

DECEMBER 2024



RECONCILER

From the Pastor's Desk

Rev. Allen Brimer

As we go forward as a church family after JoAnn Harrison's retirement, we are running a three month experiment to see if we can restructure our administrative operations without re-filling the Administrative Assistant's position. During this time, we want to ask you to expect the following:

First, all communications for the email blasts and the Reconciler will be handled by Karen Miller. You can send them to her at karen@churchrec.org.

If you are serving a role in worship on Sunday, you will still receive an email notification on Thursday, but it will now be in the form of a calendar invitation and will include the attachments you need for Sunday. Please look for it!

Beginning on December 2nd, church volunteers will be on site on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 to 12:30 to answer the telephone, route email requests, and greet visitors. Many thanks to Robbie Blue, Amy Jeroloman, Jo Anne Peterson, and Kristen Bowers who have agreed to take on this role through our three month trial period. Those who have graciously agreed to be the "backups," if needed, are Barbie Wilson and Marcia Freeman. Thank you!

The Administrative Assistant's email address (churchrec@churchrec.org) will still be used, and it will be checked on Mondays and Wednesdays. Please allow for the appropriate response time. If you have an urgent matter, please email Rev. Allen (allen@churchrec.org) or Karen directly. You can also still leave phone messages at the church landline: 919-929-2127.

As with all experiments, there will be some bumps in the road as we make our way forward together. Thank you in advance for your understanding, and patience during this new season at The Church of Reconciliation!

Rev. Allen Brimer, Pastor & The Personnel Committee

LET'S DO THE NUMBERS...

Each month, Session will report key financial data about our church's budget.

Numbers will return in January 2025!



If you have questions, please be in touch with Gene Johnson, Session Liaison to Finance Committee, or Finance Committee Chair Michael Jokich.



**GIVING AT
THE REC**



You can now give securely online to the Church of Reconciliation via the Tithe.ly app (or scan the QR code). Simply navigate to <https://get.tithe.ly/download-tithely-app> on your smartphone to download the app. We also have a button on the church's website, as well. Once you download the app, simply search for "Church of Reconciliation PCUSA." Note you can currently direct your gift either to "General Offering and Pledges" or to "Blue Jar Mission." The app collects a small fee from the church from each transaction so please also note you have the option of covering the fee, which will increase your donation by approximately 3%. You can watch a short information video on Tithe.ly at this website: <https://vimeo.com/195985593>.



YOUTH AND CHILDREN



Youth Group
Christmas PARTY
Dec 15th
After Worship at Gwena & Jaida's Home

Wear your festive gear or ugly Christmas sweater
Bring your Secret Santa gift
We will have lunch and play games!



58th Annual
LOVE FEAST
Christmas Eve
5:30 pm

Youth will arrive by 5 pm to prep for the Love Feast.



The Rec. Youth
Advent BRUNCH

Join your beloved church family for a special brunch and activities to celebrate the season.

Come ready for delicious food, hot cocoa bar, community and more.

SUNDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2024

BRUNCH IS FREE, BUT THERE WILL BE A FREE-WILL OFFERING THAT WILL GO TOWARD THE YOUTH SUMMER 2025 TRIPS


Youth will arrive by 10 am to begin prepping for the brunch.





• HAPPY •
New Year
See you January
5 in the Youth Room!

YOUTH! Don't forget to RSVP for the Service Trip by December 31!

NEWS AND EVENTS



NO WORSHIP
IN THE DELL
UNTIL SPRING



The Rec. Youth

Advent BRUNCH

Join your beloved church family for a special brunch and activities to celebrate the season.

Come ready for delicious food, hot cocoa bar, community and more.

SUNDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2024

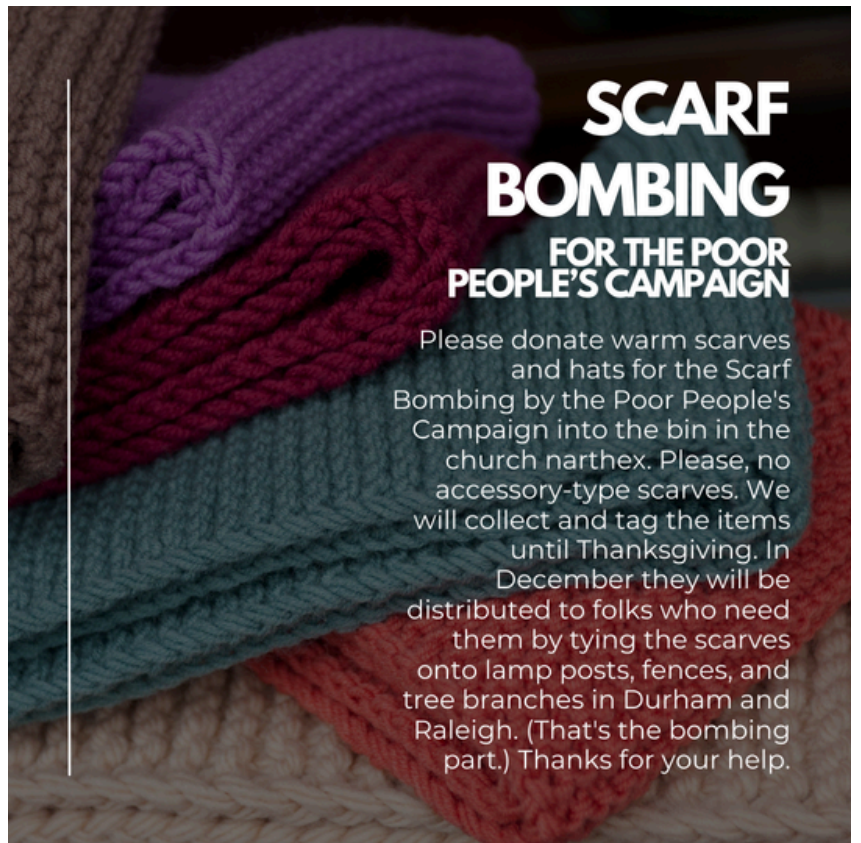
BRUNCH IS FREE, BUT THERE WILL BE A FREE-WILL OFFERING THAT WILL GO TOWARD THE YOUTH SUMMER 2025 TRIPS

BE A CORNER SAMARITAN!

NOW COLLECTING ITEMS IN THE NARTHEX FOR CORNER SAMARITAN BAGS:



WHAT'S IN A CORNER SAMARITAN BAG?
(SAVE YOUR GIFT BAGS FOR DONATING ALSO!)



SCARF BOMBING

FOR THE POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

Please donate warm scarves and hats for the Scarf Bombing by the Poor People's Campaign into the bin in the church narthex. Please, no accessory-type scarves. We will collect and tag the items until Thanksgiving. In December they will be distributed to folks who need them by tying the scarves onto lamp posts, fences, and tree branches in Durham and Raleigh. (That's the bombing part.) Thanks for your help.

NEWS AND EVENTS



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE EARTH CARE COMMITTEE!

Here are some wonderful suggestions
from Creation Justice Ministries

A GREEN CHRISTMAS

What can you reuse this Christmas? Can you create decorations out of recycled materials? Sustainable gift ideas: beeswax wrap, reusable water bottles, vegetable seeds, metal straws, bamboo utensils, reusable cloth shopping bags.

CHRISTMAS TREE SHOPPING

If you're going Christmas tree shopping, choose a real tree over a plastic one! Tree farms help to sequester carbon and provide habitats for birds and other wildlife.

WRITE A PRAYER FOR CREATION

Write a prayer of gratitude, protection, or lament for creation. This could be a prayer about environmental injustice or climate change. It could be a gratitude prayer for a specific tree. It may help to write in an outdoor setting. Be creative.

Thanks to Creation Justice Ministries. If you have suggestions for EarthCare, please email Stella Waugh at stellawaugh@me.com.

WINTER
SOLSTICE

21 December. 4-5 pm

EARTH CARE INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE
THE DARKEST NIGHT BIRTHING THE
COMING OF THE LIGHT

Meditations on the interconnections of
the Earth year cycle and the Christian
liturgical year including spoken word,
song, & quiet listening by the garden

OUR FRIENDS AT ELLIOTT WOODS

Wednesday's with the Neighborhood Kids Events:



Back in the early days of COVID, Marty P and Charron A. tended the newly installed community garden, aka CREW (Church of Reconciliation Elliott Woods) garden. Some adults from the neighborhood participated at the garden but mainly we were a safe outdoor place for kids, mostly from the Elliott Woods apartments, to gather. The kids still like to come to the garden and over the last few years, with some twists and turns, a small team of church members have worked together to establish some regular meeting times and activities with those kids. The most popular of these are the Wednesday evening dinners in the Fellowship Hall.

