

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

November 16, 2021 Vol. 72, No. 89

Sermon Correction

ON WATCH

On Sunday, I made a mistake in my sermon. As part of a list of bad news in the world, I said, "A white teenaged vigilante traveled from Illinois to Wisconsin with an assault rifle and killed two black protestors is on trial in Kenosha, WI."

I was wrong. The white teenager shot three white people. The three victims (Joseph Rosenbaum, Anthony Huber, and Gaige Grosskreutz) were white. The teenager on trial killed Rosenbaum and Huber. Saying they were black was my mistake, and I hate to have given any inaccurate information.

My misstep ended up highlighting the point I was trying to make. I was talking about the bad news that monopolizes the news cycle and the challenge of finding hope in this broken world. As if on cue, on Monday, two people emailed and two people called the church. They all complained about my error. They called me a "liar" and one person said, "You're going to rot in hell for this." After a little searching, we found that someone pulled the 14 second clip of my inaccurate sentence and put it with the words, "Liar! Liar!"

Neither the callers nor the people who emailed are members or regular attenders of the church. From what we can tell, none of them had any previous connection with UBC. But, their anger demonstrates the division in our country. The vitriol shows the deep feelings people have and the need for us to find ways to share God's love in this polarized moment.

I will try to do a better job of verifying the facts before saying something. The point of last Sunday's service was being able to talk to God. We looked at Hannah and saw someone who could take her problems to God. The beautiful part of this story is: God listened. When my error distracts anyone from hearing this important message, I need to apologize and commit to doing everything I can to avoid repeating mistakes in the future.

Addressing current events, especially divisive ones, sounds too political to some people. However, when we avoid anything with a whiff (or stench) of politics, we compartmentalize Jesus and risk a

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

November 21, 2021
11:00 AM

Sermon

"The Unequivocal Kingship of Christ"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Deacons: Shirley Clark

Ushers: Ben Cheunalt, Herman Eaker

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, November 17

9:00 UBC Work Team

10:00 PBJ Bible Study (Zoom)

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, November 18

7:00 Seekers Class Zoom

SUNDAY, November 21

8:30 Finance Committee Meeting (Zoom)

8:30 Missions Council Meeting (Zoom)

9:30 Student Ministry Bible Study

9:45 Sunday Bible Study (Zoom and Fellowship Hall)

11:00 Morning Worship

5:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

6:00 Youth Group

disingenuous reading of the gospels. Almost everything Jesus did had political connotations. His first words in Mark, "The kingdom of God has come near" (Mark 1.15), were political. We might not see it, but Romans would have heard his speech as a threat. Elsewhere, he addressed taxes and authority (Mark 12.13-17). He didn't limit his critique to Rome. He told Jewish political leaders that they made God's house into a "den of thieves" (Mark 11.17).

Sharing love and inclusion in a world of pain will bring push back. When someone feels threatened or cast aside, their fight or flight instinct with kick in. People like the Illinois teenager who traveled to Kenosha, WI, need God's love too. There's a reason he felt like he needed to protect businesses, even though **they say they did not ask him to protect it**. What led him to this moment? It reminds me of the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10.25-37).

When we read Luke 10.25-37, we focus on the good person who stopped to help the injured one. We can also ask what happened to make the thieves start thieving. In this divided moment, we can ask, "What makes people resort to violence and feel the need to carry an assault rifle?"

We have work to do. For my part, I will try to be more accurate when referencing current events. I will also commit to double my effort to apply the gospel to our world. Recently, we have been trying very hard to reach new people. In an ironic twist, we appear to have succeeded this week.

Looking forward to your replies :)

Peace,
Matt

2022 Pledge Cards

The pledge cards for 2022 will be mailed out in the upcoming weeks. We're looking into 2022 at University Baptist Church, and your contributions are critical to supporting God's mission here and abroad. We are deeply grateful for the ways you participate in the life of the church!

Church-wide Christmas Card!

Instead of the traditional "Christmas Post Office" at UBC, this year we are again sending out a church-wide Christmas Card to every family in the church. Like last year, this card can contain a personalized greeting from you! For instance, "Wishing you a Christmas season filled with joy and laughter! -Love, Will, Erin, Luke, Seth, and Caleb. :)"

Because our usual Post Office is a great fundraiser for missions, we don't want that to slip away. We ask everyone submitting a greeting to also make a donation to missions, as large or small as you are able-- consider donating the postage you save. To list your greeting in this giant card, please do two things. 1) Fill out [this form](#) or contact the church office to give us the wording for your greeting by **December 10**. 2) Donate to our Offering for Global Missions, either by mailing a check to the church office or by [giving online](#).

Of course, you are still welcome to mail cards to your church family if you'd like, using the USPS. But if you'd rather save some postage, this Church-wide Christmas Card gives you an easy way to reach everyone. Merry Christmas!

MONDAY, November 22

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

10:30 Bible Reading Group ([Zoom](#))



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

November 19: Lila Marshall

November 21: Wyatt Minor, Judy Shah

November 22: Sue Sears

November 24: Ben Martindale

November 25: Dean Tennant

Christmas Missions at UBC

Christmas Dinner in a Bag – The Covid Version

Twelve or so years ago our WMU (Woman's Missionary Union) realized that all of our missions efforts, other than the Global Missions Offering, were over and done by Thanksgiving, leaving a bit of a void. We called Love INC to see what their needs were, and were told that while lots of organizations did Thanksgiving dinners, no one gave Christmas dinners. We agreed on a grocery list and this fun, personal, hands-on ministry was born. In 2019 we delivered 46 bags of non-perishables and a \$15 gift card (from the WMU budget) with each bag intended to be used for the main dish.



December 2020, after several conversations with Susan Shellito, Love INC's Clearinghouse Coordinator, we learned that due to COVID 19 and Love INC's limited office hours, it would be more prudent to provide grocery store gift cards for \$30. Last Christmas we were able to give Christmas dinner to 90 families.

For this Christmas Mrs. Shellito has again asked that we provide gift cards rather than groceries. We realize that everyone is asking for money at this time of year, so we're asking that you donate only what you would have normally spent on bags of groceries.

Due date is Sunday, December 12. Please make checks and online donations payable to UBC and earmark "Dinner in a Bag."

CANCELED: UBC Missions Post Office due to COVID concerns. We will again, as we did last year, be organizing a church-wide Christmas card to be mailed to all our members. See the Christmas Card article above.

CBF Global Missions Offering

During the month of December, we will be collecting donations for the CBF (Cooperative Baptist Fellowship) Global Missions Offering. You will be hearing much more about that in the weeks to come.

Sunday Mornings

Sunday Bible Study

On Sunday mornings, 9:45-10:30, our ministers are leading a discussion series on the book of Acts, considering lessons that our church can draw from the early church's story. You can join us in person in the Fellowship Hall, or via Zoom:

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

Meeting ID: 853 8140 8096

Passcode: 954000

The Open Minds Class is also meeting on Zoom at this time.

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, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, should wear a mask for all in-person gatherings in the church building. 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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