

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

What You Need to Know for January

Pullen Plans to Vote on Sanctuary Church Motion January 21. Q&A Session This Sunday

This past August the Deacon Council commissioned a group of interested Pullenites to study the possibility of offering sanctuary at Pullen Memorial to one or more undocumented immigrants at risk of being deported. After a significant study of how and why we might do this, the Deportation Crisis Committee (DCC) met with the Deacon Council on November 12 and recommended that we commit to offering sanctuary at our church. The Deacon Council passed the following motion unanimously and it will be brought to the congregation for a vote on January 21. The DCC is eager for you to hear about our work and to enter into dialogue about the possibility of offering this ministry together.



Motion: *On the basis of the research and recommendation of the Deportation Crisis Committee, the Deacon Council moves that Pullen Memorial Baptist Church commit to becoming a Sanctuary Church by publicly providing refuge to individuals who are undocumented immigrants at risk of unjust deportation.*

There will be an important opportunity to hear from the deacons and the Deportation Crisis Committee today (Sunday, January 7) in Finlator Hall following worship. We hope you will attend and be a part of this important conversation.

—Members of the DCC: *Serena Buckner, Bernie Cochran, Lisa Grabarek, Jim McMahan, Thomas Price, Barbara Smalley-McMahan, Vilma Suarez & Linda Winslow*

Pullen 101 Begins Sunday, January 7

The eight-week introduction to Pullen we call “Pullen 101” will begin again on Sunday, January 7 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 203 next to the sanctuary. All are welcome to join us during the Sunday Group hour for this orientation to the life and ministries of Pullen. Pre-registration is not required. For more information contact Cathy Tamsberg at ctamsberg@pullen.org or 919-828-0897x214.

—Cathy Tamsberg

Pullen 201: One-Day Workshop January 20

Pullen Church is full of leaders. The Pullen family includes many amazingly capable and committed people who are generous in using their many gifts to enhance the ministry of our congregation both inside our walls and beyond. But what does it mean to offer your skills and insight in the context of our church? How is this different from being a leader at work or at home or in the community? Obviously many skills we develop over time are transferable to many life situations. To be effective in different contexts, however, it is important to learn what is distinctive (or “quirky”) about each setting in which we’re asked to serve.

On Saturday, January 20, we will offer a morning workshop we’re calling “Pullen 201” to reflect upon the unique characteristics of Pullen. We’ll talk a bit about Pullen’s history and our current ministries. We’ll consider characteristics of our congregation and how it functions that may not be obvious at first glance, but actually make us who we are. We’ll discuss how decisions are made and what makes someone an effective leader at Pullen. We will also touch on some of the challenges

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Help Our Search Committee: Where Should We Look for Pullen’s Next Associate Pastor?

Greetings Pullenites! Given the impending retirement of Cathy Tamsberg, the search committee selected to fill the position of Associate Pastor has a request. The Committee is currently drafting a memo to aid in attracting as many qualified applicants as possible.

As part of this process, our team will utilize the substantial list of colleges and universities, graduate schools, seminaries and divinity schools, as well as offices of our traditional and established partners and affiliates. In addition, we will also reach out to our friends and partners of Pullen who share in our mission and vision. Pullenites, we are asking for suggestions to help strengthen our search. If you are aware of an organization, ministry, or an individual whom we might include to enhance our applicant pool, please feel free to contact me or any one of our committee members to offer your feedback. An email sent to work@pullen.org will go to the entire search committee. Thank you.

—Associate Pastor Search Committee,
Jim Jarrard (Chair), Pat Thomas, Abby Sandling, Davis Greene, Jason Burge, Jonathan Sledge, Suzanne Newton, George Reed, Sarah Almblad & Stephen Toth

Inside Pullen

PULLEN 201 Continued from Page 1

we are facing as we look to the future.

