

*What does God require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. — Micah 6:8*

## Reflection and Restoration

Join us this Easter season.

### Holy Week Labyrinth Walking Meditation Good Friday, April 19, 12pm-5pm

Experience the labyrinth's sacred pattern and path on Good Friday. Walking the labyrinth helps us quiet our minds, reconnect with our bodies and see our life in the context of a pilgrimage. As you symbolically make the walk with Jesus to Jerusalem, you are invited to use the labyrinth as a tool for reflection and prayer in the company of other pilgrims on the way.


No previous experience of walking the labyrinth is needed. A host will be present to answer any questions you may have about this meaningful spiritual practice. From 4 to 5 p.m., there will be a special hour for children to walk the labyrinth with their friends and families.

### Creation Sunday, May 5

The heavens declare the glory of God. On May 5<sup>th</sup>, we'll celebrate the great gift of this earth and its inhabitants. This outdoor worship experience will feature music and movement, prayer and play as we listen for God through God's creation. The service will be held on the lawn of the Gregg Museum, right next door. After service, we'll enjoy veggie burgers and hot dogs on the grill. Please bring a side dish to share along with lawn chairs and blankets as we enjoy the gift of the earth and each other.

All are welcome.

*-Chalice Overy*



**HOLY WEEK**

- ◆ **April 14 — Palm Sunday**  
Worship, 11:00 AM  
Easter Egg Hunt, 12:00 PM
- ◆ **April 18 — Maundy Thursday**  
Community Meal, 5:30 PM  
Service of Remembrance, 6:30 PM
- ◆ **April 19 — Good Friday**  
Labyrinth Walk, 12:00 to 5:00 PM  
Children's Labyrinth, 4 to 5 PM
- ◆ **April 21 — Easter Sunday**  
Service of Baptism, 9:00 AM  
Service of Worship, 11:00 AM

## We pray for a family whom we have not yet met

In February of 2018, our congregation decided to become a "Sanctuary Church" offering public sanctuary to undocumented individuals facing deportation from the United States. A "Sanctuary Selection Committee," chaired by Jim McMahan, was put in place to review applications for Sanctuary with our staff, and establish a support network for a Sanctuary guest to live at Pullen for an indefinite period of time. At that time, a suitable guest was expected soon, as public Sanctuary was gaining momentum with a wave of political action from progressive churches in North Carolina. Then, due to local raids from the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and waning desire to live confined to a church, the tide turned. Applications for public Sanctuary have dried up, and whether this need will arise again is unclear.

In January of this year, members of Pullen heard about the urgent need for churches to help resettle documented immigrants (with humanitarian visas) currently staying in shelters along the southern border. The Church World Service is working diligently to match families in its shelters with congregations to temporarily house and support them while their cases for asylum are prepared. The Sanctuary Selection Committee met to discuss taking in a family, and then met with the Deacon and Coordinating Councils to help form a response. The Councils agreed to put forward a motion to allow Pullen to provide temporary assistance to immigrants, including housing them in the Pullen Sanctuary living space, and assisting them with resettlement.

On March 10, the motion passed at our Congregational Meeting along with a directive to rename the Sanctuary Selection Committee. The new name is the **Resettlement and Sanctuary Mission Group**, now connected to the Missions and Outreach Council. This group will be better able to coordinate its work with Pullen staff and lay leadership, and there is much work at hand. The Raleigh Mennonite Church is partnering with Pullen to help host a family, including support with legal services.

*-Noelle Schofield*

## We Grieve With:

- ☞ The family of Mary Ann Brittain who died on March 17. A memorial service celebrating her life was held at Pullen on March 23.
- ☞ Ginny Going, Tom Henderson and Alex Rivers in the death of their daughter and mother, Sarah Rivers, who died on March 27. A memorial service celebrating her life will be announced at a later date.

## We Celebrate With:

- ☞ Jeanne Phillips in the birth of a new grandson, Max.
- ☞ Leigh Barnwell and Will Cranch who were married on March 23 in Raleigh.
- ☞ Our Cuba Pilgrims, recently returned from Cuba, who conveyed our gratitude and love to our friends at Matanzas de Iglesias Bautistas de Cuba as they celebrated the 30 year relationship between our two churches. We give thanks for Roger and Mary Ruth Crook who introduced us to these dear friends.

