

The Informer

October 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 the PASTOR'S Desk

Monthly Musing:

Many things have happened in September, from celebrations to continued community engagement. At the beginning of the month the Vision Task Force worked hard to prepare and share with the congregation our new Session approved



mission, vision, goals, and objectives. We continue to embrace the Matthew 25 mandate by focusing on social justice, affordable housing, community engagement and

revitalization of our Young Adult and Youth ministries. We hosted our chili cook-off as part of my Pastoral Anniversary. The winner was **Mr. Freddie Click** who is a faithful servant of God and makes a delicious chili!! We joined **Lloyd Presbyterian Church**, a sister African American PC(USA) congregation in

Winston Salem, to help them celebrate their 150th church anniversary. I celebrated 7 years of ordained ministry in the PC(USA) with three of those years with Saint James.



We have accomplished a lot in one month and I haven't listed everything. God continues to use and bless us! I am forever grateful to God for the ability to lead here and for the work God continues to birth in and through us.

In October I look forward to preparing our new leaders to step into their roles as Elders, Deacons, and Trustees; and continuing the work of refining our new members process.

We have 3 new members to take the classes!! You will

hear more about this soon. We will also continue to receive names for leaders to help us accomplish the goals the **Vision Task Force** refined.

God is doing a great work in us! Let us continue to pray as we close out this year and prepare to **MANIFEST** in 2025. Remain prayerful and excited!!



In Christ Love, Pastor Lansden

Scripture mediation for the month:

2¹ Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from inside the fish. 2² He said,
“I cried out to the Lord in my great trouble,
and he answered me.
I called to you from the land of the dead,
and Lord, you heard me! **Jonah 2:1-2 (NLT)**

Spiritual Practice or Quote:

TRUST- the process or practice of trusting God. – *Pastor Lansden*

T- Turn it over to God

R- Rest

U- Unravel

S- Savor the Graces

T- Transition

Pastor’s Contact Information:

Contact Information

Email: stjpastor820@gmail.com | Cell: 336-365-2805 | Church: 336-273-6658

Scheduling appointments

To schedule an appointment with Pastor Lansden please use the calendar link below.

www.calendly.com/plansden

Simply click on the link and choose the day and time available. You can also reach Pastor Lansden via cell phone, email or call the front office to schedule an appointment.

Our Purpose Statement:

Saint James Presbyterian Church is a Christ-centered, missional church called to be relevant, spiritually healthy, inclusive, and dedicated to serving God & one another through vibrant worship and intergenerational ministry that glorifies God and transforms all things and all people.

Connect With Us!

Office Phone Number: 336-273-6658

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

Follow us on Instagram: [@saintjamespresbync](https://www.instagram.com/saintjamespresbync)

Visit our website: www.stjamespresby.org

Join us for in-person worship!

Visit www.stjamespresby.org for registration information

Virtual service options are also available!

You can also join us live on our YouTube Channel:

Click the link here -----> [Saint James Presbyterian Church YouTube Page](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv8qf0v1k1k1k1k1k1k1k1k)

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

Meet the St. James Presbyterian Church Office Staff



Portia Griffin,
Office Manager/Pastoral Assistant



Aubrey Scruggs, Media Specialist



Elder Andrea Russell, Business Manager



Elder Karen Watts-Yehudah, Treasurer

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WORSHIP

Saint James worship services & shared community worship opportunities.

Order of Worship:

Countdown

Announcements

Opening Hymn

Opening Prayer

Prayer Response

Welcome/Greetings

Passing of Peace

Call to Offering

Offertory Prayer

Doxology

Sermonic Selection

Scripture Reading

Sermon

Holy Communion on First Sundays

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Benediction & Closing Song

October Participants:

Worship Leader:

Rev. Dr. Phanta I. Lansden

Worship Elders:

Elder Cynthia Latham



Musicians

Mr. Shawn Gunthrop, Minister for Music

Dr. Ronald Campbell, Keyboardist

Mr. Nick Hayes, Percussionist

October Lectionary

Let's continue reading together! As we journey into the month of October, 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 **Mark 10:2-16**

2nd Sunday **Mark 10:17-31**

3rd Sunday **Mark 10:35-45**

4th Sunday **Mark 10:46-52**

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

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.

