



# 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](http://www.alamancechurch.org)

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## Upcoming Events

Boy Scout Sunday: **February 5**

Flag Football: **February 5, 2:30-4 p.m.**

Games Night: **February 10 Second Friday** of each month, **7-9 p.m.** in the Gathering Place; for ages 10 and up.

Mardi Gras Pancake Supper: **February 21**

Meal celebrates the end of the season of Epiphany. Profits fund youth programs of the church.

Ash Wednesday: **February 22**

First day of Lent. Worship at **6:30 p.m.** with communion.

## Some Good News

On January 8, 2023, we celebrated Epiphany, as we remembered the coming of the Magi to see Jesus in Bethlehem. That Sunday, the church drew “star words” from a basket. The idea is that the word be a guiding light for one's thinking and action this year.

I drew one for myself; and one for the church, one I really like. That word is **gumption**. *Gumption* is an old Scottish word meaning “spirited initiative, drive, and resourcefulness.” I’d call it one part cleverness, one part determination, and one part skill. It’s the perfect word for Alamance Presbyterian Church this year.

It’s time. It’s time for some gumption. We cannot afford to wait any longer. It’s time for us to get going as a church.

The world is languishing in a deeper way since COVID. The Church is on the decline in this country — all denominations, across the political and theological spectrums.

Our community is rapidly changing around us. At the same time, your leaders and staff feel primed and ready. We believe that the Holy Spirit is up to something new and exciting. And we are ready to embrace it.

We are not going to wait around for it, either. *Revival* (to use another old word) is certainly the Spirit’s work; but we have a part to play in that, too.

There are some exciting things already brewing. The very first “church meeting” this year was a Big Meeting planning meeting. We hope to make that week memorable! It will last from **September 10-17**. We won’t do something every night; but we do plan for a week full of worship, celebration, remembrance, learning, and service. The team’s next meeting is **February 7 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Uffman room. Your ideas are welcome.

Our Stephen Ministry offers a *Discovering Our Spiritual Gifts* class. Have you wondered where you fit or what gifts you have to offer? Have you felt burned out, and struggled to get going again? Do you have an untapped talent or two you’ve been hesitant to share? Do you wonder what you still have to offer, at a new stage of life? This might be a place to discern an answer. The five-week class — open to the whole congregation — begins **Sunday, February 26**; and will meet for an hour, **immediately after worship**. Lunch is provided for the first and last class; we ask you to bring food with you for the other three sessions. Speak with me or Becky Brinkley if you’re interested.

I know Pastor Jess has much more to share about the next two items, but I want to add my excitement for two ministries already happening in Greensboro.

(continued on page 2)

## Congregational Meeting

There will be a Called Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary, **Sunday, February 12, 2023, immediately after worship**.

### Purposes of the meeting:

1. To receive the report of the Nominating Team, to elect officers for the Class of 2025, and to fill a one-year term for the Class of 2023.
2. To receive the Annual Report of the Congregation for 2022, and to approve the 2023 budget.

## February Birthdays

- 2 Bill Long
- 3 Burt Caveness, Joe Miller
- 6 Branson Linnens, Charlie Oliver
- 8 Geneva Boswell, Ken Carraway,  
Graham Dail, Dylan Roys
- 9 Pat Lovell
- 10 Kynsleigh Crompton
- 11 Tyler Trull
- 12 Teddi Irwin, Nick Purvis,  
Brenda Stevens, Roger Wood
- 13 Clarence Oliver
- 15 Holly Daas
- 16 Danny Thomas
- 17 Matthew Smith
- 19 Bella Craig, Fay Haralson,  
Kai Ward
- 20 Phil Wadsworth
- 21 Joy Thomas
- 23 Hannah Humble
- 24 Nora Church, Dena Fail
- 26 Delaney Burns,  
Colton Strandberg
- 28 Andrew Burgess, Lou Walker

## 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 J.P. Preston, McCartney Ward
- 14 Peggy Fields
- 17 Mike Ford, Jacob Thomas
- 18 Grace Dagenhart
- 19 Tina Garrett
- 21 Amanda Hogan
- 22 Barbara Durham Dark
- 23 Floyd Fogleman
- 24 David McMurtrie
- 27 Brad Benton
- 31 Griffin Brown, Connie Fish,  
Sherry Jensen

(Some **Good** News, continued)

The first is our Greensboro Youth Collective (YoCo). I hope you've heard that we host their monthly gathering at **our** church on **February 26**.

