

THE OLIN T. BINKLEY MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

APRIL 19, 2026
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
EARTH DAY



BECOMING AWARE

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

—From "Trees" by Joyce Kilmer

Earth's the right place for love:
I don't know where it's likely to go better.
I'd like to go by climbing a birch tree,
And climb black branches up a snow-white trunk
Toward heaven...

—From "Birches" by Robert Frost

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

RINGING THE SANCTUS BELL

INTROIT Fairest Lord Jesus Choral Scholars

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down;
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise the Lord!

**All: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

Praise the Lord, sun and moon, and all you shining stars!

**I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

Praise the Lord from the earth,

Praise the Lord you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, and stormy wind. – Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

**I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

Let heaven celebrate! Let the earth rejoice!

Let the sea and everything in it roar!

Let the countryside and everything in it celebrate!

Then all the trees of the forest too will shout out joyfully before the Lord because the Lord is coming!

The Lord is coming to establish justice on the earth!

**I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

*HYMN Morning Has Broken Insert

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your heart.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

*CELTIC ALLELUIA



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please pass the Friendship Registers found on each row.
Complete the requested information and then pass it back down the row.
Thank you for worshipping with us at Binkley!*

*Infants through Kindergarten are invited to Nursery care in the Sunroom.
Parents, please pick up your children at this location following Worship.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Claire Dillashaw

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ezekiel 47:1-12

Then he brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there water was flowing from below the entryway of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east), and the water was flowing down from below the south side of the temple, south of the altar. Then he brought me out by way of the north gate and led me around on the outside to the outer gate that faces toward the east, and the water was trickling out on the south side. Going on eastward with a cord in his hand, the man measured one thousand cubits and then led me through the water, and it was ankle-deep. Again he measured one thousand and led me through the water, and it was knee-deep. Again he measured one thousand and led me through the water, and it was up to the waist. Again he measured one thousand, and it was a river that I could not cross, for the water had risen; it was deep enough to swim in, a river that could not be crossed. He said to me, "Mortal, have you seen this?"

Then he led me back along the bank of the river. As I came back, I saw on the bank of the river a great many trees on the one side and on the other. He said to me, "This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters, the water will become fresh. Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish once these waters reach there. It will become fresh, and everything will live where the river goes. People will stand fishing beside the sea from En-gedi to Englaim; it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea. But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt. On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing."

Acts 2;14a, 36-41

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Therefore, let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

For the Word of God in scripture,
and for the word of God, in and among us,
Thanks be to God.

AN UPDATE FROM OUR EARTH MINISTRIES

Charles Coble

A CONTEMPORARY WORD

“I Go Among Trees”

Wendell Berry

I go among trees and sit still.
All my stirring becomes quiet
around me like circles on water.
My tasks lie in their places
where I left them, asleep like cattle.

Then what is afraid of me comes
and lives a while in my sight.
What it fears in me leaves me,
and the fear of me leaves it.
It sings, and I hear its song.

Then what I am afraid of comes.
I live for a while in its sight.
What I fear in it leaves it,
and the fear of it leaves me.
It sings, and I hear its song.

After days of labor,
mute in my consternations,
I hear my song at last,
and I sing it. As we sing,
the day turns, the trees move.

SUNG RESPONSE

Touch the Earth Lightly

Diya Kayaleh, soloist
Henry Reacher, soloist

Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently, nourish the life of the world in our care:
Gift of great wonder, ours to surrender, trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

We who endanger, who create hunger, agents of death for all creatures that live,
We who would foster clouds of disaster, God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

Let there be greening, birth from the burning, water that blesses and air that is sweet,
Health in God's garden, hope in God's children, regeneration that peace will complete.

God of all living, God of all loving, God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
Teach us, deflect us, Christ reconnect us, using us gently, and making us one.

