



The Congregation at Duke University Chapel

Education . Mission . Fellowship

DEEPENING CONNECTIONS

05-21-2020

Others have reminded me recently of an old prayer, which speaks powerfully today. Likely first published in 1937 by Reinhold Niebuhr, it was popularized after WWII by Alcoholics Anonymous. What most people know as the “Serenity Prayer” is the first portion of a longer prayer. While there are multiple versions, one is as follows:

From the
Senior Pastor



God, grant me the Serenity
To accept the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can,
And Wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time,
Enjoying one moment at a time,
Accepting hardship as the pathway to peace.
Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is,
Not as I would have it.
Trusting that He will make all things right
if I surrender to His will.
That I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with Him forever in the next.
Amen.

Prayers such as this can nourish and form us, especially if we use them regularly. In addition, familiar prayers such as this can take on new meaning in new seasons of our lives.

The Education Committee has named “Prayer” as their theme for this coming year. This theme was selected months ago to correspond with the Chapel’s summer preaching series on the Psalms, but has taken on new meaning as we continue to respond to the pandemic. While we may enjoy praying together, prayer is certainly one of the spiritual disciplines that we can practice while socially isolated. In fact, many have found more time for prayer and more solace in prayer in the last several months.

I invite you to explore prayer through book groups, the summer Bible study on the Psalms, in retreats, or on your own. No matter how long we have been praying, there is always more to discover.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

Carol

This Sunday May 24

Sunday morning classes will meet virtually from **9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.**

- **WEE PRAISE:** Children ages 0-3 along with parents or caregivers may utilize the online videos previously shared via email. If you are not receiving emails with this information, please contact [Phyllis Snyder](#).
- **GODLY PLAY:** Children ages 4-5th graders can find a new video, and re-watch previous videos, on the [Congregation's YouTube channel](#).
- **YOUTH BIBLE STUDY:** Youth in 6th-10th grades will engage in a virtual discussion of the Acts of the Apostles. Contact [Matt Wright](#) for details. This discussion will be held virtually at this link <https://duke.zoom.us/j/598516142>. The meeting room ID: 598 516 142.
- **ADULT FORUM:** S. Brian Stratton, Associate Professor of Philosophy, UNC Pembroke will present "Paul and the Philosophers." You may maximize your enlightenment by reading Acts 17 before participating in this session. The forum will be held virtually at this link <https://duke.zoom.us/j/154163086>. The meeting room ID: 154 163 086.

UNIVERSITY WORSHIP 11:00 a.m. Online

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Preaching: The Rev. Bruce Puckett, Assistant Dean to the Chapel

[Worship Online Here](#)

[Lectionary Readings](#)

All are welcome!

MEETING AFTER WORSHIP

- **Christian Education Committee** will meet virtually at **1:00 p.m.** by Zoom.
- **Fellowship Gathering** for conversation and laughter will be held at **1:00 p.m.** by Zoom. See details in the Fellowship section below.

EDUCATION

GRAD STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

University graduate students, other young adults, and their partners are invited to a virtual discussion of the wisdom literature in the Bible on **Mondays, May 25 and June 8 at 6:30 p.m.** All questions and perspectives are welcome. Please contact Matt Wright at matthew.r.wright@duke.edu for login information.

BIBLE STUDY ON THE PSALMS

The Sunday morning summer Bible Study will focus on the Psalter to correspond with the summer preaching series on the same book. The online class will be introduced by Dr. Ellen Davis, Professor of Bible and Practical Theology at Duke Divinity School, on **Sunday, May 31**, from **9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.** The study will continue weekly through **August 23** and is open to all, and is especially appropriate for youth and adults. The class will be held by way of Zoom at <https://duke.zoom.us/j/96379488242>. If you would like to join by telephone instead of computer, please contact the [Congregation office](#).

