



The Connection

Seeking to Link Person to Person And All to Christ

March/April, 2018

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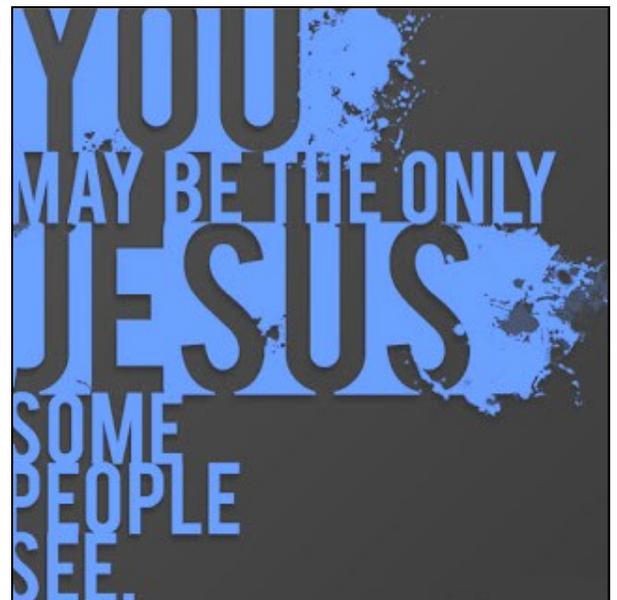
The Pastor's Pen

It is most important for me to thank you, my church family! Since the passing of my Mom, your care, love, and thoughtfulness have lifted me and my family. My Mom lived to be almost 89, and we rejoice in her life and now her new life in Christ Jesus. Several of you were present at my Mom's memorial service, and I will be forever grateful.

For four days, Carol and I were able to have quality time with our children and grandchild Mia. It was very noticeable that Mia is at the stage in her life that she imitates what we are doing. That is fun, adorable . . . and scary! It is scary because when we interact with Mia, we ought to be careful about what we say and do. Being responsible with our words and actions is important.

There is a correlation here with our Christian living. People are observing how we are living out our faith. Jesus asked us to be hearers of God's Word *and* doers, but it is certain that we let God down . . . and others, too. Hence, we apologize (i.e., repent), seek forgiveness, and endeavor to do better. As we move through the Season of Lent, we focus daily on this process of getting right with God and others: apologizing, being forgiven, and doing better.

Yes, it is indeed scary that many persons are watching how we live out our "faith," but God in Jesus is helping us. And yes, at times it seems too much responsibility to love and care for others who are not very lovable, but God loved us first and so, we love also. I invite you now to look closely at the various offerings here at the church during the Lenten and Easter Season. Be present every day with Jesus, enjoy Christian fellowship, and remember that for some, all they know about Jesus is what they see in you.



*Peace and Love,
Pastor David*

Holy Week at Christ Church

EASTER AND HOLY WEEK



March 25

Palm Sunday

The Seven Last Days Choir Cantata
9:45 & 11 am

March 29

Maundy Thursday

In Remembrance of Me: An Experiential Service of Worship & Communion, 7 pm

March 30

Good Friday

Tenebrae Service, 7 pm

April 1

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service, 6:30 am
Breakfast follows in Ascension Hall
Worship & Communion, 8:30 am*
Celebration Worship with Brass & Organ,
9:45* & 11* am

**Please bring cut flowers
to decorate the cross.*

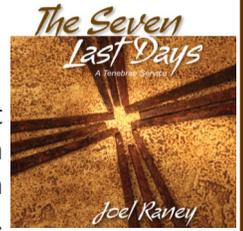
*There will be no 6:30 pm worship
on Easter Sunday.*

Palm Sunday Cantata—*The Seven Last Days*

March 25—9:45 and 11:00 am

Joel Raney's musical story depicts the events of Jesus' last seven days as described in the book of Matthew. Our cantata choir will bring these events to life as they join their voices with music from the violin, cello, oboe, trombone, organ, & piano.

We hope you can be present on March 25 when, through beautiful music and and moving narration, we remember Christ's journey from his triumphant entry into Jerusalem to his death on the cross.



Experience Maundy Thursday in a New Way!

