

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

Christian Bilingual University of Congo (UCBC) Fundraiser – Saturday, March 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at American Underground (201 W. Main Street). Congo Initiative is holding a UCBC fundraiser in to raise sponsorships for students in their education and formation as Congo's next generation of leaders. Dr. David Kasali and UCBC alumnus Archip Lobo will be the featured speakers. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks served. RSVP futureleaders.congoinitiative.org/events/durham/ by March 9. See Julie Bryce or Cullen Rodgers-Gates with questions.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, INC.

Ways to serve and love international students: 1) Consider preparing and/or serving dinner for the Marriage Course, Thursdays through March 15. Contact Joyce Kight (nightingale1960me@yahoo.com). 2) Are you handy with fix-it projects and/or skilled in painting, plumbing, sheetrock, flooring or electrical? Consider joining our team over spring break for a service project March 11-14. We will return to the Lumberton, NC area to help families who are still recovering from Hurricane Matthew. Contact Dan Kronstad (dkronstad@isionline.org).

FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD (FORMERLY IHN)

Blacknall's dates of service are upon us and we still need volunteers to fulfill our commitment to this great organization. Please contact Anne Paulson (annepaulson1@gmail.com) to volunteer. For the next two Sundays we will be collecting items for FMF in the Barrel of Joy found in the Lower Atrium. A list of needed items can be found on the table next to the Barrel. Thank you for your help.

REALITY MINISTRIES

Help Reality Ministries create a welcoming space – Seeking furniture, home décor, plants and other items. Also seeking experienced/certified electricians and carpenters, and a seamstress for curtains. If you have items to donate, send picture and description to Janie Kimmel (janie.kimmel@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, 2017 through January 31, 2018

Actual offerings:	\$952,261
Offering need:	\$896,852
Ahead/(Behind):	\$55,409

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.

Annual contribution statements for monetary gifts are now available on CCB. If you prefer a printed statement or if you are having difficulty accessing your giving statement, please contact the church office.

Contribution statements for stock gifts have been mailed. However, there are still a few stock gifts for which we do not know the donor. If you contributed stock, but have not yet received a contribution statement, then we may not know that the stock is from you. Please contact Carol Smith in the church office with information about your stock donation (csmith@blacknall.org).



Blacknall Memorial Presbyterian Church

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



BLACKNALL

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 25, 2018

Songs of Adoration

“Holy! Holy! Holy!”

Invocation

“How Firm a Foundation”

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-13

“This Fathomless Love”

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*

Assisting in Worship this morning is Chris Blumhofer, Divinity School intern.

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.

The flowers in the Atrium today are given to the glory of God by Ray Wilkins & Cameron Hart, in loving memory of Roland Wilkins.

The Word & the Sacrament

Proclamation of the Word: Hebrews 6:13-20 *David Dunderdale*
(*Pew Bible page 1207*)

Song of Response: “The Solid Rock”

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

Life Together

Presenting Our Gifts

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Benediction

Prayer Teams: Michael & Serena Whisenhunt (8:30)
Carmen Garrigan & Kim Dunderdale (11)

About the Music

The word “holy” is often used as the ultimate “describer” of God; it is perhaps the “character trait” that stands in starkest contrast to our lives. Absolute purity – no wonder the heavenly song repeats the word, over and over and over. As we gather today, let’s hear the call to be still in the presence of His holiness, to try to adequately worship Him as we join the celestial voices, singing, “Holy, holy, holy!” Where do we get the nerve to even dare to offer our voices to One such as this? Because He invites us, even as He said to Moses, “I will make a covenant, and you will be My people” (Exodus 34). Yes, God is holy; and, in that passage, He says that He is wholly just and wholly loving. We can and should marvel at all of this, but we will never really understand it – how could we? It’s why I am so drawn to the song “This Fathomless Love”: the writer lays out the questions, but never resolves them. God is holy, which we cannot comprehend; and His mercy, from our perspective, doesn’t make sense. “Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart, which wonders to feel its own hardness depart; Dissolved by Thy goodness I fall to the ground and weep for the praise of the mercy I’ve found.”

Lord, what moved Your heart to love lowly man
Before any star could herald Your praise?
And why did You come abasing Yourself,
Veiled in a robe of frail human clay?
Why would You, the Pure, give Your life for the vile;
The Innocent seeking the guilty to be reconciled?

