



# The Congregation at Duke University Chapel

*Fellowship . Mission . Education*

DEEPENING CONNECTIONS

12-19-2019

When asking for directions, have you ever been told “You can’t miss it?” It is a phrase I have heard and no longer believe, because I have missed it! I have obliviously driven by my destination not seeing the landmark I was supposed to see. I have walked up and down a street wondering which door was the one I was to enter. I do not think of myself as particularly directionally-challenged, but I do confess to dependence on a GPS.

From the  
Senior Pastor



Perhaps for these reasons, I find Isaiah’s promise particularly comforting.

A highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Holy Way;  
the unclean shall not travel on it,  
but it shall be for God’s people;  
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. (Isaiah 35:8)

As we conclude the Advent season, move into celebrating Christmas, and look ahead to a New Year, it is good news that God’s promise is for a clear path, one in which not even fools shall go astray. The highway through the wilderness will be obvious. The way to new life will be clear. On Christmas, we celebrate God becoming flesh in Jesus, a dramatic self-revelation of the Divine in the midst of humanity. For this season, let us celebrate that “Christ the Savior is born,” even as we acknowledge the mystery in that claim. God invites all of us on the Holy Way, following the One born in Bethlehem, and let us rejoice that the way is made for all travelers.

May the joy of the birth of Jesus be yours, now and always.

Carol

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Christmas Eve Services at Duke Chapel will be held on **Tuesday, December 24** as follows:

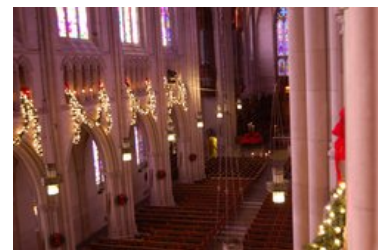
**2:00 p.m.** Children’s Christmas Eve Service

**4:00 p.m.** Christmas Eve Service

**6:00 p.m.** Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion

**11:00 p.m.** Service of Lessons and Carols

Details on these and other Christmas ministries are [available online](#).



Please note that all four Christmas Eve services are well attended, so please plan to arrive early for ease of parking and seating. Historically, the **6:00 p.m.** service has the most space available, so worshipers may want to choose to attend that service.

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## This Sunday December 22

All Sunday morning classes meet in the lowest level of the Divinity School (across the Chapel quad from Page Auditorium) from **9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.** Refreshments are available at **9:30 a.m.** New participants are welcome at any time.

- **WEE PRAISE:** Will not meet this week or December 29.
- **GODLY PLAY:** Will not meet this week or December 29.
- **GODLY PLAY ADVANCED:** Will not meet this week or December 29.
- **YOUTH BIBLE STUDY:** Will not meet this week or December

- **ADULT FORUM:** Dr. Brian Stratton, Associate Professor of Philosophy, UNC-Pembroke, will present "Philosophy, Mystery and the Incarnation" in 0012 Westbrook.

## UNIVERSITY WORSHIP 11:00 a.m. in the Chapel

### Fourth Sunday in Advent

Preaching: The Rev. Bruce Puckett; Assistant Dean, of Duke University Chapel

Scripture readings: Isaiah 7:10-16; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon: That We May Be Saved

Hymns: *bulletin insert* O Lord, How Shall I Meet You; #184 Of the Father's Love

Begotten; #246 Joy to the World

All are welcome!

## FELLOWSHIP

### FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE EVENTS

#### December 29 - Coffee, cookies and kinship

When the holidays are over, we are left with a ten foot mound of crumpled wrapping paper, pine needles, glitter on every surface and enough leftover Christmas goodies to make our fat pants feel tight. On **December 29**, following worship, bring your leftover Christmas goodies and join the Fellowship Committee in the Chapel lounge for coffee, cookies and kinship.

#### January 12 - Brrrr...It's getting *chili*

What better way to warm up on a cold day than with a delicious bowl of steaming chili. Join the Fellowship Committee in the Chapel lounge, following worship for a Chili Luncheon. The Fellowship committee will provide homemade chili and all of the best fixins. Think you can't stand the heat? Not to worry—there will be a variety of temperatures offered and a large container of Roloids. Please bring side dishes or desserts, which may be dropped in the kitchen prior to worship. Crafts for children will also be available. Bring the entire family for food and fun!

