



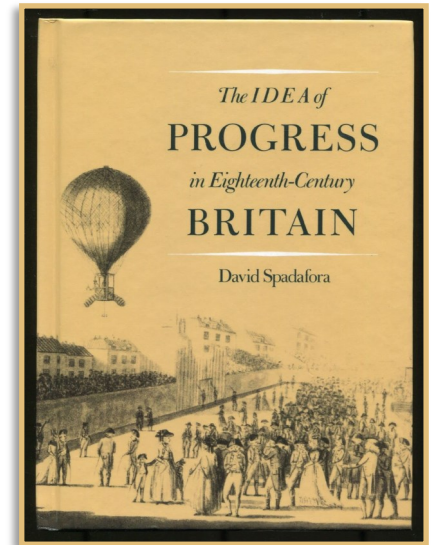
# The Chapel Herald

WORSHIP | LEARN | SERVE

Rev. Dr. Ashley Smith, Senior Pastor

## Book Review: *The Idea of Progress in Eighteenth-Century Britain*-by Ashley Neil Smith

In this chapter, Dr. Spadafora highlights J. B. Bury's work, *The Idea of Progress: An Inquiry into Its Origin and Growth* (London, 1920), who argued that "Christianity did make a contribution to the development of the idea (progress): medieval theology depicted the past as leading to the definite and desirable goal of salvation, thereby shattering the ancient cyclical theory of history and forcing modern men to seek a new, linear replacement for it." (Bury, pp. 4-5,20-29). This paved the way for a more teleological reading of history, establishing Theodor Mommsen's "Christian idea of progress" as modern progress. (p. 86)



In the mid-twentieth century, various scholars such as Christopher Dawson, Carl Becker, John Baillie, and Rudolph Bultmann, all claimed that "the modern belief in progress...actually derived from Christian conceptions. In their opinion, teleology and providentialism, eschatology and redemptionism sank so deeply into the European mind as to be ineradicable..." (pp. 104-105), making the point that the idea of progress, in both the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, was deeply rooted in the "old faith" of Christianity (preceding Modernity) as a future goal (eschatology).

Here, Dr. Spadafora seeks to posit the "Christian expectation of the coming [K]ingdom of God and the belief in the historical improvement of worldly affairs have much in common..." (p. 105)

Spadafora's reference to, and use of, eschatological books of the Bible were interesting, especially considering how

they were interpreted in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Words and concepts like: Antichrist, Beast, Gog and Magog, a thousand-year period of peace, resurrection, judgment, and a re-created natural order, were enough to garner the attention of *any* eschatologically-inclined, local church pastor. (pp. 107-108)

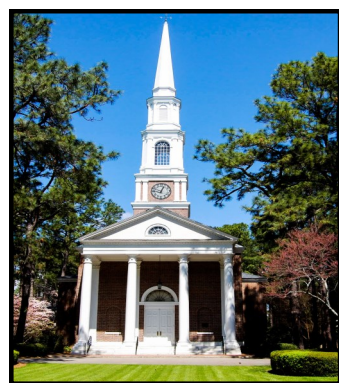
I enjoyed learning there was a time – mid-fourth century – that the Book of Revelation and Christian prophecies were *en vogue*. However, there was also a time that eschatology began to lose its appeal and fascination, mainly due to Augustine's "de-historicized" eschatology—the idea of  
*(continued on page 9)*

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**Angel Tree info and much more!**

**I**t is not too often I get to read a book by one of The Village Chapel's members, even more that it addresses a subject of personal interest – Eschatology.

In his book, *The Idea of Progress in Eighteenth-Century Britain* (Yale University Press, 1990), Dr. David Spadafora explores the concept of "progress." More specifically, how the idea of progress shaped philosophical discourse, cultural narratives, and social movements in Britain during the 1700s.

I found Chapter 3 – "The Christian Vision of History" – particularly relevant to my *Through The Bible* class. In September's class, we discussed the eschatological perspectives of premillennialism, millennialism, and postmillennialism, as they pertain to the Second Coming of Christ. In October's class we will discuss, what is referred to as "The Millennial Reign of Christ." All are discussed in this book, though not in a definitive, doctrinally comprehensive sense, but in a way that informed and even shaped an optimistic view of history – the idea of modern progress.



