



The Reconciler

A Journal. August, 2022

Rec Family,

It has been a busy summer! In June we did two all-church “VBS” nights that were a wonderful time of fellowship and learning how we are called to be good neighbors to one another and the larger community. I was so overwhelmed with the support and participation. We plan to bring these events back starting with a kick-off in September. It is my intention to create an event each month that allows us all to gather for fellowship and learning from one another in all stages of life. We all have something to teach others no matter what the age.

July has been a whirlwind for the youth group. Mid-July we took our first mission trip since I have been here. A huge part of youth ministry relies on the bonds they create. These bonds are hard to establish in an hour or two on Sunday. Sometimes it takes being away from distractions and have to rely on each other. This allows them to connect and be comfortable being vulnerable so they can let God work during that time. Once we move past first day jitters, we work hard and play hard all week and the Holy Spirit gets to work. It is just the most incredible feeling to watch them share a house together, play games, take care of one another, and laugh. It is even more incredible to witness them sort hundreds of pounds of sweet potatoes for people in need they will never meet. To watch them work together to create special bags full of clothing and supplies for kids in need. Taking their time to pick things that will be stylish and so the child is given a little normal in the middle of upheaval. To witness them cooking (by themselves!) a homemade lasagna dinner for 40 families staying at Ronald McDonald House while their precious babies are in the hospital.

(...continued on next page...)

Inside...

Adult Education	2
Stephen Ministry	2
Address Updates.....	2
News from the Session.....	3
Solar Project at the Rec	4
Installation Service and Reception.....	5
Pastor Allen’s Israel Report	5
Wednesday Dinners at the Rec.....	5
Concert with Tim & Liz.....	6
Car Wash and Pupusas	6
“Why Be a Peace Church?”	6
August Responsibility Schedule.....	7
August Calendar.....	8
Financial Update and Ways to Give.....	9

And More!



**Church of Reconciliation
Presbyterian Church, USA**

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After a week off in-between, some of us headed to the Montreat Youth Conference for a week. This week is a whole different vibe as they spend it growing closer to God and creating relationships with youth from all over the country. This year we partnered with New Hope Presbyterian to stay in a house together and when I tell you they instantly bonded...they did. After the first couple of hours they were like old friends and it was just so wonderful to witness. By Wednesday we had declared that we are now one youth group and look forward to spending more time together in fellowship, study, and service. They spent the week learning how they are more than enough. So much so that they have so much left over to share. These youth are just that amazing and this was confirmed this week in keynote, small groups, and worship.

Next year we hope to take a longer mission trip (hopefully with New Hope this time!) and still keep our Montreat tradition. This means we will be working hard to raise the money to do so. We were so incredibly blessed with your generosity this year and I hope you will see the impact that has had on these youth. September 11, the youth will share all about both trips so you can hear firsthand how they were impacted. For now, your girl is tired, but looking forward to the fall where we hope to ramp up our programming and create more opportunities to be together with God and one another.

Thank you all for the gift of this job. I get to witness transformation firsthand. It is a gift I will never be able to fully appreciate because it is just too awesome.

- Karen Miller



ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

9:30 AM on Sunday mornings

August – Adult Education will meet most Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall and be available by ZOOM in a combined context at 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings. Pastor Allen will use the Galatians scripture passage being used in worship that day as a springboard for deeper study, dialog, and personal reflection. The reflections will lead into small group conversations with a particular theme or question that keeps our attention.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

As we approach the Fall season, I want to let you know about a service opportunity that may be of interest. Starting in early September, the Church of Reconciliation, in partnership with other area churches, will offer a 16-week program for the training of a new class of Stephen Ministers.

The training will consist of 20 modules, each lasting 2.5 hours, that will include a mixture of presentation, video, group discussion, skill practice, and role play. Topics will include reflective listening, maintaining boundaries, assertiveness, confidentiality, and proper use of mental health resources. The training will be held on Tuesday evenings at Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church in Chatham County. The training will also be offered on Zoom.

Once trained, a Stephen Minister provides non-judgmental, Christ-centered care to someone in the congregation or surrounding community who is experiencing an illness, death of a family member, divorce, job loss, or other difficult life transition.

-- John Peterson



ADDRESS/EMAIL UPDATES

Linda Houseman: lahouseman24@gmail.com

Nona Thompson:

wynonatankthompson@gmail.com



This Session page is in the development stage...
going forward we'll be adding a short article
each month from one of our elders... stay tuned!