Presbyterian youth from all over the city meet together for worship, play, food, fellowship, and service. The closest comparison is that it's a local version of Passport or Montreat. Our young people are SO excited for this event to be held here. If you haven't signed up already, we could really use your help. <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/1027021880705412065/false#/invitation>

The second is The Space Between. The Space Between is a gathering of young adults, aged 22-30. Ministry with this age group is non-existent in many churches. We are so excited about it.

## The APC Food Pantry

The Food Pantry seeks to provide nutritious food that will last a family in need for 6 -7 days, for up to 30 families each week.

Pick up extra shelf-stable foods when you grocery shop. Donations may be put in the big box in the Gathering Room, or in the red bin outside Brown Fellowship Hall.

Clean, dry, used, plastic grocery bags are always wanted. Put them in the same box in the Gathering Room. **Needed:** a volunteer to accompany Doug Clapp to Second Harvest Food Bank on food collection runs. Contact Amy Yow (336-706-3550) to apply.

Use the link <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/795307800019/false#/invitation> to sign up as a helper in distributing food to our guests, and/or to pick up weekly food donations from the Forest Oaks Food Lion.

This is another program we will share with churches in the area. Alamance is well-represented so far: Pastor Jess reported a little about The Space Between at the January Session meeting — we could hardly contain our excitement. We cannot wait to tell you about it, too!

Things are brewing. Games nights are planned on **second Fridays**, starting **February 10**. A program for Middle School boys on body image and awareness is coming up — just like we held for girls, last year. We are finally going to Puerto Rico after several years of delay. Things are happening!

We welcome your energy, intelligence, imagination, and love to bring in something new. We welcome that **gumption**. If you have an idea, let's talk!

In Christ's Love & Light,  
*Kyle*

## 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:

- **February:** Canned pasta
- **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

**Missions Update:**

Submitted by Jesse, Erin, and Samuel Atkinson:  
 Wycliffe Translators,  
 Oaxaca (wah-HAH-kah), Mexico  
 Serving the Zapotec people of San Dionisio

**THANK YOU!**

Thank you so much, APC, for your giving to the January Special Offering! We are so grateful for your partnership with our Wycliffe ministry. Thank you for being a part of what God is doing among the Zapotec people of Oaxaca! We hope to share the total amount raised with you soon!

We've just welcomed baby boy #2 into our family, so this month we are focused on adjusting to life as a family of four. We covet your prayers for this special time!

*-Jesse, Erin, & Samuel*

**Oaxaca (wah-HAH-kah), Mexico**



**STAY CONNECTED:**

- Our Wycliffe page/Giving:** [wycliffe.org/partner/JEAtkinson](http://wycliffe.org/partner/JEAtkinson)
- Facebook Group:** [facebook.com/groups/AtkinsonAdventuresInOaxaca](https://facebook.com/groups/AtkinsonAdventuresInOaxaca)
- Sign up for newsletters:** [jotform.com/form/92304614403144](https://jotform.com/form/92304614403144)
- Jesse's email:** [jesse\\_atkinson@wycliffe.org](mailto:jesse_atkinson@wycliffe.org)
- Erin's email:** [erin\\_atkinson@wycliffe.org](mailto:erin_atkinson@wycliffe.org)



**Winter Coat Drive**

Too many to count ... APC partnered with Grace Community Church to provide coats, blankets, hats, undergarments, and socks to Greensboro's homeless and under-housed residents.

The items pictured above and below made up the second load we drove to Grace. "Thank you!" to everyone who donated items, and schlepped them into town. Those who received the gifts were overjoyed.



There was — just barely — room enough for the driver to sit, and to deliver this load of goods to Grace Community Church.. We offer deep thanks to that person for so beautifully packing and unpacking the vehicle.



**Special Offering for  
 February:  
 Mercy Chefs**



## Officer Nominations

The Nominating Team of the Session of Alamance Presbyterian Church — Kris Burns, Linda Causey, Tim Hobbs, Pat Lovell, Scott Mendenhall, and Steve Starr — announces nominees to the office of Elder, Class of 2025: Lou Gonzalez, Shannon Haynes, Ty Kimbro, Trey Oliver, and Terry Schubert. Toby Jobe is nominated to fill a vacant spot in the Class of 2023. Naomi Church is nominated as Youth Elder, for a one-year term.