# Rev. Trey Majure, Associate Pastor

## “The Religious Echo Chamber”



One of the most difficult experiences of my life was my time in Seminary. The reason it was so difficult is because I was forced to evaluate and consider religious and theological positions which I had never been confronted with before. Perhaps I had heard of

new life? Or do we decide to surrender everything to Christ, therefore God gives us a new heart? Largely your answer will be based on which tradition you grew up in, which pastors you listen to, and which books you read.

That is the “Religious Echo Chamber.” The Oxford English Dictionary defines an echo chamber like this, “an environment in which a person encounters only beliefs or opinions that coincide with their own, so that their existing views are reinforced, and alternative ideas are not considered.” A religious echo chamber has different voices all saying the same thing, and generally not interacting with other echo chambers. There are tons them: Calvinism, Wesleyan, Orthodox, Catholicism, Pietism, Baptist, Fundamentalist, Pentecostal, Progressive, and many more!



One of the things I love most about the Village Chapel is that we are intentional about not being a religious echo chamber. We have our statement of faith, what I would consider to be the fundamentals of the faith that we all agree upon. But outside of those, we encourage everyone to seek for theological truth and to share it, we seek for education and not indoctrination. This way of thinking about the Christian faith encourages open-mindedness and an adventurous spirit, and it allows an exploration that is not allowed or valued in many churches. We operate firmly within the walls of orthodoxy as set forth by the fundamentals of the faith, but within those walls we have reached a beautiful place of unity in diversity, and I thank God for it!

them, but I along with everyone else I knew immediately dismissed them. But in Seminary there was no dismissing, there was no indoctrination, only a very painful education. Indoctrination seeks to teach someone a single truth or path. In the Army, basic training was indoctrination as they taught us how to eat, sleep, and think and there was only one correct way to do any of it. Education is the opposite; it intentionally gives a very broad perspective and forces the individual to weigh and judge the viewpoints for themselves.

In churches everywhere, I think it is a fair assessment to say that indoctrination is valued more than education. Why is that?

I think it’s because we expect someone to teach us the one and only truth, and that feels good to know that I have the answer to everything. But it’s uncomfortable to be unsure, to perhaps question things that you have always taken for granted. Take for instance the idea of regeneration, which is the act of the Holy Spirit giving someone a new heart, a new life, and a new way of living. Does regeneration take place before or after the act of repentance? Does God give us a new heart, so we begin living a

new life? Or do we decide to surrender everything to Christ, therefore God gives us a new heart? Largely your answer will be based on which tradition you grew up in, which pastors you listen to, and which books you read.

In Christ, 

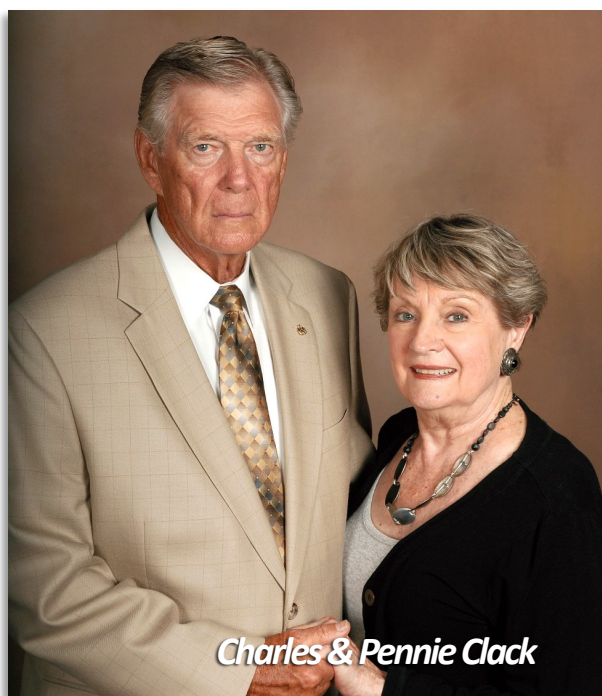
-Trey



**We celebrate with the Lashmit Family on the birth of a baby girl, Greta Lee, 8lbs 12oz, on Saturday, September 28th. May God Bless this precious child and family.**



