



Pullen News

March 2021

ONE Wake Update

What we're accomplishing and how you can get involved

In 2020 Pullen's deacons affirmed our participation in ONE Wake. ONE Wake is a non-partisan, multi-ethnic, multi-issue group of religious congregations, associations, and other non-profits in the Wake County area. ONE Wake is about people working together to identify common problems, to find or create workable solutions, and to implement systemic changes within our community and society to achieve the common good. Members of our ministerial staff along with members of our congregation have been attending various meetings with ONE Wake over the past several months. We wanted to give you an update on ONE Wake, our participation, and how you can get involved. We encourage you to read the report below and consider how you might represent our church with ONE Wake.

ONE Wake continues its mission of securing living wages, affordable housing and education equity in Wake County. At the February 25 assembly we heard about the accomplishments of last year's actions, lessons learned and the strategy for 2021.



What We Accomplished

ONE Wake trained over 260 volunteers who engaged more than 15,700 Wake County residents in a GOTV effort. An email writing campaign and press conference helped secure \$20 million for homelessness and eviction prevention. Last year the organization put a great deal of effort in pushing the Raleigh City Council to secure a community benefits agreement before approving rezoning for the massive Downtown South Project. While the council voted to rezone without an agreement, our efforts brought some much needed attention to the proposal. Working closely with Partners for Environmental Justice, we were able to secure a

\$2.5 million commitment for stormwater mitigation from the developers, Kane Realty. We will continue to push for community benefits as elected officials consider tax subsidies for the project.

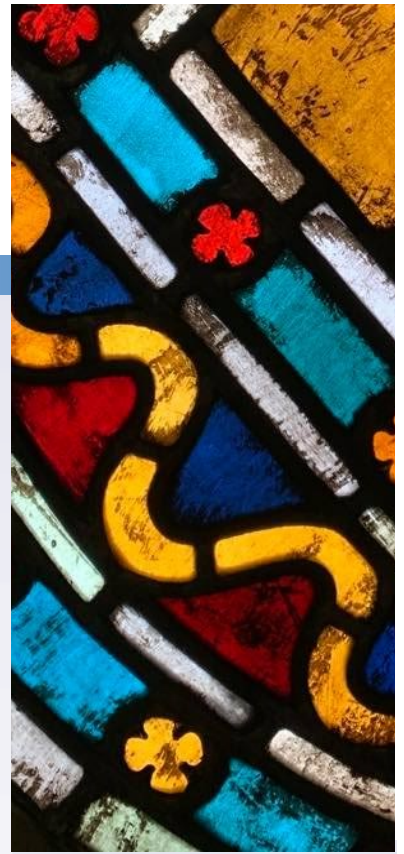
What We Learned

We learned that low voter turnout in municipal elections allows relatively small organized interests to wield a great deal of influence. In fact, in Raleigh, contributions from developers made up two-thirds of all campaign contributions. We also realize that voter turnout and education efforts around particular issues can make a huge impact in our municipal elections.

What's Next

This year we will leverage the upcoming municipal elections to demand change on our top priorities through increased voter engagement and candidate accountability forums.

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Stay Connected

The Pullen staff works hard to provide meaningful ways for you to connect with the church. The [Pullen website](#), Realm, and social media pages are updated weekly.

Pullen worship services are livestreamed each Sunday and can be viewed on [our website](#).

As we journey through lent and prepare for Holy Week, we invite you to visit our new [Lent webpage](#).

The Pullen Staff is happy to provide assistance if you need it. Our goal is to make it easy for you to stay connected to Pullen. If you would like to get in touch, email news@pullen.org or call the church at 919-828-0897.



Holy Week Schedule

During Holy Week we will post a short daily reflection. Join us online or in person for these worship opportunities.

Details will be posted on our website and in the weekly email. Visit our new website page for videos, links, and an updated schedule:

<https://pullen.org/lent2021/>

- March 28
Palm Sunday
Worship 11:00 a.m.
- April 1
Maundy Thursday
Worship 6:30 p.m.
- April 2
Good Friday
Labyrinth & Communion
Time TBD
must signup
- April 4
Easter Sunday
Worship 11:00 a.m.

