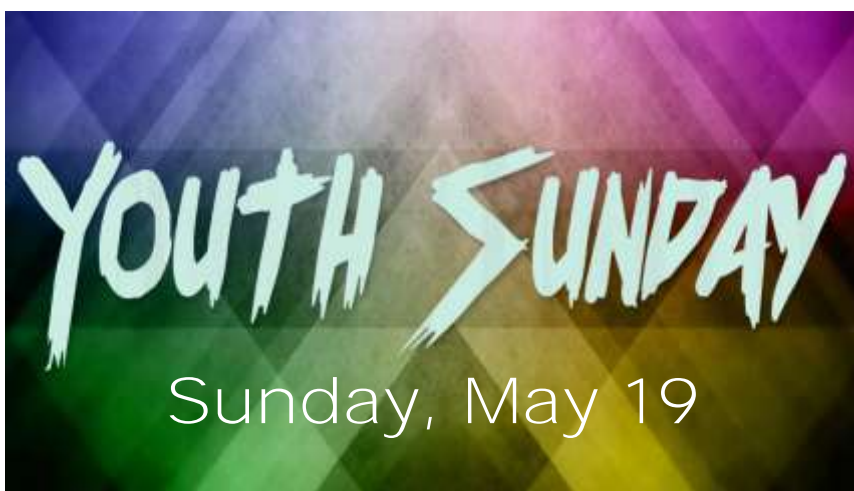


11 collage

COLLEGE PARK
a newsletter of
College Park Baptist Church • Greensboro, NC

May 2019
Number 267

For more information & sermons,
visit www.collegeparkchurch.com



Regular Events:

Weekly:
Mondays—Thursdays
12 pm Narcotics Anonymous, Chapel
Mondays
6 pm Zumba Class, Fellowship Hall
Tuesdays
12 pm Narcotics Anonymous, Chapel
Wednesdays
5:30 pm Dinner, FH
6:30 pm *Special Programming*
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
Thursdays
6:30 pm Tai Chi, Chapel
Fridays
12 pm AI-Anon, Fellowship Hall
6-9 pm Chinese Student Ministry, FH
Saturdays
9:30—11:30 am Qigong, Chapel

Looking Ahead

May 19
Youth Sunday
Jana Dye's Ordination, 5 pm
June 2
Combined Worship and reception for Michael's 25th year at College Park
June 4
Mostly Men Book Club, @ Fat Dogs 6:30 pm
Women of Valor, @ Kari Bauman's House 6:30 pm
June 9
Penticost
June 18-21
PassportKids Camp (Grades 2-5)
July 20-30
Youth Mission Trip
August 19-22
Adventures with Paul VBS, 5:30—7:30pm

Inside:

Pg. 2 *Jana Dye's Ordination Statement*
Pg. 6 *GCSTOP Outcomes*

Please join us for the
Eagle Scout Court of Honor
of
Max Goetz
Boy Scout Troop 316
Saturday, May 18, 2019
2:00 pm
College Park Baptist Church
1601 Walker Avenue
Reception following ceremony

EAGLE SCOUT COURT OF HONOR
EAGLE

Jana Dye's Ordination Statement

April 2019

Who am I and how did I get here?

My childhood in Louisville, Kentucky was a happy one by most any standards. I grew up with a brother who was 14 months older than me, but he always **felt more like a twin than he did a "big brother"**. Looking back, however, I did spend much of my time as a child wanting to know I could do everything he could do and needing his approval that my interests and hobbies were **"cool" enough**.

I was the child of two very proud Baptist parents. My mom worked for an insurance company and my dad was a carpet salesman, a profession that was passed down to him from his father. From the time I was born, my family attended a small Baptist church in our **neighborhood 'every time the doors were open'**. It was the same church my mother had attended since she was a small child. The other families and individuals we knew **their felt like a part of our own family. We didn't know it** then, but soon this sense of communal and familial bond would be put to the test.

I can still vividly remember being five years old and my grandmother picking my brother and I up from the church nursery and informing us that my dad had been in a bicycle accident. He had flipped himself over his bike while riding down a steep hill and suffered some painful injuries including a broken collarbone and a nasty bump on the head when his non-helmeted frontal lobe hit the pavement. While the injuries from this bike accident ended up being minor (much more minor than they could have been), the information that this accident brought about would prove to be life changing.

A cat scan of his head that was meant to ensure he did not have brain damage from the accident revealed **that the accident hadn't, in fact, caused any severe** damage to his head. It did, however, tell us that he had a benign brain tumor the size of a baseball positioned on the part of his brain that controls balance. Where the story goes from here is very long and complicated and I **don't feel the need to dwell on all the details for too long**.