Officers serve for a three-year term. The Class of 2025 will serve in the years 2023, 2024, and 2025. Elders **nominated** by Session are **elected** by the congregation.

Should you feel led to nominate a candidate from the floor at the Called Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, February 12** (see below for details), you should contact that person ahead of time, to be sure they will serve if elected. You may self-nominate.

**Currently serving Elders** are listed on the back page of this newsletter.

## Congregational Meeting

There will be a Called Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary on **Sunday, February 12, 2023, immediately following worship.**

### Purposes of the meeting:

1. To receive the report of the Nominating Team, to elect officers for the Class of 2025, and to fill a one-year term for the Class of 2023.
2. To receive the Annual Report of the Congregation for 2022, and to approve the 2023 budget.


*You are cordially invited to the*  
**EAGLE SCOUT**  
**COURT OF HONOR FOR**  
*Nathan Garrett*

**Sunday, February 19, 2023**  
**3:00 PM**

*Alamance Presbyterian Church Sanctuary*  
*4000 Presbyterian Road*  
*Greensboro, NC 27406*

*RSVP to Tina Garrett: 336-681-2139*  
*tgarrett01@bellsouth.net*

*Reception Following*  
*in Brown Fellowship Hall*



★ EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR ★

# EAGLE



## Boy Scout Sunday Chili Pick-up

in Brown Fellowship Hall,  
**12 noon - 2 p.m.**  
**on Sunday, February 5**

**Sunday, February 5** is Boy Scout Sunday. Cub Scout Pack 368, Boy Scout Troop 368, and the Rosies will help in worship that Sunday. Be sure to welcome them!

**After worship**, they invite you to pick up quarts of their award-winning chili from Brown Fellowship Hall. From **12 noon until 2 p.m.**, the Scouts will deliver unto you **TAKE-OUT** chili. Cost is \$9 per quart.

No sit down meals will be served. Chili is sold as **TAKE-OUT ONLY**. Order and pay ahead at <https://app.easytithe.com/App/Form/dd1808d4-390e-466d-a695-04684150713a> Cost is \$9 per quart.

You may poke it in your freezer for later consumption. Or, guzzle it in the car on your way home, if you prefer. No one will judge you if you don't wait.

## Stephen Ministry Musings

Submitted by Melinda White, APC  
Stephen Ministry co-leader

A Stephen Minister cannot fix a care receiver's issues or problems. A Stephen Minister does not act like a counselor or therapist. A Stephen minister is not required to quote Scripture —unless the care receiver would like her/him to do so.

A Stephen Minister is a gentle, quiet presence who LISTENS. He/she does not make judgments, or comments expressing judgment. Instead, they practice reflective listening. The Stephen Minister walks beside the care receiver, as he/she faces one of life's great difficulties.

The Stephen Ministry training allows the Stephen Minister to love/care assertively, as well as maintain healthy boundaries.

Finally, the greatest gift you can give another human being is to truly listen, as they speak their truth or bare their soul.

The Stephen Ministry is a "distinctly Christian caregiving ministry" that provides high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. Members of the APC Stephen Ministry actively engage with the Congregational Care and Outreach team to connect our congregation with local community resources for help in times of emergency or distress.

Search your heart to discern if the Holy Spirit is calling *you* to this ministry.

A training class is planned



## Grace Extended

Alamance Presbyterian Church participates with the Grace Community Church in southeast Greensboro in a food-relief mission. Each Wednesday evening, Grace Church prepares and serves meals to over 200 folks in the Glenwood neighborhood — many of whom are experiencing homelessness.

In **2023**, APC will work on the **third Wednesday of every even month** at Grace Community Church (643 W. Gate City Blvd, Greensboro, NC 27403; in the old McIver School); for food service and worship from **5:15-7 p.m.** Those dates are: **Feb. 15, Apr. 19, June 21, July 19, Sep. 20, and Dec. 20.**

Open Door fellowship will NOT meet on the days we serve at Grace.

The Mission Team knows that to continue this ministry requires some missional funds. The team hopes that Alamance will walk by faith to support this shared ministry.

