



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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A New Year Begins

Whew! It's been a year, hasn't it? Pastor Kyle took his family with him on sabbatical this summer. Five teams of laypeople led worship on five of the Sundays he was gone. The Child Development Center ceased operations. A presidential election cycle ran its merry way through November. Now that 2024 is over, it is time to prayerfully consider how, with God's help, we will face whatever 2025 brings our way.

Thanks to the generous contributions to our Operating Fund, many of which came via the Yellow Envelope Drive over the past few months, total donations of \$40,446.64 swelled our coffers.

Session has potential renters lined up for the Yellow House, and for the middle floor of the Education Building.

The Christian Education Ministry Team has already started planning for Easter celebrations. Director of Children's Ministries Joy Thomas has scheduled Sunday school lessons and Kids R.O.C.K. fellowship programming for the spring semester. She is already narrowing her many choices for Vacation Bible School.

We honor the years-long ministry of Andrew Long to our youth, at a party in the Coble House on **Sunday, January 12, from 5-7 p.m.** Make plans now to drop by sometime during those hours, to express your gratitude for his service.

Discipleship Pastor Jess Rigel heads off on her own sabbatical this summer. She leaves **mid-May**, and will return in **August**, in good time for the start of the 2025-26 public school year.

As we begin a new calendar year of worship and service, please consider offering your time and talents at any of the many opportunities to help with local ministries and church programming.

The church nursery needs staffing every Sunday of the year, at both the Sunday school hour and during Sunday worship. You'll need to pass a background check to work in the nursery, and to work with children and youth programming. Check with Financial Coordinator Dana Adams to schedule a free-to-you check-up.

The Alamance Presbyterian Church Food Pantry desires volunteer help on Wednesdays, to pack shelf-stable groceries into 30 grocery carts; on Saturdays — to apportion perishable goods into those same carts, and to roll the carts out to the clients who drive here to collect their groceries. The Food Pantry also uses volunteer aid on one Tuesday each month, to drive to Second Harvest Food Bank and pick up food. Volunteers pick up donated food from the Woody Mill Food Lion several times a month.

A long list of volunteer duties can be accessed from the home page of our church newsletter, www.alamancechurch.org. Look for the SignUp.com block. Or, go directly there from this link: https://signup.com/group/987658676044?utm_source=group-badge-volunteer-green.

God is great, all the time! All the time, God is great! What a mighty God we serve. Happy New Year, everybody!

A Called Congregational Meeting will be held **immediately after worship on Sunday, January 12, 2025.**

Purpose of the meeting:

To receive the recommendation of the Officer Nominating Committee, and to elect Elders, Class of 2027.

Members of the committee: Terri Busby, Tommy Causey, Lou Gonzalez, Cindy Morris, and Gary Trull.

Their slate of candidates: Beth Pulliam, Steve Starr, Tommie Lynn Sullivan, David Wray, and Youth Elder Grant Smith.

January Birthdays

- 6 Alaska Schubert
- 7 Marlie Sullivan
- 11 Becky Brinkley, Steve Starr
- 14 Phil Smith
- 15 Linda Maness
- 23 Nancy Dyson, Jane Preston, Patty Starr
- 25 Jon Garrett, Randy Maness, Jim Witherspoon
- 26 Brad Reece
- 28 Pat Murray
- 29 Ken Hollingsworth
- 31 Hailey Humble, Wendy Mills, Melinda White, Buck Yow



Cookies with Santa

A cast of somewhat-less-than-thousands pulled off another successful LIFT (Ladies in Fellowship Together) annual event: *Cookies with Santa*. Here is a photo of their smiling faces. Don't they look swell?

A whole crowd of children, with their parents and guardians, descended on the Community Room for a visit with Santa, and to decorate (and eat) cookies.



February Birthdays

- 2 Bill Long
- 3 Burt Caveness, Joe Miller
- 6 Branson Linnens, Charlie Oliver
- 8 Geneva Boswell, Graham Dail, Dylan Roys
- 9 Pat Lovell
- 10 Kynsleigh Crompton
- 11 Tyler Trull
- 12 Teddi Irwin, Nick Purvis, Brenda Stevens Greene, Roger Wood
- 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

Thanks, Y'all!