## Decision Regarding Pullen's Affiliation with ABC USA

Pullen Church has been affiliated with American Baptist Churches (ABC) USA since 1967. Due to the denomination's resolutions in 1992 and 2005 stating that "God's design for sexual intimacy places it within the context of marriage between one man and one woman, and ... that the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Biblical teaching", Pullen's Deacon Council has been wrestling with the question of whether Pullen should remain affiliated with the ABC. The decision of whether to stay formally affiliated will ultimately need to be determined by a church vote, and we are now planning a May 19th Congregational Meeting to consider this matter. An initial Listening Session on this topic was held on March 24th. This session was well attended and featured spirited, and often emotional, discussion. A second Listening Session is now scheduled for Sunday, April 28th at 2PM in Poteat Chapel and will give congregants an opportunity to offer further input on this topic. We hope interested Pullenites will join us as we continue the conversation on this important identity question for our church.

-Boyd Rogers

## Almost Finished!

We hope that you have noticed that the **scaffolding has been removed** from the Green Roof Terrace which means that we are down to a short punch list to complete the 3rd and final phase of our exterior repairs. Final invoices have yet to be paid but we will give you a full accounting once that has been completed. Warren and I both welcome your questions.

-Brooks Wicker

## Church Financials

Gifts to Date:	\$334,634.73
Expenses to Date:	\$287,814.76
Difference:	\$46,819.97

As of 3/31/2019

## Pullen Urgent Repairs

Expenses to Date: \$477,691

## Job Well Done!

Many thanks to Pat Hielscher, BJ Welker and Pat Thomas for all of their hard work in making a new pictorial directory possible. Pat Hielscher made hundreds of calls to encourage participation, while she and BJ signed people up at church events. After all that, they and Pat Thomas shepherded us through the two weeks of picture taking! "Thank you" is insufficient, but please know that our gratitude is deep. We are also grateful to the Pullen community for participating in the directory. We are working hard to finalize the directory so we can get it to print and into your hands!



—Chalice Overy

Spend some time with our Jewish and Muslim brothers and sisters. Join us for our next Interfaith Service exploring our various prayer traditions.



Sunday, April 7  
 The Institute of  
 Islamic and Turkish Studies  
 1391 SE Maynard Rd, Cary, NC 27511  
 Service 5 pm  
 Dinner (free) 6 pm

## Wednesday Nights at Pullen

Spring is upon us and the days are longer, so we can gather on Wednesday evenings amidst the beautiful sunshine for good food and fellowship. Dinner is served from 5:15 to 6:00 pm. The cost is \$7 for youth and adults, \$4 for children kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, family maximum \$24. We also have programming for children and youth each night.

### Adults' Wednesday Night Series

**April 10-** Would you like to know more about the impact that Pullen is making in the world? Join representatives of the Missions & Outreach Council to get up to speed on what we're doing beyond Sunday mornings. You may even discover an opportunity to get involved!

**April 17- No programming this evening.** We invite you to join us on Maundy Thursday (April 18) for dinner at 5:15 pm and service at 6:30 pm.

**April 24-** "Welcoming the Stranger" is the theme for this Worship in the Round. Worship in the Round weaves together sacred texts, stories, music and movement as ways to deepen our spiritual journeys. *"Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."* (Hebrews 13:2)

Here's a peek at a program you won't want to miss in May...

#### May 1-Southern Folk Cultural Revival Project

International Bluegrass Hall of Fame Inductee Alice Gerard presents the The Southern Folk Cultural Revival Project (SFCRP). Founded in 1966 by Anne Romaine and Bernice Johnson Reagon, The SFCRP Project was a tour that took traditional musicians from black and white cultures on the road together to perform throughout the South at a time when this was considered controversial. Join us for photos, songs, and stories from folk musician and songwriter Alice Gerrard's time on these tours.

### Wednesday Nights for Children

Childcare is always available for our youngest children. School-age children (grades K-5) are invited to develop their musical skills through Music Discovery or the Children's Choir. This time is followed by Micah Kids, where children learn to live out the message of Micah 6:8. Activities are designed to help each child deepen their relationship with God and understand how they can make a difference in their family, community, and world—right now.

