



The Congregation at Duke University Chapel

Mission . Education . Fellowship

DEEPENING CONNECTIONS

10-15-2020

Generosity makes us feel good.

From the
Senior Pastor



Research on the Science of Generosity shows a strong correlation between generous behavior and a sense of well-being, including happiness. Christian Smith, who is part of this research writes, "Rather than leaving generous people on the short end of an unequal bargain, practices of generosity are actually likely instead to provide generous givers with essential goods in life—happiness, health, and purpose—which money and time themselves simply cannot buy. That is an empirical fact well worth knowing." (from *The Paradox of Generosity: Giving We Receive, Grasping We Lose*) Because of this research, some lists of happiness habits, name generosity as one of seven habits.

While generosity may have its own intrinsic rewards, it may not come naturally to us. We can learn to be generous by practicing generosity. A generous spirit can impact many areas of our lives, such as in our relationships, in our service to others, and in our financial giving.

In our Christian lives, generosity has its roots in gratitude. As we reflect on God's gifts to us, it is then we are often moved to share who we are and what we have been given. And yet, even our reflection on God may not move us to give. It is in such times we may want to pray, "Lord, teach me to be generous."

May God mold us to be a people who are grateful and generous.

Carol

This Sunday October 18

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:** For students in 6th-12th grade, [Youth Bible Study Zoom link is here](#).
- **NEW MEMBER CLASS:** For those considering membership in the Congregation [New Member Zoom Link](#)
- **ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** A 10-week study on Ecclesiastes, [Bible Study Zoom Link](#).
- **ADULT FORUM:** Joseph Kovas, Duke Divinity student and the Congregation's 2019-2020 Divinity Intern, will present "Icons in Church History." [Adult Forum Zoom link is here](#).

UNIVERSITY WORSHIP 11:00 a.m. Online

[Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost](#)

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

[Worship Online Here](#)

[Lectionary Readings](#)

All are welcome!

MEETINGS AFTER WORSHIP

- Fellowship Fun: All are invited to a time of informal fellowship and non-competitive

- games at **1:00 p.m.** Additional details below. [Fellowship Zoom Link](#)
- Administration Committee will meet at **1:00 p.m.** [Administration Zoom Link](#)

MISSION

SATURDAY MORNING PRAYER

Please join us in purposeful prayers for racial reconciliation in our community, nation and world: **Saturday mornings at 9:00 a.m.** via Zoom. [The prayer Zoom link is here.](#) For more information, contact [Nathaniel Metz](#).

THE NEXT DUKE HABITAT HOUSE

Construction has begun for the next Duke-sponsored home built by [Habitat for Humanity](#). This home, which will be purchased by Joann Carpenter, is located at 120 Laurel Ave., Durham. While volunteers cannot yet safely come back to work on the house, they certainly may pray for the success of this project.



EXPLORE FAITH, ART, AND JUSTICE

An online workshop titled "[Signs of Hope: Arts and Activism](#)" on **Thursday, October 22, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.** will use the [RESIST COVID / TAKE 6! public art exhibition](#) at Duke's Nasher Museum of Art as a starting place to reflect on issues of faith and justice in Durham. The outdoor exhibition and public awareness campaign by nationally renowned artist Carrie Mae Weems emphasizes the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the lives of communities of color, through large-scale banners and window clings, posters, street signs and more. To learn more and receive a link to participate, email the Chapel's Community Minister, [The Rev. Breana van Velzen](#).

EDUCATION

PSALMS IN DIALOGUE

In the online presentation of [Psalms in Dialogue: Psalm 22, 23, & 24](#) on **Saturday, October 17, at 7:00 p.m.**, Duke University Chapel and the Duke Chapel Choir will welcome visual artist Makoto Fujimura, theologian Ellen Davis, Ekklesia Contemporary Ballet, Andrew Nemr, and choristers from the Royal School of Church Music America for an evening of creativity and conversation. [Learn more and register for free.](#)