If you are a member of a council, committee, mission group or other "official" Pullen group, we encourage you to join us for this event. However, ALL members and friends of Pullen are invited to participate. We will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 1:00 p.m. Coffee and snacks will be available. We'll dismiss before lunch. In order to know how many people to expect, we hope you will let us know you're coming by registering online at pullen.org/201 by Wednesday, January 17. Or you can just call the church office at 919-828-0897 and let us know you will join us.

As we begin the New Year, we hope many Pullenites will gather for this time of reflection as we explore further how to be church together and make a difference in our world.

—Coordinating Council and Staff

Lovingkindness Meditation Session Rescheduled for Sunday, January 28



Would you like to find your sacred center as you enter the year? Would it be helpful for your soul to do this in the company of other Pullen people as we begin 2018?

On Sunday evening, January 28, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. the Spiritual Life Group will offer a meditative experience based on the ancient Buddhist tradition of lovingkindness as a way to help us ground ourselves in these anxious times. This event was originally scheduled for January 3, but was postponed because of inclement weather.

We hope you will join us for this sacred time of being together as we begin the New Year.

—Spiritual Life Group

Invitation to Join Inter-faith Meditation Group

Everyone is invited to the ongoing Inter-faith Meditation held on the first and third Sundays at 2:00 p.m. in Poteat Chapel. The hour typically includes a 20-minute period of silence in which participants can engage in Centering Prayer or any other preferred form of seated meditation. This is followed by a time of "Sacred Listening" in which participants reflect on a question or topic posed by the person facilitating the group. The following dates are planned:

- ◆ January 7 (in the Parlor at Pullen)
- ◆ January 21
- ◆ February 4
- ◆ February 18
- ◆ April 1 (Easter Sunday)
- ◆ April 15
- ◆ May 6
- ◆ May 20
- ◆ June 3
- ◆ June 17 (Fathers Day)

We hope that you will be able to join!

—Karla Oakley and Ann Eller

MLK Service January 14

Pullen will host the congregation of Martin Street Baptist Church next Sunday afternoon for our annual Martin Luther King, Jr. worship service. Rev. Dr. Shawn J. Singleton, the new pastor of MSBC, will be our guest speaker.

—Deacon Council

Changes in Sunday Building Security Procedures

To insure the safety of our children in the nursery area, the rear entrance by Finlator Hall will be locked beginning at 11 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Please use the main entrance by the sanctuary after that time. Backpacks and large bags should never be left unattended in the building. Unattended bags may be reported to law enforcement.

An ad-hoc security committee, overseen by the Coordinating Council, will be conducting a safety audit later this winter. Look for more information soon, or contact me with questions.

—Steve Gurganus

2018 Budget Pledging

2018 Budget:	\$1,063,849
Pledged to Date:	\$812,575
Percent Pledged:	76.38%

Call for Donations to Take to Cuba in February

Thirteen Pullenites will be traveling to Cuba in February and ask for your help in collecting the following items to be taken to our sister congregation, La Primera Iglesia Bautista of Matanzas, Cuba. Both generic brands and name brand items are welcome.

Items requested include:

- Migraine medicine
- Children's shoes
- Polysporin
- Small office supplies
- Notepads
- Letter size envelopes
- Embroidery floss
- Travel shampoo & soap
- Toothbrushes, tooth paste, dental floss
- Basic Bic type ballpoint pens & pencils
- Ibuprofen & Acetaminophen
- Decongestants (adult and children)
- Cold & flu medicine (adult & children)
- Flonase
- Pre-natal vitamins
- Multi-vitamins, children and adult
- Jewelry-making supplies: clasps, etc.
- Allergy medicine (adult & children)
- Children's sandals

Donations may be dropped off at Cathy's office. Items needed no later than February 25.