- ♥ Childcare (preschool) 6:00 – 7:30 pm
- ♥ Music 5:45 – 6:15 pm
- ♥ Micah Kids 6:15 – 7:30 pm

### Programs for Youth (Grades 6-12)

Wednesday Night Live 6:00 – 7:30 pm  
See page 4 for more information

## Upcoming Events

### Caregiver Support Group starting April 17

Caring for an aging parent, a spouse in fragile health or an adult child with special needs can be both gratifying and challenging. Receiving support and companionship for this holy enterprise in a confidential setting can deepen the caregiver's experience, broaden perspectives and foster hope.

In a small group setting of 10-12 people, Pullen will offer a 7-session opportunity for those engaged in this caregiving journey. The group will meet the third Wednesday of each month, April 17 through December 18, taking a break in the months of June and July. Each session, which starts at 12:30pm, will be held at the church, beginning with a light lunch, followed by a time of spiritual renewal, group sharing and a focused topic of the day. On occasion, specialists will be invited to be present to share their particular areas of wisdom and expertise. Sessions will end promptly at 2:00pm.

Facilitators will be Jeannene Wiseman, a spiritual director, and David Wiseman, a Presbyterian pastor. Both have their MDiv degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary. This group experience is offered as an extension of Pullen's passionate commitment to quality congregational care.

If interested in registering, call the church office at 919/828-0897. Email queries may be sent to [jdavidwiseman@yahoo.com](mailto:jdavidwiseman@yahoo.com) or [jeanneneww@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanneneww@yahoo.com).  
-Nancy Petty

### "iGo Green"

June 24–28, 9 am–5 pm

Rising 1st–6th graders.  
\$70 cost covers food,  
craft supplies and  
T-shirt.

Scholarships & sibling  
discounts available — see Tommy!  
Sign up: [pullen.org/vbs2018](http://pullen.org/vbs2018)



### AUDACIOUS FAITH Declaring a Progressive Christianity for the Common Good



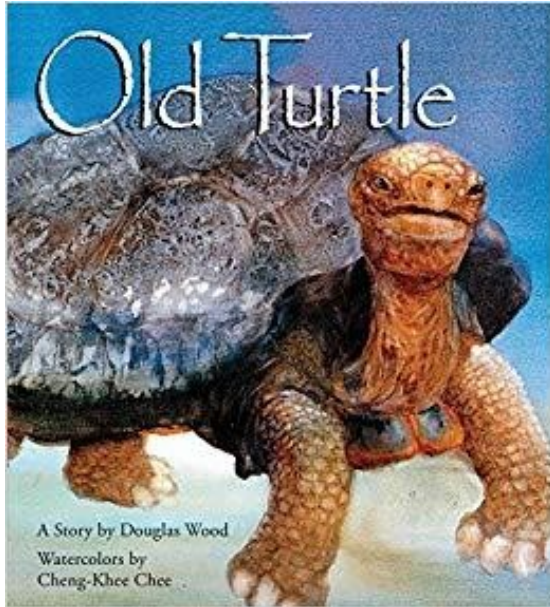
Thursday, April 11, 7:00pm  
Pullen Memorial Baptist Church

Guest speaker John Pavlovitz

Reserve **free** tickets in advance at  
[audacious-faith.eventbrite.com](http://audacious-faith.eventbrite.com)

-Nancy Petty

# May 5- Music Ministry Concert



## Join us for a Concert for a Cause benefitting The Hope Center at Pullen

on Sunday, May 5, 2019, 4:00PM

at Kirk of Kildaire, Presbyterian  
200 High Meadow Drive, Cary, NC

Given by the Music Ministries of:

- \* Pullen Memorial Baptist Church
- \* Kirk of Kildaire, Presbyterian
- \* Cary Presbyterian Church

with Adult, Youth & Children's Choirs, Orchestra & Story Teller: Brian Crisp

### Presenting:

- Song of Wisdom from "Old Turtle" by Douglas Wood & Joseph Martin
- "Old Turtle" Art Display
- A Word from The Hope Center
- In Praise of the Village by Larry E. Schultz

Donations for The Hope Center  
will be received at the door.

Invite friends of all ages for  
this multisensory and  
multigenerational experience!

