

The Village Chapel

Pinehurst, North Carolina

August 30, 2026

**Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Invitation Sunday**



Our Mission

As an independent, interdenominational Church, we unify all Christians through the Word of God, worship God in spirit and truth; teach and encourage the Christian faith; support the spiritual needs of our congregation and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through community outreach.

The Village Chapel

An Enduring Vision for Christian Community

As an independent, interdenominational, Christian community, we look to the authority of scripture and the Lordship of Christ in all matters of doctrine and practice. Our mission is founded upon the precepts of worship, learning, and service.

First, The Village Chapel exists to worship God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Together, the Trinity are “worshipped and glorified,” as we, and Christians throughout history, profess in the Nicene Creed. In the Gospel of John, our Lord teaches us, that the Father seeks worshippers (John 4:23). Therefore, we assemble together as a community of worshippers to give God our praise and thanksgiving, and to exalt His name in The Village of Pinehurst and Moore County. The Village Chapel is a place of worship, and we are His worshippers—not only on Sundays, but every day, and everywhere.

Next, we are called to become learners of Christ. Jesus said in the Gospel of Matthew, to learn from Him (Matthew 11:29), and He commissioned us to teach people about Him (Matthew 28:20). Christian living is Christian learning. As Dietrich Bonhoeffer once said, “Christianity without discipleship, is Christianity without Christ.” Jesus desires for us to grow in our knowledge and understanding of Him, so we can be equipped to teach others, sharing the message of the Gospel—learners becoming imitators of Christ.

Finally, we are called to be servants—to serve God and to serve one another. Jesus said that He “did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Matthew 20:28) We are not to be “hearers” of the Word only, but “doers.” (James 1:22) Following the Lord’s example of sacrificial service, we too are to live sacrificially in our service to God, His Church, and others.

Upon these three pillars, is the vision of The Village Chapel founded.

Worship. Learn. Serve.

Rev Dr. Ashley Neil Smith, Senior Pastor



If you are looking for a church home, the pastors would like to meet with you at your convenience. The process for membership is simple and straightforward. Once a new member application (one page) is submitted - applications can be requested from our office, filled out online, or found in our visitor folders in the narthex - then, a meeting with a pastor is scheduled. Because we are an interdenominational community - including many Christian faith traditions - we offer dual membership. Dual membership allows you to be a member of The Village Chapel and another church. Also, transfer letters are not required but can be requested at your behest. We look forward to worshipping, learning, and serving with you and your family, in the days to come.

10:00 A.M. INVITATION SERVICE

† *Congregation stands*

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- Opening Voluntary Festival Prelude on *A Mighty Fortress* William Faulkes
Words of Welcome and Announcements Dr. Trey Majure
Call to Worship
- † Opening Hymn *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* 56
Prayer of Confession (People)
 Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. *Amen.*
Assurance of Pardon
Children's Sermon Dr. Vickie Smith
Old Testament: *Exodus 3:1-15* (bulletin, p.5)
† *Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b* (Read responsively) (bulletin, p.6)
† Gloria Patri
 *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
 As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
 World without end. Amen. Amen.*
New Testament: *Romans 12:9-21* (bulletin, p.6)
Gospel: *Matthew 16:21-28* (bulletin, p.6)
 Minister: The Lord be with You.
 People: And with thy spirit.
Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer Rev. Greg Wetzelberger
† Hymn *How Great Thou Art* 51
Sermon Dr. Ashley Neil Smith
† Nicene Creed (People)
 I believe in one God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; and 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 men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead; and the life of the world to come. *Amen.*
Choral Anthem *Go Down, Moses* Mark Hayes
† Doxology
 Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty,
 Praise Him, all creatures here below, to Thee we sing:
 Praise Him, above ye heavenly host, Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen Protect us by Thy might, great God our King! Amen.

COMMUNION SERVICE

Minister: The Lord be with you.
People: And with thy spirit.
Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up unto the Lord.
Minister: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People: It is meet and right so to do.

Preface

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven; who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus (sung by the choir)

Gerald Near

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and Earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Consecration of the Elements (Minister)

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. *Amen.*

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Fraction Anthem (*sung by the choir*) *My Flesh is Food Indeed*

Ray Urwin

Holy Communion

Communion Anthem *Now the Silence, Now the Peace*

Carl Schalk

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*People*)

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

† Closing Hymn *Lift High the Cross*

287

Benediction & Choral Response *Go Ye Now in Peace*

Joyce Eilers

The congregation is invited to remain seated for the closing voluntary.