The APC Food Pantry sends a big shout out and "THANKS!!!" to these Southeast Guilford High School students and their advisor, Mr. Cook; for the 6,658 pounds of food they delivered here on December 19.



Missions Update:

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

At the beginning of November, Mexico celebrated the Day of the Dead, a multi-day celebration (despite the name sounding like just *one* day!) where families gather to remember the dead. Despite the wonderful family time, beautiful marigolds used to decorate, and delicious food that accompany this holiday, it's a very dark spiritual time in the area where we live, with ancestor worship and offerings made to the dead, and many other animistic beliefs.

Spiritual warfare sometimes feels heavier during these days, so we were thankful when the small church in San Dionisio chose to spend one of the days of these festivities on a retreat at a nearby river where five young people were baptized! We also took advantage of this "field day" with the congregation to have them fill out a survey about our tentative alphabet for their variety of Zapotec. It was a long but good day filled with fellowship and worship!

*Jesse, Erin, Samuel,
and Amos*



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STAY CONNECTED:

Our Wycliffe page/Giving: wycliffe.org/partner/JEAtkinson

Facebook Group: facebook.com/groups/AtkinsonAdventuresInOaxaca

Sign up for newsletters: jotform.com/form/92304614403144

Jesse's email: jesse_atkinson@wycliffe.org

Erin's email: erin_atkinson@wycliffe.org

To give online: wycliffe.org/partner/JEAtkinson

To give by mail: Make checks payable to Wycliffe Bible Translators. Include a separate note saying, "Preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Jesse & Erin Atkinson, account #398700." Send to Wycliffe Bible Translators, P.O. Box 628200, Orlando, FL 23862.

BLESSING BAGS

THIS JANUARY, HELP US COLLECT ITEMS TO SUPPORT OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Please leave NEW donations of the following items in the bins outside the Sanctuary. You can also make a monetary donation through the church for our January Special Offering!

- Gallon sized Ziploc Bags
- Socks
- Winter Hats
- Winter gloves
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Band-aids
- Peanut Butter Crackers
- Soap
- Band-aids
- Chapstick
- Granola Bars
- Soap
- Trail Mix
- Bottled Water
- Menstrual Pads



Follow the Star

The 2024 iteration of a multi-scene Nativity play was forced indoors by the threat of dangerous weather conditions.

The mixed cast of humans and giant puppets managed to complete an excellent rendition of the timeless Christmas story, despite the circumstances.

This year, Alamance partnered with Community in Christ, Presbyterian Church. Their help was much appreciated.

Thanks be to God Almighty, because the lights stayed on, no one was struck by a thunderbolt, and a good time was had by all.



Knit, Pray, Love Ministry Delivers

In 2024, the Knit, Pray, Love Ministry donated and delivered the following multitudinous amounts of hand-crafted gifts, to the Cone Hospital System or to individuals:

- **350** baby hats — that's 3,455 since October, 2020!
- **15** baby blankets — the new total is over 100.
- **104** chemo caps — bringing the total to 1,030.
- **60** prayer shawls — since the ministry was formed in 2005, it has delivered 1,465 shawls.



Church Offices Will Be **Closed**

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

for New Year's Day;
and

Monday, January 20, 2025

for MLK Day, a federal holiday.



It's a Wonderful Life

On Monday, December 23, this jolly group donned their “ugly Christmas sweaters” and attended a showing of the film *It's a Wonderful Life*, at the Carolina Theater in downtown Greensboro.

Look at their smiling faces! Don't you wish that you had joined them?

Soup & Salad Part Deux!

In the mood for good food?
Then join us Sunday, January 12th
immediately after worship in Brown Hall
for our second Soup & Salad fundraiser
benefitting our Children & Youth
Ministries!

Enjoy a variety of soups, green salad,
and grilled cheese while savoring
fellowship with your church family!
Monetary donations gladly accepted!