## Meet the Congregation— Charles & Pennie Clack



*Charles & Pennie Clack*

Charles and Pennie refer to themselves as “Okies,” born and raised in Oklahoma. They eventually migrated to Texas, making their home in Garland which is a suburb of Dallas. They still retain their home in Garland. Pennie and Charles went to college at Oklahoma State University and met there during a cook-out sponsored by Charles’ fraternity. Charles and Pennie fell in love and got married soon after finishing college. The year was 1961. Charles earned a degree in architectural engineering and he notes that Oklahoma State has now become a world-renowned trade school. He learned to fly while he was still in college and after graduation he had two options with the ROTC program, enter the Army or the Air Force. Charles chose the Air Force. He attained the rank of Captain and stayed in for five years. He served a tour of Viet Nam and might have considered a longer stay in the military, but he and Pennie had several children by this time. He thought about staying in the Air Force and considered how he and Pennie would manage their growing family if he had to pull another overseas deployment. They decided that it would be best for the family if he left the military.

Charles said the airlines were hiring during this time and he was accepted as a pilot for American Airlines. The hub for American was in Dallas so it was very convenient to live in Garland and commute to the airport. He also had more time to spend with the family. They settled into a kind of routine that most families have, except during the times he was away from home flying for American.

The Clack’s have four children. The oldest is Cathey who lives in Hollywood, CA. Pennie noted that it was always understood that one of her children would be given the name Cathey, because that was her maiden before she and Charles

were married. Cathey’s husband is employed as a camera man for the movie and entertainment industry and has been very successful. Their son, Phil, lives in Tulsa, OK, as does their next child, Kelli, who is a second-grade teacher. Stacy, the youngest, lives in their house in Garland. Their three older children have given them eight grandchildren who live in California and Oklahoma.

They first moved to Pinehurst about twenty-five years ago. They were looking for an area to retire with plenty of golf opportunities and heard from an old friend who had a condo in Pinehurst. They liked the area once they got here and bought a condo in 2003. After about three years they decided to sell the condo and buy a house. They lived in that house about three years and moved to the house where they now live on Lake Pinehurst right on the water. There are plenty of bedrooms which can accommodate their entire family at one time.

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*One day they visited The Village Chapel and really liked the minister, congregation and the service. Subsequently, they decided to*

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Initially they chose a church similar to their previous faith traditions and joined the Southern Pines Baptist Church (Charles grew up a Baptist and Pennie attended a Methodist church). One day they visited The Village Chapel and really liked the minister, congregation and the service. Subsequently, they decided to change their membership. They have both been very happy here and really appreciate the opportunity to attend the Bill Wetmore Sunday School Class. It has been a little harder for them to get to church on Sundays due to health issues over the last couple of years, but when they cannot make it, they “attend” the service via You Tube.

They have both been active in the church. Pennie has been active with the Women of the Church and has assisted with the Spring Teas held every year. Charles recalls the time he served as Board of Trustees Chairman. This was during a turbulent time in the church’s history and the congregation had to make some difficult decisions. He feels that the church came through this with a stronger commitment to God and to the chapel. He also served on the building committee when Heritage Hall was in the planning stages. Working on the project for Heritage Hall brought a feeling of unity with everyone working together on a common goal and in a real sense was a time of healing. They have been fulfilled by being a part of The Village Chapel and look forward to continuing the close relationship they have with their church family.

*Contributed by Gerri Crutchfield* 

# Meet Our New Members



**Van Williams**



**Bonna & Lee Leonard**



**Bob & Edie Gentile**

**MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS-** One area of interest to the congregation is learning more about our new members. We post new members each month. If you do not already know them, please seek them out at various church services or events and let them know you are glad they have joined The Village Chapel.

