Moore

September 22: Jim Estes, Beth Wright, Will Brown



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

Having a birthday and do not see your name here? Please help us update our records. Contact Lexi to provide your updated information at (434)-293-5706

Collections for FCCW (Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women) Hygiene Kits September 1 - November 8, 2020

Yes, we are beginning early this fall to collect hygiene kits for FCCW, to give everyone ample time during the COVID pandemic to get your items to the church. Collection boxes will be located on the Ground Floor in the handicap entranceway (so you don't even have to come in the building), in the lobby outside the church office, and in the Narthex.

Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women, located in Troy, VA, seeks the support of individuals and churches for their inmate Christmas gift program, a ministry of the Chaplain Service of the Churches of VA, Inc. Through the generosity of so many, the Chaplain and volunteers are able to put very practical gifts into the hands of over 1,200 grateful inmates.

Please keep in mind that you must not deviate, even slightly, with regard to amount, size, or type of hygiene items, and they should be secured in a clear plastic zip-lock bag.

Hygiene Items Ministry

- One individually-wrapped toothbrush
- One tube of toothpaste no larger than 6-ounce
- One alcohol-free bottle of shampoo no larger than 15 fluid ounces
- One alcohol-free deodorant stick (spray is not permitted) no larger than 2.4 ounces
- One alcohol-free bottle of lotion no larger than 15 fluid ounces





Card Ministry

- One wooden pencil--unsharpened
- Greeting cards for all occasions including Christmas and Hanukkah
- Any stationery items
- Postage stamps

Money Contributions

For donors who wish to contribute money, please make your check payable to "Grace Inside". In the Memo section, write "FCCW Resource Fund." These funds are used to purchase shortages in Christmas gift items and to support inmates in other ways, such as purchasing classroom materials, providing worship supplies, or paying travel expenses for funeral or deathbed visits.

Please mail all checks to the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women (Attn: Chaplain's Office), PO Box 1000, Troy, VA 22974.

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. There are also baskets of masks in the church lobby if you'd like to stop by and pick one up!



Sunday Mornings

We invite you to join us for our Sunday morning worship services either by joining us in person or by worshipping with us from home. The service begins each Sunday at 11:00 am. 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 or call our church office.

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Connect with us

