

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

## Not Merely a Spectator

I had one of those “aha!” moments this weekend. In a span of 48 hours, I attended four different events, all of which had a keynote speaker. The events varied greatly in purpose. Not all were religious events, although at least one was.

*...I was not merely a spectator. I had a responsibility to be an active participant in what was being said, in how I listened, in how I processed the information.*

Some of the speakers I knew well and others not so well. The content of the events also covered a wide range of topics. Some of the content was humorous (actually hilarious), some serious, some irreverent, and some sad and painful. There was wisdom in some of what was said, and there was challenge in other presentations. Some of what was said I agreed with and some I found at odds with how I

think and how I view the world and my place in it.

My aha moment came at the end of the weekend as I was processing all that I had heard and experienced over a brief 48 hours. I realized, on a deeper level than ever before, that as the listener I had tremendous responsibility in sorting through all the content I was being asked to take in, and that I would need to decide what I wanted to do with it all. *Duh*, you say! I know I am stating the obvious. But I am stating an obvious that I (and I imagine some of you) often forget. It was clear to me, again, that the burden is on me to decide how I will hear something and how I will choose to frame what I am hearing. Will I simply reject the things I disagree with as not having any validity? When I hear something that resonates with me, does that mean it is more important than the ideas that don't resonate with me but might with someone else? Can I listen compassionately to someone else who uses different words and metaphors than I would use and still glean meaning from what they are saying? Am I willing to work at reframing the words someone is speaking to hear a message that I might need to hear?

At weddings I say to those attending that they are not merely spectators. By being present they are making a commitment to supporting the couple as they care for their marriage. By being witnesses they are pledging to offer friendship and support to the couple. This weekend, attending four different events where I was taking in a lot of content—some of which I agreed with and some I did not—I was reminded that at each of those events I was not merely a spectator. I had a responsibility to be an active participant in what was being said, in how I listened, and in how I processed the information.

In an age of constant information it is good to remember that we have agency in how we hear what is being said to us and, ultimately, what we will do with it. Why am I sharing this with you? One practical reason: With all the speeches coming at me these days—especially those of people on TV who daily get under my skin—remembering that I have agency in how I listen helps lower my blood pressure. So remember, you are not merely a spectator in the world of words. You have agency. Use it!

*Nancy*

### Adult Baptism Conversations

Lent is the season of the church year when we are intentional about setting aside time for conversations about baptism. If you have ever contemplated being baptized as an expression of your spiritual/faith journey and would like an opportunity to talk about the ritual with other Pullenites, you are invited to a conversation with me on March 20 and 27. (Please plan to come both nights.)

We will meet in my office from 6:30-7:30 pm. If you know you want to participate you can email me at [npetty@pullen.org](mailto:npetty@pullen.org) or you can just show up! Following our conversations on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, if you decide you want to be baptized, (being in the conversation does not commit you to being baptized on Easter morning), there will be another session to prepare for the baptism. I look forward to our sharing.

If you have any questions ahead of time, please don't hesitate to call me at 919-349-1203.

—Nancy Petty



Why are our stained glass windows covered? If you were here in 2002, you might remember that it was part of the set design for *Old Turtle*. Well, get ready because *Old Turtle* is coming back!! See back cover for details and save the date of May 5 for a benefit for The Hope Center at Pullen.

## Pullen People

### We Grieve With:

- ☞ Beth and Jack Barnwell in the death of Beth's mother, Jo Goldston.
- ☞ Valentine Woods, a former Pullen youth, in the death of her brother, Patrick Anderson.
- ☞ Sylvanda Judd in the death of his mother, Barbara Garrett.
- ☞ Ginny Going and Tom Henderson as they support their daughter, Sarah Rivers, who is in her last days at Transitions Hospice.

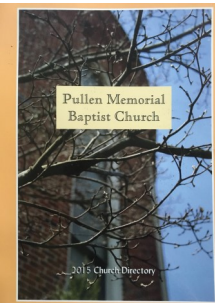
### We Celebrate With:

- ☞ Garry and Sally Walton, who welcomed a new granddaughter into their family. Naomi Eliana Joseph Walton was born February 9 to Jonathan, Hannah, and big sister Miriam.
- ☞ Jeannene and David Wiseman, who welcomed a new grandson, Gavin Oliver, into their family.
- ☞ Pullen's Care of Creation Advocacy Group, which hosted the inaugural meeting of the Triangle Interfaith Creation Care Network. This network unites 19 faith communities in an initiative focused on ecological justice.

