



JAN. 2023  
EDITION

# The Chimes

SHARING STORIES AND NEWS FROM  
UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CHAPEL HILL



## PICTURES FROM ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Lessons and Carols, Tea and Stories, and more! | p. 4-6

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Feb. 17-19 at Ocean Isle Beach | p. 12

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[vimeo.com/upcch](https://vimeo.com/upcch)

## Our Staff

**Meg Peery McLaughlin**, Co-Pastor

**Jarrett McLaughlin**, Co-Pastor

**Ryan Byrnes**, Director of Operations

**Johnny Clay**, Sexton

**Erin Collier**, Dir. of Communications & Stewardship

**Peter Costa**, Financial Manager

**Dennis Dallke**, Operations Assistant

**Bob Dunham**, Pastor Emeritus

**Joey Fala**, Director of Music Ministry

**Berry French**, Associate Pastor for Campus Ministry

**Hadley Kifner**, Pastor for Spiritual Nurture

**Kim McNeill**, Staff Associate for Youth Ministries

**Nancy Myer**, Staff Associate for Children's Ministries

**Ellen Parker**, Director, UPPS

**Sara Richard**, Office Administrator

**Melani Willhite**, Financial Assistant

### BREATH PRAYER

*Inhale:*

Be our daily star, O God,

*Exhale:*

guiding our lives to shine  
your Love.

UNIVERSITY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CHapel Hill, North Carolina

**Cover Photo: Fun and fellowship at the Advent Brunch (Dec. 11, 2022)**



# Pastor's Message



**Jarrett McLaughlin**  
*Co-Pastor*

A few weeks back, somebody in the church asked me “What is UPC up to these days with our Outreach?” It was a signal that we can always be more overt in naming and claiming what it is we are doing beyond the walls of our church. In a few short weeks we will publish our Annual Report looking back on 2022 and you can see what we’ve been up to this past year, but allow me to use this space to unpack a little bit of our process.

Outreach decisions at UPC are made by one of two committees. The Local Outreach Committee brings shape to our mission both here in Chapel Hill and in other parts of the US. Partnerships that are across borders in places like Haiti, Malawi and Palestine are nurtured by the Global Outreach Committee. If you have any interest in learning more about what it means to serve on either of these committees I would invite you to please be in touch with me. That said, you do not have to be on the committee to engage in outreach. There are ample opportunities to do more some hands-on kind of work that suits your passion and gifts.

The impulse to increase volunteer engagement was actually a major motivator for why Local Outreach has undergone an extensive discernment process for the past couple years. UPC has a rich tradition of putting boots on the ground in service to our community. Obviously the pandemic disrupted those routines and we settled into a pattern of funding with less emphasis on volunteerism. In order to protect ourselves from becoming a “check-writing only church,” we took a good, hard look at our outreach commitments and resolved to reconnect with our partners and discern which programs and partnerships we felt drawn to on the other side of COVID. We divided the committee into two Impact teams – one to study hunger ministries and the other to examine affordable housing programs.

Both teams interviewed executive directors and program leaders from various non-profits and even conducted some site visits when possible. The teams did this work with an eye towards impact (which organizations had good, measurable outcomes), vision (which ones were adapting creatively to the changing context presented by COVID and other factors) and most definitely volunteerism (which ones could engage members of UPC in meaningful service). The teams then met and prayerfully discussed and discerned and ultimately made recommendations to the whole committee for how we might re-organize our money in light of this process. The outreach budget, however, is not the end goal.

Jesus once said “where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21), so after re-organizing our funding, the work turned to how we might get our hands and hearts lined up behind our mission investments. To illustrate, the Hunger Team discerned that we would maintain our historic commitment to the IFC shelter and community kitchen, deepen our relationship with TABLE, and engage a new partnership with the Society of St. Andrew. This past fall we asked the church to participate in the Hunger Challenge, offering opportunities to pack meals with Rise Against Hunger (an organization with a more global focus), donate food to TABLE, and glean sweet potatoes with the Society of St. Andrew. Most of those opportunities are what I would call ‘episodic,’ and we need lots of episodic volunteers. This would be a good time to mention that beginning in February we will be organizing monthly shifts for families to serve at TABLE together. (ctd. p. 3)



