



*A church dedicated to the glory of God  
in the service of humanity through worship,  
congregational care, faith formation  
and the stewardship of life.*

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT; "A CEREMONY OF CAROLS"  
20 December 2015 at Eleven o'clock in the morning**

**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD**

*The Music in Preparation for Worship is intended to draw the people from the outside world into the presence of God. You are invited to remain silent during this time.*

*Please silence your cell phone.*

**THE SILENT MEDITATION**

My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 14:27 (KJV)

**THE RINGING OF THE ANGELUS BELL**

*The ringing of the Angelus Bell, a three-fold ringing of three, signifies the presence of the triune God: Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit. In ancient practice it was rung as a noontday prayer calling the whole community to prayers for peace.*

**THE OPENING VOLUNTARY**

"Berceuse Paraphrase"

*George Baker  
(b. 1951)*

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

At this time, everyone is invited to sign the friendship register found at the end of each pew. We especially welcome our guests today and ask that you include your contact information. Everyone is invited to coffee fellowship in Heaton Hall Foyer immediately following worship. We invite our guests to the Welcome Table in Heaton Hall Foyer for a more personal welcome.

**\*THE OPENING SENTENCES**

**Leader:** See what love God has given us,  
love as if from another country,  
that we should be called children of God,  
and indeed we are.

**People:** **God is love,  
and those who abide in love abide in God,  
and God abides in them.**

(I John 3:1; 4:16)

**\*THE PROCESSION AND OPENING OF THE BIBLE**

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Number 95  
Regent Square

\*THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF LOVE

Chris Fialko and Ann Hester with Kate and Andy

Leader: We light the fourth candle of Advent as the candle of Love,  
in wonder and praise for the love of God conceived as  
Mary's child and given to the world in Jesus of Nazareth.

*(Lighting the Candle of Love.)*

People: (singing)

*Es Ist Ein 'Ros'*

**Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung,  
Of Jesse's lineage coming,  
By faithful prophets sung.  
It came a floweret bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.**

+ *During the interlude, 3 and 4 year olds, along with TK-5th graders, will leave with their teachers. 3s and 4s may be picked up in Room 107 after worship. TK-5th may be picked up in the gym.*

**THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED AND HEARD**

*A Ceremony of Carols, Op. 28*

FOR SATB CHOIR AND HARP

*Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)*

*Latin and Old English Texts*

*Modern English Transliterations (by Thomas Ajack)*

*Pro c e s s i o n*

**PROCESSION**

*Hodie Christus natus est;  
Hodie Salvator apparuit;  
Hodie in terra canunt angeli;  
Laetantur archangeli;  
Hodie exsultant justi dicentes;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia!*

Today Christ is born;  
Today the Saviour has appeared;  
Today the angels sing,  
The archangels rejoice;  
Today the righteous rejoice, saying,  
Glory to God in the highest, Alleluia!

*W o l c u m Y o l e*

**WELCOME YULE**

*Wolcum, Wolcum,  
Wolcum be thou heavenè king,  
Wolcum, born in one morning,  
Wolcum, for whom we sall sing!*

Welcome, Welcome,  
Welcome to You, our heavenly King.  
Welcome, You who was born one morning,  
Welcome, for You shall we sing!

*Wolcum be ye, Steven and Jon,  
Wolcum, Innocentes every one,  
Wolcum, Thomas marter one,  
Wolcum be ye, good Nene Yere,  
Wolcum Twelfth Day both in fere,  
Wolcum seintes lefe and dere.*

Welcome, to you, Steven and John,  
Welcome all innocent children,  
Welcome, Thomas, the martyred one,  
Welcome, good New Year,  
Welcome Twelfth Day, both in fear . . .  
Welcome Saints left and dear.

*Candelmesse, Queene of Bliss,  
Wolcum bothe to more and lesse.  
Wolcum be ye that are here,  
Wolcum alle and make good cheer.  
Wolcum alle another yere.*

Candle Mass, Queen of bliss,  
Welcome both to more and less.  
Welcome you that are here,  
Welcome all and make good cheer.  
Welcome all another year.