ONE Wake Update,

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If elections are delayed, that simply means there will be more time to organize. The ONE Wake action teams in housing, living wages and education equity will continue to craft proposals for winnable actions in these areas. Finally, we want to get more of ONE Wake's members trained to take effective action in our community through IAF University.

How You Can Get Involved


If you're wondering how you can get involved, there are several ways. First, I'm looking for a core group of leaders to help sustain our congregation's involvement with ONE Wake in addressing these important issues of equity in education, housing and wages. If you're interested in serving on that team, please send me an email (covery@pullen.org). Secondly, if you're particularly interested in one of these top three issues, consider joining one of those action teams along with individuals from the other 43 member organizations. You can contact me to get connected or express interest on ONE Wake's [website](#). Finally, consider attending IAF University's community organizer training with me. The training consists of three 1.5 hour sessions over the next 3 months. You can learn more and register [here](#). Please let me know if you plan to attend.

I know that so many of you are committed to causes that you feel passionate about and to which you feel called. I'm grateful for all of the work you do in the world. I also know that many of you are looking for ways to get involved to create a more just world. I hope you will consider starting right here in Wake County.

-Chalice Overy



BLOOD DONATIONS
ARE
Essential



**Pullen Memorial Baptist Church
Blood Drive**

Held in the Fellowship Hall
1801 Hillsborough Street
Raleigh, NC 27605

**Friday, March 12, 2021
12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: Pullen
FREE Covid-19 antibody testing on every donation!

Schedule a blood donation appointment today:
Download the Blood Donor App | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767



Pullen Women's Group March 20

The Pullen Women's Group is planning to meet at Fletcher Park on Saturday, March 20 at 3:30 p.m. It's been a long time since many of us have seen each other in person! Bring your lawn chairs, masks and your choice of beverages/snacks. All are welcome!

Contact Rita Rakestraw or Jan Overman for questions/directions to Fletcher Park, meetup spot. janiceoverman@gmail.com



Join us for a Lenten Series: "Processing the Pandemic"

Wednesdays at The Table- on Zoom

Register for our Lenten Series at The Table *Processing the Pandemic*

Living in a global pandemic is not normal! The anxiety, the stress, the social isolation over an extended period of time continue to take a toll. We've learned to adapt for survival, but it's important to acknowledge, periodically, that this is hard. In acknowledging this reality we create room to offer grace to ourselves and others because in the words of Brené Brown, "What we don't need in the midst of struggle is shame for being human." During Lent we will spend time processing this experience so that we can survive it and thrive beyond it.

This will be a series of "Table Talks"—a combination of large and small group discussion rather than formal presentations. Each week will explore a different topic related to our theme. We will also offer some readings to help us start the discussion, but the conversation will still be accessible even if you're not able to read the articles. As always we'll begin with our community time from 6:00-6:30 where we exchange greetings, share announcements, and offer prayers of thanksgiving and petition. You are welcome to join us for all or any portion of this gathering.

[Click here to register](#), or visit <https://pullen.org/wednesdaynights/>

- **March 10**-Woman's Work
What has been the impact of the pandemic on mothers and their work both inside and outside of the home?
- **March 17**-Will the Kids be Alright?
How has remote learning affected the emotional and mental health of the young?
- **March 24**-Political Polarization
How have the political antics of the past year contributed to our anxiety and our ability to create a good future together?

Please contact me at covey@pullen.org if you have questions or need help [registering](#). -Chalice Overy



Joys and Concerns

- ◆ Ezra Ruth Hall was born February 7 to Lydia Kinton Hall and Julia Hall.
- ◆ Harriet Camille Pierce was born February 24 to parents Jamie and Jason and siblings Avery and James.
- ◆ We pray for Ouida Watson and John Meyers in the loss of Ouida's son and John's brother, Greg Myers, who died in a car accident on January 25.
- ◆ We pray for the family of Jacob Case who died on January 29. Jacob was a Pullen member and the grandson of deceased members Duane and Betty Ann Adkinson and son of Sherri Ponder. Jacob was 23 years old.
- ◆ We pray for the Stephens-Powers family. Libby's Aunt Jean died on February 6 following a brief illness.
- ◆ We pray for Judy Williams in the death of her mother, Betty Williams who died on February 21.
- ◆ We pray for the family of Betty Clay who died on February 22 at the age of 93.