I will state here the very condensed versions of the months and subsequent years that would follow this event. My father (a very active man who loved to bike, play sports, and run marathons) underwent a brain surgery in July of 2000 that was supposed to completely remove the tumor and have him back to normal within a couple of months. What actually happened, however, is that he spent three months after the operation in the ICU battling pneumonia and there were certain moments in time where death became a sure possibility.

By the grace of God, he battled back from the grips of sickness and was eventually released from hospital care but his health and physical ability would never be what it was before. The part of his brain that controls simple human functioning such as balance and swallowing were damaged forever. To this day, he cannot walk unassisted and his poor swallowing capabilities lead

to frequent (and sometimes intense) bouts of pneumonia.

This is an event in my life and the life of my family that has been difficult and painful to say the least. And, while we should still prefer to have not gone through these trying times, it was something that taught me the power and importance of strong Christian community from a very early age. I cannot remember how many times, throughout all our trials, I recall my **mom saying, "I don't know how people get through these things without a church"**. From loading us up with casseroles and baked goods, to taking my brother and I on fun, all-day outings, to sitting with my mother every day at the hospital—our tiny church family was there for us any time we needed them. I have never experienced the love and power of God more strongly than I have in these times, in the radical kindness and hospitality of those in my own community.

Our experiences in the church weren't always positive. The small Baptist church that I was born into and my parents loved so dearly, ending up hurting us—an experience so many others can probably attest to as well. We made the difficult decision of leaving the church after a small group of people betrayed and inflicted pain on many of us in the process of enacting changes they felt were necessary. We left the church we loved with heavy and sad hearts but were welcomed in to a new church family with open arms.

I spent the rest of my childhood going on youth trips, volunteering for Vacation Bible School, and attending any social gathering that revolved around church life. The relationships I developed in my church community were some of the most important and impactful relationships that I would ever experience. It was in those days, in the calm I felt around my youth group peers and the joy I got from participating in leadership roles within the church, that I began to feel the nudge towards congregational ministry, which I promptly ignored.

To me, being a minister meant knowing everything and having it all together. I did not feel like I could live up to the moral standards typically associated with ministry life nor did I want to. Pastors, as far as I knew, were middle-aged men who made you feel really guilty on a Sunday morning for swearing, drinking, or any other activity that could happen on a Saturday night. Church community, for me, was wonderful but my faith and theology had some exponential growth that needed to be tended to.

In the fall of 2012, I went off to study at Georgetown College, still quite unsure of what it was that I wanted to do. College ended up being a personal, spiritual, and religious transformation for me. I was exposed to systems of the world I never knew existed. For the first time, I was enrolled in classes that talked about white privilege, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, and other systems of oppression. Little by little, my privileged, comfortable, white-centered, worldview began to be dismantled. The knowledge I gained during my four years at Georgetown College—though hard to hear at times—ignited within me a passion for justice work that I had not felt before.

The church traditions in which I was raised did

not teach me that it was possible and necessary to combine religious faith with social justice work. Church did not teach me how to worship God *and* care for the **poor. It didn't teach me how to love God** *and* embrace the marginalized. Church did not teach me how to reconcile my own identity as a woman and as a queer person with my religious beliefs. While I was becoming more aware of systems of privilege and oppression in **college, I didn't yet have the awareness of the connection** between Christianity and justice work. I believed I would have to pick one or the other.

Through deep conversations, thought provoking religious classes, and the grace of God Herself, my undergraduate career led me to the Wake Forest University School of Divinity. Starting out, I was still unsure of whether pastoral vocation was for me, but I knew there was something about religion, theology, and the Divine that intrigued me and needed to be explored further. Over three years at Wake Forest Divinity, however, I have received a theological, vocational, and spiritual education that has changed me in ways that I will be forever grateful for. I have learned so much about both the world and myself. For the first time, I learned that loving God while loving myself and fighting for justice in the world was not only *possible* to my faith, but it was actually *necessary* to my faith.

Wake Forest has given me too many gifts to mention individually but one of the most important gifts were my internships requirements which led me to Metro Baptist Church in New York City and to my congregational work right here at College Park in Greensboro. Each one of these experiences I will be forever grateful for.

