



Pullen

Memorial Baptist Church

June news & updates



Upcoming Events

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

Finance Report:

Date: 4/30
Total contributions: \$522,579
Total expenses: \$434,953
Difference: \$87,626

Joys and Concerns

We rejoice with the members of our community celebrating milestones:

Pullen is more than a "welcoming" or "affirming" congregation. Far beyond centering the church as the holder of the holy, we recognize that our LGBTQIA+ siblings bring our worshipping community closer to the divine. In fact, we believe that Christianity is an inherently "queer" project; that is, a love-fueled, boundary-crossing revolution for justice.

The Christian story is one of holy disruption and shattered binaries. In the person of Jesus, we see divisions between heaven/earth, divine/human, sacred/profane, foolishness/wisdom, and even life/death disrupted for the sake of a more just and loving world.

Rejected and erased for far too long, the queerness embodied by the LGBTQIA+ community is not merely a gift to the church today. It is a much-needed reminder of who the church was called to be all along. It shatters the binaries that separate us from our transgressive God, from one another, and from the fullness of who each of us was lovingly created to be.

To learn more about this queer call of faith, join Pastor

Kelly Schultz, daughter of Cindy and Larry Schultz, who was married to Bryan Kennedy April 24.

Bryan Lee who celebrated his 5th anniversary as Pullen's Minister with Youth and Their Families in April.

We hold these members of our community in our prayers and our care:

Becky Veazey in the death of her mother Lenore McKinnie Veazey.

The family of Pancho Rodriguez who died on April 26 in Matanzas, Cuba after a long bout with leukemia and complications from COVID.

Jeff Cherry in the loss of his aunt, Marjorie, who died after a short battle with cancer.

The family of Alex McNeil. Alex, a 23 year old young man, and a client of The Hope Center, passed away on May 1. Alex had a hole in his lung and suffered from asthma. He passed away while awaiting surgery.

Carol Jenkins, one of our newest members in the loss of her brother Mark. Mark's service was held on May 15.

Ann and Frank Farmer in the loss of Ann's sister, Brenda Hunt, who died on May 15 after an extended battle with leukemia.

James Crook in the death of his dear and best friend of 60 years, Sherry Poole. Sherry died after a long battle with cancer. Her

lan for **Queer Theology 101** this Sunday at 9:30 am in Finlator Hall. Breakfast will be served at 9:00 am.

In celebration of our queer siblings, Pullen will join the **Out! Raleigh Pride Festival** later this month. Join us to proclaim this queer good news to the Raleigh community! To learn more and to volunteer for a two hour time slot at the Pullen booth, visit pullen.org/connect.

Church wide

Upcoming Pullen Events:



How would you like for someone else to cook breakfast for you every Sunday morning followed by engaging conversation with like-minded friends? Join us for our 2022 Summer Sunday series beginning June 5 at 9:00 am in Finlator Hall. We have an exciting line-up of cooks and great speakers for our Summer Sunday Series.

Breakfast will begin at 9:00 am followed by a presentation and conversation on topics ranging from queer theology to book banning. With our stomachs and minds full, we will then join together for our 11:00 am worship experience as we open our hearts to God's spirit stirring within us and around us.

June 5th: Queer Theology 101

June 12: Economic Justice

June 19: The Original Juneteenth: Celebration of Life

June 26: The Lasting Legacy of Pauli Murray

July 3 – Not meeting

July 10: Womanist Theology

July 17: Pushing Back on Book Banning

July 24: Surprise! Breakfast will be a yogurt bar served by the Youth.

During the Summer Sunday Series, children are welcome to join us for a Messy Church experience. There will be a variety of activities, crafts, and games that connect with Worship. Childcare will be available for preschoolers at 9:30 am.



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.

June 29 - Baptist Youth Camp (BYC) Preview Show

Our youth are headed back to their beloved BYC this year, and you get to see what all the hype is about! Did you know that our very own Senior Pastor, Nancy Petty was one of the founders of this progressive camp that started over 30 years ago? Bryan Lee, Minister with Youth and Their Families, will interview Nancy about BYC's origins before our youth perform the pieces they've prepared for the BYC variety show.