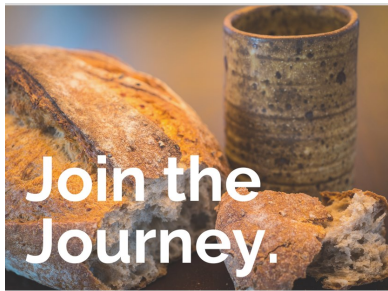


World Day of Prayer and Action March 6

Church Women United will hold their World Day of Prayer and Action on Saturday, March 6, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom.

The liturgy comes from Vanuatu, a nation of islands in the southwest Pacific. The guest speaker will be our own Dr. Deb Norton talking about AMOS Health and Hope.

Contact Pat Long at plong8@nc.rr.com for Zoom information.



Sunday Worship Service on Zoom
11am * Sunday, March 7 * Please register and worship with us

Pullen Memorial Baptist Church pullen.org

Zoom Worship! Sunday March 7

For the first time since our services have gone completely virtual, we're inviting you to worship together via Zoom on this Sunday, March 7! Instead of simply viewing service, we will join each other in worship, seeing each other as we would inside the sanctuary and taking communion together as part of our lenten journey.

If you would like to attend the service via Zoom please register as soon as possible, but no later than 8:30 am on Sunday morning, March 7.

*Please note, that if you choose not to attend worship via Zoom, you will still be able to view the livestream worship on our website and Facebook.

-Chalice Overy

**Register for
Sunday, March 7
Zoom Service!**

Edited version of

“The Statement on Environmental Justice: Earth: Beloved Community”

**Adopted at the Alliance of Baptists
Annual Gathering, 2018**

... and God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good. Gen. 1:31

Naming the Problem

As followers of Jesus, called to embody a Beloved Community, we recognize the unfolding destruction of God's good Earth as a mortal sin, a moral challenge, and an injustice.

We would need 1.7 planets to sustainably support Earth's 7.6 billion people at current inequitable levels -- four planets if everyone consumed at the rate of the United States.

Yet many hold out false promises that future populations can one day enjoy our unsustainable developed-world lifestyle. Climate change induced sea level rise is already drowning coastal and island communities and marshes critical to wildlife.

Erratic weather is threatening agriculture, disrupting livelihoods, and access to food and clean water, thus exacerbating hunger and the spread of disease.

Climate change is driving regional conflicts and mass migrations of refugees. Women and children, and the old and disabled, are especially impacted. The stresses of environmental degradation contribute to the rise of demagogues ...scapegoating ... economic, racial/ethnic, religious and LGBTQ.

Mass extinctions are unraveling the web of life on which human life depends and which is sacred.

Our Response

Global economies have turned markets into gods whose worship requires infinite, unregulated, unquestioned growth and consumption. The results are falling first and worst on women, children, marginal communities and ecosystems....

As members of the Alliance of Baptists we pledge to proclaim the counter narrative of a Divine Presence embodied in all of creation, who suffers and rejoices in us, and who brings hope out of despair and life out of death. We will cultivate mindfulness of our inborn interconnection and responsibility to one another, and to all living things, and to the Holy One, in whose image we are made. ...

We, in the Alliance of Baptists, accept the challenge by reducing consumption in our personal lives and churches, of advocating for a more equitable distribution of resources.

We reaffirm the commitments made in our 2009 Statement on Climate Change in support of congregational and public policy that reduces carbon emissions, supports vulnerable communities, and assists and welcomes immigrants.

To those commitments, we add environmental justice, such as siting toxic-emitting industries and dumps in low income and/or communities of color, and unsustainable agricultural practices.

We pledge to oppose new fossil fuel infrastructure, to support a rapid transition to clean energy, and to consider divestment from fossil fuel investments.

We commit to informing ourselves about local, state, and federal energy and environmental policy and to public witness and activism on behalf of earth justice with concern for indigenous communities, other communities of color, and impoverished communities.

