



Chapel Hill

United Methodist Church

November 18, 2024

Pastor's Message

CHUMC Family,

"Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him." John 2:10-11

Do you ever struggle to live with an abundance mindset rather than a scarcity mindset? I know I do at times. Finances seemed stretched. Resources short. Health strained. How am I going to accomplish everything I need to accomplish? What will everyone think of me? Will I ever find flourishing and fulfillment?

At the wedding in Cana, Jesus arrives with his disciples and they join the celebratory feast. Only one problem. He's crashed the party with all these new friends and the wine is running out. His mother Mary is stressed about the scarcity of the situation. But what we discover in the story is an unexpected abundance. Jesus enacts the sign of the barrels of water becoming wine leaving the party with gallons upon gallons of the party's best wine.

It could have been quite the revenue generated venture. Bring me an empty bottle of your favorite Malbec. Fill it with water. And I'll turn that water into Malbec. But that isn't really the point of the wedding sign.

The sign signifies the abundance of grace, care, and provision found in the Reign of God. It's indicative of Isaiah's words calling the people to come and enjoy milk and bread at no price. As the classic hymn intones, "God will take care of you."

How much more likely are we to find flourishing and fulfillment if we recognize that God will take care of us? And, when we recognize how deeply God cares for us, we are freed to care for another and our neighbors inclusively. If the God who turns water into wine, scarcity into abundance, invites us to the abundant feast of God, we know we can share the spiritual and tangible blessings of that God-given abundance with others without fear. God cares for us and will provide. We simply need to surrender ourselves to the care and lovingkindness of God.

While this doesn't mean life doesn't take effort, it does mean we do not need to be weighed down by every past hurt, stress, pressure, and failure. We can let go of those heavy thoughts and feelings that weigh us down and let God set us free to be loved and love God and neighbor in the present. God is with us and we all are invited to the party where we find flourishing and fulfillment in togetherness with God and neighbor.

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



Chapel Hill UMC
Staff

Rev. J.D. Allen
Senior Pastor

Kate Whitaker Hendrick
Minister of Families

Melissa Sky-Eagle
Worship & Music

Jill Cox
Office Manager

Jim Hanigan
Building Manager



Prayer List

CHUMC Home Bound	John Fuls
The Gee Family	Corky Rawdon
Yvette's kids	Carolyn Curtis
Matthew Shivar	Pat Moore
Aaron Brooks	Rev. J.D.'s Brother-In-Law
Lynda Lyon (Iris Shivar's Cousin)	Caleb Whitaker
Judy Bull	Yvette's Mom, Patricia
Janis Coggshall	Jim Taylor
David Loper	The Family of Karen Garrison
Claudia Marchant	The Family of Matt McCourtney
Terri Moore	Shepherd Resources
Julia and David Knutt	Mass Shooting Victims
Stacey Ramsey	Peace, healing, & restoration in war torn areas
Ruby Wiechman	Hurricanes Helene and Milton Victims
Mike Tatum	
Kaye Bandy	
Gary Fuls	
Patti and Harry Heckard	

Announcements

- Please join us on Sunday, November 24th after Worship for **Hanging of the Greens**.
- **Service of Remembrance**, Monday, December 2nd at Christ UMC at 6 PM.
- **Texas Boys Choir Christmas Concert**, December 7th at 7 pm at Spring Valley UMC.

Join Us for Online Worship!

YouTube: bit.ly/CHUMCYouTube

Facebook: www.facebook.com/chapelhillumc

Calendar of Events

November	Mission Emphasis: Sukkot Booth
Weekly Events:	Tuesdays, Bible Study 7 pm Wednesdays, Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Sundays, Adult Sunday School 9:15 am
Sunday, November 3	Communion Offering: UM Student Day
Sunday, November 17	Pledge Sunday
Sunday, November 17	Thanksgiving Feast 11:30 am
Sunday, November 24	Advent Decorating following Worship 11:30 am
Thursday, November 28	Thanksgiving – Church Office is Closed

Succoth Booth Donations

Please bring your non-perishable goods to take to Metrocrest Services NOW THROUGH NOVEMBER 26th. Urgent items needed are:

Feminine hygiene products
Canned Tomatoes
Peanut Butter
Toothpaste
Diapers
Cereal
Pasta

All food must be nonperishable and not expired.
No glass, please.



It's time to order Poinsettias. The price is \$15 each and you must have your orders in by November 24th. Forms are available in the Narthex and at the end of the pews.

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



Chris	Crowe	20-Nov	Melanie	Willhite	4-Dec
Berna	Elizundia	26-Nov	Kandy	Burdette	13-Dec
M	Bandy	28-Nov	Matt	Schulz	16-Dec
			David	Ricks	24-Dec
			Riley	Dobbs	26-Dec