

# Saint ames Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

A "Matthew 25" Congregation

820 Ross Avenue • Greensboro, NC 27406 · 336-273-6658 • www.stjamespresby.org
"Touching Lives Through Jesus Christ!"

Reverend Phanta I. Lansden, Senior Pastor

# **April 2022 Edition**

## Welcome To Saint James Presbyterian Church!

The members of the Saint James Presbyterian Church are pleased to have you worship with us during the month of April. We ask that you kindly fill out our electronic visitor's card located here: https://forms.gle/L33q5q23H92pnnrV9. You can also contact us during worship through our Zoom chat, our FB Messenger or send an email after worship to: office@stjamespresby.org. We would like to have a record of your visit and a way to keep you updated on what is happening here at Saint James. Your information will remain confidential. Welcome

## Are you interested in joining Saint James?

We welcome you to join Saint James Presbyterian Church and are committed to helping you grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ. You may become a member of the Saint James Presbyterian Church in one of the following ways: (1) You can fill out our electronic visitors card located here: https://forms.gle/L33q5q23H92pnnrV9 and we will reach out to you. (2) You can contact us during worship through our Zoom chat, our FB Messenger or send an email after worship to: office@stjamespresby.org. We look forward to helping you make this decision!

Connect With Us!
Office Phone Number: 336-273-6658

#### **Saint James Office Staff:**

Ms. JaTonda Thompson, Administrative Coordinator Elder Andrea Russell, Business Manager Elder Timisha Corpening, Treasurer

Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjamespresby

Follow us on Twitter: @stjames gsonc

Follow us on Instagram: @saintjamespresbync Visit our Website: www.stjamespresby.org

## **Our Purpose Statement:**

"The purpose of Saint James Presbyterian Church is to touch lives through Jesus Christ by providing joyful worship, life changing teaching, warm community, and dynamic, meaningful ministries that serve to bring a new generation of believers to Christ and to nurture those who are already growing in faith."

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## **WORSHIP**

Saint James worship services & shared community worship opportunities.

#### **Virtual Order of Worship:**

**Musical Prelude** 

Welcome

Greetings

Praise & Worship

**Opening Prayer** 

Announcements

Offering

**Offertory Prayer** 

**Sermonic Selection** 

**Scripture Reading** 

Sermon

Holy Communion on First Sundays

**Invitation to Christian Discipleship** 

Benediction & Amen

#### **April Participants:**

Worship Leader:

Rev. Phanta I. Lansden

**Worship Elders:** 

**Elder Charles Knox** 

Elder Karen Watts-Yehudah

Musicians:

Mr. William Brown, Minister of Music

Dr. Ronald Campbell, Organist &

Keyboardist

Mr. Nick Hayes, Percussionist



# April Lectionary

Let's continue reading together! As we journey into the month of April, let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship by reading the scheduled lectionary texts each week.

The texts are listed below. Before you read each text, practice a few minutes of centering prayer to clear your mind. Pray for clarity and focus. While reading, physically or mentally take notes so that you can summarize what the scripture is saying. Finally, go back and pick out any themes or recurring ideas that may be relevant to your personal life, Saint James or the church at large. Close your reading time with a Prayer of Thanksgiving for God's word and revelation.

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

•Isaiah 43:16-21

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

•Luke 19:28-40

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

•Acts 10:34-43

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday

•Acts 5:27-32

## **WORSHIP** Saint James worship services & shared community worship opportunities.

Join us for in-person worship!
Visit <u>www.stjamespresby.org</u> for registration information
Virtual service options are also available!

To join us online at Zoom for our Sunday Service:

Click the link here ----> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/742365808">https://zoom.us/j/742365808</a>

To join us on our conference call,

dial in to: 929-205-6099

Enter Meeting ID: 742 365 808#

(This Meeting ID is just for our Sunday Service and virtual sanctuary hangout)

You can also join us live on our YouTube Channel: Click the link here -----> <u>Saint James Presbyterian Church YouTube Page</u>

Links to live Sunday Service stream will be shared on Facebook.

Please visit our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/stjamespresby visit www.facebook.com

Go to the search bar and type in "St. James Presbyterian Church"
Click on the picture of our logo!
Visit our website to sign up for email updates.

www.stjamespresby.org

<u>Did you miss any services?</u> Our services are now on YouTube! You can find all of our Sunday and Special Services on our YouTube page. All of our Bible Studies are continually added as well! Please click the link to enjoy any one of our services that you may have missed. Click the link above to watch.

