



October 6, 2024

Dear Chapel Hill Community of Faith,

What an exciting time to be in ministry together at Chapel Hill UMC through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness! I am excited to share another stewardship campaign season with you!

Enclosed you will find a Faith Promise Card, a Service/Growth Form and related documents. The Chapel Hill Leadership Board and I are asking all in our community of faith (members and constituents) to complete faith promise cards and service/growth forms as we look forward to our life together in ministry in 2025. Through this campaign, we get to consider how we will partner with God through our giving and service. On a personal level, completing this card and form invites each of us to spend time in prayer and reflection, considering what each of us anticipates our monetary and service offerings will be for the coming year. My family and I will join this campaign as well as spend time together praying and reflecting on our projected commitments. On a community level, the Leadership Board receives our commitments and uses them to set a more accurate ministry budget and envision service opportunities for the coming year. As stewards of these commitments, we aim to make the most of every gift.

We are grateful for your financial and service support of Chapel Hill United Methodist Church and its ministries. You're giving so far in 2024 has made a difference in the lives of children, youth, and adults in our church and community, as well as in the lives of people all over the world. We continue to experience increased activity at Trinity Neighborhood Center, an increase in the number of connection groups offered at Chapel Hill, and the expansion of the Snack Pack program to include Post-Franklin School, as well as Riverside and Minges Brook Elementary Schools. We continue rebuilding our children, youth, and family ministries by hosting monthly events. Through our community's faithful generosity, we look forward to how God will continue working through Chapel Hill to further God's kingdom in the year to come!

We ask that you return your 2025 Faith Promise Card, Service/Growth Form, and related forms by Sunday, October 20 so that we can make plans for our ministry for the coming year. You may also bring or mail your forms to the church office by Thursday, October 24. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 to 11:30 am and 1:00 to 3:00 pm. On October 27, we will ask God's blessing over our commitments in worship! It will be a special day.

Thank you for your support of furthering God's kingdom through Chapel Hill UMC.

In Christ's Love,

Rev. Julie Elmore

Rev. Julie Elmore
Pastor



October 2024

Dear Chapel Hill friend,

As three faithful United Methodist churches came together in 2018, an idea was floated to retain the Trinity UMC property. The vision was to repurpose the building to become a center for connection, community, and programming in this challenged and under resourced neighborhood of Battle Creek.

Over the last six years, we have experienced the growth of Trinity Neighborhood Center (TNC) from a vague merger idea to a busy hub of community activity exceeding our expectations. We have created a non-profit organization, Trinity Community Development Inc. (TCDI) to manage the center, develop events and programs, and continue to follow the opportunities that God continues to place before us.

TNC is now in use seven days a week in the following ways:

- Providing vital space for community organizations like Senior Health Partners, Community Inclusive Recreation, 12-step groups, Summit Pointe, Habitat for Humanity, AAUW, Girl Scouts, and more. Collaborating with other local community organizations is an important part of our work and mission.
- Supporting the neighborhood and community with several kinds of food distribution, printed community materials, and the annual Back to School Resource Fair. Our Clothes Closet has provided over 2,000 items of clothing in our small space this year! Neighbors on foot and bicycle stop by for a visit and a bag of snacks. Staff and volunteers offer a place of connection and warmth to all.
- Creating programs for fun and connection, including our annual People for the Planet Earth Day event, a Summer Neighborhood Party, and Trunk or Treat for Halloween.
- Worshipping through the presence of four separate small faith communities who connect the neighborhood to the incomparable Christ!

In the spring, following the closure of nearby Dollar General, we offered donated free food to over 400 people over the space of several weeks. We are currently very excited to have opened a monthly, permanent TNC Food Pantry in September with the help of a grant from Bronson Health and the American Heart Association.

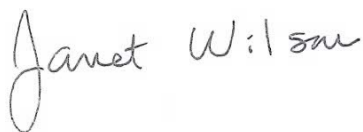
While Chapel Hill resources continue to help fund the essential costs of the amazing TNC facility, costs for programs, staff, building operations, and administration are borne by TCDI. As we move into the future, it is essential that we continue to build a base of donors who support the work and mission of this organization.

We are asking you, as part of the Chapel Hill congregation, to become a part of that base for now and the future. There are several ways in which you can contribute:

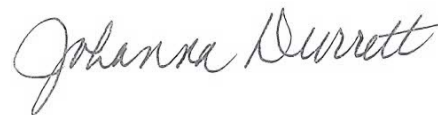
- Pray for the staff and Board of TCDI, our neighbors, and our mission.
- Follow us on Facebook or Instagram at 'Trinity Neighborhood Center' and share our events into your social media community.
- Consider making TNC a designated part of your Chapel Hill giving on your 2025 Faith Promise Card.
- Donate to TCDI directly anytime by sending a check or with credit/debit through the on-line giving portal on our website at tcdibc.org.

Your continued support through your presence and volunteer activity is also essential to our work. As the mission and the connection continue to grow, you remain at the core of God's work of love and grace to improve the quality of life for our neighbors and community.

Thank you for the blessing of your gifts,



Janet Wilson
Executive Director



Johanna Durrett
President of the TCDI Board

