



The Congregation at Duke University Chapel

Education . Fellowship . Mission

DEEPENING CONNECTIONS

08-22-2019

I doubt the book of Ezekiel is referenced in self-esteem curriculum. Consider this verse: “you shall remember your evil ways, and your dealings that were not good; and you shall loathe yourselves for your iniquities and your abominable deeds.” (Ezekiel 36:31) This prophet speaks boldly and harshly.

From the
Senior Pastor



It is striking that this verse, which seems to prompt both guilt and shame, appears in the midst of a passage in which God promises renewal for the people of Israel. The Lord God speaks of giving them a new spirit, helping them follow divine guidance, and living once again in their ancestral lands. In the midst of all these promises, there is also a call to remember past mistakes. Why?

The reason may be revealed in how this section of Ezekiel 36 opens and closes. Twice, the Lord God says, “It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name.” (Ezekiel 36: 22 and similarly in 36:32) The point is that God, not people, is central. This is a hard lesson to learn, yet freeing once we learn it. We are not the center of the universe, nor are we even the center of the smaller spheres in which we travel. God is central. When we can check our self-centeredness, we are more likely to trust the One who is truly the center of the universe.

I do not advocate self-loathing. I do advocate savoring the humility and gratitude that comes from recognizing that the God of all chooses to call us beloved children.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

Carol

This Sunday August 25

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES

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:** For children ages 0-3 with parents or caregivers in 0011 Westbrook.
- **GODLY PLAY:** Children ages 4-5th graders in 0050 Langford.
- **SUMMER BIBLE STUDY:** Youth and Adults will explore Ezekiel 38-39 led by Pastor Carol Gregg in 0013 Westbrook.

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

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, Dean of Duke Chapel

Scripture readings: Jeremiah 1:4-10; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17

Sermon: The Estimation of God

Hymns: #57 O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing; #139 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty;

#154 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All are welcome!

MEETING AFTER WORSHIP

- Christian Education – The Christian Education Committee will meet after worship in the Chapel kitchen, located in the lower level of the Chapel. All those willing to help plan educational ministries are welcome to attend.

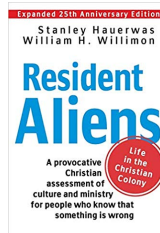
EDUCATION

YOUNG ADULT DINNER DISCUSSION

University graduate students, other young adults, and their partners are invited to gather for dinner and discussion on **Mondays, August 26** and **September 9 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Duke Chapel kitchen, located on the lower level of the Chapel. The group will explore the scriptures in a welcoming and inquisitive manner. All questions and perspectives are welcome. Please contact [Matt Wright](#) for additional information.

FALL BOOK GROUPS

Two book groups this fall will help readers discern the cultural forces in our world and gain a new perspective of the people of God. On **Wednesdays, September 4, 11, 18, and 25** participants will discuss Walter Wink's book, *The Powers That Be* which "reclaims the divine realm as central to human existence by offering new ways of understanding our world in theological terms."



On **Wednesdays, October 16, 23, and 30** we will explore *Resident Aliens* by Duke Divinity School professors Will Willimon and Stanley Hauerwas. This book will encourage readers to consider the nature of the church and its surrounding culture. The book groups will meet both at **10:00 a.m.** and **7:30 p.m.** For detailed information and to indicate plans to attend, please contact the [Congregation office](#).

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

The Lectionary Bible study will meet in the library of The Forest at Duke on **Friday, September 6 at 10:30 a.m.** The focus of the study will be Luke 14:25-33.

FALL CLASSES

The Sunday morning education hour will soon double in size. During the summer, three classes are available. Starting on **Sunday, September 8**, we will have six Christian Education classes between **9:45 a.m.– 10:45 a.m.**, with coffee and refreshments beginning at **9:30 a.m.** All of the classes are held in the lowest level of the Westbrook Building, which is immediately adjacent to Duke Chapel. Classes offered are:

- Wee Praise – Music and movement for infants through age 3 with their caregivers
- Godly Play – Christian formation for children ages 4 – 1st grade
- Godly Play Advanced – Christian formation for children in 2nd – 5th grades
- Youth Bible Study – An exploration of the scriptures for youth in 6th – 12th grades
- Adult Bible Study – In depth study one book at a time
- Adult Forum – Topical discussion with a variety of guest speakers

New participants are welcome to join these classes at any time. For more information, please contact the Congregation office at congregation@duke.edu or 919-684-3917.