—Vickie Leigh

Pullen Urgent Repairs

Funds Given To Date: \$397,584



Pullen People

We Grieve With:

- ☞ Jeff Bond in the death of his brother, Roger Bond. Roger died December 30 after suffering liver and kidney failure. A memorial service was held Saturday in Burlington.
- ☞ Ned Yellig and Sylvia White in the unexpected death of their son, Christopher on December 30. Ned and Sylvia request a time of solitude for now. Please no visitors. For now, your prayers and cards will sustain them until they are ready to see you, their friends.
- ☞ The family of Gerald Dennis. Gerald, a member of Pullen since 2007, died December 8. We pray for Gerald's sister Beverly and his brother Johnnie who were with him in his final weeks.
- ☞ Richard and Jennifer Paschal, and their children Catherine and Richard Allen in the death of Richard's mother, Marguerite. A graveside service was held for Marguerite on December 8 in Wake Forest.
- ☞ Sarah Bowen in the death of her grandmother, Elsie Bowen on December 9.
- ☞ Greg Moore in the death of his mother, Dell Whitley Moore, on December 21.
- ☞ Betty Miller in the death of her mother, Hazel Hatcher, on December 30.

We Celebrate With:

- ☞ Caroline Morrow and Melissa Faircloth, who were married at Pullen Church on Saturday, December 30.
- ☞ Tara Workman and Holli Holmes who were married in our sanctuary on Saturday, January 6.

Resurrecting Theology on Tap for Young Adults

Have you missed gathering with your Pullen friends to share a beer and discuss theology? If so, you are invited to join our pastor, Nancy Petty, and the young adults of Pullen to resurrect Theology on Tap. We will meet Tuesday, January 9 at 402 Kinsey Street, Raleigh, NC 27603 (home of Nancy and Karla) from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Beginning Tuesday, January 16 we will meet every Tuesday at the Boylan Brewpub on Boylan Ave. from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Come and bring a friend!

I have missed our time together and am looking forward to your insights that always inspire and challenge me.

—Nancy Petty

January 7, 2018

Pullen Youth News

Pullen Student Ministry Gearing Up For 2018

As we look ahead in 2018, we can see the many events and trips for the year and I am excited to take this journey with our teenagers. With energetic new faces and the stability of our teens who have been around awhile, it's my hope that the ministry will breathe fresh new life into Pullen. If you have a teenager in your house or know someone who does, encourage them to be here on Sunday mornings to learn and worship together and on Wednesday nights to explore everyday life issues as people of faith. For January, we will be exploring some of the most bizarre stories from scripture on Sunday mornings and on Wednesday nights, we will be talking about the many things that make us a masterpiece.

—Bryan Lee

PSM Coffee House this Wednesday



Join us Wednesday night, January 10 for the Pullen Student Ministry Coffee House. Students are invited to bring stories to tell, poetry to share, songs to play or sing, or any other talents and gifts they have. We'll

have warm drinks and good conversation. Happy half hour from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Performances start at 6:30 p.m.

—Bryan Lee

Share Support & Wisdom With Pullen Students Travelling to Cuba in 2018

Biennially, our juniors and seniors are offered a chance to visit our friends in Cuba under the guidance of some wonderful Pullen adults. This is a potentially life-changing visit



for them as they near the end of their faith forming years here at Pullen. This crucial time often sets them on a trajectory for the next ten years, or even for the rest of their lives. In an effort to live up to Pullen's history of inclusion, we are striving to ensure that the trip is affordable for all who would like to go. As we prepare, be on the lookout for fundraisers to support the trip. If you are interested in being a partner with one of our teens by committing to praying for them and offering any wisdom from your travels to Cuba or elsewhere, please contact Bryan at blee@pullen.org. Our goal is to have 1-2 adults for every traveling teenager.

—Pullen Student Ministry

Wednesday Nights in Winter Spur Conversations on Social Issues

Make being in Finlator Hall on Wednesday nights one of your 2018 News Year's resolutions! We'd love to have you join us for good food, fellowship, and meaningful programming for all ages each week in the New Year. Dinner is served from 5:15 to 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$6 for youth and adults and \$3 for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. The family maximum is \$20. Reservations are not required. The Children's Choir (grades 2-5) rehearsal begins at 5:45 p.m., Music Discovery for younger children at 6:00 p.m., and the program hour for adults is 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Youth begin their check-in at 6:15 p.m.

