
Trinity Avenue

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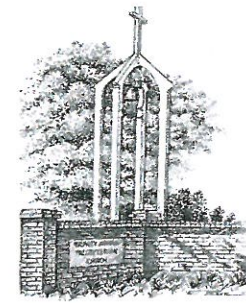
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ON TAP

Trusting God, Living in Christ, Loving All!

Dear Friends,

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

As Christian people, it seems that we can never say this too many times. It is the good news that pours forth from our services of worship each Sunday. It is the good news that is proclaimed each time we resist acting on selfish motivations and consider instead how to live with compassion and grace. It is the good news that draws us together in beloved community with fellow followers of Jesus—transforming strangers into friends. It is the good news that undergirds the difficult times of our lives—when we are facing financial hardship, awaiting a procedure, caregiving for a loved one, struggling in a relationship, facing uncertainty over the future or preparing for final exams to name just a few.

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! This is the good news that we are summoned to proclaim by our baptisms, and it is the good news that I certainly feel the need to hear over and over again as so many bandits of joy, peace and faith lurk around the edges of any given day and need to be held at bay.

The glorious anthems of Easter morning have faded (and a huge ‘thank you’ to Harry, our amazing choir and gifted musicians for their tremendous offering!). The aroma of Easter lilies has dissipated from the sanctuary. But this gifted good news continues to demand proclamation with every ounce of our being and in every aspect of our lives: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

As the Easter season continues on in the church year, may you continue to have your eyes open to signs of the resurrection breaking in within and around you. May you be fearless in your witness to what you have seen and have come to know of the love of God through Christ Jesus our Lord. Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Thanks be to God.

In Resurrection Hope,
Katie



Unexpected Easter proclamation under the Main Street overpass on Duke campus, 2015

Come Worship With Us!

Please recycle the newsletter when finished with it.

Church Officers

Session: Bob Clarke, Mary Gunderson, Leslie Lobaugh, Barbara VanDewoestine, Peggy Waters, Caroline Armacost, Brent Blaylock, Arland Eyl, Susie Gilbert, Greg Cates, Mary Martin (Clerk), Bill Ross, Catherine Wilson, Steve Yova, Tom Carstens

Diaconate: Seth Jernigan, Jenny Peters, Andy Riley, Fletcher Wilson (Moderator), Howard Wood, Laura Garrett, Jane Harper, Ruth Petrea, Mark Phillips, Bill Wicker, Micheale Collie, Jean Findlay, Ralph Gunderson, Nick Staff, Bert Wolf

Church Staff: Rev. Katie Crowe, Senior Pastor; Rev. Graham McChesney, Parish Associate; Rev. Matt Floding, Parish Associate; Tommy Grimm, Director of Family Ministries; Josh Gritter, Seminary Intern; Harry Jansen, Director of Music Ministries; Tina Petrillo, Business Manager; Lori Hardin, Director of the Weekday School; Lisa Drummond, Hospitality Coordinator; Janet Burney, Office Administrator; John Faulkenbury, Night Security; Martin Davis, Director of Facilities; Renita Harvey and Leah Hargrove, Childcare; Weekday School Teachers: Lisa Drummond, Tami Frenduto, Audrey Gomes, Maren Hardin, Sue Huber, Venetha Machock, Andrea Michos and Ann Pearson

Newsletter items should be sent to jburney@trinityave.org. Please submit items for the May Newsletter by April 15th.

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In praise of small group participation...

At my last Disciple Study meeting, our fearless leader provocatively asked whether churches were interested in having more members or in making more disciples—which initiated a discussion of the difference between being a 'member' of a church, and the deeper faith commitment of being a disciple' (Latin for 'learner'). I realized that for the most part I had been a 'member' of my home church growing up—my family attended Sunday worship and I went to the occasional youth group function, but it has only been at Trinity Avenue that I have formed a deeper connection to my church and my faith. I attribute the difference directly to my involvement with small group ministries at the church, and I enthusiastically recommend that everyone give a small group experience a try.

Last year Bruce and I took the plunge and hosted a Lenten group at our home, which turned out to be a wonderful time of new and renewed friendships as we shared our successes and failures with individually chosen Lenten practices. We laughed a lot, and even cried a bit and my faith journey was greatly influenced and assisted by the wisdom of this amazing group. This year, with a little trepidation, I signed up for the Disciple Bible Study. I worried that the daily reading and months-long commitment would be onerous, but instead I have found that I leave our weekly meetings feeling energized. The discussions are meaningful and stimulating, and I have learned so much from our knowledgeable teacher and the other faithful members of the group—who I now count as friends.