WEE PRAISE



WEE PRAISE

The Wee Praise class for infants through 3-year-olds, along with their parent(s) or caregiver(s), will begin the 2019-2020 programming on **September 8**. The *God, My Family and Me* materials will be used this year (these are the same materials implemented during 2013-2014, 2015-2016, and 2017-2018). This curriculum focuses first on learning what it means to be a child of God, then expanding that awareness to our immediate family, pets, grandparents, friends, and the church. If your family has never attended a *Musikgarten* program, you can expect the class to begin with a greeting song naming each child, a variety of movement activities (dancing with scarves, finger play, traveling movement), opportunities to practice a steady beat, vocal activities (easy-to-sing songs, voice-building activities, songs for adults to sing to their children, and call-and-respond songs), a variety of repertoire in terms of meter and in terms of modes, listening time, prayer time, bubble time, opportunities to play instruments, and a closing song. Best of all your family will join a community! Leader Kate DeAlmeida and other volunteers on the Wee Praise Teaching Team look forward to starting this new school year and growing in the knowledge of God and our faith with you and your family.

They hope to see you soon!

GODLY PLAY

Starting **September 8**, there will be two Godly Play classes! Children ages 4 through 1st graders will meet together in the lowest level of Duke Divinity School, Langford, Room 0054. Right next door in Langford Room 0050, the 2nd through 5th graders will meet together in Advanced Godly Play. The Advanced class will have the opportunity to go deeper into the Bible stories, as well as expand into new areas of learning and discovery.



YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

Through Sunday morning Bible study, youth will explore almost the entirety of the Bible. By studying Old Testament books in the fall and New Testament books in the spring, over a six year cycle, participants will have the opportunity to discuss both familiar and unfamiliar scriptures. This fall, beginning **September 8**, students will study Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Lamentations under the leadership of Matt Wright. The class will meet in Westbrook 0013.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Through a ten-week class, adults will study the book of Isaiah this fall. The book of Isaiah is a long, composite work written in the 8th and 6th centuries B.C. Through poetry and prose it speaks of ancient politics, the Babylonian exile, and the hope of deliverance. Today's readers will see not only divine judgement, but also unending hope. Starting **September 8**, Divinity School intern Joseph Kovas will lead this study, which will meet in Westbrook 0015.

ADULT FORUM

With a variety of guest speakers, the Adult Forum offers presentations and discussions on a wide range of topics. The thought-provoking topics include Biblical studies, current social issues and the work of mission agencies. The Adult Forum meets weekly in Westbrook 0012 starting on **September 8**.

September 8 – “Discerning God’s Will”, led by Carol Gregg, Senior Pastor of the Congregation at Duke Chapel.

September 15 – “Hope for Housing in Durham”, led by The Rev. Breana Van Velzen, Duke Chapel Community Ministry Outreach Coordinator; Lloyd Schmeidler and Hope Hartman from HomeShare Durham, and Dick Hails from the Coalition for Affordable Housing and Transit.

September 22 – “Holy Dreaming”, led by Brady Surlis, Chair of the Congregation Council's Visioning Team, and Robin Barefoot, Visioning Team Advisor. Come share your dreams for the ministries, learning, and fellowship of the Congregation and listen to the visions of others. Hear more about the visioning process underway and the hopes of your brothers and sisters in this place.

September 29 – “Supporting Heart Languages in Asia” led by Steve and Mary Porter.



CHILDREN'S FALL FELLOWSHIP

Plan now to attend the annual Children's Fall Fellowship at Brown Farms in Rougemont, **October 12, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** You will receive an official eVite in September. The farm features a picnic shelter, recreation field, playground area, and farm tour hayride. There is a great maze made of corn, soybeans, sunflowers, and other grains where the children pick food to feed to the barnyard animals—horses, cows, rabbits, chickens, sheep, ducks and geese.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

The four-week membership class this fall will be held on **Sundays, October 13, 20, 27,** and **November 3** from **9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.** All those considering joining the Congregation are welcome to attend. For additional information about membership, please contact Carol Gregg.

