

May 29, 2024 Vol. 76, No. 22

Jude & the False Teachers

WATCH

One of the Church Fathers, Origen Adamantius, described the Epistle of Jude as "packed with sound words of heavenly grace." Yet, this short letter (only 25 verses) isn't terribly popular today. The <u>Revised</u> <u>Common Lectionary</u> only includes a few readings from Jude, and those are daily readings, not the ones we use on Sundays. E.g., the Tuesday after the Third Sunday of Advent in Year A includes some warnings and instructions (vv. 17-23) and the benediction (vv. 24-25).

The letter is addressed to a community who has been disturbed by false teachers (v. 4). "For some godless people have slipped in unnoticed among us, persons who distort the message about the grace of our God in order to excuse their immoral ways, and who reject Jesus Christ, our only Master and Lord. Long ago the scriptures predicted the condemnations they have received" (Good News Bible).

Although Jude is negative, sounds dated, and has an apocalyptic feel, I agree with Origen. These words pack a punch. The letter is full of "sound words of heavenly grace," if we take the time to let them soak in and teach us about our faith. The overarching theme addresses false teachers who are leading the Christ-followers away. Today, our world is full of false teachers. Some are of our own making. Others are actual teachers or leaders who "distort the message about the grace of our God."

SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, June 2, 2024 11:00 AM Sermon: Michael, the Devil, & Some Crimes Dr. Matthew Tennant Scripture:

Jude 8-9 Anthem: The Summons arr. Fettke

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacons: Shirley Clark, Jen May **Ushers**: Ron Tweel, Charlotte Bailey **College Dinner**: Will resume in August



Volunteers Needed

Sign up to help us give out ice cream each Wednesday! Click <u>this link</u> to add your name and join us any time between 10:30 and 11:30 to help set up and/or between 11:30 and 1:30

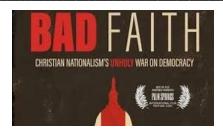
on the front steps to serve the ice cream. This is a very popular outreach ministry of the church. Jude 17 says, "But remember, my friends, what you were told in the past by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ." In other words, remember what you know. Keep Jesus' teachings in the forefront of your mind. The gospel of Matthew provides a succinct reminder of the centerpiece of our faith in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). Reading and rereading the Sermon on the Mount enacts the Jude 17 response to false teachers.

Instead of praising the rich, follow Jesus' words, "Blessed are the poor." Instead of avoiding sadness, remember that those who mourn will be comforted. Don't feed the egos of the proud, because the meek will be comforted. Instead of making success and winning the goal, remember, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness." Be peacemakers, merciful, and pure in heart (Matthew 5:3-9).

The passage goes on, and trying to live out the Sermon on the Mount presents a roadmap for living in a world with false teachers. Will we change them? Not necessarily. Changing hearts is the world of the Holy Spirit. We cannot change others, but we can change ourselves. When confronted with false teachers, Jude points us to Jesus.

Over the next three Sundays, we will seek wisdom and guidance for living today from this short epistle. I look forward to seeing what God will say to us through Jude.

Peace, Matt



Mark Your Calendars!

On Wednesday, June 5, we will have dinner followed by a screening of the documentary *BAD FAITH*, a searing new film that highlights the history behind the rise of Christian Nationalism in the U.S. and the threat it poses to our democracy. View the trailer <u>here</u>.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, May 29

9:00 Work Team 5:30 Wednesday Night Cookout 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, May 30 5:30 Music Minister Search Committee

SUNDAY, June 2

8:30 Church Council Meeting9:30 ESOL/Seekers Class9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study11:00 Morning Worship

MONDAY, June 3

1:00 Theology Reading Group 8:00 Youth Council Zoom

TUESDAY, June 4 7:00 Kittie Colvin Trail

For our most up-to-date calendar, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Opportunities to Serve!

