



AUGUST 2023  
EDITION

# The Chimes

SHARING STORIES AND NEWS FROM  
UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CHAPEL HILL



## PICTURES FROM SUMMER 2023 EVENTS

Montreat, VBS, Massanetta,  
ASP, and more | p. 3-7

## WE HAVE A DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES!

Meet Tristan Wall, joining us at  
the end of August | p. 8

## HOLY LAND 2024 REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Join us for this meaningful  
journey | p. 11

## In this Edition...

Pastor's Message.....	2
Summer 2023 Pictures.....	3-7
Meet our New Director of Youth Ministries.....	8
Opportunities in August.....	9
Rise Against Hunger Event.....	10
Program Year Preview: Choirs.....	10
Holy Land 2024 Trip.....	11
Meet our New Members.....	12
Thomas Brown Recital Series.....	13
Meet our New Music Scholars.....	14
Presbyterian Women.....	15
Session Report.....	15

## Find us online!



[upcch.org](http://upcch.org)



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



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



[@upc\\_chapelhill](https://@upc_chapelhill)

## 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

**Bob Dunham**, Pastor Emeritus

**Joey Fala**, Director of Music Ministry

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

**Hadley Kifner**, Pastor for Spiritual Nurture

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

**Ellen Parker**, Director, UPPS

**Sara Richard**, Office Administrator

**Melani Willhite**, Financial Assistant

## Save the Dates for:

**Work Day at Spring Forest** - Sept. 23, 2023

**Advent Craft Festival** - Dec. 3, 2023

**Advent Taizé Retreat** - Dec. 6-8, 2023

**Lessons and Carols** - Dec. 10, 2023

**Women's Retreat** - Feb. 16-18, 2024

**Vacation Bible School** - June 17-20, 2024

**Montreat Worship & Music** - June 23-29, 2024

**Massanetta Middle School Conference** -  
July 11-14, 2024

**Montreat Youth Conference** - July 21-27, 2024

*We'll share more details as these events get closer,  
but mark your calendars now!*



# Pastor's Message



**Meg Peery McLaughlin**  
*Co-Pastor*

Last week while I was eating lunch at Carolina Meadows with the ladies from Circle 2, someone jokingly said, “I think God is enjoying vacation; at least he only has to show up for one service in the summer.” Now, God doesn’t vacate our lives—ever—but I am grateful that built into the rhythm of creation is rest, and I pray you all have gotten some this summer. When things lie fallow, God makes room for new life.

I’ve seen that in our Memorial Garden. We completed the big waterproofing project last summer, and this past June we added a new granite wall under the bay window. Between these two projects, everything on the parlor side of the garden had to get ripped up. But in this disruption time, the Garden Committee has worked with a Master Gardener to create a new plan for planting and lighting, which we will implement in the fall when the ground is ready.

I want to tell you about another effort that has been quietly underway. Back in the fall, the Session commissioned a Vision Team to begin the work of discerning the shape of a possible future capital campaign. The team has met with representatives from internal groups—Property Committee, Administration Committee, Endowment Committee, and PCM—as well as hearing presentations from a number of our mission partners. We have also invited the input of a liturgical architect to help us refresh our space.

Right now, the group is split into three working groups. One is discerning how best to manage our money regarding our physical plant and planning for maintenance in the future (we’ll need a chiller soon). The second is working on our clear communication to the Session and to you, the congregation. And the third is working on what is needed in the Sanctuary (have you seen the paint peeling from the ceiling?) and what is hoped for in terms of a renovation of Vance Barron Hall (we anticipate transforming it into a Chapel with flexible seating).

I would imagine this team will recommend to the Session an upcoming capital campaign, perhaps beginning in 2025. This would mean our work would be completed in time to poise UPC for her next chapter of ministry—both within the walls and outside of them—in anticipation of our bicentennial in 2029.

Please reach out with any questions. I am happy to talk about any of this!

In these dog-days of summer, as your own routine is disrupted and you are hopefully getting some rest, I wonder what God is working on in quiet, readying you for new life?