JUNE BOOK GROUPS

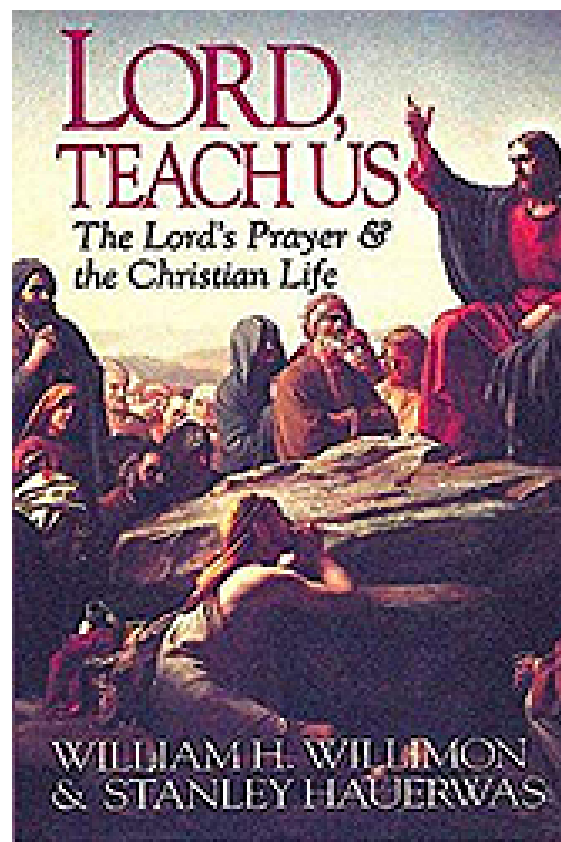
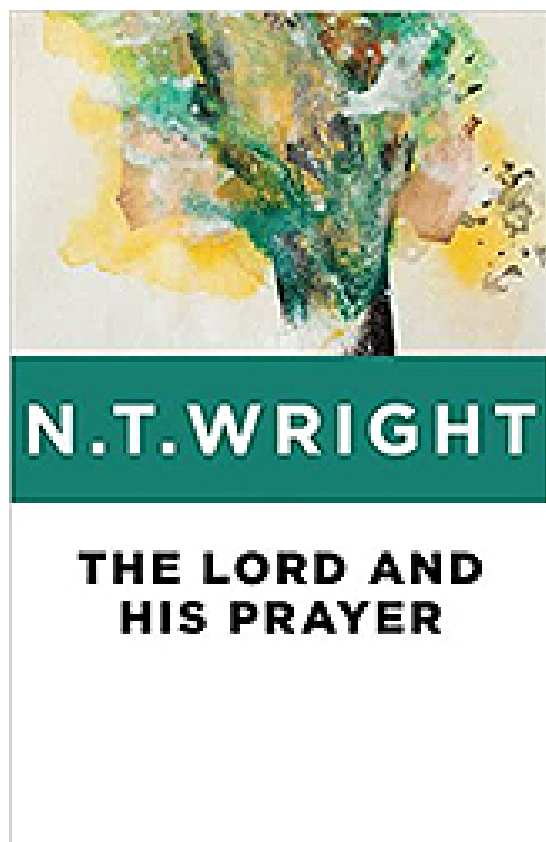
Two online book groups will meet on Wednesdays during the month of June to discuss the Lord's Prayer. Two short books will prompt the discussion. The first two weeks will focus on *The Lord and His Prayer* by N.T. Wright and the second two weeks will focus on *Lord, Teach Us: The Lord's Prayer & the Christian Life* by William Willimon and Stanley Hauerwas.

The book groups will be held on **Wednesdays June 3, 10, 17 and 24**. at **10:00 a.m.** and **7:00 p.m.** by Zoom. The Zoom links are:

Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. <https://duke.zoom.us/j/94213749336>

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. <https://duke.zoom.us/j/95459820661>

If you prefer to call in with the telephone rather than join by computer, please contact the Congregation office.



PSALMS RETREAT

Over 70 people attended the Congregation's first-ever virtual retreat on May 16. Zeb and Amanda Highben offered a thoughtful presentation on the Psalms. The Christian Education Committee is grateful to the Highbens for their leadership and for all of those who participated. Materials from the retreat, including PowerPoints, are

[available here](#).

LECTURES AND WEBINARS

Faculty at Duke Divinity School have recorded and released a variety of resources which will stimulate theological reflection. Please use and enjoy these resources at any time.

