



Pullen

Memorial Baptist Church

April news & updates

Upcoming Events

See what's happening this [month](#).

Finance Report:

Date: 3/31/22

Total Contributions: \$183,455

Total Expenses: \$162,300

Difference: \$21,155

Joys and Concerns

We share in the joy of:

We rejoice with Mary Martin who was recently offered a full time chaplain position at the same hospital where she had been serving part-time.

We hold these in prayer:

Liz Kasper's sister-in-law, Anna, who is originally from Moscow. Both Anna's parents live in Russia and are seriously affected by the sanctions from the war. They have chronic diseases and are uncertain if or when they will be able to get their next treatments and medications with the economy closed down. As we pray for Ukraine we also hold in

Preparing for Holy Week and Resurrection Sunday

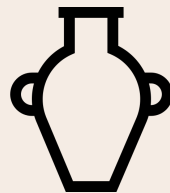
While we are still on the Lenten journey (don't rush it), preparations for Holy Week and Resurrection Sunday must begin. The worship planning team and the Pullen staff have begun preparations for our church family to have a meaningful and thoughtful walk through Holy Week. As you begin your own preparations, I wanted to share with you how we will experience this sacred journey together.



Palm Sunday – On Sunday, April 10, we will wave our palms and shout our hosanna's as we walk into Jerusalem with Jesus and one another. We will begin our Palm Sunday parade in front of the YMCA on Hillsborough

Street. As we gather there at 10:45 a.m., everyone will be given a palm leaf or a piece of fabric to spread along the path as we make our way into the sanctuary. Along the journey, the choir will lead us in our shouts of hosanna, and the orchestra will usher us into the sanctuary where we will leave some of our palms on the chancel area as we continue our worship.

Following worship the children and their families (and anyone else who would like to participate) will enjoy the annual Easter egg hunt lead by Pastor Tommy.



Holy Monday – Set aside some time in your day to read the lectionary texts for Monday of Holy Week: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11; Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11. The gospel reading tells the story of Mary

anointing Jesus' feet with an expensive perfume and Judas raising the question of why the expensive perfume wasn't sold and the money given to the poor. Consider the question: How do we balance self-care while caring for the poor?

Holy Tuesday – On Holy Tuesday our focus will be on prayers for peace and an end to all wars—military wars

our prayers those living in Russia who are badly affected as well.

Janice Hocutt in the loss of her brother-in-law, Cline Hamrick, who died on March 26.



and the war on poverty. There will be a prayer service held in Pullen's Chapel from 6:00-6:30 in which we will offer our prayers and lift our voices for peace in song. The flags of our partners around the world,

including the Ukrainian flag, will be on display. Lectionary texts for Tuesday of Holy Week are: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14; I Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36



Holy Wednesday – Read John 13:21-32, the gospel reading for this day. In this passage we find Jesus with a “troubled spirit.” Reflect on where you spirit feels troubled. Is your troubled spirit calling you to

make a change in your life, or to reach out to someone who you haven't heard from in a while, or take an action to help a friend or stranger? Or, maybe just sit with what is troubling your spirit and listen for the spirit's guidance.



Holy Thursday – Our Maundy Thursday service will begin at 6:30 in the chapel. From the chapel we will make our way into the Siler Garden where we will offer prayers before entering the sanctuary where we will

share in communion. Lectionary texts for this day are: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; I Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35. Note: We will not gather for a simple meal this year prior to worship.



Holy Friday – Pullen's chapel will be open from 12:00-2:00 p.m. for anyone who would like to walk the labyrinth. Staff will be there to offer guidance if needed. Lectionary texts for this day are: Isaiah 52:13-52;

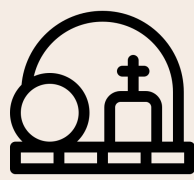
Psalm 22; Hebrew 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19.



Holy Saturday – Set aside some time in your day to read John 19:38-42. Meditate on the following: Imagine the world as the “body of Jesus.” Picture all the ways the world is broken and dead in spirit and soul.

Now imagine how, like Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, you might bring into the world a mixture of “myrh and aloes”—acts of compassion and care. End your meditation with one intention of how you will care for the “body of Jesus” – those in our world who are crucified daily from poverty and oppression and injustice.