HEARING OUR KNOWN JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER

Fairest Lord Jesus

Kit Rice, soloist
Jackson Adame-Covey, soloist

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry hosts:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

MORNING PRAYER

Marcus McFaul

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sing for the Earth

Greg Gilpin

The Lord has birthed a brand new day. Lift your eyes and give God praise.
Sing with all your voices for the earth!
Hills and mountains burst with song. Trees shall wave and clap along.
Sing with all your voices for the earth!

Moon and stars, the heavens, You have made them.
Wind and air, so precious and so pure.
Rain that falls to nourish all that's given us.
Renew our hearts to guard our treasured home!

The Lord has birthed.

Let love and wisdom guide our actions.
Inspire us to walk in steps of life.
Help us remember the future of our children.
The world is a reflection of ourselves!

*DOXOLOGY

Please sign with the leader or simply sing.

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below, Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

SERMON

“Canopy of Creation”

Avery Davis Lamb

*HYMN

Creative God, You Spread the Earth

insert

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



The flowers today are in loving memory of Mable Strowd and in honor of all the April birthday members. To God be the Glory!

Our pulpit guest this morning is Avery Davis Lamb. Avery is Executive Director of Creation Justice Ministries. Avery has a background in both ecological research and faith-based environmental organizing, studying ecology in various ecosystems and organizing faith communities across the country in support of action on environmental justice. Previously he has worked for Sojourners and Interfaith Power & Light and he currently serves on the board for The Center for Spirituality in Nature. Avery has a Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Sustainability from Pepperdine University, Master of Environmental Management in Ecosystem Science & Conservation with a certificate in Community-Based Environmental Management from the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke

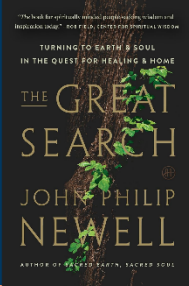

University, and a Master of Theological Studies, with a certificate in Faith, Food & Environmental Justice from Duke Divinity School. His research focuses on the role of religious communities in building climate resilience and adaptation, with emphasis on the virtues and practices of climate hospitality.

Next Sunday: April 26th – Fourth Sunday in Eastertide. Shepherd Sunday (Psalm 23, John 10) with Dr. McFaul preaching. Chancel Choir sings a selection from the classical concert that evening.

Eastertide to Pentecost Book Read

The Great Search: Turning to Earth and Soul in the Quest for Healing and Home by John Philip Newell

Thursdays, Noon
In the Lounge
With Dr. McFaul
for 4/23 read
Chapter 3.

April Birthdays / Anniversaries
Let's Celebrate!
Sunday, April 19th
TODAY
on the patio in Peace Plaza after
Earth Day worship.



June Pride Sunday Planning Committee

While we are praying for her recovery and waiting to work with Susan Rogers (so she can join us as a volunteer pastoral leader for reestablishing our LGBTQ+ group), we have a current need to set up a Pride Sunday Planning Committee.

We are seeking at least 6-7 individuals who will work with us to plan out and volunteer to help out on the day of our 2026 June Pride Service and any potential related events.

Please let Dennis know asap at drwillnva@gmail.com, if you are interested and we will put together an initial planning meeting before the end of April, to discuss what needs to be done for our upcoming service and celebration.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CHURCH OF THE RECONCILIATION, WE ARE ENGAGING IN A NEW "SOUP MINISTRY" TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL NEIGHBORS IMPACTED BY FOOD INSECURITY. WE HAVE AGREED TO PROVIDE 50 SOUP BAGS (INCLUDING INGREDIENTS AND AN EASY TO FOLLOW RECIPE IN ENGLISH & SPANISH) AT THE END OF EACH MONTH. LED BY THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE JUSTICE FOR ALL WORKING GROUP, PLEASE JOIN THE SOUP STEWARDS AT BINKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH ON SATURDAY, APRIL 25, FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

- SOUP BAG KICK-OFF (11:00 AM – 12:00 PM): HELP PACK OUR FIRST SET OF SOUP BAGS AND ENJOY SOME SOCIALIZING WITH OUR CHURCH OF THE REC FRIENDS!
- JUSTICE FOR ALL VIGIL (12:00 PM – 1:00 PM): PARTICIPANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING THEIR OWN SIGNS OR USE THOSE PROVIDED AT THE EVENT.