Email Pastor Jess for more info:
jess@alamancechurch.org



Memorials and Honoraria

To the Operating Fund: In memory of Marie Hodgkin by Joe & Dodie Miller; Thelma Greeson; Judy Adams; Jackie Fogleman; Hank & Debbie Gill; Nancy Durham; Richard & Wilma Grubb; the Pringle family: Jay, Patsy, Ross, Sarah, and Harriett; Buddy & Peggy Fields. In memory of Tracy Gibbs by Loretta Allred, Floyd Fogleman, Jackie Fogleman. In memory of Jim Carter by Loretta Allred; Floyd Fogleman; Jackie Fogleman; Willie & Glenda Goncharow; Jimmy & Sharri, Travis and Reagan Carter; Doug & Susan Rayle and family. In memory of Faye Wood by Jackie Fogleman, Willie & Glenda Goncharow. In memory of Enos Smith by Willie & Glenda Goncharow. In memory of David Hodgkin by Willie & Glenda Goncharow. In memory of Linda Carraway by John Watkins and family. In memory of O.L. & Lottie Watkins by John Watkins and family. In memory of A.W. Higgins by John Watkins and family. In honor of Marie Hodgkin's 100th birthday by Brad & Barbara Reece. In honor of Willie & Glenda Goncharow by Clint & Linda Aydelette. In honor of Kyle & Michelle and Maelyn Goodman by Clint & Linda Aydelette. In honor of David & Melinda White by Clint & Linda Aydelette. In honor of Andy & Michelle Griffin by Clint & Linda Aydelette. In honor of Joe & Dodie Miller by Clint & Linda Aydelette. In honor of Billy & Sherry Starr by Clint & Linda Aydelette. In honor of Frankie & Angie Forbis by Clint & Linda Aydelette. In honor of Sam & Ada Nelson by Clint & Linda Aydelette. In honor of Danny & Lindsay Rogers by Clint & Linda Aydelette.

In honor of Scott & Vivian Lane by Clint & Linda Aydelette. In honor of Danny & Joy Thomas by Clint & Linda Aydelette.

To the Sanctuary Ramp Fund: In memory of Marie Hodgkin by the Sherlie Andrew Sunday school class. In memory of Jim Carter by the Sherlie Andrew Sunday school class. In honor of Marie Hodgkin's 100th birthday by Willie & Glenda Goncharow. In honor of Lillie Snider's 95th birthday by Willie & Glenda Goncharow.

To the Music Fund: In memory of Marie Hodgkin by Connie Hackett. In honor of Wilma Grubb's birthday; and in honor of Richard & Wilma Grubb by Peggy Busby.

To the Cemetery Care Fund: In memory of Marie Hodgkin by Darrell Parker.

To the Food Pantry: In honor of Bruce & Susan Anthony by Ruth Forrest. In honor of Dr. Hannah Starr by Ruth Forrest.

To the Coble House: In memory of Marie Hodgkin by Celyn Holt.

A Reminder

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, commonly known as HIPAA, is a federal law that requires public entities to respect the privacy of individuals regarding information about their health.

We are bound both by a polite consideration of their request for privacy, and also by federal law, not to reveal details when people ask Alamance Presbyterian Church not to reveal details about why prayers for health are requested.

Food Pantry Special Collections

The APC Food Pantry asks for specific food items each month:

- **January:** Canned beans
- **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

Deposit food in the big box in the Gathering Place (and clean, dry, plastic grocery bags); or contact Amy Yow directly to arrange a transfer directly to the Food Pantry storage rooms (336.706.3550)

The Coble House

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

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. It is also available to rent for private events. Coble House may well serve your entertaining needs.

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

**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, Audiovisual Technician
Katie Long, Director of Music
Rebecca Oden Pugh, Pianist
Joy Thomas, Dir., Children’s Ministries
Dana Adams, Financial Coordinator
Lynn Barnes, Secretary

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

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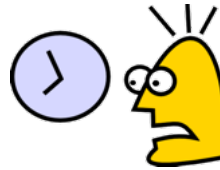
Live-streaming Worship Services

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 **February, 2025** issue of **The Relay** is **Friday, January 24**. 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 camel and deliver it in person (park the camel in the back yard, please), 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
Terri 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.