We begin the New Year with these adult programs on "Issues of the Day."

January 10—*Issues of the Day: Reproductive Rights*



Katey Zeh will initiate this six-part series on important issues of our day by sharing how she connects reproductive rights and faith. Our former Interim Minister with Children who will soon be ordained by Pullen, Katey is a graduate of Davidson College and Yale Divinity School. She worked for the United Methodist

General Board of Church and Society's Center for Health and Gender Equity before moving to Raleigh. She was named one of "14 Faith Leaders to Watch in 2014" by the Center for American Progress.

January 17—*Issues of the Day: Human Trafficking*



Our state is in the top ten nationally for human trafficking and the Salvation Army is actively engaged in addressing this growing individual and community crisis. Elizabeth Hunter, the Salvation Army's Director for Project FIGHT, will be our speaker. In this role, she is responsible for coordinating case management services throughout North Carolina and raising awareness about human trafficking. Elizabeth is the niece of Pullen member Tom Hunter.

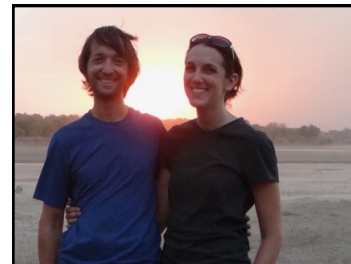
January 24—*Issues of the Day: Police Accountability*

Raleigh PACT is a coalition of community-based groups, community leaders and non-profit organizations committed to human rights. It grew out of the shooting of an African American man by the Raleigh Police in 2015. On this evening, Serena John from PACT will tell us how they are working to end racial profiling, selective enforcement, excessive force and harassment by police.



January 31—*Issues of the Day: International Development*

Having returned early from their Peace Corps service in Malawi, Pullenites Amelia and Marc Mahan will be with us to share their experiences as volunteers in this Southeast African nation, one of the smallest on the continent. They will tell us what they learned about international development, about the good people of Malawi and about themselves during their time away from us.



February 7—*Issues of the Day: Prisoner Reentry*

Drawing from his efforts to expand our outreach into Raleigh's prisons, our Community Ministry Coordinator Brian Crisp will facilitate a panel discussion about efforts to assist those who are formerly incarcerated in transitioning from prison into the community. With help from local leaders in this movement, Brian will help us understand how Pullen people can be involved in this important ministry.



February 14—*Ash Wednesday Worship Service*

Pullenites with gather in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. for our annual Ash Wednesday service as we begin our Lenten journey together.



February 21—*Issues of the Day: Women & Homelessness*

With women experiencing homelessness present next door on a daily basis, Pullen people can hardly avoid the troubling reality of homelessness for women in our community. But how much do we really know about who they are, why they sleep outside and what they need? On this evening, staff members of the Women's Center of Wake County, our next-door neighbor, will tell us how they are working to address the needs of these vulnerable women and how we can help.



We hope you will join us for this important series as we learn more about needs in our community and across the globe.

—Wednesday Night Committee

Opportunities for Giving

Asking Better Questions About Stewardship

Micah 6:8, our scriptural manifesto at Pullen, directs us to love kindness, to do justice, and to walk humbly with God.

The context from which this directive arises might surprise you. It is a conversation between an un-named person and God, imagined by the prophet, Micah. God opens the dialogue, as God so often does in the Hebrew Testament, with reminders of God's rescue of the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt—a pivotal point in their relationship with God.