They include:

- Luke Bretherton interviews on [Christian Ethics Amid COVID-19](#)
- Douglas Campbell's lectures on [Pauline Dogmatics](#)
- Will Willimon and Stanley Hauerwas conversation on [Reading Barth Together](#)
- Norm Wirzba on [Food and Faith](#)

- Lectures and Discussions at [Duke Divinity School](#)

Duke University offers many public lectures and webinars each week. With no parking or transportation barriers, this may be a good time to listen to presentations on human rights, art, business and many other topics. See the [Duke events calendar](#) for more information.

MISSION

MAY PARTNER AGENCY – ACHIEVEMENT ACADEMY

The students of the Achievement Academy of the Durham Literacy Center (formerly Achievement Academy of Durham) include English language learners and youth who need another chance to complete the high school GED. Currently, Durham Literacy Center is closed, along with the corresponding educational institutions. Their needs have changed as they support their students with food, housing and accessing unemployment assistance.

With the Congregation's Back Pew Collection currently not operational, please consider contributing directly via gift cards for groceries, preferably in denominations \$20 and above.

Also, moving to online instruction has left many students without computers or adequate internet resources. Development Director Amy Bogie shared that Triangle e-Cycling and Kramden Institute are already overwhelmed with requests for used technology. Laptops or tablets (used or new) may be donated directly. Please contact [Amy Bogie](#) if you can help.

Other items from this [Wish List](#) are also needed and can be mailed directly to Durham Literacy Center, PO Box 52209, Durham NC, 27717. Of course, donations can also be made directly at their main [website](#).



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR STEP-UP MINISTRY

[Step Up Ministry](#), a partner organization of the Congregation, provides employment training and workshops which teach skills to help individuals obtain employment. On-going support is provided as these individuals establish themselves in their work. The ministry currently needs volunteers as Co-Partners for their Tuesday night program, Step2. Co-partners support participants of Step2, all of whom are working at least 25 hours/week and seeking to develop more stability in their lives. The time commitment is **6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m** on **Tuesday evenings** from **May 12–June 30**. For more information, please contact Step2 Coordinator, [MacKenzie Leger](#).





URBAN MINISTRIES
OF DURHAM

JUNE PARTNER AGENCY – URBAN MINISTRIES OF DURHAM

Urban Ministries has taken a number of steps to "flatten the COVID-19 curve," including suspending services in the food pantry and clothing closet for the time being and converting meal service from dining in the Urban Ministries Café to carry out meals. Additionally, as many of you may know, Urban Ministries moved shelter residents to the Marriott at RTP on April 10. This gives single adults and families the opportunity to have their own living spaces and to practice social distancing. The Durham County Commissioners generously approved a \$1.6 million contract with the Marriott to provide space for shelter residents at least through **July 9**.

Despite this change, shelter staff members and a small group of volunteers continue to provide shelter residents, unsheltered homeless individuals, and other community clients with three meals a day. This is amazing! The Congregation Council recently approved a total of \$1,000 funding for the dinners we would have served in April and May. Community Engagement Specialist Viki Baker expressed thanks on behalf of both clients and staff members.

Viki suggested that our Congregation members might help with the carry out meals by preparing individually wrapped "treats" such as brownies, granola bars, cookies, or other healthy treats/snacks and dropping them off at the shelter office at 410 Liberty St. in Durham between the hours of **9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.**

If you would like to help Urban Ministries purchase unplanned-for critical supplies, you can go to their website UMDurham.org and click on the link for "Amazon Wish list for our COVID-19 preparations." Items can be shipped directly to the Urban Ministries campus.

Thank you for helping to continue this very special ministry to our neighbors!

FELLOWSHIP

FELLOWSHIP MEETUP THIS SUNDAY

During this time of anxiety and uncertainty, it is more important than ever to be able to connect with others. To this end, the Fellowship Committee will host virtual meetups using the Zoom application. These will be casual events where Congregation members can share experiences, visit friends and spend time together (virtually). The next zoom fellowship event will take place on **Sunday, May 24 at 1:00 p.m.** Here is the link: <https://duke.zoom.us/j/91086996049>.