*There is no rose*

*There is no rose of such vertu  
As is the rose that bare Jesu.  
Alleluia.*

*For in this rose containèd was  
Heaven and earth in litel space  
Res miranda.*

*By that rose we may well see  
There be one God in persons three,  
Pares forma.*

*The aungels sungen the shepherds to:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gaudeamus.*

*Leave we all this werdly mirth,  
And follow we this joyful mirth.  
Transeamus.*

*That Yongë Child*

*That yongë child when it gan weep  
With song she lulled him asleap  
That was so sweet a melody  
It passéd alle minstrelly.*

*The nightingale sang also:  
Her song is hoarse and nought therto:  
Whoso attendeth to her song  
And leaveth the first then doth he wrong*

*Balulalow*

*O my deare hert, young Jesu sweit  
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit,  
And I sall rock thee to my hert,  
And never mair from thee depart.*

*But I sall praise thee evermoir  
With sanges sweit unto thy gloir;  
The knees of my hert sall I bow  
And sing that richt Balulalow!*

**THERE IS NO ROSE**

There is no rose of such virtue  
As is the rose that bore Jesus.  
Alleluia.

For inside the rose  
Were heaven and earth in a single, little space.  
Miraculous thing.

By that rose, we now may see,  
There be one God in persons three.  
Created in the Parent's image.

The angels sang to the shepherds,  
Glory to God in the highest!  
We rejoice.

Leave we all this worldly mirth,  
And follow we this joyful birth.  
We cross over to Christ's world.

**THAT YOUNG CHILD**

When that young child began to weep  
With song, she lulled him to sleep  
It was such a sweet melody,  
It was better than any minstrel's.

The nightingale sang also,  
But her song was hoarse, it was not the same:  
Whoever listens to the nightingale's song  
Instead of Mary's, does wrong.

**BALULALOW**

O love of my heart, young Jesus sweet,  
Prepare your place in my heart,  
And I shall hold thee to my heart,  
And nevermore from thee depart.

But I shall praise you forever,  
With sweet songs to your glory  
The knees of my heart shall I bow  
And sing that right Lullaby.

Fran Morrison, soloist

*As dew in Aprille*

*I sing of a maiden that is makeles:  
King of all kings to her son she ches.*

*He came al so stille there his moder was,  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the grass.*

*He came al so stille to his moder's bour,  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the flour.*

*He came al so stille there his moder lay  
As dew in Aprille that falleth on the spray.*

*Moder and mayden was never none but she:  
Well may such a lady Goddes moder be.*

THE HOMILY

“An Unfamiliar Christmas”

*This little Babe*

*This little Babe so few days old  
Is come to rifle Satan's fold.  
All hell doth at his presence quake,  
Though he himself for cold do shake;  
For in this weak unarmed wise  
The gates of hell he will surprise.  
With tears he fights and wins the field,  
His naked breast stands for a shield;  
His battering shot are babish cries,  
His arrows looks of weeping eyes;  
His martial ensigns Cold and Need,  
And feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.*

*His camp is pitched in a stall,  
His bulwark but a broken wall;  
The crib his trench, haystalks his stakes,  
Of shepherds he his muster makes;  
And thus, as sure his foe to wound,  
The angels' trumps alarum sound.*

*My soul, with Christ join thou in fight,  
Stick to the tents that he hath pight;  
Within his crib is surest ward,  
This little Babe will be thy guard;  
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,  
Then flit not from this heavenly boy.*

**AS DEW IN APRIL**

I sing of a maiden that is mateless,  
Her son is the King of all Kings.

From his mother he came to us quietly  
As dew in April that falls on the grass.

His mother's labor was painless and quiet,  
As dew in April that falls on the flowers.

As His mother lay there, he came quietly,  
As dew in April that falls on the earth.

Never has there been such a mother and maiden:  
How fitting it is that this be God's mother.

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Rogers

**THIS LITTLE BABE**

This little Babe so few days old  
Has come to rifle Satan's fold.  
All hell quakes at his presence,  
Though he himself shivers.  
For in this weak, unarmed guise  
The gates of hell he will surprise.  
With tears he fights and wins the field,  
His naked breast stands for a shield;  
His shots are his baby-cries,  
His arrows, the looks of his weeping eyes.  
His martial ensigns are cold and need,  
And his feeble flesh, his warrior's steed.

His camp is pitched in a stall,  
His bulwark is a broken wall;  
The crib his trench, haystalks are his stakes,  
Shepherd are his well-examined troops;  
And sure of wounding the foe,  
The angels sound their trumpets alarm.

My soul joins Christ in the fight,  
Stay by the tents that he has pitched;  
Within his crib is sure protection  
The little babe will be your guard;  
If Christ can foil your foes with joy,  
Stay near this heavenly boy.