Theologian Patricia Tull points out the note of defensiveness in the human's response: *"What do you want from us now? Is there anything, anything at all, that we can do to appease you, or will you always be holding that Exodus from Egypt thing over our heads? Sacrifices? Multiple sacrifices? Ultimate sacrifices? Because if you are going to play the guilt card, God, we know rivers of oil and our first-born children will not suffice."**

It's a stewardship question, isn't it? What can we possibly give God that God hasn't already given us? How are we to pay our debt to God? Everything we have is God's gift to us—even our first-born, and subsequent children! How are we to make God happy? **"With what shall I come before the Lord?"**

But God ignores that question, because it's the wrong question to be asking! It's not about what we bring, says Professor Tull, but what we care about: loving kindness, doing justice, and walking humbly with God.

And these are what we care about at Pullen, and have done for decades. Caring about kindness and justice and humility are our ministry and our mission, supported and enabled by our generosity, our participation, our prayers and our presence.

Your pledge of financial support for 2018 is an investment not only in what matters at Pullen, but ultimately in what matters to God. Thank you for being generous.

—Jim Hodge, Stewardship Committee

* From "Mosaic", Fall/Winter 2017, pg. 9.

Juice and Crackers Needed



We continue to pack more than 900 lunches every month for the Round Table Ministry. Your generosity in supporting this ministry has been overwhelming! For our next packing, we only need some four- and six-pack crackers and a lot of juice pouches or boxes. If you can donate any

items, please place them in the blue wagon outside the church office or drop them off with the back door greeters on Sunday mornings. Your donations make more money available to help those who come seeking emergency assistance with rent, utilities, groceries, medical expenses, and other needs. Thank you!

—Nancy Bradley

Education & Fellowship

Calling all Tree-Huggers! Lunch & Film 2/4

The term "tree-hugger" is often used as a pejorative. Yet many of us find that trees inspire and ground us in the midst of our busy, anxious lives. On Peace Sunday, February 4, the Peace and Justice Mission Group will offer a potato bar lunch and show the film *Call of the Forest: The Forgotten Wisdom of Trees*.

This documentary film features scientist and acclaimed author Diana Beresford-Kroeger as she investigates our profound biological and spiritual connection to forests. Her global journey explores the science, folklore, and restoration challenges of this essential eco-system. Beresford-Kroeger explores the most beautiful forests in the Northern Hemisphere while also explaining the science of trees and the irreplaceable roles they play in protecting and feeding the planet.

The *Call of the Forest* film and movement issue a call for massive, global reforestation to reverse climate change. If we could look back in time we would see forests blanketing the continents. But as human society has developed we have lost upwards of 95 percent of the world's forests and we continue to lose more than one hundred and forty square kilometers of forest per day. Only 5 percent of the world's old growth native forests currently remain today.

We hope you will join us on Peace Sunday, February 4, after worship in Finlator Hall. We will share a meal together and learn how we can partner with trees to protect our planet. Reservations are not required and all are welcome.

—Peace and Justice Mission Group

CSJ Annual Meeting on February 5



Please mark your calendars for this important event in early February. Congregations for Social Justice (CSJ), an ecumenical, interfaith, multi-racial advocacy organization working especially on affordable housing and prisoner reentry, will hold its Annual Meeting on Monday evening, February 5 at 6:00 p.m. at Highland United Methodist Church, 1901 Ridge Road.

Mickey Fearn, Professor of Practice in the N.C. State Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management in the College of Natural Resources, will be our speaker. He served as Deputy Director of the National Park Service from 2009-2013.

Usually attended by 150+ people, the CSJ annual meeting is a meaningful opportunity to deepen our relationships with clergy and laity from other faith communities and encourage each other in our witness for social justice. CSJ's annual Social Justice Award will also be given on this evening to an unsung advocate for environmental justice.

More information will be forthcoming. In the meantime, mark your calendars and plan to attend.

—Cathy Tamsberg

Pullen Partners

The Hope Center at Pullen

Happy New Year! We are so grateful for all of the ways that the Pullen congregation ministered to our young people throughout 2017 and for your steadfast support of our work. We are looking forward to all of the opportunities 2018 will bring and seeing more young people with a history in foster care make strides towards a thriving, independent adulthood. Please stop in any time to visit with us – we would love to share our joys and hopes with you.

