

The Informer

January, 2024



Saint James 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 Dr. Phanta I. Lansden, Senior Pastor

Welcome To Saint James Presbyterian Church!

The members of the Saint James Presbyterian Church are pleased to have you worship with us. 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: stjoffice820@gmail.com. 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.



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: stjoffice820@gmail.com. We look forward to helping you make this decision!

Connect With Us!

Office Phone Number: 336-273-6658

Saint James Office Staff:

Ms. Anslei Foster, Administrative Coordinator
Elder Andrea Russell, Business Manager
Elder Karen Watts-Yehudah, Treasurer

Like us on Facebook: [**www.facebook.com/stjamespresby**](https://www.facebook.com/stjamespresby)

Follow us on Twitter: [**@stjames_gsonc**](#)

Follow us on Instagram: [**@saintjamespresbync**](#)

Visit our Website: [**www.stjamespresby.org**](http://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.”



You are invited to attend the
Nineteenth Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Worship Service
to be held on

Monday, January 15th 12:00 noon.

Our guest speaker will be

The Rev. Dr. Darrel Aaron of Providence Baptist Church.

Our Worshippers of Praise Dance Ministry and Choir will also offer selections.

This year's theme is

"It Starts With Me: Shifting the Cultural Climate Through the Study and Practice of Kingian Non Violence."

*We're looking forward to a great celebration of this important day,
its historic relevance and your presence*

*There will be a reception immediately following the service
in the Fellowship Hall*

In This Issue

Welcome	
Visitor Information, Social Media, Purpose Statement	1
Worship	
Special Worship Service	2
Virtual Order of Worship & January Participants	4
January Lectionary	5
Zoom Worship Info	5
HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Happy January birthdays to our members!	6
Mission of the Month (<i>donations for a Children & Youth Director</i>)	7
Discipleship	
Sunday School, Bible Studies	8
Presbyterian Women Bible Study Circles	8
Presbyterian Women, Older Adult Ministry, Presbyterian Men	9-10
Administration	
Informer Deadline, Human Resources	10-11
Congregational Care List	11
Social Justice Advocacy Ministry	12
Fellowship	12
Special Announcement	13
Faith Point Fellowship (FPF)	14
Forget Me Not List – College Students	TBA
Forget Me Not List	15
Outreach	16
Tiny House	
Homeless Committee, Stephen Ministry, Information for Caregivers	17
Stewardship	18
Emergency Rental Assistance Information	19



WORSHIP

Saint James worship services & shared community worship opportunities.

Order of Worship:

Count down

Announcements

Opening Song of Praise

Hymn First Sundays

Opening Prayer

Welcome/Greetings

Offertory Prayer

Call to Offering

Sermonic Selection

Scripture Reading

Sermon

Holy Communion on First Sundays

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Benediction & Closing Song

January Participants:

Worship Leader:

Rev. Dr. Phanta I. Lansden

Worship Elders:

Elder Tyrone Collins

Elder Karen Watts-Yehudah



Musicians

Dr. Ronald Campbell, Keyboardist

Mr. Nick Hayes, Percussionist

*A Heart
of
Worship*

January Lectionary

Let's continue reading together! As we journey into the month of January, 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.

1st Sunday **Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

2nd Sunday **Psalms 111:1-10**

3rd Sunday **1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

4th Sunday **Mark 1:21-28**



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

Join us for in-person worship!

Visit www.stjamespresby.org for registration information

Virtual service options are also available!

To join us online at Zoom for our Sunday Service:

Click the link here -----> <https://zoom.us/j/742365808>

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 -----> [Saint James Presbyterian Church YouTube Page](#)

Join our live Sunday Service stream on Facebook.

Click the link here -----> www.facebook.com/stjamespresby

To visit our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/stjamespresby

or 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

Did you miss any services? 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.

January Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Our Members

Ron Campbell

Janell Corpening

Carrie Ledbetter

Lindell Mills

Annie Purcell

Vernon Stringer

The church will celebrate birthdays that occur January through June in June. The date will be announced in June.

