



The Relay

We welcome all to the community of Jesus: to connect, to learn, to worship, to serve.

We are an ecumenical congregation in a Presbyterian Church (USA) form.

Alamance Presbyterian Church • 4000 Presbyterian Road • Greensboro, North Carolina, 27406 • 336.697.0488 • www.alamancechurch.org

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Some Good Words

A Thanksgiving and a Welcome, for the Sorbito Family

If you ever find yourself here “after hours,” you have no doubt encountered members of the Sorbito family. They have cleaned Alamance Presbyterian Church for nearly 30 years!

When they started cleaning this church, I was still in high school. They have been incredibly faithful and active in the life of our church. Lynn Barnes shared memories of Ovido Sorbito changing the overhead projector transparencies for the earliest version of our contemporary worship service. (*That’s been a minute ago. Some of you might not even know what an overhead projector is!*)

Theirs is a family business. Generations have helped keep this place clean and welcoming. They have cared for Child Development Center classrooms, allowing it to be licensed. They have tended to the floors in Brown Fellowship Hall. They have emptied the trash cans that — as Jess reminded us in her sermon last Sunday — we so quickly fill. They have picked up (my) coffee cups left lying all over the building. They have played the ultimate behind-the-scenes role here at APC. What an example of dedication and service they have set! We are privileged to share in their remarkable story.

Presentacion, the matriarch of this wonderful family, has decided to close the business after all these years. Alamance is their last remaining client. She and Ovido will move back to the

Philippines on March 13. Instead of visiting family in the Philippines, they will have to come back and visit here!

Though we are sad to see Ovido & Presentacion go, the good news for Alamance is that the rest of the family will still be here. Their daughter, Precilla Villarin, and son, Manuel Sorbito, have taken care of us for the last few years.

We have hired both of them as our custodial staff. Nothing substantive will change, for the church. The compensation and duties will remain the same. Their family will still be here in the evenings, helping. No doubt they will greet you warmly when you run into them! Be sure to return their welcome.

If you notice cleaning needs around the building, please bring them to my (Kyle’s) attention. Willie Goncharow, Darren Hadley, our Finance Coordinator Dana Adams, and CDC Director Ryian Gunn all also work with the cleaning crew.

As we make this official transition, I think it is a good time to refocus our attention toward keeping this building “decent and in order.” Please note, Precilla and Manuel’s work is to clean the church, not pick up after us. Keeping the church tidy and putting things away is not a custodial job — or even a staff job. That job belongs to all of us, equally.

Blessings on the Sorbito family as they begin this new chapter, for their family and with us!

In Christ’s Love and Light,

Kyle

Daylight Saving

The annual turning-ahead-one hour-of-the-clocks happens on **Sunday, March 10 at 2 a.m.**

Don't wish to stay up that late — or wake up that early — to accomplish the task? Advance your timepieces by the requisite one hour on **Saturday, March 9**, before you retire for the evening.

APC CDC: Help Wanted

The Child Development Center needs substitutes, to fill in when regular teachers are absent. These are paid positions.

Teaching experience is preferred. Background checks are required. Flexibility is an excellent attribute.

Contact Dr. Goodman for more information.

March Birthdays

- 2 Nancy Michaels
- 3 Treva Caveness
- 8 Jared Gill, Zach Hobbs
- 9 Gerald Coble, Leta Pillion, Betty Sizemore, Tony Sizemore
- 10 Amni Carraway
- 12 McCartney Ward
- 14 Peggy Fields
- 17 Mike Ford, Kristin Hogan
- 18 Grace Dagenhart
- 19 Tina Garrett
- 22 Barbara Durham Dark
- 23 Floyd Fogleman
- 24 David McMurtrie
- 27 Brad Benton
- 31 Griffin Brown

April Birthdays

- 4 Kallie Crompton
- 6 Amarylis Allred, David White
- 9 Hazel Aydelette, Maelyn Goodman
- 10 Michael Holland, Jill Skerlak
- 13 Nathan Gerring
- 14 Jim Carter
- 15 Becky Oliver
- 16 Dub Bridges
- 19 Bain Allred
- 20 Daniel Church
- 21 Ed Gonzalez, Jennifer McMurtrie
- 22 Blaine Mills, Cindy Morris
- 24 Chad Fields, Erica Lane
- 25 Mikey Donoho, Pat Greeson
- 28 Katrina Schubert
- 30 Naomi Church, Lois Vinson

The Session Report

The Session of Alamance Presbyterian Church met twice in February. On the 10th, Elders traveled to Saint Francis Springs Prayer Center in Rockingham County, for their annual retreat.

