

Dear Friends in Christ,

Vision work involves weighing, improving, exploring, listening, shedding, grounding and ultimately implementing. The best is when leadership is prepared to do the work of discernment. Being guided by the Spirit means being guided in a process which seeks to do those verbs mentioned above. In September your leadership will again gather with our key consultant to focus and clarify the Kingdom work before us. There is always a dimension of sacrifice and risk inherent when we become involved in Kingdom work. (Matthew 13: 45 – 46)

Sometimes vision work is done because of a catalyst, which prompts new opportunity. A door opens and those who have ceased to dream, dream again. Within the past week we have been informed that the adjacent property between us and Holy Comforter Episcopal Church will be for sale. The Session gathered this past Sunday evening to ask difficult questions about the purchase of the property. Their actions are as follows:

- The Session recommends a conversation with Holy Comforter regarding their interest in, and plans for, the adjacent property.
- The Session requests that the Finance Ministry Team call for an emergency meeting within the next five days to provide various options in regards to purchasing the property not to include a capital campaign.
- The Session asks that Chris Swart be consulted in regards to zoning restrictions and possibilities of the property.



- The Session has called for a Congregational Meeting to be held Sunday, June 28, at 10:45am for the purpose of conveying to the larger congregation information and recommendations.
- Prior to the Called Meeting of the Congregation (June 28) the congregation should be informed by letter of the details of the Session's recommendation.

At the conclusion of the evening meeting, your church leadership was very aware that the gospel defining Christ's Kingdom work hasn't changed. Leadership and people change. Commitment and faithfulness is still required. Our unity in Christ is essential. Prayer is necessary to walk the spiritual path.

In the process of decision-making, your leadership find themselves asking; *"Does God have anything to do with this opportunity or issue?"* A thousand times we ask that question in order that we might discern what is the unspoiled will of God.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John B. Earl". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Avondale Hires Summer Interns



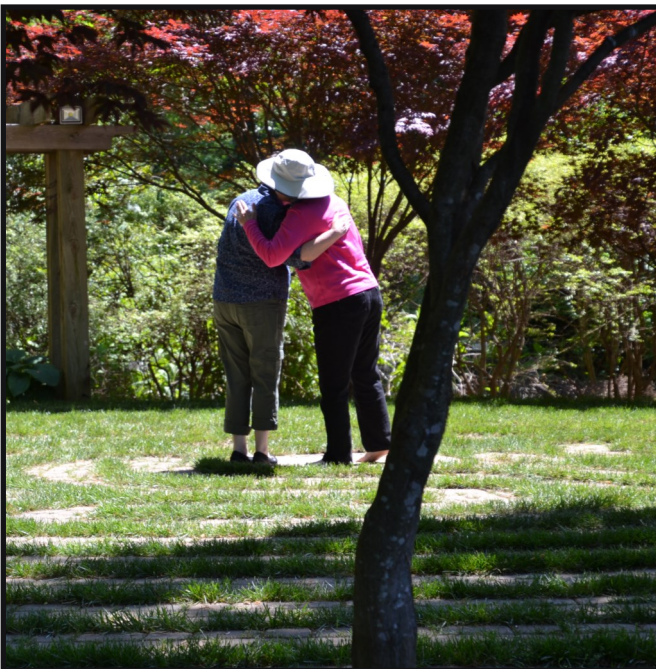
Emily Shannon



J. T. Earl

As you may know, Avondale is hosting an unprecedented number of CONNECT camps this summer. Beginning June 14 and continuing through August 7, eight CONNECT camps will be in Charlotte building relationships and serving the larger community. As the CONNECT ministry grows, the Mission Ministry Team continues to look for ways we can enhance an already strong ministry. This summer, the team chose to hire two CONNECT interns to serve as the “faces” of Avondale for each camp. A search team was formed, interviews conducted, and the team decided to hire Ms. Emily Shannon and Mr. J. T. Earl to serve as CONNECT interns for the summer of 2015. Emily and J.T. have a long standing connection to Avondale and their experience here as former participants of the youth ministry will serve them well as they host our CONNECT camps. Their primary responsibilities will be to act as on-site/on-call facilitators for each camp, travel with CONNECT camps to and from service projects, and to enlist volunteers from the larger congregation to provide hospitality for CONNECT camps.

Two friends embrace while walking the labyrinth on World Labyrinth Day, May 2, 2015.



Children listen as ARISE worship is explained during the Wonders of Worship Workshop on May 3, 2015.