### SECOND WEDNESDAY LUNCH

Informal conversation and fellowship in a local restaurant is the only agenda for the Second Wednesday Lunch. On **January 8** at **12-noon**, participants will gather at Bennett Pointe Grill, 4625 Hillsborough Rd, Durham. Each person will purchase their own meal. Please email the Congregation Office or call 919-684-3917 by **Monday, January 6** if you plan to attend.



### GROWING THRU GRIEF

Growing thru Grief is a free, open, confidential program sponsored by a coalition of area religious and civic organizations, including the Congregation, to provide support and comfort to those who mourn. Meetings are held year-round on **Tuesdays** (except for holidays) at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1200 W. Cornwallis. Participants gather at **4:00 p.m.** for registration and refreshments; the meeting, a presentation plus small group discussion, starts at **4:30 p.m.** and concludes by **6:00 p.m.**

### POINSETTIA DELIVERY

Volunteers delivered poinsettias from Duke Chapel to some members of the Congregation who are ill, grieving, or homebound. The Congregation is grateful both to the volunteers and the Chapel for making this possible.



## MISSION

### URBAN MINISTRIES DINNERS

Ten volunteers and twenty cooked lasagnas are needed every month to serve our neighbors at Urban Ministries. The Congregation will be providing dinner on **Sunday, January 12** at

### DECEMBER PARTNER AGENCY - RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

The Congregation supports the mission of the Ronald McDonald house with both a grant and service projects. The Ronald McDonald House keeps families together and near the care they need by providing low cost housing to families when their children are in need of medical care. The [Ronald McDonald House](#) of Durham, located at 506 Alexander Avenue, Durham, welcomes 55 families each night.

### JANUARY SATURDAY SERVICE PROJECT

Ronald McDonald House of Durham believes that comfort takes many forms—a homemade meal, a fluffy pillow, a warm hug, a caring friend. Come to the Ronald McDonald House of Durham for a Bake Day on **January 25** from **9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Please bring the ingredients for your favorite cookie, muffin or bread recipe and join in on the fun of baking and providing comfort for those patients and families who are staying at Ronald McDonald House of Durham. [Please sign up here.](#)



### LENTEN SERVICE TRIP

During Lent, plan to take something on, rather than give something up. Volunteers are needed to assist homeowners in Eastern North Carolina recover from damage caused by hurricanes and other storms. The trip, which will be **March 8-13**, is open to adult, university students, and youth age 16 or older. Details on are [the website](#). For more information, please contact

trip leader, [Carol Matteson](#).

### \$57,000 IN GRANTS

On Sunday, **December 15**, the Congregation presented \$57,000 in grants to [eleven local agencies](#). The Congregation is grateful to these agencies for their good work in the community and to all of the members and friends of the Congregation whose donations make these grants possible.



## EDUCATION

### SUNDAY MORNING HOSPITALITY

Volunteers are needed to bring a few refreshments on **Sunday mornings at 9:25 a.m.** to welcome students as they come for our education hour. [Please sign up here to help.](#)

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES BREAK

- Wee Praise, Godly Play and Youth Bible Study classes will not meet on **December 22** or **December 29**.
- Adult Forum will not meet on **December 29**.
- All classes will resume on **January 5**.

### ADULT FORUM

The topic scheduled for upcoming Adult Forum classes are as follows:

**December 29** – Holiday break; no class

**January 5** - The Rev. Ismael Ruiz-Millan, director of the Hispanic House of Studies, Global Education, and Intercultural Formation at Duke Divinity School, continuation of "The Right Posture for Holy Relationships through Cultural Humility. (The first portion of this topic was presented on December 1, 2019).

**January 12** – Jonathan Homrighausen, Duke University Religious Studies Ph.D. Student, "Imagining Creation, Theophany, and the Ten Commandments with *The Saint John's*

*Bible.*"

**January 19** – The Rev. Dr. Soong-Chan Rah, Professor of Church Growth and Evangelism at North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago, and guest preacher in Duke Chapel, "Unsettling Truths: The Ongoing, Dehumanizing Legacy of the Doctrine of Discovery."

**January 26** – To be announced.

### LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

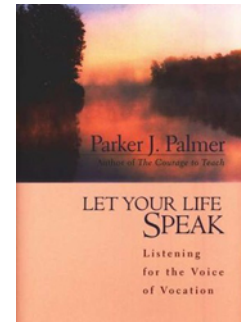
The Lectionary Bible Study will be held on **Friday, January 3 at 10:30 a.m.** in the library at The Forest at Duke. The focus of the study will be on Ephesians 1:3-14. All are invited to attend.