## Update from your Board of Trustees:

**A**s we all see in the Bulletins, 2024 has been an extraordinary year for record new member growth! There is a real excitement about all the people joining our church and so many are getting involved in activities right away. We are blessed that God is sending you here. We need to thank Pastor Ashley who has been meeting all these new folks individually as they consider joining and explaining what TVC is all about. Great work. It's been another busy year for the Board and our board meeting agendas are usually chock full. A lot of thought goes into each discussion and members share their ideas freely as you would hope.

We shared the Heritage Hall plan separately and thank that committee for their insights into what the second floor can look like. The focus is for Youth meeting space. Our architect is developing detailed plans (plumbing, electrical, etc.) which will then be used for the contractor to give us a bid. It looks like we might have those around year end. Then we should have an idea of the cost and fundraising need. Timing of the build out has not been decided and with the plans can be done when the time is right.

The Board voted to retain the Care Cottage and is forming a committee to review usage and make recommendations on possible enhancements. Congregation comments will be solicited. Meetings at the Care Cottage have picked up and that space is

very important in meeting a variety of needs.

Fall is a busy time with the Nominating Committee soliciting candidates for the Trustee election, Stewardship Committee preparing their messaging, and Finance doing the budget development with lots of input.

First Wednesdays are very well attended with September setting a record. We plan another Volunteer Recognition at the November meeting.

The Finance Committee has had some challenges this year with a new system implementation and our accountant leaving. We've decided to outsource our bookkeeping posting to a local accounting firm that should give us stability and some good advice. The firm they selected does this work for a number of churches and has good experience with unique church needs. As always, the staff at church is doing a terrific job and it seems like the compliments never stop! Such a dedicated, hardworking and caring team.

We hope that you are reading our monthly Board minutes and staying abreast of BOT discussions. Please reach out to any Board member if you have questions.

Our contact information is in every Bulletin. We are here to help.

Blessings,

Mike Fusselbaugh  
Chair, TVC Board of Trustees

*From the Director of Music*

Ed Martel performed a piano concert on Sunday, September 29, to a full house in the Sanctuary. The audience was treated to an afternoon of amazing music with Ed joined by his wife Lianne, Stephen Gourley, and Karen Lewis.



The Village Chapel presents

# DUKE UNIVERSITY CHORALE

Sunday, November 3, 4:00 PM

The Village Chapel  
10 Azalea Road, Pinehurst



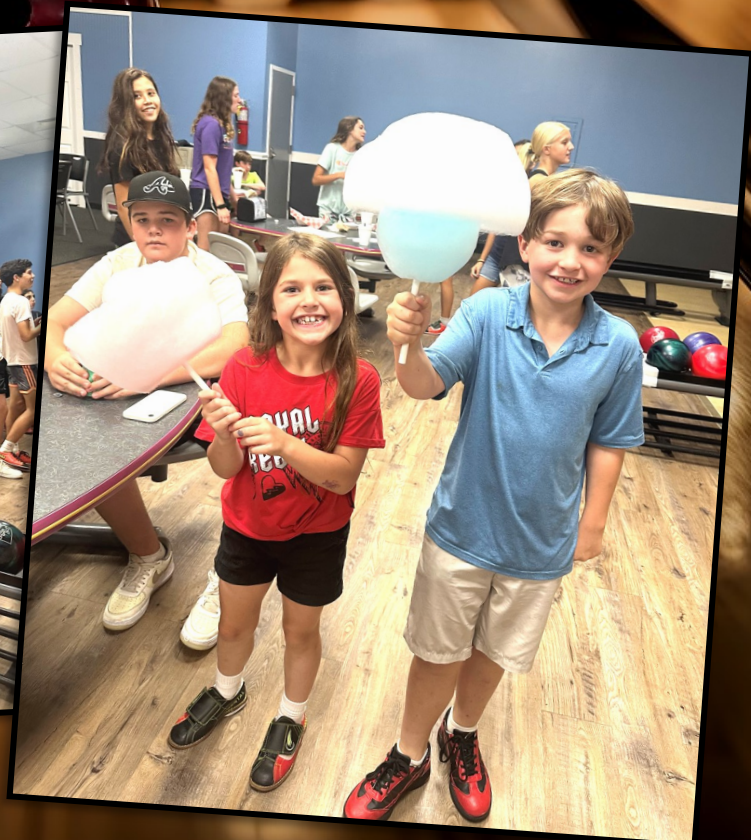
Members of the Chapel Choir gathered for a fall party at the home of Bonnie Jo and Steve Wurzbacher at CCNC, enjoying time of food and fellowship.