The retreat focused on leadership development; and strategic planning through the pastors' sabbaticals in 2024 and 2025. Eileen Hogan facilitated the retreat, in a fantastic beginning for the new Session.

On February 25, Session met for its Stated Meeting. We began with a study of the Book of Order chapters relevant to the roles and duties of Elders. Graham Dail, Lou Gonzalez, and Terry Schubert each taught a chapter. Session will study other parts of the Book of Order over the coming year.

Session formally approved the Annual Statistical Report for the PC(USA). Pat Lovell and Graham Dail reported on the February 13 virtual Salem Presbytery meeting.

The financial report for January was positive. We ended the month marginally behind (less than \$1,000) on pledged and unpledged offerings. January is typically our lowest giving month: this was a strong beginning.

Including all other revenue, we were \$1,020.83 ahead of budget for the month. We came in slightly below budget on expenses (437.05); leaving net income relative to the budget at \$1,457.88 for the month.

Session voted to conclude our cleaning contract with Presentacion Sorbito; and to hire her children as church custodial staff. (See front page for more on that change.)

Session appointed Elders Graham Dail, Ty Kimbro, and Beth McCall to finalize an employment contract with a temporary supply pastor candidate for the summer.

Session heard reports about the *Ramp It Up* build project; and the Habitat for Humanity playhouse build April 1-5. It approved a Red Cross blood drive for June 14 — and gave the Mission Ministry Team permission to schedule blood drives four times annually (depending on availability of the fellowship hall).

Session reviewed usher and offering collection responsibilities. They approved **August 4** as an additional date for communion.

Session approved Jess Rigel's proposal for a Clergy Renewal grant application from the Lilly Foundation.

Session appointed Elders Becky Brinkley, Lou Gonzalez, and Kitty Wells to represent Session at the Confirmation class interviews and breakfast. Session approved the baptisms of Griffin Brown and Landon Kuhlman on Confirmation Sunday, **March 17**.

Session approved Kyle Goodman's request for a vacation Sunday on **April 7, 2024**. Session scheduled its March Stated Meeting for **March 24**, following the Easter Egg Hunt.

Special Missions Offering

Final total for the January Special Missions Offering, for the Wycliffe Bible Translator ministry of the Atkinson family is \$2,970.

In February, we raised more than \$2,600 for the 2024 Puerto Rico mission trip.

For your viewing pleasure, here's a photo of last year's PR crew. This year, we're sending Kris Burns, Christin Fields, Laurie Fields, Shannon Haynes, Barbara Keeler, Nick Purvis, Jess Rigel, Katrina Schubert, and Terry Schubert.



MEETS

Invites You to Play

- submitted by Kathy Fay

MEETS (Meet Eat Entertain Travel Socialize) is a social/fellowship group that meets at various locations for a variety of activities. MEETS has had a picnic, a pool party, bowling outings, an Oktoberfest party, visited wineries to hear live music, gathered at breweries, participated in Ales for ALS, attended a performance at the Community Theater of Greensboro, the Chinese Lantern Festival, Sunday Evening in the Park concerts, and a brewery tour followed by a pizza dinner.

MEETS has also held social events at Coble House, such as a post-BBQ ice cream social, a Christmas party, and other gatherings.

Most events offer more than one area of interest, such as: live music at wineries, food trucks, music or

board games at breweries, snacks at pool parties. All gatherings offer great company and cheerful conversation.

Geared mainly to the interests of people in the “empty nest” stage of life (and those of us who pretend we aren't really senior citizens), we welcome all adults, 21 years of age and up. The group is for singles and couples. Friends, neighbors, community members and adult offspring are welcome.

MEETS provides an opportunity for those who do so much for the church and community to let their hair down, relax, and have fun together.

Please join us as we form new friendships, and strengthen existing ones, to create bonds to carry us through hard times and into the next phase of life.

There is no membership requirement, no minimum attendance requirement, no dues. MEETS does not have a budget, so attendees are responsible for any costs associated

with each event. Information is shared via online invitations, the Sunday bulletin, *The Relay*, Facebook, and Instagram.

MEETS, which falls under the auspices of the Fellowship Ministry Team, is facilitated by Kathy Fay. If you have never been to MEETS and don't feel comfortable coming by yourself the first time, contact Kathy. Rest assured, this is a friendly, inclusive, supportive, fun group.

To join the evite list, RSVP to an event, offer to plan a gathering or to ask questions, contact Kathy at kathyefay@gmail.com. Let the good times roll!