### GRAD STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

University graduate students, other young adults, and their partners are invited to gather for dinner and discussion on **Mondays, January 13 and January 27 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Duke Chapel kitchen, located on the lower level of the Chapel. Conversation is focused on the gospel of Matthew. All questions and perspectives are welcome. Please contact [Matt Wright](#) for additional information

### JANUARY BOOK GROUP

The next book group will focus on Parker Palmer's *Let Your Life Speak*. This short book has been impactful for many. The book is described as follows: "With wisdom, compassion, and gentle humor, Parker J. Palmer invites us to listen to the inner teacher and follow its leading toward a sense of meaning and purpose." The book groups will meet three times each starting on **Wednesday, January 15** with one group meeting at **10:00 a.m.** and the other at **7:00 p.m.** Please contact the [Congregation office](#) for detailed information and to indicate plans to attend.



### SIGN UP NOW FOR THE RETREAT

Register now for the [Winter Retreat](#) on **Saturday, February 1** from **9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** [Dean Gregory Jones](#) and [Rev. Susan Pendleton Jones](#) will lead the retreat on the topic of "Navigating Polarizing Times: Seeking a Center that Holds" at the Freeman Center for Jewish Life on Duke's campus. Participants will explore the bewilderment of turbulent times and the desire to discern God's will. Leaders will focus on Jesus Christ as the "center that holds." The participant fee of \$10 covers the cost of a catered lunch. Additional details are online. Register now by contacting the [Congregation office](#).

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## GOOD TO KNOW

### THANK YOU DECORATORS

A team of volunteers refreshed the Christmas decorations at the Chapel on **December 16** by replacing greens and poinsettias. The Chapel and Congregation are grateful for all of these volunteers, and particularly to Jim and Ellie Ferguson who have led this project for years.





### **VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE HOLIDAY CONCERT**

The Vocal Arts Ensemble (VAE), conducted by Rodney Wynkoop, will present its annual holiday concert in the Chapel this **Friday, December 20**, at **8:00 p.m.** Admission is free but donations are gratefully accepted. Several members of the Duke Chapel Choir will be singing in this concert and would love to see you all there! The group will present arrangements of familiar holiday carols and other seasonal offerings, including a piece composed by Zeb Highben. See [www.vocalartsensemble.org](http://www.vocalartsensemble.org) or Facebook for additional information, or email [vocalartsensembledurham@nc.rr.com](mailto:vocalartsensembledurham@nc.rr.com)

### **SUNDAY MORNING PARKING**

There is no charge to park in the Bryan Center parking deck on **Sundays** from **9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** For the surface lot between the parking garage and the Chapel, there is no fee to park in the lot until after **1:00 p.m.** on **Sundays**. Sunday parking passes for the parking garage are available from the Congregation office or Chapel attendant.

### **CHRISTMAS LETTERS**

The Congregation staff enjoys reading Christmas letters. For those who typically write a Christmas letter, please consider sending one to the office as well.

### **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

The Congregation directory is being updated this month in advance of electronic publication in January. If interested in submitting updated pictures for the directory, please submit them to the Congregation office by **January 5, 2020**.

### **OFFICE CLOSED**

The Congregation Office will be closed on the following days:

- Christmas Eve: **Tuesday, December 24**
- Christmas Day: **Wednesday, December 25**

- New Year's Eve: **Tuesday, December 31**
- New Year's Day: **Wednesday, January 1**
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: **Monday, January 20**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 22 – May 1, 2020 – Visit ZOE Empowers in Zimbabwe
- May 10, 2020 – Sunday Worship Service at The Forest at Duke University
- May 15-17, 2020 – Annual Overnight Retreat at Ft. Caswell, Oak Island, NC
- June 14, 2020 – Annual Business Meeting

### MEET A CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBER

#### Congregation Care Program Coordinator: Han Setiawan

Hi there! My name is Han. Currently I am a PhD student in Medical Physics at Duke. I started worshipping at Duke Chapel in Fall 2017 and became a member of the Congregation in 2018. I found the Congregation through my involvement in the Chapel Choir. Being a part of the Congregation and Duke Chapel community has been a wonderful and rewarding experience for me. I have become aware of many Christian and spiritual traditions that I never knew existed. I have met so many people who are passionate about what they do, from those caring for the sick to those advancing social justice in Durham. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve and I thank God for all of you.