If you have not used Zoom before, please [watch this short video](#) for instructions. If you are attempting to join in the meetup, but are having difficulties, feel free to call for assistance: (919) 270-6183 or (919) 830-0964.

GOOD TO KNOW

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Respecting the restrictions placed on us due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the

Congregation's Annual Business Meeting will be a **virtual** gathering on **Sunday, June 14** at **1:00 p.m.** by way of Zoom at this link: <https://duke.zoom.us/j/98589489631>. If you have not used Zoom before, please view this [short video](#) as an introduction. For additional help or information, please contact the [Congregation Office](#). The complete [Annual Report](#) and the [2020 Strategic Plan](#) are [posted online](#). Please take some time to review these materials prior to the meeting. The annual business meeting is a mandatory meeting specified within our bylaws to enable members to discuss and vote on actions that only the membership as a body can approve. These include electing lay leaders and approving the budget. These actions are possible only with a quorum, so please plan to attend on **June 14** to participate in the meeting.

ONLINE GIVING

Donations to the Congregation may be mailed in to the Congregation office or [given online](#). Donors are welcome to use whichever method they prefer.

DO YOU LIKE TAKING GOOD NOTES?

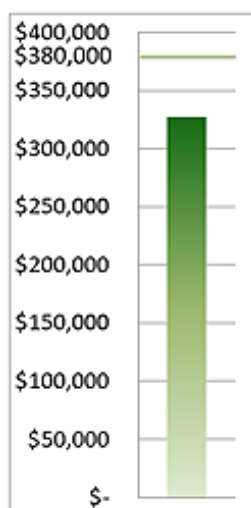
The Nominating and Leadership Development Committee is seeking a volunteer to serve as Congregation Council Secretary. The role requires attending and taking minutes for one meeting per month, and sending out the minutes after the meetings. For more information please contact the [Congregation Office](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 31 – Pentecost Sunday
- May 31 – Virtual Bible Study on the Psalms begins
- June 14 – Virtual Annual Business Meeting

MAY FINANCIAL REPORT

<i>July 2019-June 2020 fiscal year</i>	Actual to April 30	Annual Budget
Contributions	\$327,656	\$380,000
Other Income	\$2,933	\$3,000
Restricted Assets Released	\$24,128	\$0
Expenses	\$327,698	\$381,473
Difference	\$27,018	\$1,527



COMING IN JUNE

June Birthdays

- 1 Nathanael Gass; Elijah McDaniel; John Weinerth
- 2 Sara Harper; Betty Hummelbrunner; David Lewis
- 3 Brenda Brodie; Darry Conner; Conrad Hall; Lois Scheirer; Eric Schoch
- 5 Da'vid De'zsi
- 6 Judi Vos
- 7 Robert McLaughlin
- 8 Sandy Powers; Phyllis Vandenberg; Madison Washam; Joseph Winters
- 9 Monica Hill; Lynn O'Connor
- 10 Fred Westbrook III
- 11 Rom Alphin; Philip Guzman; Sabat Siu
- 12 Penny Oslund
- 14 Chuck King; Anne S. Wright
- 15 Sharon Anjali Jones; Loudon Sandor; Oliver Sandor
- 16 Cynthia Hickey
- 18 Elaine Brown
- 19 Adam Bussian IV; Teddy Dunn; Ella Solie; Evelyn Wilbanks; Mark Willms
- 20 Elijah Schoch
- 21 Ina Guzman; Harper Johnson; Ted Takacs
- 22 Kathy Jones; Sophia Wilfong
- 23 John Sandor
- 24 Steven DeAlmeida; Melissa Mills
- 25 Rebecca Ray
- 26 Susan Baker; Bob Chambers
- 29 Ken Davenport II; Partom Juniult; Kylie Karabinos; Rendon Nelson; McKennon Shea
- 30 Aria Schoch

June Communion at The Forest at Duke Retirement Community – CANCELED

June Worship Service at Duke Chapel – ONLINE

Worship Services will continue to be broadcast live on **Sundays at 11:00 a.m.**
From the Duke Chapel website: [Tune in live](#) to Sunday morning services on the [Duke Chapel YouTube Channel](#), channel 12 of the Duke Hospital TV System, channel 110 of the Duke Campus Vision TV system, and WDNC Radio (620 AM). Listen to rebroadcasts of services on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. on WPTF Radio (680 AM), as well as on The People's Channel on Spectrum Cable in Durham and Chapel Hill.