Link to Video Summary of last meeting: [Click Here](#)

Link to last set of approved minutes: [Click Here](#)

2022 SESSION and DEACONS

Session:

Charron Andrews, Babbie Cameron,
Craig Carlson, Kurt Elia, Alex Hawkins,
Carolyn Ikenberry, Jeep Morrison,
Kate Scott, Beth Welton

Clerk of Session: Sandra Burt

Deacons:

Bill Andrews, Cindy Covington, Mary Anne
Dooley, Catrina Elia, Helen Maxwell, Patricia
Sawin, Ann Stuart, Kate Scott (Session Liaison)

• **NEXT MEETING:**

August 23 at 6:30 PM

- Meetings are open to the congregation - you can attend with voice, but no vote
- Email Sandra Burt for Zoom link, upon request

The Rec Is Going Solar!

The Rec is Going Solar!

After a lot of research and discussion, Session has decided to move forward with our plan to install solar panels at the Rec. This is one more tangible step that we can take as an Earth Care Congregation to reduce our carbon footprint and help preserve the Eden that is this planet for future generations. As part of this project, we will also be replacing some of our existing trees with native plantings to reduce shading on the solar panels on the roof while also improving the visibility and appearance of our church.

Why are we doing this?

While Duke Energy has been working to get more and more of its electricity from green sources, it still has a long way to go. By installing these solar panels, the Rec will replace 36% of the electricity we currently purchase from Duke with clean energy from the sun, and in so doing we will reduce our carbon emissions by over *20 tons* of CO₂ per year!



How much will it cost?

We have negotiated a 25-year lease agreement to have the solar arrays installed, and as a result there will be no net up-front cost to put the panels in place. In addition, we project that the savings on our Duke Energy bills will more than offset the monthly lease payments going forward, so the net cost to the Rec should be zero (or less) over the life of the contract.

Where will we put the panels?

The solar array will be installed on the south-facing roofs of the church house / fellowship hall and the preschool.



What is planned in terms of landscaping?

Most of the large trees on the southeastern corner of the property will be removed to reduce shading on the solar arrays while making way for new native plantings that will increase habitat diversity for birds and pollinators, remove invasive plants, and improve visibility of the Rec from passers-by on Elliott Rd. No trees will be removed in the memorial garden or in the area behind the sanctuary windows. The work will be funded through a generous grant from Gay Scannell as well as other donations.

When will all of this be happening?

We are currently working our way through the approval processes for the building and landscaping permits, and if all goes well, we anticipate installing the solar panels in October and November, and planting the new trees and bushes in November - January.

Where can I get more information?

If you have additional questions, feel free to contact Jeep Morrison or another member of the Rec's solar team (John Hartwell, Kurt Elia, Chris Lutes, Carolyn Ikenberry, Alex Hawkins, Susan Attermeier), or check out the full presentation on our Google Drive by clicking here: [Earth Care On Rec Campus](#)



The Presbytery of New Hope joyfully
invites you to the Installation service of

ALLEN C. BRIMER

Saturday, August 20 | 2 PM
Church of Reconciliation
110 N. Elliott Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Reception to follow



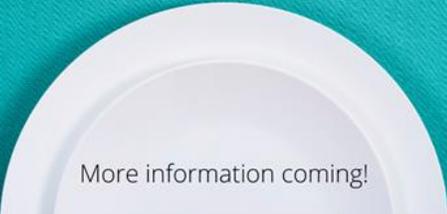
Pastor Allen's Report from Israel

More details to come, but
mark your calendars now!

AUGUST 21 AFTER WORSHIP
FELLOWSHIP HALL

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS AT THE REC

Somebody cooks, somebody cleans, you
enjoy good food and good company.



More information coming!

A CONCERT AT THE REC

Join us! Liz McGeachy and Tim Marema are coming to Chapel Hill and will do a concert at Church of Reconciliation on Saturday, August 27 at 7 pm. They were members of our church thirty years ago. Here is what one person said about their music:

With haunting two-part harmony and arresting arrangements, Liz & Tim's musical style gives a fresh perspective to the lasting themes of traditional mountain music: longing for home, love of people and place, the power of stories, and the need to laugh even in the face of troubles.

