

# PEACEPRESS



## *Pastor's Perspective*

I was speaking recently with some new church members about my journey of faith. I shared about being raised in the Episcopal church, wandering away from church life during my college years, and again finding the church, this time the United Church of Christ, as I entered into my late twenties. I love the church.

Being part of a local church not only grounds me in the teachings of Jesus, and his call to peace, love, social justice, and forgiveness, but also provides me with a larger story out of which to live. My sense of self and my participation in the world is not solely based on my story, my achievements, or my failures, but me as simply part of God's grand story about the joys and struggles of life and the ultimate redemption of humanity.

Being a person of faith and a member of a local faith community often causes me to feel joyfully small. Kind of like years ago when I peered over the canyon wall at the Grand Canyon to see the majesty of God's incredible evolutionary handiwork. I felt joyfully small, in touch with something larger than myself. Wow!

For many people in our culture, life is all about feeling big, in control, domineering, on top. With such an orientation humility is viewed as weakness. Acknowledging our struggles, sadness, and disappointments makes us vulnerable. We prefer that others not see this part of who we are.

Yet, what Jesus clearly understood was the frailty of the human condition. Humanity is fraught with brokenness. We are not complete and there are longings yet to be fulfilled. But there is also tenderness, empathy, and compassion that flows forth from the human spirit. We each have gifts to share, quirks to laugh at, and humor to

## *IN THIS ISSUE*

**Pastor's Perspective**

**A Note from Elisabeth**

**Mission of the Month**

**Birthdays**

**Volunteers Needed**

**Catawba College's  
New Chaplain**

**New Church Directory**

**New Members**

**Brunswick Stew**

**Stewardship Sunday**

share. It's in the faith community - Peace Church - where we see the complexity of the human condition on display.

For all of these reasons - and so many more - I love the church. How about you?

Blessings,  
Pastor Tom

## *A Note from Elisabeth*

As we enter the month of November and approach the busyness of the holiday seasons, it is a good time to stop and concentrate on thanking God. A lot has changed in the world in the last 2-1/2 years, but we are still here worshipping God, and the Thanksgiving season is a special time to give Him praise.

Colossians 3: 15-17 tells us:

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (NIV)

During November, perhaps try using the Book of Psalms to guide your devotional time of giving thanks to God and supplement your reading with a hymn. In our hymnal on page 834 is the Scripture References index. This lists the hymns that have a particular link to a Biblical passage. For example, Psalm 100 is the basis for hymn 18: All People That on Earth Do Dwell. Both the Psalm and the hymn are full of singing praises to God for His goodness. There are thirty-two entries of Psalms with hymns (and some Psalms have more than one hymn). That's one entry a day for November with a couple of extras. Let's spend November singing our thanks to

God. The final Sunday of November is the beginning of Advent which is the first season of the new Christian Church Year.

May we all make giving thanks a way of life every year - every month - every day - every moment!

## *Mission of the Month*

### HOLIDAY HONOR CARDS

Each year for over thirty years, William Mangum paints a special winter scene for the holiday season that conveys a message of hope. Partner charities sell these cards to raise funds for their programs that help the poor in their area. Honor cards are available for a minimum donation of \$5 each. Individuals who purchase Honor Cards send them to friends and family, indicating that they have been honored by a donation to Greensboro Urban Ministry. Honor cards have become quite collectible by fans of William Mangum and annual donors to Greensboro Urban Ministry. The popularity and strength of this program expanded to over a dozen communities across North Carolina, generating over eight million dollars to support those in crisis.

Honor Cards will be available for purchase in the Narthex until Christmas or call Cindy Spillers at 336-852-0478.

## *Volunteers Needed*

The New Arrivals Institute will be serving a Thanksgiving dinner on Wednesday morning, November 23rd in our Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are needed to help serve the meal to the clients of the New Arrivals Institute. If you can help please sing up on the list in the narthex. Donations to cover the cost of four (4) turkeys are also needed. Note: Volunteers will need to arrive at 9:00am and the meal will be served beginning at 10:30am. This is a great opportunity to meet and welcome our "new arrivals" to the Greensboro area!!

*Peace United Church of Christ is a community of people who strive to be living examples of the teachings, ethics, and values of Jesus Christ.*

PEACE UCC  
VISION STATEMENT

## *NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS*

- **5th - Mick McGrogan**
- **7th - Trish Larimer**
- **13th - Dan Smith**
- **18th - Linda Forotan**
- **20th - Kentoya Savage**
- **21st - Abigail Miller-Warren & Eddie Small**
- **25th - Barbara Small**
- **30th - David Fesperman**



# Catawba College Announces New Chaplain Pick

After a nationwide search, we are pleased to announce Rev. Kendra Joyner Miller as our new Chaplain and Director of the Lilly Center for Vocation and Values. Kendra is an alumna from the class of 2011. She will provide strategic leadership and a comprehensive vision to support Catawba's religious and spiritual life.