Closing Voluntary *Sortie in E-Flat Major*

Louis-Alfred James Lefebure-Wely

Ushers: Cam Cantelou, Mike Poplin and Russell Zumwalt

Reader: Julie Poplin

Altar: Donna Brundage

Acolytes: Kennedy and Presley Fox

Flower Delivery: Sally and Keith Fox

Guest Musician: Tatiana Wright, piano

August 30

Gospel Alphabet

September 13

J

JESUS answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent." [John 6:39]

K

KNOCK, and it will be opened to you.
[Matthew 7:7]

Prayer & Healing Service

Join us for prayers and anointing for healing at 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, September 2**, in the Sanctuary. For details, contact **John Roberts** at prayer@tvcpinehurst.com or **(910) 315-3772**.

If you are not receiving our weekly eblasts, please scan the QR Code and complete the form to subscribe or call the church office for assistance.



Visual & Hearing Enhancements Available

Visual: There are large-print hymns and lighted magnifiers available in the Narthex and Sacristy for your use.
Hearing: Load the YouTube app onto your smartphone or tablet. Connect to Wi-Fi (network: TVC-Guest, password: Village1). Turn the sound off and closed captioning on. You can now read every word that is being spoken on your device with a short delay. Contact **Christy Forrest** at ct4est@gmail.com for more information.

Total Attendance
Sunday, August 23:
477

New Members
in 2025:
127
New Members
in 2026:
55

PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

Ann Kallam, Andy Trepczyk, John Patota, Patsy Parkhill

Have a special prayer request? We want to pray for you.
Please reach out to John Roberts with any prayer requests at prayer@tvcpinehurst.com. You can also share your prayer requests on the prayer cards on the back of the pews and deposit them in the prayer boxes in the back of the church. They will be prayed for by the Upper Room prayer team.



Last week 204 viewers tuned in to our services

If you or one of your family members are in the hospital, let us know so we can provide you with pastoral care. Please call the office.

Flower Dedication for Sunday, August 30



The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God, praising God for his wondrous love. Given in memory of Barbara Lancaster Bottoms.

The flowers at the hymn board are given to the Glory of God by Linda Lassen in memory of her husband, Ralph, who celebrates his 3rd year at home with Jesus.

If you would like to sponsor flowers, please contact Janice Cantelou at atncrunner@gmail.com

Scripture Readings

Exodus 3:1-15 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. ³So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up." ⁴When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." ⁵"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." ⁶Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. ⁷The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. ⁸So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. ⁹And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." ¹¹But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹²And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain." ¹³Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?" ¹⁴God said to Moses, "I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I am has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.' 'This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation."

Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45 (Read responsively)

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,
you his servants, the descendants of Abraham, his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.

Then Israel entered Egypt; Jacob resided as a foreigner in the land of Ham.

**The Lord made his people very fruitful; he made them too numerous for their foes,
whose hearts he turned to hate his people, to conspire against his servants.**

He sent Moses his servant, and Aaron, whom he had chosen.

that they might keep his precepts and observe his laws. Praise the Lord.

Romans 12:9-21 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21-28 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. ²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" ²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns." ²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶ What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done. ²⁸ "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

September 6 Scripture Readings
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost • Communion Sunday

Exodus 12:1-14 • Psalm 149 • Romans 13:8-14 • Matthew 18:15-20

The Village Chapel Music Series - 12th Season Kickoff

Organ Concert: Stephen Gourley and Dr. Homer A. Ferguson, IV
Friday, September 18, 7:00 p.m.

TVC Confirmation Classes

Confirmation is a process of discovery, formation, and growth in the Christian faith. Together, we will explore the gospel and salvation; the Apostles' Creed; prayer and the Lord's Prayer; the Ten Commandments; justification and sanctification; the seven sacraments; and the Christian life. We will also learn more about The Village Chapel—its history, statement of faith, three worship services, and the rich symbolism found throughout the Sanctuary. Confirmation classes at TVC are traditionally designed for students in grades 6-12; parents and other interested adults are warmly invited to participate. Classes will meet from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in Heritage Hall on **September 13, 20, and 27, and October 11, and 18**. October 25 will serve as a make-up day, with Confirmation Sunday taking place on November 8. Register on Realm or by using the QR code.



This Week

10:00 a.m.	Sunday – August 30	
10:30 a.m.	Invitation Sunday Service	Sanctuary
	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Heritage Hall
	Monday – August 31	
12:00 p.m.	Bulletin & First Wednesday Fellowship Deadline	Church Office
6:00 p.m.	Women's AA Meeting	Conference Room
	Tuesday – September 1	
7:30 a.m.	Women's Prayer Group	Board Room
10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting	Staff Conference Room
	Wednesday – September 2	
5:00 p.m.	Prayer and Healing Service	Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	First Wednesday Fellowship	Chapel Hall
	Thursday – September 3	
6:00 p.m.	Chapel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	Friday – September 4	
5:00 p.m.	Conversations of Faith & Theology	Conference Room

Please note the Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 7, in observance of Labor Day.