*Meg*



#### **UPC Vision Team Members:**

Martha Aldridge, Jeff Howard,  
Beth Keith, Jay Klompmaker,  
Gordon Merklein, Than Powell,  
Donna VanEngen



# Summer 2023: Montreat Youth Conference

10 high school youth attended the Montreat Youth Conference, complete with a hike up Lookout Mountain.





# Summer 2023: Montreat Worship & Music

26 children and youth spent a rainy week in Montreat, making music together and having fun!





# Summer 2023: Vacation Bible School

76 children and a whole bunch of youth and adults gathered at New Hope Camp for a week of learning about and celebrating God's great, big, beautiful world!





# Summer 2023: Massanetta (Middle School)

7 middle schoolers spent time at Massanetta at their Middle School Conference! It was a week of worship, learning, fellowship, and fun together.



Can you spot our new Youth Director in the background of the group picture? Yes, Tristan was at Massanetta at the same time as our group...but because the news of his hiring was not yet public, he couldn't officially introduce himself as our new DYM. But, he and Nancy organized this secret photo bomb...so now this group can claim they were the first to take a picture with Tristan!



# Summer 2023: Appalachia Service Project

34 youth and adults traveled to Sullivan County, TN, to serve with Appalachia Service Project, an organization that works to make homes warmer, safer, and drier.





# Meet our new Director of Youth Ministries!

WE HAVE A DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES!!!

Meet Tristan Wall. You can read his personal message below, but the search team is very excited to introduce Tristan to the UPC family and I am personally thrilled to welcome him to the staff team.

The search committee met a number of wonderful and qualified candidates and discerned Tristan to be the right person to enable our ministry with youth in this season. He comes to us with the right balance of experience, enthusiasm and a deep love for the Church of Jesus Christ.



My name is Tristan Wall and I am so excited to be joining the staff at UPC this Fall! I am originally from Asheville, North Carolina, where I was born and raised on a boarding school campus. I was deeply involved in the life of my church growing up, where you could find me ringing handbells, reading scripture, and bouncing around the hallways on any given Sunday.

I attended the University of North Carolina at Charlotte where I majored in Religious Studies with a minor in Spanish. I began my professional youth ministry journey during college at First Presbyterian Church of Charlotte, where I served as the Youth Ministry Intern for two years. After school I spent a year working and living in Albuquerque, New Mexico, through the PCUSA's Young Adult Volunteer program, before moving back to Charlotte again to return to youth ministry in my current position as the full time Director of Youth Ministry at First Presbyterian.



In my free time you can find me playing Disc Golf, exploring outdoors, listening to my favorite musical artists, or finding ways to connect with family and friends near and far. I have a deep love for Massanetta Springs, Montreat, and everywhere else in between, and I am beyond blessed to be called to work in youth ministry and to be continuing this journey at UPC! Looking forward to meeting and beginning the journey with everyone soon!

Tristan will begin his work among us on August 28 and will certainly hit the ground running (after all, it is the first day of classes for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro schools).

If you would like to send a personal message of welcome, it is never difficult to find people on the internet and that would certainly be welcome, but I do ask us all to remember that right now Tristan's energy will be with the students and families of First Presbyterian, Charlotte. It is no easy thing to leave a community you have loved and served well, so I encourage us to pray for the First Charlotte community, especially their young people, and for Tristan as he closes a chapter of ministry there.

I also encourage us not to draw him into matters of planning or organizing youth ministry matters at UPC just yet. While it may not feel like there is plenty of it, there will be time enough for us to get the wheels rolling for the coming year at UPC.

Thank you for joining me in welcoming Tristan to the UPC family.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Samuel", written in a cursive style.



# Opportunities in August

## Intergenerational Sunday School: The Gospel According To...

**3 weeks in August, 8:45-9:45 am in Vance Barron Hall**

This August we'll take a glimpse at the Gospel in a creative way. We'll look at the good news through the lens of some of our favorite characters we've met on screen. How might Luke Skywalker, Harry Potter, and Ted Lasso help us to talk about grace and forgiveness? This will be a great class for disciples of all ages (including kids!) to enjoy.