*Harp Interlude*

*Spring carol*

*Pleasure it is to hear ivis, the birdès sing,  
The deer in the dale, the sheep in the vale,  
The corn springing.*

*God's purvayance for sustenance,  
It is for man, it is for man.*

*Then we always to give him praise,  
And thank him than.*

*Deo Gracias*

*Deo Gracias! Deo Gracias!  
Adam lay ibounden, bounden in a bond;  
Four thousand winter thought he not to long.*

*And all was for an appil,  
An appil that he tok,  
As clerkès finden written in their book.*

*Ne had the appil takè been,  
The appil takè been,  
Ne haddè never our lady  
A ben bevenè queen.*

*Blessed be the time  
That appil takè was.  
Therefore we moun singen,  
Deo gracias! Deo gracias!*

*Recession*

*Hodie Christus natus est;  
Hodie Salvator apparuit;  
Hodie in terra canunt angeli;  
Laetantur archangeli;  
Hodie exsultant justi dicentes;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia!*

**SPRING CAROL**

It is always a pleasure to hear the birds sing,  
To see the deer in the dale, the sheep in the vale,  
the corn springing from the earth.

God supplies sustenance  
For us all.

Then we should always give him praise  
And give him thanks.

**GIVE THANKS TO GOD**

Give thanks to God!  
Adam was bound in sin for four thousand years,  
although he thought this not too long.

It was all for an apple  
that he took,  
As clerics find written in their books.

Had the apple never  
been taken,  
Then our Lady would have  
Never been a heavenly queen.

Blessed be the time  
That apple was taken.  
Therefore we must sing  
Thanks be to God!

**RECESSION**

Today Christ is born;  
Today the Saviour has appeared;  
Today the angels sing,  
The archangels rejoice;  
Today the righteous rejoice, saying,  
Glory to God in the highest, Alleluia!

The Chancel Choir  
Betsey Sesler, harp

THE SILENT REFLECTION

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS TO GOD'S WORD**

THE OFFERING

*The Loose Plate Missions Offering for December supports the work of NC Med Assist.  
(NC Med Assist operates a community pharmacy that provides medications, healthcare advocacy and educational support to low-income and uninsured North Carolina residents.)*

THE ORGAN MEDITATION

\*THE PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

*As the deacons move down the center aisle, the congregation is asked to stand at the moment the deacons pass their pew.  
This presentation to God enacts our self-offering and gratitude to God.*

\*THE DOXOLOGY

*Old Hundredth*

**O Glorious God, to you we bring  
All that we are as offering;  
Spirit of love, among us dwell;  
Come, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Amen.**

*(Text: Paula Meador Testerman)*

\*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*THE PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD AND CLOSING OF THE BIBLE

Number 110

“Joy to the world!”

*Antioch*

THE BENEDICTION

THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella”

*Keith Chapman  
(1945-1989)*

\* Those who wish may stand.

+ The ushers will seat those who are waiting.

*Following worship, you are invited to coffee fellowship in Heaton Hall Foyer.  
We invite our guests to the Welcome Table in Heaton Hall Foyer for a more personal welcome.*

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Leading worship today with The Reverend Dr. Jeff Rogers, guest preacher,  
is The Reverend Ms. Robin P. Coira, Executive Minister,  
and The Reverend Chris Hughes, Minister of Youth.

The Chancel Choir leads worship through music with  
Dr. Jeffrey Price, guest choral conductor,  
and Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist.

The acolytes are McLean Campbell, Elliott Campbell and Christian William.

The sound technician is Eric Roberts.  
The webcast technician is Seph Rackley.

The Deacon of the Week for December 20-26 is  
Gary Morrison, [gmorrison7483@gmail.com](mailto:gmorrison7483@gmail.com), 704.517.5918.

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**THE REVEREND DR. JEFF ROGERS**

Having served as the Senior Minister of First Baptist Church in Greenville,  
SC, Dr. Rogers is now the Dean of the Gayle Bolt Price School of  
Graduate Studies at Gardner-Webb University. He holds a PhD in Old  
Testament Biblical Studies from Princeton Theological Seminary.