COMMUNITY *Saint James community happenings and highlights of the month*

WELCOME TO Breast Cancer Awareness Month

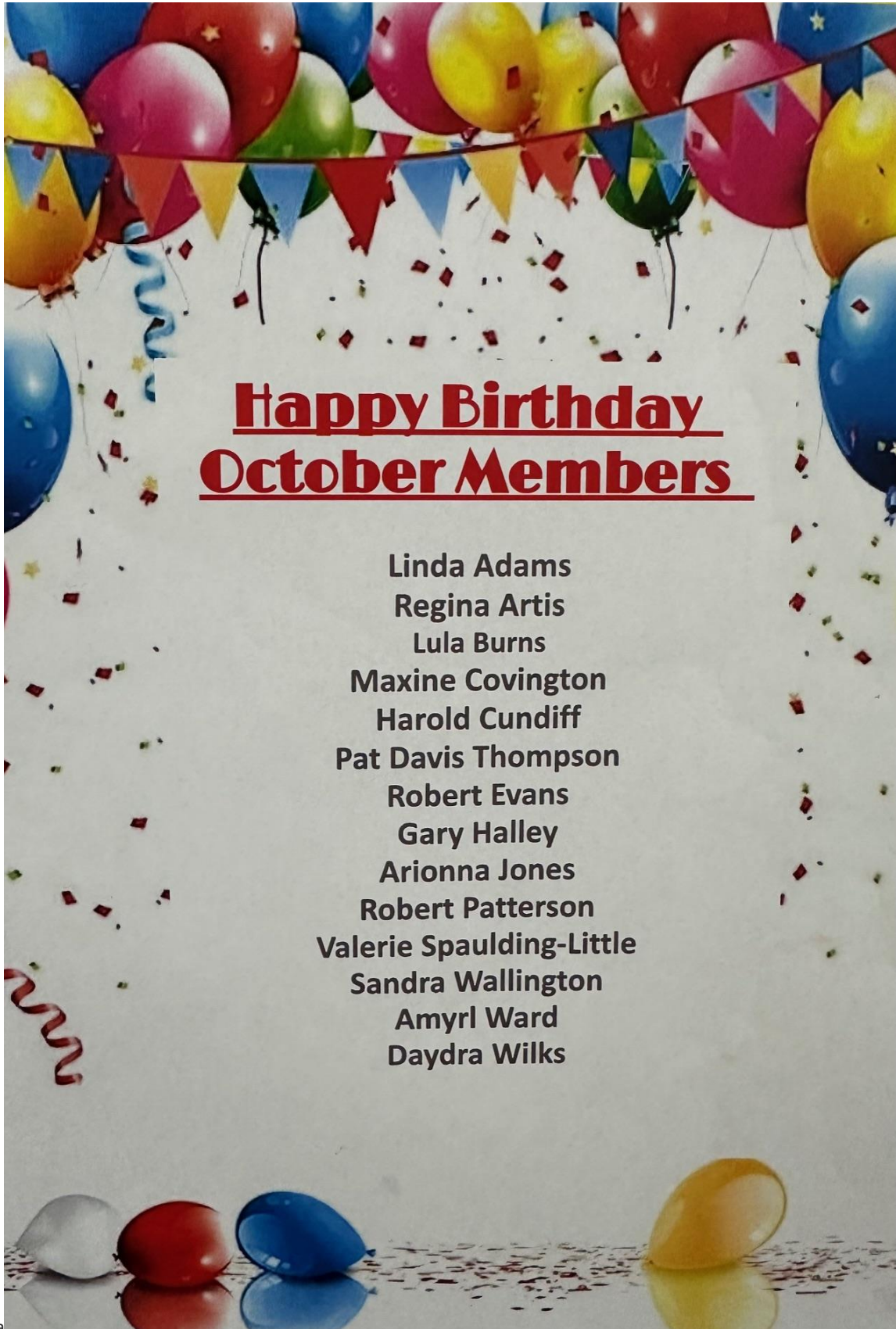
Breast Cancer Awareness Month is an international health campaign that's held every October. The month aims to promote screening and prevention of the disease, which affects 2.3 million people worldwide. It is crucial to educate people about breast cancer risk factors, supporting people diagnosed with breast cancer, including those with metastatic breast cancer and encouraging regular breast cancer screening starting at age 40 or earlier. To learn more, visit the Breast Cancer Center at breastcancer.org.