- August 13: Harry Potter (led by Adam Lovelady)
- August 20: Star Wars (led by Kyle Beardsley)
- August 27: Ted Lasso (led by Meg Peery McLaughlin)



## Called Congregational Meeting (Aug. 27, 11 am)

There will be a called congregational meeting after worship on Sunday, Aug. 27 for the purpose of receiving a report from the Nominating Committee regarding the election of our officers. A report will be distributed via email prior to the meeting. This meeting will be in person, in the Sanctuary.

## August Sermon Series: Then Sings My Soul...

Remember the Favorite Hymn Bracket in June? We picked our four favorite hymns...and now it's time to Meg and Jarrett to preach them! Join us the four weeks in August as we hear sermons inspired by:

- August 6: For the Beauty of the Earth
- August 13: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
- August 20: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
- August 27: Be Thou My Vision





# Rise Against Hunger Packing Event (Sept. 17)



**Date:** Kickoff Sunday - Sept. 17

**Time & Location:** 9:45 am-10:45 am, Fellowship Hall

**For:** all ages (nursery care available for young children)

**Sign up:** required; visit [upcch.org/rise](http://upcch.org/rise) to sign up

**Space is limited to 130 participants**

As we kick off the program year on Sunday, Sept. 17, join your UPC family for a meal packing event to help tackle world hunger. Rise Against Hunger meal packing events provide a fun, educational way for our church to literally lend a hand to people facing hunger across the globe. Rise Against Hunger combines an assembly line process with an educational experience not only to make a huge impact worldwide, but to help us all understand how serving our neighbors is a meaningful experience. This is a truly intergenerational event, enabling people of all ages to serve.



Join us as together, we'll pack over 12,000 meals in an hour!

## Program Year Preview: Choirs

The program year kicks off on Sept. 17! We'll share more details in the weeks to come, but here's a preview of what to expect for children's and youth choirs. *(Please note the new schedules.)*



### **Alleluia Choir (Pre-K-5th grade): Sundays, 4:30-5:00 pm**

The Alleluia Choir is a place for young children to sing the faith while learning music fundamentals. This choir sings twice a semester in worship and serves as a preparatory ensemble for the UPC Chorister Program. 3rd - 5th graders who are looking for an opportunity to sing with fewer commitments are welcome to continue singing and to serve as leaders in the Alleluia Choir.



### **UPC Choristers (3rd grade and older): Sundays, 4:30-5:15 pm**

The Chorister Program is for young musicians who are interested in expanding their musicianship and leading worship on a regular basis. Choristers commit to attending regular rehearsals and singing in worship twice a month. To see if the Chorister Program may be a good fit, please contact Joey.



### **Youth Choir (6th-12th grade): Sundays, 5:15-6:00 pm**

The Youth Choir offers a place for fellowship and faith formation through music-making and prepares anthems to offer in worship alongside the Chancel Choir. Youth Choir members can also sing with the Chancel Choir and attend rehearsals on Wednesdays from 7-8:30pm.