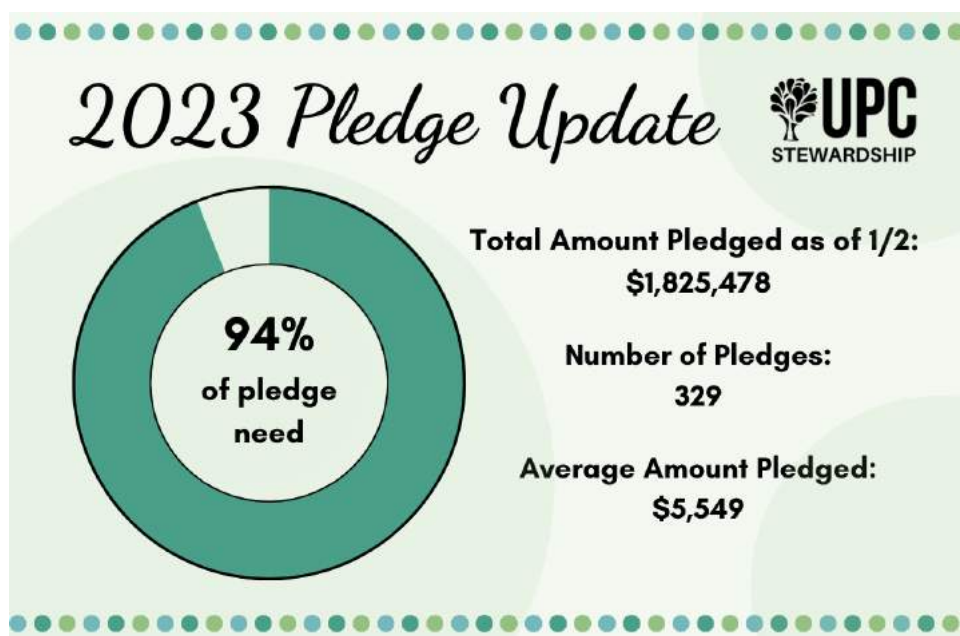
# Pastor's Message (ctd.)

If you have an appetite for something more than episodic volunteering we also have plenty of opportunities for more sustained engagement. For decades, UPC has sent groups to the IFC shelter to cook dinner on the third Thursday of each month. We always have a need for new volunteers for that team, and if there was enough interest and leadership, we could take on an additional lunch or dinner shift. TABLE always needs weekly drivers to deliver food to the families with children that they serve. Meals on Wheels never has enough drivers to deliver meals and check in on the seniors in our community. There are many ways to address hunger in an on-going fashion.

The Housing Impact team's season will be upon us soon. They discerned a renewed interest in Habitat for Humanity in light of their ambitious Weavers Grover project that is more than a decade in the making. For some time, it has been difficult for Habitat to find land in Chapel Hill to build homes but thanks to the foresight of their leadership many years ago, they began to stitch together a 32-acre property here in Chapel Hill that will break ground later this Spring as a planned community with mixed income housing – 100 Habitat homes built alongside more than 100 market rate homes. The Housing Impact team will host a Sunday School class on the topic of housing in February and to kick it off, Jennifer Player, who serves as Executive Director of Orange County Habitat for Humanity, will join us to share about this exciting project and how UPC can put boots on the ground to actualize this dream across the next five years.

If you would like to have a conversation about UPC's outreach and where you might see yourself fitting in please contact me (jarett@upcch.org) to set up a time to meet. UPC has a rich history of engaging in healthy and transformative outreach. Together, let's keep that tradition going well into the future.

## Stewardship Update



Thank you to everyone who has pledged thus far for 2023!

During the week of Jan. 9, our Administration Committee and Session will be finalizing the 2023 budget. A key element of that process is finalizing our pledge total.

While pledges are accepted at any time, would you consider submitting your pledge by Sunday, January 8, so we can include it in our total pledge amount and ensure that our leaders have the most accurate pledge information? Visit [upcch.org/stewardship](https://upcch.org/stewardship) to learn more and pledge today!