## Time for a New Pullen Directory!

Be sure to sign up to be included in our new 2019 pictorial directory. Everyone who attends Pullen is invited to have your picture taken for the directory. You can even bring along your pets! You will receive a directory and a complimentary portrait. Additional photos may be purchased. Seniors 60 and over will get a 20-percent discount.

**WHEN:** Portraits will be made on the 3rd floor. Please arrive 10 minutes early, and allow 30-45 minutes for photography, proofing pictures and placing orders.



**Monday–Friday,  
March 18–22 & March 25–29**  
1:30 pm to 8:30 pm

**Saturday, March 23 & March 30**  
10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sign up [online](#) or in Finlator Hall today (March 3) from 9:30 – 11:00 am and after worship. Contact Pat Hielscher for more information/assistance at 919-418-0924 or [pathielscher@gmail.com](mailto:pathielscher@gmail.com).

—Chalice Overy

## News You Can Use

### Upcoming Special Business & Congregational Meetings

The Coordinating Council has called a special congregational meeting for **Sunday, March 10** to discuss a motion from the Sanctuary Selection Committee with respect to providing housing assistance for immigrants. The meeting will take place in the sanctuary immediately following services.

In addition, the Coordinating Council anticipates calling another special congregational meeting for **Sunday, March 17** to discuss one or more motions with respect to amendments to the church's constitution and bylaws.

Watch for more details in Pullen emails or by U.S. Postal Service.

—Coordinating Council

### Meditation Group

Come meditate with us and feel restored. Our sessions are in Poteat Chapel from 2:00–3:00 pm today (March 3) and again on March 17 and April 7.

—Karla Oakley and Ann Eller

### Pullen Women's Group

The Pullen Women's Group meets Monday, March 4, at 6:30 pm at The Wild Cook's Indian Grill, 3212 Hillsborough St. All women are invited to get to know each other.. RSVP to 919-360-0975 or [Rita.blue@hotmail.com](mailto:Rita.blue@hotmail.com).

—Rita Rakestraw

### LGBTQ Lunch Next Sunday

Join us for lunch after worship on Sunday, March 10, at Brixx Pizza in Cameron Village (402 Oberlin Road). Parking is available under the building.

—Randall Brady

### Homeless Care Interest Meeting

Are you interested in knowing more about the network of care for people experiencing homelessness in the Triangle? Amanda Renfro, Outreach Specialist at the Wilmington Street Shelter, will be our guest speaker on Sunday, March 24, after worship. Light lunch to be provided in Finlator. RSVP to Brian Crisp, [bcrisp@pullen.org](mailto:bcrisp@pullen.org).

### Alliance Gathering Set for April in D.C.

Plan to attend the Annual Gathering of the Alliance of Baptists in Washington, D.C., on April 26–28. Calvary Baptist Church's senior ministers Sally Sarratt and Maria Swearingen welcome the Alliance to their church. Register now at [allianceofbaptists.org](http://allianceofbaptists.org).



# Wednesday Nights and Sunday Groups at Pullen

We have an eclectic offering of programs for March, starting with our Ash Wednesday Service and continuing with what it takes to feed a family, how our community is seen by persons struggling with homelessness, and Common Cause's work on gerrymandering and voter participation. 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.

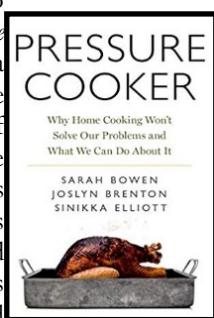
## Adults' Wednesday Night Series

### March 6 – Ash Wednesday Services

Join us in the chapel on this evening for our Ash Wednesday service as we mark the beginning of the season of Lent. Pullen members will begin their Lenten journey together as we place ashes on each other's foreheads as an invitation to deeper reflection.

### March 13 – Pressure Cooker: Why Home Cooking Won't Solve Our Problems and What We Can Do About It

Our very own Sarah Bowen will join us to discuss her newly released book, *Pressure Cooker*. Sarah, Joslyn Brenton and Sinikka Elliott take us into the kitchens of nine women to tell the complicated story of what it takes to feed a family today. The book exposes how modern families struggle to confront high expectations and deep-seated inequalities around getting food on the table, and illustrates how class inequality, racism, sexism and xenophobia converge at the dinner table.