Blessings,

Kathy Fay

Mardi Gras Pancake Supper, 2024





Special Mission Offering: *Foam Trailer 2.0: Finish the Funding*

Last August, we collected a Special Mission Offering to support the Tiny House Greensboro Community Development effort to collect and recycle styrofoam containers into usable building material.

The Missions Ministry Team wants to purchase a trailer — and have it wrapped with informative labeling — to park on church property so that the community has a local spot to recycle those sorts of goods.

The August, 2023 offering did not raise enough money to cover the cost of such a trailer. Therefore, Session has authorized another special offering to finish the funding.

Your donations to the Special Missions Offering for *Foam Trailer 2.0* will help us achieve the long-held dream of helping keep God's planet cleaner, AND help Tiny House Greensboro Community Development at the same time.



Children at Church

- submitted by Joy Thomas,
Director of Children's Ministries

Have you noticed new families with small children at APC? Heard there is a new baby in our APC family? What a beautiful sight, to see new little faces at church!

To help guide them along their faith journeys, and to allow parents to worship without tending to their baby, I NEED YOUR HELP!

Would you give some prayerful consideration to helping with at least one of the Children's Ministries programs? Even for just one Sunday — if everyone gave just one Sunday — things would be covered.

There are lots of opportunities for you to serve! If you are willing to help, sign up at this link: <https://signup.com/go/YNHVjxB>. (If online signups drive you crazy, email or call me; and I will sign you up.)

Here are ways you can help:

Nursery during Sunday school - **Two people** (per our Child Protection Policy) to watch our tiniest friends during Sunday school. You need to arrive **by 8:50 a.m.** so parents can get to classes on time. Stay until about **9:50 a.m.**, when the worship crew arrives or parents pick up their child. Enjoy time rocking, singing, reading, and playing with our infants and toddlers.

Nursery during Worship - **Two people** from **9:50- around 11:30 a.m.** Enjoy time with infants and toddlers during worship service; so that parents can engage completely with the service and relax, knowing their child is cared for by loving adults.

Godly Play Assistant - **One person** to serve as a "Door Person." Arrive by **8:50 a.m.** The Door Person will greet the children as they arrive, have them put a sticker on the attendance chart,

and assist with snacks. Then you pretty much get to sit back and enjoy the lesson as we "wonder" through God's word together. You will be finished in time for **10 a.m.** worship!

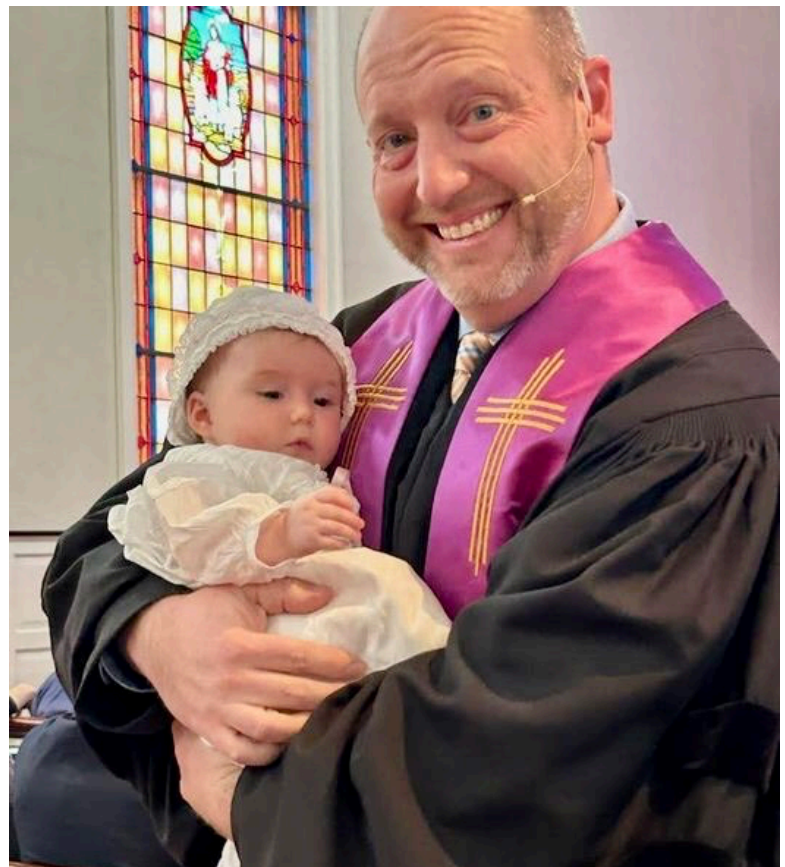
Children's Church Helper - **One person** to assist downstairs at Children's Church. We leave the sanctuary after the Children's Message, and try to be back in time for the offering. No planning is required by you! You are there in case someone needs to go to the bathroom, for crowd control, and to interact with children.