July 27 - Old Fashioned Show and Tell

Remember when you lost a tooth or brought back a shell from the beach and you couldn't wait to show your classmates? You know the way we shared our lives with people before we had social media? Did you finally get to go on that trip? Have you picked up an interesting hobby? Are you working on a fun or unique project? Show us! Tell us! Just be sure to tell us in advance so we can be sure we have time for everyone.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

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.



Chancel Choir

In June, July and August, the Chancel Choir will not meet on Wednesday nights. In June, "Summer Worship Choir" gathers at 10:15 am in the Rehearsal Hall each Sunday morning for "Choral Worship Preparation." In July there are no Sunday or Wednesday gatherings of the "Summer Worship Choir." In August, the "Summer Worship Choir" gathers at 10:15 am in the Rehearsal Hall each Sunday morning for "Choral Worship Preparation."

For continued safety at this time, singers are required to be fully vaccinated and boosted for Covid 19. In addition, masks will be worn.

Music-making with others is a transformational and life-giving ministry – join us!

-Larry Schultz, Minister of Music



Pullen Women's Group

June 6 at 6:00 pm at Bahama Breeze

Please join us for the next Pullen Women's Group. We get together to visit with each other and catch up, no special agenda. Newcomers are welcome! Our next get together will be at Bahama Breeze (3309 Wake Forest Rd) on Monday, June 6 at 6:00 pm. Please RSVP by calling or texting me at 919-360-0975. Happy Summer!

-Rita Rakestraw



Pullen Young Adults Grillin' and Chillin'

6/11 at 5:00 pm at The Lindquists'

Pullen Young Adults are invited for some food, fellowship, and fun in the sun on June 11 at 5:00 pm! This event is hosted by Dana and David Lindquist. Please RSVP by emailing Ian at imcpherson@pullen.org or Barbara 919-559-5549

-Ian McPherson, Minister of Missions and Young Adults



Trey Pearson Album Release Party

June 22 at 7:00 pm in the Chapel

With his band Everyday Sunday, Trey Pearson has sold hundreds of thousands of records and amassed millions of streams. He has scored 5 #1 U.S. singles and 20 Top 10 hits. His song "Wake Up! Wake Up!" earned the most-played Christian rock song of the year, and "Best Night of Our Lives," broke onto the coveted Billboard 200 chart. Pearson has toured in all 50 states and 20 countries. Since coming out in 2016, Trey has been making music that chronicles his life and inner landscape with vulnerability. A story that so many of us have, he puts words to feelings for all those who don't feel loved or accepted for who they really are. Don't miss the album release party for his second album, "Somebody You Knew". A night of songs and stories behind the songs in an intimate space; the chapel at Pullen Memorial.

-Bryan Lee, Minister with Youth and Their Families

Get Tickets



Round Table Needs

Can you help us pack the snack bags for our Round Table guests by donating some of the contents? Items needed are cans of Vienna sausages, juice pouches/boxes, cereal/granola bars, and 6-pack 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

Mary Killburn's Funeral Service

Mary Kilburn's rescheduled funeral service is going to occur on June 11th at 11:00 at Pullen and will also be live-streamed. You can watch the livestream of the [service here](#).

Pullen News:

Support Pullen's Committees and Councils

The Pullen Nominating Committee is seeking individuals to serve on the **church's councils and committees**, beginning in 2023. If you are interested in serving, please contact one of the committee members: [Pam Knight](#), [Jonathan Sledge](#), [Natalie Hampton](#), [Judy Williams](#), [Vickie Leigh](#) or [David Anderson](#). The congregation will vote on a slate of officers in November.

-Natalie Hampton, The Pullen Nominating Committee

An Update from the Theologian In Residence Committee

The Theologian In Residence initiative committee has been meeting monthly to secure both funding and a candidate to fill this important new role. In addition, a vision statement and goals for the program are being drafted utilizing feedback from the congregation survey regarding the potential for a TIR program. The survey is still open and accessible at <https://forms.gle/Hi98iPUaC2zY64WG9>.

In keeping with Pullen's history and mission, the TIR will bring expertise in mobilizing churches to create change in themselves and the world, helping us carry out our work of justice love, and set a vision for how other churches can do the same. With this in mind, the committee has been discussing candidates and hopes to announce a selection soon.