*I can’t comprehend this fathomless love,
I’m gripped and amazed at what You have done.
Why would the Adored become the despised,
To bear all the furious wrath that was mine?
How awesome this mystery, of Your fathomless love for me.*

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

Pray for Lynn & 'Ale Vander Woude-'Aho, Blacknall-supported missionaries in Tonga, as they recover from Cyclone Gita water damage to their buildings and the ability to filter drinking water. **Pray for Erin & David Pervis**, Blacknall-supported missionaries, in the death of Erin’s father Dr. George Lee Echols, Jr. on February 11.

Pray for Blacknall missionary Jennifer (Jenn) West, with IVCF, Amsterdam, ministering to its many international students through ISMA, which is organized by Dutch Christians for all students and post-docs in Amsterdam & Amstelveen studying away from home. Prayer requests: 1) thanksgiving for a recent gathering of nine InterVarsity staff from across Europe who have a heart for Muslims; 2) her intensive Dutch language study this month in preparation for taking the government exam; 3) the staff and volunteers in Amsterdam, especially **Alinda, who is taking on some of Jenn’s responsibilities**; 4) her church in Amsterdam that has been going through some difficulties the last couple of years; 5) the formation of good plans for her March-August home assignment.

The 4th & 5th grade girls and Sunday School teachers praise God for a successful bake sale. Thanks to your incredible generosity, they raised \$790 for a VBS program at LaFuente church in Mexico City!

Church Programs & Events

Lenten Services – February 21-March 21, Wednesdays, 7-7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come and worship as a way to journey together toward Easter. If you need childcare, please contact Beth Solie (bsolie@blacknall.org). Please note that the Lenten Suppers are cancelled until the Sanctuary is repaired.

Inquirer’s Class – Are you interested in learning more about life and membership at Blacknall? The spring class will meet on Sundays, March 11-April 15, 5-6:15 p.m. in the Parlor, with a break on Easter Sunday. If you are interested, please contact churchoffice@blacknall.org.

What knowledge, skills, abilities, passions, & gifts are present at Blacknall? This year’s Confirmation Class hopes to find out through a congregational resource mapping project. Participate on the post-it note display in the Upper Atrium or at tinyurl.com/ConfirmationProject until February 28. The results will help us better imagine how church functions as a body and see the Body of Christ at work. Information is

confidential to the extent your answers afford. Please join us in this fun and important work and look for a report coming in March!

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. Please pick up your children promptly after the 11 a.m. service.

Youth Ministry

Middle & High School BYG will meet not tonight. Contact: Brad Turnage (bturnage@blacknall.org).

Announcements

Sanctuary Repairs – Thank you for your patience as we meet in the Fellowship Hall for worship while the Sanctuary ceiling is being repaired. Please check blacknall.org for updates on events.

Durham Crop Hunger Walk – Sunday, March 25, 2:30 p.m. Sign up in the Lower Atrium for this annual 5 mile walk around Durham to raise funds to help end hunger in our community and around the world. Contact: Doug Koenig (doug@dougkoeniglaw.com).

Calling All Artists – Would you like to share or create a piece of art related to the Scriptural Way of the Cross stations? The Scriptural Way follows Jesus along his journey to the cross and allows us to engage with **the story of Jesus’ passion during Lent**. **The first few stations are:** Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus, Betrayed by Judas, is Arrested, and Jesus is Condemned by the Sanhedrin. To view the rest of the stations and sign up, visit blacknall.org.

Thanks to the 100+ people who came out for our listening lunch! We learned a great deal in conversation with one another, and we will provide further information about Durham C.A.N. (Congregations, Associations, and Neighborhoods) soon. Email Caitlin Swartz with questions or to learn more (caitlin.swartz@gmail.com).

Community Events

From Machines to Wayfarers: How Not to be a Dualist in Health Care. Thursday, March 1, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Duke University Hospital North, Rm 2001. Presented by Warren Kinghorn, M.D., Th.D., Associate Professor at Duke University Medical Center and Associate Research Professor at Duke Divinity School. All are welcome.

Cultivating Mental Health: Hope & Healing Conference – Friday, April 13, 8-4:15 p.m. at St. Thomas Moore Catholic Church, Chapel Hill. Explore ways faith communities can support families and individuals living with mental illness. Register online at faithconnectionsmentalillness.org/