Grace Space Helper - **One person** to sit in the Grace Space during the Message, to assist children if needed. You don't have to miss any of the service, and you can sit in a comfy rocking chair!

Kids R.O.C.K. helper- **One person** to assist with the Kids Reaching Out to Christ's Kingdom fellowship group for children in grades 2-5 (**4:45-6 p.m.**). You will be responsible for greeting children, helping get supplies, cleaning up, and having fun!

Thank you, for your previous support and your prayerful consideration of helping again.

Joy's phone number is 336.697.0488 extension 132. Her email address is joy@alamancechurch.org.



Poppy Joyce Fay, infant daughter of Patrick & Georgia Fay, received the Sacrament of Baptism. during worship on March 3. Poppy was a lively participant in the event.

Easter flowers

**Easter Sunday,
March 31**

(order deadline: Friday, March 22)

Please deliver this to church office, or phone
or e-mail your order to info@alamancechurch.org



In honor of:

In memory of:

Given by:

Person ordering:

Daytime phone #:

E-mail:

**My check in the amount of
\$13.50 per plant is attached
and made payable to
*Alamance Presbyterian Church.***

Easter flowers are from Mindenhill Farm, a local nursery.

A Word about Easter Flowers This Year:

In yet another example of the curious gaps in product availability that the entire world has suffered over the past several years, white geraniums are not to be had for love or money this spring.

Our longtime supplier of plants, Mindenhill Nursery, *will* be able to provide pink and lavender flowering plants for the 2024 Easter Sunday worship service.

Thank you for understanding why the sanctuary will be filled with different colors than in years past.

Easter is coming!

The season of Lent, the period before Easter that is devoted to fasting, abstinence, and penitence in commemoration of Christ's fasting in the wilderness, runs from Ash Wednesday to **Holy Saturday**.

The last week of Lent begins with **Passion / Palm Sunday, on March 24**. Our traditional annual Easter Egg Hunt begins at **4 p.m.** (for children of congregation members only, please and thank you. There's only so much room for this event!)

Alamance Presbyterian Church and Community in Christ, Presbyterian, combine congregations for a **Maundy Thursday** evening service at CIC (5401 Liberty Road) on **Thursday, March 21, at 7 p.m.** Communion will be served.

Good Friday will be observed with a brief worship service in the sanctuary at **7 p.m. on Friday, March 29**.

Community Easter Sunrise Service at the Tabernacle Methodist ballpark will be held at **7 a.m. on March 31**. Worship leader for this year's worship service is the Rev. Jess Rigel.

Sunday, March 31 is Easter Sunday, the holiest and happiest of days in the church year. Worship here at **10 a.m.** (either by watching on Vimeo or in person in the sanctuary), rejoice in the beauty of flowering plants in the sanctuary, and celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

Monday, April 1 is Easter Monday. Church offices will be closed on **April 1**. No fooling.



The Coble House

This lovely dwelling served as a pastor’s manse for years and years and years. It was built to replace a smaller house around the corner and up the hill.

The manse was decommissioned as a preacher’s house in 2018, and re-named. Coble House is dedicated to the memory of the Honorable John Howard Coble, a long-serving U.S. Representative, and life-long member of Alamance Presbyterian Church.

The mission of Coble House is to extend the hospitality and welcome of our church to all who seek a space to gather, celebrate, find retreat, and renew their faith.

Coble House may be reserved for church-sponsored events such as Bible study, Presbyterian Women Circle meetings, confirmand retreats, and Seniors & Friends gatherings.

Coble House is also available to rent for private events. Need a place for out-of-town guests to perch for a night or two? Want to host a baby shower? Don’t want to clean your own house just for a two-hour meeting of your service group? Seek a pleasant venue for a small wedding and/or reception? Coble House may well serve your entertaining needs.

For more information, contact Marianne Cimino or Phyllis Monroe (coblehouse@alamancechurch.org); or look on the Coble House page on the church website (www.alamancechurch.org).

Thank You Note

On behalf of the Simkins Elementary School staff:

Dear Alamance Presbyterian Church Family,

We want to sincerely thank you for your continuous outpouring of love. Your work in the community has been seen and felt for years. God sends angels your way for a reason, and we are mighty blessed to have you!

With love and gratitude,

Danica and Amanda

Memorials and Honoraria

To the Lift Van Fund: In honor of Barbara Tew by the Sherlie Andrew’s Sunday school class.

