



## Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church News for week of December 10, 2017



### Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church

#### From Our Interim Pastor



Dear friends,

A few years ago I read a phrase, the "Holy Days Stampede", which comes to mind every year in these busy days. As we rush headlong through these final weeks of Advent, hurtling toward Christmas, we long for more time in which we can reflect on this season's true meaning. Instead, of slowing down to prepare our hearts and lives to receive the Christ child, our 'to do' list grows and, with it, the added pressures and unique stresses of this season. I urge you to slow down and give thanks for the gift of the Christ, the fulfillment of God's promise to us that, even in this troubled, frightening world, God cares about us and comes to be among us. John 1:14 reminds us of the hope and joy this season offers: ..." The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth."

Join us for our beautiful **Service of Lessons and Carols this Sunday**, as we hear the Christmas story in scripture and music, led by our amazing music team, Jeremy, Rob, Katherine and all those

in the Adult and Handbell Choirs. Then, on the following Sunday, December 24, we have two services: a **child-friendly morning service at 10:30 and a 6:00 p.m. Service of Communion and Candlelighting.**

I look forward to worshipping with you during these next two Sundays. Peace and grace to you and yours,  
Lynn

To read our mission co-worker Karla Koll's Advent Letter please [click here](#).

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Rev. Dr. Karla Ann Koll  
Serving in San Jose, Costa Rica  
Latin American Biblical University  
Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission Co-  
worker

Dear companions in mission,

Greetings from Costa Rica, where chilly winds announce that Christmas is approaching.

I returned from Australia a couple of days ago, just in time for my final class. This week most of our students are returning to their home countries. Soon Javier and I will be packing our bags as well to spend Christmas with our daughter in Portland.

May your hearts be filled with joy as we celebrate God coming among us in the Babe of Bethlehem and may we all find new strength for the work that lies ahead of us in the coming year.

My Advent newsletter from Presbyterian World Mission can be found [here](#).

Peace,  
Karla

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**THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING** This Sunday, we will receive this special offering. Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the

**Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. For more information on this important offering please [click here](#).**

## **CHRISTMAS WISHES PROGRAM**

One of our holiday traditions at Chapel in the Pines has been an "Angel tree" to provide gifts for children in need at North Chatham Elementary. The school is working with another program this year, so the mission and service committee has decided to support the Christmas Wishes program with the Chatham County Department of Social Services. Christmas Wishes gives up to three gifts to foster children and other children in need. We have received specific requests for five children ranging in age from 1 year old to 14.

Please contact Monty Brekke at [Monty.Brekke@gmail.com](mailto:Monty.Brekke@gmail.com) or (919) 624-9698 for more information about this program.

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## **BITS AND PIECES**



### **CAROL SINGING**

Sunday, December 17

3:00 p.m.

at Galloway Ridge

All are welcome! For more information please contact Katherine Brekke by [clicking here](#).



### **CAROLING AND DINNER**

On December 15, Mt. Zion and Chapel in the Pines are going Christmas caroling! We invite everyone to join us in our fellowship hall at 6:00 p.m. for a light dinner, then caroling at The Laurels at Chatham. Donations of money or baked goods for the meal would be much appreciated. The Laurels is where Chapel in the Pines' member Jim Bond currently lives. We thought it would be special to take our voices to him and the other residents there. Any questions, please ask Barbara Strange, [barbstra2@gmail.com](mailto:barbstra2@gmail.com), or Marcia Ladd, [marcialeeladd@gmail.com](mailto:marcialeeladd@gmail.com).



### **CHAPEL IN THE PINES HAS A NEW WEBSITE!**

Chapel in the Pines has a new website! When you visit [citppc.org](http://citppc.org) you will notice some changes we hope you'll like. Spend a little time exploring the site. All of your old favorites from the previous website are there, but in a new format.

**Mary Donna will be available following worship each week to answer your questions.** Your comments and suggestions are welcome. Contact Al Schalk or Mary Donna Pond.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE**

## SACRED ART TABLE

Every Sunday during worship, children and youth are invited to sit at the sacred art table in the narthex. Adult volunteers are needed to sit at the table with the children to support them as they work on a piece of art. If you're interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Joelle Brummitt-Yale, Director of Christian Education by [clicking here](#).

## TUTORING PROGRAM AT CHAPEL IN THE PINES

Every **Wednesday from 3:45 to 5:30 p.m.** Chapel in the Pines and Mt. Zion will provide individualized tutoring in our Fellowship Hall. For more information please contact Barbara Strange by [clicking here](#) or Marcia Ladd by [clicking here](#).

**CHATHAM YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER** needs our help and encouragement. Chapel in the Pines visits the young women at the CYDC once a month. A training session for new members of our team is planned for October. For more information, contact Keith Glidewell [clicking here](#) or Susie Smith by [clicking here](#).

## MISSION AND SERVICE

The Mission and Service Committee invites you to share your ideas with us. **Please know that our monthly meetings are open to anyone interested and we meet regularly on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.**

It is a new year and we welcome your suggestions and would love to hear about mission and service opportunities you feel passionate about. If you would like to learn more, or would like to submit ideas for the committee to consider, contact our committee co-chairs Susie Smith by [clicking here](#) or Barbara Amago by [clicking here](#).

## TAKE AND READ BOOK PROGRAM

The Take and Read Book Program needs you! Make a difference in children's lives! Having books in their homes improves academic success for children, yet low-income children often have few or none. For more information contact Paul Harrell at 919-542-2743 or email by [clicking here](#).

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

**Chapel in the Pines' next work day is December 18.** If you're interested in helping or have any questions please contact Bart Holtz by [clicking here](#).