Send birthday information to stjoffice@gmail.com



Mission of the Month

We are thankful for the continued growth in the attendance of our young people. Their inquisitive minds and desire for deeper understanding while enhancing their faith network is key to the continuing development of our church.

Because of your faithful giving, Saint James Presbyterian Church will be able to fulfill its goal of hiring a Youth Minister in 2024. **Rev. Corie Wilks** will prioritize the needs of our young people, create and develop programs and activities that will engage their curiosities and stimulate their interest in the church.

Please indicate “*Youth Director*” in the *memo* section of your check or online giving choice to continue this important ministry.

Thank you!



DISCIPLESHIP *Sunday School, Bible Studies & Leadership Trainings*

Marie Florance Presbytettes Circle

The **Presbytettes** will meet on Sunday, January 28 at 1:00 PM on Zoom. We will discuss Lesson 5, *A Person with Leprosy Encounters Jesus* from our Horizons Bible Study **Sacred Encounters**. All women of the church are invited to participate in this dynamic conversation.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83885377253?pwd=RopjVkN1TnVmdGdVeXRrdkVBU3k3UT09>

The **Sara Barber Circle** will meet at St James in meeting rooms 1 and 2 at 2:00 on January 7th, 2024. Please note the time change. From the study guide Sacred Encounters, lesson five will be led by the Circle members based on assignments. Visitors are always welcome.

Linda Adams, Moderator

The Essie B. Meares Circle will resume lessons following our break on Saturday, January 20, 2024 at 12 noon in the Saint James Conference Room. Pamela Cameron will be the leader for lessons 5 (A Person with Leprosy Encounters Jesus) and 6 (A Person with a Physical Disability Encounters Jesus). Prior lessons were led by Lynn Brady (1 and 2) and Lindell Mills (3 and 4). We extend a warm welcome to visitors to join us. Thank you.

The John Erwin Sunday School Class - We are in familiar scripture. This quarter reviews for us the ancestors of Jesus, as well as stories about people of different nations and real life situations. Lesson 3 may require some additional time. Read it. Call us. Participants may identify themes and want to share. All are encouraged to call Elders Adnee Bradford, Marie Marin or Linda Randall for discussion. Let us use this as an idea to restart our Sunday School schedule.

Presbyterian Women in the Congregation CT Meeting

The **PWC CT** Leadership Team will meet on Monday, January 8 at 7:00 PM on Zoom. All Moderators and Committee Chairs are expected to attend.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89285915609?pwd=UoF6Yo5sSHZXY3QrSnY3KoloNkdPZz09>

To call in, please dial 1.929.205.6099 Meeting ID: 892 8591 5609 Passcode: 077089

The Older Adult Ministry

The Older Adult Ministry is open to all who wish to participate. All super seniors are encouraged to keep contact information up to date. We strongly encourage all seniors and others to honor the need for a Real ID. There is a real need to keep our eyes and ears open to various political changes in our everyday news.

Elders Marie Martin & Pauline McNair, Co-Moderators

DISCIPLESHIP *Sunday School, Bible Studies & Leadership Trainings cont.*

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.

Presbyterian Men

Look for updates on schedules and events from The Presbyterian Men's Leadership Team.
~Saint James Presbyterian Men



ADMINISTRATION *Church Business & Officer Information*

Updated Office Hours

The church office has updated hours! The office will now be open from 10:00am-4:30pm Monday thru Thursday. We're here to serve. 336-273-6658

Monthly Informer Article Deadline

Please feel free to mail or e-mail: stjoffice820@gmail.com . Articles can be sent prior to the deadline with the subject: **"February Informer."** **The Final Deadline for articles is Wednesday, January 17, 2024 by 12:00 noon.**

Update on Printing through the Office

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: <https://forms.gle/bncJhjh5d4gwHafUA> 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.