At **7 pm on Thursday, March 29**, you're invited to a very special service of worship called *In Remembrance of Me*. We'll reflect on and remember that last night when Jesus ate his final meal with the disciples before he was betrayed, arrested, and abandoned by them to death. After a rich time of worship and sharing of communion, you'll be invited to visit any of our four worship stations to:

- **Contemplate the personal meaning of our Savior's life, death, and resurrection for you as you walk our labyrinth
- **Spend time in confession and prayer about what breaks your heart at the foot of the cross
- **Engage in Christ-like service at the foot washing station, and
- **Ponder what it means to be a disciple of Jesus as you consider what following in his footsteps really means.

See the box at left for more information on Holy Week services at CUMC.

OFFICES CLOSED

**The office will be closed on Monday,
April 2 and Tuesday, April 3.**

A Lenten Reminder

Did you try some of fresh practices/disciplines I recommended as a way to observe the Lenten season? (See list below.) It's not too late. Please remember to share the "fruits of your labor" as we move to the end of the 40 days and journey on to celebrate Easter.

****40 Days/40 Items:** Each day of Lent, remove one gently used item from your closet or kitchen that you no longer need. Put it in a large trash bag, and at the end of the 40 days, donate/deliver the bag to an organization that will share the items with people in need. Suggested donation sites: Habitat ReStore (Durham), Goodwill Store (CH north), Compass Center for Women and Families (CH), Second Bloom (Pittsboro; thrift store benefiting victims of domestic violence), Durham Rescue Mission, Urban Ministries of Durham.

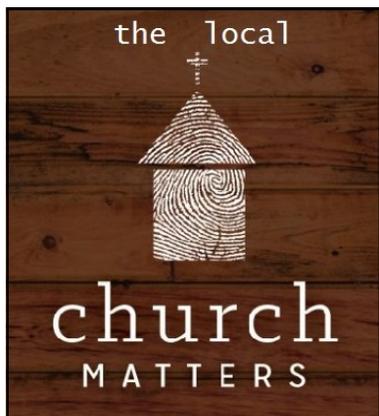
****A Dollar A Day for the Lord:** Place a jar on your dining table during the Lenten Season, and at each dinner meal, place a dollar in the jar while praying for all in the world who struggle to find food adequate for each day. At the end of the 40 days, give the money collected to CUMC's benevolence fund which enables us to purchase grocery gift cards for those in need in our community.

****Simple Soup = Cents for Lent:** During the 40 days of Lent, Christ Church will place a basket on a table in Ascension Hall with the sign "Simple Soup = Cents for Lent." Discuss with your family one meal or outing that can be simplified in order to give the extra money to CUMC's benevolence fund. On Sundays or at The Well on Wednesdays, place the extra change or dollar bills in the basket.

Let us align our hearts with God's heart as we approach Easter.

Peace of Christ, Pastor Suzanne Hultman

New Names to get to Know



What's in a Name?

By Assoc. Pastor Brent Levy

"The words we use shape how we understand ourselves, how we interpret the world, how we treat others. From Genesis to the aboriginal song lines of Australia, human beings have forever perceived that naming brings the essence of things into being. The ancient rabbis understood books, texts, the very letters of certain words as living, breathing entities. Words make worlds."

Krista Tippett, *Becoming Wise: An Inquiry into the Mystery and Art of Living*

This whole Christ Church Chatham Park project has long been somewhat intangible. Every day it's becoming a little more real, but for a long time, it's been little more than an idea. And for the longest time, I wasn't sure how to talk about. I didn't know what to call it. "I'm getting a group of people together to start something in Chatham County," I'd say to people who I prayed were willing to get on board with something super nebulous. "We need to make time to talk about the Chatham Park adventure," Pastor David would say before heading off to lunch. "I'm being sent to start something new in Chatham County," I'd mention to friends and colleagues. "I don't know what we're going to call it. It doesn't have a name. Let's just call it, 'TBD.'"

But finally, after prayer and discernment, a bit of tension, and a lot of holy conversation, we have a name for this new thing God is doing. We have a name, and I couldn't be more excited about it. The name is low key. It's unassuming. It's tongue-in-cheek. It's loaded with meaning, and now that we have a name, it's all the more real. The name of the Christ Church campus in Chatham County is The Local Church. We are The Local Church: A Community of Christ United Methodist Church. The Local Church. Say it out loud. No one will judge you. The Local Church.