FINDING OUR WAY IN THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove will lead the Congregation's fall retreat on **Saturday, October 19** from **9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Participants will explore communal practices of discernment for the common good. How do we learn to hear the voice of God in community? Where do our individual desires and commitments intersect with others' in the process of discernment? Through a combination of Scripture study, song, and conversation, learn how we find our way in beloved community. Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove

is a spiritual writer, activist, founder of Rutba House, and a resident of Durham. Details on the retreat. Childcare will be provided. Please contact the Congregation Office to make a reservation for childcare. A participant fee of \$10 will cover the cost of a catered lunch. Please make a reservation for the retreat by contacting the Congregation Office at congregation@duke.edu or 919-684-3917, by **Monday, October 14.**



FELLOWSHIP

SUPPORT FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

Growing Thru Grief offers year-round support with education and small groups for those who have lost a loved one. Here is the schedule of speakers for the next few weeks:

August 27: Bill Dahl will open the meeting

September 3: Jane Williams' topic is "To Speak or Not to Speak"

September 10: Joyce Rea will share some "Tips on Navigating the Grief Journey"

September 17: Rabbi Daniel Greyber on "Grieving at Your Own Pace"

On September 24, Mitzi Quint will begin our fall six-week series on the Introduction to Grief. She will explore six myths of grief.

Growing Thru Grief is a free, open, confidential program sponsored by a coalition of area religious 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, coffee, and cookies; the meeting, a presentation plus small group discussion, begins at **4:30 p.m.** and concludes by **6:00 p.m.**



SECOND WEDNESDAY LUNCH

Informal conversation and fellowship in a local restaurant is the only agenda for the Second Wednesday Lunch. On **September 11 at 12-noon**, participants will gather at Hope Valley Diner, 3710 Shannon Road, Durham. Each person will purchase their own meal. Please notify the Congregation Office at congregation@duke.edu or 919-

684-3917 by **Monday, September 9** if you plan to attend.

CONGREGATION ANNUAL PICNIC – SEPTEMBER 15

Let's be frank. Everyone likes hot dogs and a chance to ketchup with friends. And what about snow cones? Think they're a chilly chunk of fruit-flavored heaven in a paper cup? Put all of the above together and you have the Congregation's Annual picnic and Anniversary Celebration. All are welcome to join in the fun, **September 15** at Piney Woods Park, 400 E. Woodcroft Parkway, Durham. Festivities begin at **5:00 p.m.** and will continue until dark, or until we run out of buns – whichever comes first. Participants are encouraged to bring a dish to share: appetizer, side dish, salad or dessert.

MISSION

URBAN MINISTRIES DINNERS

See below for the upcoming dates when the Congregation provides Urban Ministries Dinners. Servers and lasagna are always needed. If you cannot stay to serve but you can cook and drop off two 12-serving Stouffers lasagnas with meat sauce on any of these dates, that would be a big help. Please check your calendars and notify Cricket at scovilj@aol.com, or the Congregation Office at congregation@duke.edu or 919-684-



URBAN MINISTRIES
OF DURHAM

3917 about any and all dates that you can help. New volunteers are always welcome!

Upcoming Dinners:

- **Sunday, September 8, 5:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, October 23, 6:15 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**
- **Sunday, November 10, 5:15 to 7:00 p.m.**

GOOD TO KNOW

INVITATION TO DREAM SURVEY

The Visioning Team invites all members and friends of the Congregation to a moment of *Holy Dreaming* – a time to imagine just how rich and full the ministry, learning, and fellowship could be in and through the Congregation at Duke Chapel. Please take a moment to share your vision by answering a few questions [HERE](#). The Visioning Team wants to hear the dream God has placed in the hearts of Chapel worshipers. All input is welcome. The Visioning Team is comprised of Robin Barefoot, Janell Lovelace, Drew Middleton, Mel Snyder, Brady Surles, and Carol Gregg.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 8 – Christian Education Classes start fall schedule
- September 15 – Church Picnic
- September 30 to October 4 – Visit to Family Health Ministries in Haiti
- October 12 – Children’s Fall Fellowship
- October 19 – Fall Retreat with Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove
- March 8 – 13, 2020 – Lenten Service Trip
- April 22 – May 1, 2020 – Visit ZOE Empowers in Zimbabwe

OFFICE CLOSED

The Congregation Office will be closed on **Monday, September 2**, in observance of Labor Day.



MEET A CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBER

Treasurer: Drew Hains

I joined the Congregation at Duke University Chapel in 2017, along with my wife, Jordan, and our son, Levi. Jordan and I moved to Durham in 2014, back into the same neighborhood that she grew up in. We have always had strong ties to the Duke Community, so when looking for a church in which to raise Levi, the Congregation was the best choice for us.

I joined the Finance Committee in June of 2018 and was graciously asked by Carol if I would become Treasurer when Bill Youngblood stepped down. We enjoy bringing Levi to Wee Praise, (when he's not sleeping) and spending Saturday's volunteering.

