

Rolling up our sleeves, working together, meeting new people, lifting our prayers, making a difference. Come join us!

Chapel in the Pines welcomes your volunteer and willing spirit as we work together to make a difference in our community and in our own lives. Here are some ways you can get involved with missions supported by the Chapel in the Pines Outreach Committee. The Mission and Service Committee supports local and global mission projects through direct help from volunteers like yourself and through funding.

Mission and Service Committee Statement: *The Mission and Service Committee reflects the mission of Chapel in the Pines to show the love of God by caring for those in need, locally and globally. We work to identify needs in our community, especially focusing on North Chatham County. We work with other congregations in our area to try to help those in need in this community. As a committee, we also try to inform the congregation of the needs identified and encourage volunteer participation in programs to meet those needs. Globally, we have chosen to support mission projects in Guatemala and Costa Rica.*

Be a Champion!

We are currently looking for people to serve as “champions” in three areas of our ministry. Champions will attend committee meetings on a regular basis, will commit to investing a significant amount of time and energy to the work of the committee and will be the primary point of contact for a specific focus area. Champions are needed in the following areas:

Poverty and Hunger

- Work with the director of the Take and Eat food pantry to determine budget needs and volunteer opportunities, submit grant applications, etc.
- Strengthen relationships with Circles Chatham and other hunger-related mission projects

Social Justice and Peacemaking

- Strengthen relationships with local agencies such as Communities in Schools of Chatham County, Family Violence and Rape Crisis Services, etc.
- Recommend additional local and global projects to strengthen this area of our ministry

Public Relations

- Prepare reports of committee activities (newsletter articles, “minutes for mission”, etc.)
- Prepare announcements to the general public (mailings, community email lists, etc)

If you have a strong passion for one of these areas and would like to learn more, please contact Monty Brekke (Monty.Brekke@gmail.com; 919 387-9402).

List of Volunteer Opportunities (in alphabetical order)

Chatham County Habitat for Humanity

Chatham Habitat for Humanity works to change substandard housing conditions throughout Chatham County by making homeownership possible for low-income families. Chapel in the Pines volunteers gather on certain Saturday mornings to help build homes from the ground up to the final move-in day. There are always on-site supervisors who provide all the necessary instruction. All abilities welcomed! Volunteer Opportunities include:

- Provide hands-on help in the construction of new homes and rehabilitation and modernization of previously-built Habitat homes. Work ranges from framing, inside wall construction, exterior siding and trim installation and inside finishing and painting.

- Provide lunch for 15-20 volunteer workers on the church's workday.

For more information, contact: Bart Holtz (log.home@mindspring.com, Phone: 919 968-9088)

Chatham County Literacy Council

The Chatham County Literacy Council (Chatham Literacy) is a non-profit agency whose mission is to help adults, living or working in Chatham County, N.C., acquire the literacy and educational skills they need to function successfully in society. Chatham Literacy provides free tutoring services in basic literacy, high school equivalency preparation, citizenship preparation, English as a Second Language and digital literacy. Ways to volunteer with Chatham Literacy:

- Become a tutor. Free tutor training is provided.
- Volunteer to help with fundraising events and community outreach efforts.
- Become a member of the Board or a Committee (areas of need: Board Governance, Marketing, Development (Fundraising/Grant Writing), or Diversity (Life Experiences)).
- Make a difference in someone's life, in your life, and in our community! For more information, contact: Pat Poret (3poret2@gmail.com, Phone: 919 636-4667)

Family Violence and Rape Crisis Services

Services such as crisis intervention, shelter, court advocacy and counseling are provided to battered women and sexual assault victims in Chatham County. The FVRC has multiple programs that empower families to heal from domestic and sexual violence! Here are some ways you might volunteer with the devoted and friendly staff of FVRC:

- Be an office assistant at the Center or volunteer at the shelter.
- Train to become a Crisis Line volunteer.
- Volunteer at Second Bloom Boutique Thrift Shop.
- Donate supplies: paper goods, toiletries, cleaning supplies, diapers, and clothing for all ages.
- Visit in person to donate supplies and gift cards (food, phone, gas, Visa)
- Donate to the discretionary fund (kids' camp, electric bills, and many other uses).