In addition to being a congregational church, Metro Baptist also runs a functioning nonprofit called Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries. RMM aims to serve the most vulnerable in its community. For the first time, I was able to witness personally what it looks like to combine my passion for faith, social justice, and pastoral ministry. My specific job as an intern was to help run the summer camp, which gave 50-60 low-to-middle income children the opportunity to have a six-week summer camp experience for an affordable cost. It was an experience so meaningful to me that when RMM asked me to serve as the summer camp director the following **summer, I didn't hesitate to return and continue my** work there.

This experience grew my confidence as a leader more than I could have ever imagined. Being responsible for the health and safety of nearly 50 children every day in one of the busiest cities in the world, I never knew exactly what my day was going to look like. One thing I could say for certain is that if I can get 50 elementary school kids, along with 20 adult volunteers, on and off the New York subway system safely- I could do *anything*. Both of my summers in New York were challenging, growing, and life changing experiences. I ministered to vulnerable people in my immediate community. I developed relationships with children and

their families who never once came to a Sunday service. I got to see how a faith institution addresses poverty, homelessness, unemployment, and other injustices from the pulpit and out in the community itself.

My time at College Park Baptist has been one of the more incredible and uplifting experiences of my life. College Park was the first congregation I have been a part of that openly affirms me in every way- as a woman, as a queer person, and as an amateur minister still trying to figure this whole ministry thing out. The congregation, as well as the staff of College Park, has showered me with abounding love, acceptance, and patience. They have cheered me on from my first time at the pulpit, stumbling and speed-reading through scripture passages, and have given me invaluable advice and feedback on how to be a better proclaimer. The youth I have been privileged enough to work with, as well, have humbled me with the knowledge and insight that their young brains have bestowed upon me.

My experience serving with College Park Baptist has shown me what it looks like to be a small Baptist church that loves gay people, immigrants, people of color, and anyone else who has been oppressed or marginalized by structures of power. They have shown me how a congregation can use their power and privilege from the pulpit and in their every day lives to fight for what is right in **the world. College Park is a community that practices God's** abundant love in the world by their radical acceptance and hospitality to all people. They are the ideal Christian community that I knew must have existed somewhere in the world but I just had not found them yet. It is here, where I have been able to take some of the most formative steps in growing into my role as a minister, leader, and human.

What does ordination mean to me?

Ordination, for me, is a very holy honor that is not to be taken lightly. Being a life long Baptist, the phrase **"every member a minister" is no stranger to me. This is a** statement that I have taken to believe fully throughout my life, especially during my time serving in churches. Every member of the church is called to serve somehow and, therefore, every member has their fair say in the decisions and leadership of the congregation.

Every "minister" of the church is given different gifts and discerns God's call in their life to find out where those gifts are leading them. Everyone has a God-given talent that allows them to enter the world and make it a better place somehow. Some ministers have the gift of math, science and technology expertise that allows them to be doctors, scientists, accountants, etc. They may use these gifts to cure diseases, provide financial aid/ advice to the economically vulnerable, or bring life saving treatment to those who have no access to it. Some ministers are lawyers **that use the legal system to fight for others' basic rights and** to make the law accessible to all people. Other ministers are able to give the gift of mental health care and counseling. Every person in every congregation has a gift that can be used for the collective good both in and outside of the church.

It is my firm belief that my call and my gifts are

leading me towards being a leader in the church. My specific call is to work within the church to create positive change from the inside that hopefully seeps its way out into the real world. My calling, I believe, is to be **an example of Christ's love in the purest and most authentic way possible.** Ordination is the process and symbol with which I begin that call and mission. It is a process that I consider to be holy and sacred.

The most beautiful thing about ordination within Baptist life, for me, is the concept that it is not only fellow clergy that determine the affirmation of my ordination, but it is also the members, or ministers, of the church as well. We live out our philosophy as Baptists here at College Park by giving members the opportunity to choose whom they ordain as clergy. It is the people that know me, who have loved me, and who have seen me grow over the past two years as a minister and as a person that will determine if I am fit to serve the call of the ordained. To be considered for such a great honor by a community who I respect and admire so greatly is one of the most meaningful experiences of my life.

Inner Ground's Healing Rhythms
Drum Circle
Sundays 3 -4 PM
May 19, August 11, Nov. 3



Where will this call take me?

Where my ministerial journey will inevitably lead me is still somewhat of a mystery. This summer, it will be with much bittersweet emotion that I will graduate Wake Forest Divinity School and leave College Park. The next two years of my life will be spent in Boston, Massachusetts serving as a resident in the newly funded Urban Pastoral Ministry Program. As part of the residency, I will be a part of a cohort that serves 2/3 of their professional time in a local congregation and another 1/3 of their time with a local faith-based nonprofit called City Mission. I will be serving on staff at

First Baptist Jamaica Plain and working with City Mission's wonderful programs to end homelessness in Boston through providing education, housing, job training, and so much more.