### **Serve Around the Church**

#### **Ushers**

Would you like to serve on a phenomenal team? We are looking for volunteers to serve as Ushers for our Sunday morning services. Please reach out to any usher on Sunday or contact the church office for more details!

#### **Choir**

Can you sing? Join the choir! We are looking for people to share their musical talents with us. Choir rehearsals are held every Tuesday from 6-7 pm. See any choir or praise team member for more information on joining.

WORSHIP Saint James worship services & shared community worship opportunities.

## **LENTEN SERMON SERIES**

THE LENTEN SERMON SERIES WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW OUR 2022 FOCUS!





**WORSHIP** Saint James worship services & shared community worship opportunities.



336-273-6658

WWW.STJAMESPRESBY.ORG

820 ROSS AVE. GREENSBORO, NC 27406

## WORSHIP Saint James worship services & shared community worship opportunities

# Happy Birthday to our members born in April!!



William Doggett, Jr. Lolita Watkins **Russell Burris** Tyrone Evans **Yvonne Patterson** Lauren Watson Drucilla Pittman Mia Graves **Katherine Moore Sebastian Tipton** Erica Cole Eugenia Turner Otelia Spinks Kaye Ziglar Nicholas Purcell Adnee Bradford **Devin Robinson** 



Please remember to send us your birthdays to include each month!

Send your info to office@stjamespresby.org

**April Edwards** 

Vina McLean

## MONTHLY MISSION PROJECT monthly opportunities for mission

## **April Mission Project**





Anchor Hope

The mission of Anchor Hope is to provide children in foster care a safe harbor and supportive services in a nurturing environment.



#### **MONETARILY**









Make checks payable to: Saint James Presbyterian Church with "Anchor Hope" in the memo section.

#### ACCEPTABLE DONATIONS INCLUDE:

-Toiletries of all kinds.

-Toothbrushes and toothpaste,

-Deodorant

-Shampoo and conditioner

(Especially products for African American children)

-New pajamas of all sizes

-New underwear of all sizes

-New socks of all sizes

-New and gently used toys and games for all ages

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ALSO AVAILABLE!

Anchor Hope needs help with:
-Keeping the clothing attic in order
-Life skills training
-Mentorship
-Providing home cooked meals

-Landscaping and yard beautification

PLEASE REACH OUT TO <a href="https://www.anchorhopehome.org">www.anchorhopehome.org</a> FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO VOLUNTEER. CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR DONATION INFORMATION.

## **DISCIPLESHIP** Sunday School, Bible Studies & Leadership Trainings

**The Monday Morning Bible Study** information will be forthcoming. JOIN US!! God's blessings to each of you and continue to stay safe!

**The John Erwin Sunday School Class** is honoring the stay at home, physical distancing order. During the pandemic, we have continued our bible lessons. Currently we are in Unit II of Winter 2021-2022, Justice, Law, History. Scriptures come from Genesis, Exodus and Deuteronomy. I encourage us to see this time as a test in progress. We will continue to read and study the bible lessons. If anyone would like to join us, please call the church office for more information. ~Elder Marie Martin

#### **Presbyterian Women Bible Study Circles**

<u>Grace Brown Circle</u> will continue lessons for the 2021-2022 season this month. For those who are interested in joining, please contact the church office for more details. ~Donna Spinks & Kathy Moore, Co-Mods.

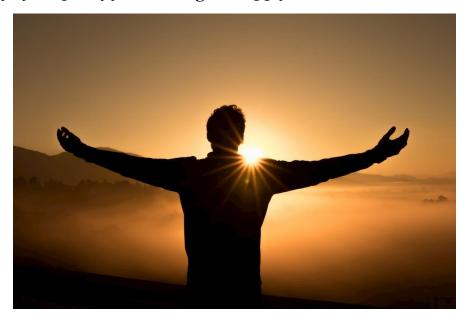
<u>The Roxie McNair Circle</u> is honoring physical distancing. More details to come later. ~Elder Pauline McNair, Moderator

The Marie Florance Presbytettes have a new meeting date on the 4th Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM. Our April meeting will be on Sunday, April 24th at 2:00 PM on Zoom. Rev. Sekinah Hamlin will lead Lesson 8 from our bible study workbook What My Grandmothers Taught Me. We invite women who are not members of a Circle to visit our Circle meeting. Please contact our Circle Moderator Dr. Ina Siler for more information. Please note that we have a new Zoom link for our meetings. The Zoom link is below.