### March 20 – Through Our Eyes

One hundred and seven people struggling with homelessness in Raleigh were given a camera, a voice and a chance to share their lives with the community. Of 880 photographs, 20 were selected for an exhibit at Cameron Art Museum last fall called *Through Our Eyes*. We'll take a look at the photographs and hear from one of the photographers as well as from project leader Tyler Cunningham.

### March 27 – Gerrymandering with Common Cause NC

On March 26, the lawsuit challenging NC's gerrymander—*Rucho v. Commom Cause*—will go before the Supreme Court. Hear more about this case and Common Cause NC's work to limit the undue influence of money in elections, encourage broad voter participation, and ensure diverse accessible and accountable government.

## 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**

This is a space for teens to be in community with one another, have fun together, and engage topics about everyday life.

## Sunday Groups in March

**Care of Creation.** The first two weeks of March, Care of Creation will continue its study of Pope Francis's 2015 Encyclical on Climate Change & Inequality. On March 17, we will watch a documentary called "The Bronx green machine," a film about rooftop gardening in unexpected places. On March 24, we will study the film "Behold the Earth" by film director and conservationist David Conover, which examines the intersection between faith and science.

In March the **Discoverers Class** will continue to examine the role of story as it intersects with the biblical witness and the personal and communal life.

**Exploring the Bible.** Brian Crisp will present "Take it Like a Man: Exploring the Bible and Masculinity and its Effects on Culture." Looking at current phenomena focused on masculinity in the contemporary church, we will trouble the waters of gender representation in society by examining the role of men in the ancient Near East and their depictions in the biblical narrative. Promise Keepers, Rodeo Church and ACTS 29 will provide a current barometer of masculinity while stories and art from Mesopotamia, Egypt, Persia, and Babylon will offer a lens to understand the ideal male in the ancient world. We will turn our scriptural focus to male characters that diverge from these norms and contemplate why these stories were told and what relevance they hold in contemporary society.

**Grope Group.** In March, the Grope Group will continue to explore the origins and manifestations of religious violence. We're taking this journey with the help of Great Courses videos featuring Professor Jason Bivins of NC State University. Topics in March may include racial violence, violence against women, "heresy," and apocalyptic justifications for violence.

The **MacMillan Group** will continue to meet with Robert MacMillan drawing from various sources to form a moral and ethical witness in today's society.

**Spiritual Practices.** In the chapel the group will continue to explore movement, Lectio Divinia, meditation, and centering prayer as a means to connect us to our spirituality.

# Pullen's Work Beyond Our Walls, Around the World

## Missions + Outreach Giving in 2018

Pullen continues its generosity to vital work in our community and in our world. Our \$48,300 Missions and Outreach budget supported our mission groups, offered emergency assistance and seed grants, and provided 22 major and support grants to our international partners and local non-profit organizations and ministries. In our Deacon Council budget, gifts totaling \$18,925 supported our denominational and ecumenical connections via direct contributions or expenses for staff and members to support organizations to which we are related in ministry and mission. Of the church's 2018 budget of \$1,063,849, 6.3 percent was dedicated to Outreach.

Our non-budgeted outreach funding is given throughout the year through contributions from Pullen members and friends—including Pullen Mission Women (PMW)—for a wide variety of ministries. Those non-budgeted outreach gifts include:

ABC (International Ministries)	\$4,432.50
ABC (One Great Hour of Sharing)	\$298.22
ABC (Home Mission Societies)	\$4,017.50
ABC (Retired Ministers & Missionaries)	\$237.50
Alliance of Baptists	\$6,424.00
AMOS Health and Hope (Nicaragua)	\$3,911.60
Community of the Cross of Nails	\$726.60
Community Ministry	\$14,262.31
Cuba Gifts	\$2,130.60
FIGS (Rx for the uninsured)	\$390.00
Georgia (Tbilisi)	\$1656.66
Heifer Project	\$385.00
Helen Wright Center	\$440.00
Hope Center at Pullen	\$360.00
Match (Mothers & Their Children)	\$395.00
Nicaragua Prenatal Care	\$342.00
Plenty International	\$75.00
Urban Ministries	\$782.00
Wake County Human Services	\$100.00
Wiley Dinner Sponsorships	\$603.35
Wiley Snacks	\$93.75
Women's Center of Wake County	\$440.00
Zimbabwe Gifts	\$401.60
<b>Total Non-budgeted Outreach Gifts</b>	<b>\$43,076.19</b>
(total from list above)	
M&O Council Budgeted Gifts	\$48,300.00
Deacon Council Budgeted Gifts	\$18,925.00
<b>Total Outreach Giving</b>	<b>\$110,301.19</b>
<b>% of 2018 Income (\$1,063,055)</b>	<b>10.3%</b>

These numbers do not include countless other gifts such as Round Table lunch items, medications for Cuba, layettes for Nicaragua, mission trip expenses, gifts sent directly to the Hope Center or to ABC-USA for missionary salaries, food for PMW's donation to Urban Ministries and many other ways you reach beyond our walls to help others. Thank you for your tremendous generosity. Because of you, we are making a difference in our world.