A special note of thanks:

To our loving and generous Angel Tree participants – please know how very much your donations impacted each client at the Hope Center. This year we experimented with inviting each client to create her or his own wish list and you came forward to ensure a successful effort. Some clients said they had never created a wish list before so this was an extra special holiday season for them.

In this dark season as we celebrate the miracle of the return of light, we at the Hope Center will be reflecting on the light you brought to the families we serve and the light you brought to us through your generous support of the work we do.



Church staff look over gifts donated for Hope Center clients and families.

*In gratitude,
—The Hope Center Staff*

Sacred Spaces Ecumenical Art Retreat

Participants from a variety of faith communities are invited to come together to listen, reflect and create imagery for their community's sacred spaces. Under the leadership of Lisle Gwen Garrity, pastor/artist, the main focus will be reflecting upon a spiritual topic. The work created is intended to be temporary, making room for future collaborations to reflect on new visions. The retreat will equip participants with skills to repeat the experience. Several faith traditions will be invited to participate in this enriching community event. Come experience community collaboration through the imagining, formation and execution of a creative vision! Why participate in an art retreat? Art "forces us beyond our comfort zones, begging us to imagine, see, and create a world anew." Learn more about Lisle Gwen Garrity at www.lislegwynngarrity.com/retreats.

No artistic experience is necessary. Registration and meals are free. The retreat will be held at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church February 16-17. If you are interested, contact Brian Crisp at bcrisp@pullen.org or 919-828-0897x220.

—Grace Evans

Making Space for Hospitality

The following groups have used Pullen's

Facilities in the Last Six Months:

- Alcoholics Anonymous (5 meetings each week)
- AA Corrections Committee
- Advocates for Inclusive Education
- Church Women United
- Congregations for Social Justice
- Democratic Socialists of America
- El Pueblo Pare Graduation
- Families Anonymous
- Health Care Clinic (Sai Center)
- Health Insurance Marketplace Navigators
- Homeless Engagement Roundtable
- Hillsborough Street Citizens Advisory Council
- Hispanic Parents Group
- Homeless Veteran's Group
- Dalai Lama's Visit to Raleigh Planning Meeting
- Hope Center at Pullen
- Ignite Prayer Group – NCSU Student Group
- Interfaith Food Shuttle
- Interfaith Prison Ministry for Women
- InterPlay
- Intensive English Program at NC State
- Islam Community Group
- Justice Choir
- Legal Aid of North Carolina
- LGBT Center
- NAACP NC– Annual HK on J Coalition Retreat
- NC Conference of Young People in AA
- NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
- National Farm Worker Ministry
- Oakwood Waits
- Peace Corps Association
- Planned Parenthood – Community Council Meeting
- Qi-Gong-A-Thon
- QuestScope
- Raleigh/Wake Partnership to End & Prevent Homelessness
- Repairers of the Breach
- Sacred Sound Circle with Garth Robinson
- SafeChild
- TARA Meditation Group
- Triangle Gay Men's Chorus
- Triangle Literacy Council
- WCPSS Fine Arts Department
- Women's Center of Wake County
- Women NC Board
- Women's March NC
- You Can Vote
- Youth Racial Equity Workshop

Your support of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church allows us to extend hospitality to these and other organizations doing meaningful work in our community and around the world.

Our Space in the World: Hillsborough St. & Cox Ave.

Progress Report – Building Repairs

The Building and Grounds Committee continues to assess and coordinate urgent building repairs. We are currently concentrating on these issues:

1. At the advice of our potential contractor, we will avoid the extreme temperatures of January and February and not schedule the mortar repointing until mid to late March.
2. We have been challenged in finding HVAC contractors who are willing to bid on the replacement of the air handlers on the 3rd floor. We surmise that there is plenty of easier and more profitable work available to them thus, they do not need to take on our project which will be difficult due to accessibility issues. We will continue to search for reputable contractors.