Congregational Care Ministry! This is an integral part of Saint James Presbyterian Church. The purpose of the Congregational Care ministry is to care for our congregation by providing presence, prayers, calls and cards during times of illness, medical procedures, health crisis, and transitions. Our 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

ADMINISTRATION Church Business & Officer Information (continued)

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.

How does Congregational Care 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 member of the congregation has been assigned a Congregational Care team member as seen below. Some examples of when to contact the church include but is not limited to prayer, notice of a medical procedure or surgery, notice of a current or past hardship. Please call the church office at 336-273-6658 or email stjoffice820@gmail.com. The office will notify the Pastor and your Congregational Care Provider immediately. If there is an end-of-life situation, the 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 is eager to serve, so do not hesitate to share your need.

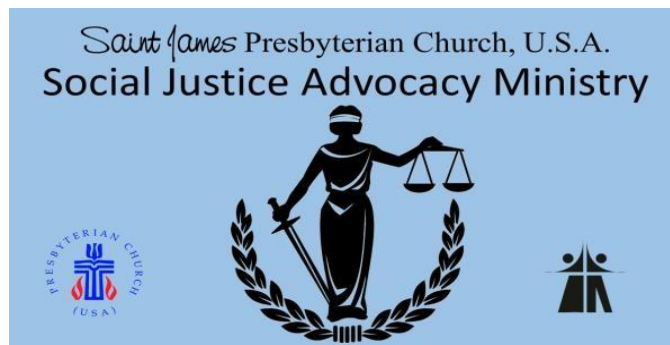
Congregational Care List 2023 (subject to change)

<u>Elders</u>	<u>Members of the Congregation</u>
Tyrone Collins	A, B
Ursula Robinson	C, D, E
Sandra Wallington	F, G, H, I
Karen Watts-Yehudah	J, K, L
Mildred Powell	M, N, O
Paula Latham Washington	P, Q, R
Chuck Wallington	S, T
Ursula Robinson	U, V, W, X, Y, Z



SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY MINISTRY

Chairs, Lolita Watkins, Christina Yongue



SJAM Continues to plan for ways in which we can positively engage and impact our community in the coming year. Please look for our announcements in the weekly eBlasts and future Informers. We're excited about continuing the important work of "touching lives through Jesus Christ."

Fellowship

Thank
You

From the family of William Spencer Gwynn,

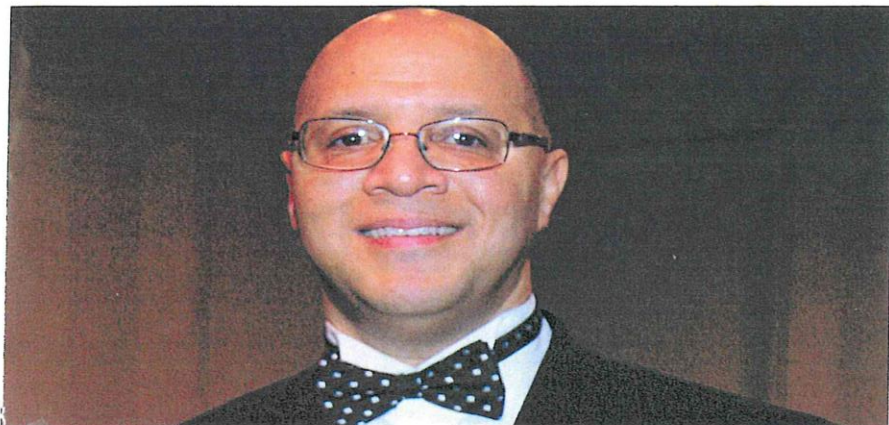
Words cannot express how deeply we appreciate all the love, kindness and support shown to us during this difficult time. Forever in our hearts.

From the Peterman Family,

Thank you doesn't even begin to cover how grateful I am. We are thinking of you today and always for your kind deeds, prayers, cards and visits. We will be back to church as soon as our health allows. Thank you for remembering us. It is so greatly appreciated.