The Chapel Choir recently welcomed six new members to its ranks and boasts a roster of 25 singers in total. We give thanks for this dedicated group of individuals who commit themselves every week to glorifying God through choral music.



# Children and Youth

The Youth took a trip to Sandhills Bowling Center for an afternoon of fun!



# NEW STUDY SERIES

# GOD'S WAY TO AN

# A

*The Game-changer*

7 lesson study series

with **Veronica Karaman**

Information Meeting- Sunday October 20 • 5:00pm

Thursday, October 31 - 5:00-7:00pm



Come out in your best costume and "Trunk or Treat" in the TVC parking lot Rain or Shine! We will bring Trunk or Treat indoors if it rains.

**Our Vision...**

To provide a safe, healthy, and fun alternative for the children and youth of our community.

vickiemcarsonsmith@gmail.com—Minister of Children and Youth

# Angel Tree



## The Village Chapel Angel Tree Needs Sponsors

A long-standing Christmas tradition at The Village Chapel is our participation in Angel Tree.

Angel Tree has been a part of Christmas for Moore, a nonprofit dedicated to serving neighbors in need during the holiday season. Angel Tree not only brings joy to the recipients, but it also brings joy to the volunteers who make shopping, wrapping, and distributing gifts a part of their Christmas traditions.

This year, Christmas for Moore is under the umbrella of services of the Sandhills Coalition of Human Care. It has been determined that their focus will be on children from birth to 17 years of age and Seniors 65 years of age and older. The new guidelines will request a minimum of \$60 per person. There will still be support for the adults with continued food cards given to the families and assistance with Coalition programs such as their resale store, utilities, and sustainability programs.

As a Village Chapel family, we look forward to once again supporting this program through Angel Tree. Families will be available for sponsorship in October. Please look for more information in the coming weeks in the bulletin and in The Herald.

If you would like to be a part of The Angel Tree Planning Committee, we would love to have you! Please contact Faith Clay at [faithclay@icloud.com](mailto:faithclay@icloud.com) (248-765-7213) or Eleanora Voelkel at [voelkelje@gmail.com](mailto:voelkelje@gmail.com) (910-986-0450) by **September 15th**.

# ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



ALL ARE WELCOME

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 10:00AM



# UPCOMING EVENTS



WHEN CHURCHES AND COMMUNITIES WORK TOGETHER - *empowering strong family structures*

November 1, 2024 | 11:30am-1pm | The Village Chapel | Chapel Hall

Please join us for lunch and community collaboration.

Meet our friend & featured speaker, **Roland Warren,** President & CEO of Care Net.

*11:15am Doors open*

*11:30-11:55am Lunch buffet catered by Elliott's on Linden*

*12:00pm Roland Warren presents*

*1:00pm Closing remarks*

## About Roland

A graduate of Princeton University and the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, Roland is an inspirational servant leader with a heart for Christ and a mind for business. After 20 years in the corporate world (with IBM, Pepsi, and Goldman Sachs), Roland spent 11 years as president of National Fatherhood Initiative before joining Care Net in 2012 as president and CEO.

Please RSVP by October 17th to Barbara Lamblin: 910.947.6199/director@lifecarepregnancy.com



**Oct 10, Harvest the Promise**, Fair Barn, 6 pm, favorite dishes from local chefs and restaurants, live and silent auction items, call 910-944-7149 for more information.

**Oct (TBD) Monthly Open House for Teamworz.org**, 11-1. Monthly free cookout for anyone interested to include free health screenings and discover how we are helping the homeless in Moore county, 152 South Stephens Street, Southern Pines.

