

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

## Farewell & Thank You

Dear Pullen Friends,

As many of you know, it is a rare occasion when words fail me. But in these days, I am struggling to find a way to adequately convey my deep gratitude for the many gracious ways you have marked the end of my tenure on the Pullen staff. The notes, cards, gifts, personal conversations and many other kindnesses you have shown to Felicia and me have touched us deeply. The service and reception on Sunday was a moving experience for us and my family. The “program” on Wednesday night was a marvelous, fun reminder of the wonderful congregation you are.

These 17 years I have served on the Pullen staff have been life-giving to me in countless ways. Because this was my first full-time ministry position, I had much to learn when I was hired in 2001. This journey with you has taught me many important things about God and the life of faith; about myself and who I am called to be; about what it means to be bound together with a community of fellow travelers; and how a group of people who want to impact our world in a just and loving way can actually make a difference in concrete ways – to name just a few. You have been courageous and kind at the same time, which is truly challenging in our current culture. It has not always been easy, but you have persisted together in this sacred place. Day after day you have faithfully pursued your quest for shalom for all people and our planet in ways that inspire others to do the same.

I am especially grateful to Nancy for her wise leadership of this church through these years in all of the roles she has played since I arrived. As she noted in the March newsletter, she and I are different in many ways. Yet through all of the twists and the turns of the last 17 years, I have constantly been inspired by her devotion to God, to this congregation, and to bringing God’s justice-love to all. I also want to affirm each member of the staff and the many gifts they offer in their areas of ministry in this place. They are a very loving, committed, talented group and it has been my great honor to be their colleague. Please continue to nurture and appreciate them in the months and years to come.

Beginning May 1, Felicia and I will take an extended break from Pullen to make room for your new Associate Pastor before we return to join you in the pews. I know you will welcome her or him with open arms, offering your love and support as this new staff member finds his or her way. I am excited about what this person will offer to enhance the ministry of this church and I hope you are, too.

Thank you all for your generosity, your support and your love. Both of us cherish this sojourn we’ve experienced with you and look forward to the new thing God will do in and through all of us in the years to come.

*With love and deep gratitude,  
Cathy and Felicia*

### A Poem for Pullen

There once was a church with a mission,  
Quite liberal by its own admission.  
Their face to the world  
And the flag they unfurled  
Said, “Love will sustain our tradition.”

In spite of the fact they were clever,  
Decisions took nearly forever.  
They processed to death,  
Exhausted their breath,  
To maximize every endeavor.

Some wanted each person to greet  
Every time they would gather to meet.  
The shy found it hard,  
Some even felt scarred.  
The bold ones all thought it a treat.

One question was how to serve bread.  
Or should they serve wafers instead?  
They tried every style  
As they came down the aisle  
So each could do as they were led.

They worked to be truly inclusive  
So their church would not be abusive.  
Their welcome was gracious,  
Their faith was quite spacious.  
Acceptance would not be elusive.

They owned an old building together  
That leaked in both wet and dry weather.  
They finally fixed  
The cracks ‘round the bricks  
Because they could band altogether.

They worshipped, they sang, and they prayed,  
They marched and they led the crusade  
To bring justice in  
So all can be kin.  
God’s Commonwealth can’t be delayed.

A future unknown is before you,  
And so I now humbly implore you  
To follow your heart,  
Be loving and smart,  
And know that I’ll always adore you.

*Cathy Tamsberg – April 25, 2018*

# Opportunities to Connect, Serve, Learn and Grow at Pullen

## PULLEN OUTDOOR WEEKEND May 25-28, Memorial Day



Our annual camping/outdoor weekend is back! A 30+ year tradition of community, campfires, and playing in the mountains. Most campers arrive Friday afternoon/evening to set up their tents before dark.

Saturday options include canoeing the New River or hiking nearby trails, exploring the Blue Ridge Parkway or just relaxing. Saturday night, we will likely gather 'round the campfire for dinner and s'mores. Many campers pack up by lunchtime on Sunday to head back home or to explore the mountains further. A handful of Pullen folks stay at the campground Sunday night.