CONGREGATION CALENDAR **DUKE CHAPEL YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

CONGREGATION JOYS AND CONCERNS

- *Marsha Altmeyer*: Marsha has completed a two-year program at Union Presbyterian Seminary which prepares her to be a Commissioned Ruling Elder (lay minister) in the Presbyterian Church (USA).
- *Ed Karolak*: Ed is in hospice care at home.
- *Leroy McRae*: Leroy is recovering from abdominal surgery.
- *Ginnie Ruckert*: Ginnie is recuperating at home after a recent hospitalization.

- *Mike Smith*: Mike is recuperating from heart surgery.
- *Steve Winters*: Due to travel restrictions, Steve's return from his medical mission work in Kenya has been delayed.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

High School Graduates

Mimi Haas – Riverside High School, will attend Furman University.

Kylie Karabinos – Middle Creek High School, will attend NC State University.

Mini Kpa – Durham School of the Arts, will attend UNC-CH.

Moriah Powery – Trinity School of Durham and Chapel Hill, will attend UNC-CH.

Kyle Woodrum – Orange High School, will attend University of South Carolina, Darla Moore School of Business.



College Graduates

Patrick Dennehy – University of Edinburg, Scotland with a Master of Arts in International Relations, with honours.

John Haase – Ursinus College Cum Laude with a degree in Political Studies and a minor in Art History.

James Nye – Duke University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a minor in German, will attend Wake Forest University School of Law in the fall.

Kyle O'Connor – Duke University with a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry.

Phillip Smith – UNC-CH with a double major in Economics and Computer Science and a minor in Art History.

Ben Wirzba – Furman University Phi Beta Kappa and Pi Sigma Alpha with a double major in Philosophy and Political Science. He also received the Political Science Faculty Award, the James C. Edwards Philosophy Award, and won first place in the Political Science Department for his senior thesis. He has begun an internship on water policy in the U.S. at The Nicholas Institute at Duke University.

Andrew Wynkoop – Furman University Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a minor in Environmental Studies, will attend UNC-CH in the fall to pursue a Master of Social Work degree, with a concentration in direct clinical practice.

Paul Wynkoop – Haverford College with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a minor in Neuroscience, will begin work in the Peer Relations Lab at UNC-CH.

Michael Young – Rice University, with a Mathematical Economic Analysis major and a minor in Business, will begin work at Capital One Bank.

Postgraduate Program

Maggie Dawson – Duke University School of Medicine, will attend University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School for intern year, and then a residency program in dermatology at UNC-CH.

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



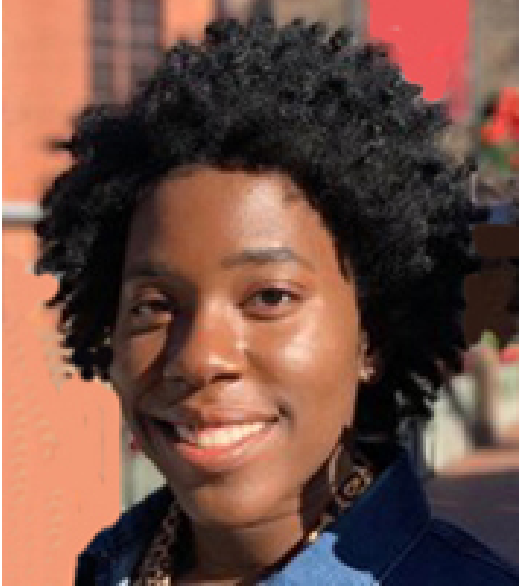
*The Congregation at Duke University Chapel
Staff*



The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg
Senior Pastor



Phyllis Snyder
Children's Pastor and
Communications



Kirsten Ford
Communications Assistant



Matt Wright
Pastoral Assistant



The Rev. Ken Moland
Pastoral Assistant