—Brian Crisp

## 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 and peacemaking trainers Dan and Sharon Buttry; Glen and Rita Chapman continue their parents' and grandparents' ABC mission work in Kikongo, Democratic Republic of Congo; and Laura and David Parajon providing 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.

## Report from CCN—North America Annual Meeting

In early November, Brian Crisp and I drove to Virginia Theological Seminary for the annual meeting of the board of directors of the Community of the Cross of Nails—North America. The board serves as a “node” of the international CCN network, managing communications, fundraising and interactions with the “hub” at Coventry Cathedral in England.

The group reviewed its history, assessed its future role and work, shared ideas and actions and elected a slate of officers. I concluded a year serving as secretary by recording the minutes. Brian's goals were to meet the board members, hear the business transacted, get a sense of the wider CCN—NA network, and think about who Pullen's next board representative might be. Pullen has had a place at this table since about 1983 and the board would very much like for that to continue.

Upon his return, Brian shared his impressions with the staff and hopes to help us draw more visible connections to this 42-year international partnership. Pullen received its cross of nails in 1977, and throughout our history we have sought to honor the CCN themes of *healing the wounds of history, learning to live with difference, celebrating diversity, and building a culture of peace.*

—Erin Newton



## Children & Youth at Pullen

### Please Share Your Talent: We Need Leaders for Children's Sunday Groups

We really need your help! We are looking for adults to lead workshops for children K-5 during the Sunday Group hour (9:30 am). Even helping out for just one or two weeks would be a big help to us! Workshops focus on crafts, cooking, video, science, drama, games, story telling and music, so pick one that appeals to you. We'll help out with curriculum and supplies.



I will work with you on the curriculum and assist in getting your supplies together if needed. Please call the church or email Tommy at [tcook@pullen.org](mailto:tcook@pullen.org).



#### "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)

#### Meet Pullen's New Children's Inclusion Specialist



Sandra Owens will join Pullen's Children's Ministry as our Children's Inclusion Specialist on Wednesday Nights and Sunday Morning. You will have an opportunity to meet Sandra from 10:30 -10:50 am today in Finlator Hall.

## YOUTH CORNER: Summer is Jamming!

### Summer Info Session March 17

Join us Sunday, March 17 at 6 pm for dinner and all the info you need to know about summer. Sign up that night with your deposit! Deadline for all signups is May 31, with balances due by June 16. Scholarships are available for the balance (see Bryan Lee).

**June 16-21: Hazard, KY Mission**  
**\$50 Deposit, \$250 Balance**

Our annual inter-generational trip to Kentucky, open to rising 9th graders to senior adults.

**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 four-day camp for rising 6th-8th graders in Raleigh; sleep at Pullen and work with local organizations.

March 3, 2019

## Interfaith Opportunities



Plan to attend the Islamic Center of Raleigh's Annual Open House on Saturday, March 9, from 11 am–3 pm. Our friends at IAR welcome all to:

- Meet your Muslim neighbors
- Hear the call for prayer
- Observe Muslims at prayer
- See children recite the Quran
- Ask questions, get answers
- Enjoy culinary treats from the Muslim world

### Uniting with Our Neighbors in Pursuit of Ecological Justice

The Care of Creation Advocacy Group launched the Triangle Interfaith Creation Care Network on February 19 in Potat Chapel. The group brought together 19 faith communities from all over the Triangle to discuss united efforts, education, and advocacy devoted to the care of the planet and its inhabitants. The group was facilitated by Lynn Lyle, Ann Eller, and Karen Delahunty.

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

**Sunday, March 10**  
**Potat Chapel**  
**Service 5 pm**  
**Dinner (free) 6 pm**



# CARE OF CREATION MONTHLY CHALLENGE: ORGANIC GARDENING

The first place we feel climate change is our own backyards. Heavier rainfall and more violent storms. Hotter summers. Earlier flowering of plants.