Liz McGeachy and Tim Marema both grew up in homes where music was a central focus of family and community life. They began singing together in 1986 in Chapel Hill, NC where they were both in the graduate program in journalism. They were married at Church of Reconciliation in 1989.

Tim says, "In the material we select, we try to take older songs or songs that have older musical styles associated with them, and bring them into a contemporary context where people today can enjoy them all over again.

Liz & Tim have performed at such festivals and venues as the Master Musicians Festival in Somerset, Kentucky; Mennofolk in Michigan, Ohio, and Virginia; the Lavender Festival in Oak Ridge, Tennessee; the Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, North Carolina; Mary and Martha's Place in Atlanta, Georgia; Seedtime on the Cumberland n Whitesburg, Kentucky; and Historic Rugby Theatre in Rugby, Tennessee. They sing regularly at community festivals and events and in church.



CAR WASH AND PUPUSAS!

Saturday August 6, 10-2 we will be hosting Jose and Sandra Chicas on our campus (at the Education Building). Donations welcomed. As the threat of deportation has lessened Jose has been able to leave sanctuary at the School for Conversion in Durham. He has resumed pastoring a small church in east Raleigh. However, federal immigration administration delays continue to make it difficult for Jose to qualify for full employment. Come support this wonderful family as they continue to recover from Jose's three years in sanctuary.



WHY BE A PEACE CHURCH?

The Reconciliation Peace Community (RPC) shared in the April Reconciler the five Peace Affirmations, which have been used to guide and engage us as a Peace Church into honest and committed peacemaking. The following article, written by the facilitator of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship's Peace Church Working Group, leads us further into asking all congregations within our denomination these questions: Why Be a Peace Church and What is the History of the Peace Church. A section on Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) is also included.

Please click on the links below for each of these topics. If you need a printed copy, please contact the church office (churchrec@churchrec.org) and we'll get a copy to you in the mail.

- Why Be A Peace Church? [Click Here.](#)
- What Is the History of the Peace Church? [Click Here.](#)
- Frequently Asked Question. [Click Here.](#)

Everyone is welcome to join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 4:00 PM via Zoom.

- Submitted by Libby Johnson of the Reconciliation Peace Community (RPC)

AUGUST RESPONSIBILITY SCHEDULE:

Worship at 11:00 AM on Sunday mornings in Sanctuary and via Zoom

If you have a conflict with this schedule – please call others on the list and make a swap. Then inform the church office of these changes at 919-929-2127 or churchrec@churchrec.org. THANKS!

ELDER-ON-CALL

7th Kate Scott
14th Kurt Elia
21st Carolyn Ikenberry
28th Craig Carlson

LITURGIST

7th Beth Bale
14th Bron Skinner
21st Liz Evans
28th Cindy Covington

CAREGIVERS

7th Sue Gilbertson, Lisa Anthony
14th Carolyn Ikenberry, Sandra Burt
21st John & Pat Hartwell
28th Robbie Blue, Doris Murrell

MUSICIANS

7th Dan Mason
14th Dan Mason
21st Dan Mason
28th Dan Mason

FLOWERS

7th Jeannie Goguen
14th Robbie Blue
21st Nona Thompson
28th Beth Welton

OFFERING COUNTERS

7th David Robinson, Sue Regier
21st Jim Spaeth, Alex Gordon

LOCK-UP

7th Gene Johnson
14th Bill Andrews
21st Patricia Sawin & Bron Skinner
28th Beth Bale

GREETERS

7th Dennis Uhlir & Jeannie Goguen
14th Mary Anne Dooley, Robbie Blue
21st Ellen Davis, Gene Johnson
28th Dennis Uhlir & Jeannie Goguen

CHANCEL SET-UP

7th Courtney Chávez
14th Meri-Li Douglas
21st Alex Gordon
28th Libby Johnson

REC TECH TEAM

7th Michael Jokich, Gene Johnson
14th Michael Jokich, Colleen Boatright
21st Jess Bowers, Allison Scott
28th Jess Bowers, Alex Gordon



**During the month of June please contact staff
by email or phone. See our schedule below:**

Allen's Rec Office Hours:

Mon-Thur, 9 AM – 12 Noon, and by appointment
(allen@churchrec.org ; 919-929-2127; 919-972-9506)

Karen's Office Hours:

Rec Office: Tues/Wed/Thurs 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
(karen@churchrec.org; 309-369-8368)