Please contact Kevin Neiley at [kneiley1@gmail.com](mailto:kneiley1@gmail.com), 919-622-4315 or Libby Stephens at [libby\\_stephens@iCloud.com](mailto:libby_stephens@iCloud.com) and 919-601-3953 for further details.



—Kevin Neiley

## Tour Gregg Museum 5/16



On May 16, our final Wednesday evening of the academic year, our friends next door at the Gregg Museum of Art and Design will open their doors to Pullenites after dinner. You can eat and fellowship with Pullen friends and then stroll over to the Museum together to see the really fine collection of art, most of which was created by North Carolinians. Even if you're not a regular Wednesday-nighter, plan to join us for this unique opportunity!

—Wednesday Night Committee

## Pullen @ Durham Bulls: Tickets Available Today

Attention all Pullenites and friends: Do you want to enjoy a beautiful summer day at the ballpark?

Let's gather together as we celebrate family, friends, and the many fathers in our community. All are invited and welcome!

**What:** Durham Bulls Baseball Game

**When:** Sunday, June 3

**Time:** Gate opens at 4:00 p.m.; Game starts at 5:05 p.m.

**Where:** Durham Bulls Stadium, 409 Blackwell Street, Durham.

**Cost:** \$11 per ticket, children under 2-years-old admitted free.

Tickets will be sold at the front and back doors of the church building following Sunday morning worship on May 6 and May 13.

Tickets may also be purchased online by going to [www.pullen.org](http://www.pullen.org), clicking GIVE, and in the Payment Reference line writing: Durham Bulls Game, and entering the amount of \$11.00.

**Deadline:** Tickets must be purchased on or before Sunday, May 13.

Our group seats are on the third base line in the shade.

Also, all children are invited to line up and run the bases after the game. Food, soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, and bottled water are all sold at the ballpark. Featured concessions for this game are Five Guys Burgers and Fries and Papa Johns Pizza. For more information contact me at [rlb9944@gmail.com](mailto:rlb9944@gmail.com) or 919-475-5793.

—Randall Brady

## Sing with the Summer Chancel Choir

All Youth and Adults are invited to sing with the Summer Chancel Choir that leads worship on Sundays in June and August. Simply join us for a short rehearsal and time of preparation on any June or August Sunday in the Music Ministry Rehearsal Hall (128-B) at 10:30 a.m. This is a great way to make new friends, try out a choir experience and enjoy worship from a different perspective. We'd love to have you, and all are welcome!

## Invitation to Picnic Hosted by Pullen Mission Women

Pullen Mission Women invite everyone to a festive picnic in Finlator Hall on Wednesday, June 6, at 5:00 p.m. We'll provide the food free of charge. Please call the church office to let us know you're coming. Y'all come!

—Pat Long

### Church Financials

Gifts to Date: \$377,380.62

Expenses to Date: \$337,382.44

Difference: \$ 39,998.18

As of 4/30/2018

### Pullen Urgent Repairs

Funds Given to Date: \$480,603

Funds Spent to Date: \$186,872

## 2nd Sunday LGBTQ Lunch

Friends, we will gather on Mothers' Day, May 13 for our Second Sunday Lunch at Brixx, 402 Oberlin Road, Suite 120. There is a small parking garage or you might want to seek commercial or retail lots near the Brixx restaurant. We hope to see you there!

—Jimmy Smith and Laura Robinson,  
LGBTQ Committee

Join us for worship on Pentecost Sunday, enlivened with the Spirit-Music of the Pullen Orchestra, Youth & Chancel choirs on Sunday, May 20 at 11 a.m.

—Larry Schultz

### Women's Group Dinner at Boylan Bridge Brewpub

The Pullen Women's group is meeting Thursday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m. at Boylan Brew Pub (201 S. Boylan Ave). Come and share a meal and casual conversation with this fun group of women.

