



Pullen

Memorial Baptist Church

August news & updates

Upcoming Events

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

Finance Report:

Date: 6/30

Contributions: \$710,029

Expenses: \$611,338

Difference: \$101,433

Joys and Concerns

We give thanks for...

Pastor Tommy and all those who helped him with the annual Pullen Kid's Day Camp on July 18-22. A good time was had by all who participated.

A successful reboot of BYC on July 3-8. We're grateful for Bryan Lee's leadership and all the volunteer support that helped make it a meaningful experience for our youth.

We hold in prayer...

The family of Carolyn McClendon, who died on July 1st after a long battle with cancer. Carolyn worked with a number of

So Glad you Asked

You never know what you're going to get when you tell your congregation that they can ask the pastor "anything". So I braced myself after Nancy extended this wide open invitation as we sat before those who had gathered for our final meeting of the Summer Sunday Series.

It turns out that there was no reason to be on edge. We fielded some great questions covering topics from Christian nationalism, to the Webb telescope images and the post-pandemic church. One newer Pullen attendee asked, "What can we do to support you?" After taking a little time to talk about some of the systems of support for our staff, Nancy offered one final response to the question: "You can show up!"

This fall really marks a full return to all of our pre-pandemic activities because you have indeed been showing up. As we roll out a robust schedule of programming for adults, children and youth, our ministry with the larger community continues, and folks are making it back to church or coming for the first time, it's clear that we also need people who can show up as volunteers. Pullen people have always always been willing to offer their time, but the pandemic has not left us unscathed when it comes to volunteers. Yet, I know that there are many people who may be looking to get involved for the first time, or get involved in a different way.

As we get back into the swing of things, I want to let you know about some areas where we could really use your help. Below you will find brief descriptions along with the contact to express interest or request additional information. If you've been thinking about volunteering or returning to volunteering, please take a look at these opportunities to serve!

Audio/Visual - Pullen is in need of some Audio/Visual Team Volunteers! Experience is great, but we are also willing to train. The

nonprofits in Wake County, including Catholic Charities Support Circle Program where she trained and supported Pullen's support circle for homeless families. A service celebrating Carolyn's life was held on July 10 at Millbrook Baptist Church.

The First Baptist Church-Matanzas, Cuba in the death of Gilfredo.

The Moral Movement family as we grieve the death of Rev. T. Anthony Spearman who died on July 19.



commitment for being on the Audio/Visual team is serving one Sunday a month from 9:30-12:00 pm and potentially special events. This is a great service opportunity for students! Contact Kate Amesbury at kamesbury@pullen.org.



Children's Ministry - It is important that we have people in place to support Pullen's children. We currently need volunteers to offer childcare, teach, lead workshops, lead worship, and greet families as they arrive. To learn more about

the specific opportunities in our Children's Ministry or to express interest, click [here](#), or contact Tommy Cook, tcCook@pullen.org.



Handy Corp-Join Handy Corp! This group meets Wednesday mornings from 8:30-11:30 am. The primary purpose of this group is to perform minor repairs to Pullen; the secondary purpose is solving the problems of the world. The

first hour is spent in fellowship around the latter. The balance of the time is spent fixing things, but skills are not required! Contact Warren Chesson at wchesson@pullen.org.



Hosts - Do you enjoy making people feel welcome? We're looking for people who can assist in extending our welcome to visitors after worship on Sundays. This could include collecting visitor cards, handing out printed information about Pullen

based on a visitor's interest, and just engaging in conversation for a few minutes. The commitment is one Sunday per month. Contact Chalice Overy, covey@pullen.org.



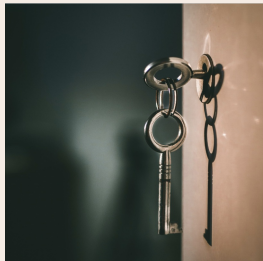
Office Volunteers - We're looking for office volunteers answering the phones and buzzing people into the building. The hours range from late morning through late afternoon. Contact Vicky Bass, churchadmin@pullen.org.

