



October 20, 2026 Vol. 78, No. 41

ONWATCH

Visit Your Mission Field

Last week, I wrote about cultivating your mission fields. The prompt in my head came from the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20). I encouraged you to pray for opportunities to share your faith and ask God to lead you into circumstances in which you can tell someone about your beliefs without turning them off. The next step is to cultivate your mission field. As a reminder, the point isn't evangelistic zeal or *winning converts*. It's about having something worth sharing and being confident enough to share it. Edgar Guest's poem "Sermons We See" fits well here:

I'd rather see a sermon than hear one
any day;
I'd rather one should walk with me than
merely tell the way.
The eye's a better pupil and more
willing than the ear,
Fine counsel is confusing, but example's
always clear;
And the best of all the preachers are
the men who live their creeds,
For to see good put in action is what
everybody needs.

After living out the gospel in the
sermon of our lives, and cultivating our

mission field, we might be tempted to sit back and wait. This is the point at which we leave the work to the Holy Spirit. It's as if we say, "God, I've done my part. Now, you do yours." Yet, we don't know everything. We don't know if anyone saw the sermon we were living out. We don't know if our prayer to share God's love was answered yet or not. Since we know so little, we keep cultivating our mission field, and one way to continue answering this calling is to go see our mission field.

Jesus spent time alone praying (e.g., Matthew 13:23, 26:36; Mark 1:35, 6:46-48; Luke 5:16, 6:12, 22:39-46; John 4:34, 6:15). The rest of his ministry was with people. He visited his mission field. In Matthew 10, Mark 6, and Luke 6, Jesus sent his disciples out on a specific mission.

The takeaway for us is to keep sharing our faith. We pray for our mission field, seek opportunities to share God's love and grace, and keep revisiting the mission field. By revisiting it, we can respond when the Spirit puts ministry opportunities in front of us.

Peace,
Matt



SERVICE OF HOLY WORSHIP

Sunday, October 25, 2026

11:00 AM

Sermon:

God's Justice as Relational Integrity

Dr. Matthew Tennant

Scripture:

1Thessalonians 2:1-8

Anthems:

We Are Blessed

Andrea Ramsey

More Love

arr. Sid Davis

SUNDAY SERVICE

Deacon: Rachel Miller

Ushers: Jackie Lockwood, Court Van Clief

College Dinner: No dinner this week.
Sign up [here](#) to provide a dinner.



Third quarter giving statements are going out this week. If you do not receive yours, either through email or print, or you have questions, please let **Amanda** know.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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

Oct. 28: Jeanne Nye

Oct. 30: John Buchanan

Nov. 1: Jim Guyton

Visioning Prayers Update October 15

We had 7 people in attendance for our Visioning Prayers session last week. Matt opened with a Teresa of Avila devotion and prayer.

Scripture shared: Luke 11:47-54

What is God calling us to do next?

Focusing on basics done well

Focusing on children and youth

Time of communal prayer

Closed with a prayer from Teresa of Avila

You're invited to join on zoom any Thursday morning from 10:00-10:15.
Zoom [link](#).



**Third Quarter
Financial Update
January -
September 2026**

Contributions: \$386,963.54

(This amount excludes estate gifts, endowment grants, parking revenue, and building usage revenue.)

Expenses: \$493,571.05



Our Pastor on WINA

Dr. Tennant was Jay James' guest on WINA's Morning News last week. He appears on WINA once per month to provide some commentary on the news from a faith perspective. They discussed the concerns older church members have about recruiting the next generation as well as whether or not people truly have hope in the midst of difficult times. In case you missed it, you can [hear the interview here](#).



This week there are two blood drives here at UBC in the Fellowship Hall. Today, Tuesday, October 20 from 12:00 - 5:00 sponsored by the UVA Nursing School and Thursday, October 22 from 10:00 - 4:00 sponsored by UVA Club Tennis.

Click [here](#) to sign up for a time slot.



Young Adults Group

The Young Adults Group will begin meeting at various homes every other Monday evening at 6:30 beginning

October 19. Contact [Dean](#) or [Hadessah Tennant](#) for more information.

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, October 21

9:00 Work Team
5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner
5:45 Sanctuary Bells Rehearsal
6:00 Wednesday Night Program
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, October 22

10:00 Visioning Prayers

SUNDAY, October 25

9:30 Seekers Bible Study
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship
12:00 College Bagel Brunch
4:00 Jubilate Rehearsal
5:30 College Dinner

MONDAY, October 26

12:00 Missions Council Meeting

TUESDAY, October 27

6:30 Prayer Shawl Group
7:00 Bible & Brews
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

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



Reading of Names on All-Saints Sunday

COMMEMORATION
of the

FAITHFUL
DEPARTED

As part of our All Saints worship service on November 1, we will read the names of members of the church who have died since last All Saints Sunday (Nov. 2, 2025). You are also invited to add names to the list of those read aloud in worship.

