



May 16, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 20

VBS is Around the Corner!

ON WATCH

On Juneteenth, we will travel to Babylon and learn about Daniel during this year's Vacation Bible School. Kids will gather in all corners of the church, and our goal is for them to have fun, learn something, and be safe. We already have some excellent volunteers who are working hard to get ready, but there's space for you, too. To make VBS fantastic, we need you.

Children's ministry is one of our top priorities. These aren't my words. They are the words spoken with an unequivocal voice by the congregation. When we gathered in the Fellowship Hall on August 22, 2022, for a Town Hall discussion, we talked about what was important in the church. At that point, we were at a transitional moment. Will Brown had just concluded his tenure as an Associate Minister, and we had recently named Will Cooke our Music Director, dropping "Interim" from his title. With changes in the air, we wanted to listen to the Holy Spirit speaking through each person and discern our priorities for the future.

On that sunny Sunday afternoon last August, people sat around tables and answered various questions. After discussing each question, one person from each table shared with the entire group what the table discussed. One of the questions was, "What's your biggest priority for UBC?"

Without exception, each group said, "Children!"

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

May 21, 2023

11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Is this the time?"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Acts 1:1-11

Anthems:

"Unclouded Day" and "Angel Band" (Kirchner)

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Michelle Proffitt

Ushers: Sue Sears, Ed Barker

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, May 17

9:00 Work Team

10:00 PBJ Bible Study

5:15 Handbell Rehearsal

5:30 Wednesday night cookout

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, May 19

6:00 Softball vs Westminster

7:00 Softball vs Westminster

8:00 UVA Glee Club Finals Concert

VBS is an opportunity to put our actions where our priorities are. There are tons of opportunities at VBS, and it's a fun way to make a huge difference in the lives of little kids. We need people who like to ham it up, to wear biblical garb, and to act out the stories. We need group leaders to take each age group from station to station. We need helpers with crafts and music. We need people to lead recreation and help with snacks.

If you can't be here June 19-23, you can help set up or decorate the church, and you can help promote it. We need people to put up flyers around town. You could invite everyone you know who has children ages 4-12. We will need people to organize the supplies before we begin.

So, as we all said with such enthusiasm, "Children are our priority," join me as we live this sentiment out in Babylon VBS this year. (To get involved, see the details below.)

Peace,
Matt

Deacon Election

It is that time of year once again to elect Deacons to serve as leaders in our church, ensuring spiritual health and well-being. Expect a draft ballot by email or U.S. mail this month. This ballot is a list of all church members living in the central Virginia area who are physically able to serve. The purpose of this ballot is for your review. If your name is listed, and you are unable to serve as a Deacon, please contact the church office to have your name removed. Likewise, if your name is missing, and you are willing to serve as a Deacon, we apologize for the omission and ask that you also let the church office know to add your name.

Church Parking Reminder for Graduation Weekend

UVA Graduation is this weekend, but we don't want you to be concerned about parking. We've spoken with the 14th Street Parking Garage, and they have assured us that there is plenty of room for everyone. We look forward to worshipping with you on Sunday and celebrating Will Cooke's ministry.

SUNDAY, May 21

8:30 Finance Committee Meeting
9:30 ESOL Class
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:00 Will Cooke Reception
12:00 Youth Group

MONDAY, May 22

10:30 Bible Reading Group (Zoom)

TUESDAY, May 23

11:00 Development Team Meeting
6:30 Prayer Shawl Group

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

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Laura Faye Groff recovering from knee surgery

The Family of Shelley Miller who passed away on April 28. Her funeral will be Saturday, May 20, 11:00 at Mt. Horeb Baptist Church with reception to follow.



Volunteers Needed

Sign up to help us give out ice cream each Wednesday!

Click [this link](#) to add your name and join us any time between 10:30 and 1:30 on the front steps at UBC.



Wednesday Night Cookout

This Wednesday, May 17, will be our final Wednesday night dinner for the spring. We will have a cookout in the church parking lot with hamburgers (and veggie burgers), hot dogs (and chicken franks), baked beans, chips, and brownies. All are encouraged to join us for some good food and good fellowship.