Spotlight on New Members

This is a recurring column sharing some interesting details about our new members.



Tracie and Stephen Hummel had been visiting Covenant Presbyterian when they happened upon Avondale. They first came to the 11am service and said everyone was so friendly that they immediately felt at home. They loved the size of Avondale. Tracie and Stephen are interested in participating in small groups and Tracie plans to join Handbells in the Fall. She and Stephen are also interested in community outreach and mission and would like to get involved. Please look for the Hummels in the ARISE service.

Rich Worf married into Avondale. His wife, Lisa Miller Worf, has been very involved for 5 years and is serving her first term as Elder. When asked what ministries most interest him, Rich jokes that his primary interest is "Elder support." Rich was drawn to the friendly people at Avondale and the congregation's "thoughtful commitment to Christianity." He is a member of the Bible 101 class and is interested in Avondale's mission ministries. Outside of Avondale, you can find Rich running, cooking, gardening and reading. He is also a barbecue connoisseur, having visited over 25 barbecue restaurants in North Carolina. Please ask Rich about his favorite North Carolina barbecue restaurant.



Connie Love Receives Award

On Sunday, June 7, Presbyterian Women presented Connie Love with the 2015 Presbyterian Women's Honorary Life Membership. Connie has been a member of Avondale for more than 40 years. She and Mike were married at Avondale. They later served as youth advisors with Tim and Betty Chambers when their boys were in youth group. Connie is the Bible leader of the Genesis Circle and has served as the Christian Nurture Ministry team leader for the past 2 years. Connie is also a member of the very rowdy Bunco group that meets in the Fellowship Hall. Congratulations Connie on a well-deserved award.



2015 Graduates

We celebrate the accomplishments of the following 2015 graduates who are Avondale members or family members:

High School Graduates

Sara Jeanne Chelena

Myers Park High School
Daughter of Kay and Vince Chelena
Brother of Vince
Will attend Appalachian State University

Robert Covert Suydam, III

North West School of the Arts
Son of Beth and Robert Suydam
Brother of Mary Catherine
Will attend Central Piedmont Community College

Joseph William (Will) Moss

Myers Park High School
Son of Beth and Joe Moss
Brother of Katie and Ginny
Will attend North Carolina State University

David Alexander Hendrix

Home Schooled
Grandson of Chuck Hendrix
Will attend Wake Technical Community College

College Graduates

Kyle Bowen

B.A. Political Science
Vanderbilt University
Graduated December, 2014
Son of Carol and Jim Bowen
Brother of Andrew

Andrew Nolan Hall

B.S. with Distinction in Psychology
Minor in Statistical Science
Duke University
Son of Mary and David Hall
Brother of Katherine

Callie Elizabeth Magee

B. F. A. Craft and Material
Studies – School of Art
Virginia Commonwealth University
Daughter of Cheryl Judd-Magee and John Magee
Sister/sister-in-law of Sarah Kate and Joe Pease

College Graduates (continued)

Kathleen Elizabeth Shannon

B.S. Biological Sciences – Human Biology
B.S. Interdisciplinary Studies – Forensic Sciences
Summa Cum Laude
North Carolina State University
Daughter of Karen and Jackie Shannon
Sister of Emily and Mary

Amanda Grace Boyd

Communications Degree
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Niece of Louise and Jerry Lawson
Cousin of Elizabeth and Sarah

Susan Bingham Brandau

Associates in Applied Science
Central Piedmont Community College
Early Childhood Education
Phi Theta Kappa

Graduate Degrees

Douglas Albert Baillie

M. S. Real Estate Development
School of Architecture
Columbia, University
Son of George and Suzanne Baillie

Adam Christopher Love

Master of Divinity
Summa Cum Laude
Hood Theological Seminary
Son of Connie and Mike Love
Brother and brother-in-law of Shawn and Regina Love

Tracy Fulbright Love

Master of Divinity
Summa Cum Laude
Hood Theological Seminary
Daughter-in-law of Connie and Mike Love
Sister-in-law of Shawn and Regina Love

Jeneva Katherine Russell

Master of Social Work
UNC Chapel Hill
Granddaughter of Fran McCoy

Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of...

