



April 18, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 16

Food & God's
Wonderful World

WATCH

Did you eat today? To most of us on this newsletter distribution list, this might seem like a silly question. Some of us actually try to eat less. For most of us, it's not a question of whether or not we get enough to eat. Sometimes, the question is, "What am I in the mood to eat?"

Even though there is enough food in the world to feed everyone, over 800 million people go to bed hungry each day. According to the UN, almost 3.1 billion people could not afford a healthy diet in 2020. This was an increase of 112 million from 2019. The increase reflects the effects of inflation in consumer food prices.

Setting aside all of the other problems in the world, how can we celebrate God's wonderful world when so many people are hungry? We celebrate because God is at work. Through people's actions and generosity, God is addressing this crisis.

Last Saturday, we got to be part of God's answer. Around 65 people gathered in the fellowship hall for our first Rise Against Hunger event. We had a blast packing 12,528 meals. Another way to think about it is this: each of the 58 boxes represents an entire year's worth of meals for a starving child. Feeding kids means they can concentrate and learn when they go to school instead of thinking about their empty bellies. If we help children learn, then they will have more opportunities in the future.

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

April 23, 2023

11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Seeing God's Love in the World"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

John 3:16-21

Anthem:

"He Comes to Us" (Marshall)

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Lynne Gardner

Ushers: Jackie Lockwood, Ben Chenault

Welcome to Our Newest Member

Welcome to Eugenie Pierre who became our newest member on Sunday, April 16. Eugenie has moved here from Haiti and has already become involved in the life of the church attending Bible studies and singing in the choir. Take some time to welcome her into our church family.

Yes, there are problems. But there's hope too. God is at work in the world, and any problem we can name and lift up to God can become an answered prayer. One of the wonders of the risen Christ is his presence through us. When we accept the calling to be God's hands and feet, we become an answer to someone's prayers. When we prepare a meal through Rise Against Hunger, we are participants with God in answering the prayers of a hungry person. It doesn't matter whether they pray to our God or not. It doesn't matter if they pray out loud or not. When people are hungry, God hears the cries of their hearts.

On April 29, we will have our second Rise Against Hunger event. We plan to prepare another 12,500 meals. To do so, we need you and your friends. Ask anyone who was at the first event, and I think they will all tell you what a neat experience it was. I hope you will join me on April 29 and help us be part of God's wonderful world.

When you eat today, thank God for your food and lift up in your prayer the people who have nothing to eat.

Peace,
Matt



Rise Against Hunger with UBC

On Saturday, April 29, beginning at 10 AM, UBC will host our second meal packing event with Rise Against Hunger! Bring your baseball cap, if you don't want to wear a hairnet, and help us pack another 12,500 meals! Click [here](#) to find out more about Rise Against Hunger (RAH). This is a fun and intergenerational mission event. There's something for all ages.

Note: We can use some additional volunteers to help unload the truck at 8 AM.

Go to our [website page](#) to view all the packing dates and to sign up to help us meet our goal of 100,000 meals!

Teacher of the Year!

Congratulations to Bobby Gregg, who was recently recognized as the Teacher of the Year at Lakeside Middle School. When you see him, thank him for his ministry to youth and on being named Teacher of the Year!

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, April 19

9:00 Work Team
5:15 Handbell Rehearsal
5:30 Dinner
6:00 Series on Faith & Gender
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, April 21-23

Jubilate Reunion Weekend

SUNDAY, April 23

8:30 ESOL Class
8:30 Missions Council Meeting
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
2:30 Jubilate Reunion Concert & Reception

MONDAY, April 24

10:30 Bible Reading Group (Zoom)

TUESDAY, April 25

11:00 Development Team Meeting
5:00 Myers Lecture Series with Sarah Beckwith
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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

Prayer Requests

Barbara Newlon
Jack & Jo-Ann Averill
Alba & Pam Beasley
Ed & Carolyn Lowry
Clara Brown
Larry Martin

A WORD FROM VAL



Graduation Sunday

We are quickly approaching the time of year when we celebrate all that our students have accomplished in their educational journeys this year! Mark your calendars as we honor our graduating students during worship on Sunday, May 7. Will you have a graduate in your family this year? Please send notice of ALL graduations - high school, college, graduate programs, technical certifications - to Val at vfisk@universitybaptist.org. Please include the correct name, school, degree/major information, and an updated photo to be included in our graduation announcements later this spring.

Wednesday Work Team Needs Help

Tomorrow morning, Wednesday, April 19, 9:00 AM, our work team will be setting up the Sanctuary for our Jubilate reunion weekend. Over 200 people have registered for the reunion, and with the number of singers that represents, many risers need to be moved onto the platform.

The work team has already spent two mornings bringing in extra risers and preparing the Sanctuary for this event. Many hands make light work, and they could really use some extra hands tomorrow morning.



First-Quarter Financial Update
January - March 2023
Contributions: \$115,296.23
Expenses: \$159,499.67



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

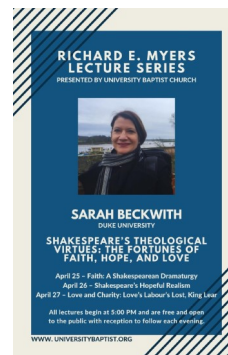
April 26: Carol Anderson, Roy Thomas

Apr. 27: Bob Bryant, Rebecca Jolin, Julia Yates, Linda Weirich

Apr. 28: Chandler Proffitt

Apr. 29: Jen Bates

May 1: Jesse Groves, Herman Eaker



Richard E. Myers Lecture Series

Sarah Beckwith, religion professor at Duke University, will be with us April 25-27 speaking on "Shakespeare's Theological Virtues: The Fortunes of Faith, Hope, and

Love." All lectures begin at 5:00 PM in the Music/Lecture Suite, with a reception to follow.



Jubilate 50th Anniversary Reunion

Jubilate 50th anniversary reunion is April 21-23. Contributions are needed for the reception following the April 23 concert, including finger sandwiches, fruit and vegetable trays (please bring ready-to-serve sizes) with dip, deviled eggs, cheese balls with crackers. **NO desserts are needed**, since there will be an anniversary cake. If possible, please bring donations to the church kitchen on Sunday morning, so trays can be prepared prior to the 2:30 concert. If you're able to contribute, please sign up [here](#).



Wednesday Night Series on Faith and Gender

This week, we continue with Rev. Will Brown who is leading a four-part series exploring contemporary understandings of gender within the context of the Christian faith and Scripture. This is an outgrowth of the research Will has been doing for the D. Min. program at Duke University.

Bring your questions, bring a friend, and bring an openness to learn from one another. We hope you will come and join the conversation. We have a lot to talk about!

Dinner at 5:30 will be a POTLUCK followed by our discussion at 6:00. Afterwards, at 7:00, everyone who would like to sing can join Will Cooke and the Sanctuary Choir in the Choir/Lecture Suite.



Save the Date
for
Touch-A-Truck
Saturday,
May 13

Our Touch-A-Truck event was so successful last September that we are hosting another event this spring. The UBC Deacons have already begun working on details for this event, gathering partners from the community to provide the trucks and other vehicles, finding food vendors and face painters, and planning for this to be a great outreach event to families in the community. Anyone who is willing to volunteer to help with the event can find the sign up [here](#).

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.

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Connect with us