Thanks to generous donors, this program will be funded separately from the church's budget. As we continue to fundraise for this program to have the resources needed to succeed, church members' contributions would be greatly appreciated. You can make a gift using Realm at <https://onrealm.org/PullenMemorialB/-/form/give/theologian>.

-Eri Cleghorn, Theologian in Residence Committee

Pullen Memorial Baptist Church Scholarship(s)

The Pullen Memorial Baptist Church Scholarship(s) will be offered again for the 2022 academic year.

This Scholarship is need-based and is for seniors in high school who have been accepted to a college and for current college or graduate students.

The amount of each scholarship will be up to \$750, depending on availability of funds and number of applicants. The deadline for applications can be found at pullen.org/scholarship are due by July 1st. Successful applicants will be notified by mid-July. All application information will remain confidential. We are hopeful that improving COVID conditions will allow a return to a more normal fall semester at colleges and universities. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns about this process: contact Pat Thomas, dragonflyfiberarts@nc.rr.com

- Pat Thomas

Celebrating New Members

Decorba White

What are your pronouns: She, Her

Describe yourself in 2-3 sentences: I am a 40 year old woman born in Salisbury NC. I am a resident of Raleigh NC and as my career I run the Healing Transitions Women's Emergency Shelter. I am a full-time student at WTCC and planning to transfer within the next few semesters to pursue my BSW at NC State. I love helping people and I love worshipping God. I am so grateful that I found Pullen where there is plenty of both.

Why did you choose Pullen: Pullen is the first affirming church that I have found that has the atmosphere of love and the word where I do not feel unwanted or judged. I felt at home there since I started coming and was grateful to be able to find a place for me and my family to worship and fill our spiritual cups.

How do you imagine yourself growing with this community: I want to be an asset to the Pullen community. I am open and willing to contribute in any way possible. My passion is helping people and my lived experience and continued education together puts me in a unique position to be able to give back to my community.

Austin Wheeler

What are your pronouns: He, his, him

Describe yourself in 2-3 sentences: I am originally from Spruce Pine, NC but have been in Raleigh for four years now. I currently work at State Employees Credit Union as a department manager. I enjoy working on my side business and just now starting to get my pilots license.

Why did you choose Pullen: I choose Pullen because of the reputation of inclusiveness. After the first Sunday that I watched I knew this was my home.

How do you imagine yourself growing with this community? I hope to maybe do some volunteer work with different groups in the church before too long.



Kid's Ministry



Friday Family Fun Night

Friday, June 3 at 6:30 pm on the Terrace

Join us for live music, movement, silly skits and ice cream. Bring a lawn chair, blanket and a friend or two. For more information, contact Tommy.

-Tommy Cook, Minister with Children and Their Families

Messy Church

June 5, 12, 19, 26, July 10, 27 at 9:30 am in Room 122



A fun, come-as-you-are experience of creativity, celebration, and hospitality. Enjoy being together, making things together, and celebrating God together through activities and stories from the Bible. Parents can meet in Finlator Hall for coffee, donuts, and community. (May 15 only). Please note: childcare will be available for preschoolers at 9:30 am.

-Tommy Cook, Minister with Children and Their Families



Pullen Kids Summer Day Camp

July 18-22 from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

(Drop off begins at 8:30 AM and Pick up ends at 5:30 PM)

All hands on deck for Camp Pullen, a summer day camp for Pullen Kids and Friends. During this week children will HANDS-ON fun. Children will...

- build a bird house under the leadership of *Pullen's Handy Corp*
- **bang on a drum as Greg Whitt from "Drums For Change"** will be leading a drum circle
- help prepare and serve food at the "Round Table" at Pullen
- beautify the outdoor space by planting evergreens and seasonal flowers
- and we'll also play, create, craft and experiment keeping our hands busy all week long.

Children will be asked to bring their own lunch and water bottle but we will provide snacks during the day. If you have signed up your child, please expect a Medical and Photo release form in the next few weeks. If you have not signed up, contact **Tommy** if your family is interested!

Youth Ministry



Wednesday Night Live

Wednesday Nights at 6:00 pm at Pullen

We will meet from 6-8:00 pm for fun and conversations.



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.

June 9- Special guest Lyndsey Godwin is a Vanderbilt Divinity graduate, former youth ministry coordinator at Glendale Baptist (BYC partner), and a gender and sexuality educator.

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.