Small group opportunities abound at TAPC! The Christian Formation Ministry Team has organized Lenten Covenant groups again this year; this season's theme is the celebration of spiritual disciplines. There is also a Lenten series during the Sunday school hour organized around the reading of Lord "Teach Us by William Willemon and Stanley Hauerwas. However, the benefits of a small group experience are not limited to these short-term small group offerings—buoyed by the implementation of the practice of Word, Share, Prayer to open each meeting, every one of TAPC's ministry teams provides small group fellowship organized around an area of ministry at TAPC. Other small group opportunities include diverse Sunday school classes, women's bible study groups, Presbyterian Women's circles, and a bi-weekly men's bible study and breakfast group. I would be remiss (and probably subject to abuse...) if I did not mention another small group that is near and dear to my heart—the TAPC Chancel Choir. This is an amazing group of musicians who are deeply committed to the music ministry at TAPC. This is truly an example of the whole being greater than the sum of its parts, as we join together each week to offer the Word in song.

Matthew 6:21 reads, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." I am guessing that with busy lives most of us count our time among our most highly valued treasures. I have found that investing some of that time in small groups at TAPC has proved to be a wonderful blessing. What you will gain is a deeper relationship with your church family and a richer connection to your faith. I highly recommend it!

Leslie Lobaugh for the Session

CALENDAR OF CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Dates	Communion	Counters	Acolytes	Ushers/Greeters
Apr. 3	9 am: Chris & Cathy Perry 11 am: Mary Martin, Brent Blaylock, Mark Phillips & Andy Riley	Jim VanderWeide (lead counter) Gail VanderWeide Michael Garrett		<u>April 9am Services:</u> Joe & Reba Beavers <u>April 11am Services</u> TBA
Apr. 10	9am: Chris & Carol Leach	Bobby Stockburger Phil Hutchings	Acolytes: Grace & Maggie Garrett, Emma & Hannah Wilcox P-I-C: Garrett	
Apr. 17	9am: Suzy Ward & Carol Rose	Richard Blankenship (lead counter) Chuck Lloyd Noell Tillett	Acolytes: Tristan Riley, Collin & Ian Phillips, Anna Fleming P-I-C: Riley	
Apr. 24	9am: Edith & Marshall Boon	Suzanne Freeman Randy Ray	Acolytes: Grant, Vinton & Lucy Euler P-I-C: Euler	

Giving Glory to God for Your Tithes!

The goodness of God is on full display in so many ways at Trinity Avenue, and has been evident once again in the many pledges received on—and following—Commitment Sunday on Palm Sunday. Thank you, people of Trinity Avenue, who have pledged your financial support for the year ahead, and who give to support our ministries in so many ways. If you have not yet made a pledge of a financial commitment to the church, please take time to reflect on what you might offer, and reach out to Business Manager Tina Petrillo at tpetrillo@trinityave.org or at 919-682-3865 at your earliest convenience, as our work of budgeting will soon begin. Thank you for your commitment, and thanks be to God for the blessing of each disciple at Trinity Avenue in all of the gifts that you share.

Welcome, Rev. Matt Floding!

Rev. Matt Floding, who is currently serving in the office of Field Education at Duke Divinity School, has felt led to tithe a portion of his work week to the life and ministries of Trinity Avenue. He is joining our staff team as a Parish Associate and will be focusing his efforts on helping us deepen our experience and expression of God's hospitality. Below please find a letter of introduction from Matt. When you see him, please thank him for responding to the Spirit's nudge to grow and serve with us!

Please call me Matt. I serve as Director of Ministerial Formation at Duke Divinity School and am a minister of Word and Sacrament in the PCUSA's sister denomination, the Reformed Church in America. I'm married to Marcia, a Christian educator who serves at St. Giles Presbyterian Church, and we have three adult children, Geoffrey, Katy and Greta and one grandson, Micah Matthew. Greta is a social worker on the staff of First Presbyterian Church in Portland Oregon.

I hale from Minneapolis and I am an avid Minnesota ice hockey fan, though ACC basketball has grown on me—especially when it's a battle of the blues!

I attended McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago and have been blessed to serve as a pastor, college chaplain and in ministerial formation at an RCA seminary prior to coming to Durham. I love the church and believe deep in my soul the joy of the gospel—it's great news!

I think that's what triggered it. This past fall I enjoyed some wonderful pastoral opportunities that made me feel a bit unsettled. I counseled with some Presbyterian colleagues and a spiritual director friend to sort out what I was experiencing. It slowly became clear that my sense of being unsettled was connecting with something deep within me and my call as a minister. It was then that I became aware of the parish associate role. When I've been privileged to worship with you I saw it embodied by Pastor McChesney.