—Rita Rakestraw

## Pullen People

### We Grieve With:

- ☞ Greg Bruhn in the death of his mother, Loven Bruhn. Loven died on April 26. Greg writes: "Mom died peacefully holding my brother's hand on a beautiful spring morning." A memorial service celebrating Loven's life will be held May 11 at noon.
- ☞ Ned Yellig and Sylvia White as they continue to grieve for their son Christopher, who died in December. Christopher's memorial service will be held at Pullen Saturday, May 5 at 1:00 p.m.
- ☞ Gretchen Staebler, former Pullen staff member, in the death of her mother Stella Jo Staebler, who died on April 21 at 101 years old.
- ☞ Carol Ashcraft in the unexpected death of her youngest cousin, Jane.
- ☞ Lynn Jarrard in the death of her father, Omax Hairr on April 9.

### We Celebrate With:

- ☞ Liz and Andrew Kasper in the birth of Isaac Henry Kasper on April 28.
- ☞ Gail Carson on the birth of her granddaughter Miriam Elizabeth Grice on April 20.
- ☞ Bill and Shera Hube in the birth of their first grandchild, William Rockwell Spinney.

## Meet Our New Members

### John Myers

I was born in Birmingham, Alabama and moved to Montgomery, Alabama when I was 6 years old after my parents got divorced. I lived in Montgomery until I was 32. I moved to Raleigh to be closer to my mom. I work for Ashburton Lawn Care and oversee and take care of all lawn maintenance for houses in the Raleigh/Cary area. I love watching movies and going out to eat. I'm looking forward to my future at Pullen Baptist Church.



### Heather McKenzie and Liz Millione

Heather and Liz were married by Rev. Nancy Petty on March 3 and after spending that much time at the front of the church, they figured it was time to make the walk up the aisle to join the church community as well. Heather and Liz are excited to be joining Pullen's vibrant and active congregation after attending for almost a year and learning about all the amazing programs and outreach during the Pullen 101 class. Heather

## Meet Our New Members

hails from Texas but has been in North Carolina since 2004. She is a mental health therapist and is currently transitioning into private practice after 10 years providing community-based mental health. Liz grew up in West Virginia and took a winding tour to Raleigh via some years in Myrtle Beach and the Outerbanks, landing here in 2009. She currently works for a large corporate construction company, managing logistics in the electrical division. You might catch Heather and Liz on the greenway trails riding their bikes in preparation for the annual MS Bike ride in New Bern. Otherwise Liz will be trying her best to fly under the radar and keep herself and others laughing while Heather drags her along to all kinds of community activities and social events. They are both looking forward to meeting



### Kathleen Baryenbruch

I grew up in Raleigh. My parents are Pat Baryenbruch and Laura Ford and my brother is George Kiwada. I went to Saint Mary's for high school and studied linguistics and religion at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania. I also took some time off to study at NC State. Right now I do bookkeeping for Greg Paul Builders and am also employed as a dog walker and pet sitter. In my free time I enjoy running with friends, taking classes at the Alexander YMCA, playing board games, and reading. I love our Theology on Tap program for young adults and have met many new friends through it. I also serve on the Worship Council. I hope to start taking some Sunday morning classes, too!



### Jan Overman

Jan is a third generation Japanese American. Her ancestors came from Japan in late 1800s, and both of her parents were born in California. Jan's parents met while incarcerated in Manzanar during World War II. Her father was drafted out of the concentration camp to serve in US Army.

Her parents married upon the dismantling of concentration camps and her father's return from US military duty. Her parents had a difficult time locating a church that would marry them despite her father's military service and her parents' status as native-born US citizens.

Jan was born in Chicago, though her family relocated to California a few years later. She was raised in Los Angeles sub-

*(Continued on Page 4)*



## Meet Our New Members



(Continued from Page 3)

urbs and remained their until four years ago, when she moved to North Carolina to be close to her daughter and her family.

Jan taught elementary school for 26 years and worked in real estate sales for 14 years before retiring. Her interests include golfing, jogging, hiking, weight lifting, poker and travel. Jan is also currently learning the Japanese language. Jan has two children: Robin Munesato Chan of

Cary and Ryan Munesato of San Diego, California.

Jan quit going to church after attending a Christian college, and experiencing racism for the first time. She was raised in a segregated neighborhood of former internees, so she never experienced what her parents and grandparents were forced to endure. Although she abandoned going to church after her Christian college departure, she never abandoned her deep belief in God. Jan has always considered herself a Christian.