#### **Marie Florance Presbytettes Meeting**

To join the meeting by telephone, please dial the number below and enter the Meeting ID and Passcode.

Dial 1-929-205-6099 | Meeting ID: 833 9660 8882 | Passcode: 829521



## **DISCIPLESHIP** Sunday School, Bible Studies & Leadership Trainings (continued)

The Sara Barber Circle will meet April 3, 2022 at 3:00 pm via zoom. Lesson eight entitled, Mary in the Faith and Tradition of the Church, from the study guide, What My Grandmothers Taught Me, will be led by Sarah Lewers. Scripture: Luke 1:26-56; 2:1-52 and John 2:5; 19:25-27. Visitors who would like to visit via Zoom or join the circle should contact Linda Adams at 336-509-0420. ~Linda Adams, Moderator

<u>The Essie B. Meares Circle</u> has ended our lessons until September. Members will be encouraged to support PWC activities. For women of Saint James who are non-circle members, we extend a warm welcome to you for consideration of our circle. Please contact the church office for additional information. Thank you. Demetra Barnwell, Moderator

#### Presbyterian Women in the Congregation (PWC)

#### **PWC Monthly Gathering**

PWC will host a birthday party to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Birthday Offering on Sunday, April 10th at 2:00 on Zoom. The Lucy Laney Circle will host the meeting. Bring your birthday hats and party favors to the Gathering. The Zoom information is below.

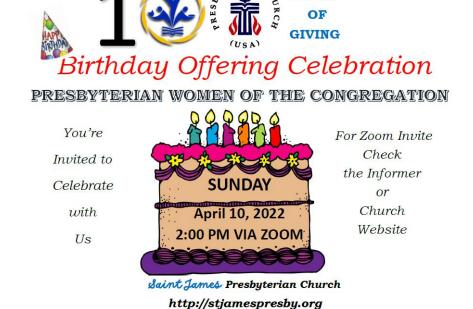
#### **PWC Monthly Gathering**

Dial 1-929-205-6099 | Meeting ID: 861 8511 4493

PWC CT Group will meet on Saturday, April 9th at 11:00 AM on Zoom. All Circle Moderators (or their representatives) and PWC Officers are expected to attend. The Zoom link is below.

#### **PWC CT Meeting**

Dial 1-301-715-8592 | Meeting ID: 882 6614 0067 | Passcode: 470098



## **DISCIPLESHIP** Sunday School, Bible Studies & Leadership Trainings (continued)

### **The Older Adult Ministry**

Today I am shouting out to all Older Adults here at Saint James. As a member of the older adult segment of the general population, I am concerned with health care and voting rights. The political chatter around these issues send up many red flags. I strongly encourage you to: 1.) Make sure you have a Real ID with your photo. This law has been discussed since 1982. Be safe and get an ID from the NC motor vehicle office. 2.) Make sure you have your Coronavirus vaccine as well as the booster. The News & Record (Mike Stobbe, Associate Press) reports that "experts are watching for a potential new Covid-19 surge in the U.S. Be safe. ~Elder Marie

~Elders Marie Martin & Pauline McNair, Co-Moderators



## **ADMINISTRATION** Church Business & Officer Information

#### **Monthly Informer Article Deadline**

Please feel free to mail or e-mail: <u>office@stjamespresby.org.</u> Articles can be sent prior to the deadline with the subject: "May Informer." The Final Deadline for articles is <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>April 25, 2022 by 12:00 noon.</u>

#### **Update on Printing through the Office**

Finally! Implementation of copy codes and limits has been updated. There will be cost for printing in the church office. Every ministry will receive a printing allotment for the year. Prints over the allotted amount will be billed to each ministry. Contact the office with any questions or code requests.

Yearly Allotment per Ministry: Black & White Copies: 300, Color Copies: 175

Printing Charges: Black & White: \$0.01 per letter-sized impression

Color: \$0.08 per letter-sized impression

Tabloid: Each 11x17 impression counts as two letter-size impressions.

#### Car Wash Gift Cards For Sale!

Does your car need a little TLC? Purchase a \$20.00 Autobell Car Wash Gift Card today! These cards are a great way to invest in Saint James and to keep your ride sparkling in the spring sun. The Autobell Car Wash Gift Card is also an excellent card filler or gift to someone who loves a clean car. Contact the Church Office to purchase your card today!