Kendra will assume the role on November 7, 2022, succeeding our longtime Chaplain and friend, Rev. Kenneth Clapp (D.Min.), who is retiring after 33 years of service to the Catawba community.

Kendra emerged as the clear fit to succeed Reverend Clapp through the search process. As an alumna, she embodies Catawba's values, and as a minister of the United Church of Christ, she deeply resonates with Catawba's rich history in that tradition. I'm deeply grateful for her sense of calling to the work of helping students to discover their own sense of vocation.

Kendra is an ordained clergy person with the United Church of Christ (UCC) and has served as a Moderator Designate and Moderator Elect for the Fox Valley Association of the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ from 2018-2020. Since 2014, she has ministered at the First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn, Illinois, first as the Minister of Youth and Families and then as the Associate Minister focusing on adult education, pastoral care, and community engagement.

She graduated from Catawba College with a bachelor's degree in Religion and Philosophy. While at Catawba, Kendra was the 2011 recipient of the Whitener Award, which recognizes a graduating student who exemplifies the values of Catawba College. She also served as Student Government President and ran cross country. Kendra has a Master of Divinity degree from the Yale Divinity School, where she received

the Tweedy Award for Promise in Pastoral Ministry in 2014. Kendra will be relocating to Salisbury with her husband Dan, daughters Josephine and Eliza, and their black lab mix, Connie.



## *New Church Directory!*

Photography for our new pictorial directory starts in just a couple of weeks! Photography will be taking place in the Parlor. If you haven't scheduled already, we still have 9 slots available and we want you to be included. You are an important part of our church family and our directory wouldn't be complete without you!

For participating, you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait as well as an updated church directory. The process will only take about 30-45 minutes and you will have the opportunity to purchase family portraits.

**Please call Anne Badgett in the  
church office at (336) 299-8663 to schedule your time on  
Thursday, November 17th.**

### **Don't Forget!**

**Hands-On will meet  
on November 9th at  
1PM in the  
Fellowship Hall.  
Please join if you  
are able!**



### **Don't Forget!**

**Stewardship Sunday is  
November 13th. Pledge  
cards will be mailed out  
two weeks prior and our  
Please pray on your  
pledging levels. Cards  
will be presented on  
November 13th.**

# *New Arrivals Institute & Peace Church...Quite a Team!*

Peace Church has been renting space out to the New Arrivals Institute (NAI) now for over 7 years. In that time the program of NAI has grown significantly as has their "footprint" at Peace Church. So what are they up to and how is our building central to their mission?

The NAI currently daily serves over 75 adults and 35 children from the following nations:

Afghanistan, Ukraine, Eritrea, Sudan, The Congo, Burma and the Central African Republic.

NAI programming is each day, Monday through Friday, from 9:30am to 12:30pm with every room on the third floor used; the nursery, two children's classrooms, and Bertha Work Room used on the second floor, as well as the Fellowship Hall.

NAI provides the following services/classes:

English Language Training, Employment Training, Health Access and Education (including mental health), Education Training, Community Orientation, Vocational Skills Training, Tutoring for School-Aged children, Citizenship Class, and Early Childhood Classes among other periodic services.

Cone Health Foundation funds a part-time community nurse as well as a Behavioral Health Nurse to address NAI client health care needs.

NAI has 13 full time staff, 7 part time staff, 6 GTCC English Instructors, and over 100 volunteers and interns each year. There are two additional part time staff members hired for summer programming.

Please Note: NAI is considered a GTCC satellite location.

For use of classes and office space at Peace Church the NAI pays \$7,500.00 per quarter, for a total of \$30,000.00 a year. Most of the NAI clients come and go from Peace Church via the Greensboro City

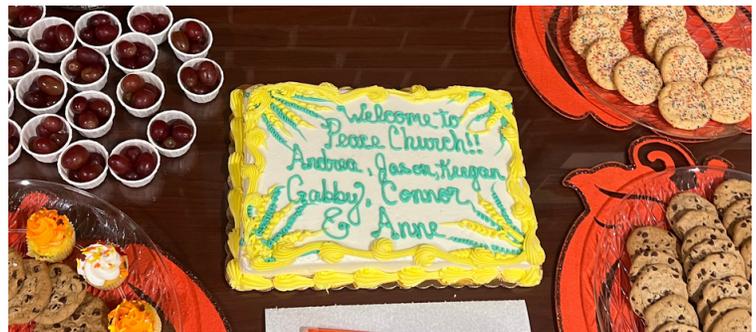
bus line which drops them off and picks them up at the church on the Lindell side of the parking lot. NAI is funded through Federal, State, and local grants (including United Way funds) as well as some congregational and private donations.