To the Youth Ministry Fund: In memory of Clarence Oliver by Harold & Barbara Alexander.

To the Food Pantry: In honor of Hannah Starr on her birthday by Ruth Forrest. In honor of Bruce & Susan Anthony’s anniversary by Ruth Forrest.

To the Music Fund: In honor of Thelma Greeson by the Martha Brown Circle.



Ramp It Up

A new ministry, Ramp It Up, recently installed an American Disability Act-compliant ramp at Jim Carter’s home. Jim would be housebound were it not for the generosity and ingenuity of this group of amateur builders.

Thanks also goes to the Alamance Fire Department, who contributed mightily to the effort.

Food Pantry Special Collections

The APC Food Pantry has designated specific food items to be donated each month. Here’s a list of the specific items wanted:

- **March:** Peanut butter, jelly
- **April:** Canned fruits
- **May:** Canned vegetables
- **June:** Macaroni-and-cheese
- **July:** Crackers
- **August:** Canned pasta
- **September:** Cereal, oatmeal
- **October:** Canned meats
- **November:** Dry pasta, sauce
- **December:** Soups
- **January:** Canned beans
- **February:** Canned pasta

You can deposit food donations in the big container in the Gathering Place (it’s where to put clean, dry, plastic grocery bags, too); or contact Amy Yow directly to arrange a time to transfer groceries to the Food Pantry storage rooms (336.706.3550)



**ALAMANCE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IS INCLUSIVE, ECLECTIC,
AND REFORMED.**

We are an ecumenical congregation in a Presbyterian Church (USA) form.
We are a **Matthew 25** church.
We are a Stephen Ministry church.
We are a Hunger Action congregation.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Kyle Goodman, Lead Pastor
Rev. Jessica Rigel, Discipleship Pastor
Andrew Long, Youth Director
Katie Long, Director of Music
Rebecca Oden, Pianist
Joy Thomas, Dir., Children’s Ministries
Dana Adams, Financial Coordinator
Lynn Barnes, Secretary

Ryian Gunn, Director,
Child Development Center

Missionaries: Jesse & Erin Atkinson,
Linguists, Wycliffe Bible Translators

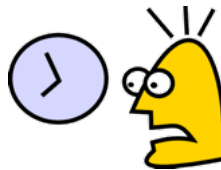
Alamance Presbyterian Church
4000 Presbyterian Road
Greensboro, NC 27406
(336)-697-0488

Live-streaming Worship Services

Look and listen to Sunday morning worship at Alamance live, on-line. Here’s how:

1. Go to our website, www.alamancechurch.org. At the top of the page, choose *Livestream*. That option takes you directly to the latest worship service, and any prior recorded services that are still available for you to view.
2. **Before you can access the live streaming service**, you must open an account with Vimeo, either with your e-mail or your Facebook account.

**Newsletter
Deadline**



Deadline for the **April, 2024** issue of *The Relay* is **Friday, March 22**. The deadline is printed on the back page of each issue of the newsletter.

Post your articles by U.S. mail, by e-mail (lynn@alamancechurch.org), climb on a giant bunny and hopS here in person, or phone the office (336-697-0488 x 121) to deliver the news. Newsletter policy is posted on the website, www.alamancechurch.org.

QR stands for "Quick Response." QR codes store lots of data. Scan with the camera function on a smart phone to access information instantly.

APC now has a QR code to connect you quickly to our website ...



... **and** one that will take you directly to the Serve page, for info about how to volunteer.



Our mission statement:

We welcome all to the community of Jesus: to connect, to learn, to worship, to serve.

We are a **Matthew 25** Church.

We are a Hunger Action congregation.

We have a Stephen Ministry.

Current Officers

The Session is the governing body of our congregation. Officers are called Elders. Each “class” serves a three-year term. Stated meeting is on the **fourth Sunday of each month, at 2 p.m.** in the Uffman classroom (unless otherwise noted).

Class of 2024:

Kris Burns
Terry Busby
Graham Dail
Willie Goncharow
Pat Lovell

Class of 2026:

Becky Brinkley
Naomi Church
Beth McCall
Kitty Wells

Class of 2025:

Lou Gonzalez
Shannon Haynes
Ty Kimbro
Trey Oliver
Terry Schubert

Youth Elder:

Ryan Garrett

Clerk of Session:

Graham Dail

Find Us on Instagram

To follow the adventures of Alamance on our Instagram page, just scan this QR code. You can also find us on Facebook, YouTube, and www.alamancechurch.org.



No one from the church will **EVER** email you, phone you, or message you to ask you to send gift cards.

This form of request is a scam.

Do not respond to these sorts of requests.