Jan says Pullen Memorial Baptist Church is like no other church. Her friends in California want to join! It's members believe in inclusion, service and equality: values Jan holds dear.

Jan has been active in social justice causes since her college days at UCLA. Her undergraduate thesis was on Black Protest Thought chronicling the direction of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. She is an Alumna of Theta Kappa Phi Sorority, the first Sorority for Asian women. Non-whites were not allowed to join fraternities and sororities until her late friend started the first sorority in 1959.

Jan has given presentations on the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese, forcibly removed and held at isolated, barbed wire camps from 1942-1945—her family's story. She is a staunch supporter of civil rights for all races, and hopes to continue her work for equality through Pullen's many activities.

Jan is so grateful for the welcome Pullen members have extended to her. She is anxious to get to know more members, and become an active participant in the congregation's many worthy causes.

### Youth 2 Cuba Fundraisers

**May 6—Brixx Pizza in Cameron Village, 12-3 p.m.**

*Brixx will donate \$3/pizza and \$1/child pizza to the Cuba team. Look for flyers being handed out to take with you to the restaurant that day.*

**May 20—David's Dumplings**

*15% of sales will be donated to the Cuba team*

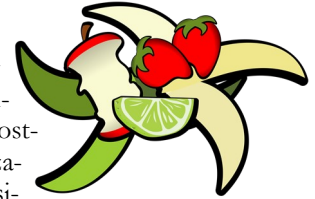
## On The Horizon

### Second Wednesdays This Summer

This summer we will gather once a month for dinner and a program to help us stay connected while our regular Wednesday activities take a break. This year it will be the second Wednesdays of June, July, and August. We'll do dinner together as usual at 5:15 and then the program will begin about 6:15 p.m. (not 6:30!). Our adult program schedule looks like this:

#### June 13—*CompostNow!*

In anticipation of beginning church-wide composting mid-summer, we'll hear from Compost-Now—a local member organization that assists homes and businesses with composting and shares compost with local community gardens and urban farms, keeping this natural resource circulating in our community. They will be here on this night to tell us how they do it. You'll also hear important details about how we plan to manage composting as much leftovers as we can from the many meals served here at Pullen.



#### July 11—*Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now)*



*Rise Against Hunger* is an international hunger relief organization located in Raleigh that coordinates the distribution of food and other life-saving aid around the world. Its

Operation Sharehouse program is a volunteer-based effort through which participants package high protein, dehydrated meals for use in crisis situations and which provides a highly nutritious meal to support school feeding programs in schools and orphanages around the world. On this Wednesday evening, the Operation Sharehouse Mobile Unit will come to Pullen so that our children, youth, and adults can pack meals in Finlator Hall. All ages can participate!

#### August 8—*Pullen Students Report*

Come on this evening to hear our youth report on all of their summer activities. Hear what they experienced at Baptist Youth Camp (BYC) and In Our Own Back Yard (IOOBY) as well as what trips to Hazard, Kentucky and Matanzas, Cuba added to their young lives and relationships.

Plan to join us for these informative Wednesday evenings together. More details about activities for children and youth on these summer evenings will be forthcoming.

—Wednesday Night Committee

# Spiritual Education & Mission at Pullen

## Summer Sundays: Wholehearted Living

As the Sunday Groups are coming to a close for the 2017-2018 academic year, The Adult Education Committee has been working diligently to develop a Sunday Group Summer Series that will inspire and challenge a wide-range of attendees. This year's topic is *Becoming Jesus: Living a Wholehearted Life*. The series begins on June 17 and concludes on August 12. The series features myriad members of our community as the cover the following topics:

- ♥ June 17: Offering Hospitality
- ♥ June 24: Attending to Creation
- ♥ July 1: Practicing Self Care
- ♥ July 8: No Summer Sunday Groups
- ♥ July 15: Being Prayerful
- ♥ July 22: Embodying Teaching
- ♥ July 29: Welcoming Healing
- ♥ August 5: Nurturing Forgiveness
- ♥ August 12: Embracing the Prophetic Voice

To enhance this series, we will offer *Tuesday Night Yoga* that supports our Sunday Group theme. The cost per class is \$10 and will be taught by Julie Gilbert from 7:30 to 8:15 p.m. Julie is a nutritionist and certified yoga instructor. Julie is crafting each class to supplement our series. She will provide all equipment but reservations will need to be made by each Tuesday at noon. These can be done by emailing [bcrisp@pullen.org](mailto:bcrisp@pullen.org).