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## *Advent Schedule 2015*

*Sunday, December 20 - Advent IV*

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**"A Ceremony of Carols" with Choir and Harp**

*11:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary*

*Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve*

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**Family-Friendly Worship**

*4:00 pm in the Sanctuary*

**The Music of Christmas by Harp and Organ**

*5:30 pm in the Sanctuary*

**Candlelight Worship with Communion**

*6:00 pm in the Sanctuary*

**Nativity Tableau with Communion**

*7:15 - 8:00 pm "drop in" in the Sanctuary*



## THE CHURCH IN WITNESS AND MISSION

### TODAY

December 20: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT; "A CEREMONY OF CAROLS";

THE REVEREND DR. JEFF ROGERS PREACHING

8:30 Charlotte Community of Mindfulness Meditation Group, Room 27

9:45 Youth Faith Formation, Youth Hall Wing

9:45 Adult Faith Formation, Education Building and Cornwell Center

9:45 Chancel Choir Warm-Up, Sanctuary

10:00 Children's Ministry Christmas Party, Shalom Hall

11:00 Worship in the Sanctuary

12:00 Coffee Fellowship/Guest Welcome

5:00 NO Youth Choir Rehearsal

6:00 NO Youth Dinner and Fellowship

### COMMUNITY LIFE

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS - The Church office will close at noon on Christmas Eve and reopen at 9:00am on Tuesday, December 29. For New Year's, the office will close at noon on Thursday, December 31 and reopen on Monday, January 4. The Cornwell Center will close at 6:00pm on December 23 and reopen on Sunday, December 27 at noon. They will close at 6:00pm on December 31 and reopen at 7:30am on Saturday, January 2.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING on January 31 in Heaton Hall following worship. Lunch will be provided.

### FAITH FORMATION

ADVENT BOOKLETS are available through December 24. This year's booklet consists of stories of hope, peace, joy and love (the weekly themes of the season) submitted by members of our faith community. You are invited to pick up a printed copy of the booklet in Heaton Hall Foyer, the Narthex, Church Office Reception Area or the Cornwell Center Lobby OR follow the Advent Blog on the Church website. Daily entries from the blog will also be posted on the Church Facebook page. Journey with us this season of Advent!

CONNECTIONS PROPOSALS FOR WINTER/SPRING - Do you have a great idea for a small group? Are you willing to host a potluck meal? Let us know about your idea or your willingness to host (any kind of small group) by completing the proposal form available online ([www.mpbconline.org](http://www.mpbconline.org)) before December 31. Questions? Contact Pam Johnson, Connections SLG Chair, [pbrhj@gmail.com](mailto:pbrhj@gmail.com).

JEWISH/CHRISTIAN DIALOG will take place on Sunday, January 10, from 4:00-5:30pm at Temple Beth El. The topic is "Everyday Hate: Confronting Prejudice" as a panel discussion moderated by Ed Williams, followed by an opportunity for dialog and comments by Reverend Robin Coira and Rabbi Judy Schindler. This event is free and open to the public.

### FINANCIAL RESOURCES

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2016 - It is not too late to make a pledge toward our 2016 budget. Turn in your pledge card today or go to [www.mpbconline.org](http://www.mpbconline.org) and click on Nex† to make your pledge.

### OUTREACH

9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OATMEAL AND CANNED FOOD DRIVE - now through January 15. We are collecting all types of canned goods and non-perishables, as well as 5-lbs or larger of: oatmeal, flour, grits, and sugar (white or brown). Drop-off locations are The Cornwell Center and Heaton Hall Foyer. Monetary donations to MPBC (please note "Oatmeal Drive 2015/16). Details: Bob Bishop, 980.613.2573 or [bobbishopuk@gmail.com](mailto:bobbishopuk@gmail.com).

ROOM IN THE INN (RITI) continues through the end of March. We open our doors on Saturday evenings and provide shelter for our neighbors who are homeless. We need your help. Please volunteer to: be an overnight host, provide a meal, or drive the church van. You may sign up on our website, [www.mpbconline.org](http://www.mpbconline.org), or on the bulletin board in Heaton Hall Foyer. Would you like to be more involved in RITI? Consider being a RITI Captain by helping coordinate one (or more) weekends for our RITI ministry. Contact Cheri Lindblom for details, [clindblom@mpbconline.org](mailto:clindblom@mpbconline.org).

### **WORSHIP AND MUSIC**

MUSIC TOGETHER® REGISTRATION FOR WINTER SESSION is now open for all interested families. Classes are available on Mondays at 4:00 and 5:15pm beginning January 11 and running for 8 weeks excluding MLK Monday. You can register and pay online at <https://mpbconline.org/music-together/>.

ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, we will gather in Heaton Hall as a congregation for an informal, family-friendly service at 11:00am, celebrating the first Sunday in Christmastide. Familiar carols, the reading of scripture and prayers will engage both young and old. There will be no Faith Formation for children, youth or adults. We invite everyone to the worship service.

### **THE CORNWELL CENTER**

FIRE SALE! Purchase (pre-pay) for 3 months membership to The Cornwell Center and receive a fourth free. Available between Sunday, December 27 and Wednesday, December 30 at 5:00pm.

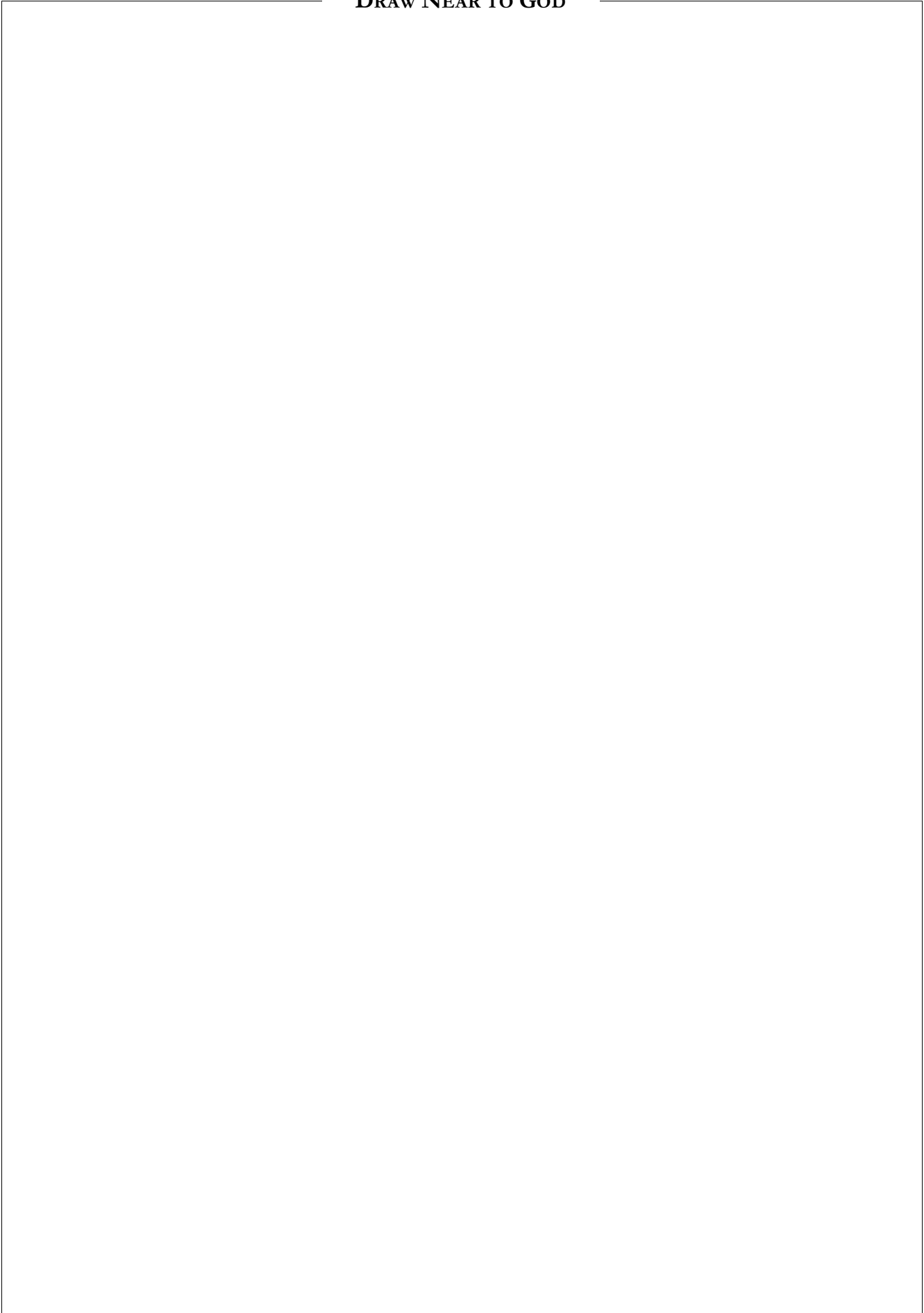
GIVE THE GIFT OF WELLNESS: TRANSFORM120 - Transform your life in 120 days. Commit to getting healthier by participating in a structured, fitness/wellness-focused package/program. This package includes personalized fitness, nutrition, breathing/deep stretch, massage, health coaching, expert support, peer support, and accountability. Jump start your health transformation at The Cornwell Center. Or give the gift that keeps on giving – the gift of wellness.

