

FEBRUARY 2025

**BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH**



# RECONCILER

## From the Pastor's Desk

Rev. Allen Brimer

*According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder,  
I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must  
choose with care how to build on it.*

~ 1 Corinthians 3:10

Church of Reconciliation family,

Tomorrow you will be receiving a letter in your email inbox about a campaign the Session is launching to build upon the foundations that have been laid before us. As you are probably aware, over a decade ago, our church undertook a brave and much needed project to renovate the sanctuary and expand the building with a fellowship hall and kitchen. That visionary work has provided our church family and countless community organizations and individuals with a warm and attractive facility in which to gather for worship and programming that forwards our deepest values.

In order to pay for that expansion, the church raised money at that time and took out a mortgage. Because we are a non-profit, banks extend business loans to us, which are on five year cycles. Historically, we have been able to pay for that mortgage outside of our regular operating budget with the funds we raise from our various renters: Blossoms Day Care, the Chapel Hill Mennonite Fellowship, Shared Learning and others. It is time for us to renew our loan with the bank, and as you are probably aware, interest rates are much higher now than they were five years ago at our last renewal. Therefore we are anticipating a substantial increase in our monthly payment simply because of the higher interest rate.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK, cont...

To counteract that reality, the Session with the Finance Team's guidance is initiating a capital campaign to greatly reduce our principle on the loan - currently at about \$500,000 - in order to keep our monthly payment the same as it currently is, even with a higher interest rate. However, what we would love to do is reduce our principle so successfully that our payment will in fact be lower than it currently is! If that were the case, then our rental income would not only cover the new mortgage payment, it would be a source of additional revenue for all of our other ministries: social justice outreach, programming, and staff support!

To that end, the Finance Team will be sending out a letter tomorrow, February 5, with all of the details for how to give. This campaign will be running for the month of February, and we would like to receive all pledges by February 28.

Now for some even better news! We have already received \$100,000 from two donors!! Two!! The Holy Spirit is moving among us, and I want to invite you to add this to your prayers and to respond to the Spirit's movement in your heart by giving. Our goal is \$200,000, but if two donors can provide \$100,000, then how much more can our other 82 givers provide?! What will the Holy Spirit do in our midst?

Some of you and other past members of The Rec family laid the foundation. We are building on it, and we are called to be good stewards and to continue to build with care. Let's get to work!

In Christ,

Rev. Allen C. Brimer  
Pastor



# NEWS AND EVENTS



FRI FEBRUARY 21 | 6:00 PM

## INSIDE OUT 2

**FELLOWSHIP HALL**

POPCORN AND DRINKS PROVIDED

Come and get comfortable with us, bring your favorite blanket, bean bag or nugget and you'll have a front row seat for the movie!

Be a part of our  
Elliott Woods  
Outreach on  
Wednesdays!

FOR MORE INFO AND TO SIGN UP,  
[CLICK THIS!](#)



Celebrating  
OUR NEW ELDERS

## SCRIPTURE & *Silence*

*"Silence is a source of great strength."*

*~ Thomas Merton*

Need some "great strength" in these days?  
Meet with Rev. Allen for an hour of silence with  
intermittent readings from scripture. Every  
other Tuesday at 5pm in the chapel: Feb 4 & 18

Mar 4 & 18

Apr 1, 15 & 29



# YOUTH GROUP



They escaped!



## February Schedule:

- 2/2: No Youth Group
- 2/9: Valentine's for Friends & processing the new of the past couple weeks
- 2/16: TV Theology
- 2/23: Planning our March Party for Elliott Woods



*vision boards &*  
puppy visitors

# NEWS AND EVENTS



## STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING

### COMING IN AUGUST

Holy Infant Catholic Church has announced that it will host another round of Stephen Minister training starting at the end of August. The training is composed of 20 modules, each module lasting 2 hours 30 minutes. The training is an engaging mix of presentation, video, group discussion, skill practice and spiritual growth activities.

Stephen Ministry is focused on providing one-on-one Christian caregiving to those in the congregation and surrounding community who are going through a difficult life transition such as divorce, job loss, or death of a family member. The training gives the Stephen Ministers the principles and skills that equip them to offer high-quality, Christ-centered care to those needing emotional and spiritual support.

For more information, please contact John Peterson at (919) 969-3624 or [njpeterason67@gmail.com](mailto:njpeterason67@gmail.com).



# NEWS AND EVENTS



## February

### **February 5th - Potluck**

Ann and Bron will introduce an interview between Sr. Joan Chittister and Oprah on "The Time is Now". This promises to be a timely and thoughtful reflection on this hard time we are living through.

### **February 19th - Dinner Served**

A report back for the group the went to the western mountains of North Carolina to assist those agencies that are still front line workers. An unveiling of the "Appalachian StoryVoice" in the sanctuary.



**GIVING AT  
THE REC**



You can now give securely online to the Church of Reconciliation via the Tithely 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 Tithely at this website: <https://vimeo.com/195985593>.

# CONTACT US

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



(919) 929-2127

[ALLEN@CHURCHREC.ORG](mailto:ALLEN@CHURCHREC.ORG) (PASTOR)  
[CHURCHREC@CHURCHREC.ORG](mailto:CHURCHREC@CHURCHREC.ORG) (OFFICE)  
[KAREN@CHURCHREC.ORG](mailto:KAREN@CHURCHREC.ORG) (MCY)

[WEBSITE](#)

[INSTAGRAM](#)

[YOUTUBE](#)



Worship  
with Us

11 AM SUNDAYS IN  
THE SANCTUARY OR  
ON ZOOM

IN-PERSON OR ONLINE

WATCH THE REPLAY  
ON YOUTUBE

# FEBRUARY DUTIES

## ELDER ON CALL:

2nd Dale Herman  
9th Jo Anne Peterson  
16th Pat Adams  
23rd Cheryl Chambers

## ZOOM DIRECTOR:

2nd Anne Lutes  
9th Jess Bowers  
16th Allison Scott  
23rd Michael Jokich

## GREETERS:

2nd Gene Johnson & Mary Ann Dooley  
9th Cindy Covington & Edwin Caldwell  
16th Ann Stuart & Sandra Burt  
23rd Ellen Davis & Sharon Mujica

## LITURGIST:

2nd Sandra Burt  
9th Patricia Sawin  
16th Beth Bale  
23rd Howard Carter

## MUSICIANS:

2nd Jeanetta Powell  
9th Dale Herman  
16th Dan Mason  
23rd Jeanetta Powell

## CHANCEL SET-UP:

2nd Courtney Chavez  
9th Sue Regier  
16th Alex Gordon  
23rd Margaret Barrett

## CAREGIVERS:

2nd Diana Barefoot &  
Geoff Manley  
9th Nancy Corson Carter  
& Howard Carter  
16th Cindy Covington &  
Edwin Caldwell  
23rd Marcia Freeman &  
Carolyn Ikenberry

## OFFERING COUNTERS:

9th Jim Spaeth  
23rd Sue Regier & Alex Gordon

## FLOWERS:

2nd Mary Ann Dooley  
9th Dan Mason  
16th Ann Stuart  
23rd Patricia Sawin