Questions? Eager to volunteer? Let Jess Rigel or Kyle Goodman know that you want to join this partnership which engages us ecumenically in the wider community. Sign yourself up to volunteer at this link: [https://signup.com/group/987658676044?utm\\_source=group-badge-volunteer-green](https://signup.com/group/987658676044?utm_source=group-badge-volunteer-green)

## A Few Words from Eugene Peterson

### Faith on the Line

What is hazardous in my life is my work as a Christian. Every day I put faith on the line. I have never seen God. In a world where nearly everything can be weighed, explained, quantified,

subjected to psychological analysis and scientific control I persist in making the center of my life a God whom no eye hath seen, nor ear heard, whose will no one can probe. That's a risk.

*"If you don't go all the way with me, through thick and thin, you don't deserve me. If your first concern is to look after yourself, you'll never find yourself. But if you forget about yourself and look to me, you'll find both yourself and me."*

- **Matthew 10:38-39**

## Hope on the Line

Every day I put hope on the line. I don't know one thing about the future. I don't know what the next hour will hold. There may be sickness, personal or world catastrophe. Before this day is over I may have to deal with death, pain, loss, rejection. I don't know what the future holds for me, for those whom I love, for my nation, for this world. Still, despite my ignorance and surrounded by tinny optimists and cowardly pessimists, I say that God will accomplish his will and cheerfully persist in living in the hope that nothing will separate me from Christ's love.

*"God's strong name is our help, the same God who made heaven and earth."*

- **Psalms 124:8**

(from **Living the Message: Daily Reflections with Eugene H. Peterson**; HarperSanFrancisco, 1996; pp. 24-5)



## Soup, Salad, and Sandwiches

The Youth and Children’s ministries of Alamance Presbyterian Church combined forces to present — and profit from — an after-worship meal of soup, salad, and grilled cheese sandwiches.

In total, 17 different soups were dished out from crockpots into the empty bowls of a happy crowd of eaters. A salad bar tempted many of those diners to indulge in leafy greens and other salad-y bits. A roving horde of Kids R.O.C.K. members dispensed roasty, toasty sandwich halves — grilled to the nth degree by members of the APC youth group.

By the end of the meal, a manifold witness of diners had feasted themselves into satiety. They’d loaded the coffers with (as of this writing) \$1,061 for the 2023-24 programs for children and youth. Thank you, all who participated!



### Grilled cheese, anyone?



Matthew Gill, Carter Rojas



Emma Forbis, Kaden Buckland

Too many soups for just one photograph



Grant Smith, Ryan Garrett, Birdie Church, Alanna Brown, Naomi Church

“Who for such dainties  
would not stoop?  
Soup of the evening,  
beautiful soup.”

- Lewis Carroll

## Kids R.O.C.K.

Kids Reaching Out to Christ’s Kingdom is a fellowship group for children in grades 2-5. It meets from **4:45-5:45** on **Sunday evenings** during the school year, in the Kids R.O.C.K. room on the top floor of the Education Building.

A Bible-based program, games, and local service projects are geared toward elementary school children by Joy Thomas, Director of Children’s Ministries. She is ably assisted by any number of adult and teen-aged volunteers in those endeavors.

## Memorials and Honoraria

**To the Lift Van Fund:** In honor of Bill Routh by the Sherlie Andrew Sunday school class.

**To the Music Fund:** In honor of my hospice chaplain, Beverly by Marie Hodgins.

## Thank-you Note

Dear friends,

Thank you for the very generous donations of clothing, blankets, and more! Our community is truly blessed by you. We truly appreciated all of the items you have graciously provided, as well. Your team is truly the hands and feet of Christ!

-Jennifer Holloway,  
Grace Community Church's  
WCF Team

## New Items for the Historical Room

Kirby Ward donated two balls from past APC Golf Tournaments. (The tournament is a beloved annual fundraiser.) Lewis May crafted a wooden pedestal for them.

Until they are enshrined in the Edna Jobe Historical Room under the sanctuary, the spheres — each imprinted with one of our church's most-recent official logos — are in the Thin Place.