#### **Contact Information Updating**

Have you moved? Changed your phone number? Did you know that you can send update your contact information anytime? Our contact information form is always available online. To fill out the form online, please click: <a href="https://forms.gle/bncJhjh5d4gwHafUA">https://forms.gle/bncJhjh5d4gwHafUA</a>
You can also visit our website and click on the link to be taken to the Contact Information Update form. If you would like a physical form, please call the church office and one will be mailed to you. Your information will remain confidential.



## **ADMINISTRATION** Church Business & Officer Information (continued)

**Congregational Care Ministry!** Congregational Care is an integral part of the ministry of Saint James Presbyterian Church. In an effort to respond to the call to care for one another, our new supply pastor along with the Session, Stephen Ministry, Deacons and Office Staff have developed the Congregational Care ministry.

Congregational Care functions as a pastoral care arm of ministry. The purpose of the Congregational Care ministry is to care for our congregation by providing presence through visits and prayer during times of medical procedures, health crisis, transitions, and illness. Our supply pastor is the primary provider for end of life care, bereavement and funerals. Our Congregational Care team provides presence for ongoing care concerns. The foundation for this ministry is in scripture. Just as Moses was admonished to appoint elders to assist with the care of God's flock (Exodus 18); and just as the early church provided people to care for widows as the apostles gave themselves to prayer and the teaching of the word (Acts 2), our church stands in a biblical tradition to commission people of faith to provide for the care of God's people.

So how does it work? To help ensure that everyone has an Elder, including those on the Forget Me Not List, our congregation is divided into groups based on the first letter of your last name. Each group has been assigned a Congregational Care team member as seen below. If there is a need for prayer, notice of a medical procedure or surgery, notice of a current or past hardship, members can call the church office at 336-273-6658 or email office@stjamespresby.org. The office will notify your Congregational Care Provider immediately.

If there is an end of life situation, the supply pastor is the primary provider. All information is private unless permission is given to share with the entire church during prayer and/or through the Forget Me Not list. The Congregational Care Team has been thoroughly trained, and is eager to serve, so do not hesitate to share your need.

Congregational Care List 2022 (subject to change)

Elders Members of the Congregation

<u> </u>	Members of the congregation
Bob Powell	A, B
Carrie Ledbetter	C
Ursula Robinson	D, E
Sandra Wallington	F, G
Karen Watts-Yehudah	H, I
Andrea Russell	J, K, L
Mildred Powell	M
Charles Knox	N, O, P
Chuck Wallington	Q, R, S
Linda McSwain-Randall	T, U, V
Donna Spinks	W, X, Y, Z

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY MINISTRY

It's Voting Time- Everyone Has to Vote!!!!!!- Social Justice Advocacy Ministry

The Social Justice Advocacy Ministry urges all church members and friends to vote in our upcoming primary elections as our democracy and democratic institutions are threatened or under attack.

Please see these important dates and the Guilford Board of Elections Early Voting Schedule.

Our ministry encourages members in our congregation and community friends to vote in- person in early voting as your first option and vote by absentee ballot as your second option.

If anyone is interested in voting by absentee ballot, please call the church office at (336)-273-6658 and leave your name and phone number where you can be reached. You also can contact Lolita Watkins at (336)-540-9627.

The deadline for all new North Carolina voters to register is April 22, 2022.

Remember the following important dates listed below:

- 1. March 28th-Begin request for absentee ballots
- 2. April 22<sup>nd</sup>-Deadline to register to vote
- 3. April 28th-Early voting begins at designated sites
- 4. May 10th-Last day to request absentee ballot
- 5. May 14th-Early Voting Ends
- 6. May 17th-Primary Election Day 6:30-am-7:30 pm

For further election related information visit <a href="www.guilfordelections.org">www.guilfordelections.org</a> or call in Greensboro (336)-641-3836 or High Point at (336)-641-7895



## FAITH POINT FELLOWSHIP Young Adult and College Ministry

**Soul Food Conversations** is bible study with a twist. We meet on Thursdays of each month 7:00 – 8:00 PM. We will suspend bible study on Thursday, April 14 and join Saint James for Maundy Thursday worship. Minister Jasmine Evans will lead the study of spiritual disciplines during the month of April. We invite Young adults 18 - 35 to take this spiritual journey with us.