Sanctuary & Resettlement -



Volunteers provide wrap around support for immigrants in need of welcome in our community by offering rides, hosting outings in the community, helping with English conversation, and helping navigate the challenges of being a stranger

in a new land. Contact Serena Buckner, beanbuckner@gmail.com.



Security-The Security Team walks the church during worship securing entrances, counting participants and providing general vigilance. The commitment is 1 Sunday every 6 weeks from approximately 11:00 am - 12:00 pm. Contact Steve Gurganus,

sjg.net@gmail.com.



Servers - Each week at The Table we need 3 servers and 1 person to collect the money for dinner. The commitment is one Wednesday per month from 5:15 - 6:15 pm. Contact Chalice Overy, coveery@pullen.org.



Ushers - We need ushers to greet and hand out worship guides as people enter the sanctuary, and collect the offering. The commitment is one Sunday every 6 weeks, from 10:15-12:30. Contact Randall Brandy rlb9944@gmail.com or

Dave Laboy, laboy.david.g@gmail.com.



Round Table- offers people experiencing homelessness or housing and food insecurity to be the guest of Pullen on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. On these days, from 1:30-2:30 pm, we provide snack lunches and hospitality. Pullen

supports this work through food donations, monetary gifts, and volunteer energy. This ministry provides around 50 guests that come to our door with food, an attentive ear, and a kind word as we find meaningful ways to build community. Volunteers are always welcome. To get involved, please contact Jan Crouch jancrouch50@gmail.com (Tuesday Round Table) or Ginny Going ginny.going@gmail.com (Thursday Round Table).

-Chalice Overy, Associate Pastor

Upcoming Pullen Events:



Fall Sunday Groups

September 18-November 20 at 9:30 – 10:30 am at Pullen

This fall, we're offering many opportunities to be formed together in Sunday Groups!

We'll continue conversations about race and privilege, engage scripture, share the wisdom of our own sacred stories, and develop tools to ground our work and enrich our lives. There are many groups to choose from because there's a lot to talk about! We hope you will find something that peaks your interest or speaks to your passion. With many options comes smaller class sizes, inviting deeper engagement of the subject matter. It also gives us an opportunity to get to know each other. If you're a newer member or attendee looking to connect with others in the

Pullen community, this is a great opportunity. If you're looking for an accomplice in the work you feel called to, you may just find that person in a Sunday Group.

Take a moment to look at the list of offerings at the link below. Sunday Groups begin on September 18, and meet from 9:30 – 10:30 am. We have groups that run 10 weeks, and others that meet for 4-5 sessions. We also look forward to bringing some of our long-running Sunday Groups back to in-person gatherings.

-Chalice Overy, Associate Pastor

[View our Sunday Groups](#)



The Table this Summer

June 29, July 27, August 24 at 5:30 pm in Finlator

It was a great year of learning and growing together, which ended with the return to in person gatherings! We're moving to our summer schedule of once per month gatherings. Make plans to join us for dinner from 5:30 - 6:15 pm, and programming from 6:30-7:30 pm. Dinner is \$7 for adults and youth (grades 6-12); \$4 for children (grades K-5); and free for preschoolers with a maximum fee of \$24 per family.

August 24 - Faith Communities Supporting Public Education

As youth and children head back to school we will hear from Rev.

Suzanne Parker-Miller, Executive Director of Pastors for NC Children about ways the communities of faith can support public education in our state.

-Chalice Overy, Associate Pastor

Pullen News:

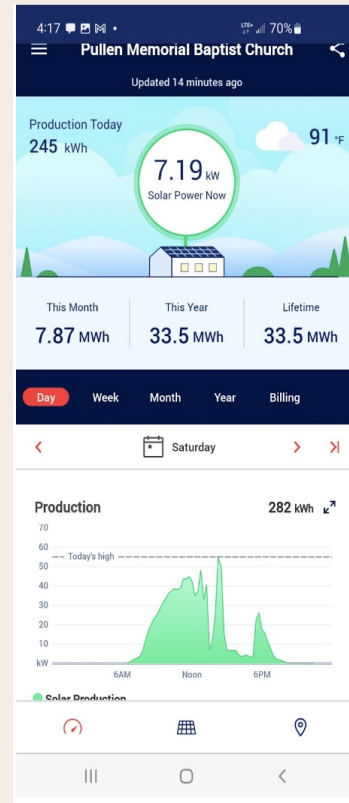
Let the Sun Shine! The First 100 Days of Solar Energy at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church