TreeRunner Arial Park Adventure

June 11 at 10:00 am meeting at Pullen

Join us on June 11 for an action packed adventure in the trees! RSVP at pullen.org/connect.



Youth Sunday

June 12 at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary

On Sunday, June 12 during the 11:00 am worship service, the youth bring their reflections and interpretations from Proverbs 8 to share that there is Wisdom in it All. We will also take time to honor our graduates and celebrate their journey.



Pullen Youth Summer Camp at BYC

July 3-8 in Laurel Springs

On July 3-8, the Youth are going back to BYC! After 2 years of not seeing friends from all over the country, we will gather again in Laurel Springs for a week of reconnecting. Youth and adults from 12 partner churches will come together for a week of youth-led worship, in-depth conversations, and a LOT of fun in between. Register at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5rFBAXPdd-9qf1BLUFFUpzX3y-l2rIB33T67kzYbrtCLrBQ/viewform>.



High Adventure Weekend

July 29-Aug 31 in Erwin Tennessee

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

Around the Community

Volunteer Opportunity at The Hope Center

The Hope Center at Pullen is in need of volunteers to help transport our youth to and from their summer internships! The Hope Center empowers emerging adults who are transitioning out of foster care in Wake County with the support and connections needed for safe and stable adulthood. To learn more about becoming a transportation volunteer, and other Hope Center volunteer opportunities please join us for our summer volunteer orientation on Thursday,



May 19th, from 6:00-8:00pm.

-
Melissa Greggory, Operations Manager at the Hope Center

[Sign Up Here](#)



Congress Can Act on Composting

People and communities of faith have a huge opportunity to help advance large scale composting in our country! Worldwide, about 33% of soil is degraded. In the United States, soil is disappearing 10 times faster than it's being replenished naturally. Composting helps build healthy soils and increases the ability of soils to store carbon, thereby combating global warming while protecting water resources, increasing agricultural productivity, and increasing food production. A massive investment in a large scale composting infrastructure is needed to address America's food waste challenge and replenish US soils. There are two bills in the

US Congress that address this pending crisis: The bipartisan Federal Recycling and Composting Accountability Act (S. 3743) and The Compost Act, (H.R. 4443 and S 2388).

[Please take 5 minutes to encourage Congress to Act on both Composting Bills](#) by using this easy online advocacy tool.

By clicking this link to the **[online advocacy tool](#)** you can, quickly, urge your members of Congress to support both bills. By entering your name and address, the tool will automatically generate a call, an email, or a tweet to your own members of Congress (both Senators and your Representative). The tool includes a sample email message, phone script, and tweet, all of which can be modified to better reflect your ideas. Fill in your personal information and select the Take Action box to reach contact information for your representatives. Your first contact option is a phone call. Select Skip Calling if you prefer to send an email or tweet.

Learn more: You can find a more in depth look at composting and both bills, at this link:

<https://interfaithcreationcare.org/composting/> We thank Carl Sigel, Susannah Tuttle, Muriel Williman and Frank Franciosi for their roles in this ICCT webinar and "take action" event.

*-Gail Powell, Pullen Earth Ministry
Interfaith Creation Care of the Triangle*

[Learn More](#)

Hope Center Update

HCP on the CBS 3-degree Guarantee

HCP is CBS-17's June Nonprofit Partner for the 3-degree Guarantee. When CBS's meteorologists accurately predict the high temperature for the day within 3 degrees, they will donate \$50 to HCP. We're thrilled for this fun way to continue building a community that supports and empowers Wake County's foster teens and former foster youth.

Transportation Volunteer Training – June 8

Our Summer Internship Program is getting ready to kick-off. 21 teens and young adults will be working at job sites over the summer. They will gain invaluable workplace skills and a paycheck! Our staff support youth throughout the experience with scheduling, guidance on how

to handle workplace communication, and workshops designed to help youth learn about taxes, money management, and HR.

Transportation can be a huge barrier for foster teens who want to work over the summer. We fill this gap with volunteers who ensure that teens can get to and from their job sites. Volunteers choose when and how often to help transport. We'd love your help whether you can commit to one ride over the summer or more. Please email Melissa at mgregory@hopecenteratpullen.org to learn more and sign-up for the training.

*-Erin Witcher,
Director of Development and Communications*

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