## Youth Corner

### Summer Youth Calendar

- ★ June 16-21 - Hazard, KY Mission
  - \$50 Deposit - \$250 Balance
  - Our annual inter-generational trip to KY.
  - Rising 9th grade to senior adults are invited!
- ★ June 30-July 5 - Baptist Youth Camp
  - \$100 Deposit - \$300 Balance
  - The BEST summer camp experience for youth rising 7th grade to graduating seniors.
- ★ July 21-24 - Raleigh Urban Mission
  - \$50 Deposit - \$100 Balance
  - A 4 day camp for rising 6th-8th graders right here in Raleigh.
  - We'll sleep at Pullen and work with local organizations.

### Free Food Friday!- April 26

The last Friday of each month, our youth meet at Benny Capitale's Pizza at 121 Fayetteville St. The food is free and we always have a good time. We begin gathering at 6:00 PM and wrap up at 7:30.



### Wednesday Nights

- 4/10 - Youth Ministry Intern, Holli Workman-Holmes - How well do you know your neighbor?
- 4/17 - Holy Week - No Wednesday Night Activities
- 4/24 - Game night - At Pullen Park, if the weather permits
- 5/1 - Richard Cook - Finance Lessons for Teenagers

### Sunday Mornings

- 4/14 - Faith Statements
- 4/21 - Easter Sunday - Baptism Service
- 4/28 - Preparation for Youth Sunday
- 5/5 - Preparation for Youth Sunday

### Serving the Poor in Hazard KY

Would you like to join the Pullen tradition of serving the poorest of our country in Hazard, KY? This service opportunity is open to anyone 14 years of age and older and is a wonderful way to serve alongside other Pullen members in different generations.

We spend 4 days in the mountains of eastern Kentucky doing rehabilitation work on homes or constructing new homes for families. Dates are June 16 to 21. The cost per person is \$300 and we need a \$50 deposit by May 1st. The \$300 covers lodging, most food, construction materials, secondary insurance, and travel. For more info email Bryan Lee at [blee@pullen.org](mailto:blee@pullen.org)

**REGISTER NOW!**

The registration and deposit deadline for all events is May 31st. For more information and registration, visit [www.pullen.org/youth](http://www.pullen.org/youth).

## Welcome New Members

### Cindy Kuhns

I moved to NC from PA about 2.5 years ago in search of a new start and a warmer climate. I enjoy living in my new home in Carolina Arbors. In a strange twist, a PA company hired me after I moved to NC so I work from my home! I'm a Global Business Manager for a company focused on Electronic Materials called Quantum Global Technologies. I've been traveling for work quite a bit since I started with QGT, but it's settled down some this year so I get to travel more for fun now (which is a passion of mine)!

I am single and have 2 sisters, both of whom still live in PA. I also have a cousin, Ron, and his family who live in Cary. I am active in arts and cultural events here in the Triangle but have struggled to establish a new base of friends here in NC. I look forward to hopefully joining in more of the activities at Pullen over this coming year.



**Irene Lawrence** grew up in Winston-Salem, NC and was raised in the Eastern Orthodox Christian church. I graduated from the Duke Sanford School of Public Policy in 2016 with a Master of

Public Policy. After two years in Kansas City, MO for Nicolas's doctorate, we moved to Raleigh in August 2018 and I started a job at the NC Department of Public Safety, where I've been working on reentry programs for people who have recently come back to their communities after being incarcerated. I'm excited about getting to do this work in my home state, as well as becoming more involved in the Pullen community.

**Nicolas Lira** grew up in East Lansing, MI. I graduated with degrees in saxophone from Michigan State and UNC School of the Arts. In 2019, I will complete my Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in saxophone performance and masters degree in music theory from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance. As a performer and scholar, my interests range from post-minimalist music and spectralism, to J.S. Bach and Edvard Grieg. I teaches private saxophone, clarinet, and piano lessons in Wake County and perform throughout the coastal states and midwest.

## Baptist News

### Please Consider a Lenten Mission Offering

Lent begins on Wednesday, March 6 and continues until Good Friday, April 19. During this time of reflection and spiritual discipline, you will find Lenten Mission Offering materials in the pews. At Pullen we have a special relationship with some ABC International Ministries missionaries, including peacemaking trainers Dan and Sharon Buttry; Glen and Rita Chapman, who continue their parents' and grandparents' ABC mission work in Kikongo, Democratic Republic of Congo; and Laura and David Parajon, who provide health care to rural communities through AMOS in Nicaragua. Other gifts remain in the United States. There are plenty to choose from, so please give thoughtful consideration to making a donation and know that you are helping to make the world a better place.