For the evening before Thanksgiving no dinner was planned for the Rec community, so following Pearl H's suggestion, we hosted a Friendsgiving gathering instead. Pearl and Amy J, along with Joyce H, an elderly friend of the garden, and Charron had a wonderful meal with Melanie, Aniya, and Di Laura. It was small but somehow just right. We bought a rotisserie chicken; Charron cooked collards from the garden; Pearl made a delicious German noodle dish, a salad from the garden, and sweet potatoes; and Pat Adams dropped off some chocolate turtles for dessert to go along with the very generously portioned Rice Krispie treats made by Amy. We ate and talked about what we were thankful for in our lives. Then we shared in the cleanup. In true Thanksgiving style, the girls went home happy loaded with left overs.

We look forward to spending more good times with our neighbors.

DECEMBER DUTIES

ELDER ON CALL:

1st Kate Scott
8th Courtney Chavez
15th Dale Herman
22nd Gene Johnson
29th Kristin Bowers

LITURGIST:

1st Sandra Burt
8th Nancy Corson Carter
15th Cindy Covington
22nd Beth Welton
29th Howard Carter

CAREGIVERS:

1st Pat Adams & Sarah Stitsinger
8th Beth Welton & Sue Gilbertson
15th Howard & Nancy Carter
22nd Molly Farrow & Lisa Anthony
29th Marty Propst & Margaret Barrett

MUSICIANS:

1st Jeanetta Powell
8th Jeanetta Powell
15th Dan Mason
22nd Dale Herman
24th Dale Herman (5:30 pm)
29th Dale Herman

CHANCEL SET-UP:

1st Gene Johnson
8th Sue Regier
15th Alex Gordon
22nd Margaret Barrett
29th Helen Maxwell

ELDER ON CALL:

1st Kate Scott
8th Courtney Chavez
15th Dale Herman
22nd Gene Johnson
29th Kristin Bowers

GREETERS:

1st Colleen & Janessia Boatright
8th Pat Adams & Helen Maxwell
15th Ann Stuart & Mary Anne Dooley
22nd Gene Johnson & Pat Sawin
29th Edwin Caldwell & Cindy Covington

OFFERING COUNTERS:

1st Jeannie Goguen, Dennis Uhlir, & Sue Regier
15th Lisa Anthony & Sandra Burt
29th Michael Jokich & Jim Spaeth

FLOWERS:

Poinsettia &
Rosemary
all December



Advent Sanctuary Flowers

In Honor of:

Katherine Davis

Given by Ellen Davis

Laura Davis

Given by Ellen Davis

Karen Miller,
Awesome Youth Leader

*Given by Ruthie, Mac,
and Mei-Yen Ireland*

Carolyn Ikenberry

Given by Stella Waugh

Allen Brimer

Given by Beth McArthur

Fran Olson

Given by Helen Maxwell

Elizabeth Evans &
Allison Brown

*Given by
Mary Charles Blakebrough*



In Memory of:

Jon & Jake Regier

Given by Sue Regier

George H. Adams, Jr.

Given by Pat Adams

Knox Tate

Given by Stella Waugh

Our Daughter,
Laine Hare Quade

*Given by
Wes & Jane Hare*

Bernadine Sullivan

Given by Sharon Mujica

Bolton Anthony

Given by Lisa Anthony

John & Sara Vaughan

Given by Jessica Vaughan

Louisa Hubbard DeVore

*Given by Mary Charles
Blakebrough*

Mandy &
Michael Sedgewick

*Given by
Mary Charles Blakebrough*



ADVENT AT THE REC

Second Sunday of Advent - December 8

WORSHIP & CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

11 am

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH FUNDRAISER

After Worship

The youth will be cooking a free festive brunch after worship to celebrate the season. Donations are welcome to the youth summer trip fund.

Third Sunday of Advent - December 15

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

11 am

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

After Worship

Youth will meet at the Jakubiak/Thomas house for our annual Christmas Party and gift exchange.

Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 22

SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

11 am

Christmas Eve

FESTIVAL OF CAROLS & LOVE FEAST

5:30 pm



CONTACT US

CHURCH OF RECONCILIATION
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA
110 NORTH ELLIOTT ROAD
CHAPEL HILL, NC 27514



ALLEN@CHURCHREC.ORG (PASTOR)
CHURCHREC@CHURCHREC.ORG (OFFICE)
KAREN@CHURCHREC.ORG (MCY)

[WEBSITE](#)

[INSTAGRAM](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)



*Worship
with Us*

11 AM SUNDAYS IN
THE SANCTUARY OR
ON ZOOM

WATCH THE REPLAY
ON YOUTUBE

IN-PERSON OR ONLINE