With longer summer days, Pullen's 156 solar panels are generating more energy! From sunrise until early evening our panels are cranking out electricity. This means lower electricity bills for Pullen's Cox building and a smaller carbon footprint for Pullen. From April

12th to July 20th (100 days) our solar panels generated 31,946 kWh of electricity. This is equivalent to: taking 4.9 average passenger cars off the road for one year; or eliminating the CO2 emissions from 2,549 gallons of gasoline. Another way to look at it is to compare it to the carbon sequestered by 391 tree seedlings grown for ten years. Pullen Memorial Baptist Church is making a difference! ([Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator | US EPA](#))



This photo shows a portion of our panels on the roof of the Cox building.



We can view energy production with our SolarEdge App at all times. This screenshot shows energy production on a sunny day followed by a rainy afternoon.

-Gail Powell

Save the Date for Nancy's 30th Anniversary Celebration!

It's hard to believe it has been 30 years since Nancy joined the staff here at Pullen. We will celebrate her ministry and the community she has served and helped create on Sunday, Sept 25. In true Pullen spirit, we will have a special worship service, followed by a catered BBQ meal in Finlator Hall. We will continue the festivities by reviving a cherished tradition of Pullen Home Companion, a time of music, comedy sketches, and other fun showcasing the many talents of Pullen members.

If you plan to attend the meal, please RSVP by Sept. 15 to Kiara Ruth at kruth@pullen.org.

If you would like to be part of the entertainment for Pullen Home Companion please contact Grace Evans at graced9194@gmail.com or Rachel Smith at rarsmith63@gmail.com

We need volunteers to help set up for the meal, so please contact Grace or Rachel if you can help.

We hope you will join us on Sept. 25th!

-The 30th Anniversary Committee: Rob Schofield, Larry Schultz, Laura Ford, Kevin Neiley, Grace Evans and Rachel Smith



Round Table Needs

We recently packed 607 bags for Round Table Ministry and are now collecting items for the next packing. Needed are 600 each of the following items: cans of Vienna sausages, juice pouches/boxes, cereal/granola bars, 6-pack orange peanut butter crackers, and 6-pack of other types of crackers. If you can help, please place your donations in the blue wagon outside the Church office. Our Round Table guests will be very appreciative. Thank you!

-Nancy Bradley



Celebrating New Members

What is your name? Louise Lockwood-Zorowski

What are your pronouns? she, her

Describe yourself in 2-3 sentences: I am a native North Carolinian and grew up in Asheville. I spent most of my career working for state and local government, as a policy analyst and as a budget analyst.

Why did you choose Pullen? I like the church's openness, acceptance, and commitment to social justice.

How do you imagine yourself growing with this community? I hope to become an active participant in the social justice activities of the church.

Music Ministry Groups Resume this Fall

The pandemic has brought to our attention many things, among them the value and joy of singing and playing instruments together! Pullen choirs and orchestra welcome all and exist to express the worship and ministries of our congregation. Join us for one or more of the following groups that resume in September:

Chancel Choir (Adults) – Resuming Wednesday, September 7, 6:45-8:15PM, Rehearsal Hall.

Pullen Orchestra (Youth & Adults) – Resuming Saturday, September 10, 10:00AM, Rehearsal Hall.

Youth Choir (Grades 6-12) – Though Youth Choir resumes in January 2023, Youth are welcomed to join the Chancel Choir on Sunday mornings to sing for worship.

Children's Choir (Grades 3-5) – Resuming Wednesday, September 14, 6:00-6:30PM, Rehearsal Hall.