Founded in 1987 to offer a progressive Baptist voice, the Alliance of Baptists has declared its commitment to a host of justice issues. At its 2009 and 2018 Annual Gatherings the Alliance unanimously adopted statements on environmental justice.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS: RAISING HOPE

We are so excited to give you this glimpse into how your support is making a HUGE difference in the lives of Wake County's foster teens and former foster youth. The funds we raise through Raising Hope are so important. They give us the flexibility we need to help our clients thrive, no matter what life throws at them. Sponsorships are available now. Visit event.gives/home2021 to learn more about sponsoring this unique and fun night.



BIRTHDAY BOXES

Our teens aren't guaranteed birthday celebrations in their foster homes. Some of our teens tell us they wake up on their birthdays and forget it's a special day because they are used to it being overlooked. Our Teen Programs are making sure every Hope Center teen knows they are worthy of a celebration. We'd love your help. We need people to put together "Birthday Boxes" for us to deliver to clients on their birthdays. Suggested items include: cake mix and frosting, journals, decorative water bottles, books, adult coloring books/pencils, word puzzles or games, arts/crafts, perfume/cologne, travel size games, lotions and candy. Contact Delana at depps-avery@hopecenteratpullen.org for more information.



EQUINE THERAPY (Volunteer opportunity)

Our Teen Programs have a new partnership. Beginning in March, we'll be taking teens out to Hope Reins once a month for equine therapy. This is a new program for us and one that our teens are excited about. Slots filled up fast! This safe, socially distanced group outing will be a breath of fresh air and, hopefully, a time of healing for our teens. We need volunteers to drive a youth one Friday per month from 4:00-6:00 pm! Contact Delana for more details: depps-avery@hopecenteratpullen.org

-Erin Witcher

Let's Sing, Pullen!

A new and easy-to-use app makes it simple for all Pullen congregation members to combine their voices in song. Along with Music Ministry Group participants, all congregants of all ages are invited to record music for our livestreamed services of worship! The app, Choir Creator, is currently developed for iPhone or iPad, but the Music Ministry offers a Recording Kit for those who do not own these devices. During this time of physical distance, we'd love to see your faces and hear your voices blended in the worshiping community!

To participate, please fill out the information form and watch our tutorial video by visiting the Music Ministry Webpage: <https://pullen.org/music/>.

You will be notified about upcoming worship song projects. Join now to participate this week. Let's sing! If you have any questions just email me at lschultz@pullen.org.

- Larry E. Schultz, Minister of Music



Welcome to our Newest Member, Laura Huffman!

Are YOU interested in joining Pullen? Please reach out! Contact Chalice Overy at covery@pullen.org.



Laura Huffman joined Pullen on February 24, 2021.

I am originally from Greensboro, NC and currently live in Wilmington, NC. I am an English language teacher to speakers of other languages and I previously lived abroad teaching English. I enjoy yoga, Latin dancing, learning languages and helping people and animals.

Why did you choose Pullen?

I am happy to have found a church that fights against bigotry and welcomes all.

How do you imagine yourself growing with this community? I hope to connect and learn as much as possible online and help out in person as much as I can. I hope to form new fellowships with the members of the community.

Pullen Kids Corner

Kids Talent Show

Zoom Gathering

MARCH 21 @ 4 PM

Some of our Pullen Children would like to show off their talents.... we have musicians, scientist, athletes, chefs and more! We hope you will join us on Zoom, Sunday March 21 at 4 p.m. for an hour long celebration of our children and a variety of their talents!

Register in advance for this opportunity! The day before the talent show, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Join us!!!

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/91621776204?pwd=ZUJURduqorDMoH9bskv_j-T4WA8_5iHr-EbfM



**SATURDAY,
MARCH 27
at 10 AM**

**Gregg Art Museum
Lawn
(Weather Permitting)**

All children are welcomed to join us.... IN PERSON... on the front

lawn of the Gregg Art Museum as we film our children waving palm leaves for this years Palm Sunday's Worship Service (Sunday, March 26). Children will simply line up (at a safe distance with face coverings) and wave palms while we capture the movement on video.

In addition to this, we will conclude with a safe "egg" hunt featuring "Pat the Bunny" who has ONE GIANT EGG hidden for each child participating.

To sign up, or for more information about any of the children's programming at Pullen, please email Tommy Cook (tcook@pullen.org)



WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US!!



