



Archie Shivar  
Audrey Oppenheim  
The Hampton Family  
The Gee Family  
Nita & Jonathan Horne  
Prayer for Carolyn's Family  
Nette  
Kurt Maerschel – Confirmand  
Emily Smith – Confirmand  
Betty Peace  
Rick Hallstrand  
The Family of Marty Duncan  
Jocelyn Barnard  
Scott Fletcher  
Jennie Leamons  
Praise – Meredith Freeman's Graduation  
Jim Hanigan  
Kirk Connally  
CHUMC Homebound

Want something in the Newsletter?  
Send your newsletter article to [office@chapelhillumc.org](mailto:office@chapelhillumc.org) by 8am Friday.

Need to reserve a room or get an event on the calendar?

Please fill out an Event Request Form located on our website: [chapelhillumc.org](http://chapelhillumc.org), email [office@chapelhillumc.org](mailto:office@chapelhillumc.org), or in the folders on the table in the narthex.

Want to have a bulletin insert or announcement slide?

Look at the standards and procedures in the folders on the narthex table and turn it in by 4pm Thursday.

Have something to celebrate?

Email the office with your celebration by Monday at 11am so that we can put your celebration in our "Hats Off" section to have everyone know the joy you are experiencing in your life.



# Chapel Hill

## United Methodist Church

December 17, 2019

– Pastor's Message –



**Chapel Hill UMC**  
Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen  
Senior Pastor

Pastora Idalia Luna  
Pastor of Children, Families,  
& Hispanic Ministries

Dr. Donaleah Dedrick  
Worship & Music Ministry

Adam Lubbers  
Youth Director

Adam Richards  
Office Manager

Alec McKay  
Office Manager

Jim Hanigan  
Building Manager

Kurt Maerschel  
German Worship Leader

Berenice Baeza  
Hispanic Ministries Intern



In our final installment considering the phenomenon of church decline, church consultant Thom Rainer posits that a final major factor of church decline is that churches are slow to respond to change as change accelerates all around us. Rainer suggests that while churches use to lag behind the technological and cultural changes by five to ten years, they now lag behind as many as 20 to 30 years the changes occurring around them making churches increasingly irrelevant to those outside the church regarding issues of style, methodology, and awareness.

This factor is related to those that have been mentioned before. In a time when Cultural Christianity has gone by the wayside and in which we are losing the Builder Generation, we have fewer church members who are used to the way we have always done things and embrace them. As people have migrated more and more, we have fewer people in our neighborhoods who identify with the local culture within which our local church culture was formed. When someone visits or connects with a local church, they are much quicker to leave if the culture in place proves to be irrelevant to them and their lives.

Rainer suggests the number one thing members of a local church must do to address this factor in church decline is to let go of their personal preferences. He asserts that fights over the styles of music, worship times, modes of dress, etc., so the church can adapt to new cultural eras and reach people who live in the current era. One way churches can walk this road is to meet with leaders of churches who enacted change without forgetting they were as baptized disciples of Jesus Christ.

This is difficult, however, because any institution, religious or non, big or small, local church or denominational, becomes more rigid with age. Like humans who lose flexibility if they do not continually stretch their muscles and joints as they age, adapting can be hard for institutions that have not needed to adapt or chosen not to be adaptive over the years. The result is great pain when strenuous change is attempted, like when a ligament tears performing a simple task because muscles and joints had tightened up over the years.

We can see an example of adaptability in a company like Netflix. Netflix looked at the landscape of video rentals, a la Blockbuster, and saw a new way to meet people's video rental wants: by mail at a cheaper price.

**Continued inside...**



**Chapel Hill United Methodist Church**

12411 Templeton Trail Farmers Branch, TX 75234

[www.chapelhillumc.org](http://www.chapelhillumc.org) [office@chapelhillumc.org](mailto:office@chapelhillumc.org)

## Upcoming Usher List

12/22 – Pat Moore, Kandy Burdette, Sandra Fletcher, Charlie Wood  
12/24 – Tom & Jan Wooldridge, Larry & Andrea Rains  
12/30 – Robert Putnam, Linda Pace, Fred Maxwell, Ruth Fuls  
1/5 – Dave & Ilene Oldfield, Larry & Andrea Rains  
1/12 – Kevin & Kelly Patterson, Tom & Jan Wooldridge



## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Come join your Chapel Hill family for our annual Christmas Eve candlelight service as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Service will start at 7:00 PM. Be sure to invite your friends!

