

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

March 30, 2021 Vol. 72, No. 60

Holy Tuesday

ON WATCH

Each year, during Holy Week, I experience the full schedule that is typical in ministry. We have special worship services, and Easter is the highlight of the year. At the same time, I try to go through the week imagining how Jesus and the disciples experienced it in real time. Beginning with Palm Sunday, we enter Jerusalem in our mind's eye. We feel the excitement and try to avoid the allure of the crowd.

During the early part of Holy Week, the Bible provides less clarity about Monday and Tuesday. Instead of trying to find or create a harmonized timeline of the events of Holy Week, we can pick one gospel and see how it unfolds. For instance, in Mark 11.1-11, we read about Jesus entering Jerusalem (Palm Sunday). Verses 12-19 provides a clear delineation of a second day and tells about Jesus cursing a fig tree and going into the temple (Monday). Verse 20 starts a new day, Tuesday.

In Mark 11.20-25, Jesus and the disciples walk along the road and see a dead fig tree. Peter remembers Jesus cursing the tree the previous day, and Jesus uses the teaching moment to talk about faith. "When you pray, believe in your prayer, and God will give whatever you ask" (11.24).

The story continues through the week, but before we move to the next stop, we can pause on that dusty road. The disciples would have had no idea what was coming. I imagine that some of them had some awareness of the danger. Maybe they had a feeling that things were deteriorating and Jesus might need to lay low until the pressure died down. Or, the

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

April 4, 2021
11:00 AM

Sermon:
"The Tomb Was Empty"
Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:
Mark 16:1-8

Anthem:
"To the Cross, Lord, Lead Us Singing"
(Lantz)

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, March 31

12:00 Spy Wednesday Service
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (*Zoom*)

THURSDAY, April 1

10:00 Bible Reading Group (*Zoom link*)
6:00 Maundy Thursday Service

FRIDAY, April 2

12:00 Good Friday Service

SUNDAY, April 4

9:00 Easter Worship in the Parking Lot
No Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
2:00 Jubilate Rehearsal (*Zoom Link*)

MONDAY, April 5

zealous revolutionaries could have been hoping Jesus would incite an uprising. They all needed more faith. We need a deeper faith.

Jesus' lessons about faith during his final days are significant. Just when he was about to face his greatest test, he said, "Have faith and forgive others." He could have been reminding himself of who he is. Yet, the inner workings of the mind of Christ are difficult, at best. More likely we cannot know what he was thinking.

The important lesson for us is to maintain our faith. We can explore the ways our faith is weak, and try to address them. Addiction counselors look for trigger events. They try to find what triggers an addictive behavior. We can borrow that approach in our faith journeys, and we can look for the things that trigger weak moments in our faith. When we identify them, we can adjust our behavior and try to live with greater faith.

The same logic applies to the way we forgive ourselves and others. Jesus tells his followers to forgive so that God can forgive you. When we forgive, we learn what it feels like and can then experience God's forgiveness in a richer way.

The Holy Week journey continues...

Peace,
Matt

1:00 Schleiermacher Reading Group ([Zoom Link](#))

Church office is closed.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

April 4: Catherine Cooper

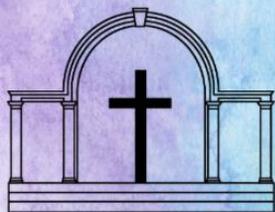
April 5: William Hendricks

April 7: Laura Morris

April 9: Nell Tiller, Connor Marshall

April 10: Barbara Fuller

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)-293-5106



UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Do Justice. Love Kindness. Walk Humbly.

Join us for Holy Week in person or virtually - you are welcome and wanted here!

Spy Wednesday | March 31 at 12 PM

Maundy Thursday | April 1 at 6 PM

Good Friday | April 2 at 12 PM

Easter Sunday on April 4

9 AM | Front Parking Lot *bring lawn chairs

11 AM | Sanctuary

We seek to be an authentic community of Christians who love and care for each other as a family, and openly welcome and include all people regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or background.

1223 W Main Street, Charlottesville, VA | www.universitybaptist.org

Spy Wednesday

March 31, 2021

12:00 PM

Sermon:

“No Whining, Pass the Wine”

Rev. Will Brown

Scripture:

John 13:21-32

Maundy Thursday

April 1, 2021

6:00 PM

Sermon:

“The Desire to Please You”

Rev. Val Fisk

Scripture:

John 13:1-17

Good Friday

April 2, 2021

12:00 PM

Sermon:

“Finished, But Not Really”

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

John 19:28-42

Parking for Easter

For the 9:00AM outdoor Easter service, please park in the rear church parking lot. The service will be held in the front lot. Free parking is also available in the 14th St parking garage (entrance on Wertland St.).

A Big Surprise for Easter Morning!

Those of you joining us for the Easter service in the front parking lot at 9 AM on April 4th are in for a treat! Last week a large delivery appeared in the parking lot - thanks to Robby Gough & Larry Johnson for jumping in to help with the unload. The ministers are excited to reveal this longtime dream project to the congregation when we are back together on Easter morning!