I'm not a mystic, but I do see the world through a gospel lens: the Cross of Jesus and redemption, the Table and the abundant hospitality of God, the Font and the Spirit's deep mysterious initiative of grace all of which is our joy to share—in words and actions. Walking into work one day, I was struck by one of the doors at Duke Chapel, it seemed to beckon, "Go ahead, it's unlocked." At the same time I had been thinking about the terrific partnership I have enjoyed with Trinity Avenue Presbyterian through the students in their ministerial formation here. It was just enough to nudge me to contact Pastor Katie to explore the parish associate role here. The door was unlocked!

— Matthew Floding

STEAM SATURDAYS

The next EDCI STEAM Saturdays workshop, "Seeing Nature Everywhere," will be held on four consecutive Saturdays from April 9 -April 30. This workshop will be co-facilitated by Triangle Land Conservancy and by Ellerbee Creek Watershed Association for EDCI Zone-children in grades 6-8. TAPC attempts to provide 2-4 volunteers each week to serve as positive adult role models and to assist the facilitators in providing a meaningful educational experience. Adult volunteers should be high school seniors and older and must be receptive to a criminal background check (required). A special "Thank You" goes out to Susan Ferguson and Mary Gunderson for their assistance with past workshops.

The majority of this workshop will be held out-of-doors, and will involve a more-than-usual amount of walking and standing. The April 9 and 23 sessions will be conducted at Horton's Grove Nature Preserve in Bahama, NC. The April 16 session will take place at Beaver Marsh Nature Preserve in Durham. The April 30 session will be held at Maureen Joy Charter School. Volunteers report to Maureen Joy Charter School, 107 S. Driver St. at 9:30 AM. Activities typically run from 10:00 AM—12:00 PM.

For more information on how to get involved in any or all sessions, please contact Randy Ray at ray117560@aol.com, or at (919) 698-3032 (mobile) or (919) 493-5631. I hope to hear from you soon. Thank you!

TAPC ARCHIVE CORNER

"God make the door of this House wide enough to receive all who need human love, friendship, and the Father's care; and narrow enough to shut out all pride, envy and hatred. Make its threshold smooth enough for the feet of little children and rugged enough to call forth our mature powers." - Front Cover of the May 22, 1966 TAPC bulletin.

As of March 1, there were 725 items with a special exhibit devoted to Bob Blake's newsletter covers in the TAPC archives on the Duke Divinity website. You can access our archives by going directly to our site at <http://divinityarchives.com/handle/11258/13607>.

*Duke Divinity Library and TAPC needs you! **TAPC MEMBERS ARE WANTED** to help scan our church photos at Duke Divinity School beginning in June. Groups of 3-5 are needed to do morning and afternoon blocks with one block per week or one block every other week. A short special training session will be provided. Free parking can be provided if the volunteers are willing to carpool in 2-3 cars. What a wonderful gift it will be to help preserve the history of our church! If you have any questions, please contact Sally Adkin (sadkin@nc.rr.com; 919-597-1278) or Ann Kirkland (gramkirk@aol.com; 919-417-2389).*

PRIMETIMERS

Rebecca Hauser, friend and neighbor of TAPC member Dorothy Anderson, gave Primetimers an amazing account of her life as a Holocaust survivor at our March meeting. Her daughter, Bonnie Hauser, provided a slide show as her mother added facts and answered questions. We learned about Rebecca's life when she was taken to Auschwitz at 20 years old from her home in Greece. She was liberated approximately 2 years later and returned home as the only surviving member of her family. Rebecca is truly a remarkable woman, and we are so grateful to her and Bonnie for bringing us her story of hope and survival.

For more information about Rebecca Hauser, please Google a video with the title: Rebecca Hauser/A Greek Girl in Auschwitz or search the title on YouTube.



TAPC member and friend, Carl Badger will be our guest on May 19 at 11:00. He will bring his old time fiddle music to the Fellowship Hall at 11:00! We will not meet in April. So, we look forward to seeing you in May!

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

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Christian Community "In the Name of Jesus"

Sunday School, April 17th—May 8th, in the Chapel

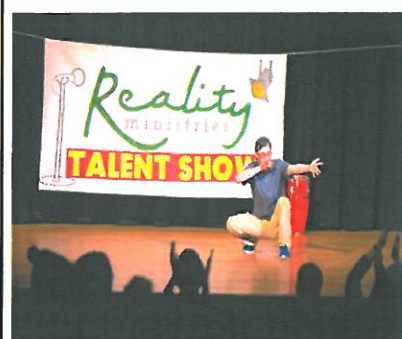
"We cannot bring good news on our own. We are called to proclaim the Gospel together, in community." With these words, Henri Nouwen challenges us to step back from the individualism that we swim in and to ask what God wants from us together, as a community in Christ. But what does Christian community look like? How does the good news of the gospel become embodied in our relationships with one another?