NAI was originally a program of Lutheran Family Services and was founded on the principle of empowering women with free child care, English, and acculturation classes which is still a core value today as well as health access and education. In January 2010, NAI became an independent non-profit organization and began programming at Peace Church in August 2014.

**For more information go to [www.newarrivalsinstitute.org](http://www.newarrivalsinstitute.org)**

## *New Members!*

Welcome to the 9 new members that have joined the Peace Church family this year!



# BRUNSWICK STEW



**Peace**

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**NOVEMBER 19TH**

**10AM - 2PM**

**\$10 - 32OZ. CONTAINER**

**CALL (336) 299-8663 TO  
PREORDER**

2714 W. Market Street | [peaceucc.com](http://peaceucc.com)



*Bill Kluttz's  
100th Birthday!*



# FROM BREAD AND CUP TO FAITH AND GIVING



## God Widens the Narrow Door

Luke 13: 22-30

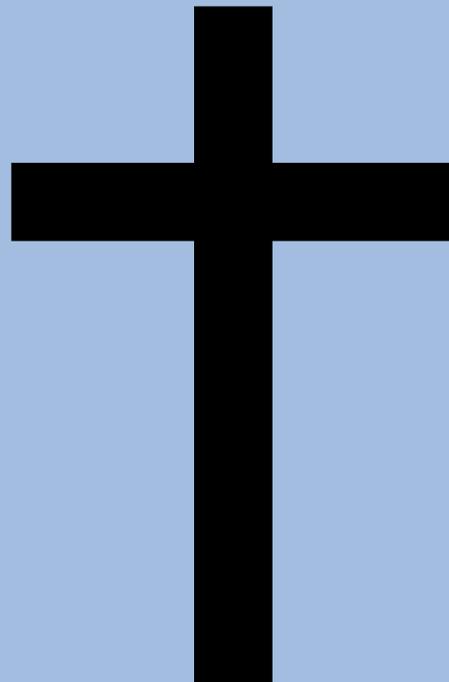
**Rev. James D. Ross II** (he, him, his)  
 Minister for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
 Southern New England Conference UCC

The frequent human inclination to operate as though resources and opportunities are scarce presents itself in the question of someone Jesus encountered during his journey to the Passover in Jerusalem.

“Lord, will only a few be saved,” the man asked.

Many scholars agree the man was someone who felt certain of his own salvation – whether because he was following the rules, because of his connection to the lineage of Abraham, or for other reasons. But how many would be saved along with him?

Jesus responded with a parable about people arriving at a house for a party and being denied entry by the owners, who said they did not know the visitors, despite the visitors’ claims of a friendship with them. The message, perhaps, is that none of us should assume that our connection to God is stronger or that our relationship with God is more special than that of anyone else.



Jesus follows the parable with the promise that far from “a few” being saved, “people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God.”

Our God is one of abundance. Just as God welcomes people from all directions to the kingdom (and kindom) of God, so has God created the earth with enough resources for us all. We need only remember that everyone is deserving of them.

How is your stewardship reflected in this parable? Do you operate as though there is only enough for you, or do you model generosity and gratitude for God’s provision?

### CONSIDER YOUR PLEDGE AS A PERCENT OF YOUR MONTHLY INCOME.

Annual Income	Monthly Income	2%	3%	4%	5%	10%
20,000	1,667	33	50	67	83	167
25,000	2,083	42	63	83	104	208
30,000	2,500	50	75	100	125	250
35,000	2,917	58	88	117	146	292
40,000	3,333	67	100	133	167	333
45,000	3,750	75	113	150	188	375
50,000	4,167	83	125	167	208	417
60,000	5,000	100	150	200	250	500
75,000	6,250	125	188	250	313	625
100,000	8,333	167	250	333	417	833
125,000	10,417	208	313	417	521	1042
150,000	12,500	250	375	500	625	1250
200,000	16,667	333	500	667	833	1667

On average, Americans give 2% of their income to charity. Giving even 1% more of annual income to charity would be transformative for our congregation and other organizations doing good in our community.