*-Brian Crisp*

### New Alliance of Baptists Covenant to be Presented



The Alliance of Baptists formed around a covenant 32 years ago. "In a time when historic Baptist principles, freedoms, and traditions need a clear voice," the covenant began. It created clarity from which the Alliance thrived. For more than three decades seven commitments have inspired the Alliance to become a community dedicated to the inclusion of all persons, to pursuing justice and to developing partnerships in mission.

The "Why Baptist" event two years ago celebrated the covenant's 30th anniversary with a fresh look at its seven commitments. The Alliance board of directors formed a committee to look at the covenant and propose updates.

At the upcoming 2019 Annual Gathering in Washington, D.C., Alliance Baptists will kick off a year-long discussion on the new proposed covenant with more table conversations. The committee has submitted their recommendations as the beginning of a process. They expect the community to wrestle with their proposal and to make it better by the time the alliance meets in Fort Worth, Texas, in 2020, where the board hopes a new Alliance Covenant and Mission will be approved for the next generation.

Read the proposed covenant and learn more here: <https://allianceofbaptists.org/news/a-living-covenant>

*-Dana Deaton*

# CARE OF CREATION ADVOCACY GROUP

## April 2019 News



### **Educating Girls and Global Warming**

Nobel Prize recipient Malala Yousafzai\* once said, “One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world.” Educating girls was one of the most surprising of the Drawdown Project’s 100 solutions to global warming, ranking number six among the ways to decrease the impact of climate change.

When a girl is educated, her education doesn’t just benefit the girl, it also benefits her community and future generations. Education is the most powerful tool for breaking the cycle of generational poverty. It also turns out that educating girls “is the single most important social and economic factor associated with a reduction of vulnerability to natural disasters” such as those associated with climate change.

When South Korea grew from one of the least to most educated countries in the world, birth rate dropped dramatically. Girls who complete a secondary school education plan their families differently. Women with 12 years of education average giving birth to two children, while women with no education average having five to six children. Each person that inhabits the Earth leaves an environmental footprint; therefore, slowing population growth has tremendous benefits for our planet and our future.

Today millions of girls worldwide are denied the right to an education, especially a secondary education. This is largely due to school costs. Girls are needed to draw water, gather firewood, or work a market stall or a plot of land. If money is the issue, brothers get priority for an education. In many parts of the world, cultural barriers are also an issue. Beliefs such as ‘girls should tend the home and be married young’ impede opportunities for education.

### **Family Planning**

The seventh most powerful Drawdown solution to global warming is family planning. By providing women around the world with access to contraceptives, women can plan their family size and spacing. Currently millions of women in low income countries want access to birth control and family planning resources. In 2014 the United Nations recommended programs to increase access to reproductive health services and linked this decision to the need to address climate change.

Successful family planning programs in Bangladesh and Iran have demonstrated how access to women’s healthcare impacts birth rate. In the 1980’s, Bangladesh initiated a door-to-door approach where healthcare workers provided basic care for women and children. The birth rate fell from six to two children per woman as a result of this program.

In the 1990’s Iran launched a voluntary program where religious leaders educated the public and provided access to contraceptives. The birth rate dropped by 50 percent in 10 years.

Paul Hawken said, “People think it’s a solar panel that will save the world. It’s not a panel, it’s a woman.” If all nations follow South Korea’s example and educate all girls by 2050, we can reduce the size of the human population in 2050 by 843 million people worldwide. A worldwide commitment to educating girls and providing women access to family planning resources could lead to a 119.2 gigaton reduction in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> by 2050. If we combine these two interconnected solutions, they actually become the #1 top solution to climate change.

*-Gail Powell, Care of Creation Advocacy Group*

Learn more about these solutions by checking out the website: [www.educatinggirlsmatters.org](http://www.educatinggirlsmatters.org)

\*The Malala Fund strives to obtain 12 years of a safe, quality education for girls around the world.