NEW MEMBER CLASS

All those considering membership in the Congregation at Duke Chapel are invited to participate in the fall new member class beginning **Sunday, October 18 at 9:45 a.m.** This four-week class provides an exploration of the Apostles' Creed as well as an introduction to the Congregation. [The Zoom link for the New Member Class is here.](#)

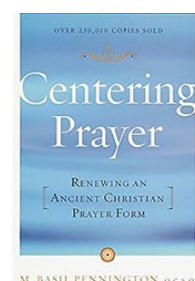
PHILOSOPHY STUDY GROUP

The Philosophy Study Group, led by Brian Stratton, will meet on **Tuesdays, October 20, November 3, and November 17 at 7:00 p.m.** [The Philosophy Group Link is here.](#) For more information, contact [Brian Stratton](#).

CENTERING PRAYER BOOK GROUP

[Centering Prayer: Renewing an Ancient Christian Prayer Form](#) by Basil Pennington is the focus of the current book groups, which meet at **10:00 a.m.** and **7:00 p.m.** on Wednesdays. No registration is needed. Zoom links are here: [Morning Book Group](#), [Evening Book Group](#). The reading schedule is

- October 21: Chapters 3 & 4
- October 28: Chapters 5, 6 & 7
- November 4: Chapters 8 & 9
- November 11: Chapters 10 & 11
- November 18: Chapters 12, 13, 14 & Epilogue



ADULT FORUM – UPCOMING TOPICS

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. [Adult Forum Zoom link is here.](#)

October 25 – Terry Yuschok, Congregation member, "The Lord's Prayer: Now and For Ever"

November 1 – The Rev. Kiki Barnes, Duke Regional Hospital Clinical Chaplain, "Say What You Need to Say - Love in the Time of Coronavirus"

November 8 – Carl Hollomon, Congregation member, "Pascal's Pensées: Worship with Mind and Spirit"

November 15 – To Be Announced

November 22 – To Be Announced

November 29 – Michael Larbi, Congregation Pastoral Assistant, "An Outsider's Reflections: Race, the Church, and Reconciliation in America"

GRAD STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS

University graduate students, other young adults, and their partners are invited to a virtual discussion of the book of Ezekiel on **Mondays October 26, and November 9, at 6:30 p.m.** All questions and perspectives are welcome. [This is the Young Adult Bible Study Zoom link.](#) Please contact [Matt Wright](#) for additional information

CONFRONTING RACISM THROUGH PREACHING

[Dr. Will Willimon](#) and [Dr. David Goatley](#), both faculty members at Duke Divinity School, are hosting a public conversation about preaching and race on **Tuesday, October 27 at 7:00 p.m.** [Details and Zoom link are here.](#)

SAVE THE DATE

The Education Committee is planning a fall retreat for **Saturday, November 14 from 9:00 a.m. – 12-noon.** [Dr. David Goatley](#), Professor of Theology and Black Church Studies at Duke Divinity School, will be leading the retreat.

CLASSES ON YOUTUBE

Whenever possible, Adult Forum classes are posted to the [Congregation's YouTube channel](#). Please enjoy these offerings.



TRY A CLASS ON ZOOM

Try a class on Zoom to see new and familiar faces. If you are new to Zoom, please contact the [Congregation office](#) for assistance.

FELLOWSHIP

FELLOWSHIP THIS SUNDAY

If joy and laughter are contagious, it's one affliction we are happy to spread among our congregation. Did you know that we have not been able to see one another for over 26 weeks? We miss you! Although we have been hosting zoom games each month, some of you have shared that playing games is "not your thing". As such, we have come up with some really amusing "fill-in-the-blank" activities that attendees have really enjoyed. Examples:

1. I think Dean Powery is in a bad mood today. Instead of telling us to share a sign of peace, he told us to _____. (Answers from our last gathering: Leave. Sit down and be silent. Poke one another.)
2. Poppy and Genevieve said, "Mommy, I think something is wrong with Ms. Phyllis. Today in Godly Play, she taught us to _____. (Some answers from our last gathering: Drive. Dance. Light a match.)

As you can see, there is no strategy required and no wrong answers. Just an opportunity to laugh, chat and spend time together. Involvement is not required; please feel free to join as an observer.