## Session Report

The Session of Alamance Presbyterian Church met on Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 2 p.m. The Session:

- **Shared gratitude and appreciation for the class of 2022.** Barbara Alexander, Tom Cimino, Nathan Garrett, Scott Mendenhall, Steve Starr, and David White served the church faithfully and well, through the difficult years of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Set February 12, 2023 as the Sunday to elect new officers to the Class of 2025.**
- **Elected Graham Dail and Pat Lovell to attend the Salem Presbytery meeting.** The meeting will be held virtually on **February 23**.
- **Reviewed the 2022 end-of-the-year financials.** We budgeted an operating shortfall of \$71,123.94 for the year. We ended up with a deficit of only \$30,040; which we were able to, through reserve ministry funds and previous gifts designated for this purpose. We closed the books for 2022 with a zero net balance.
- **Approved the budget for 2023, pending congregational approval for the changes of terms to our pastors' calls.** We will share much more about our financial outlook at the **February 12** congregational meeting.
- **The session elected new officers for the Child Development Center Board.** Becky Brinkley, Glenda Goncharow, and Joelle Kuhlman will serve in the class of 2023.
- **Approved a cookie sale for Youth Sunday on April 30, 2023.** Proceeds will benefit our Children's Ministry and Youth Ministry funds.
- **Designated Brunswick stew fundraiser proceeds.** Culinary Arts requested that those funds be applied to Gladson kitchen upgrades.
- **Reviewed and approved communion dates for 2023.** These dates are **February 22** (Ash Wednesday), **March 19**, **April 6** (Maundy Thursday service at Community in Christ), **May 21**, **July 2**, **September 17** (Big Meeting Sunday), **October 1** (World Communion), **November 5** (All Saints' Sunday), and **December 24** (Christmas Eve).
- **Approved using Brown Hall for the Scout chili sale on February 5.**
- **Approved Ed Schubert's request to hold game nights in the Gathering Place on the second Friday of each month.**

The Session will meet on **February 11** at the Saint Francis Springs Prayer Center in Stoneville for their annual retreat.

The Session of Alamance Presbyterian Church is our local congregation's governing board. Officers, called Ruling Elders, are elected by the congregation to serve for a three-year term. The Session is subject to Salem Presbytery, which is subject to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, which is subject to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); according to the **Book of Order: The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Part II**.





**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
- Mary Ellen Shores**, Director,  
Child Development Center
- Ryian Gunn**, Asst. Director, CDC
- Missionaries: Jesse & Erin Atkinson**,  
Linguists, Wycliffe Bible Translators

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

**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).

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Class of 2022:</b> | <b>Class of 2024:</b>    |
| Barbara Alexander     | Kris Burns               |
| Tom Cimino            | Terry Busby              |
| Scott Mendenhall      | Graham Dail              |
| Steve Starr           | Willie Goncharow         |
| David White           | Pat Lovell               |
| <b>Class of 2023:</b> | <b>Youth Elder:</b>      |
| Darren Hadley         | Nathan Garrett           |
| Tim Hobbs             |                          |
| Kathy Medder          | <b>Clerk of Session:</b> |
| Judy Uniatowski       | Graham Dail              |

**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](http://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 Livestream, either with your e-mail or your Facebook account. The Livestream site will send you an e-mail that will instruct you how to enter a password of your own choosing.

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

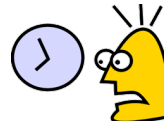
APC now has a QR code to connect you quickly to our website ...



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



**Newsletter  
Deadline**



Deadline for the **March, 2023** issue of **The Relay** is **Monday, February 20**. Post your articles by “snail mail,” by e-mail ([lynn@alamancechurch.org](mailto:lynn@alamancechurch.org)), hop on a camel and arrive here in person, or phone the office (336-697-0488 x 121) to deliver the news. Newsletter policy is posted on our website, [www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org).

If you need help making any changes or updating your giving for 2023 in the church's online giving portal, EasyTithe, please contact Dana, our Financial Coordinator ([dana@alamancechurch.org](mailto:dana@alamancechurch.org), 336.697.0488 ext. 127). Thanks!



**Connect with Us  
Electronically**

**“Like us” on Facebook!** We maintain several pages on Facebook. “Like” the pages to receive automatic notice on your own Facebook wall.

**... and check the website!  
It’s updated weekly.**

[www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org).

**Busy Hands, Indeed**

The Knit, Pray, Love Ministry Team reports on its accomplishments of late. Members have made **68** shawls in 2022. (Total shawls since 2009: **1,384**.) Total chemo caps since 2008: **910**. Total baby hats since October, 2020: **2,687**. Total baby blankets: **66**. Scarves for the Grace Community Church winter weather drive: **35**.

Linda Aydelette administers the team’s efforts. Contact her for info about KPL ([linda.aydelette@gmail.com](mailto:linda.aydelette@gmail.com)).

**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.