IF YOU CAN NOT JOIN US (AND EVEN IF YOU CAN), PLEASE HELP OFFSET THE COSTS OF OUR APRIL MINESTRONE SOUP BY BRINGING YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INGREDIENT LIST TO THE CHURCH BY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22.

- 1 BOX OF ELBOW PASTA
- 24 OZ. PASTA SAUCE
- 1 CAN KIDNEY BEANS
- 1 CAN CARROTS
- 1 CAN GREEN BEANS
- 1 CAN DICED TOMATOES
- 2 BOUILLON CUBES (ANY FLAVOR)

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO RSVP, PLEASE CONTACT CAROL MILLER CMILLERLONG@GMAIL.COM OR CINDY BUCY



Morning Has Broken

C Am Dm G Dm G C

1. Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing, black - bird has
 2. Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing born of the

Em Am Em F G C Am F C

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery

Am G C G Am Dm GW C

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931

MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grottenhuis, 1985

BUNESSAN
55.54D

Creative God, You Spread the Earth

1. Cre - a - tive God, you spread the earth with
2. The plan - et teemed with liv - ing things be -
3. O play - ful God, you fill the field with

life in man - y forms: the deer and elk and
fore all hu - man birth, and e - ven fire and
lav - en - der and blue. You paint the bird with

col - um - bine, the bee in hum - ming swarms. For -
beasts of prey re - newed the life of earth. For -
in - di - go, with red or tawn - y hue. For -

give us for each flow'r and bird now van - ished by our
give us, that, the last to come, we threat - en sea and
give us that we grieve your heart, de - stroy - ing what you

WORDS: Ruth Duck, 1991
MUSIC: Traditional English melody; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

KINGSFOLD
CMD

hand. Teach us to treat with
air. Teach us to tend life's
do, and teach us simp - ler,
lov - ing care the crea - tures of the land.
frag - ile web with wise and ten - der care.
gen - tler ways to live on earth with you.

Sunday Afternoon Hymn Sing

Is there a hymn that has been especially significant in your faith formation? Or one that brings a flood of memories every time you hear it? Or one that inspires or challenges you in a particular way? Join with your fellow Binklers on Sunday afternoon, May 3 at 4:00 in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy singing a few of our favorites. *Now is the time to let us know your favorites.* Please list below up to five of your favorite hymns, and return this form to Sally or Diane, or leave it in either of our mail boxes in the work room by April 26.

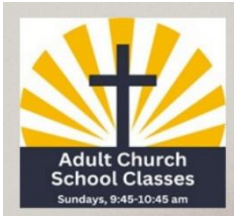
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



Inquirer's Conversation

Saturday, May 16th
10 am -2pm in the Lounge

Are you interested in formally uniting as a member at Binkley? Curious about our history as well as learning more about our mission and ministries? Then this half-day session is for you!
Join Dr. McFaul in the lounge for this conversation and lunch.
Sign up: email Marcus@binkleychurch.org



April 19th - Earth Day! Outside in our Peace Plaza – Avery Davis Lamb from Creation Justice Ministries leads an adult class @ 9:45 in the fellowship hall and will preach.

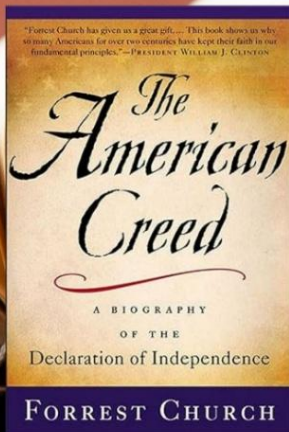
Upcoming Adult Christian Formation classes:

Starting Next Sunday:

April 26th – May 17th Herman Green will teach the book “American Creed” by Forrest Church.