Music Discovery – Resuming Wednesday, September 14, 6:00-6:30PM, Room 122.

For compassionate safety at this time, Music Ministry Group participants are asked to be vaccinated and boosted for Covid-19 and wear masks.

Pullen Endowment Scholarship

The GEMS Committee is happy to announce the 3 recipients for grants from the Pullen Endowment Scholarship fund for 2022. Each will receive a \$750 scholarship. Two students – Hannah Jordan and Ciara Gurganus are first time recipients, while Noelle Keister has received scholarships in past years. Here's a bit from the 3 recipients

NOELLE KEISTER: I greatly appreciate this scholarship and I am so thankful to Pullen for choosing me as a recipient. I am a rising junior at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, majoring in Environmental Science with a minor in marine science. This fall I will be spending my semester at Morehead City, researching sharks! I am very grateful for this scholarship and for the endless support of all the people at Pullen.

CIARA GURGANUS: Thank you for supporting me as I move on to the next chapter of my life! I just graduated from Enloe High School last month. After thinking about it very long and hard, I decided to go to Appalachian State (in Boone, NC) in the fall and be a part of the Watauga Residential College. I plan on majoring in Earth/Environmental Science.

HANNAH JORDAN: Thank you so much for awarding me this scholarship. This will be a huge help in the next step of my educational journey. I will be starting school this fall in pursuit of my business degree from North Carolina Central University.

-Pat Thomas

Kid's Ministry



Camp Pullen Thank You!

What a wonderful week we enjoyed at Camp Pullen, our week long children's day camp. Our theme of the week was "Hands On" where our awesome campers experienced "first hand" that God gave us creative, giving, working, helping and happy hands. Many made this week a huge success. Special thanks goes to our special guest (Greg Witt from Drum for Change, Adam Cox and Helen Tenney our Tie Dye experts, Clay Artist Elena Cebrio, Ann Eller and Jeff Evens who help us near the Sacred Roof-Top, Jan Crouch our Round Table Guide and Kate Amesbury our guest chef. Also, Pullen's own Handy Corp led in the birdhouse construction. I am also very grateful for fellow camp leadership Linda Garrett, Lynn Jarrard and Sarah Owens as well as parent, college student and youth volunteers. I am most thankful for the GEMS committee's approving funds for Camp Pullen. Because of all the many involved, Camp Pullen was a week of fun and growth for the children and I am looking forward to planning next year's camp!

-Tommy Cook, Minister with Children and Their Families

[Sign Up](#)

Children's Back to School Family Gathering

Friday, August 26, 6:30 pm

Save the Date! Location to be announced

-Tommy Cook, Minister with Children and Their Families

Youth Ministry



Wednesday Night Live

Wednesday Nights at 6 pm at Pullen

We meet from 6-7:30 in the youth space. A meal will be provided except for August 24 when we have our community meal in Finaltor Hall.

- Aug 3: Ultimate Frisbee/Ball
- Aug 10: Photo Scavenger Hunt
- Aug 17: Inviting rising 6th graders to Movie night Movie will begin at 6 so get there early!
- Aug 24: Karaoke/lip sync
- Aug 31: Nerf Battle

-Bryan Lee, Minister with Youth and Their Families

Sunday Morning Groups start back in September and we have some exciting plans for our youth. Stay tuned!



Parental Conversations

2nd Thursdays at 6:30 pm at Trophy on Maywood

On the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm, parents are invited to join us at Trophy on Maywood Avenue. There will be a food truck on-site and there are non-alcoholic options available.

Aug 11- Special guest Anne Maust - Anne is the former youth minister at Open Table United Methodist and now does animal-assisted therapy with her dog, Cade.

-Bryan Lee, Minister with Youth and Their Families

Back-to-school pool party at Rakestraw House

August 28 - 12:30-3 pm

We will provide the drinks, burgers, and hot dogs, please bring a side.