When I ask people where they're most likely to experience God's presence, nearly all say nature. And the nature we can most influence is in our own gardens. Pope Francis said, "We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth; our very bodies are made up of her elements..." It's in our gardens that we most readily feel in our bones the interconnectedness of all things.

Nurturing our soil through organic gardening practices is one important way to restore carbon content to the soil, reducing our carbon footprint. According to Paul Hawken, who wrote the book *Drawdown* on 100 solutions to climate change, an astounding 50 percent of the carbon in earth's soils worldwide has been released into the atmosphere in recent centuries. Much of our human-caused transfer of carbon from the earth's crust to the atmosphere is because of the burning of fossil fuels. However, modern agricultural practices are also responsible for carbon release from soils. The widespread use of synthetic fertilizers instead of organic matter supplements depletes the soil of organic matter and makes plants even more dependent on chemicals.

Using chemical fertilizers has a large carbon footprint. Manufacturing one ton of nitrogen fertilizer such as urea or ammonium nitrate creates four to six tons of carbon dioxide emissions. Buying organic produce not only protects us from pesticide residues, but also supports a style of agriculture that is more sustainable.

Cornell University offers several tips for home gardeners to shrink our carbon footprints:

1. Set your mower higher than 3 inches to increase grass root growth and ability to access nitrogen.
2. After mowing, leave lawn clippings in place to hold nitrogen and nutrients in the soil.
3. Use organic nitrogen sources such as manure and compost instead of synthetic fertilizers.
4. Reduce lawn size by increasing areas planted in low maintenance ground covers, trees and shrubs.
5. Plant more native plants, which are adapted to our soil and don't need pampering with fertilizer.
6. Avoid commercial potting mixes with synthetic fertilizer. Make your own with 1/3 topsoil, 1/3 manure or compost and 1/3 builder's sand.
7. Avoid using peat in potting mixes, as stripping peat from bogs releases carbon into the atmosphere.



—Sheila Read, Care of Creation Advocacy Group

## Pullen Legacy Program

Learn more about how to preserve Pullen's legacy as a progressive church that is dedicated to making a difference in the world by joining us for a free lunch at Meredith College's Oak Room on Sunday, March 24 from 12:30–2:00 pm. The purpose is to share information about estate planning and planned giving and discuss how individuals and families can become part of Pullen's Legacy Program. This is an information session only and no one will be asked to make a commitment at the meeting.



To register contact the Pullen office at 919-828-0897 or sign up online by clicking [here](#). Registration deadline is March 15. Call Steve Edwards at 919-782-1174 if you have questions or need more information. The lunch is sponsored by the Pullen Development Team.

## Connect with Others

Would you like to connect with other Pullenites, but want to avoid traffic and nighttime driving? Elmer Johnson has expressed interest in facilitating a monthly daytime gathering. If you are interested, and could make an 11 am lunch at the Cameron Village K & W, please contact me at [coveery@pullen.org](mailto:coveery@pullen.org). I will compile a list and pass it on to Elmer.

—Chalice Overy

## Support Circle Members Needed

Catholic Charities has contacted Pullen about supporting a same-sex couple moving from homelessness to stability. We have several volunteers and need three or more volunteers to complete this circle. Support Circle teams work with families to secure permanent housing, improve job skills, mentor children, and help address child and health care needs and other services. Contact Brian Crisp, [bcrisp@pullen.org](mailto:bcrisp@pullen.org).

# Hope Center and More!



Two months into 2019 and work on our John Rex Endowment Capacity Building grant is in full swing. We have engaged our young adults in helping create an organizational definition of adulthood and the youth are enthusiastic about the process. Their input has led us to develop

program milestones, where we celebrate with them when they have accomplished certain educational, job-readiness, financial wellness, and housing goals. We look forward to sharing pictures of the first “Level Up” celebrations as our young adults journey toward a safe and stable adulthood.

## **Raising Hope: Save June 6**

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).

## **Welcome, Delana**

Delana Epps-Avery joined The Hope Center on February 1 as Youth Programs Director. Delana will spearhead our academic mentoring, internship and life skills programs for teens in foster care. She is an experienced trauma and crisis professional with more than 20 years of experience in human services. She has worked on projects within the healthcare industry, including social determinants of health pilots, training trauma informed care nationally and community outreach for United Healthcare. She also has 15 years of trauma and crisis experience serving at InterAct of Wake County in various leadership roles, providing safety and support for individuals and children fleeing and surviving domestic violence and sexual assault. We are thrilled to have her on the team!