America in Crisis: The Need for Renewal and Refounding

Herman Greene will lead a four-week class from **April 26 to May 17** on “New Foundations for America.” Here are the classes: **April 26:** The First Founding (1776-91) the American Creed; **May 3:** The Second Founding (1863-1877) “A New Birth of Freedom”; **May 10:** Attempts to re-establish the United States (2010-) as an Illiberal democracy; and **May 17:** The need for a Third Founding (2026 -) to more fully realize the American Creed and to meet the ecological and other challenges of our time.



*An Evening of
Classical Music*

April 26, 2026
7:00 pm
Binkley Sanctuary

Featuring:
Chancel Choir, Binkley Bells, Choral Scholars, Mike Harris, Brooks de Wetter-Smith, Kai-Li Ho, etc.

Performing music from the Renaissance through the 21st century, including Victoria, Handel, Mozart, Mendelssohn, and others.

A free will offering will be taken, with proceeds going to support the music program at Binkley.
A reception will follow the concert

JUSTICE FOR ALL VIGIL

Join us to affirm the members of our beloved community - Black and Brown, LGBTQ, Immigrant, Refugee, and Palestinian lives under attack.

Saturday 04/25/2026
12-1PM

1712 Willow Dr.
Chapel Hill, NC



Church in Conference

Sunday, April 26th after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall to vote on Council.



Our Stewardship of Giving:

As of April 3, the Year-to-Date amount given is **\$252,879.90** and our Year-to-Date budgeted amount is **\$ 226,154**. Thank you for your continued generous financial support to our ministries at Binkley.

Binkley Senior Adult Ministry Updates From Diane Eubanks Hill, Minister with Senior Adults



The coming months bring new opportunities for community and learning and inspiration.

Sunday Afternoon Hymn Sing Is there a hymn that has been especially significant in your faith formation? Or one that brings a flood of memories every time you hear it? Or one that inspires or challenges you in a particular way? We know that singing together reduces stress and supports our physical and emotional health! Join with your fellow Binklers on Sunday afternoon, May 3 at 4:00 in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy a few of our favorites. Consider your requests, then fill out the insert found in your worship bulletin today through April 26, and return it to Sally or Diane by April 26. Or, you may prefer to email your requests to sally@binkleychurch.org or diane@binkleychurch.org. Plan to linger after the Hymn Sing to enjoy ice cream and conversation with your Binkley friends.

Back Porch Brunch and Book Discussion -Monday, June 1, 10:30 a.m. Gather on my back porch to discuss our responses to Joan Chittister’s fascinating book *The Gift of Years – Growing Older Gracefully*. The book is composed of about 40 brief chapters on topics such as transformation, fulfillment, learning, loneliness, and nostalgia. In her introduction, Chittister writes: “This is a book for those who are on the brink of old age, ...for those who are concerned about their parents, ...and for those who do not ‘feel’ old, whatever their chronological age, but who one day realize with a kind of numbing astonishment that they have not managed to elude it. They are older than they ever thought they could possibly become.” You may want to think in terms of where you felt challenged or encouraged by this book. Did something she said make you uncomfortable? I hope you’ll find a copy, enjoy it, and come to think about it out loud with your friends, but feel free to come even if you’ve not read a single page. I’ll furnish sourdough sweet rolls, OJ, and decaf. Bring any brunch item you’d like to share with your friends. No registration needed.

Aging in Community led by April Kemper. This group enjoyed a stroll through the NC Botanical Gardens recently. What an amazing spot and what great companions! Watch for the next opportunity to gather with this group as we ponder how to respond positively to the challenges of aging. Please send suggestions to April (aek913@gmail.com) regarding future topics.



All events offered by Binkley’s Senior Adult Ministry are open to anyone interested, no matter the age. Questions? Contact a Senior Adult Planning Team Member (Tonya Hamm, Buck Horton, April Kemper, Denise Laux, Craig Meisner, Elizabeth Perry, Betty Prioux, Sheryl Scrimsher, Dennis Will or Diane Eubanks Hill, Minister with Senior Adults) Next planning meeting May 13th.

