

Deep Common Journey Partners

Partnership with an organization in mission toward learning to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Please visit Blacknall's website for more information.

CONGO INITIATIVE

Prayer requests from our partner David Kasali in Congo – “In DRC in general, in Beni and surrounding and particularly at CI-UCBC, we [have] been learning more and more to literally surrender to God for every aspect of our lives. Please pray that we will not give up, not see with our human eyes but see things from God’s perspective. We thank God for continued provision of peace and relative security.”

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, INC.

Ways to serve and love international students & scholars this winter: 1) Bless international married couples at the Marriage Course by helping set up, prepare, and serve a meal. Thursdays, January 18-March 8. Contact: Joyce Kight (nightingale1960me@yahoo.) 2) Be a host for the International Supper Club. Learn more at ivolunteers.website, sign up by Jan. 12. Contact: Dan Kronstad (dkronstad@isionline.org).

FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD (FORMERLY IHN)

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Angel Tree for FMF and for St. John’s. Your gift made many families in Durham feel loved at Christmas! A special thanks to Doug and Suzanne Coonley for their selfless giving in doing all the arrangements for the Angel Tree—they allow us to be generous!

REALITY MINISTRIES

The Reality Forum – Saturday, January 20. *What is Reality?* Together we will consider how knowing the reality of God’s grace rooted in the love of the Holy Trinity influences how we view ourselves, our neighbors, and every person. Register at realityministriesinc.org

Community Events

Why the Arts Matter to Faith in a Culture that Flattens our Vision. Monday, January 22, 7:30 p.m. Hill Hall (James & Susan Moeser Auditorium, UNC Campus). Lecture and piano performance by Dr. Jeremy Begbie, Professor of Theology, Duke Divinity School.

NAMI Family-to-Family – A free 12 session education program for family, friends, and significant others of adults living with mental illness. The course includes information on illnesses such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression and other mental health conditions. Mondays, February 12-April 30, 6:30-9 p.m. at Watts Street Baptist Church. To register, contact Julie Peters (juliepeters1969@gmail.com).

Finance

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
Matthew 6:19-21

July 1 through December 31, 2017

Actual offerings:	\$826,136
Offering need:	\$790,446
Ahead/(Behind):	\$35,690

Thank you for your generous gifts to support the ongoing ministry of Blacknall. Our fiscal year runs July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 with a total ministry budget of \$1,520,088. As shown in the summary above for the first 6 months of the fiscal year, gifts received have exceeded our budget. The strong calendar year-end giving along with your continued faithful support in the coming months will help us achieve our full year ministry budget goal by the end of June.

Contribution statements for 2017 will be sent out shortly. To abide by IRS regulations, we must now acknowledge gifts of stock differently from monetary contributions. More information will be included with stock gift receipts. If you gave a gift of stock to Blacknall in 2017 and have not yet notified the office of the details of your gift please contact Carol Smith (csmith@blacknall.org).

For more details regarding our finances you can find the most recent monthly finance report on the bulletin board outside of the community room on the lower level.



Blacknall Memorial Presbyterian Church

1902 Perry Street, Durham NC 27705

www.blacknall.org | 919.286.5586 (office) | churchoffice@blacknall.org



BLACKNALL
MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Blacknall is a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Fellowship Community.

January 7, 2018

Songs of Adoration

“Spirit of Jesus, Come”

“We Were Made to Worship You”

Invocation

“O Worship the King!”

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40:9-11, 65:17-25

“The Good Shepherd”

Highben

Prayers of Confession

Response of Gratitude: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Affirmation of Faith Creed

Apostles’

We believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Baptism of Rebecca Tian Hui Hackney
(11)

Children’s Blessing *Age 4 – 2nd grade may leave for Children’s & Junior Church*

Welcome! Whether you are a guest or attend regularly, we hope you will find the rich presence of God, the warmth of genuine fellowship, and the abiding truth of the Word.

Thank you for silencing your cell phones and pagers during the service. Hearing assistance units are available, please speak to one of the deacons.

The Word & the Sacrament

Proclamation of the Word: Matthew 2:1-12 *Allan Poole*
(Pew Bible page 966)

Song of Response: “Wise Men, They Came”

The Bread and the Cup *Gluten-free elements by*
piano

Life Together

Presenting Our Gifts

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Benediction

Prayer Teams: Jenny & Scott Hawkins (8:30)
Carmen & Sean Garrigan (11)

About the Music

For many of us, the last couple weeks have been full of comings & goings. I have often thought that the word “come” is central to our worship: we call to the Lord to come to us, only to discover that He is already beckoning us to come to Him. Notice how the prophecy from Isaiah 40 and 65, and Matthew’s account of the Magi (coming to Israel by way of Herod, but going home “by another route”), combine comings, goings, and identity. That last word is critical: It is in Christ’s identity as the Messiah-Good Shepherd that we find our security and our calling. We have often used the expression that we are an “outpost” – but this is not like Kevin Costner’s character in *Dances With Wolves*, left alone to fend for himself and figure it out. “We are His people, the sheep of His pasture.” (Psalm 100) The Magi were wise, but as we will sing, they found “One wiser than they knew” – and His Spirit prompted them to choose a different road, in accord with Isaiah 30:21, “Your ears will hear a Voice behind you saying, ‘This is the way.’” God is calling us into His “new thing” (Isaiah 43) – it is only because of the coming of Christ, and our coming to Him, that we foolish sheep are empowered and “quickened”, able to be led to go by that new road. What is the new thing God calls you to? Be still, and listen...