Here's why we love it. In Jesus, God breaks into our world, takes on flesh and blood and breath, and comes to be with us. In other words, Jesus is God made local. And after his death and resurrection, Jesus sends his spirit — the Holy Spirit, the very presence of God — upon his friends and followers, instructing them to carry his good news to the places they found themselves each day. That same Spirit is with us still. In the Church, God goes local.

So we think the name fits. Not only does it say something about who we believe Jesus to be, but it says something about our mission — what we're about. We are committed to listening, learning, and loving our neighbors in Chatham County — committed to loving local, hoping local, celebrating local, and serving local. Whether you are a longtime resident of Chatham County or it's just becoming home for you, this is a faith community where you belong. Here you can put down roots. Here you can live and love local.

This is only happening by the grace of God. To stay connected with what's going on at The Local Church, email me at blevy@christmethodist.org or visit us online at our (work in progress) website, <http://thelocalchurchpbo.org>.

New Faces @ CUMC



John & Krista Jett

- ◆ Moved from Winston-Salem area
- ◆ Now live in Pittsboro
- ◆ 3 yr. old twins Keaton & Audrey
- ◆ J: 336-466-2279
johnejett@gmail.com
- ◆ K: 336-466-0021
kristasjett@hotmail.com

Eddie & Vickie Lineberry

- ◆ Pictured here with son Jonathan
- ◆ Live in north Chatham Cty. area
- ◆ 919-967-6144
- ◆ E: linebere@bellsouth.net
- ◆ V: vlineberry55@aol.com



Denny & Joyce Clark

- ◆ Live in Governor's Club
- ◆ 919-942-0056
- ◆ D: dbclark1140@bellsouth.net
- ◆ V: joycie783@gmail.com



& New Pastors, Too!



Senior Pastor Ben Williams and Associate Pastor Kristen Hanna will join us July 1, 2018.

Showing People Jesus Through Service



Clumping is Fine for Trees, But . . . By Deon Roach

I've been thinking about the word "clumped" today. I'm ambivalent about that word. It seems okay if we're talking about a clump of trees or a clump of rocks or a clump of grass, but it's not good when we're talking about clumps of mashed potatoes or clumps of mascara . . . or clumps of Christians. While I think it is important for us to gather for

worship and to share in Christian community in large and small "clumps" throughout the week, it's also important for us to move out in ministry. Our worship together should renew our passion to mobilize and move out into our world and community to serve others, but sometimes, fear can get in our way. The voice of fear tells us to stick together inside the safe bunker of the church, but we can silence fear and listen to another voice instead. The voice of faith says, "Don't be afraid. Venture out! Bless whoever you can by following Jesus' command to love one another."

Even a little mustard seed of faith and desire, when planted and nourished in prayer, can grow into a mountain of ways to serve outside the walls of CUMC and make a difference in our community. Here's how you can get started:

1. Check out our GOoD WORKS booklet which details tons of ways God can use you to do his GOoD WORKS in our community and the world. There's even a spiritual gifts inventory at the back of the booklet to help you match your gifts/talents to service opportunities. The booklet is available in the narthex, by calling the office, or on our website at <http://christmethodist.org/ministries/missions/>. (Scroll down below the video picture and look for "GOoD WORKS booklet" in blue print.)



2. Pray. Ask God to show you how He wants to use you to do His kingdom work in the world. John Wesley said, "God will do nothing on earth except in answer to believing prayer." Pray for His leading as to how He wants you to serve. Need help? We have members of our CUMC prayer team present every Sunday morning after the 11 am service who want to pray with you for God's direction.

3. Be inspired by other CUMC members. Check out pages 4 & 5 of this newsletter to see how your CUMC friends are "unclumping" and moving out to serve in Jesus' name. Reach out to them and start a conversation.

For more information on CUMC's prayer ministry, contact Kathy Parker (kgpcpe@gmail.com; 919-270-6864). To learn more about GOoD WORKS, email Deon Roach (droach@christmethodist.org; 919-969-8820).