**TAKE AND EAT FOOD PANTRY** - The food pantry is always in need of funds and food. To see a list of food items most needed please [click here](#).



*SING, RING, DANCE!*

**HANDBELL AND CHOIR REHEARSALS** - Handbells and Choir meet weekly for rehearsals. Please visit our website at [www.citppc.org](http://www.citppc.org) for more information. All are welcome to join!

## **Sunday School Classes and Adult Ed Opportunities - for details on all of our classes please visit our website at [www.citppc.org](http://www.citppc.org).**

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES meet at 9:15 a.m.**

Those who are interested in helping with Children's Church, please contact Joelle Brummitt-Yale by [clicking here](#).

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES: (Please note differing start times)**

- The Exploring Together Class - Begins at 9:00 a.m.
- The Literature and Spirituality Group meets every 3rd or 4th Sunday of the month to discuss spirituality with the help of good books and good fellowship.

**WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP** meets at the church every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.

**CONVERSATIONS ON RACE** meets at the church every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. at the church.

**THIRST QUENCHERS** - We hope that you can join us for Thirst Quenchers this **Thursday, December 14, at 5:30 p.m. at Rasa Malaysia in Southern Village**. We will be discussing the article David Von Drehle: Christians, our silence on Roy Moore isn't enough - to read this article please [click here](#).

## **Fellowship News and Opportunities**

### **FELLOWSHIP TEAMS**

On Sunday mornings fellowship teams prepare snacks, set-up, clean up, and usher. Each member is assigned to one of the following fellowship teams. Your team leader will contact you prior to your assigned month. Your participation is a wonderful way to get to know one another as well as a way to make our visitors feel welcomed. For more information contact the Fellowship Committee Chair, Elder Lynne Hoerter by [clicking here](#).

## **CHURCH BUSINESS**

**Session Digest November 20, 2017 Stated Meeting**

**Actions of the session at the November 20 stated meeting:**

- Session welcomed Kathy Donahue into membership
- Lynn urged session and the whole congregation to get involved in the children's ministries and praised the success of Godly Play
- Joelle will be tasked with finding a second attendant for the nursery each Sunday, all members are urged to help with the nursery
- The current Stewardship Campaign has raised \$202K in pledges against the goal of \$285. Fifty pledging units has yet to pledge
- The Operating budget is on target to make revenues for 2017
- Three quarters of the pledges for the 2016 Capital Campaign have been received

- Communication and Technology is investigating advertising in the Governor's Club, Chatham and Chapel Hill magazines. They have also developed a brochure highlighting Andrew and his family that will be mailed to Ferrington and Governor's Club the week of January 15
- Joelle's contract has been extended to the end of May 2018
- CitP will grant Andrew two weeks moving leave starting January 1
- Building and Grounds will explore security measures for the church with the Chatham Sheriff and make recommendations to session in the first quarter of 2018
- A new Building Use Policy has been approved
- The following guest preachers have been approved Sandy Williams on 12/31/17, Bill Lawrence on 1/7/18 and Lee Strange on 1/14/18.

Marcia Ladd  
Clerk of Session

### General Time Line for The Transitional Process Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church

**Bold lines are completed action items**

- **Pastor departs - April 2016**
- **Interim Pastor Search Committee is established and begins search**
- **Interim Pastor, Lynn Stall, begins 7/17/16**
- **Interim Pastor joins the community and focuses on the programs, stewardship, budgeting, growing church, Advent and Christmas season, etc.**
- **Transition Team is approved by the Session and begins meeting to plan various steps and events**
- **Steps and events include interviews with active elders, deacons, and staff members; gatherings with younger adults and young families to hear about their needs and wishes; a congregational lunch and table discussion;**
- **Congregational survey is completed**
- **Transition Team will gather all information and prepare a printed Mission Study, including a demographic study of the area**
- **CITP's Mission Study is presented to the session for approval before it is sent to Salem Presbytery's Commission on Ministry**
- **Commission on Ministry approves Mission Study and gives permission to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee (or PNC)**
- **CITP's Nominating Committee receives nominations and puts together a representative slate for the congregation to elect the Pastor Nominating Committee**
- **PNC is trained by a vacancy counselor of Salem Presbytery**
- **PNC prepares the Church Information Form (or CIM) and the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) of the PC(USA) puts it online**
- **PNC begins receiving Personal Information Forms (PIFs) from clergy candidates**
- **PNC narrows the list of potential candidates and begins interviews (phone, Skype, visits), checking references, and listening to sermons**
- **PNC sets up personal visits with a short list of candidates**
- **PNC selects one candidate and negotiates the Terms of Call**
- **The candidate is presented to Salem Presbytery's Commission on Ministry for examination and approval**

- **Approved candidate is presented to the congregation at a called congregational meeting by the PNC**
- **Pastor is elected**
- **Interim Pastor plans her departure for a time to be determined**
- **Pastor-elect moves, begins work, and is installed**

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



12/01	Susie Park Bob Hoerter
12/02	Libby Boehne
12/08	Susan Pierson
12/09	Ilia Rosen
12/10	Anne Henkels
12/11	Shelley Dillon Susie Smith
12/21	Susan Walkup
12/24	Paula Applegate
12/25	Cynthia O'Connell

### STAY CONNECTED WITH CHAPEL IN THE PINES:

 Like us on Facebook

 View on Instagram

Find us on Google maps by [clicking here.](#)

Follow us on Facebook by [clicking here.](#)

Visit our church website by [clicking here.](#)

Email: [nmorelli@citppc.org](mailto:nmorelli@citppc.org)

Fax: 919-929-8521

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