Deacon Doings

Although the front pew has not been filled with Deacons over the past year, the Active Deacons have continued to meet monthly via Zoom to discuss updates from the ministers, share prayer concerns, and take steps to advance Deacon initiatives. Here is a brief list of recent activities:

- Discussed potential candidates for the Deacon Emeritus designation
- Investigated where the theme of "Deacons Doing Something" (most recently expressed in the very tangible form of coordinating the renovation and sale of the Mackey house) might take us next to help the congregation get involved in spiritual growth and discipleship
- Began preparing for the annual process of electing new Deacons
- Brought the Deacon Handbook up to date

You are Invited to Join UBC for 2021's Operation Inasmuch Reimagined

Operation Inasmuch (OIAM) is University Baptist Church's own local mission outreach effort. In the past it has been a focused one-day event, usually the last weekend in April, that seeks to mobilize individuals to engage in hands-on projects for the benefit of those within our Charlottesville community. Our OIAM for April 2020 was canceled due to the COVID pandemic.



The UBC Missions Council discussed OIAM at our last meeting and hated the thought of missing it again. While we are still not comfortable gathering 100 of us together for breakfast, or working in close contact with community members, we thought it would be a wonderful idea to commit April 2021 as a whole month of OIAM. We would like for families to seek out a project for a neighbor, church member, non-profit organization, family member or friend. Plan a date in April that is convenient for your family or small group, choose your recipient, and spend a day in service.

Previous OIAMs have included such projects as cleaning, painting, trash hauling, home repairs, and yard work for our elderly or disabled neighbors. We have done projects for local non-profit agencies such as the Ronald McDonald House, UVA Children's Hospital, the University Hospitality House, and WorkSource. We have done sewing projects for city foster kids, the children's hospital, and cancer center. Your project for this year can be as simple as raking leaves for a neighbor, making a couple of colorful pillowcases for the children's hospital, or whatever you dream up! Think of a project, decide on a recipient, work out the date and details with your recipient, gather your family or social pod, then let us know what you have chosen to do.



You can find an OIAM 2021 sign-up sheet with previous projects and new suggestions [here](#). Log in, add your new and original project to the spreadsheet, or sign up for one of the suggestions. If you choose one of the projects listed on the spreadsheet, YOU will need to contact the recipient and make arrangements with that person.

If you need help with more suggestions or know of a need, please contact one of your OIAM team: **Will Brown**, **Sarah Buchanan**, **Shirley Clark**, **Robby Gough**, **Jim Hallissy**, or **Pam Hallissy**.

If you find you need some financial help for materials, we still have our OIAM budget allocation to draw from. Just turn your receipts, designated OIAM, in to Lexi Woodson in the church office for reimbursement.

During your day of service, take a few photos, and when you have finished your project, write just a couple of sentences telling how your experience went, what you accomplished, and the connection you made with your recipient. Email your pictures and descriptions to **Sarah Buchanan**. We will compile all of our experiences in a special newsletter that will go out to all of our church members and friends.

Looking forward to seeing the ways you come up with to be the hands and feet of Christ!

Sarah Buchanan, OIAM chair
sarahbucha@gmail.com
434-403-3064

And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me. ~Matthew 25:40

National Missions

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. Last year, our Missions Council reached out to Scarlette Jasper, a CBF missionary working in southeastern Kentucky, where UBC has been partnered with missionaries for many years. Scarlette was commissioned by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship as a field missionary in 2014, and now serves one of the poorest parts of the United States. There, she is the director of Olive Branch Ministries,

Inc (olivebranchministriesky.org) to address the needs of the local community. Some of the many needs that Scarlette helps address are: working with the homeless, coordinating childrens' literacy projects, rent and utility aid, assisting with transportation costs for distant medical appointments, providing heaters or propane in the winter, supporting local schools with supplies, and helping veterans get needed services. She maintains a small mission house that serves as an emergency shelter and place for pastoral counseling. You can see her most recent projects on her Facebook page, here: <https://www.facebook.com/Olive-Branch-Ministries-766161053487938>.



Like the majority of our field missionaries, Scarlette must raise her own program and project support. Last year, our church was able to raise \$2,255 to help support Scarlette's ministry to the communities she serves. Our contribution certainly made a difference in those communities, as Scarlette helped to provide food and hygiene items at the start of the pandemic, as well as assistance to the homeless and economically vulnerable through emergency shelter and rental assistance, and to help struggling students to maintain and improve their skills with reading and math games.

As we all know, the effects of the pandemic are still with us, and Scarlette is still active in her community to help with their needs. Our goal this year is to raise \$3,000 to support Scarlette and her work in Kentucky. This year, please consider offering your thoughts, prayers, and financial support to our National Missions Emphasis. When donating online, specify "National Missions" to ensure that your offering is sent to Scarlette.



SIGN UP FOR YOUR FREE COVID-19 VACCINE

Vaccinate.Virginia.gov

Or call **1-877-VAX-IN-VA** 7 days a week, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Available in English and Spanish. Call-back service in 100+ languages. TTY service.

VACCINATE VIRGINIA

- ✔ **GET INFORMATION** on how vaccines work and why they are safe.
- ✔ **GET PRE-REGISTERED** to put your name on the list.
- ✔ **GET VACCINATED** —when it's your turn, we'll contact you to schedule your vaccine.

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Sunday Mornings

As we slowly begin to regather, there are several options for joining us on Sunday mornings. We will continue to offer our minister-led Bible study via Zoom, and our in-person worship services will continue to be livestreamed for those who are not ready to come back to the building yet. We hope you will join us!

Bible Study

At 9:40 am, we gather on Zoom to share prayer requests and updates about our lives. At 10:00 am, we begin an interactive Bible Study. To join us, click this [Zoom link](#), or watch the Bible Study portion on [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 in whatever way you feel safe and comfortable at this time, whether in person or virtually. 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.

University Baptist Church
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 Charlottesville, VA 22903
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Connect with us