# Lessons & Carols and the Advent Brunch





# Tea & Stories

Photography credit: Jack Benjamin



# Christmas Eve

Photography credit: Brian Vandersea





# Christmas JOY at UPC!



No 2022 UPC Christmas Collage is complete without a picture of our new boiler! It was installed just in time for the below-freezing temps on Christmas Eve. Many thanks to the Property Committee who worked so hard for us to have heat once again, and to the Endowment Committee and all who gave to the Facility Maintenance Fund to help us be able to purchase not just one, but two new boilers! (Boiler #2 will be installed soon!)



# Worship in January

## New Sermon Series begins Jan. 8

Ever wondered what baggage you needed to drop in order to hold fast to the Gospel?

Richard Rohr once said that "All mature spirituality, in one sense or another, is about letting go and unlearning."

Join us in worship in the New Year as we ask:

Jan 8: Do I have to believe in Predestination?

Jan 15: Do I have to believe in Hell?

Jan 22: Do I have to believe the earth was created in 7 days?

Jan 29: Do I have to believe 🎵 "I'm a Sinner Born, I'm a Sinner Bred. . ."

Feb 5: Do I have to believe that Jesus is the only way?



## Officer Ordination and Installation (Jan. 8)

Join us for worship on Jan. 8 as we ordain and install our new Deacons and Elders, blessing them as they begin their terms as elected officers who lead and care for our congregation. Those to be ordained/installed are:

### Elders:

Debbie Bevin	Nancy Oates
Lyn Billings	Robert Owen
Mike Edmiston	Naomi Sherry
Nate Garber	John "Spencer" Spencer
Bob Mosteller	Ben Urick

### Deacons:

Laura Aycok	Mary Norris Oglesby
Marla Dunham	April Smithwick
Jim Evans	Chip Sudderth
Mike Hammersley	Beth Visser
Bob Johnson	Ashley Wallace
Karen Morrell	

## Taizé (Jan. 10, 7:00 pm)

Lasting about 30 mins, a Taizé service includes chant-like simple songs sung repeatedly, surrounded by brief periods of silence, Scripture, and prayer. We invite you to come as you are and invite anyone else who may desire a simple evening of singing, praying, and sacred reflection in the Sanctuary.





# Adult Education Opportunities in January

*Classes meet at 9:45 am on Sundays, resuming on Jan. 8*

## Crossroads (Bible Study Discussion)

### ***Meets in Dunham Hall***

Since 2019, Crossroads has brought together multiple generations of UPC members to reflect on scripture and what it means to be a disciple of Christ. Each week's discussion provides an enriching opportunity for fellowship and shared examination of various Biblical texts illuminated by leading theologians, Biblical commentators, and well-respected spiritual leaders. All ages are welcome!



## Stillwaters (Spiritual Formation Experience)

### ***Meets in Vance Barron Hall***

Stillwaters, a Sunday School class that kicked off at the start of the program year, has plans to continue into 2023. This class focuses on spiritual reflection and formation, featuring different practices - both ancient and modern - at each gathering. So far, the class has learned together about the daily examen, lectio divina, breath prayer, contemplative prayer, imaginative prayer, sacred music, and mindfulness. In the new year, there are plans to offer sessions on praying with the body led by Rev. Molly Morgan, sacred silence, spiritual autobiography, nature walks, and more. All ages are welcome!



## Rotation Class (Short-Term Topical Classes)

### **Jan. 8: RIP Medical Debt (Terrace Room)**

Join us for a special class on Jan. 8 as we learn more about how we can help relieve medical debt in North Carolina. Part of our Christmas Eve offering went toward the Presbytery's RIP Medical Debt campaign kickstarted by First Presbyterian Church of Durham. For every \$1 donated, \$100 of medical debt is forgiven. FPC member Sharon Hirsch will be here to share more about this campaign and how it intersects with their racial equity learning.

RIP  
MEDICAL  
DEBT

### **Jan. 29: Presby 101 (Fellowship Hall)**

Are you new to UPC, new to the Presbyterian denomination, or just curious to know more about what it means to be part of the PC(USA)? Throughout the year, we offer periodic stand-alone classes about what it means to be Presbyterian! Join us on January 8th in the Fellowship Hall. The topic this time will be Scripture. The Presbyterian Church (USA) offers helpful tools for how to interpret scripture. This class would be a great gathering for anyone new to our church and anyone who has ever been in or overheard an argument about "what the Bible says."