JoAnn's Office Hours:

Rec Office: Mon - Fri, 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM
(churchrec@churchrec.org; 919-929-2127)

August, 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1 Learning Bridges 6:00 PM (FH) Nominating Committee 7:00 PM (Zoom) Deadline for Mid-Week Announcements 9 AM	2 Mid-Week Email Blast 12:00 Noon Personnel 6:45 PM (Zoom) Learning Bridges 6:00 PM (FH)	3 Sunday Email Deadline is 9 AM on Wednesday	4 Solar & Landscaping 5:30 PM (Zoom) Roe vs. Wade 6:30 PM (FH)	5	6 Car Wash and Pupusas at the Rec Education Bldg! 10 AM – 2 PM
7 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School - Galatians 3:23-29 (FH or Zoom) 11:00 AM Sunday Worship (Sanctuary or Zoom)	8 Learning Bridges 6:00 PM (FH) Deadline for Mid-Week Announcements 9 AM	9 Learning Bridges 6:00 PM (FH) Mid-Week Email Blast 12:00 Noon RPC 4 PM (Zoom) RecTech 7:00 PM	10 Sunday Email Deadline is 9 AM on Wednesday	11	12 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Karen at Montreat August 12 - 14 </div>	13
14 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School - Galatians 4:4-7 (FH or Zoom) 11:00 AM Sunday Worship (Sanctuary or Zoom)	15 Learning Bridges 6:00 PM (FH) Newsletter Deadline 10:00 AM Deadline for Mid-Week Announcements 9 AM	16 Learning Bridges 6:00 PM (FH) Mid-Week Email Blast 12:00 Noon JPC 7:00 PM (Zoom)	17 Sunday Email Deadline is 9 AM on Wednesday	18 Deacons 6:30 PM (Zoom) Solar & Landscaping 5:30 PM (Zoom)	19	20 Installation Service and Reception for Rev. Allen Brimer 2:00 PM (SN / FH)
21 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School - Galatians 5:1, 13-25 (FH or Zoom) 11:00 AM Sunday Worship (Sanctuary or Zoom) 12:15 PM Israel Presentation (FH)	22 Learning Bridges 6:00 PM (FH) Deadline for Mid-Week Announcements 9 AM	23 Mid-Week Email Blast 12:00 Noon Session 6:30 PM (Zoom) Learning Bridges 6:00 PM (FH)	24 Sunday Email Deadline is 9 AM on Wednesday	25 MCY 6:30 PM (Zoom) L & S 6:30 PM (FH & Zoom) Earthcare 7:00 PM (Zoom)	26 Rec Craft Circle 1:00 PM (Zoom)	27 A Rec Evening Concert with Tim Marema & Liz McGeachy 7:00 PM (SN)
28 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School - Galatians 6:1-16 (FH or Zoom) 11:00 AM Sunday Worship (Sanctuary or Zoom)	29 Learning Bridges 6:00 PM (FH) Deadline for Mid-Week Announcements 9 AM	30 Learning Bridges 6:00 PM (FH) Mid-Week Email Blast 12:00 Noon	31 Sunday Email Deadline is 9 AM on Wednesday	<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> Join us on Sunday mornings for Worship at 11:00 AM! Join us in the Sanctuary or on Zoom! </div>		

NOTE: The deadline for getting articles or calendar events in to the church office for the September *Reconciler* will be Monday, August 15th. You may leave a message, email or fax at your convenience! (churchrec@churchrec.org)

LET'S DO THE NUMBERS..."

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

June 2022 revenue = \$27,073

June 2022 expenses = \$33,206

January – June 2022 revenue = \$204,595

January – June 2022 expenses = \$164,937



If you have questions, please be in touch with Kurt Elia, Session Liaison to Finance Committee, or Finance Committee Chair Jim Spaeth.

Sunday Worship Service

If you missed a worship service
or want to see something again,
visit our YouTube channel, [click here](#).

ON-LINE 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>.

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Web Page: www.churchrec.org

Please join us on Sunday mornings for

Worship in the Sanctuary or on Zoom Live Stream at 11:00 AM!

Website: www.churchrec.org FaceBook: facebook.com/ChurchRec

Phone: (919) 929-2127

Staff E-mails: allen@churchrec.org (Pastor Allen)

karen@churchrec.org (Karen); churchrec@churchrec.org (JoAnn)