In addition, we will be offering several educational enrichment opportunities through the summer that support our series. These offerings are meant to encompass a wider scope of education as Pullen strives to support people in a full-body experience. These will include further exploration of topics in nutrition, mental health, and exercise. Please watch for announcements in the newsletter and on social media.

—Adult Education Committee

## VBMess Summer Day Camp

Registration is now open!

Visit [www.pullen.org/vbs2018](http://www.pullen.org/vbs2018)

Rising 1st—6th Graders // June 25-29, 9 AM—5 PM

When we take seriously the teachings of Jesus, we learn that life can be a VERY BIG MESS. Jesus loved those who others hated, cared for those who need help and lifted up the lowly. It was unexpected and it was messy.



At Pullen's week long day camp, we will get messy learning stories about Jesus' messy life, getting messy with craft and games and getting messy by serving others in our community. Sign up now for a week of fun, messy action!

—Tommy Cook

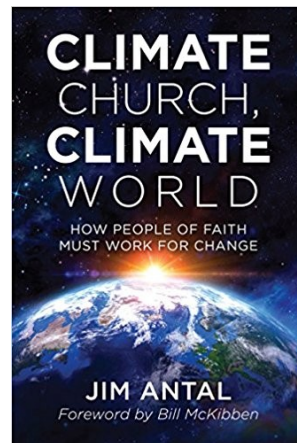
May 6, 2018

## Climate Church, Climate World Author Connects Faith & Environmental Activism

Monday, May 7 at 7 p.m.

Author Jim Antal speaks at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church

Why should people of faith engage the moral challenge of climate change – and how should we do it? *Climate Church, Climate World* helps answer these questions and empowers the reader to join others in taking action. We can expand the Golden Rule to include future generations. We can shift our focus from personal salvation to collective salvation.



Because climate change amplifies all forms of injustice – hunger, refugees, racism, poverty, inequality, deadly viruses and war – defense of creation is a campaign for justice. By reorienting what we prize through new approaches to worship, preaching, witnessing, and other spiritual practices, we can honor creation as we cultivate hope and discover new joy.

Dr. Jim Antal is a United Church of Christ denominational leader, award-winning activist, and public theologian. He serves as the national spokesperson on climate change for the UCC and leads the denomination in Massachusetts.

—Care of Creation Mission Group

## Share the Bounty: Garden for Round Table

Recently, the young people of Saint Mary's School have been volunteering and bringing produce from their community garden to Round Table. Fresh produce provides people with housing instability and food insecurity access to fresh foods not often available to them. If you are gardening this summer and want to donate any fresh produce to Round Table, then we would be glad to accept your offerings. Please contact Brian Crisp for details.



—Brian Crisp

## Peace & Nonviolence in Age of Climate Change

Come hear John Dear speak about his new book, *They Will Inherit the Earth: Peace & Nonviolence in a Time of Climate Change*. The event will be held Sunday, May 13, from 4:00 to 5:15 p.m. at St. Francis Catholic Church, 11401 Leesville Road in Raleigh, Anthony Hall, Founder's Room.

This longtime activist, priest, prolific author and Nobel Peace Prize nominee connects the way of active nonviolence with solidarity with Creation. Sign up for the free event at [www.stfrancisraleigh.org/care-of-creation](http://www.stfrancisraleigh.org/care-of-creation).

