



# Chapel Hill

---

## United Methodist Church

---

October 18, 2021

### Pastor's Message

In worship yesterday, we discussed the focus of sacrifices of atonement being restitution rather than retribution. In other words, the sacrifices were offered as gifts to right the wrongs committed toward God rather than a result of a wrathful God needing to exact revenge but finding a substitute to receive that revenge rather than the humans responsible for their sin.

Approaching sacrifice as restitution changes the way we may view life after faith and what reconciliation looks like. We will cover these topics in two parts with part two coming in a future newsletter.

Regarding life after faith, there is a tendency to view life after faith as almost inconsequential. This comes from the retribution view of sacrifice combined with Calvinism's Perseverance of the Saints theology that is colloquially known as "once saved, always saved." In other words, if the faith I receive because of Jesus' death and resurrection covers my past, present, and future sins and I am just a saved sinner, I can rest in forgiveness when I sin again and not be concerned with repentance and making things right with God and my neighbor. There is only so much I can do since we are trapped in sin until the end. Also, the world is still wracked with sin, so we sometimes have to live the way the world is structured in order to survive, meaning we have to make ethical compromises. The good news is those faith are free from the wrath of an angry God.

I do not believe this is John Calvin's teaching absolutely correctly understood. Nevertheless, it is how it is often applied. And Calvinism has shown a history of harsh, legalistic application to the other extreme beginning with Calvin's Geneva. Sin post-faith, or as proof of lack of faith was a significant issue and needed to be punished.

Wesleyan theology fits the restitution framework of sacrifice much better. On one hand, it acknowledges the significance of sin post-faith. However, a God of steadfast love, slow to anger is not just waiting to lash out at humans. It also acknowledges that humans are never stripped by God of their agency to choose faith or not.

Continued on the back...



#### Chapel Hill UMC

Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen  
Senior Pastor

Blair King  
Worship & Music

Leo Haro  
Community Engagement  
& Children's Worship

Alec McKay  
Office Manager

Jim Hanigan  
Building Manager

Kurt Maerschel  
German Worship Leader



®

## Prayer List

CHUMC Home Bound	Gary & Judy Anderson
The Gee Family	Jayde's Nana
Jocelyn Barnard	Carter Tatum
Jennie Leamons	Jill Fisher
Tom Sanders	Donna Hoisington's niece, Jana
Judy Charvat	Jim Taylor
Sylvia McFalls	Cliff Baliey
Beverly Holmes	Denise Maxwell
Norma Wood	<b>Those affected by COVID-19:</b>
Danny Halron	Nurses and Doctors
Joy Conner	All patients in hospitals
Martha Johnson	Families who have lost people and cannot have funerals
Ronnie Hinton	First responders
David Rice	Medical personnel who are working
Sonny Miller	Parents of students
Scott Fletcher	Senior citizens in nursing homes
Neal Ellis	Students and teachers taking classes online
Donna Daggett	Those who have lost jobs
Tim Harrison	
Lynn & Dixie Copeland	

## Pastor's Message Part 2

Someone once faithful may choose to no longer have faith. Yet it does not mean you have found yourself outside the faith every time you sin.

It does, however, mean we must be diligent in relying on the Holy Spirit to help us grow in love so that sin becomes less and less a factor in our lives. It means we continue to confess and repent when we fail. It means our lives continue to be transformed by love, not wrath, and that love then transforms the love around us. It means we follow God's way of love no matter how difficult the life of love proves to be. Yet while our sin still matters, we do not offer another sacrifice. The sacrifice of restitution has already been given once for all by God enfleshed in Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ. Our restitution is to return to love as we have been empowered by the Holy Spirit to do.

The restitution has been made. May it lead us to love.

Grace and peace,

Rev. J.D. Allen

## Reception for the Moore Family

After many years of serving Chapel Hill in many capacities, the Moores are moving. Pat is taking Caleb to Brownwood to live with Terri and Nathan. Class Menagerie is hosting a reception for the whole family in the Fellowship Hall after church on October 24th; please join us to wish them well.

## In-Person Office Hours:

Monday: 8 am – 12 pm

Tuesday-Friday: 8 am – 4 pm

If you have prayer requests or if there's anything else you need, please send us an email at [office@chapelhillumc.org](mailto:office@chapelhillumc.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

In the case of a pastoral care emergency, please contact J.D. at (972) 467-7756

**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)



George Johnson 10/2	Nathan Moore 10/7
Kim Rangel 10/10	Alec McKay 10/11
Kelly Patterson 10/15	Iris Shivar 10/15
Madeleine Davis 10/18	Wilson Moore 10/18
Ana Laura Gamborino 10/19	Wesley Freeman 10/21
Robert Putnam 10/24	Jim Hanigan 10/25
Cindy Brown 10/28	Jan Wooldridge 10/29
Leslie Ochoa-Funez 10/30	Denise Maxwell 10/31

## Join Us for Online Worship!

**YouTube:** [bit.ly/CHUMCYouTube](https://bit.ly/CHUMCYouTube)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/chapelhillumc](https://www.facebook.com/chapelhillumc)