*Thirsty Thursday Worship* meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month 7:00 − 8:15 PM on Zoom. Minister Jasmine Evans leads a dynamic worship service tailor made for young adults and those who are young at heart. Communion will be served. For Zoom info, Messenger us on Facebook. Check our social media @FaithPointFellowship for more information on our events.

Faith Friday-The Comedy Edition takes place on Friday, April 1 at 7:00 PM on Zoom. Relax, release & recharge through laughter with us!

Check our social media @FaithPointFellowship for Zoom and Facebook Live for more information on our events.



### Want to stay connected to Faith Point Fellowship?

Text FPF to 55469 to receive words of inspiration and regular updates or visit our website at faithpointfellowship.org. *We are also on social media* @FaithPointFellowship

## **FORGET ME NOT LIST - COLLEGE STUDENTS**

Emmale Burris Guilford Technical Community College

Terence Burris NC A&T State University

Christian Butler NC A&T State University

Victoria Butler Howard University

Paul Carlton NC A&T State University

Marcus Funderburk Forsyth Technical Community College

Micah Funderburk UNC-Pembroke

Kayla Gaskin Emory University

Karlton Gaskin Columbia University

Jalen Graves UNC-Greensboro

Mia Graves North Carolina Central School of Law

Ashley Halley Appalachian State University

April Newkirk Central Piedmont Community College

Messiah Reid Guilford Technical Community College

Idalia Robinson Guilford Technical Community College

Nodiyah Satterwhite NC A&T State University

Isaiah Siler Guilford Technical Community College

Jacquelyn Sullivan Guilford College

Mikala Thomason Hampton University

Matthew Watlington NC A&T State University

Shelleik Wilson Winston-Salem State University

#### Want to stay connected to Faith Point Fellowship?

Text FPF to 55469 to receive words of inspiration and regular updates or visit our website at faithpointfellowship.org. We are also on social media @FaithPointFellowship

## FORGET ME NOT LIST Remember to pray for those who cannot attend worship

Shaquille & Sheryl Davis 3938 Eastland Avenue 27401

Clarence and Pearl Durham 3313 Janet Lane, 27405

Hyla Cundiff 2214 New Castle Rd. 27406

Emily Goodman (sister of Trustee Fred Peterman) 2605 Corinth Dr., 27406

John Guthrie 4504 Southall Dr., 27406

Lynette Hawkins 17300 Melford Blvd. Apt. 408

Bowie, MD 20715

Brenda Jackson (daughter of Maxine Covington) 1209 Humbaldt Avenue North

Minneapolis, MN 55411

Willie "Peggy" Meachem 1302 Ross Ave. 27406

Annis Sensabaugh Blumenthal Jewish Nursing Center,

3724 Wireless Dr., Rm. 213, 27455

Erica Ward (niece of Elder Nancy Rives) 81 Dogwood Trail Dr. Stockbridge, GA 30281

4813 Weston Place Jamestown, NC 27282 **Nancy Rives** 

Amryl Ward 4041 Queens Grant Rd. Jamestown, NC 27282



## **FELLOWSHIP** Expressions of gratitude, celebrations and church functions!

#### Thank you...

To Pastor Lansden and the Saint James Family,

Thank you for the beautiful tribute and gorgeous flowers. I am appreciative for all the love and support I have received during my 14 years at Saint James. May God richly bless all of you! ~Ms. Valerie D. Johnson

Dear Prayer Warriors, Will you pray for greater awareness of Mental Health and how it impacts our communities and families? Blessings, ~Mrs. Willie "Peggy" Meachem



## **OUTREACH MINISTRY** We are busy serving the community- Join Us!

The Message and a Meal program continues to provide a valuable service to our community but now in a new way! Beginning April 1st the Message & A Meal program will provide food boxes from our pantry to those in need. Boxes will be handed out on the first Sunday of April and will continue in May on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 3 pm.

Message and A Meal March 2022

Date	Guests	Volunteers
3/6/2022	109	2
3/20/2022	103	1



## **OUTREACH MINISTRY** We are busy serving the community- Join Us!

#### The Guilford County Senior Resource Center is the Ministry of the Month!

The Guilford County Senior Resource Center is our Ministry Partner for the month of April, and our monthly focus is older adults. Specifically, Saint James provides the agency with volunteers for its Senior Wheels program to transport seniors, age 55 and older who are ambulatory, to and from their medical appointments. Volunteers only serve once a month. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for Senior Wheels, please contact Elder Oscar Reid.