**Oct 15, 'Take Back The Night' Candlelight Vigil for NC Abuse Victims**, Friend to Friend, 6:30-7:30, Southern Pines Park, 145 SE Broad Street.

**Oct 16, Music for Moore, benefit concert for TeamWorkz**, Outdoor Sunrise Theater stage, 6-9 pm. call (910)315-0262. Sponsors needed!

**Oct 19, Pickleball Fundraiser to benefit The Arc of Moore County**, 9-2, Seven Lakes The Pickle Place, register at www.thearcofmoore.org. spectator tickets available if you don't play!

**October 28, Young Life Celebration Banquet**, The Fair Barn. Contact sandhills.younglyfe.org for info.

**Nov 15, 50th Anniversary Gala celebration of Meals on Wheels of the Sandhills**, 6-10 pm at the Country Club of North Carolina, tickets and sponsorship available at events@mealsonwheelsofthesandhills.com.

**Nov 20-24, Festival of Trees, Carolina Hotel**, benefitting Sandhills Children's Center.



Friday, November 8 | Pinehurst Fair Barn | 6:00 - 10:00 PM

<https://www.changingdestiniesministry.org/>

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE VILLAGE CHAPEL: 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.

MISSION STATEMENT OF YOUR OUTREACH COMMITTEE: "Prayerfully and earnestly distribute budgeted funds of The Village Chapel to vetted entities through rational giving, while encouraging congregational participation with organizations we support."

(Pastor Ashley cont. from front page) "amillennialism," or no millennial reign on earth. It was not until the Reformation and the emergence of Protestantism, that there was once again a "reinvigorating interest in eschatology." (p. 108)

It was truly fascinating to learn that the Book of Daniel was instrumental in the idea of progress. Daniel 12:4, the verse about "knowledge increasing," led some to believe that Daniel's prophecy was being fulfilled at that time and

an "integral part of the millennium." (p. 109) One could never conclude without an honorable mention of the way natural events were interpreted (perhaps as they are today). Some saw natural events as mere forces of nature, with no eschatological significance, while others interpreted natural events as apocalyptic. Dr. Spadafora mentions that in 1750, two earthquakes shook London, and William Whiston ("Mr. Natural Causes") publicly described the earthquakes as prophetic satisfaction. Needless to say, the gamut of eschatological interpretation has not changed much in

a post-modern world. (p. 113)

For a comprehensive treatment and exploration of the idea of progress from the point-of-view of 18<sup>th</sup> century Britain, this book is intellectually stimulating and written with an erudite, Christian spirit.

**Dr. David Spadafora was the Dean of the Faculty at Lake Forest College from 1990-1993, and President from 1993-2001. He and his wife Carolyn became members of The Village Chapel on January 18, 2024.**

## October Birthdays

## Anniversaries

1 Polk Dillon	Bill Taylor	Janice Bezanson	1 John & Roxy Vann
Jim Corcoran	13 Betty Hamblin	25 Wes Smith	2 Ralph & Dana Bowen
Scot Shumski	Mark Rogers	Caroline Cordell	4 Steve & Jacqueline Woodward
Mike McBrayer	Scott Krom	Miles Bebout	6 Ned & Sarah Stromme
2 Esther Acker	14 Katie Barrett	26 Thomas Sherwood	7 Dave & Judy Fedder
Jim Rogers	Porter Hubbard	Berkley Swicegood	8 Rita & Lawrence Burnat
Andrea Zarins	Luke Taylor	27 Phyllis Hudson	9 Adam & Linda Wall
3 Gavin Obst	15 Mark Acker	M.J. Pizzella	Dave & Tisha Edrington
Jim Nelson	Mike Kallam	28 Thomas Walker	10 Luke & Courtney Taylor
Stephanie O'Malley	John Orban	Kevin Cassidy	13 Todd & Jessica Torvinen
4 Jim Rohr	16 Jeff Holm	29 Ginn Ultey	16 Matt & Darcie Swicegood
Gunnar Adams	Betsy Barnard	Kenneth Goodman	20 Philip & Marilyn Kirol
Mary Wehking	18 Juanita Milam	Matthew Goodman	Dube & Deborah Putz
Steve Wurzbacher	Earlene Hite	Kathy Taylor	Thomas & Mary Ellen Sherwood
6 Mateja Torok	19 Tom Shirk	30 Stephanie Edwards	23 Mark & Esther Acker
8 Darlene Wilhelm	Chris Shank	Patrick Dewar	24 David & Holly Wright
Betts Turner	20 Ava Taylor Walker	31 Kathy George	25 Robert & Ruth Stolting
9 Renee Cassidy	21 Mark Reif	Kimberly Lindenberger	
Sharyn Simmons	Nancy Clay		
George Vickers	22 Claire Olzark		
Anna Smith	Bob Ihde		
Philip Kirol	Stephanie Raine		
10 Allyson Schoen	Elaine Corio		
Lynda Edwards	23 Roslyn Sherwood		
11 Larry Magruder	Alma Buck		
12 Betty Ayers			