## **IMPORTANT:** Office Closure and

### Temporary Staff During the Holidays

**Our office will be open on December 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8 to noon, Christmas Eve from 8 to noon,**

**December 29<sup>th</sup> from 8 to noon, and New Years Eve from 8 to 1. All other days during both weeks we will be closed.**

If you need anything during that time, contact Adam Lubbers at [youth@chapelhillumc.org](mailto:youth@chapelhillumc.org) on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>. If it is the 24<sup>th</sup> or both an emergency and during off hours, as always give Pastor J.D. a call at 972-467-7756. We wish y'all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

-Adam & Alec

## All-Church Email Issue

We understand some of our members are still having issues with mass emails from our church going to their junk or spam mail folders. Unfortunately, to our knowledge, there is not a solution to this issue that can be implemented on our end. **However, when a church email goes into your junk mail, you can often select or open the email and click "Not Spam" or "Not Junk" which will send the email to your inbox and cause your email provider to recognize in the future that email address is not junk mail.** In addition, while the address the emails come from says "no-reply" please know that if you do reply to these emails the replies will come to church office.



## Inclement Weather Procedure

In the event of inclement weather our office will close if DISD closes. This is so that our staff and congregation can stay safe during those winter storms that we get every now and again. Please stay safe this winter and bundle up!

## Metrocrest Holiday Store

On Saturday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, 12:00-2:30pm, please join Chapel Hill in supplying elf helpers at the Metrocrest Holiday Store at Midway and Trinity Mills in Carrollton. We will be helping shoppers find items for their children and stocking the tables. There will be a signup sheet in the foyer this week.

## Pastor's Message Part 2

For a monthly price that beat equivalent movie rentals at a local store, Netflix would send you a certain number of DVDs or Blu-rays to your mailbox. Their business model completely altered how people watched home movies. Just a few years later, Netflix recognized that the internet was rapidly changing how people consumed video. They responded by creating an online video streaming video service providing a huge collection of previously released movies and television shows for their customers to watch with ease. A couple of years later, they recognized the desire people had to watch new original movies and television shows such as they had access to on cable. They began investing in original shows and movies and quickly became the landscape-altering one stop shop for the public's viewing wants. Their flexibility allowed them to adapt on the fly and brought success.

This we know: change is not easy. We have great memories that we value greatly and attribute to the ways we have worshipped and practiced our faith together. Yet we are in a new culture where it is much harder to connect people with faith and a church. If, though, we are willing to stretch our institutional muscles and joints, we can become relevant to people that reside in the culture around us and become a fruitful, growing church once again. Let's discern together what this looks like at Chapel Hill United Methodist Church.

Grace and peace,  
Rev. J.D. Allen



This Christmas Season we will be supporting Genesis Women's Shelter again! We need blankets for all ages as well as stuffed animals. Please be sure to ONLY donate NEW items. If there are any questions please contact Meredith Moore.

Thank you for helping make this difficult time for these women and children a little more comforting this holiday!

## Church Calendar

### Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

10:00 AM Staff Meeting  
3:00 PM Memorial Committee Meeting  
7:00 PM Chancel Choir  
7:00 PM Plus 4's Square Dancers

### Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>

12:00 PM Metrocrest Holiday Store

### Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Worship  
4:00 PM Children's Choir  
4:00 PM Youth

### Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Eve)

12:00 PM **OFFICE CLOSURES**  
7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service

### Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Day)

through Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup>

**OFFICE CLOSED**

### Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

8:30 AM UMM Breakfast  
9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Worship  
4:00 PM Children's Choir  
4:00 PM Youth

### Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> (New Year's Eve)

1:00 PM **OFFICE CLOSURES**

### Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> (New Year's Day)

through Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>

**OFFICE CLOSED**

### Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>

9:15 AM Sunday School  
10:30 AM Worship  
11:30 AM UMM Meeting  
4:00 PM Children's Choir  
4:00 PM Youth  
4:00 PM German Worship Service

**BIRTHDAY REMINDER:** Please let our church office know your birthdate, mm/dd/yyyy, so your church family can acknowledge your special day. **Your 'year' will remain private:** [office@chapelhillumc.org](mailto:office@chapelhillumc.org)



Melanie Willhite 12/4	Joseph Hwang 12/7	Kaeden Lara 12/12	Kandy Burdette 12/15
Donaleah Dedrick 12/22	Yongjoon Shin 12/25	Mary Fagan 12/31	