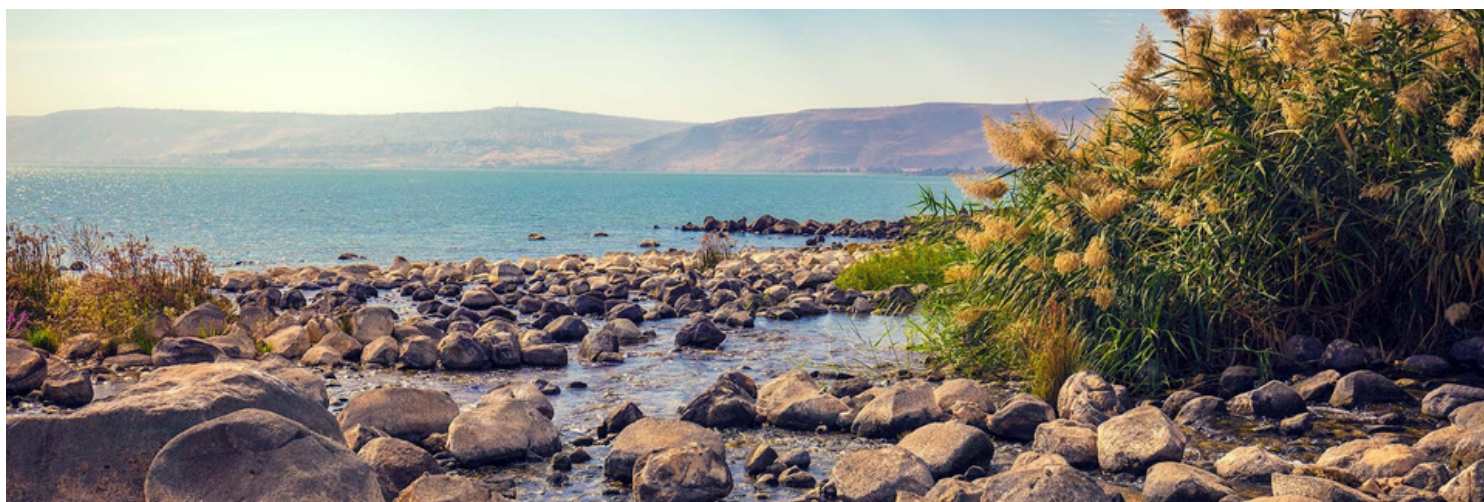
# Registration Now Open for Holy Land Trip

In the Spring of 2024 (April 30-May 10), UPC plans to take a group of pilgrims to the Holy Land. This trip will be led by Dr. Carson Brisson, professor at Union Presbyterian Seminary, with Jarrett McLaughlin and Nancy Myer attending as UPC staff.

The trip will include the following sites and activities:

Capernaum, Peter's Primacy, Mt. of Beatitudes  
Magdaia Archaeological Park  
Nazareth  
The Latin Patriarch School in Reineh  
Tel Dan/Banias (Caesarea Philippi)  
Tel Meggido  
Mt. Carmel and the Jezreel Valley  
Beit Shean  
The Ancient Boat Museum (at Nof Ginosar)  
Boat trip on the Sea of Galilee  
The Jordan River, Jericho, Mt. of Temptation  
Ein Gedi, Masada, Qumran  
Dead Sea (swim/float option)

Herodian  
Palm Sunday Road, Mt. of Olives (Group picture)  
Garden of Gethsemane, Church of All Nations  
Bethlehem-Shepherds' Fields, Church of the Nativity  
City of David, Davidson Archaeological Park  
Jerusalem Southern Steps  
Old City, Western Wall, Temple Mount, Dome of the Rock  
Pool of Bethesda, St. Anne's Church, St. Peter in Gallicantu  
Via Dolorosa, Lithostrotos-Ecce Homo, Upper Room  
Church of the Holy Sepulcher  
Yad Va'Shem Holocaust Memorial  
Israel Museum-Model of Jerusalem, Shrine of the Book  
Garden Tomb (Communion Worship)



Registration will open on August 1, and space is limited. Your first step in registering (on or after August 1) will be to complete a very simple registration form with UPC on Realm. However, you will not be officially registered until you contact the travel agent (on or after August 1) and submit your registration form, passport photocopy, and deposit.

Registration is open only to UPC members and regular visitors until October 1. If you have a friend who is not a member/regular visitor who would like to share a room with you, please contact Nancy or Jarrett. Beginning on October 1, other people outside of UPC (who are on a "waiting list" of sorts with Dr. Brisson) will be allowed to register, as space allows.

For more information about this trip, including cost, and to access the first-step registration, visit [upcch.org/holy-land](https://upcch.org/holy-land).