# Other January Opportunities

## Regular Sunday Schedule Resumes Jan. 8

Don't forget that our regular schedule resumes on January 8! We have opportunities for all ages:

- 8:30 am - Worship
- 9:45 am - Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am - Worship
- 4:30 pm - Alleluia Choir & Choristers
- 5:00 pm - Youth Choir
- 6:00 pm - Youth Group Family Night



## Second Sunday Lunch (Jan. 8)



Join us for a potluck fellowship lunch in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, Jan. 8!

A reminder of the details:

- The church will provide a main dish and beverages. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert for approximately 12 people. Please be generous!
- Drop off your food in the Fellowship Hall prior to 11:00 am worship.
- Please remember to label your dishes and serving spoons with your name if you'd like to have them back, and pick them up at the end of lunch.
- If your contribution contains allergens or is suitable for those with special dietary needs, please add labels such as "gluten-free," "contains peanuts/tree nuts," or "vegetarian."
- Are you a new member, student, or visitor? No need to bring anything — just join us for the food and fellowship!

## Called Congregational Meeting (Jan. 22)

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 22, after the 11:00 am worship service to receive the 2022 Annual Report to the Congregation, to hear a report on the State of the Church, and to act on proposed changes in the installed pastors' terms of call. The Annual Report will be distributed electronically prior to the meeting.





# Great Music *in* WORSHIP & CONCERT

UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CHAPEL HILL

Daniel Caudill, *piper*

## Bagpipes +

Award-winning piper Daniel Caudill  
presents a varied program for  
Bagpipes and Scottish Smallpipes

Saturday, January 21st  
4:00 pm

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

University Presbyterian Church  
209 East Franklin Street

# Welcome, New Members!



## **Vicky & Bob Borden**

*Vicky and Bob Borden moved to the Cedars two years ago this January. They lived in Greensboro for over 50 years where they were members of First Presbyterian Church. They have three daughters; one in Chapel Hill (Lou and Marc Pons), one in Raleigh, and one in Los Angeles, and 6 grandchildren - whom they adore and who adore them!*



## **Allie & Jordan Broman-Fulks Eaddy, Brooks, Emsy, Luke**

*Allie and Jordan grew up together as members of a Presbyterian church in the upstate of South Carolina. Their family hobbies include following college sports and anything that gets them outdoors. They are excited to join an active church community.*



## **Joanne & Roger Burns**

*Joanne and Roger are both retired management consultants and moved here to be close to their kids. They have 3 adult children and 7 grandchildren. They enjoy playing tennis and golf. They look forward to being a part of the church community.*



## **Greg & Vicky Burriss**

*Greg & Vicky live in Pittsboro. Vicky works as an executive assistant at the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy, and Greg is in his second year as a 7th grade Social Studies teacher. They have two grown children, daughter Bethany Vaughn (married to Kevin) and son Daniel, and two rescued cats, Lily and Oliver. They enjoy being part of the Chancel Choir.*



## **Sam & Sarah Sakai**

**Kazi, Tai, Kaede, Hanalie**  
*Sam and Sarah met at UNC - Sam is in medicine, and Sarah stays home with their children- she was previously in Education. They moved to Burlington eight months prior to the start of COVID. The family is in the CH area from Friday to Sunday each week so their children can attend Japanese school.*



# Register for the Women's Retreat (Feb. 17-19)



*I'm longing to see you! I want to share with you some spiritual blessing to give you strength; that is, I want to encourage you, and be encouraged by you, in the faith you and I share. -*

Romans 1: 11-12

Last year's annual women's retreat theme was "Breath for the Bone Tired" and we focused on how to refresh and renew our spirits when we feel exhausted by all that is required of us, especially in the most recent context of the

pandemic and political divisions. This year, we want to continue deepening our spiritual lives as individual children of God and the collective body of Christ - and we want to have some fun! This year's theme, Joy!, will ground our weekend and lead us through time of fellowship and faith formation in Ocean Isle Beach. There will be unhurried time for small group conversations, creative activities, happy hours, walks on the beach, spiritual reflection, naps, singing and praying, and laughing.