Do you know a youth in grades 6-12 that would like to join the Pullen youth group? Please tell them about these upcoming opportunities and have them get in touch with Bryan Lee! blee@pullen.org

Open Office Hours

Open to anyone in the church family. Every other Thursday morning, Bryan will be at Jubala Coffee on Hillsborough Street from 7:30-9:30 a.m. Drop in anytime for a free drink, breakfast, and conversation. They have outdoor seating that's covered so come, rain or shine. Upcoming dates: March 11 and March 25.

Intergenerational Game Night

Join Pullen youth on zoom for games and laughter.

March 8 at 7p.m.

Email Bryan for the zoom link.

Palm Sunday Walk (3/28) for Youth

Eat lunch and then join us from 12:30-2:00 p.m. for a walk around Raleigh and discussion on the significance of Palm Sunday. Starts and ends at Pullen.

Youth and Family Hikes at Umstead Park

These hikes are weather dependent. Meet at the Reedy Creek Entrance at 9 a.m.

- April 24
- May 22
- June 19

Holy Week (3/29-4/3)

We will release a daily video during Holy Week that highlights the events of that day 2000 years ago. There are so many wonderful and provocative events! Interested in helping make a video? Email Bryan at blee@pullen.org

Wednesday Night Discussions

Join us on Zoom at 7 p.m.

- March 3 - Defining relationships types and communication in them
- March 10 - Manipulation, Red Flags, Catfishing, and being Friend zoned
- March 17 - Ending a relationship
- March 24 - How do I know I'm ready?
- April 7 - LGBTQIA+ Relationships

Pullen Photos Needed!

We hope you are enjoying the slideshow on Sunday mornings between 10:45 and 11:00am prior to the start of worship!

We would love to have some new pictures. Show us what you are up to these days!

Please email any pictures of you or your family to Bryan Lee at blee@pullen.org, or share your photos on social media and tag #pullenchurch.

*If you do not wish to appear on the slideshow, please email Bryan Lee to let him know.

AN OPEN LETTER

to Rev. J.D. Greear,
President of the Southern Baptist
Convention

from Rev. Dr. Nancy E. Petty,
Pastor of Pullen Memorial Baptist Church

Open Letters

Please visit the Pullen website to read two recent Open Letters written by Nancy Petty.

You will see them on the front page of pullen.org. One is to the Georgian people, and the other to SBC President J.D. Greear. The letters are also posted on our social media pages.

How Then Shall We Live?

Covenantal Life in the Midst of Coronavirus and White Supremacy April 23-24 - Alliance of Baptists Annual Gathering

On April 23-24, the Alliance of Baptists 2021 ANNUAL GATHERING will explore this theme as we gather at this unique time. After a year of particularly acute trauma and loss, we are reminded of the importance of gathering, dreaming big, deepening our discipleship towards justice, and reaffirming our desire for an emancipatory future for all.



Alliance of Baptists

The 100% online 2021 Annual Gathering will be a unique experience in the life of the Alliance of Baptists — one where we affirm our new covenant and hold space for community in the midst of a pandemic and white supremacy. At the 2021 gathering, you will be inspired by powerhouse keynote speakers:

- Aurelia Dávila Pratt, the founder and lead pastor at Peace of Christ Church. She is co-chair of the Religious Liberty Council of the Baptist Joint Committee and President of the board for Nevertheless She Preached – a national, ecumenical preaching event designed to elevate the voices of womxn on the margins.
- Robert P. Jones, the CEO and Founder of PRRI (Public Religion Research Institute) and the author of “White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity” and “The End of White Christian America.”
- Naomi Washington-Leaphart, a queer Black theologian who serves as the Director for Faith-Based and Interfaith Affairs for the city of Philadelphia and an adjunct professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Villanova University.

At the Gathering you can discover how to deepen your commitment to ongoing antiracist work; find space with fellow Alliance members for lament, praise, or conversation; and be equipped with new skills that you can use in your personal life, ministry settings and justice work.

Join us April 23rd and 24th as we celebrate and affirm a new era in the life of the Alliance of Baptists.

REGISTER : <https://hopin.com/events/aq2021>

-Cathy Tamsburg



Pullen Memorial Baptist Church

1801 Hillsborough Street

Raleigh, NC 27605

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