To learn more, please contact: Pat Poret (3poret2@gmail.com, Phone: 919 636-4667)

The Farm at Penny Lane

The Farm at Penny Lane (part of the UNC Center for Excellence in Community Mental Health) is a therapeutic farm providing holistic healing environment for clients with multiple and persistent disabilities. The Farm has regular work days every Friday 10-Noon when clients, staff and volunteers come to the farm and work in the garden. Several Saturdays during the year, The Farm schedules a large Work Day when there may be some building projects, and other larger-scale projects as well as the other usual farming/gardening projects. Volunteer opportunities include:

- Planting, tending, and harvesting in the garden
- Occasional painting and small building projects
- Preparing new growing areas to expand the harvest
- Working with the PAWS program at the Farm where service dogs receive training
- Sharing your expertise on bees, gardening, horticultural therapy, aquaponics

To learn more about this exciting farm just down the road from Chapel in the Pines, please contact: Karen Fisher (ksf411@gmail.com, Phone: 919 933-8905)

Presbyterian Coffee Project

This program supports small-scale farmers across the world by serving and selling fairly-traded coffee from Equal Exchange. In addition, fairly traded tea, cocoa, and chocolate bars are also available for purchase. These items are made

available on Sundays for sale following worship. Volunteer opportunities include: ordering items for sale, staffing the sales table on Sundays, promoting the Presbyterian Coffee Project. To learn more about this program and ways to volunteer, please contact: Janet Dopler (919 542-2815)

Take and Eat Food Pantry

The food pantry, located at Evergreen United Methodist Church, provides food assistance to our hungry neighbors in Eastern Chatham County, specifically for people living in the Northwood High School district. Take and Eat is an ecumenical endeavor which involves support from Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church, Chatham Community Church, Evergreen United Methodist Church, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Mount Zion Baptist Church, and Lystra Baptist Church. Volunteers are needed for many different tasks:

- Food pick-up and delivery to pantry (Food Bank - Durham Branch; Panera Bread - Patterson Place; Food Lion - Governors Village; Farmer Foodshare - Fearington Farmers Market)
- Weekly Distribution assistance (You can sign up at www.tinyurl.com/pantryschedule)
- Stocking donated and purchased food
- Repackaging bulk food items
- Coupon Crew
- Assist with shopping for items (free or nearly free) at local grocery stores, under the guidance of a super couponer. All items are then donated to the pantry.
- Organize a food drive
- Write "Thank You" notes
- Data entry related to in-kind donations and volunteer hours
- Thanksgiving and Christmas basket packing and distribution assistance
- Offer a special skill that would benefit the pantry's clients (budgeting, cooking, health screening,

To learn more about the Take and Eat Food Pantry, contact Monty Brekke (Monty.Brekke@gmail.com, Phone: 919 387-9402)

Take and Read Book Club

The Take and Read Book Program provides books for children in Chatham County who may have few books in their homes. New or gently used books are given to local agencies to give to children and teens, also encouraging parents to read to their children. Books are given to food pantries, preschool and after school programs for low-income children, health clinics, and other social service agencies.

- Donate new or used children's books
- Shop for gently used children's books at thrift shops, yard sales and donate
- Organize a book drive in your neighborhood or school for children's books to donate
- Sorting: if you have some expertise in children's literature and/or reading, help to sort donated books. This is done about every 4-6 weeks.
- Distributing: deliver boxes of books to sites in Siler City, Pittsboro and/or Moncure. This is done every 4-6 weeks on weekdays when the agencies are open.

To learn more about working with the Take and Read Book Club, contact Paul Harrell (paulharrell@embarqmail.com Phone: 919 542-2743)

Take and Wear Clothes Closet

This ecumenical ministry, located at Lystra Baptist Church, provides new and gently worn clothing and shoes to those in

need in our community. The Clothes Closet is open on certain Saturdays once a month, 8:45 – 10:30 a.m., and is scheduled by Lystra Church. Donated clothing is made available to anyone who is in need. Members of Chapel in the Pines volunteer on the Thursday prior to the open Saturday, to sort, label, and display the clothes (we work from 10-Noon). We work together with the good folks at Lystra Baptist Church at least one Thursday and one Saturday each month (and some months more).

To learn more, contact Sally Wehmueller (sallytweh@gmail.com, Phone: 919 968-4230)