—Pat Long



# Connections & Service: Local & Global

## Community of the Cross of Nails: International Gathering in Coventry, England, September 2018

The Cathedral of St. Michael in Coventry, England, is hosting an international CCN gathering in September, 2018, and Pullenites are invited! “A Pilgrimage of Prayer, Theology, and Practice” will take place in Coventry from lunchtime on Wednesday, September 26, to lunchtime Sunday, September 30. The early publicity for the event says:

*“Why? This is a once-every-few-years opportunity to meet, discuss, debate and socialise as the worldwide community that we are. It’s easy sometimes to overlook our uniqueness as an organisation, but we number now, some 70 years on, over 200 churches, charities and schools around the world, bound together and strongly inspired by the Coventry story, to work and pray, in our multiplicity of individual ways, for a more forgiving and reconciling world. There’s no other reconciling network quite like us.”*



COMMUNITY OF THE  
CROSS OF NAILS

A half-dozen Pullenites attended the last international gathering in 2012, and all were deeply moved at hearing

local stories from our partners in this global network—which as of February, 2018 includes our sister church in Matanzas, Cuba, as well as Peace Cathedral in Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia.

Several Pullen people already have expressed interest in attending, so we are “taking the pulse” to determine whether we might send a group, and how many. Coventry will be capping total registration at about 100.

**Cost per person:** £200 for all activities and meals (excludes accommodations and breakfast)

**Hotels:** Several recommended hotels are within a 10- to 20-minute walk; estimate £200 for a 4-night stay

**Transportation:** Airfares vary widely at the moment.

Some options to explore are RDU→Dublin→Birmingham; RDU→London; or Charlotte→Birmingham. (Birmingham is ~17 miles from Coventry; London is ~90 miles.)

Some financial assistance from Pullen may be available.

### Brief summary of the program:

- Workshops, debates, and practical discussions on various topics around the work of reconciliation.
- “CCN in song”: Daily informal a cappella singing at lunchtime (for those interested).
- Presentations and discussions of *The Coventry Way*, a guide for CCN Partners and individuals that has been under development for several years.
- Meals together.
- Morning prayer and Bible study, choral evensong.
- Litany of Reconciliation in the ruins of the old cathedral.
- Cathedral by candlelight.
- Supper and “Ceilidh in the Nave” (Celtic dance, with live band).
- Small-group drop-in sessions with 6–8 selected CCN partners.
- Closing concert with cathedral chorus and orchestra.
- St. Michael’s Patronal Festival Eucharist, 10:30 am Sunday in new cathedral.

The program and all other information and links to register are here: [www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/ccn/gatherings2018](http://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/ccn/gatherings2018)

If you would like to know more, please contact Erin Newton ([RLathan1@nc.rr.com](mailto:RLathan1@nc.rr.com), 919-460-9707) or Brian Crisp ([bcrisp@pullen.org](mailto:bcrisp@pullen.org); 919-828-0897). If interest is sufficient, we will schedule an information meeting soon.

—Erin Newton and Brian Crisp, for Pullen’s Community of the Cross of Nails Reconciliation Fellowship

## Housing Needs in Wake County

The South Wilmington Street Center is an emergency and transitional shelter in Raleigh that serves men experiencing homelessness in Wake County. The Center is now offering a Rapid Re-housing program to assist eligible guests in moving as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieving housing stability through a combination of rental assistance and supportive services. The Center is seeking partnerships with landlords who are willing to work with us to help our guests secure housing, ending their homelessness. If you have rental property and want more information about the program, please reach out to Amanda Renfro, the Human Services Program Specialist, at 919.857.3864 or Frank Lawrence, the South Wilmington Street Center Manager, at 919.508.0718.

—Brian Crisp



## Items Needed for Round Table Lunch Bags

We will be packing Round Table Ministry lunches again in a couple weeks. We have not collected many items this past month and now need many cans of Vienna sausages, individual serving-size juice pouches or boxes, and cereal or granola bars. Please leave donated items in the blue wagon outside the church office or drop them off with the volunteers at the back door on Sunday mornings. Thank you for helping with this ministry!

—Nancy Bradley

## Mid-Day Prayers Starting this Summer

Beginning in May, we are offering Mid-Day Prayers in Potent Chapel on the first Tuesday of each month. This brief service will be held from 1:00-1:20 p.m., so our guests at Round Table Fellowship can easily attend if they are interested. We hope you’ll consider joining us too! All are welcome! Scheduled dates include May 1, June 5, July 3 and August 7.