There are great needs among those who live behind bars, but there are also great opportunities to see the Gospel transform lives. Getting in-

involved with **CUMC's Prison Ministry Outreach** is one of the most effective ways to directly impact the lives of incarcerated men at the Orange County Correctional Center in Hillsborough. Prison ministry offers a unique opportunity for personal spiritual growth for both the inmate and volunteer. Many inmates are genuinely seeking change, stability, and love in their lives and acknowledge that going to prison was "*the best thing that ever happened*" to them because they encountered Christ.

Prison ministry volunteers will experience the wonder and joy of leading people to Christ and seeing them start their lives over in ways that are productive to society and pleasing to God. You'll see prayers answered in miraculous ways which will, in turn, strengthen your own personal prayer life. Without a doubt, prison ministry shows us that we are very much alike, loved by Christ, and united in him.

Please prayerfully consider becoming a volunteer. Training will be held on April 11, 6-9 pm, at the Peace Center at Orange Correctional. To register, contact CUMC member Carl Smith (cbs336@yahoo.com). To do GOoD WORKS with this ministry, contact Jo-Anne Roy (johasfaith@gmail.com).

Spring Break is for Service with Compassion Med International

Thank you, CUMC, for supporting Compassion Med International's *Migrant Health Service Learning Outreach* in Homestead, Florida, during March 8-17. We partnered with a longstanding community organization called Branches that, along with Branches UMC, provides after school program enrichment for low income school age children & their families.

CUMC members Jean Davison, Ron Herring, Carol Baker, Joe Mancini, & Arthur Gribensk, along with UNC-Chapel Hill nursing students, served a low income, vulnerable population in which 98% of the children receive free/reduced lunch & the medium household income is \$26,000. Volunteers completed free health screenings for over 100 children & their families & offered school and sports physicals. Health education was also provided along with fun instructional activities (i.e., hand-washing with glo-germ), nutritional advice, physical games to encourage youth to be active, homework help, & discussions with older students about violence prevention, substance use, & college preparation.

The Compassion Med team will share trip highlights during the morning worship services on April 8. To get involved with Compassion Med at CUMC, contact Jean Davison (jeanfnp@gmail.com).



Jean Davison & friend

Showing People Jesus through Service



Un-Clumping to Serve in Jesus' Name

(clockwise from top left)

1. March: 2018 Youth Confirmation Class serving at the Food Bank of Eastern and Central North Carolina. (Contact Pastor Nick—njonckowski@christmethodist.org—to learn more about youth missions.)
2. January: MLK Day of Service—The Ready Singers from the Orange County Correctional Center join CUMC members to sing for residents at Carolina Meadows.
3. January: MLK Day of Service—CUMC's youngest family members know how to brighten up the day for a Carol Woods resident.
4. January: MLK Day of Service—Blessing Bags for the homeless are delivered to the IFC's Community Kitchen in Chapel Hill. (To learn about serving at the IFC Kitchen, contact Dawn Streets (dstreets@mindspring.com).
5. March: Cinderella's Closet—A Fairy Godmother helps a local high school girl find the perfect prom dress. (Contact Maggie Ivancic—mivancic@christmethodist.org—to get involved.)

Red Cross Blood Drive at CUMC



Tues., April 24

10 am—2:30 pm

Ascension Hall

Contact Caroline Williams to make a donation appointment (carwilliams3@gmail.com).

We're ready to train a new blood drive coordinator. To help, contact Caroline or the church office (office@christmethodist.org).

CUMC's campaign raised \$4600 for Pregnancy Support Services! Thank you!

Tickets on Sale now for Pregnancy Support Services Dinner

The Help and Hope Fundraising Dinner will be held on **Tuesday, May 8th**, at Hope Valley Country Club and will feature guest speaker Roland C. Warren, CEO of Care Net. He served as President of the National Father Initiative and has written *"Bad Dads of the Bible: 8 Mistakes Every Good Dad Can Avoid."* He has also appeared on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and *TODAY*. Tickets are \$50 until **April 15th** when the price increase to \$55. Purchase tickets online at <https://pregnancysupportservices.org/events.php> or call the PSS office at (919) 490-0203. Note: If you would like to be seated with friends, please register together.