Resurrection Sunday – We will begin our celebration of Resurrection Sunday at our **9:00 a.m. Baptism Service in Finlator Hall.** (If you are new to Pullen, this is my very favorite



worship experience.) Being baptized this year is Brooke Grayson. Brooke is a young adult who joined our church on March 13. While Brooke is affirming her own faith journey in the act of baptism, she is also affirming her desire to join the Pullen family as she grows in her faith. Baptism is a communal event and experience. When Brooke joined Pullen, we made a covenant to be with her along the journey. That covenant included sharing with her in her baptism and being present for her on the day of her baptism. Following baptism, the youth will be serving a “grab-n-go” type breakfast before we gather in the sanctuary for our 11:00 a.m. Easter worship with our alleluia bells.

Our faith is lived in community. We live out the sacred stories of our faith as we walk the journey together. I encourage you this Holy Week to find community as, together, we walk the path from Jerusalem, to the cross, and ultimately to the empty tomb.

-Nancy E. Petty, Pastor

Church wide

Upcoming Pullen Events:

April at The Table

Wednesdays at 6:00 pm on Zoom

We'll finish up our series on Mysticism before **returning to in-person gatherings beginning April 20!** Dinner will be served from 5:30-6:15 pm. Indoor and outdoor seating will be available. When weather does not permit outdoor seating, we will set up an additional space for indoor seating to help maintain distance. Adult programming will begin at 6:30 pm. Childcare and children's activities are also available at this time. Youth programming begins at 6:00 pm.



It has been 2 years since we last gathered for dinner on Wednesday nights so it's hard to know how many people we should expect. For that reason, we ask that you sign up so to let us know you're coming. Please sign up by the Sunday before you plan to attend. See instructions below to sign up on [Realm](#). If you do not have a Realm account please contact Kate Amesbury, kamesbury@pullen.org, to set one up.

How to RSVP with Realm

April 6 (Zoom) - Mysticism and Faith

Rachael Wooten and Chalice Overy talk about mysticism as it relates to their faith—how they stumbled upon mysticism in the faith journey and how it has sustained it. In addition to being a Pullen member, Rachael Wooten is a Zürich-trained Jungian analyst and psychologist who has been in private practice as a therapist for more than forty years. As a child, Rachael was

RSVP

drawn to different religious expressions and followed her instincts to study and practice in different traditions. Her interests in human consciousness led her to the field of psychology. Given its limitations for encompassing the whole of the individual, she began Jungian studies and a deep dive into spiritual practices for her own healing, that of her clients, and members of her community.

April 6 (In Person) - Art Series

Through the fun and meditative practice of drawing and art journaling, explore the meaning of Lent for you this year led by Grace Evans and Valerie Collins. No artistic experience is necessary. Just an open mind and heart. Please register by March 11 so we can be sure to have materials for all participants.

RSVP

April 13 - No program

Check the lead article for Holy Week activities.

April 20 (in-person) - Trivia & Game Night

This is our first time gathering in person at The Table in 2 years! Let's have some fun! We'll do some Pullen trivia, play games and enjoy being together again.

RSVP

Menu: Spaghetti with marinara sauce/pesto sauce; salad and fruit; garlic bread; dessert

April 27 (in-person) - Connections of Mind, Body, and Spirit

As we begin our series "Theology and Disability" we'll explore how people employ their resources to react to trauma such as during the pandemic. Joining us are Cathy Corbin, PhD, Clinical Psychologist (retired), and John Corbin, PhD, Clinical Psychologist (retired).

RSVP

Menu: Assorted Quiches (cheese, spinach, veggie); salad and fruit; biscuits; dessert

-Chalice Overy, Associate Pastor



Pullen Mission Women

4/5 at 10:00 am on Zoom

Please join Pullen Mission Women via Zoom on April 5th @ 10 am. Serena Buckner, a member of the Pullen Re-settlement and Sanctuary Ministry, will update us on their ministry to individuals and families including our recent guests from Afghanistan and Burma. Join us for what promises to be a fascinating discussion of this important Pullen mission. Contact Pat Long for the Zoom link. As always, all are welcome!

-Pat Long

LGBTQIA+ Second Sunday Lunches Return!

Second Sundays After Worship

We gather for lunch at a nearby restaurant immediately following worship on the second Sunday of each month. This is a great way to stay in touch with old friends. If you are new, a lunch host will introduce you to others and update you on upcoming events.