-Bryan Lee, Minister with Youth and Their Families

Around the Pullen Community



Alliance of Baptists



Join the Alliance in Addressing Racism

As part of its ongoing effort to become an antiracist organization, the Alliance of Baptists will offer "Excavating Our Roots: Baptist History and the Origins of White Supremacy in the US" on Friday and Saturday, November 11-12 at The Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama. The ticket price is \$50/person. Registration will open on August 15 and close on October 21. Childcare will be

provided. On Friday, the event will run from 9:00 AM until the end of an afternoon tour of the Legacy Museum. Saturday's program will begin at 9:00 AM and end at noon.

Keynote Speakers are Alexis Tardy and Elijah Zehyoue.



Alexis is a Minister and Organizing Associate with Children's Defense Fund living in Indianapolis.



Elijah serves as the Co-Director of the Alliance of Baptists and is helping to lead the Alliance journey toward antiracism.

All are welcome to join us for this important and challenging Fall Gathering. For more information go to the link below.

-Cathy Tamsberg

[Learn More](#)

Dismantling American Exceptionalism in relation to Cuba:
a five-week small group encounter



The American dream is not enough for them: they want to export their nightmares.
—2021 political cartoon by Manuel Hernández

Dismantling American Exceptionalism

Stan Dotson, in collaboration with Cuban pastors and lay leaders across the island, is offering a 5-week zoom course, designed particularly for U.S. churches in partnership with Cuban churches. It is entitled "Dismantling American Exceptionalism", and the material consists of Cuban voices, with weekly readings, movies, and music. Friends from many different churches contributed ideas for the content of the curriculum. The weekly sessions last 1 1/2 hours each. The only costs associated with the course is the purchase of one book, *Cuba in the American Imagination* by Luis Pérez, and the rent or purchase of 3 of the movies online. Attached is the full syllabus of

the course, with a fuller introduction and an outline of the materials used each week. The ideal group size for the course is 8 participants. The first run of the course is July 14-August 11, with a morning and evening option. Another run of the course will be offered in August-September. Contact Stan Dotson if interested.

Blessings,

-Stan Dotson

[RSVP](#)

[Full Syllabus](#)

"You Matter"

September 24

Visit with vendors @ 2:00 PM | Event starts @ 3:00 PM at Pullen

"You Matter" will be a journey of drama, testimonials, visual arts and more presented by local artists and teens, followed by a panel discussion with licensed therapists to help spread

Tai Connects, LLC Presents
"You Matter"
 An Info-drama Addressing Suicide



Drama, testimonials, visual arts and more presented by local artists and teens, followed by a panel discussion with licensed therapists.

Saturday, September 24, 2022
 Visit Vendors @ 2:00 PM
 Event Time @ 3:00 PM-4:30 PM
 PULLEN CHURCH
 1801 Hillsborough Street
 Raleigh, NC

FREE REGISTRATION
 *Donations welcome.

Free Registration Required:
rb.gy/zb0bat

awareness around the topic of mental health. We need YOU, your family, friends and affiliated organizations in the building! *Be sure to arrive EARLY! Some people came after the start time at our previous event and missed some GREATNESS; don't let that be YOUR story!

FREE ADMISSION! | Donations welcomed.
 Presented by Tai Connects, LLC
 - Tai Caldwell

[Order Here](#)



AMOS Update

AMOS Health and Hope continues to offer health care in rural and peri-urban Nicaragua, working with communities who have difficulties obtaining health care. They surmount multiple obstacles every day, and do this with love and joy.

Their work has lowered rates of both

maternal and infant death – the team sent a [video update for you](#), relating the story of how one mother's life was saved.

Due to a recent fund-raising campaign, they will be able to provide water filters, training, and support to more than 200 new families. [Learn more here](#).

Sincerely,

-Deb Norton

Presidential Recognition

In July, President Biden awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, to 17 people in a wide variety of endeavors, including **gymnast Simone Biles**, Academy Award-winning actor Denzel Washington and, posthumously, Apple inventor Steve Jobs and former senator John McCain.

Of particular interest to me were two of the recipients -- Sister Simone Campbell and Khizr Kahn: they had each spoken to us at Pullen!