Our next fellowship event is scheduled for:

- **Sunday, October 18, 1:00 p.m.** [Zoom Link](#)

GOOD TO KNOW

ALL HALLOWS' EVE SERVICE

Duke Chapel will offer an Online All Hallows' Eve Service on **Saturday, October 31 at 7:00 p.m.** Please see the Chapel website for the service link.



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Daylight Saving Time ends **Sunday, November 1**. Please remember to “fall back” by setting your clocks back one hour.

WHY I GIVE by Susan Ward

When we joined the Congregation years ago as new parents, we tried to follow the example of our own parents in giving regularly to the church. It seemed the right thing to do, and it was easy. Then, over the years, we hit times when it still seemed the right thing to do, but it wasn't easy—or even possible. After we began making yearly pledges again, we discovered how much it helped in grounding us: Now we had a piece of the world back in order, and we felt reconnected! The blessings of giving really do go both ways.



FINANCIAL PLEDGE

Out of gratitude to God, the Stewardship and Finance Committee invites all members and friends of the Congregation to make a financial commitment to the Congregation for 2021. Details on our [finances and giving options are online](#). Financial pledges are requested by **November 15**, either [by email](#) or physical pledge card.

FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT CRAIG DeALMEIDA

Despite the pandemic, our Congregation this month maintains one of our strong foundations, as described in our Strategic Plan, “to offer new member classes that promote discipleship, form connections with existing members, and encourage engagement with Congregation activities.” To all our members, consider how you can engage with both new members and existing members who are new to you. You may choose to engage with someone directly during a Congregation event over Zoom, send someone a note, or simply pray for a member by name.

I especially encourage you to engage with members who are not like you. In our Strategic Plan, we will deepen our connections by “exemplifying a common life as people who are one in Christ while respecting differences in opinion, background or culture.” One of the best ways to respect differences is to engage with different people in the inviting, loving way demonstrated by Jesus not only to his diverse disciples but also to children, strangers in the crowd, and even those who would visit by night. Have courage and likewise reach out to one another.

OCTOBER COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Council met October 8, 2020 with all members present via Zoom. The minutes of the September meeting were approved with minor edits. Committee reports had been submitted prior to the meeting and were approved. Craig DeAlmeida reminded members to submit reports by the weekend prior to the Thursday meetings so that all members will have time to review reports carefully.

Several committee chairs made additional comments and/or highlighted items from their reports.

- Ben Wechsler for Administration: a proposal to form a Congregation Historical Society that would be open to all and would meet monthly for fellowship and to share stories, identify people in old photos, help with organizing historical records, etc. This idea was met with general agreement but not voted upon.
- Fran Steele reported that Christian Education has delayed until January a decision on whether to hold a spring overnight retreat. She also drew our attention to the weekly prayer service for racial justice and reconciliation.

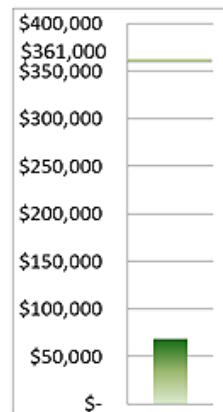
- Diane Garber reported that Missions and Outreach has identified the agencies to receive funds set aside to benefit children from COVID-19 donations. Those agencies are Durham Public Schools Foundation to help achieve digital equity, and Thriving Communities Fund which has a similar mission focused on East Durham.

A number of membership changes were reported from efforts to contact people who have not been active for several years.

The treasurer's report was reviewed and received; however, it was received from the bookkeeping company only eight hours before the meeting due to Council meetings being held on the second Thursday of the month. This will happen 4-5 times this year and again next year. Stewardship and Finance will reconsider how to handle this.

Craig thanked committees for incorporating items from our strategic plan into their operations. He announced Bruce Puckett and Amanda Hughes from Chapel staff have been invited to attend the November Council meeting. The topic we proposed is continued alignment of higher-level goals and aims.

