



August 24, 2021 Vol. 72, No. 77



A Future of Rich Conversations:
Hymn Edition

You inspired me at our recent Church Conference. After we began with scripture, a hymn, and communion, the meeting was efficient and kind. In the future, our goal will be to share information and reports a week before the meeting. We will schedule multiple listening sessions and community conversations to discuss topics before meetings. Our goal is to both give everyone a chance to participate in the conversation and to hear everyone's voice. Inclusive means incorporating and involving everyone.

As we went through our meeting agenda, hymns garnered more attention than any other agenda item. The question before the congregation related to the 1991 hymnal. Church Council began the process of looking for a new hymnal in 2019, yet during the pandemic, we who plan worship shifted to hymn inserts. While using inserts is not ideal, it takes away the limitations of a finite set of hymns in one book.

Of the people who voiced their opinions either during or after the Church Conference, some expressed appreciation for the larger fonts on the screens. Others raised concerns about the lack of vocal parts on screen. One person missed the tactile experience of holding a hymnal, and another felt like inserts missed the

ON WATCH

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

August 29, 2021
11:00 AM

Sermon:
"A Sending Church"
Rev. Val Fisk

Scripture:
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Deacons: Jackie Lockwood,
Raynell Stokes

Ushers: Shirley Clark, Barry Willard

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, August 25

10:00 Soft Serve on the Steps
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
7:00 Student Ministry-
Midweek Small Group

SUNDAY, August 29

9:30 Student Ministry Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
5:00 Jubilate Rehearsal
6:00 Youth Group

MONDAY, August 30

8:30 Morning Prayer ([UBC](#))

educational element of a collection of hymns. Many more people have thoughts about this subject but kept them to themselves.

Beyond the actual red hymnals, some people expressed frustration over new (or, new-to-us) hymns. Even though hymn selection was beyond the scope of our Church Conference, we should talk about it. Every hymn was new at some point. For people who did not grow up in church, most hymns are new most of the time. There are a few that have acquired cultural significance. Everyone knows "Amazing Grace." Some that have become UBC favorites, like "For Everyone Born," only date to 1998, and we have only been singing it for a few years. Also, hymns like "For Everyone Born" are not in the red hymnal.

Still, we need to listen to one another. We need to hear why one person's best-loved hymn is "When Morning Gilds the Sky" and another person's is "Be Thou My Vision." We might also learn the story and context behind the 2011 hymn "We Cannot Gloat: A Time of Grief" (hint: Andrew Pratt wrote it after the death of Osama bin Laden).

That's the point. Hymns are a living part of faith. They are not static. We can talk about favorites and why they evoke memories. AND, we can learn new ones.

Let's keep this conversation going. What hymn do you like most? More important: why?

Peace,
Matt

[Facebook Page](#))

TUESDAY, August 31

9:00 UBC Work Team



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

August 30: Jim Martindale

August 31: Maggie

Kauffman, Amanda Ohlms



Flavors of the Week

Watermelon

Strawberry

Watermelon/Strawberry
swirl

Alba's Retirement Celebration Postponed

Sadly, with the surging Delta variant of COVID-19, we will not be able to hold our celebration of Alba's ministry on September 26 as we had hoped. Our desire is for this to be a joyous celebration when we can do a lot of singing together, and it simply does not seem safe to plan such an event at this time. We will continue to watch the covid situation carefully, and the planning team led by Carolyn Lowry will remain in touch with Alba and Pam to reschedule this event at an appropriate time. We will share details as they become available.

Sunday Mornings

Worship

Our Sunday morning worship service will begin 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.

Masks & Social Distancing

University Baptist Church continues to follow the recommendations of the CDC as they are updated. At this time, that means that all individuals should wear a mask in worship, both vaccinated and unvaccinated. As we monitor this next wave of COVID cases related to the Delta variant, we will make announcements as our policies are adjusted.

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Connect with us