Have you been thinking, "No one has ever asked me to serve on that committee!"? Now's your chance! The Nominating Committee wants to know how you would be interested in serving at UBC. Click <u>here</u> to take our survey. Want to know more about some of these groups? Click <u>here</u> to browse the Leadership Manual.



If you have lost something that you've been unable to find, please stop by the church office. We have a growing collection of lost & found items.

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill

Tony & Patti Barretta

Alba & Pam Beasley

Clara Brown

Leon & Nancy Castle

David & Linda Hendon

Larry & Lynn Martin

Barbara Newlon

Kaylee Risell

Melvin & Mildred Spicer

Bob & Joyce Tennant

Wellford & Nell Tiller

Barbara Weber

Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

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

June 6: Sarah Craddock, Arlene Propst June 7: Jim Hallissy, Michael Mundell June 8: Calvin Gregg June 10: Clara Wheeler June 11: Pam Dean, Gary Wood, Will Wagoner



Wednesday Night Cookout

Tonight, Wednesday, May 29, 5:30 - 7:00, we will have a cookout in the church parking lot with

hamburgers (and veggie burgers), hot dogs (and chicken franks), sides, and dessert. There is no charge, but please click <u>here</u> to RSVP by 5:00. All are encouraged to join us for some good food and good fellowship. Childcare will be available as usual.

PBJ Bible Study Group Prayer, Bible study, Joyful fellowship

The PBJ Bible Study Group was formed in the fall of 2016 and meets every other Wednesday morning from 10 - 11:30 in the church Library. The members are Senior Adult Women who want to engage in serious study of God's Word. When we meet, we share prayer concerns and often send cards from the group, enjoy snacks and conversation, and spend at least an hour in focused discussion of the Bible. We use a variety of materials to aid in our study. New members are always welcome.



UBC Softball

 Schedule:

 May 31
 McIntire
 8:00 & 9:00

 June 7
 Towe 2
 6:00 & 7:00

If you're interested in playing or just finding out more information, contact <u>George Mar-</u> <u>tin</u> at cva2011@aol.com.

Deacon Elections

It's that time of year when we begin the process of electing our Deacons to serve for the next three years.

Deacon responsibilities are the following:

- Being the lay ministerial leaders of the congregation
- Operating the Circle of Caring Team Ministry
- Planning and hosting the Harvest Luncheon
- Assisting with Fire Safety & Evacuation
- Serving Communion during Worship
- Organizing and hosting the Touch-a-Truck event
- Attending monthly Deacon meetings
- Attending worship and participating in the activities & ministries of the church
- Maintaining contact with those people on your congregational care listing

All members of the congregation, 18 years or older who are not currently serving or are Deacon Emeritus status, are eligible to be Deacons. However, if this is not an area in which you feel called to serve, please <u>email</u> or call the church office at 434-293-5106 by June 1, and we will not put your name on the ballot.



Coming Soon! Save the Date VBS 2024 June 17- 21 9:00 - noon We are going to Camp! Click <u>here</u> to register.

On the Move Together for Hope: Virtual Walk-Run-Ride-Swim-Go! For Poverty Alleviation in 338 Counties of Persistent Poverty

13.1, 26.2, 50, 75,100, 140.6 miles or more this summer. Set your own goals, choose your place and days. Walk, ride, run, swim (row, paddle, trail hike, trail run, exercise) and dog walking.

New This Year: Exercise Time (log your time: yoga, weightlifting, aerobics, etc.). Get there any way you can!

Log your miles May 15 through August 15, 2024. Support the good work of Together for Hope (TFH) and the Together for Hope partner or friend of your choice. Set a goal and get moving this summer and earn a really cool t-shirt. Log your miles or time each week on the Runsignup website. Register by July 15 to get the cool t-shirt. Register <u>here</u> for the UBC team.

Sunday Mornings

Worship

Our Sunday morning worship service begins 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 <u>Facebook page</u> or click <u>this link</u> to watch on YouTube.

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Connect with us