-Randall Brady



[More Information](#)



Living with Illness

Mondays at 12:30 pm on Zoom

Living with Illness Have you had a change in your health status that has necessitated a shift in the way you live your life day-to-day? Are you living with a chronic disease—diagnosed or not-yet-diagnosed? You’re invited to join a small, supportive online community of compassionate people who practice mediation, reflection, and nonjudgmental listening with each other.

-Dana Lindquist

[More Information](#)



Pullen Outdoor Weekend

5/27-30 2022 Memorial Day Weekend at Hanging Rock State Park

Pullen folk have gathered in the Great Outdoors on Memorial Day weekend for over 40 years! Join us camping for the annual Pullen Outdoor Weekend Event at Hanging Rock State Park. We will have some loosely organized activities, like tubing and hiking, and group dinners on Saturday and Sunday.

Please contact Kevin Neiley at kneiley1@gmail.com, 919-622-4315 to sign up. Sites are already reserved so PLEASE let me know asap if you are interested! More information is coming soon.

-Kevin Neiley



Items Needed for Round Table

We are packing about 500 lunches for the Round Table Ministry every 3 months and we are now collecting for the next packing. Needed are cans of Vienna sausages, cereal/granola bars, and 6-pack crackers. Please leave any items you can donate in the blue wagon outside the Church office. Thank you!!

~Nancy Bradley

Pullen News:

Welcome Ian McPherson!

We are very excited to introduce the newest addition to the Pullen Team, Ian McPherson. Watch this two-minute introduction video to see him introduce himself. And be sure to send him a quick email to welcome him to Pullen!



[Send Ian an Email](#)



The Pullen Podcast

Every Monday on Spotify

Did you know that Pullen has a Sermon Podcast? You can listen to sermons each week by visiting our Spotify or Itunes Podcasting Channel. Be sure to like and subscribe to help spread the word!

-Kate Amesbury, Communications Director

[Spotify Podcast](#)

[Itunes Podcast](#)

Celebrating New Members

Jonathan Ruby

What are your pronouns? He

Describe yourself in 2-3 sentences. I have been a long-time Raleigh resident, first moving here in 1963. I have spent my career as a bartender. I served a cocktail the first day it became legal in wake county. My mother and sister live locally and my brother in Japan.

Why did you choose Pullen? Over the years I have had several interactions with the Pullen community. Then I had a crisis that led me to worship again. I knew I would be safe with Pullen.

How do you imagine yourself growing with this community? I want to give of myself. I am not sure how best to apply myself. I do think that my main effort will be to support and improve racial relations.



Jes Murray

What are your pronouns? Neo pronouns

Describe yourself in 2-3 sentences. I'm a child of God. A poet, and a creative writer.

Why did you choose Pullen? I found my tribe

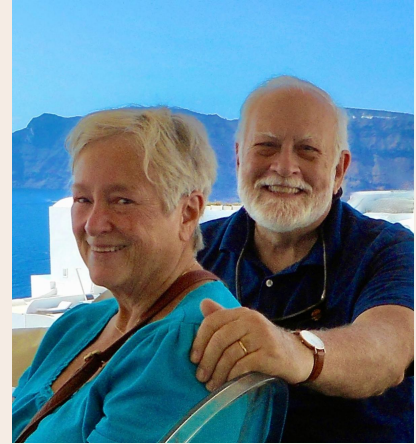
How do you imagine yourself growing with this community? Thrive amongst other children of God.



Nick and Debbi Carter

What are your pronouns? Nick - He/him. Debbi - She/her

Describe yourself in 2-3 sentences. Nick and Debbi are both ordained American Baptist ministers. Nick retired in 2014 after 10 years as the President of Andover Newton Theological School and a brief stint as the Interim President of The American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley CA. In the 1980's Nick was the National Executive Director of the Nuclear Freeze - for which he won the Dahlberg Peace Award. Debbi has her doctorate in pastoral psychotherapy. She has worked as a pastoral counselor and served several churches as both pastor and interim pastor. She currently volunteers at the Center for Faith, Health, and Spirituality at the Duke Medical Center and also teaches ESL to Hispanic immigrants. Nick is a docent at the Ackland Art Museum. Debbi plays the flute and hammered dulcimer.