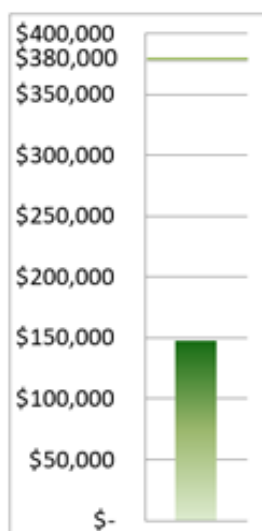


### DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

No Council meeting was held in December. The Council and Staff enjoyed a potluck gathering at Carol's home on **December 12**.

### DECEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

<i>July 2019-June 2020 fiscal year</i>	Actual to November 30	Annual Budget
Contributions	\$147,453	\$380,000
Other Income	\$1,524	\$3,000
Restricted Assets Released	\$9,108	\$0
Expenses	\$199,574	\$381,473
Difference	-\$41,489	-\$1,527



### COMING IN JANUARY

#### January Birthdays

- 1 Marcy Hansen
- 3 Christine O'Keefe; Ernie Ruckert
- 4 Samuel Gass; Kendall Manuel
- 5 Mary Anderson

6 Jordan Hains; Michael Young  
7 Mel Snyder  
8 Karen Cochran; Johanna Collins-Wood; Nancy Marks  
9 Katerina Kucera  
10 Lisa Smith  
12 Bill Youngblood  
13 David Jessen; Camey VanSant  
14 Scot Woodrum  
16 Franca Alphin  
17 Lauren Bullamore  
18 Nicholas Wisner; Kyle Woodrum  
19 Gina Harrison  
20 Ed Harlow  
21 Ray Briggs; Melissa Grosso; Harrison Johnson; Jane Phillips; Fran Steele  
23 Jan Gwyer; Ariella King; Pat Murray; Terry Yuschok  
24 Kate DeAlmeida; Diane Hummelbrunner; Joe Krenicky  
26 Steve Cochran; Anna Corpening; Phillip Martin; Janis Parker; Carolyn Penny; Mak Siu  
27 Shaun Pack  
28 Wade Penny; Whitney Sandor; Hayley Skye  
29 Peggy Ray; Carlynn Winters  
30 Judy Arneson; Kristen Blackman Hohenstein; Lee Lawrence; Julian Recio-Garcia

### **January Communion at The Forest at Duke Retirement Community**

**January 20, 11:15 a.m.**

2701 Pickett Road, Durham

Serenity Room (The Chapel), Health and Wellness Center

### **January Worship Services**

**January 5:** Worship Service with Holy Communion

Preacher: The Rev. Bruce Puckett, Assistant Dean of Duke Chapel

**January 12:** Worship Service

Preacher: The Rev. Bruce Puckett, Assistant Dean of Duke Chapel

**12:15 p.m.** Holy Communion and Prayers for Healing in Memorial Chapel

**January 19:** Worship Service

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Soong-Chan Rah, Professor of Church Growth and Evangelism at North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL

**12:15 p.m.** Holy Communion and Prayers for Healing in Memorial Chapel

**January 26:** Worship Service with Holy Communion

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Lauren Winner, Associate Professor of Christian Spirituality, Duke University Divinity School

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## **CONGREGATION CALENDAR** **DUKE CHAPEL YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

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### **CONGREGATION JOYS AND CONCERN**

- *Cary Gravatt* – Cary is recuperating from a fall at Hillcrest Convalescent Center.
- *Pat Murray*: Pat is in hospice care due to a brain tumor. She requests no visitors or calls, yet is grateful for prayer and cards.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** To request confidential prayer from members of the Prayer Ministry, please send your confidential request to the Prayer Ministry .

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** All e-News articles and announcements are to be submitted to the following e-mail address: congregation@duke.edu by 5:00 p.m. each Monday.

**SUBSCRIPTION MANAGEMENT:** Please send corrected email addresses or requests to be unsubscribed to congregation@duke.edu .

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[Visit our Website](#) | [Visit our Calendar](#) | [Visit the Duke Chapel YouTube Channel](#)

[Email](#) | Phone: 919-684-3917 | Mailing address: Box 90974, Durham, NC 27708-0974



*The Congregation at Duke University Chapel  
Staff*



The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg  
Senior Pastor



Nelson Strother  
Finance and IT Administrator



Kirsten Ford  
Communications Assistant



Phyllis Snyder  
Children's Pastor and





Michael Larbi  
Pastoral Assistant



Matt Wright  
Pastoral Assistant



Joseph Kovas  
Divinity School Intern