## **Celebrating in Style**

Y'all! One of our young adults has saved enough money to take herself to NYC to celebrate her birthday!! How fantastic is that? This young woman came to us in November 2017 when she was living in an unhealthy and unstable home. In 2018, she made the brave decision to leave that environment and started living in shelters while she applied for a HOME TBRA voucher (24 months of housing assistance). Although she was approved for the voucher in April 2018, it took us and two of our partner agencies four more months to find housing that qualified for the voucher because affordable housing is so scarce in Wake County. This young woman continued to live

in shelters during that time and maintained her full-time job while relying only on bus transportation. She moved into her new apartment in August. She does not accept any financial help from us anymore and has always paid her rent and utilities on time. She started saving and now has enough to treat herself to an amazing 21<sup>st</sup> birthday celebration in NYC! What a well-deserved reward for her hard work!

## **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 need 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 able to help in this way, please visit <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0849aeaf2da7f85-lunch> to sign up.

*Cleaning Supplies:* One of the ways we help our young adults is by teaching them how to maintain their apartments, so we keep a stock of cleaning supplies on hand. We are running low, and hope you will consider dropping off some household cleaning supplies to help us meet this need.

*DVD Player:* If you have a DVD player that you are willing to donate, please let us know. We have some DVDs we'd like to play for our LINKS groups, but currently don't have the equipment to do so.

Thank you all for your steadfast support and for your continued generosity that makes our work possible.

—The Hope Center Staff

## **Last Call: Please Donate Items for Cuba by March 17**

Please help us with our shopping list! Pullenites will be traveling to Cuba in March and will take donations to our sister congregation, La Primera Iglesia Bautista of Matanzas. Drop off donations at Brian Crisp's office by March 17. We still need many items ranging from office supplies to vitamins and other health care needs. Items can be found and registered on Sign Up Genius:

**[www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c4fafa9283-requests](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c4fafa9283-requests)**

No time to shop? We'll do it for you! Another way to support our cause is to make a donation by March 10, and we'll pick up items we still need. Be sure to make clear that your donation is for the Cuba March 2019 trip.

## **Round Table Needs Volunteers on Thursdays**

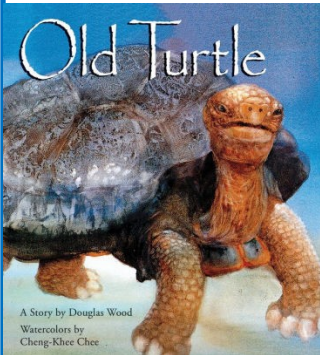
Round Table, like Pullen herself, will always be a welcoming place for anyone seeking to make a positive impact. We are in need of Thursday volunteers. Please contact Brian Crisp at [bcrisp@pullen.org](mailto:bcrisp@pullen.org) to help.

# Pullen Memorial Baptist Church

## Old Turtle Is Back!

**A Concert for a Cause - Benefitting The Hope Center at Pullen**

**May 5, 4:00 pm, Kirk of Kildaire Presbyterian, Cary**



In 2002, Pullen Church presented Joseph Martin's musical setting of Douglas Wood's book, *Old Turtle*. Expressing this story loved by all ages, Pullen artists, choirs, orchestra, storyteller and congregation all combined for the multisensory experience. In 2004, The Pullen Chancel Choir joined other Alliance of Baptists church choirs and members of the Navy Band to present the work for the Alliance's Annual Gathering. The story promotes peace, creation care, and the ability to see God as the light, love and life in, through and among all things.

Old Turtle is back once again, this time as a "Concert for a Cause" to benefit The Hope Center at Pullen. The multigenerational and multisensory experience will be presented by the Music Ministries of Pullen and the Kirk of Kildaire. The dramatic performance by combined youth and adult choirs will be enhanced with art from the original Pullen presentation as well as art by children of the two churches. Church and local instrumentalists will form the orchestra, and Pullen's own Brian Crisp will serve as storyteller.

On the morning of May 5, Pullen will worship outside for our Creation Sunday. We hope you and your family will join us at the Kirk to conclude the day with this creation-themed concert that supports the work of The Hope Center. A reception and art show will follow the hour-long concert, and donations for The Hope Center will be collected.

—Larry Schultz

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