Sister Simone Campbell brought her "Nuns on the Bus" and parked it outside Pullen in May of 2015. She spoke to a packed Finlater Hall and talked about their tours around the country and her work in Washington D.C advocating for social justice. The Washington Post notes: "Sister Simone Campbell, former director of Network, a Catholic social justice organization, was instrumental in getting the Affordable Care Act passed in 2010. President Biden once joined her "Nuns on the Bus" tour and said "Sister Simone Campbell is a gift from God".



Gold Star father Khizr Khan is presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Biden.

Khizr Khan, who was born in Pakistan, is a “Gold Star father” – his son Humayun Khan was killed in 2004 during the Iraq war. President Biden noted that Mr. Kahn has been an advocate for the rule of law and religious freedom while serving on the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

Mr. Khan spoke in our sanctuary in November 7, 2017 about his respect for the US and our Constitution and the rule of law. He said he was introduced to it as a law student in Pakistan, and said he thought our founding documents were both profound and thought-provoking. As he spoke he pulled out the pocket version that he kept with him.

-Pat Thomas

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/07/07/biden-freedom-medals-rapinoe-denzel-washington/>

STOP BY OUR OPEN HOUSE!



HOST

HOUSING OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS TODAY

August 23, 4:30-6:00pm

Presentation 5:30-5:45pm

1801 Hillsborough St @ Pullen Memorial Baptist Church

Join us to learn about our new program to support college students experiencing housing insecurity and find out how to get involved.



Hope Center Update

We kicked off July with an appearance on the [CBS-17 evening news](#) to cap off our month as the 3-Degree Non-Profit Partner. CBS and Michael & Son teamed up to donate \$100 a day for every day in June that the CBS Storm Team accurately predicted the high temperature of the day within 3 degrees. At the end of the month, their donations totaled \$2,600.

We're so grateful to Wes Hohenstein and the Storm Team for selecting HCP and for

helping us build a community where a person's history in foster care does not limit their future.

[Click here to Watch the video that aired on the CBS-17 Evening News](#)

Become a Volunteer Tutor

Many of our youth are already back in year-round schools and others are preparing to begin school in August. We need your help to ensure that each teen has the supportive partner they need to meet and exceed grade-level standards for the 2022-23 school year. Volunteer tutors meet weekly with students to help them with their school load and become another supportive relationship in the lives of our teens.

Our next volunteer tutor orientation is on Wednesday, August 10th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. This

orientation with be in-person at The Hope Center, 112 Cox Avenue, Suite 100-A, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Sign-up here to join us: <https://forms.gle/6fHu6oJeq1rAQmAi6>

Double Your Impact with the 4 Others Foundation

There's still time to double your impact in partnership with the 4 Others Foundation. 4 Others will match \$15,000 in donations over the summer. We're so grateful for their longstanding partnership with us which makes it possible for our young adults to find and maintain stable housing and work toward education and employment goals.

Help us Celebrate our Foster Teen Interns

Our Summer Internship Celebration honoring foster teens who completed their internships is on August 24th. We need your help to make this day extra special for the young men and women who finished their internships. If you are interested in partnering with us to provide "Swag Bags" for our 18 finishing interns, please contact Delana at depps-avery@hopecenteratpullen.org. In the past, this has been a great opportunity for book clubs or officemates to come together to support our youth.

In-Kind Wishlist

One of our clients has a need for new or gently used baby boy clothes, sizes 3 months and up. If you can donate, please contact our Parenting Specialist, Stacey Rodgers, to coordinate logistics: srodgers@hopecenteratpullen.org.

We're supporting our youth through high rent prices, gas prices, and inflation by providing gift cards when needed to offset the significant increases in daily expenses. If you would like to help, we are running low on:

- Visa gift cards \$25, \$50 and \$100
- Grocery store gift cards: \$50, \$75 and \$100

Please mail gift cards or drop them off between 9:00am and 4:00pm Monday through Thursday at 112 Cox Avenue, Suite 100-A, Raleigh, NC 27605

*-Erin Witcher,
Director of Development and Communications*