WOMEN OF THE CHAPEL

Steering Committee The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 8**, at 9:30 a.m. in the Conference Room. We encourage all women to come, learn about upcoming events, and participate in the discussions. We welcome new ideas! Please contact **Wendy Schreiber** at wendy@dougandwendy.com for more information. **Cross Ties Luncheon** will be on **Tuesday, September 8**, at 11:45 a.m. at The Pine Crest Inn. The cost for lunch is \$25. For details text **Rene White** at (910) 315-1799 or contact **Christy Forrest** at (910) 695-1957 or ct4est@gmail.com. And remember - women with a birthday the month they attend will get a free lunch!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Youth Sunday Nights is on break for the month of August. Youth will resume on **Sunday, September 13**. **Children's Sunday School** will not be held in Heritage Hall. Nursery is available. **American Heritage Girls & Trail Life USA** meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 5:45 p.m. in Heritage Hall. Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 9**. Please contact **Lindsey** at putz.lindsey@gmail.com or **Vickie Smith** at vickie@tvcpinehurst.com for more information.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES

Conversations of Faith & Theology meets the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month. The next meeting will be on **Friday, September 4**, at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Each class is shaped by the questions and conversations of those present, offering a Spirit-led space for deeper understanding, fellowship, and growth in Christ. Contact **Pastor Greg** at 850-549-7806 for details.

Practicing the Way For two sessions, on **Tuesday, September 8, and 22**, we will take a deep dive into John Mark Comer's and Randy Alcorn's teachings on heaven, in which they begin by asking us to forget everything we think we know about it! We meet at 4:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. All are welcome. Please email bonniewurzbacher@mac.com for more information.

Thursday Faith & Fellowship Bible Study will resume on **Thursday, September 10**, at 2:30 p.m. with a review of last spring's study of the Book of Isaiah. We will continue anew with Isaiah 41:1-20. This corresponds to Chapter 29 in the book we are using as a guide: *God Saves Sinners* by Ray Ortlund. All are welcome, and the book is not required to attend class. Contact Stan Bradshaw at stan@bradshawcapitalmgt.com with questions or to be added to the email list for updates.

First Wednesday Fellowship, September 2, 2026

*We hope you will join us for our first fellowship meal of the fall! We will gather in **Chapel Hall** for music and genuine Christian fellowship. FWF is a monthly opportunity for members, non-members, and newcomers to connect and develop lasting relationships. All are welcome! The meal begins at **6:00 p.m.** and is catered, so reservations are required and may be made by scanning the QR code, registering on Realm, or by contacting The Village Chapel office at (910) 295-6003, ext. 101. Donations are graciously accepted to offset the cost of the meal. Please notify us if you are unable to keep your reservation.*



THE RESERVATION DEADLINE IS NOON TOMORROW (8/31)! Thank you for your cooperation.

Name _____ Number for Dinner _____

THE VILLAGE CHAPEL CLERGY AND STAFF

Rev. Dr. Ashley Neil Smith	(910) 992-8308 (cell)	Senior Pastor ashleyneilsmith@aol.com
Rev. Dr. Trey Majure	(910) 295-6003 ext. 105	Associate Pastor trey@tvcpinehurst.com
Rev. Dr. Vickie C. Smith	(910) 295-6003 ext. 102	Minister of Children & Youth vickiemcarsonsmith@gmail.com
Rev. Greg Wetzelberger	(910) 295-6003 ext. 111	Support Minister greg@tvcpinehurst.com
Stephen Gourley	(910) 295-6003 ext. 106	Director of Music stephen@tvcpinehurst.com
Deborah Holden		Director of Children's Choir debdrey@gmail.com
Simone Ayers	(910) 295-6003 ext. 101	Office Manager simone@tvcpinehurst.com
Steve McKenzie	(910) 295-6003 ext. 104	Digital Media/Communications Manager steve@tvcpinehurst.com
Stanley Perkins	(910) 295-6003 ext. 108	Maintenance Facilitator stanley@tvcpinehurst.com
Allie Gendron-Moore		Nursery Director tvcpnursery@gmail.com

THE VILLAGE CHAPEL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Matt Utley, Chair	(302) 632-1833	matthew.utley@gmail.com
Tom Schroeder, Vice Chair	(518) 577-2221	tom@tschroeder.info
Bailey Jordan, Treasurer	(336) 210-1283	baileyjordan1925@gmail.com
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The Care Cottage; 55 Community Road
Sunday Morning Radio Broadcasts
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
WIOZ at 550 (AM) from 8:00 to 8:30
WLHC at 103.1 (FM) from 8:30 to 9:00
www.tvcpinehurst.com

