



September 26, 2023 Vol. 75, No. 39

WATCH

What is the Most Important Question Today?

I do not mean to ask, "What is the most important question today *in the church?*" *Not in our Christian lives.* My question is: What is the most important question in the world today? Does it have to do with the economy? Does it have to do with health? Does it have to do with the environment? Or, is the most important question one of meaning in people's lives? For instance, where do people find meaning in their lives?

This question is about relevance. What means the most to the most people? What question challenges everyone? What question has universal implications? Of course, on the one hand, we will all die, so maybe the most important question in the world today involves something about death. On the other hand, *we* (in the sense of all of humanity) had to come from somewhere. Most religions, including our Christian faith, offer some suggestions about the origin of all that exists. Where did we come from?

I do not know the answer to this question. My question is not about the end or the beginning (origin of life). My question is about the *most* important question. I know what is relevant to me. I could even venture a guess about what is relevant to many people. However, what is the *most* important question today?

This is a point of departure. It is a place to begin exploration. And I believe the church is a place where we can pursue questions like this one. The church is supposed to be a safe place—a place where we can be both validated and

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

October 1, 2023

11:00 AM

Sermon:

"Who Are You?"

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

Matthew 21:28-32

Anthem:

"In Christ Alone"

arr. Mark Hayes

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacons: Jackie Lockwood, Shirley Clark

Ushers: Cindy Bryant, Ben Chenault

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, September 27

9:00 Work Team

5:30 Wednesday Night Dinner

6:00 Wednesday Program

7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

SATURDAY, September 30

11:00 Jubilate Alumni Assoc. Mtg.

SUNDAY, October 1

8:30 Church Council Meeting

9:30 ESOL Class

9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study

11:00 Morning Worship

challenged at the same time. Pursuing an answer to a difficult question may seem intellectually taxing, but pursuing the answer is worthwhile if we take our faith seriously.

In Isaiah 64:4, we read, "From ages past no one has heard, no ear perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him." This verse is referenced in 1 Corinthians 2:9. The following verses in 1 Corinthians suggest God the Holy Spirit's continuing involvement in the world. We can pursue these difficult questions in the church, and we have faith that God will engage with us on the journey.

These questions are worth asking, because other people are asking them, too. Maybe as we continue to build a safe place to pursue these important questions, other people will join us in our pursuit. This is my prayer.

Peace,
Matt



Rise Against Hunger with UBC

We had a great packing event on Saturday. We packed a record 20,280 meals. We have now packed a total of 88,104 meals toward our goal of 100,000!

Next Packing Event
Saturday, October 21
10:00 - 12:00
in the Fellowship Hall

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.

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!

MONDAY, October 2

10:30 Bible Reading Group

1:00 Schleiermacher Reading Group

TUESDAY, October 3

7:00 Kitty Colvin Trail Circle

7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

Linda Hendon

Ed & Carolyn Lowry

Barbara Newlon

Chris Owens

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Anne Wilkerson

Condolences to Donna & Forrest Marshall & Family on the death of their son, Forrest III

Condolences to Laura Faye Groff & Family on the death of her sister-in-law

*In order to respect privacy, limited information is included here.



Jazz Vespers

Our next Jazz Vespers will be Sunday, October 15, 7:00 pm, in the Sanctuary. If you have somewhere, like your place of work, to put a poster letting people know about this event, please stop by the church office, and we can provide one for you.

A WORD FROM VAL



Youth Mission Project

On Sunday afternoon, our youth gathered in the Fellowship Hall for lunch and to pack twenty-four birthday cake kits for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. Our afternoon included a discussion of the cost of a birthday cake kit when we buy them in bulk, how much it would cost a person to buy supplies for a cake on their

own, and how our actions in providing a cake is a form of grace that fills the gap for a family in need. Students even decided to donate their own money to cover some of the kits!

Next month, our youth group will spend an afternoon bowling together, and discuss ideas for our next youth mission project. If you know of projects that our youth can complete in an afternoon to assist neighbors in our community, please email Val with your ideas!



Wednesday night dinners are back. Come for dinner at 5:30, program at 6:00, and Sanctuary Choir rehearsal at 7:00.

We're asking you to RSVP if you plan to attend the dinner. If you pay in cash, please use one of the envelopes on the side of the wooden box, and put your name on it, so we can credit it to the right person.

Tomorrow's menu will be:

Slow Roasted Salmon with lemon herb salsa

Rice Pilaf

Steamed Broccoli

Dinner Rolls

Mixed Green Salad

Brownies for Dessert

Click [here](#) to RSVP by Tuesday at noon.

Our program this week will be "Do Dogs Go to Heaven?" led by Matt Tennant. We hope you can attend and invite your friends.



HOMECOMING LUNCHEON

Save the Date!

Our annual Harvest Luncheon and Homecoming meal is **Sunday, October**

22, in the Fellowship Hall, following our 11:00 worship. Our theme this year is "Past to Present". We would like to highlight generations of UBC families through photos. If you have pictures of past and/or current members and are willing to share, please identify the members in the photos and provide either digital or printed copies. Digital pictures may be emailed to our Social Media Assistant, Alaysia Toney, at socialmedia@universitybaptist.org. Printed copies may be dropped off in the church office.

Bible Reading Group is Restarting!

Would you like to start off your week with God's Word? Join the Bible Reading Group, restarting on Monday, Sept. 25! We meet Monday mornings from 10:30 - 11:00 AM on Zoom. Each week, we read together a couple of Old Testament and New Testament chapters, as well as a Psalm. We will be picking up with Judges 1, Psalm 87, and 2 Thessalonians 2. Hope to see you there! Questions? Contact [Ben Chenault](#).

Zoom info:
Meeting ID: 916 0543 0566
Passcode: 219720



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

Oct. 4: Javaneh Brown, Margaret Fitch, Tom Mundell

Oct. 7: Tony Barretta

Oct. 8: Ed Barker

Oct. 9: Brett Turner, Pam Hallissy

Oct. 10: Tom Stephens

Thank You

University Baptist Church,

On behalf of the UVA Hospitality House staff and our guests, please accept our sincere appreciation for your kind and thoughtful donation of toiletries, kitchen items, snacks, laundry detergent, and dryer sheets. We are so grateful to have friends that continue to support our mission.

The UVA Hospitality House has been home to over nine thousand guests from thirty states and ten countries, all of whom must cope with the challenges facing them while they or their friends and family members undergo treatments, clinic appointments, or chronic illnesses.

This most appreciated gift will help us to provide a homelike environment for our guests traveling away from home with limited resources or those that unexpectedly find themselves or their family receiving care at our hospital.

Again, thank you for helping us to help others.

Sincerely, Mary Jackson

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.

University Baptist Church
1223 West Main Street
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434-293-5106

Connect with us