COMMUNITY *Saint James community happenings and highlights of the month cont*



We are collecting donations for our new “Blessing Box.” The Blessing Box will be located at the front of the church grounds near the sidewalk. It is part of our Food Justice work to support the needs of our community. We will accept donations such as canned food, pancake mix, toothpaste, soap, and other items listed on the donation sheet. You can bring items into the front office until Oct. 27th to help fill the box. On Oct. 27th, we will meet at the front of the church after worship for the blessing of the box and officially open the box to the community. Thank you for helping us expand our reach for Food Justice!



Happy Birthday
October Members

Linda Adams
Regina Artis
Lula Burns
Maxine Covington
Harold Cundiff
Pat Davis Thompson
Robert Evans
Gary Halley
Arionna Jones
Robert Patterson
Valerie Spaulding-Little
Sandra Wallington
Amyrl Ward
Daydra Wilks

Mission of the Month

The McKinney-Vento Act

The McKinney-Vento Act is a federal law passed to help families who are homeless keep their children in school. The federal law entitles children who lack a fixed, regular and adequate night-time residence to a free, appropriate education and requires schools to remove barriers to their enrollment, attendance and success in school. The McKinney-Vento Program meets the needs of homeless students attending Guilford County Schools by addressing academic challenges and family issues affecting their success in school.



McKinney-Vento
Serving Students In Transition

gcsnc.com
**Homeless Services &
Community Support**

DISCIPLESHIP *Sunday School, Bible Studies & Leadership Trainings*

The Sara Barber Circle will meet Sunday, October 6, 2024 in classrooms one and two immediately following worship service. Visitors are welcomed.

Linda Adams and Adnee Bradford, Co-Moderators

The Essie B. Meares Circle will meet in the Conference Room, Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 1:00PM to begin our Horizon's Bible study, LET JUSTICE ROLL DOWN: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation by Patricia Tull. Demetra Barnwell will be the leader for lesson 1(Environmental Justice) and 2(Land Justice). We extend a warm welcome to visitors. Please contact the office for additional information. Thank you.

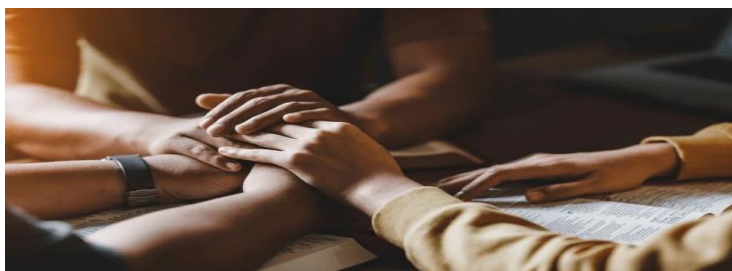
Demetra Barnwell, Co-Moderator

The John Erwin Sunday School Class - The John Erwin Sunday School Class continues to use the Present World Adult Bible Lessons. The 2024 Summer Series speaks of ideas and situations that are in the news today. In the current study the authors use scripture to show how the thread of hope works in transforming the lives of the early Christian church. If you would like to join us, call the church office for a book 336-273-6658.

Elders Adnee Bradford, Marie Martin and Linda Randall, Co-Moderators

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

Presbyterian Women in the Congregation (PWC) will meet on Sunday, October 13, following the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. The Marie Florance Presbytettes will host a "Chucks and Pearls" afternoon tea. We will celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness with a short program. We also want to honor Vice President Kamala Harris as the nominee for President of the United States. Please wear your Chuck Taylor sneakers (or any sneakers you have), pearls, and something pink. You can also wear your Kamala Harris hat or T-shirt! Our business meeting will follow the presentation. We invite all women of the church to attend the meeting. The program will be live streamed on Zoom starting at 12 noon.



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

The Older Adult Ministry

We will meet on Saturday, October 26 at 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Once again, I encourage you to update your contact information. If you need help getting to Sunday Worship, please call the church office by Tuesday of the week 336 273 6658. Covid 19 is still with us, check your shot record.

Elders Marie Martin & Pauline McNair, Co-Moderators

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

Bob Powell, Moderator

The Presbyterian Men's Council will meet on the third Saturday of the month at 8am in the Fellowship Hall.