2023-2024 SEASON

SEASON OF THE SEVEN: CHELSEA TIPTON



Chelsea Tipton

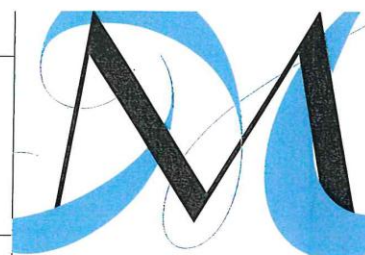
Music Director of the Symphony of Southeast Texas

Lauded by The New York Times for "leading sweeping and vibrant performances of Rhapsody and An American in Paris" as a last minute replacement for Robert Spano to conduct an all-Gershwin season finale with the Brooklyn Philharmonic, American conductor Chelsea Tipton, II has won over audiences and critics alike with his vibrant musicality, accessibility, versatility and extraordinary commitment to Arts education.

Tipton is now celebrating his fourteenth season as Music Director of the Symphony of Southeast Texas in Beaumont. In addition to his work in Beaumont he is the Principal Pops Conductor of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra. The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra recognized Tipton with their first annual Aspire Award in October of 2013. This award identifies accomplished professional musicians who are African American or Latino who also demonstrate a tremendous commitment to community and inclusiveness. The Neches River Festival in Beaumont also honored Tipton with the Citizen of the Year April of 2014, and in October of 2014 he was honored to receive the Community Spotlight Award from Capital One Bank for community leadership.

As a sought after guest conductor, Tipton has appeared with major orchestras including the Cleveland Orchestra, Atlanta,

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MASTERWORKS

SERIES SPONSOR



BANK OF
OAK RIDGE

MAY 11, 2024
Steven Tanger Center
for the Performing Arts
8:00 p.m.

SPONSORED BY

CONCERT PROGRAM

Carlos Simon

AMEN!

Lively
Soulfully
Mysteriously; Lively.
(15 minutes)

Max Bruch

Scottish Fantasy

I. Introduction: Grave.
Adagio cantabile
II. Scherzo: Allegro
III. Andante sostenuto
IV. Finale: Allegro guerriero
(33 minutes)

INTERMISSION

Sir Edward Elgar

Pomp and Circumstance No. 1
(7 minutes)

Richard Strauss

Der Rosenkavalier Suite

I. Prelude (Act I)
II. Presentation of the Silver Rose
(Act II)
III. Baron Ochs's Waltz (Act II)
IV. "Ist ein Traum" (Act III)
V. Waltz (reprise)
(23 minutes)

www.GreensboroSymphony.org

45



Soul Food Conversations Bible Study meets on Thursday January 11 & 25 at 7:00 PM on Zoom. Our pastor Rev. Corie Wilkins always brings us an exciting message from God. Young adults 18 - 35 are invited to be part of our dynamic conversations where all topics are on the table! Do you wonder how scriptures can be relevant to your everyday life? Do you want to improve your prayer life? Faith Point is a safe, judgment free space for you to get answers to your questions.

Thirsty Thursday Worship Service returns on Thursday, January 18 at 7:00 PM in person in the Fellowship Hall and on Zoom. All are invited to attend our own unique worship service experience. Dinner is served at 6:00 PM and Chef Bri will prepare a yummy, home cooked meal.

Get updates and stay connected to Faith Point Fellowship? Text FPF to 55469 and receive words of inspiration and meeting updates. Join our chat group. Look for us on social media @FaithPointFellowship.