Edward F. Balfe:	Alice Balfe
Flo Bowen:	Alice Balfe
Sarah B. Hendrix:	Alice Balfe
Edd W. DeArmon, Jr.:	Alice Balfe
Margaret Ratchford:	Nell McRae
Munro Sefcik:	Alice Balfe
Paul Simpson:	Sanctuary Choir Nell McRae
Ted Goldthorpe:	Alice Balfe Susan N. Harrington Nell McRae June & Kenneth Winston Bill & Kay McMullen D. J. & Leslie Saleeby The Prentiss Foundation Michael & Mary Katherine Coates Barbara Hill
Emily Bearden:	Alice Balfe Nell McRae Aitken Sunday School Class Family of Ralph Pettit D. J. & Leslie Saleeby Stewart Farris Barbara Witzel Barbara Hill Olivia & Rogers Magee Claire Graham David and Rebecca Ainslie
Margaret Winchester:	Alice Balfe D. J. & Leslie Saleeby Stewart Farris Aitken Sunday School Class Barbara Hill Steven & Sarah Froneberger
Dana Blackson:	Mildred Robbins

In Honor of...

Edna Hilton: Barbara Hill

2015 Calendar

This is a working calendar for 2015. It does not include all regularly scheduled ministry team meetings, music rehearsals, etc. It will be updated throughout the year.

Jun 28 Called Meeting of the Congregation, 10:45am

Jul 5 Two Worship Services (previously on calendar as one service)

Jul 7 Leader Meeting

Jul 9-12 Youth Massanetta Conference

Jul 12 Monthly Session Meeting 7pm

Jul 13-17 Vacation Bible School

Jul 19-25 Youth Montreat Conference

Aug 4 Leader Meeting

Aug 9 Monthly Session Meeting 7pm

Aug 30 Unity Sunday, Worship 10am, Meal 11:15am

Sep 8 Leader Meeting

Sep 12 Property Work Day

Sep 12 TAG Elder Retreat 9-4pm

Sep 13 TAG Elder Retreat 1-4pm

Sep 13 Monthly Session Meeting 7pm

Sep 30 Avon Adv, 5:30pm (see notes)

Oct 3 Milot, Haiti Concert Fundraiser

Oct 4 Unity Sunday, Worship 10am, Meal 11:15am

Oct 6 Leader Meeting

Oct 10 Conflict Workshop 8:30am-4pm

Oct 11 Dedication Sunday

Oct 11 Monthly Session Meeting 7pm

Oct 17 Attic Sale

Oct 30-Nov 2 Mission Trip-Milot, Haiti

Nov 3 Leader Meeting

Nov 8 Monthly Session Meeting 7pm

Nov 29 First Sunday of Advent

Dec 1 Room in the Inn begins

Dec 8 Leader Meeting

Dec 12 A Nativity Journey

Dec 13 Monthly Session Meeting 7pm

Dec 20 Unity Sunday, Worship 10am, Meal 11:15am

Dec 27 One Worship Service, 10am

Notes:

Sep 30 - Dec 9

Avondale Adventures Wednesdays 5:30pm

Dec 1, 2015 - Mar 29, 2016 Room In The Inn



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Joys and Concerns

Ministry of Caring to Members of Our Church:

Alice Balfe, Anne Hamilton, Betty Parrish, Betty Parker, Dot Burke, Edna Hilton, Eldon Stout, Frances Robertson, Jim Neely, the Gunter family, Ida Parnell, Libby Phillips, Mike Cathey, Molly Carver, Peggy Simpson, Rachel Darling, Susan Harrington, and the Vestal Family

Ministry of Caring to Friends

of Our Church Family:

Art Dunlap (brother-in-law of D. J. Saleeby)
Barbara Aylor (friend of Heather Hogston)
Buck Melton (father of Barbara Hill)
David Boyd (brother of Louise Lawson)
Fred Otten (father of Debi Medlin)
Gayle Hackney (sister of Suzanne Baillie)
Helen Matthews (friend of Nancy Bohrer)
Hunter Stubbs (friend of Branden family)
Larry Hensinger
(brother-in-law of Nadja Sefcik-Earl)

Ministry of Caring to Friends

of Our Church Family:

Mary Cerena (sister-in-law of Barbara Witzel)
Mike Page (friend of Becky Chavaree)
Scott Braswell (son of Pam Braswell)

Our sympathy is extended to Page Woods and her family and friends. Her sister, Katharine "Kathy" Heath Woods, passed away at her home in Decatur, GA on May 25, 2015.

Our sympathy is extended to Carol, Jim, Kyle and Andrew Bowen and their family and friends. Carol's brother, William George Ewald II, passed away on May 22, 2015 in Apex, NC.