Children & Youth Activities

Date	Children	Youth
April 12	Chapel @ 9 Sunday School @ 9:45 Worship with Children @ 11	Chapel @ 9 Sunday School @ 9:45 Worship @ 11
April 19	Chapel @ 9 Sunday School @ 9:45 Worship @ 11	Chapel @ 9 Sunday School @ 9:45 Worship @ 11

BINKLEY PRAYER CONCERNS AND JOYS

CHURCH FAMILY

Liz Medefesser	Chet & Verla Insko	Al Wheless & Melissa Moore	Martha Smith & Allison Smith
Maribel Bruno	Howard Tate	Deborah Tippet	Kay Maltbie
Sue Wallace	Bo Lloyd	Lyn Lamont	Phala Gellert and Family
Mike Ennis	Lori Barbier	Art & Gwen Sherwood	Jim Wise
Jerry and Eileen Richards	Gary Stutts	Karin Mills	

Our Condolences to Phala and Wendy Gellert and family on the death of Phala's Sister, Rose, this past Thursday.

HEALTH CENTER RESIDENTS AND THOSE IN THE HOSPITAL

Laurence & Rachel Avery	Betty Bean	Nell Morton	Ruth Ann Ross	Yvonne Holt
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EXTENDED FAMILY

Renzo Hernandez (Maribel Bruno)	Joe Grieshaber (Karen Long)	Lillian Moneyhun (Gloria Lightsey-Lewis)
Antonio Faria Bonano (Maribel Bruno)	Luisa Euwema (Julie Lentz)	Ethan & Charlotte Zolit (Martha Hutt)
Lidsi Diaz (Maribel Bruno)	Keith Siegel (Kimberly Eastman Zirkle)	Roy Cotton (Karen Long)
Anthony Taylor (Dorothy Pennell)	Valerie Harper (April Harper)	Ruby Switzer (Katherine Walker)
Jerry Nettles (Phala Gellert)	Penny Freeman (Wendy Gellert)	Ben Armfield (Susan Rogers)
Thomas McIlwain (Ashley Nissler)	Rowan Caraway (Dennis Will)	Kathy Gregory Bell (Myra Knight)
Philip Callen (Karen Long)	Randolph Wilson (Denise Laux)	Charles and Joyce Ham (Angie Hutto)
Banner & Ingrid Carrera (Dorothy Pennell)	Michele DeRieux (Kathryn Handley)	Gene Carpenter (Libba Wells)
Jan & David Edwards (S. Ketchin)	Tom Dagenhart (Diane Eubanks Hill)	Bill Daniel (V Sue Wallece)
Mark Price (Jan Young)	Joyce Davis (Karin Mills)	Debbie Hawkins (Mike Hawkins)
Mauro Madrid (Maurico Galvez)	Betty Hillman (Martha and Ginger Wonja Kang (BH Baek mother) Greene)	

CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS

The Comprehensive Rural Health Project, Jamkhed Tan & Scott Coats (Myanmar missionaries)	Pinheiro Baptist Church, Maceio, Brazil - Odja Barros & Wellington Santos, Pastors
The People of Iran	People of Sudan
Hope Flowers School – Issa Family	Pastor Ishan Biswas, Native Evangelical Church, Bangladesh
Palestinian and Israeli victims of violence	Men of Orange Correctional Center
	The People of Ukraine

OUR STAFF

Senior Minister Marcus McFaul marcus@binkleychurch.org 919-237-9120	Minister with Senior Adults Diane Eubanks Hill diane@binkleychurch.org 919-928-5873	Minister of Music Sally Molyneux sally@binkleychurch.org 919-928-5491
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Business Liaison Karin Mills business@binkleychurch.org	Facilities Manager Mauricio Galvez facilities@binkleychurch.org	Media Specialist Megan Hollenbeck megan@binkleychurch.org
		Pastor Emeritus James L. Pike

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