Why did you choose Pullen? It's warmth, spirit, and solid progressive commitments.

How do you imagine yourself growing with this community? Lending our skills and enthusiasm to the ongoing witness and work of Pullen.

Tania Rivera

Describe yourself in 2-3 sentences. I'm a middle school ESL teacher. I was born and raised in El Salvador, and I moved to New Jersey in 2001. Through Teach of America, I moved to NC.

Why did you choose Pullen? After searching for liberal churches, I chose Pullen because of its welcoming and affirming practices for all.

How do you imagine yourself growing with this community? I hope to be able to heal my relationship with church and God through the classes and community at Pullen. I will work to better myself and help the church in whatever capacity I can.



Kid's Ministry



Sunday Groups are Back!

Sundays at 9:30 am in Room 122

Join us at 9:30 am as Elementary (K-5) will meet in Room 122 for interactive lessons about Holy week for the next two weeks. (No groups on Easter Sunday) There will be child care for Preschoolers at 9:30 am for the whole month of April. Parents can join in on one of the existing small groups or just enjoy some coffee in Finlator Hall. Hope to see you there!

-Tommy Cook, Minister with Children and Their Families



Easter Egg Hunt

April 10 after Worship at the YMCA Playground

FOLLOWING SERVICE ON PALM SUNDAY...

Rain, Shine, or Snow.... we WILL have the Easter Egg Hunt (inside if there's inclement weather). If the weather allows, we'll meet at THE YMCA PLAYGROUND off of COX ST after worship!! (It shouldn't last more than 40 minutes)

Please bring a basket, canned tuna, or chicken for the Round Table & Feed the Pack. You may also wish to bring a picnic lunch if want to hang out afterward.

-Tommy Cook, Minister with Children and Their Families

Youth Ministry

Wednesday Night Live

Program Schedule

Wednesday Nights we meet from 6-8 pm for fun and conversations.

- **April 6** - 3 Powerful Women
- **April 13** - Holy Protest Week
- **April 20** - Sex, Drugs, and Rock n Roll
- **April 27** - Planning Youth Sunday - Night 1

Upcoming Events

April 16 - Durham Bulls Game - Meet at the church building at 5:00 pm and bring money for dinner. We have Terrace box reserved for 12.

We also need at least one more adult- email blee@pullen.org if interested!

May 28 - Understanding Your Journey at Morrow Mountain State Park - The youth will take a journey through the woods to climb to the top of the mountain where parents will be waiting with a meal to celebrate the finish. Leaving at 8:00 am and returning by 6:00 pm

June 11 - Tree Runner aerial park adventure - Arrive by 10:00 am

July 3 - 8 - BYC Summer Camp - With all hope alive, we should be in-person this year at Laurel Ridge. More details coming soon!

July 30- High Adventure Weekend- The youth will be rafting and rock climbing in Erwin Tennessee via USA Raft on July 30th. We leave July 29 and return 31st. We are working out the details now.

RSVP at pullen.org/connect

August 28 - 4-7:00 pm - Back to school party at Kerr Lake for youth and parents

Parental Conversations

Returning in May! - 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm - Parents, join Bryan and other parents at Trophy Brewing on Maywood Avenue. There will be a food truck on-site and there are non-alcoholic options available. Special guest each month! May 12, June 9, August 11. Let Bryan know if you need childcare

-Bryan Lee, Minister with Youth and Their Families



Around the Community

Pride Life Expo

April 2 at the McKimmon Center

Be a part of PrideLife Expo 2022, the largest ever



exposition of businesses, agencies and non-profit organizations in North Carolina, that want to connect with, support and serve the LGBTQ+ community. Presented by the Raleigh Business Professional Network (RBPN) and LGBT Center of Raleigh. The PrideLife Expo brings together members of all ages from the LGBTQ+ community and local businesses and service providers in a fun, educational and welcoming environment.

The PrideLife Expo will feature agencies, organizations, businesses, health care providers, housing providers and non-profits in the Triangle area that welcome, respect, serve and support the LGBTQ+

community. Exhibitors and seminars will be geared towards the needs of LGBTQ+ individuals of all ages. (Exhibitors that deliver services specifically to the over-50 population will feature an identifying logo on their booths and in the brochure.)