Away from church I am an Accounting and HR coordinator in Research Triangle Park. I live with Jordan, Levi and our 2 dogs, Cole and Emma.

AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Congregation Council met on August 8, 2019, at The Forest at Duke. This meeting was largely focused on advancing the visioning process as work proceeds to discern how best to fulfill the mission of the Congregation, which is stated as follows: Believing that God has reached out to us with love and forgiveness, we seek to grow together in faith through worship, study, service, and celebration to the end that we embody Christ's compassion and holiness.

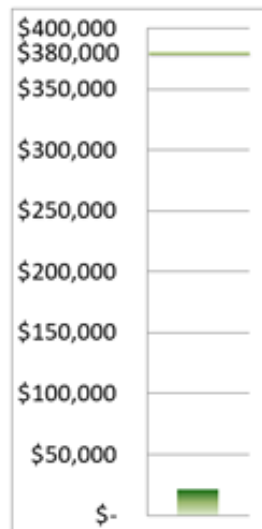
The critical work of collecting feedback from Congregation members is ongoing, and the visioning team and the Congregation Council welcome questions and input from members of the Congregation throughout the visioning process. In addition to formal feedback opportunities, Congregation members should feel free to reach out to Council members with ideas and questions at any time.

If at any point you have concerns or questions that you would like the Council to discuss, please contact any member. Meetings are always open to any who want to attend. The

next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 12 at 7:00 p.m.**, in The Studio at The Forest at Duke on Pickett Road.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

<i>July 2019-June 2020 fiscal year</i>	Actual to July 30	Annual Budget
Contributions	\$21,326	\$380,000
Other Income	\$353	\$3,000
Restricted Assets Released	\$3,875	\$0
Expenses	\$39,185	\$381,473
Difference	-\$13,631	-\$1,527



COMING IN SEPTEMBER

September Birthdays

2 Cat Colvin, Dan Ford, Jordan McDaniel

3 James Clapp

4 Kathleen Warren, Anne Red Wright

5 Sterling Ingui

6 Alexandra Butler, Michael Dennehy

8 David Borg, Mark Brown, John Sandor Jr.

11 Tony Willms

12 Maureen Johnson

13 Bert Alexander, Tom Manning, Drew Middleton, Bruce Mueller

14 Gary Bennett

15 Deni Armstrong, Mabel Cacchio, Craig DeAlmeida, Joan Fox, Levi Hains

16 Elaine Briggs, Liliana Guile; Giovanni Gullotto, Brian Stratton

17 Kate Clayton, Whitney Schwab

18 Henry Corpening; Grace Cullen; Jo Anne Dewitt

19 Beth Gray, Christopher Ross

20 Gary Bauer

21 Evebell Dunham, Mark Everett, Julie Hockett, Erin O'Connor, Bruce Puckett,
Gretchen Ziegenhals

23 Jim Mau, James Spencer

24 Joel Boggan, Bob Claytor, Jim Haskins, Karen Heitzenrater

25 Ned Arnett, Elizabeth Kenly

26 Padgett Gerler

27 John Foust, Lia King, James Nye, Leigh Wynkoop

29 Robert Califf, Peter Norris

30 Lois Oliver

September Communion at The Forest at Duke Retirement Community

September 16, 11:15 a.m.

2701 Pickett Road, Durham

September Worship Services

September 1: Worship Service

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, Dean of Duke Chapel

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

September 8: Worship Service with Holy Communion

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. N. T. Wright, New Testament Scholar, Pauline Theologian, and retired Anglican Bishop

September 15: 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

September 22: Worship Service with Holy Communion

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg, Congregation at Duke Chapel Pastor

September 29: Worship Service

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, Dean of Duke Chapel

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

CONGREGATION CALENDAR **DUKE CHAPEL YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

CONGREGATION JOYS AND CONCERN

- *Joel Boggan:* Joel and Lin Ong were married on August 10.



- *Cat Clyburn:* Cat is beginning studies at Union Theological Seminary, NYC, this fall.
- *Steven DeAlmeida:* Steven is recuperating from falls in the health care section of Croasdaile Village.
- *Pat Murray:* Pat is ill with a brain tumor. She requests no visitors or calls at present, yet welcomes prayer and cards.
- *Anna Wirzba:* Anna and Luke Mincey announce their engagement and plans for an October wedding.



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
Communications



Michael Larbi
Pastoral Assistant



Matt Wright
Pastoral Assistant



Joseph Kovas
Divinity School Intern