*Jesus, come! transform our pleasures,
Guide us into paths unknown;
Bring Your gifts, command Your servants,
Let us trust in You alone:
Though Your hand may work in secret,
All shall see what You have done.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
By His grace, the vict’ry’s won!*

Blacknall Memorial Presbyterian Church is called to glorify the Triune God, to make known the crucified and risen Christ, and to advance the Kingdom that God is building in us, in Durham, and around the world.

Our Life Together

Thanksgiving & Prayer Requests

We rejoice today with **Ray & Heidi Hackney** in the baptism of their daughter Rebecca Tian Hui Hackney; and with **Evan Cate & Lucy Dunderdale** on their marriage this afternoon.

Let’s rejoice with **Jac & Jenna Brown** on the birth of their daughter Lennox Avery Brown on December 17.

Pray for **Blacknall missionaries Dick & Nancy Baggé**, who have supported the work of Bible translation for 25+ years in Kenya and throughout Africa, by serving as coordinators for counseling of Wycliffe Bible translators, now living in Waxall, NC. Prayer requests: 1) thanksgiving for providing them with a new church home in Waxhaw; 2) Dick’s counseling ministry with missionaries; 3) his cooperative work in developing materials on the topic of healthy sexuality; 4) the effective use of material he has written on trauma healing; 5) a good relationship with his JAARS colleagues.

Church Programs & Events

Mission Prayer Celebration Dinner – Sunday, January 14, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Our semi-annual time of gathering to celebrate how the lost have been found! We and our mission partners will share stories over a Syrian meal prepared by Amera Almousa.

Communion & Healing Service – Sunday, January 21, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Please join us for the celebration of the Lord’s Supper with the opportunity to receive prayer for yourself and others.

Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers - Sunday, January 28, 8:30 & 11 a.m. services. The Class of 2021 officers will be voted on at the end of both services. Officers are elected for three-year terms. Elder nominees (7 nominees for 5 positions): Chris Blumhofer, Pete Gerend, Don Hoover, Mary Banks Knechtle, Donna Mutter, Paula Rinehart, Cullen Rodgers-Gates. Deacon nominees (6 nominees for 6 positions): Kris Barman, Maria Bradshaw, Barb Eyster, Bill Shively, John Shoenfelt, Ryan Stults. Deacon nominee for special one-year term: Bob Leslie. Look for an email this week with nominee profiles. We encourage you to prayerfully consider the nominees.

Children’s Ministry

Children’s & Junior Church – A continuation of the worship service in their own space is offered for children after the Children’s Blessing.

Children’s Church is for 4 and 5 year olds in Room 105, and Junior Church is for 1st and 2nd graders in Room 112. After the 11 a.m. service, please pick up your children promptly.

College-Age Ministry

College-Age Sunday School starts back Sunday, January 14, 10 a.m. We are meeting in Room 404 this season (a change from the Parlor). Contact: Lauren Hunter (lauren.hunter@duke.edu).

Women’s Ministry

“Become a Loving Listener” Workshop – Saturday, January 27, 9-11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Led by Meredith Milke, Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist and Professional Counselor. What would it mean for our relationships if we were better listeners? Come join us for a practical and interactive workshop on learning to listen. We will laugh and practice together so you can have a few more tools to love others well. Sign up coming soon.

Announcements

January International Missionary Prayer Guide – Pick up a copy of the January guide in the Narthex or Upper Atrium. Let’s resolve to pray for our missionaries regularly in the New Year.

Winter Weather Policy – There will always be 11 a.m. worship. If the weather is bad, please check the website or recorded message (286-5586) after 6:30 a.m. Come at 11 for worship if you can make it! If the 8:30 service and Sunday School are cancelled, all other scheduled activities for that day are also cancelled.

Would you like to provide flowers in the foyer for 2018? This year you can create your own arrangement or bring in an arrangement of your choosing (the flowers will no longer be sent through Ninth Street Flowers). Look for the Flower Chart coming soon to the bulletin board across from the Community Room. Bring flowers to the church by Friday at 3 p.m. for the following Sunday. An announcement can be added to the bulletin by emailing the church office by Thursday 5 p.m. (churchoffice@blacknall.org).

Volunteer Opportunity – Would you like to serve the church by helping cover the office during vacations? This involves answering phones and greeting people that come to the church. If you are available weekdays and would like to be added to our volunteer list, please contact the office for more information (churchoffice@blacknall.org).

Come for a free concert in the sanctuary – Friday, January 19, 7 p.m. Scott Laird and Dave Stuntz will direct the NC School of Science & Math orchestra and over 100 singers from the community, with selections ranging from Mozart to *Les Mis*. The concert will last about one hour; children are welcome!