Reality Ministries will be joining us in the chapel during Sunday School on May 8th to share about what they've learned about the gospel as they've pursued building a community of friendship among people with and without disabilities. To prepare for their visit, we'll be reading through one of their foundational texts, Henri Nouwen's *In the Name of Jesus*, and discussing it in the chapel during Sunday School. Copies of the book, along with a reading schedule, can be found on the ministry table. You'll find the reading for each Sunday to take less than an hour to complete. Our first gathering will be on April 17th, led by Duke Divinity intern Josh Gritter. We hope you'll join us! Email Tommy at tgrimm@trinityave.org with questions.

Laying down your life means making your own faith and doubt, hope and despair, joy and sadness, courage and fear available to others as ways of getting in touch with the Lord of life.
-Henri Nouwen

Reality Ministries' Talent Show

Monday, April 18 at 7pm
The Carolina Theatre



Reality Ministries has issued a special invitation to TAPC members to attend their annual talent show. A pre-show art gallery opens at 6:00 PM, and the show starts at 7:00 PM. This special event features performers with and without developmental disabilities, and it's a wonderful celebration for people of all ages, especially children. TAPC had a number of people attend this event last year, and we hope even more will come this year. Bring your family and friends—this much anticipated free event is open to the public!

Meet TAPC's Newest Members

Sara and Forrest Johnson

sarajhn@hotmail.com, Forrestjohnson99@gmail.com

Sara and Forrest moved to Durham with their dog Beau and joined TAPC in 2015. Forrest is from Durham and attended TAPC as a child and teenager. Sara grew up in New Jersey but has spent almost all her adult life in Chapel Hill. They enjoy walking, biking and kayaking together, and their biggest adventure together was spending a year in New Zealand in 2013-14. Sara is an interventionist at Carrboro Elementary School, volunteers as a literacy tutor and is writing a mystery novel. Forrest is retired and volunteers as a citizenship class teacher, tax preparer and Guardian ad Litem. They have five young adult children between them.



Steven Howser

stevenhowser7@gmail.com

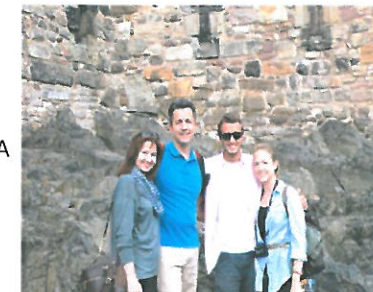
Steven was born and raised in Bristol, Tennessee. Before moving to Durham, Steven was living in St. Petersburg, Florida. He began asking God to relieve him from alcoholism and to lead him to a place where someone knew him. Steven had met Katie Crowe twelve years prior to that in Charlotte, and her face came to his mind. He prayed God would make a way to reach her, and a stranger gave him a ride to Gastonia. In the town's library, Steven googled Katie's name and found out that she was in Durham. He caught a ride to Durham, and he's been sober for the two years since. He now lives in Chapel Hill, and he's eager to share with you about God's transformative grace in his life.



Steve Gillespie

stephengillespie@bellsouth.net

Steve and Becca Gillespie moved to the Durham area in late 2014 from Jacksonville, FL. Steve has been in the US Navy for the last 29 years as a Submarine Warfare Officer. As an Active Duty Captain, he currently serves as the Commanding Officer of the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) Units at Duke University, UNC Chapel-Hill, and NC State University. He also teaches as a Professor at all three universities. Becca is an ordained PCUSA Pastor and left her congregation in early 2015 to join Steve and pursue Presbyterian opportunities in North Carolina. They have been married for 26 years and have two adult children; a daughter, Rachel, attending graduate school at Wake Forest University and a son, Jordan, a sophomore attending Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, FL. They live in Apex, NC with their dog Eddy and enjoy the multiple activities (restaurants, movies, Broadway shows) available in the Triangle. They visited many churches in the area over several months until feeling immediately welcome at TAPC and hope to contribute to the life of the congregation as opportunities arise.



Molly & John Stanifer

jstanifer@gmail.com; molly.stanifer@gmail.com

John and Molly have been in Durham since 2011 when they moved into the Watts-Hillandale neighborhood. Molly is a graduate of NC State and works as a financial advisor at Old Peak Finance in Chapel Hill. John is a graduate of Wake Forest and is a physician (Nephrology) at Duke. Darby is the newest members of the family whom they welcomed in September of 2015! Molly clogs with the Apple Chill Cloggers, they both love the food scene in Durham. You can often find them at the Durham Run Club on Wednesdays with their dog, Blue.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

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