<i>July 2020-June 2021 fiscal year</i>	<i>Actual to September 30</i>	<i>Annual Budget</i>
Contributions	\$68,484	\$361,000
Other Income	\$486	\$0
Restricted Assets Released	\$0	\$0
Expenses	\$73,357	\$360,919
Difference	-\$4,387	\$81



COMING IN NOVEMBER

November Birthdays

- 1 Ann Sanders; Teddy Shea
- 2 Telisa Loveless; Joe Schnople
- 4 Josh Manchester
- 5 Kohl Boydston; Erin O'Connor
- 7 Jane Gagliardi; James Garrison; George Parkerson
- 8 Carter Pack
- 9 Richard Heitzenrater; Randy Jirtle; Liza Nye
- 10 Dora Jessica Hulett; Sean O'Connor; Jim Parker; Franklin Snyder; Ann Winters
- 11 Jeff Harrison
- 12 Meredith Newlin
- 13 Tamela Davis; Genevieve DeAlmeida; Harry Nolan
- 14 Kirsten Ford; Karen Witzleben
- 15 Layne Baker
- 16 Scott Harmon; Scott Hill; Erica Moore; Kenneth Pittman; Jack Steele
- 17 Jen DeNeal; Ryan Mullis; Bill Wager
- 18 Chip Chesson; Elizabeth Huettel; Nicholas Huettel; Philip Snyder V
- 19 Acelynn Barefoot; Caroline Haynes; Eleanor Smith
- 20 Ellen Davis; Duncan Wilson
- 21 June Griggs; Jeffrey Washam; Nicole Washam
- 22 Susan Aitken; Jim Ferguson; Nelson Strother

23 Ellie Ferguson; Sam Hansen; Ned Hickey; Matt Wright
24 Martha Hall
25 Roxanna Bottjen; William Hockett; Ann Marie Pendergast
26 Robbie Cox
29 Preston Petters
30 Ken Moland; Ann Recesso

November Worship Services 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.

Preaching Schedule

November 1 – The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, Dean of Duke Chapel

November 8 – The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, Dean of Duke Chapel

November 15 – The Rev. Bruce Puckett, Assistant Dean of Duke Chapel

November 22 – The Rev. Kathryn Lester-Bacon, Director of Religious Life, Duke Chapel

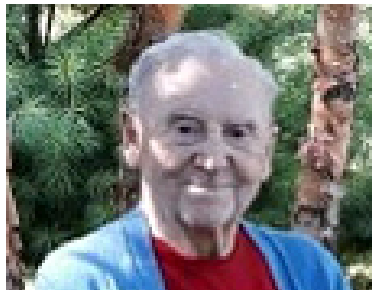
November 29 – The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg, Senior Pastor, Congregation at Duke Chapel

HOLIDAY

The Congregation Staff will be observing the Thanksgiving holiday on **November 26 and 27**.

CONGREGATION JOYS AND CONCERNS

- *Suzy Strayhorn*: Suzy is recovering from a minor stroke.
- *Joe Schnople*: Joe will celebrate his 100th birthday on November 2. Please send birthday cards to him at 10 Sycamore Drive, Chelsea, MI 48118.



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](#) | [Online Giving](#)

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





The Rev. Dr. Carol Gregg
Senior Pastor



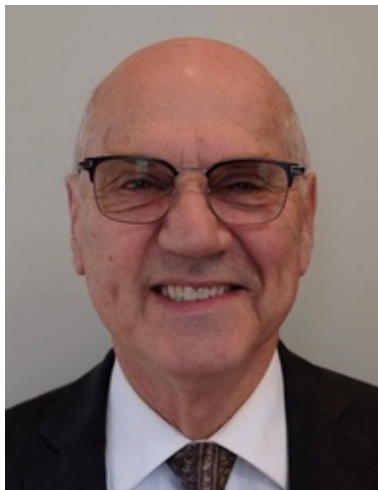
Phyllis Snyder
Children's Pastor and Office
Administrator



Kirsten Ford
Communications Assistant



Matt Wright
Pastoral Assistant



The Rev. Ken Moland
Pastoral Assistant

Nathaniel Metz
Divinity School Intern



Michael Larbi
Pastoral Assistant