Introducing Alaysia Toney

Alaysia Toney is our new Social Media Assistant. She is taking over for both Anna Beamer (our recent Social Media Intern who just graduated) and Marcus Stanley (our former Social Media Coordinator).

Alaysia graduated from Longwood University in 2022 with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies and a concentration in Digital Media. She brings a great deal of energy and enthusiasm to UBC and is looking forward to learning more about the church and meeting you.

She will be at our cookout tomorrow night and in worship with us each week. Introduce yourself to her and tell her why you love being part of UBC.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

May 25: Mike Dean, Leah Miller, Edith Parker

May 28: Debby Johnson

May 30: Will Cooke



Softball Beginning!

Did you know that UBC has a softball team? Below is their schedule for the rest of May and June.

May 19, 6:00 & 7:00 vs Westminster

June 2, 6:00 & 7:00 vs United Methodist

June 9, 6:00 & 7:00 vs All Saints

All games are played on Friday at Darden Towe Park, Field 1, except June 2 which is on Field 3.

If you're interested in playing or just finding out more information, contact [George Martin](mailto:cva2011@aol.com) at cva2011@aol.com.

UVA Glee Club Finals Concert Friday, May 19 8:00 pm

UBC will be hosting the UVA Glee Club Finals Concert in our Sanctuary. This concert is free and open to anyone who would enjoy an evening of live music.

Celebrating Will Cooke's Ministry

On Sunday, May 21, we will celebrate Will Cooke's ministry here at UBC with a reception following our 11:00 worship service. Let's gather together in grateful thanksgiving to let Will know just how much he means to UBC.

You are also invited to share a love offering as a giant "Thank You, Will, for the blessing of you!" Please submit your love offering by Wednesday, May 17, indicating on the memo line "Will Cooke Love Offering." You can bring a check to the church, give [online](#), or give by texting "Give2ubc" to 73256. Make sure to put "Will Cooke Love Offering" in the memo.

You may also bring or send a card of appreciation to Will to thank him for his faithful dedication to the UBC music ministry.



Summer Choir!

*Singing in a choir is cheaper than therapy,
healthier than drinking,
and more fun than working out!*

Come join our SUMMER CHOIR! Wednesdays at 6:30 (beginning May 31) in the Choir/Lecture Suite.



Save the Date for our Annual Church Picnic, Sunday, June 4

We will have our annual church picnic on Sunday, June 4, at the home of Robby & Judy Gough. This is always a great time to get together, share a meal, and enjoy a time of fellowship.



VBS 2023 June 19-23, 9 - 12 noon

This year, UBC will be sharing Daniel's story. We are looking for volunteers in all areas to include registration, crew leaders, story time, games, and decorating. The more the merrier! To sign up, contact Melanie Tennant at meltennant@yahoo.com or 804-577-0319.

To register your child(ren) ages 4 through 12 for VBS, click [here](#).

You're Always Welcome to Join Us

Over the past couple of months, I have attempted to encourage you to "come back" to Sunday Bible Study, if you haven't already. Receiving help from leadership, I described the many different classes we offer for everyone, from babies to the oldest among us. We continue to meet every Sunday morning before the 11:00 worship service to fellowship, study the Bible, and be encouraged in our faith walk. The good news for us this year is that most everything will continue as usual throughout the summer! So, this is as good a time as any to "come back!"

The best description and invitation I received from our adult classes is from the New Life class. Read below and see what you might be missing:

Do you want to delve into the Bible and its impact on your life? Do you want to be a part of a small study group that becomes family and a safe, caring place to share your faith journey? Then join in the open discussions with the New Life class at 9:30 Sunday mornings. [NOTE: we meet 9:30 - 10:25 to accommodate choir members]. All opinions or level of Christian understanding are welcome! We work through either a study guide about a book of the Bible or a book about Christian life. We self-teach, so everyone is encouraged to actively participate. Drop by any Sunday to meet us, sit in on a discussion session to get to know us, and see what we're all about. We look forward to welcoming you on the Main floor (Sanctuary level), Rm 115, beside the East stairwell, the room with the comfy chairs!

Of course, you will be welcomed in the New Life class as you will in each of our classes! See you Sunday before 9:45 a.m.

~~Tommy Deal, Education Coordinator

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