#### Tiny House Community Development: We Are... One In The Spirit

Are you still looking to fulfill a niche? Perhaps, you feel led to help 'the least of these' but don't know where to begin. Well...look no more! There is 'plenty of good room' for you with Tiny House, a ministry that builds safe, affordable housing for the homeless in our community. How can I help, you might ask? The opportunities below are just some of the ways you or your ministry, collectively, can help.—

Tiny House Volunteer Opportunities:

<u>Breakfast 4 Our Friends:</u> Breakfast is served every Saturday morning between 7:45 A.M. – 8:45 A.M. at Center City Park in downtown Greensboro. Volunteer your time and/or breakfast items for approximately 80-100 people

**Sponsor a Resident's Utilities:** Utilities for a Tiny House averages to \$85.00/month. You can sponsor utilities on either a monthly or yearly basis.

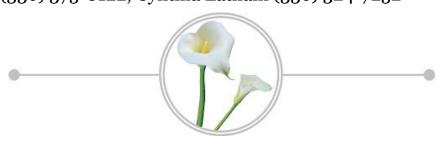
<u>Donate Appliances</u>: For one of the six houses currently being built in the Greensboro Tiny House community appliances average to \$1,300.00.

Make a Tax Deductible Donation To: Tiny House Greensboro, P. O. Box 20691, Greensboro, NC 27420.

\*For additional information on this ministry, please contact Elder Oscar Reid.

<u>Homeless Committee:</u> The Homeless Committee wishes to acknowledge with warm appreciation the congregation for the donation of 51 boxes of Quaker Oats for the Greensboro Urban Ministry.

**Stephen Ministry.** a Christ-centered ministry that provides care in alleviating pain and stress of life, remains attentive to the needs of others. Our personal contact via the phone allows us to connect. As we venture day by day through this pandemic, we extend the promises of God and the affirmation of His omni-presence. Our goal is to represent the love, concern and care of Jesus in a confidential way. If we can be of assistance as we journey together, please call a Stephen Leader: Adnee Bradford (336) 202-6989, Yvonne Patterson (336) 375-0122, Cynthia Latham (336) 324-7252



## **OUTREACH MINISTRY** We are busy serving the community- Join Us!

For Older Adults who need assistance in the home, PACE of the Triad is still enrolling new participants. PACE provides medical care and support services to older adults. Services may include, but are not limited to, a health aide for those who qualify, medical transportation, medicines, supplies, therapy, respite, and an optional day program. If you or a loved one can benefit from PACE services, contact PACE at 336-550-4046 for a free assessment or more information. A doctor's referral is not needed. PACE of the Triad is located at 1471 E. Cone Blvd. Greensboro in the Roses Shopping Center. Schedule a tour or free consultation today. Call 336-550-4046 or visit the website www.pacetriad.org/help.

## ROCKINGHAM AND GUILFORD COUNTY FAMILY CAREGIVERS

# Let Us Help YOU The Ve!

Are you caring for an older loved one with chronic illness?

Do you feel overwhelmed, especially during the COVID pandemic?

Do you want to receive the latest information on best caregiving practices – along with relaxing and rejuvenating activities to help you?





Our program -THRIVE! - is a <u>free</u> opportunity made possible through CARES Act grant funding for family caregivers to do just that . . . thrive!

#### Family caregivers can receive:

FREE highly recommended caregiving books, yoga mats, brain healthy groceries and art kits as well as 4G-enabled tablets on loan! Virtual activities will accompany the <u>FREE</u> items!

Register Now for books, art kits, and tablets! Yoga mats coming in May!

Brain Healthy groceries coming this summer!