PrideLife Expo 2022 will be held on April 2, 2022 at the McKimmon Center on the NC State University Campus. The Expo will provide over 180 vendor exhibiting opportunities.

-Bryan Lee, Minister with Youth and Their Families

[Learn More About the Pride Life Expo](#)



Wake County Child Abuse Prevention Town Hall Meeting

April 13 at 6:00 pm on Zoom

Join us as we host a panel discussion featuring Nancy E. Petty to learn and talk about everyday actions for creating compassionate, resilient environments for children and families.

-Kiara Ruth, Administrative Assistant

[Learn More](#)



Congress Can Act on Composting

April 26 at 7:00-8:15 pm on Zoom

Worldwide about 33% of soil is degraded. U.S. soil is disappearing 10 times faster than it's being replenished naturally. Can a city-dweller do anything to help?

Join our speakers Frank Franciosi (US Composting Council), Muriel Williman (NC Composting Council) and Rev. Susannah Tuttle (NC Interfaith Power & Light) in a

webinar on building healthy soil, protecting water resources, increasing food productivity while increasing the ability of soils to store carbon and help combat global warming. Learn how you can help right on the spot during the webinar to support composting legislation in Congress.

Hosted by ICCT, cosponsored by NC Council of Churches, Orange-Chatham Interfaith Care for Creation, the Episcopal Diocese of NC, the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, Toward Zero Waste and Pachamama RTP.

-Lynn Lyle



Spring Pottery Sale
with Urban Ministries of Wake County

Join us for an event featuring handmade pottery from the **Triangle Potters Guild**.

Event: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Food trucks: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Saturday, April 30th
1390 Capital Blvd.

- Bring a **cereal donation** & receive a ticket for complimentary gift wrapping for one piece of pottery
- **Also available for sale:** Small selection of succulents & seed packets from Logan's Garden Shop, local spice blends & UMWC t-shirts
- Enjoy both **sweet & savory** food truck options & activities for kids



Urban Ministries Spring Potter Sale

April 30 at 10:00 am at 1390 Capital Blvd

Join us for our Spring Pottery Sale! Lots of handmade pottery, some goodies for sale, and food trucks! See flyer for more information. See you there!

-Deborah Norton

Learn More About Urban Ministries



Hope Center Update

Raising Hope 2022

The In-Person Raising Hope is sold out! We are looking forward to seeing all of our guests at The Woman's Club on April 8th. If you bought tickets or they came with a sponsorship and you haven't gotten a link to the tickets, please let us know ASAP. Please remember to bring your vaccination cards or proof of negative COVID test to show at the door. We'll have tests on site for anyone who forgets their card or doesn't have the opportunity to test beforehand.

NC First Lady Kristin Cooper sat down with Hope Center graduate, Naivasha Swain, to film a conversation about their mutual passion for creating opportunities for children and teens living in foster care. Guests at Raising Hope will witness the bond these two working mothers share and hear what opportunities our community has to impact the lives of foster youth. We're so grateful to Mrs. Cooper for supporting Raising Hope with this special on-screen presentation.

Power the Future Club

If you don't have a ticket to Raising Hope, **tune in to the Power the Future Club at 8:00 pm on April 8th by going to www.hopecenteratpullen.org and clicking on the link on our home page.** In the short video event, you'll see exclusive footage of the conversation between Mrs. Cooper and Ms. Swain, along with a powerful story from another former foster teen who now advocates for youth in foster care. You won't want to miss it. Mark your calendar now to tune in on April 8th at 8:00 pm

Raffle and Silent Auction

The Raising Hope Silent Auction and Raffle open on Monday, April 4th!

Enter the raffle for your chance to win a New Direction Family Law Dream Vacation AND buy a second ticket for your chance to win diamond earrings or a pendant with inlaid diamonds donated by Diamonds Direct! You don't have to be present to win.

Our silent auction has something for everyone: an overnight stay at The Umstead, Hurricanes tickets and a signed Jersey, massage gift certificates, a behind-the-scenes brewing tour and

dining experience, a Treat Yourself Day at the Village District, and so much more.

[Click here to check out the raffle and silent auction items.](#) We're adding new items everyday! Bidding opens on April 4th!

-Erin Wltcher, Director of Development & Communications for The Hope Center

[PULLEN.ORG](https://www.pullen.org) | [Connect](#)