While I am filled with sadness to be leaving my community here, I am beyond excited for the potential of the opportunities I have in the next two years. Set up as both a professional and educational program, I will have the opportunity to combine both non-profit and congregational ministry in a diverse and thriving city landscape. I hope to contribute my existing gifts of pastoral care, preaching, and theological interpretation, as well as developing new gifts. As my career in ministry is still very much in its infancy, this is an opportunity for me to mature as a leader and further develop the knowledge and skills that have impacted me so positively over these past three years.

I am excited about figuring out how to combine authentic and thriving congregational community with effective community presence and outreach. When my time in Boston comes to an end, I am not quite sure where exactly I will end up. I do know that it is my hope to continue serving in congregational ministry beyond my two years in residency. What I hope to accomplish (and what the residency will hopefully guide me in) is discerning a way to combine my love of congregational ministry with my call to community outreach. My experiences at both College Park and Metro Baptist have been very helpful in guiding me towards these ministries and I know my time in Boston will serve as further guidance. No matter which city, congregation, or community I end up in, it is my plan to use the gifts and

THE
DEATH
AND
LIFE OF

BOBBY Z
Mostly Male Occasional
Book Club
A NOVEL BY
DON WINSLOW
Tuesday, June 4, 6:30 pm @ Fat Dogs

blessings that have been bestowed upon me thus far to exhibit God's radical love, hospitality, and inclusion into the world.

What will I offer to the church?

What I hope to bring to the church are some of the very gifts that the church blessed me with for most of my life. It is my wish that, wherever I am, that I am able to create and cultivate a loving and supporting community that looks out for and uplifts one another. If we are truly to represent the **body of Christ, then one person's pain is pain for all of us, and another person's joy is joy that belongs to all of us as well.** Communities that lament and rejoice together are the most beautiful and healthy communities that can exist and I hope to bring this attitude to any group I may lead or be a part of in the future.

As the church goes through one of its most transformational periods in its history, I hope to be a part of the progressive movement that Christianity has needed for so long. The Christian Church, from its earliest beginnings, was a rebel and revolutionary religion. After a while, however, Christianity became the popular religion of the empire and began to lose sight of its initial purpose of speaking truth to systems of power. Instead of standing against the empire, it became the empire. In my ministry, it is my hope to contribute to a movement that returns Christianity to its roots of being a misfit, outcast religion

I do not plan on practicing a safe form of Christianity. Any church of Christian community that I am privileged enough to be a leader of will be a community that stands in opposition to power and stands with the most marginalized. The God I worship from the pulpit and witness to in my everyday interactions will not be one of hate, judgment, or fear. The presence of God that I plan to proclaim in my ministry is one of love, justice, and accountability. It is my firm belief that I cannot proclaim God or the resurrected Christ with out loving others and loving myself.

I have experienced the depths of both joy and pain that the church can inflict upon someone. A healthy and uplifting Christian community can be a life-altering positive force in someone's life while a toxic and oppressive community has the ability to cause irrevocable damage. It is my hope to serve as a force of good within a religion whose name has often **been used to invoke hurt and evil. I don't know** where and how, ultimately, my church will manifest **but I do know that I cannot truly call it a "church" if it does not practice love towards all God's people.** My ministry will be one that practices radical love,

Wednesday Night Schedule

5:30 pm	Dinner
6:15—7:00 pm	Kid's Choirs (Pre-K and Grades 1-5)
6:30—7:30 pm	Bible Study
7:30—9:00 pm	Adult Choir