~Saint James Presbyterian Men

SAINT JAMES PRESBYTERIAN MEN

OUR MISSION

The mission of Saint James Presbyterian Men's Ministry is to lead men into a vital relationship with Jesus Christ and to help them grow in their spiritual and personal lives.

WHO WE ARE

For over 150 years Saint James Presbyterian Men have been responding to the call of Jesus Christ, taking the gospel into the community and the world, bearing witness to Christ's saving love. Today the Holy Spirit is still present, calling us to share in what God is doing in our lives to make the world a better place for all people.

WHAT WE DO

- We involve Presbyterian Men in worship and service to God.
- We invite all men of the congregation and men from the community to worship.
- We fellowship, worship and support church activities.
- We support the ministries of Saint James and the greater church community.
- We train and develop Presbyterian Men to be leaders.
- We are active participants in numerous communities such as Nomination, Pastor Nomination, Social Justice, Bible Studies, Fund Raisers ...

Saint James Presbyterian Men are working to make better communities by strengthening the faith of our brother and sisters in Christ and to make new disciples in Christ.

Several Presbyterian Men have become ministers, including Rev. Dr. Carl Manuel, Rev. Jimmy Hawkins, Rev. Juan Guthrie and Rev. Rodney Collins.

CURRENT OFFICERS

Elder Robert (Bob) Powell

Moderator

Elder Charles Burns

Secretary

Deacon Gary Williams

Treasurer

Trustee Tommy Gillespie

Chaplin

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Former Moderators)

Elder Charles Knox

Elder James Neal

Elder Jerry Young

Elder Oscar Reid

Deacon Freddie Click

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

Grace Brown Circle

The Grace Brown Circle will meet on October 16 at 12:45 PM in Classrooms 1 & 2.

Katherine Moore and Marcia Bellamy, Co-Moderators

ADMINISTRATION *Church Business & Officer Information*

Office Hours

The church office is open from 10:00am-5:00pm Monday - Thursday. Phone: 336-273-6658.

Monthly Informer Article Deadline

Please feel free to mail or e-mail: stjpresby@gmail.com . Articles can be sent prior to the deadline with the subject: **“November Informer.” The Final Deadline for articles is Monday, October 21, 2024, by 12:00 noon.**

Update on Printing through the Office

Implementation of copy codes and limits has been updated. There will be a 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 concerns.

Due to the cost of printing, only **STJPC ministry-related photocopies** will be printed by the main office. Please adhere to the yearly allotment for each ministry listed below:

Yearly Allotment per Ministry: Black & White Copies: **100**, Color Copies: **100**

Printing Charges: Black & White: \$0.012 per letter-sized impression

Color: \$0.06 per letter-sized impression

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

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/ie6YDkwR4yqffr9c9>. Your information will remain confidential.

ADMINISTRATION *Church Business & Officer Information (continued)*

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 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 2024 (subject to change)

<u>Elders</u>	<u>Members of the Congregation</u>
Tyrone Collins	A, B
Cynthia Latham	C, D, E
Gloria Washington	F, G, H, I
Marcia Bellamy	J, K, L
Mildred Powell	M, N, O
Cynthia Latham	P, Q, R
Chuck Wallington	S, T
Marcia Bellamy	U, V, W, X, Y, Z

SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY MINISTRY

Chairs, Lolita Watkins, Christina Yongue

Election Updates

Our Social Justice
the umbrella of the



2024

Advocacy Ministry under
Black & Brown

Women's Voting Initiative has been active since February of this year. Our church hosted the kickoff event of our voter engagement outreach and we have been meeting every month since that meeting. Our partners in our voter campaign to educate, encourage, register, and provide assistance in getting our neighbors to the polls during early voting or on Election Day are: our founding co-partner, Beloved Community Center, Tau Omega Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Micah Connections of Westminster Presbyterian Church, West Market Street United Church, Bethel AME Church, Warnersville Neighborhood Community Association, Advance Carolina, and the Greensboro Chapter of the Links, Incorporated. The Cone Health Foundation is providing \$10,000.00 in supporting our coalition work. Members of the Presbyterian Women and other members of our church is joining with us in distributing voter information at Guilford County Schools' open houses, back to school events, and other locations. Please pray for the community work we are doing and for each other in encouraging everyone in voting in our 2024 local, state and national elections. See pictures below of Social Justice Advocacy Ministry members and community friends turning in new voter registration forms, attending National Night Out events, and participating in community meetings to get out the vote in 2024.