This retreat is an invitation to remember that "the joy of the Lord is our strength" (Nehemiah 8:10) and that we were created in God's image to love deeply and live fully. Come with us!

Space is limited. Register on Realm via the church website at [upcch.org/womens-retreat](https://upcch.org/womens-retreat). Or Contact Hadley Kifner at [hadley@upcch.org](mailto:hadley@upcch.org).

## Youth Musical - Godspell (Feb. 10-11)

On February 10 and 11, the UPC Youth Choir will tell the parables of Jesus in a high-energy musical based upon the gospel of Matthew. The 1971 show combined Episcopal priest John-Michael Tebelak's original script with a playful yet powerful score by Stephen Schwartz, including favorites such as "Day by Day," "Save the People" and "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord." This year's production is directed by our PYC seniors: Sarah Bozyski, Zane Buckner, Ward Mann, Bella Moshier, and Rachel Vandersea. Doors to the sanctuary open at 7 pm, showtime is at 7:30 pm. Free and open to the public. No tickets required. Please note: the show will be neither livestreamed nor recorded due to copyright policy.



# Grief Group beginning Jan. 18



Author Sue Monk Kidd said that “There is no pain on earth that does not crave a benevolent witness.”

Join us as we hold one another's journeys of grief up to God's light through a 6-week grief group. Facilitated by Meg Peery McLaughlin and Hadley Kifner, the group will be equal parts peer support, grief education, healing activities, and spiritual sustenance.

This group will meet on Wednesdays, Jan. 18 - Feb. 22 at the church. (Exact meeting time is TBD, based on participants' schedules.)

Email [hadley@upcch.org](mailto:hadley@upcch.org) to sign up.

## Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women are gathering in January for their monthly meetings. All women are welcome!

**Circle # 1:** Wed., Jan. 4 at 10:00 am at the home of Lee Ann Buck.

Contact: Diane Rizzo ([rizzod1970@gmail.com](mailto:rizzod1970@gmail.com) or 919 357-6128)

**Circle # 2:** Mon., Jan. 9 at 10:00 am in the Game Room at Carolina Meadows.

Contact: Shelley Adams ([shelleyhadams@gmail.com](mailto:shelleyhadams@gmail.com) or 919 942-2525)

**Circle # 3:** Tues., Jan. 10 at 10:00 am at the home of Marion Johnson.

Contact: Gail Norwood Kinder ([gailnorwood@me.com](mailto:gailnorwood@me.com) or 919 259-5955)

**Circle # 4:** Tues., Jan. 3 at 3:15 pm in Chapel in the Pines or by Zoom.

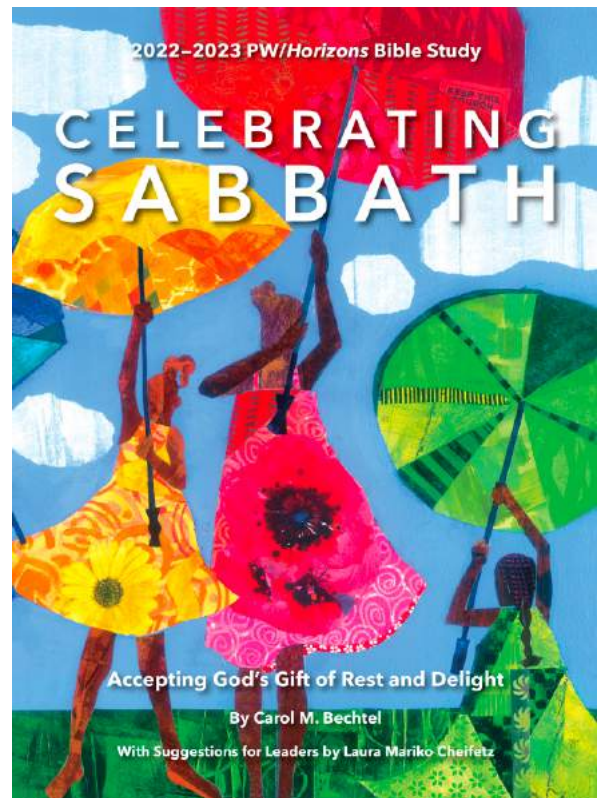
Contact: Susie Smith ([snyncks@gmail.com](mailto:snyncks@gmail.com) or 757-274-2551)