CUMC is a "Stephen Ministry Church," which means that we have lay persons trained to offer care to congregation members who are dealing with situations like a serious illness, loss of a loved one or job, or divorce. Interested in being a Stephen Minister? An introductory workshop will be held Saturday, May 5, from 9 AM to 1 PM at Holland's UMC, 9433 Ten Ten Road in Raleigh. To attend, contact Sharon Guyer (auntsharons84@gmail.com; 919- 537-8242) no later than April 25th so she may register you. CUMC will pay your registration fee. For more details on the ministry, visit www.stephenministry.org.



Music, Mental Health, and Campus Ministry

Get to Know the BlesSings

By Dr. Daniel Steinert, Director of Music

"BlesSings" is the name of Christ Church's music interns who serve as the core of the Chancel Choir in 9:45am worship and then lead the 11:00am worship music. These college-age students or recent college graduates are trained in vocal music or were exceptional high school singers with a passion for church music. Since the inception of this music ministry in 2015, nine singers have offered their musical gifts in worship.

Presently Chloe Lucente (a recent college graduate in vocal performance) and Michael Laporte (a UNC senior vocal performance major) are the two anchors of BlesSings, singing soprano and tenor, respectively. Michael's last Sunday at CUMC will be April 1 (Easter Sunday) when he is the soloist on "Ride On, King Jesus!" Then he will be studying voice in Austria to pursue his operatic career. Understudy Chase Cash, a tenor, is a Carrboro High School student who sings in "Unnecessary Measures," a vocal *a capella* group, and he is a frequent soloist with CHS's Chamber Choir.

Kayla Richardson-Piché, a UNC sophomore, along with Katelyn Jones and Jack Finnegan who sing in Appalachian State University choirs and stage productions, will join us in the summer and during school breaks. We are blessed to have them sharing their musical gifts with us as we praise the Lord in song.

Trucks-N-Tunes

Wed., April 25
at CUMC

Love food trucks? Love music? Love helping people who are struggling in our local community? Then, Trucks-N-Tunes is the event for you! We'll

have local food trucks on hand starting at 5:00 pm to fill up your belly. Then, from 5:30-7:00 pm, fill up your spirit as you enjoy a beautiful concert with music provided by these incredible talents:

Demond Wells and The Ready Singers
Svetlana Yatsky on the harp
CUMC Chancel Bells & Chancel Choir
Hosanna Children's Choir

We will take up a love offering at the concert to replenish the CUMC benevolence fund which is used to provide grocery food cards to people in our community who don't have enough to eat. Bring your appetite and your checkbook and enjoy a delicious evening for a great cause.



FAITH CONNECTIONS ON MENTAL ILLNESS 8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CULTIVATING MENTAL HEALTH

Hope and Healing
Fri., April 13

and support families and individuals living with mental illness. **The conference will be held at St. Thomas More Church on Friday, April 13, 8:00 am—4:15 pm.** For information & registration, visit <http://www.faithconnectionsonmentalillness.org/annual-conference.html> or contact CUMC member Marcie Hursting (919-903-9176; mhursting@sprintmail.com).

Cultivating Mental Health: Hope and Healing is a day-long interfaith conference focusing on addiction, depression in the elderly, and mental health resources available in our community. Christ Church is a long-time partner with the event organizer, Faith Connections on Mental Illness, which seeks to promote wellness and help faith communities care for

Join members of your community on Sat., April 14th from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. in Christ UMC's Ascension Hall, for an evening of generosity supporting UNC Wesley Campus Ministry. This year's auction will offer a variety of silent and live auction items, entertainment, and delicious southern food. All proceeds from the auction directly support student ministries.

Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$5 for students/children. Featured auction items include vacation get-a-ways, one-of-a-kind experiences, college team tickets and memorabilia, local restaurant and retail gift cards, a goldendoodle puppy, and more. Tickets may also be purchased online at uncwesley.org/bigwesleyauction or by contacting Laura Gallo (919-942-2152; laura@uncwesley.org). UNC Wesley Campus Ministry is the official outreach of the United Methodist Church at UNC-Chapel Hill. All students are welcomed and offered opportunities for faith and leadership development, worship, fellowship, small groups, and service, both locally and on extended mission trips.



