

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 especially in the past few days. Please pray that we will continue to daily live out our faith and trust in God. Our context gives us the opportunity to live out Christianity. Please pray that God will continue to be sufficient to us in **all our needs.**”

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, INC.

As we look to the new year, here are two ways for you to serve and love international students & scholars: 1) Bless international married couples at the Marriage Course by helping set up, prepare, and serve one or more of the meals. Thursday evenings January 18–March 8. Contact: Joyce Kight (nightingale1960me@yahoo.com). 2) Be a host for the International Supper Club in the Spring Semester. More information can be found at <http://ivolunteers.website>. Sign up by January 12. Contact: Dan Kronstad (dkronstad@isionline.org) or Scott Hawkins (shawkins@duke.edu).

FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD (FORMERLY IHN)

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Angel Tree for FMF and for St. John's. Your gifts have made many families in Durham feel loved at Christmas! Blacknall continues to bless many at both of these places as we give to **folks we don't even know.** 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 single person. For information and registration, go to www.realityministriesinc.org

Finance

Year-end Financial Information

Additional income needed by **December 31, 2017**
to meet our budget obligations: **\$90,466**

One aspect of being Christ's disciples is entering into the joy of His ministry on every level, including providing financially for the mission of the church. As we enter the Advent season and near the end of the calendar year on December 31, we encourage Blacknall members and friends to review your 2017 giving records to make sure you've given as you've intended. Although Blacknall now follows a fiscal year budget that begins in July and ends in June, we still typically receive the largest share of offerings at the end of the calendar year and these end-of-year offerings are essential for us to meet our fiscal year budget. We rejoice in **the Lord's generosity to our church family and thank you in advance for participating in our mission.**

The finance summary above differs from our usual format. The income total is updated each week and shows the total additional offering needed to meet budget for the end of the calendar year. The traditional summary (shown below) is updated at the close of each month with the actual offerings received compared to budget need as of the stated month. Please direct any questions to Joe Bohn (joebohn@gmail.com) or financial administrator Carol Smith (csmith@blacknall.org).

July 1 through November 30, 2017

Actual offerings: \$466,145

Offering need: \$562,433

Ahead/(behind): (\$96,288)

There are multiple ways to give to Blacknall:

- Cash or check in the offering plate on Sunday mornings.
- Cash or check brought to the church office.
- Checks mailed to the church office.
- Gifts of stock. Contact Rick Every for more information about how to transfer stock (919.489.9733; REvery18@aol.com).
- Automatic bank drafts as a part of bill pay directed to Blacknall using your local bank.
- Online giving is available from our website (including ACH, debit card, and credit card donations). Members can also schedule recurring online gifts when signed on to CCB.
- Details on all giving options are available at blacknall.org/giving.



Blacknall Memorial Presbyterian Church

1902 Perry Street, Durham NC 27705

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

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



BLACKNALL
MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 31, 2017

Songs of Adoration

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee!”

“Joy to the World!”

Invocation

“Jesus Messiah”

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

“Before the Throne of God Above”

Prayers of Confession

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

Affirmation of Faith

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And we believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds; God of God; Light of Light; Very God of Very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven; and sits on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit; the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who has spoken by the prophets. And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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: Luke 2:22-40 *Goodie Bell*
(*Pew Bible page 1027*)

Song of Response: “Shout to the Lord”

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

Life Together

Presenting Our Gifts

Focus on Mission *Chris & Donna Rice*

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Benediction

Prayer Team *Mark & Anne Paulson*

About the Music

In Luke 2, we can imagine a lot of shouting going on....the heavenly host, the shepherds, Simeon and Anna,....praising and glorifying God for Jesus Christ’s birth! We join that “happy chorus” singing “Jesus Messiah” and “Shout to the Lord” to praise our Savior, Messiah, and King “whose name is Love.” We also reflect on the joy we can have in the Lord in this coming new year as the “Light of the world” has come....”fill us with the light of day” and in our “songs, lives, homes, and Blacknall community, Lord, be glorified!” *John Nicholson*

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

Let’s rejoice with Jac & Jenna Brown on the birth of their daughter Lennox Avery Brown on December 17; **Katie & Ryan Connolly** on the birth of their son Abraham Burton Connolly on December 18; and with **Amy & Dan Gaultney** on the birth of their son Isaac Michael Gaultney on December 20.

Pray for Blacknall Missionaries, Chris & Donna Rice, spending five years as co-representatives for Northeast Asia for the relief and peace organization Mennonite Central Committee (MCC). “To be able to work in the region is really more than I could have asked for or imagined,” writes Chris, who grew up in South Korea where his parents were Presbyterian missionaries. “Being able to use the Korean language that I know, knowing the culture, knowing the region, being able to build trust, and being able to connect Duke Divinity School—it’s really a dream come true.” Prayer requests: 1) no precipitous action that would ignite a war on the Korean peninsula; 2) thanksgiving that the MCC North Korea coordinator was able to make his most productive trip ever to North Korea in November; 3) wisdom in matching the four Korean interns with the best placement assignments for their ministry in North America; 4) travel safety and a good time of rest and renewal during the holidays for the North American staff.

Church Programs & Events

Simple Supper & Prayers for Outreach – Sunday, January 14, 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall. Join us for supper followed by prayer for our partners in mission in Durham, on campus, in Congo, and around the world.

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.

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.

Women’s Ministry

“Listening to Others” 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.

Save the Dates for January – Stretch and Pray will meet on Saturday, January 13, 9-10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. **Knit Together** will meet on Saturday, January 20, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Location TBA.

Announcements

New Year’s Day Office Closing – The church office will be closed on Monday, January 1.

Winter Weather Policy – There will always be worship at 11:00 a.m. If, however, the weather is bad enough for other services and activities in the area to be cancelled, please check the recorded message in the Church Office (286-5586) after 6:30 a.m. Come at 11:00 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? We have a change in the flower policy for the upcoming year. The flower chart will be posted on the second floor bulletin board across from the Community Room soon. You can now sign up to bring a floral arrangement to the church by 3:00 p.m. Friday for the following Sunday morning. You can also include an announcement in the bulletin by emailing the church office (churchoffice@blacknall.org) with that message by Thursday 5 p.m.

Volunteer Opportunity – Would you like to serve the church by helping to cover the office during vacations this coming year? This mostly 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 Donna or Ali in the office for more information (churchoffice@blacknall.org).