# Meet Our New Members



## **Liz & Dave Coccarelli (Phifer)**

Liz and Dave are both Raleigh natives who have most recently moved from Durham after each completing graduate school. Dave works in Hillsborough and Liz works in Raleigh; both are happy to be a part of the Chapel Hill community to raise their 4 month old daughter, Phifer Andrews.



## **Joey & Ivy Pointer (Chandler, Liam, Cullom)**

Joey & Ivy live in Chapel Hill with their 3 kids, Chandler, Liam, and Cullom. They attended UNC for undergrad, graduate, and medical school and have lived here since 2002, where they especially enjoy running.



## **Ron & Amparo Sizemore**

Ron and Amparo recently moved to Durham from NYC, where they owned their own business for 35 years. Longing for a slower pace of life, they fell in love with the area when their son attended Duke University. They've both become real estate agents in Chapel Hill and look forward to being a part of the Chapel Hill community.



## **Elizabeth Webb**

Elizabeth retired after working for many years at the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center in Memphis and moved to Chapel Hill to be closer to family after the death of her husband. She was brought up Presbyterian and is grateful for this church community.



## **Gil & Judy White**

Gil and Judy were part of UPC 20 years ago before they moved to Milwaukee, where Gil was Chief Science Officer and Director of the Blood Research Institute. They returned to Chapel Hill in 2020 and are thrilled to be back at UPC.



## **This could be you!**

Interested in joining UPC? Our next new member lunch will be on Sunday, September 24 at 12:00 pm. Contact Meg Peery McLaughlin ([meg@upcch.org](mailto:meg@upcch.org)) to learn more.



*"Poetic, beautiful and moving  
with deep feeling. . . A young  
Arthur Rubinstein."  
- American Liszt Society*

# Solomon Eichner

*concert pianist*



Prizewinner of the Liszt-Garrison International Competition and the Washington International Young Artists Competition, acclaimed concert artist Solomon Eichner will present a solo recital celebrating the 150th birthday of Sergei Rachmaninoff.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**University Presbyterian Church**  
209 East Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC

the **THOMAS  
BROWN**  
**RECITAL SERIES**  
UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SATURDAY  
AUGUST **26**  
**4PM**



# Welcome to Our New Music Scholars

In worship this past June, we bid farewell to Nuria Shin and Caroline Polito. Nuria, who was our soprano choral scholar from the fall of 2021 through the spring of 2023, graduated from UNC and will be pursuing a Masters of Music in opera at the University of Maryland in the fall. Caroline, who served the 2022-2023 academic year as our inaugural organ scholar music resident, will return to UNC where she has been admitted into the Masters of Public Health program and will be continuing work at the hospital. While both will be sorely missed, we wish them the best in the next chapters of their lives and give thanks for the ways they have enriched our music ministry at UPC.

This fall, we will welcome three new young artists (all sophomores at UNC) who will join our team, helping to lead worship while growing their skill sets in a sacred music context. Hania Kantzer will fill our Music Resident position while Annie Asher and Ethan Bunch will serve as choral scholars for the academic year. We are fortunate to have continued interest in these programs which has allowed for the selection of students who are not only dedicated musicians, but also good fits interpersonally and in character, aligning with the mission of our music ministry. Please read more about them below. We are also glad to welcome back alto Carrina Macaluso and bass Jackson Mosely for renewed appointments.

Choral scholars are voice students from the UNC music department who sing as section leaders within the chancel choir and assist with the children's and youth music program, gaining exposure to sacred repertoire and honing skills as a church musician. In addition to a modest scholarship stipend, choral scholars have access to our sanctuary for their degree recitals and enjoy the love and support of a church community outside of their rigorous academic life. The music resident program offers an internship opportunity for a keyboardist with an interest in liturgical music. The music resident is given free room and board in the church apartment and unrestricted access to our facilities and instruments for practice.

It is the support of our generous congregation through annual pledging that continues to make both of these initiatives possible. Let's all extend a warm UPC welcome to Hania, Annie, and Ethan when they return to Chapel Hill in August!