### Resources:

1. [https://www.greenamerica.org/sites/default/files/2018-11/GAM110\\_Winter2017\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.greenamerica.org/sites/default/files/2018-11/GAM110_Winter2017_FINAL.pdf) Green American 2017. Winter Issue 110. Page 20.
2. Hawken, Paul. Editor. 2017. Drawdown: The most comprehensive plan ever proposed to reverse global warming. Penguin Books. NY,NY [www.drawdown.org](http://www.drawdown.org)
3. [www.FairTradeAction.org](http://www.FairTradeAction.org) promotes economic solutions to get kids out of factories and fields and into schools.
4. [www.educatinggirlsmatters.org](http://www.educatinggirlsmatters.org) - provides a list of 30 organizations that promote worldwide education of girls.

# The Hope Center at Pullen



## Raising Hope Dinner and Silent Auction.

Mark your calendars for **Thursday, June 6 at 5:30 p.m. for the 2019 Raising Hope Dinner and Silent Auction.** The event will, once again, be held at The Glenwood. We look forward

to this opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of our youth with you. Our Board, staff, and volunteers are working hard to prepare a fun and memorable evening. If you know someone who might like to sponsor the event, please contact Erin Witcher at [ewitcher@hopecenteratpullen.org](mailto:ewitcher@hopecenteratpullen.org).

**When:** June 6, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

**Where:** The Glenwood (3300 Woman's Club Drive, Raleigh NC 27612)

**How do I get Tickets?** Tickets are available with sponsorships and a limited number of individual tickets will be available beginning May 15.

**Other ways to help:** Recruit sponsors, donate to the Silent Auction (or come bid!), volunteer. Tell your friends!

**Contact:** [kburris@hopecenteratpullen.org](mailto:kburris@hopecenteratpullen.org)

## Sponsorships Available

Raising Hope 2019 Sponsorships are available now. For more information on sponsorships, visit:

<http://hopecenteratpullen.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/2019-Raising-Hope-Sponsorship-Package.pdf>

If you need more information or know someone who you think would like to sponsor the event, please contact Kellie Burris at [kburris@hopecenteratpullen.org](mailto:kburris@hopecenteratpullen.org). We look forward to seeing you there!

## Making a House a Home



In the fall, The Hope Center worked with N. to apply for a housing voucher. In November, she moved into her own apartment. This is the first place she can call her own. She needed furniture and she wanted to put her personal stamp on her home. We connected her with The Green Chair Project and



helped her create a budget to save the furnishing fee she would need in order to shop with a personal shopper at Green Chair's store.

In February, she had saved enough money and went shopping! This amazing photo captures her joy in finally having the things she needed to make her house a home. Thank you, Green Chair!

We're so excited for N. and look forward to helping her reach her goals now that she has a stable (and cozy) place to call home.

## Opportunities to Serve our Young People

**\*Nutritious Meals for Wednesday Life Skills Group:**

Many thanks to the wonderful folks who have signed up to donate nutritious meals! We continue to have a need for donated nutritious meals to serve at our Wednesday Life Skills Group. These meals are a big draw for our young people to come to group, and your help would be greatly appreciated! If you are interested in helping in this way, please visit our signup: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0849aeaf2da7f85-lunch>

**\*Queen or Double Bed Needed:** One of our young adults is moving into her apartment on April 1<sup>st</sup>. She could really use a queen or double bed for her new home. If you have one you can donate, please contact Thomas Coogan at [tcogan@hopecenteratpullen.org](mailto:tcogan@hopecenteratpullen.org).

## Local author, John Pavlovitz, visited us in March.

John chose to highlight The Hope Center with his pre-release campaign for his newest book, *Hope and Other Superpowers*. Readers who purchased his book during the pre-sale donated a mask and cape to us. These capes are so much fun! The children of our young adults take one when they come in the office. Our staff brought some home for their children. Watching the joy these capes spread has become a highlight in our workdays.



--The Hope Center Staff

# Easter Lillies

## Honoring Loved Ones During Easter—Deadline April 14

As the Pullen community begins preparations for Easter, the Sanctuary Committee offers the congregation an opportunity to honor or memorialize a friend or family member by contributing to our sanctuary visual imagery. Please complete the form below and return it to the church office with your contribution.

Your Name & Phone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount \$\_\_\_\_\_ (suggested donation: \$12 each)

I  will/ will not pick up a lily after worship Easter morning.

Lillies are given...

In  honor or  memory of (1) \_\_\_\_\_

In  honor or  memory of (2) \_\_\_\_\_

In  honor or  memory of (3) \_\_\_\_\_

In  honor or  memory of (4) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to you (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_