**Circle # 5:** Wed., Jan. 4 at 7:00 pm at a home TBD.

Contact: Mary Ellen Olson ([maryeolson27@gmail.com](mailto:maryeolson27@gmail.com) or 919 302-1426)

**Circle # 6:** Thurs., Jan. 19th at 10:00 am in the Heron Room at Carol Woods.

Contact: Helen Brantley ([hbrantle@gmail.com](mailto:hbrantle@gmail.com) or 919 918-3692)





# Children's Ministry

## Family Game Night - Jan. 27

Join us on Friday, January 27, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for Family Game Night!

We will have lots of GIANT board games available to play... and you are welcome to bring a favorite board game from home. \$10 per family for dinner; pizza and drinks will be provided. Visit [upcch.org/pyps](http://upcch.org/pyps) to sign up!



## Kids' Shifts at TABLE

Families with kids: looking for a way to serve together? Starting in February, the 4th Monday of the month will be a UPC kids' shift at TABLE - sorting and packing bags of food for families in need. Look for more details later this month about how to sign up.



# Presbyterian Youth Connection

## Spring & Summer Trip Registrations close soon!

Have you signed up yet for these trips? Registration for the High School Sabbath Retreat, Massanetta Middle School Conference, and Montreat Worship & Music Conference close on January 15. Visit [upcch.org/trips](http://upcch.org/trips) for more information and to register today! (Did you miss the deadline for Montreat Youth Conference? Email Kim McNeill [[kim@upcch.org](mailto:kim@upcch.org)] ASAP to see if there is still room!)



### HS SABBATH RETREAT

For 9th-12th grade  
an NC lake or beach (TBA)

**April 14-16, \$300**  
**Register by: Jan. 15**



### MASSANETTA MS CONFERENCE

For completed 6th-8th grade  
Massanetta Springs, VA

**July 11-14, \$450**  
**Register by: Jan. 15**



### MONTREAT WORSHIP & MUSIC

For rising 4th-completed 12th  
Montreat, NC

**June 18-24, \$500**  
**Register by: Jan. 15**

# Submit Nominations for Deacons & Elders

The congregation is invited to nominate members of UPC for the office of Elder and Deacon for the Nominating Committee to consider as they prepare a slate for the next three-year term (2024-2026). You can submit names online ([upcch.org/nominating](https://upcch.org/nominating)) or contact any member of the committee: Brian Curran, Laura Horrigan, Sandy Grubbs, Lisa Lord, Emily Damone, Annette Munson, Bill Whisenant, Nancy Oates, Patty Baum Haydon, and staff liaison Jarrett McLaughlin.

## Nominating FAQ:

*Who may be suggested as a candidate?*

All members are eligible for nomination.

*Who may recommend a candidate?*

Any member of UPC may recommend candidates.

*Do I need permission from the candidate before I submit his or her name?*

No, the Nominating Committee will verify candidates' willingness to serve before they are nominated. (You need prior permission only if you choose to make a nomination from the floor during a congregational meeting.)

*May I submit my own name?*

Yes.

## Session Update

In December, the UPC Session:

- Approved one baptism and accepted five families into membership
- Examined and welcomed the incoming classes of Elders and Deacons (pictured)
- Received a report from the Stewardship Committee on the state of the pledge drive, with very positive results of having reached 90% of the goal at this point
- Heard from the Property Committee on boiler installation set to begin December 12 with heat by the Christmas Eve services
- Approved the UPPS 2023 budget and 2023/24 tuition changes
- Approved the updated Nursery guidelines
- Received the Treasurer's Report. Optimistic for a strong December to meet the 2022 budget
- A letter of appreciation was read to the outgoing Elders – Mellicent Blythe, Katherine Bouldin, Jeff Howard, Alison Kavanaugh, Ken Krzyzewski, Vicki Lotz, Bella Moshier, Laura Piver, and Lee White



A PC(U.S.A.) Congregation

UNIVERSITY  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

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