—Ginny Going

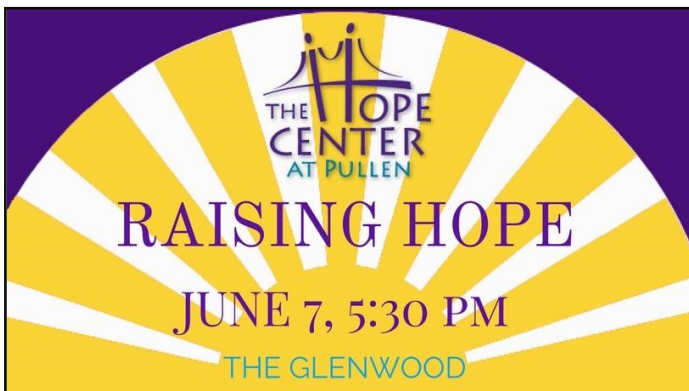
May 6, 2018

# The Hope Center at Pullen



April was a full month at The Hope Center. We continued matching young people in foster care with volunteer tutors and we received more referrals for our summer Internship Program. Our case management team has been working to house more young people and their children and

providing the guidance needed to meet educational and employment goals. We could not do this work without the consistent and generous support from the congregation of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church. Thank you!



## 2018 Raising Hope Silent Auction and Dinner

Join us on **June 7 at 5:30 p.m.** at **The Glenwood** (3300 Woman's Club Drive, Raleigh) to help us celebrate the accomplishments of our young people, honor Cathy Tamsberg and other special partners and raise crucial funds to support young people aging out of foster care in Wake County. We are busy preparing a memorable evening and hope to see you there.

**Tickets are Now Available**—Visit [www.biddingowl.com/Auction/home.cfm?auctionID=11843](http://www.biddingowl.com/Auction/home.cfm?auctionID=11843) to get yours now, email us at [info@hopecenteratpullen.org](mailto:info@hopecenteratpullen.org) to get a ticket form, or stop by our office to buy a ticket.

**Sponsorships are Still Available**—There's still time to sponsor Raising Hope! Visit [www.hopecenteratpullen.org/events/raisinghopeevent](http://www.hopecenteratpullen.org/events/raisinghopeevent) to access the form. If you would like your sponsorship to honor Cathy Tamsberg's commitment to our work, please make a note on your sponsorship form.

## Gender Justice Teach-in Saturday, May 12

How can our congregations be places of welcome for transgender and gender non-binary folks? The starting point for that journey is learning how to discuss the nuances of gender identity and sexual orientation in order to provide a strong foundation of welcome.

So, what does trans inclusion look like? This teach-in will give participants a vocabulary of welcome and offers fresh ways to discuss gender identity and sexual orientation that look for commonalities rather than categories. In this training, we will also dive into the rich biblical foundation for trans inclusion and explore how churches have successfully made worship more welcoming. Participants will walk away with tools and tactics to make their church spaces more intentionally inclusive of trans identities.

**Silent Auction Update**—We're so grateful for the generosity of our community in donating silent auction experiences, items and services! Get ready to bid on a so-ca gift certificate, that longed-for getaway to a quiet mountain home, or the acupuncture service that your body is craving.

Stay tuned for more sweet, savory and indulgent silent auction items and, if you have a great idea for a silent auction item, experience or service, please contact our procurement team at [RaisingHope4Youth@gmail.com](mailto:RaisingHope4Youth@gmail.com).

## 2018 Summer Internship Program

Meredith is busy preparing for a new crop of summer interns. We already have 22 young people who have applied to be a part of the 10-week paid internship. Meredith has also recruited three new job sites for this summer. These internships are a transformative experience for our young people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to gain experience in an area of interest. Our interns report back that they are inspired to choose a college major and continue their education to achieve newly discovered career goals based on their internship experience.