Please contact the office (910) 295-6003 if your birthday or anniversary information is incorrect, or if you need to be added to the list.

## NEW DEMENTIA WEB PAGE

We all use maps - some of us better than others - but, to our advantage, maps allow us to navigate the "unknown". Several weeks ago, a "dementia map" was completed for individuals in our congregation to use when they feel 'lost'.

On The Village Chapel website, under that link titled, Congregational Care, is a link to Dementia Resources. All of the information offers various kinds of support - video clips, area support groups and programs, state and national contacts and books in our church library as well as, brochures in the atrium racks. Our Congregational Care Committee is there for you further navigate should your loved one have Dementia/Alzheimers, by offering meals when you need them, prayers when you need them, and the presence of a

church member who can visit you on a regular basis. Don't stay away from church if at all possible. Socializing and support of your growth in faith, is essential on this disease path. Music, from church and at home is therapeutic.

Person-centered dementia education and skills training is happening within both our congregation and our community at large that is teaching and engaging understanding and empathy with the complexities of this brain-behavior disease.

Visit: <https://tvcpinehurst.com/care-of-the-congregation/>  
-Scroll down for dementia resources

With God's Outreach of His Love 

## TVC MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

**Members of The Village Chapel**

Adults 715 • Children 132

**Friends of the Chapel**

Adults 229 • Children 53

# Women of the Chapel

## **WOMEN OF THE CHAPEL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BRUNCH**

**COME JOIN US!**  
**Wednesday, DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>**  
**Forest Creek County Club**  
**11:00 - 1:30pm**

*Joy*  
**World**  
to the  
SALVATION HAS COME



### **FREATURING:**

**Guest Speaker - Linda Berry**  
**Pianist & Vocalist - Cathy Stewart**

**Event details coming soon!**



### **Women of the Chapel - SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **Feel the JOY of Volunteering!**

We have a variety of opportunities depending on how much time you would like to devote. Co-Chairs are strongly encouraged as a fun way to work together and to ease time commitments.

All events and volunteer opportunities are grounded in our mission statement below...

*As the Women of the Chapel, we seek to worship God, to teach and encourage women to draw closer to God through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We offer programs, outreach opportunities, and fellowship that foster spiritual growth*

# 2024

# VETERAN'S DAY VIDEO PRESENTATION



## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024 | ALL SERVICES

The *Chapel Herald* is a publication of The Village Chapel, 10 Azalea Rd., Village of Pinehurst, NC 28374; [www.TVCPinehurst.com](http://www.TVCPinehurst.com)  
Telephone: 910-295-6003; Fax 910-295-3729; The Care Cottage: 910-295-8026 ; Email [info@TVCPinehurst.com](mailto:info@TVCPinehurst.com)

*The Village Chapel*

The Village Green  
10 Azalea Road  
Pinehurst, North Carolina 28374  
[www.TVCPinehurst.com](http://www.TVCPinehurst.com)

910-295-6003

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