Children & Youth News

Send your Kids on an Impacting Island Adventure!

Vacation Bible School

June 18-22; 9:00 am—Noon



At Shipwrecked VBS, your children will discover how Jesus carries us through life's storms. Shipwrecked is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences in which kids see, hear, touch, and even taste as they learn of Jesus' love. Sciencey-fun, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that will help faith grow. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life. Register your children now at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/christchurchvbs2018>.



Valentine's
Dance Fun



Make Music with Hosanna Children's Choir

Your elementary aged children are invited to join our new children's choir—the Hosanna Choir—which rehearses on Wednesdays, 4:45-5:45 pm. Rebecca Dyck, Christ Church Preschool music teacher and director of children's choirs at University UMC, brings plenty of enthusiasm & encouragement as she provides vocal instruction and fun! Contact Children's Ministry Director Jane Reeb (jreeb@christmethodist.org) or Rebecca Dyck (rebeccadyck50@gmail.com) to learn more.



The Hill Youth Group Spring Break Kick-Off Sunday, March 25

Taco Bar & Games 3:30-5:15pm
Youth Group 5:30-6:30 pm
103 Market St.



Sunday, April 15

confirmation

Join us at the 11:00 am service as we celebrate with our 2018 confirmands and their families as they publicly confirm their faith. This celebration will be followed by a light lunch at noon in Accession Hall for family members and friends. Congratulations to our confirmands for taking this important step in their faith journey.

Coming Soon! Special Celebrations at Christ UMC

- ▶ Sunday, April 29: Ordination Celebration for Pastor Brent Levy
- ▶ Sunday, May 20: Special Congregational Luncheon/Retirement Celebration for Pastor David Goehring
- ▶ Sun., June 3: Senior Sunday Celebration of High School Grads



Defy Gravity Lock-in

April 6 & 7 | 10PM to 7:30AM
4300 Emperor Blvd, Durham

The youth event of the year is coming! We've rented out the ENTIRE Defy Gravity Trampoline Park for our lock-in on April 6th & 7th! This one of a kind event will feature hype music, competitions, wall to wall trampolines, and very little sleep! Cost is \$25, and the fee includes admission, jump socks, and food. Receive \$5 off the admission fee if you bring along a friend to enjoy the fun. Use this link to reserve your spot today: <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?>

CHRIST CHURCH

United Methodist

800 Market Street

Chapel Hill, NC 27516

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CONSIDER GIVING TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND

Some Thoughts on Estate Planning from Barry Bond, Chair of CUMC's Endowment Committee

Preparing an estate plan is good Christian stewardship. It is a way of saying thanks to God, of expressing your love and concern for family, and of showing charity toward others. Did you know that for purposes of estate taxation, there is no limitation on the size of a charitable gift that you may give to your church at the time of your death? No matter how large, the gift is deductible for estate tax purposes.

Think about the part you want to play in your church's future. Naming your church as a beneficiary in your estate plan to create an endowment can assure your continued participation in the life and mission of your church far into the future. Remember, if you have no will or trust, state laws will determine who will inherit your property at your death. State laws do not include your church or any other charity as a beneficiary.

Questions? Want to learn more or give to CUMC's endowment fund? Contact Barry Bond (919-918-4834; joy007b@yahoo.com).



- ▶ April 2 and 3: Easter Holiday; office closed
- ▶ April 4: The Well will not meet.
- ▶ April 11 & 18: The Well resumes featuring a delicious meal and two class offerings: a Bible study led by Pastor David & *Parenting Teenagers* led by Pastor Suzanne.
- ▶ April 21: Greet & Treat at the Southern Village Dog Park, an outreach by CUMC's Growth Team
- ▶ April 22: Preschool Sunday celebrated at 9:45 am worship
- ▶ May 1-15: SNACK Food Drive
- ▶ May 2: Book Club on Deck, 6:30 pm @ Weaver Street Market (Read *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion* by Fr. Gregory Boyle.)
- ▶ May 16: Book Club on Deck, 6:30 pm @ Pazzo (Read *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle.)