Register Now:

www.Well-SpringSolutions.org/Thrive or call: (336) 274-3559



**STEWARDSHIP** Monthly collection and stewardship opportunities.

# Stewardship

"CAN WE BECOME LIKE ISAIAH? AS WAS PRESENT TO ISAIAH, HE IS PRESENT WITH US TODAY. AND HE STILL CALLS TO US, "WHOM SHALL I SEND?" IN OUR TIME AND PLACE IN HISTORY THE NEED IS STILL GREAT FOR THOSE WHO KNOW GOD TO SAY, "HERE AM I. SEND ME!" LIKE ISAIAH, WE SHOULD LIVE EXPECTANTLY FOR GOD TO CALL US TO BE REDEMPTIVE VOICES IN OUR OWN COMMUNITIES. GOD'S POWER CAN SHAKE THE ROUTINE OF OUR DAILY EXISTENCE, OVERWHELMING US WITH HIS HOLY PRESENCE. SUCH AN EXPERIENCE OF GOD MAY REMIND US OF OUR OWN INADEQUACY, BUT WE MUST NOT PERMIT OUR SENSE OF UNWORTHINESS TO DISTRACT S FROM WHAT GOD WANTS TO ACCOMPLISH IN US AND THROUGH US... AND HE HAS COMMISSIONED AND EQUIPPED US BY HIS SPIRIT. OUR LORD IS GRACIOUS AND ALWAYS MAKES A WAY FOR US TO LIVE IN LOVING SERVICE TO GOD AND HUMANITY. HOLY SEED STILL TAKES ROOT IN FERTILE SOIL EVEN THOUGH THE LAND MAY APPEAR VAST AND BARREN." \*

\*The African-American Devotional Bible, copyright 1997, Zondervan Corp., pg 757, Rev. Jeffrey Haggray, Verse: Isaiah 6:8, Passage: Isaiah 6:1-13

## **STEWARDSHIP** Monthly collection and stewardship opportunities.

The Stewardship Committee encourages your commitment to financial giving. It is essential to the ministries that care for our church, local community and beyond.

Have you gotten behind in your personal giving plan and need help catching up? The Stewardship Committee is here to help. Simply call the church office (336) 273-6658 and a member of our team will be in touch with you.

Emergency Relief Fund and Pennies for Hunger (Ongoing)
One Great Hour of Sharing March 2<sup>nd</sup>- April 17<sup>th</sup>
Pentecost April 18<sup>th</sup>- June 5<sup>th</sup>

If you are *giving on line* or using *Cash App,* please indicate the nature of your special giving where it states "add special instructions" or "add a note"

The Stewardship Committee is grateful for your support!

Monthly totals will now appear in your quarterly contribution statements! If you would like to continue to see our monthly income information, please contact the church office.

## Spread the Word: Emergency Rental Assistance

Thanks to the American Rescue Plan, billions of dollars in federal rental assistance is reaching renters behind on housing costs, as well as landlords who have struggled during the pandemic. These programs are run locally, and right now emergency rental assistance is available across the country.

The federal government is continuing an all-out push and issuing a call to action to Members of Congress, state and local officials, companies, advocates, nonprofits, the faith community, and more to conduct an all-out push to make sure tenants and landlords take advantage of federal rental assistance to help cover rent, utilities, and other housing costs and keep people in their homes.

Please spread the word about emergency rental assistance. Help is available for renters who are having trouble paying rent, utilities or other housing costs as well as for landlords who have tenants in this situation. State and local programs are distributing billions of dollars in rental assistance.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) recently developed a new "Rental Assistance Finder" tool for renters and landlords to find information on rental assistance in their area. The tool is now live at: <a href="https://www.consumerfinance.gov/renthelp">https://www.consumerfinance.gov/renthelp</a> The CFPB's site also includes resources to help renters and landlords understand other resources to help navigate various financial hardships related to the pandemic.

For additional information about the Emergency Rental Assistance program, <u>visit the</u> <u>unified federal housing assistance portal hosted by the CFPB.</u>

## WE ARE A MATTHEW 25 CONGREGATION!



## Matthew 25 in the PC(USA):

A bold vision and invitation

#### We are a Matthew 25 church!

Our congregation has accepted the PC(USA)'s invitation to follow Jesus' teachings in Matthew 25:31–46 by becoming active disciples and making a difference in our community and the world.

As part of our Matthew 25 commitment, we pledge to embrace one or more of these three areas of focus:

- Building congregational vitality by deepening and energizing our faith and growing as joyful leaders and disciples actively engaged with our community as we share the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed
- Dismantling structural racism by fearlessly applying our faith to advocate and break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color
- Eradicating systemic poverty by acting on our beliefs and working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor

To learn more and for ideas on how to get involved and do your vital part as a member of a Matthew 25 church, please visit pcusa.org/matthew25.



Saint James Presbyterian Church
"Touching Lives through Jesus Christ"
820 Ross Avenue | Greensboro, North Carolina 27406
336-273-6658 • www.stjamespresby.org