WIN-WIN, REFER A FRIEND - One month free for you and a friend. Do you know someone who might love and appreciate the Cornwell Center as much as you do? When they become members now through December 31, you will both gain a free one month membership. Grab a few invitation cards at our Welcome Desk, or check [www.cornwellcenter.org](http://www.cornwellcenter.org) for more details.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

December 27: THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMASTIDE; THE REVEREND CARRIE VEAL PREACHING  
8:30 Charlotte Community of Mindfulness Meditation Group, Room 27  
9:45 NO Children's, Youth or Adult Sunday Morning Faith Formation  
11:00 Family-Friendly Worship in Heaton Hall, children welcome  
12:00 Coffee Fellowship/Guest Welcome  
5:00 NO Youth Choir Rehearsal  
6:00 NO Youth Dinner and Fellowship

**DRAW NEAR TO GOD**



## THE MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

We, the members of the Myers Park Baptist Church, are a people on a journey of faith. By God's grace we are experiencing God's love through Jesus Christ and in the community of the faithful. We are discovering in this experience our freedom to become new creatures and our responsibility to be faithful stewards of our lives and of this world.

We will be open to all new light, strengthened by God and each other in our faith. We will sustain a critical examination of Scripture, belief and ritual as interpreters of God's active presence in the world. We will accept controversy as a reality of life together and an opportunity for growth toward maturity. We covenant to be a community of God's new creation and affirm that we are open to all and closed to none.

We covenant to nurture this church as a community of faith and as an instrument for reconciliation in this world: by worship, by Christian education, by the dedication of our personal and material resources and by all the other ways we express the significance of our lives with God and one another.

We covenant together to be priests celebrating God's presence in community and in the world, believing we are participants in God's kingdom on earth.

### THE 2015-2016 BOARD OF DEACONS

TODD RUBENSON, *Chair* • JANET MILLER, *Chair-Elect* • LYNN TRENNING, *Secretary*

CLASS OF 2016	CLASS OF 2017	CLASS OF 2018	ACTIVE LIFE DEACONS
Dale Allison	Kathy Bahnson	Judy Bratton	Bonnie Banks
Britt Canady	Nancy Culp	Leslie Clark	Gloria Gibson
George Currin	Scott Haenni	Koren Cranford	Tom Holmes
Gene Doar	Richard Harris	Lalla Dabbs	Barbara Linney
Vikki Hunley	Tom Jones	Dave Dougherty	Jane Lucas
Barbara Linney	Patsy Kinsey	Doug Driggers	Ted Lucas
Lisa Rubenson	Debby Love	Charlie Elberson	Barbara Mishoe
Jeanne Steele	Regan Miller	Gary Morrison	Ray Owens
Marji Tate	Cathryn Rivers	Susan Salvin	Carol Pearsall
Lynn Trenning	Chris Skardon	Cherrie Shoemaker	Richard Pearsall
Ed Williams	Tobie Steele	Cam Wester	Bob Thomason
	Steve Woodard	Chris William	Tillie Tice
			Dan White

### THE MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

1900 *Queens Road* • Charlotte, North Carolina 28207-2582

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### MINISTERS

*As priests to one another, all members of the congregation are ministers. Some are called out for particular places of service:*

THE REVEREND MR. JOSEPH D. ALDRICH, *Associate Minister*

SHARON BREMER, *Director of Stewardship*

THE REVEREND MS. ROBIN PATERSON COIRA, *Executive Minister*

MARIAH B. CURRIN, *Director of New Member Ministry*

BELINDA GEUSS, *Director of Through-The-Week School*

THE REVEREND MR. CHRIS HUGHES, *Minister of Youth*

CHERI LINDBLOM, *Director of Outreach*

DR. MATTHEW MANWARREN, *Organist*

THE REVEREND MR. BARRY ZANE METZGER, *Church Administrator*

FRANCES L. MORRISON, *Associate Minister of Music*

DEBORAH A. STEINER, *Music Associate for Children*

THE REVEREND MS. CARRIE VEAL, *Minister of Children*

THE REVEREND MS. CHRISSY TATUM WILLIAMSON, *Minister of Faith Formation*

JENNY YOPP, *Director of The Cornwall Center*