FAITH POINT FELLOWSHIP *Young Adult and College Ministry*

Faith Point Fellowship (Young Adult Ministry)

Faith Point Fellowship will be on break from May through August. Text FPF to 844-233-6202 and receive words of inspiration on Motivational Monday. If you are on FB, please join our chat group. Look for us on Facebook and Instagram social @FaithPointFellowship.

Internship Opportunities - Faith Point Fellowship will hire college students for the 2024-25 academic school year to serve as Evangelism Interns. Interns must be at least a sophomore in a local college with a B average and active in campus activities. Interns are expected to invite students to ministry events, assist in leading ministry activities, and identify community service projects for the ministry. For more information, contact Dr. Ina Siler at 551-655-4612 or email us at faithpointfellowship@gmail.com.



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

Shaquille & Sheryl Davis	3938 Eastland Ave., 27401
Clarence Durham	3313 Janet Ln., 27405
Hyla Cundiff	2214 New Castle Rd. 27406
Emily Goodman	Guilford Health Care Center, 2041 Willow Road, Greensboro, NC 27406
John Guthrie	4504 Southall Dr., 27406
Lynette Hawkins	Harmony of Waldorf 11239 Berry Road, Apt. 108, Waldorf, MD 20603
Shirley Barnes	2219 Lakeland Road, Greensboro, NC 27405
Willie “Peggy” Meachem	1302 Ross Ave. 27406
Oscar Reid	3834 Riceland Pl. Charlotte, NC 28216
Fannie Scales	Guilford House 5918 Netfield Rd. Greensboro, NC 27455
Amryl Ward	8100 Grahamson Ln. Charlotte, NC 28269
Katherine Maynard	412 Stewart St Greensboro, NC 27401
Mrs. Thelma Williams	1907 Belecres Drive, Greensboro, NC 27406
Frank Woods	Moses Cone Health Rehabilitation Center 1121 North Church St. 4 West Rm. 16
Mrs. Margaret Spinks	4512 Lawndale Drive Apt. 244, Greensboro, NC 27455

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

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***

SJPC Housing Resource Directory

There are several resources in our community to help individuals with housing related issues: housing; home repairs; rental assistance; utilities; eviction; and more.

Our SJPC Affordable Housing Committee has created a housing directory with some of these community resources to help refer those in need of assistance. Click on the link below

We are called to be disciples engaged with our community, we hope that this resource will help us make a difference in our community.

<https://onedrive.live.com/view.aspx?resid=E83404E64DoBC837%21111&authkey=!AipQMTW8Gag9vJk>



STEWARDSHIP *Monthly collection and stewardship opportunities.*

“... “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.

We must work diligently at getting ourselves into “good trouble.”

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

For those of you who ***give online***, please indicate the nature of your ***Special Giving***.

New Elected Officers for 2025-2027

Elders

Lucia Ward-Alexander
Freddie Click
Dr. Vanessa Haygood
Marsha Knox
Katherine Maynard
Karen Yeduhah
Zaiah Wadlington

Deacons

Lula Burns
Brittany James
Sonia Owusu
Dr. Ina Siler
Kaelem James- Morris- Youth Deacon

Trustees

Demetra Barnwell
Brandon Herring
Charles Knox
Carrie Ledbetter
Bob Powell
Annie Purcell
Victoria Hardy - Youth Trustee

Current SJPC Officers

Elders

Marcia Bellamy – Congregational Care
Mildred Powell – Social Justice
Chuck Wallington - Stewardship
Cynthia Latham - Worship
Gloria Washington – Youth & Young Adults/Deacons
Cyrah Hardy – Youth

Deacons

Melvin Alexander
Regina Artis - Co Moderator
Charlene Bowden
Lula Burns
Russell Burris
Otelia Spinks Finch
Cedric Jarman
Tracey Jarmen - Co Moderator
Ava Neal
Kim Pemberton
Daydra Wilkes
Kiara Reid Rowell - Youth

Trustees

Terry Bellamy - Moderator
Stephanie Horton
Donald Lindsay
Marie Martin
Donald Miller
Saundra Peterson
Eugenia Turner
Jeremiah Reid Rowell- Youth



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.



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