**Hania Kantzer** (Music Resident) is a sophomore pursuing degrees in biochemistry and in Asian studies. While at UNC, she has been able to take part in projects at the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies as well as gaining experience in archeological research on the Huqoq Excavation Project in Israel this summer. She also recently picked up playing baroque violin in the UNC Baroque Ensemble. In her free time, she enjoys attending local classical music concerts and is currently working on constructing a spinet harpsichord. She has always been passionate about sacred music, and is very excited to be working with University Presbyterian Church this year.



**Annie Ascher** (Choral Scholar) is a rising sophomore at UNC, double majoring in Public Relations/Advertising and Music. Originally from Clarendon Hills, IL (just outside of Chicago), she grew up singing in her church choir at Grace Episcopal. She loves traveling. This summer, she studied at the London School of Economics and spent time in Paris and Amsterdam. She is grateful to everyone at UPC for welcoming her into their community and is excited to start her position as a choral scholar this fall.



**Ethan Bunch** (Choral Scholar) is a sophomore voice student at UNC Chapel Hill and is pursuing a bachelor's degree in music. He has been singing for eight years and has performed in several choirs/glee groups over that time (he currently sings with the UNC Walk-Ons). When not doing musical activities, Ethan likes to build his LEGO collection and to play games online with his friends. After his undergrad years, he hopes to become a music educator for K-12 students.



# Presbyterian Women

Are you interested in getting to know other Presbyterian women who meet for fellowship and study? We will be using the Presbyterian Women study guide titled "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts". There are monthly morning and evening gatherings starting in September. All women are welcome!

**Circle 1:** Wednesday, September 6 at 10:00 am at a member's home

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

**Circle 2:** Monday, September 11 at 10:00 am in the Game Room at

Carolina Meadows (residence not required)

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

**Circle 3:** Tuesday, September 12 or October 3 at 10:00 am at a member's home

*Contact:* Mary Ann Klompmaker (maryann6543@gmail.com or 919 270-0657)

**Circle 4:** Tuesday, September 5 at 3:15 pm at Chapel in the Pines or by Zoom

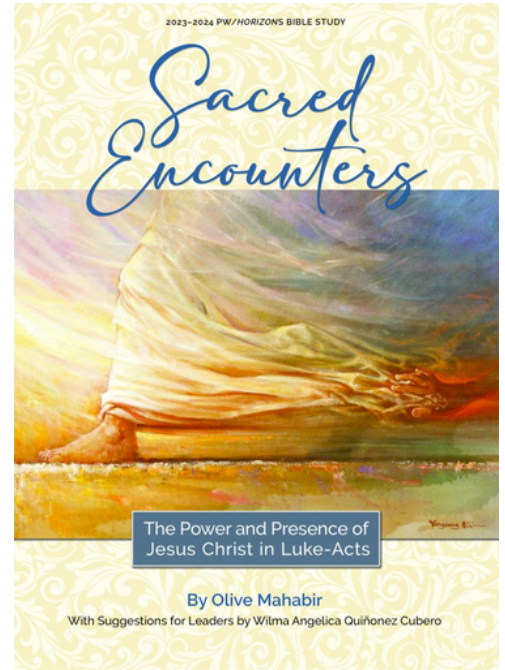
*Contact:* Susie Smith (snyncks@gmail.com or 757-274-2551)

**Circle 5:** Wednesday, September 6 at 7:00 pm at a member's home

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

**Circle 6:** Thursday, September 21 at 10:00 am in the Heron Room at Carol Woods  
(residence not required)

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



## Session Update

In June 2023, the UPC Session:

- Received the Treasurer's Report
- Approved 2 baptisms
- Welcomed and approved 5 new families for membership
- Heard a report from the Search Committee for the Youth Ministry Director
- Heard a report from the Property Committee on repairs to the flat roofs and roof drain



A PC(U.S.A.) Congregation



209 East Franklin Street  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

(919) 929-2102

[upcch.org](http://upcch.org)