



# Chapel Hill

---

## United Methodist Church

### Pastor's Message

November 28, 2022 CHUMC Family,



#### *Chapel Hill UMC*

Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen  
Senior Pastor

Melissa Sky-Eagle  
Worship & Music

Jill Cox  
Office Manager

Jim Hanigan  
Building Manager

In 2nd Corinthians 3, Paul speaks of the ministry of the Spirit that comes in a greater glory than the ministry of death. The ministry of death, represented the law of Moses and in Paul's mind, it was a ministry of condemnation. The law of Moses carried a certain glory in that it reveals the sinfulness of humanity in that we as humans, individually and collectively, are unable to fulfill every element of the letter of the law. It reveals our brokenness. Thus the letter, the ministry of death, leaves us condemned if we stop there.

The ministry of the Spirit is, however, life. The ministry of the Spirit is the ministry of justification rather than condemnation. It offers grace to us in our sin so that through faith we may be transformed, individually and collectively. This ministry of the Spirit sets us free from condemnation by God's grace. It reveals a God who is not seeking to condemn us, but a God of love seeking to renew us. It shows a God who is setting us free from the condemnation and shame of the rulers of the world.

During this first week of Advent, we embrace the ministry of the Spirit bringing justification by grace through faith because it is the hope for a world broken by condemnation. We can only view someone as enemies or as less worthy than us through eyes of condemnation. But once God's grace of justification is revealed to us to assure us we are not condemned, how can we ever look on anyone else with eyes of condemnation? Instead, we look, contrary to the ways of this age, on our neighbor with eyes of justification, for we know offering this grace we have received from God to our neighbors is how this hope for the world spreads.

This does not remove accountability for the harm we cause or mean harm should never be called out and confronted, but it offers hope beyond the harm caused and the brokenness of this world. No longer will we operate with eyes of condemnation because someone is poor or has not achieved wealth and power. No longer will people be looked down upon because of their race or gender. No longer will we take advantage of people because they are weaker, making it easier to claim God gave us power over them and their resources. No longer will we shame our neighbors out of a sense of self-righteousness and some sense that God wants us to force our beliefs upon our neighbor through systems of belief such as Christian Nationalism.

Instead, our lives will be lives of grace. Lives of the Spirit. Lives of embrace rather than hostility. Lives of charity and justice. Lives in which we recognize the God-given worth in all of our neighbors who have all been created in the image of God. Lives that recognize that the "Spirit is the Lord" who continually reveals new things to us to set us free more each day from condemnation. Lives of justification.

During this Advent, this ministry of the Spirit is our hope.

*Grace and peace,  
Rev. J.D. Allen*



## Prayer List

CHUMC Home Bound	Gloria (Pinson) Ming
The Gee Family	Judy Bull
Tom Sanders	Scott Fletcher
Danny Halron	David Loper
Jim Taylor	Jim Cranford
Grandma Gloria	Alan Pollock
Yvette's kids	Margaret Young
Betty Garrison	Braulia Brown and Family
Edrese Hanigan	Family of Susan Maxwell
Evelyn Womble	Family of Mark Calverley
Ralph Minton	Juan Torres' friend Sabrina
Kevin Patterson	Mass Shooting Victims
Ruth Fuls	Families of the Air Show victims
Sam Orton	Hurricane Nicole victims

This Sunday!



The Good Life: Peace  
1 Timothy 2:1-2

**Our Sunday, December 4th Communion Offering will help provide holiday care packets for our homebound members.**



### Communion Offering

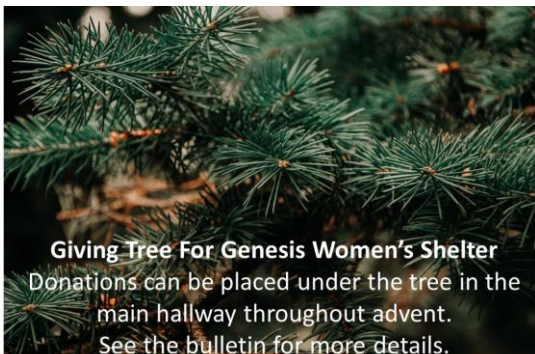
The Communion Offering on December 4<sup>th</sup> will help provide holiday care packets for our homebound members.

### Giving Tree for Genesis Women's Shelter.

We are collecting items for Genesis Women's Shelter. They are in special need of women's shoes sizes 6-10, women's leggings/pants in all sizes, reusable cups, and bed pillows. Donations can be placed under the Giving Tree in the main hallway throughout Advent.

### Welcome Reception

On December 11<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship, there will be a welcome reception for our new staff members, Tiffany Briley, Minister of Families, and Jill Cox, Office Manager. Please join us.



**Giving Tree For Genesis Women's Shelter**

Donations can be placed under the tree in the main hallway throughout advent.  
See the bulletin for more details.

### Bible Year 2022 Readings

Tues. Nov. 29	Col. 3:1:4:18
Weds. Nov. 30	1 Thess. 1:1-3:13
Thurs. Dec. 1	1 Thess. 4:1-5:28
Fri. Dec. 2	2 Thess. 1:1-3:18
Sat. Dec. 3	1 Tim. 1:1-3:16
Sun. Dec. 4	1 Tim. 4:1-6:21
Mon. Dec. 5	2 Tim. 1:1-2:26

### Join Us for Online Worship!

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

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

**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)



Carol	Rose	11/28	Melanie	Willhite	12/4
M	Bandy	11/28	Kandy	Burdette	12/13
Evelyn	Womble	11/30	David	Ricks	12/24
			Riley	Dobbs	12/26