One barrier that our young people face in obtaining meaningful work experience is transportation. We help overcome that barrier by recruiting transportation volunteers who drive a young person to and from a job site. We will have specific routes available soon and would love to hear from anyone who is interested in breaking down this transportation barrier by volunteering to provide transportation. Please contact Meredith at [myuckman@hopecenteratpullen.org](mailto:myuckman@hopecenteratpullen.org) to find out more.

## Opportunities to Help Our Young People

**Washer/Dryer Needed**—One of our young people is in need of a working washer and dryer. If you have a new or gently used washer or dryer that you would be willing to donate, contact [tcogan@hopecenteratpullen.org](mailto:tcogan@hopecenteratpullen.org).

**Nutritious Meals**—Please consider donating a nutritious meal for us to serve at our Wednesday Life Skills Group over the summer! These meals are a big draw for our young people to come to group and your help would be greatly appreciated! If you are interested in helping in this way, please visit [www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0849aeaf2da7f85-lunch](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0849aeaf2da7f85-lunch) to sign up.

—Hope Center Staff

Finally, what good is a light hidden under a bushel when people in your community live in darkness? Participants will complete the training with a great understanding of opportunities for action in the current legislative landscape offers faith-led advocates. Beyond national and state-level action, participants will also leave knowing how to implement pro-active policies and programs in their congregations.

The workshop will be held on Saturday, May 12 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2723 Clark Avenue. Coffee and snacks will be served at 9:30 a.m.; The program is from 10 a.m. to noon. If you have any questions, please email Martha Stallmann at [martha.stallmann@gmail.com](mailto:martha.stallmann@gmail.com) or call her at 919-522-2049. Feel free to bring others outside of your congregation with you to this learning event.

## Wednesday Nights in May

As we wrap up our spring Wednesday activities and head into summer, don't miss the remaining opportunities for fellowship and learning. Dinner is at 5:15 p.m. and the program hour for adults is 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. The cost of the meal is \$6.00 for youth and adults and \$3.00 for children K-5th grade with a family Max of \$20. Children leave for their activities at 5:45 p.m. Youth gather in the youth room to hang out, catch up, and share a program time. All programs end at 7:30 p.m. These programs are scheduled for remainder of the academic year:

### May 9 – *Immigration: What in the World is Going On?*

In this chaotic time in immigration enforcement, Viridiana Martinez from Alerta Migratoria NC will join us to provide an update on how this is happening in our area. Alerta Migratoria is a Durham-based resource for undocumented immigrants seeking asylum in the U.S. As we await a sanctuary guest and assist a family with temporary asylum, join us on this evening to learn more about how we can support our vulnerable neighbors.

### May 16 – *Gregg Museum of Art and Design Tour*

On this final Wednesday evening of the academic year, our friends next door at the Gregg Museum of Art and Design will open their doors to Pullenites after dinner. So you can eat and fellowship with Pullen friends and then stroll over to the Museum together to see the really fine collection of art, most of which was created by North Carolinians.

We hope you'll join us for these remaining programs. Check Page 4 for information Summer Wednesday nights.

—Wednesday Night Committee

## Building Repairs Progress Report



Work on Phase 1 (the 1950s building) of the exterior repairs is about 50% complete now. The windows have been re-caulked and painted, gutters have been repaired and a sampling of sub-roofing has been inspected (and found to be sound). Power washing will begin next week and, once dry, a sealant will be applied. We anticipate the movement of scaffolding to the Phase 2 (east side of the 1920s building) section to begin towards

the end of May. Phases 2 and 3 involve the repointing of mortar around the bricks. Existing mortar will be removed using electric hand grinders and it will be quite noisy and dusty on campus. Staff may take up residence at a local coffee shop for the months of June and July. Perhaps we'll see you there?

To date, the following PUR (Pullen Urgent Repair) funds have been spent:

1. Replacement of sanctuary air conditioner (\$55,000)
2. Upgrades to the children's classrooms (\$41,451)
3. Continued work on gutter repair (\$15,726)
4. Replacement of roof safety anchors (\$30,450)
5. Mortar repointing & other exterior repairs (\$44,245)

Total PUR funds spent to date is **\$186,872**. Please let me or Warren Chesson know if you have any questions.

—Brooks Wicker

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