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

Linda Adams	2121 Liberty Valley Road 27406
Shaquille & Sheryl Davis	3938 Eastland Ave., 27401
Clarence Durham	3313 Janet Ln., 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	Harmony of Waldorf 11239 Berry Road, Waldorf, MD 20603
Brenda Jackson (daughter of Maxine Covington)	1209 Humboldt Ave. North Minneapolis, MN 55411
Willie “Peggy” Meachem	1302 Ross Ave. 27406
Oscar Reid	3834 Riceland Pl. Charlotte, NC 28216
Nancy Rives	4813 Weston Pl. Jamestown, NC 27282
Fannie Scales	Guilford House 5918 Netfield Rd. Greensboro, NC 27455
Amryl Ward	8100 Grahamson Ln. Charlotte, NC 28269
Erica Ward (niece of Elder Nancy Rives)	81 Dogwood Trail Dr. Stockbridge, GA 30281
Mrs. Thelma Williams	
Frank Woods	Moses Cone Health Rehabilitation Center 1121 North Church St. 4 West Rm. 16

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

Tiny House Community Development, Inc. – Building Tiny Houses with Big Hearts!

Tiny House Community Development's (THCD) mission is to be a coalition of diverse individuals and local organizations who aim to reduce homelessness by engaging in public and private partnerships to create tiny home communities. Working alongside people experiencing homelessness, our goal is to encourage positive community engagement and foster an educational experience in a welcoming environment.

There are plenty opportunities for YOU to get involved!

- Volunteer at a workday; contribute your skilled labor for designing, building, plumbing and electrical work, etc.
- Volunteer with “Breakfast 4 our Friends”; Breakfast is served every Saturday Morning at The HOPE Center located at [**360 W Gate City Blvd. Greensboro, NC 27406**](#); from 8:00am – 9:00am
- Donate - We appreciate anything you can give, whether it be monetary, your time, or donated building materials. If you'd like to find out more about what we need and to make an online donation visit our website.

https://www.tinyhousesgreensboro.com/get_involved

Donations can be mailed to - THCD, PO Box 20691, Greensboro, NC 27420

Contact Elder Paula Pierce for additional information pfp25@msn.com



OUTREACH MINISTRY *continued*

Homeless Committee: 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, There are trained congregation members who can provide one-to-one care to those experiencing difficulties on life's journey.

Do you need someone to listen, to care, to encourage and to provide emotional and spiritual support? If so, please call a Stephen Leader: Adnee Bradford (336)202-6989, Yvonne Patterson (336) 375-0122, Cynthia Latham (336) 324-7252.

For at home care assistance, please see ***The Older Adult Ministry***



STEWARDSHIP *Monthly collection and stewardship opportunities.*

A New Beginning for The New Year!

“... “Why is the house of God neglected?” Then I called them together and stationed them at their posts. All Judah brought the tithes of grain, new wine and olive oil into the storerooms.” Nehemiah 13:11b-12.

Your financial commitment to St. James Presbyterian Church in 2023 supported church leadership, staff, building maintenance as well as many ministries that work tirelessly to address the growing needs of our community. None of this could happen without the love you express through your giving.

As we enter 2024, let us be mindful that we cannot grow weary. We must work diligently at getting ourselves into “good trouble.”

The Stewardship Committee hopes that you had a blessed Christmas and New Year. Whether you took time to reflect, celebrated with abandonment, spent time embracing the memory of loved ones, or a little of all of these, we know that by God’s grace we enter a new year that will be filled with new experiences and opportunities. A new year to worship together.

Initial Offering - \$2.00 or more due January 7th

Per Capita Apportionment - \$25.00 or more during the months of January and February

One Great Hour of Sharing – Free Will Offering due March 10th -24nd

Pentecost Offering – Free Will Offering due April 11th – May 19th

Peace and Global Witness – Free Will Offering due September 8th – October 6th

Christmas Joy Offering – Free Will Offering due December 8th – December 22th

For those of you who ***give on line***, please indicate the nature of your ***Special Giving*** where it states

“Add Special Instructions”

Elders Sandra Wallington and Karen Yehudah thank you for your generosity.



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: <https://www.consumerfinance.gov/renthelp>

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, [visit the unified federal housing assistance portal hosted by the CFPB.](#)





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**](https://pcusa.org/matthew25).



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission