

THE WORD

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

February 1, 2022 Vol. 73, No. 5

Business that Moves the Church Forward

ON WATCH

Last Wednesday, we joined together for a productive (and expeditious) church conference. The majority of us were on Zoom. The choir members spaced themselves out and participated from the sanctuary. One couple watched on YouTube live. In these strange days, this is how we overcome obstacles and maintain our community.

We began our time together with a reading from Isaiah 6, sang a verse of "Holy, Holy, Holy," prayed, and shared our Lord's supper. Peter Ohlms called our business to order, and while we followed the formal rules of order, the meeting was all about what God is doing in and through University Baptist Church.

We started by sharing the [2022 vision](#). Will and Val talked a little about the process and our inward focus this year. We are looking inward to rebuild our community so we can look outward next year. I like the intentionality of getting ready for what's next. It's not yet safe to cram together trying to *pack a pew*, but we can rebuild our sense of community.

Then, we turned our attention to the music ministry. The Search Committee chairperson Debby Johnson explained why the committee recommended suspending the search. The Personnel Committee chairperson Jen May added that we are dropping "interim" from Will Cooke's title. He is now our part time Music Director. And all of God's people said, "Amen."

I had the privilege of making a motion that we name the Rev. Alba Beasley "Music Minister Emeritus." This act celebrates Alba's ministry at UBC and recognizes that he and Pam plan to remain a part of our church family. Again, all of God's people said, "Amen."

Finally, our Finance Committee chairperson Brad Groff gave an overview of the 2022 budget. The church released a video and the proposed budget a week earlier. People had the opportunity to ask

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

February 6, 2022
11:00 AM

Sermon

"Are You The One That Got
Away?"

Rev. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Luke 5:1-11

Anthem:

"Be Thou Still," arr. Johann
Franck, soloist Laura Martindale

Deacons: Judy Gough

Ushers: Herman and Gail Eaker

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 2

9:00 Work Team

10:00 PBJ (Zoom)

12:00 Wednesday Treats

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Practice

THURSDAY, Feb. 3

7:00 PM All Church - Catch Up
(Zoom)

SATURDAY, Feb. 5

10:00 Jubilate Alumni Board
Meeting

questions or make comments or suggestions. So, when the congregation voted, the budget passed unanimously.

Our moderator *pro tempore* asked me to close our time together with a prayer. As I prayed, I felt a sense of gratitude for this church. We have a lot to celebrate. Church business can feel dissonant with matters of faith. Not here. By beginning with worship, we entered our time focused on Christ. We can celebrate God's movement in our midst. Look at our 2022 vision and ask yourself how God is calling you to join this holy work.

Peace,
Matt



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

February 9: Jonah Ohlms

February 11: Douglas Caton

February 14: Jane Whitworth

SUNDAY, Feb. 6

8:30 Church Council Meeting

10:00 Sunday Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

5:00 Jubilate Rehearsal

6:00 Youth Group (Zoom)

MONDAY, Feb. 7

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

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

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

TUESDAY, Feb. 8

10:00 Staff Meeting

12:00 Annie Armstrong Circle

Hybrid (Fellowship Hall and [Zoom](#))

6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

For our most up-to-date calendar, [click here](#).

Prayer Needs

[Alice Batten](#) - UVA Encompass

We continue to pray for all our healthcare workers and medical professionals working through the pandemic.



Thank You

PACEM has moved out from UBC, and we want to take a moment to thank all of the volunteers who made this ministry possible. We say a special "thank you" to Laura Morris, Katherine Hamel, and Jennifer Wagoner for their leadership. Congratulations on a successful month of PACEM! And we say "thank you" to all of you in the church who have supported this ministry through providing meals, preparing the facility, donating items for the men, supporting the church financially, and helping in other ways. Above all, we thank you for your prayers for PACEM and all of our guests. For all of these things, thanks be to God!



Churchwide Zoom on Thursday

We all miss being together. My mind takes me back to Harvest Luncheons, Easter mornings, and Church Picnics where everyone gathered and shared and laughed together. I wish we could all come and fill the Fellowship Hall this week for a celebratory meal. But of course, we aren't quite there yet. Omicron is showing signs of subsiding, but it's still the responsible choice not to gather in large numbers without masks. However, there are still ways we can connect.

This Thursday evening at 7:00, we will gather for an hour on Zoom. We'll have time for sharing updates, time to pray together, and a game we can play. Our goal is an informal and fun time of sharing, simply to see each other's maskless faces, even if it's on the computer. We hope you'll join us!

Blessings,
Will (Brown!)

Rev. Fisk attending Oasis Retreat, February 8-11

Next week, I will have the opportunity to join other children, youth, and college ministers at the Oasis Retreat in Montreat, North Carolina. This retreat, planned by the CBF Youth Ministry Network, presents

an opportunity to spend time alongside other ministers working with age group ministries, sharing ideas and practices that have worked (or not worked!) for us through the pandemic, and learning together in times of worship, workshop, and fun. Event organizers have put strict Covid protocols in place in order to protect participants while still joining in fellowship. I ask that you pray protection over this event and all those who are attending, that we all remain healthy and that our time together would be fruitful, allowing us to walk away with renewed vigor and new ideas for our ministries.

Peace, Love, and Donuts,
Val

Bible Study Resuming

This Sunday, and throughout the month of February, we will resume a (slightly) shorter in-person study. Instead of a deep dive Bible study, our focus will be more devotional. We will meet at **10am** in the Fellowship Hall and conclude by 10:30 to reduce the risk of spreading covid by shortening the time we are together.

Our study for February will be the prophet Micah. You can get the handout by clicking [here](#). Dr. Matthew Tennant will lead this study.

- February 6 – Intro & Micah 1
- February 13 – Micah 2-3
- February 20 – Micah 4-5
- February 27 – Micah 6-7

To enhance conversations among the participants, we will not offer an online option. For those who are unable to attend but still want to join a group, the Open Minds class does offer a hybrid option. Contact Debra Bryant or Ed Lowry for details. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Tennant.

New Book Study Group

Many of us feel a moral concern about environmental issues, but how does this concern relate to our Christian faith? How does God call us to live in relation to the earth and our fellow creatures? Perhaps problems like climate change, environmental injustice, and biodiversity loss require spiritual solutions as well as technological and social solutions. If you would be interested in joining a reading/study group on these and related questions, please contact Erin Eaker (ele3a@virginia.edu).



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, 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 and Omicron variants, we will make announcements as our policies are adjusted.

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Connect with us