In early December, Peak Fall Protection and Hamlin Roofing completed the installation of the roof safety anchors. With the completion of this project, the following PUR funds have been spent to date:

1. Replacement of sanctuary air conditioner (\$55,000)
2. Upgrades to the children's classrooms (\$37,500)
3. Continued work on gutter repair or replacement (\$14,856)
4. Replacement of roof safety anchors (\$30,450)

Total PUR funds spent to date: \$137,806

We have determined that in order to make all the necessary gutter repairs on our 1950s building we are going to have to erect scaffolding on this section, a cost that we had hoped to avoid. Since we will incur this significant cost we are assessing what additional work can and should be done while the scaffolding is in place. For example, the replacement of the original wood frame windows in the flower room and the worship resource room due to their age and lack of thermal efficiency.

We will continue to keep you apprised of our progress.

—Building & Grounds Committee

Care of Creation: Recycling Technology

Kramden Institute is a non-profit organization worth supporting. One of the things they do is take in old computers. These computers are refurbished by a great group of volunteers on Wednesday evenings and on Saturdays throughout the year. The computers are recycled back to the community to people with limited access to technology, like students and senior citizens. In 2016, 4,039 computers were refurbished and awarded. Individuals who receive a computer complete training before the device is awarded.



Kramden Institute is a member of the National Association for Information Destruction and follow the highest ethical

and industry standards when it comes to data destruction on donated computers. If a new computer is on your wish list, use the link below to find out how to donate your old one to Kramden. It's a win-win opportunity.

www.kramden.org/donate-a-computer/

—Ouida Watson

Cox Ave Building Report to the Congregation

Pullen Church has owned the Cox Avenue building for two years now. I am pleased to report that, so far, the property is "self-sustaining," meaning the rental income has more than covered all the church's expenses. Specifically, total rental income as of 12/31/17 was \$259,418 while total expenses were \$214,778, leaving us with a surplus of \$44,640 to use for capital improvements.

Two significant improvements were made to the building this past year. First, we replaced every light fixture and bulb on both the interior and exterior of the building with LED fixtures and bulbs just in time to take advantage of the Duke Energy rebate program for LED lighting. Our cost for this upgrade was \$18,461. Second, we renovated four of the seven bathrooms (the four used most frequently) at a total cost of \$17,716. Anticipated capital improvements for 2018 include replacing the carpet in the conference room and the common area of the second floor.

We are fortunate that the building is almost completely rented at this point. We have one 418 sq.ft. office still available for rent and if you know of anyone needing office space, please ask them to contact me for more details. Based on the current occupancy, our monthly rental "run rate" is \$11,040. This run rate is net of utilities, janitorial services, pest control and dumpster service.

I am regularly asked about our tenants. Currently they include:

- The Women's Center of Wake County
- NCSU Ombudsman Office
- NCSU Community Counseling and Research Clinic
- National Farm Worker Ministry
- Ignite (NCSU Student Ministry Group)
- ABBA Taxi Service
- Seeking Change Counselors

As of 12/10/17, we owe \$873,690 on the purchase loan for the building. Again, our rental income supports this debt service, currently "interest only" payments of around \$3,000 per month. We are required this coming November to change to amortizing payments (principal including interest) and based on the current principal balance, I would expect a monthly payment of around \$5,800 at that point.

Please let me know if you have questions.

—Brooks Wicker

Parking at Gregg Museum

You will remember that, as part of the access agreement with the Gregg Museum, they agreed to allow Pullenfolk to park on their campus each Sunday morning. Now that the museum has opened and have set the hours of operation, they have agreed to allow us to also park on the museum campus on *most* Wednesday nights after 5 p.m. Occasionally, they will have a Wednesday evening event which precludes our parking there and in these instances you will find the gate from our parking lot to their campus closed. Please join me in taking every opportunity to thank the Gregg Museum for being good neighbors to us.

—Brooks Wicker

Making Joyful Memories at the Christmas Breakfast



Thanks to Kevin Keister for the photographs.

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