Prayer Requests*

Jack & Jo-Ann Averill
Ed & Betty Barker
Tony & Patti Barretta
Alba & Pam Beasley
Clara Brown
Nancy Castle passed away on
October 17
Johnny & Gail Ellen
David & Linda Hendon
Margie Howell
Renfro & Sandy Manning
Larry & Lynn Martin
Edith Parker
Amy Teachey
Barbara Weber
Jane Whitworth
Jack & Anne Wilkerson

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

Celebration of Life for Leon & Nancy Castle will be Friday, October 23, 2:30 pm at Lebanon Baptist Church, 182 W. Main St., Lebanon, VA 24266

Note from Jane Whitworth: "Thank you UBC Family for your prayers, notes, cards, visits, and letters. I am making progress every day."



Come for dinner tomorrow evening,
Wednesday, October 21, 5:15pm
followed by Sanctuary Bells Rehearsal
at 5:45 in the balcony,
Celtic Evening Liturgy
at 6:00 in the Fellowship Hall,
and Sanctuary Choir rehearsal
at 6:30 in the Music Suite.

Menu:

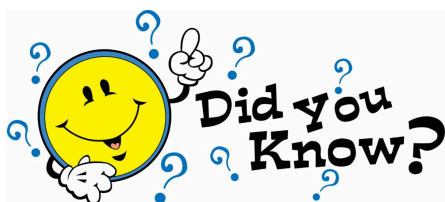
*Chicken Shawarma
Baked Potatoes
Garlic Green Beans
Tomato Cucumber Salad
Warm Pita*

Call the church office to register.



**Raynell Stokes
to be inducted
into the
Albemarle High
School Hall
of Fame**

On October 30, Raynell will be inducted into the AHS Hall of Fame. She completed her master's in education with an emphasis on reading from Norfolk State University in 1982 and completed her second master's in administration from the University of Virginia in 1990. She began teaching in 1976 and served as AHS Assistant/Associate Principal for 22 years until her retirement in 2014. We congratulate Raynell and say, "well done, good and faithful servant".



Did you know that UVA offers Nia Moving to Heal classes free for cancer patients, survivors, caregivers, and staff, both online and in-person, led by certified Nia master teacher

Susan Tate. Their in-person classes are held here at UBC in our Fellowship Hall monthly on Mondays at 12:00 pm.

Nia is a holistic movement practice blending dance, martial arts, and mindfulness. The Moving to Heal format is designed to be non-impact, adaptable to all abilities, and done barefoot, using 52 simple moves to connect body, mind, emotions, and spirit.

The picture above is a celebration they had last week to commemorate nine years of classes here at UBC.

Congregational Activities Google Calendar

Support UBC's young people by attending their extracurricular activities like plays, concerts, sporting events, and more. Let [Amanda](#) know if you want to be added to the Congregational Activities Google Calendar, so that you can be informed about upcoming events. And if you or your young person has an activity coming up, let us know so that we can add it to the calendar.



It's Almost Time!

Allison's office is almost ready. She will be in the office next Wednesday, October 28, and her first Sunday with us will be All Saints

Sunday, November 1. Let's remember to welcome her and make her feel at home.



Still room to register for the luncheon. Email [Linda](#) or call the church office at 434-293-5106.

Staff Contact Information:

Senior Minister: Dr. Matthew Tennant - matt@universitybaptist.org
Associate Minister for Music and College Students: Rev. Megan Sharp - megan@universitybaptist.org
Voces Laetae Director: Will Cooke - wcooke@universitybaptist.org
Office Coordinator: Linda Weirich - linda@universitybaptist.org
Financial Coordinator: Amanda Ohlms - aohlms@universitybaptist.org
Church Administrator: Alan Hendricks - ahendricks@universitybaptist.org
Communications Coordinator: Hadessah Johnson Tennant - socialmedia@universitybaptist.org
Organist: Barbara Moore - call the church office at 434-293-5106
Maintenance Assistants: Hunter Cooper & Jay Hendricks - call the church office at 434-293-5106

Sunday Morning Worship

Our Sunday morning worship service begins at 11:00 am. We encourage everyone in the congregation to join us 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.

Do you have something to submit to our weekly newsletter?
Suggestions must be submitted to linda@universitybaptist.org by Monday at noon.

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

Connect with us