Creation Care Consideration Plant Trees

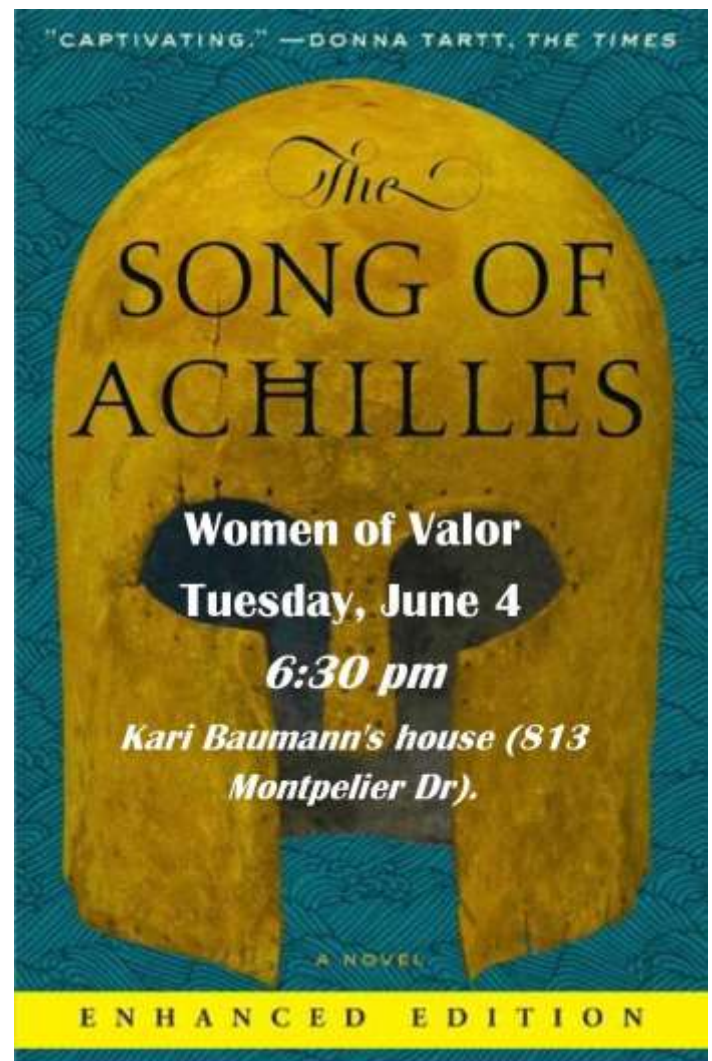
Trees clean our air and create oxygen. This is a great way to compensate for the pollution in our environment. To save on paper, please consider viewing our Sunday bulletins on your mobile device, posted weekly under Media on the College Park website: collegeparkchurch.com or scan the QR code.

Our Creation Justice Team now has a web page:

www.collegeparkchurch.com/creation-justice-team/



Please visit for information on what College Park is already doing in the areas of environmental and ecological care and resources for further study and action. Speak to Christian McIvor if you're interested in being a part of the Creation Justice Team!



25 celebrating YEARS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
WEEKEND CELEBRATION
TO HONOR

Michael S. Usey

IN HIS 25TH YEAR AS PASTOR
OF COLLEGE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

FRIDAY EVENING

MAY 31ST
7:00 - 9:00PM
DINNER
O. HENRY HOTEL
624 GREEN VALLEY RD
GREENSBORO, NC 27408

SUNDAY MORNING

JUNE 2ND
10:30AM
WORSHIP AND RECEPTION
COLLEGE PARK CHURCH
1601 WALKER AVE
GREENSBORO, NC 27403

SEE BACK FOR FRIDAY EVENING DETAILS AND RSVP INFORMATION

GCSTOP

Building County Resilience To The Opioid Problem

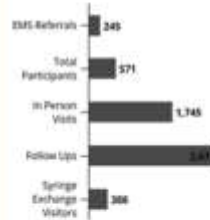
Outcomes

MARCH 2018-APRIL 2019

Life Saving

Distributed	Collected	Naloxone	Treatment	Rescues
				
228,020	103,805	1,661	157	447

Participants Count



Changing Lives

"I would not be alive if my husband had not performed CPR while waiting on first responders to arrive and administer Naloxone... 3 doses later I woke up... not long after that I received a package from GCSTOP with Naloxone and other harm reduction items... then I had another overdose where my husband administered the naloxone from GCSTOP and saved my life... After my 3rd or 4th overdose I received a phone call from an employee, Guillermo, where I was informed of all the wonderful options and things offered by this amazing community outreach program... we talked for probably 45 minutes... it gave me a glimmer of hope in such a dark time in my life... I am working on 8 months clean and have a life I never dreamed."

HARM REDUCTION SAVES LIVES

ADVENTURES



THROUGH THE
UNDERGROUND CHURCH

2019 VBS . Aug 19-22 . 5:30-7:30 PM

Announcements

College Park Website

Our redesigned church website is now very mobile friendly with several new features. To keep better informed about happenings of the church, check out the online

Collage blog that is updated frequently. And see a weekly **calendar of events**. The **"Library"** is an archive of memoirs, sermons, etc. Give your offering online, read about our latest mission projects or the capital campaign, and share the site as you try to explain our uniqueness to your friends and family.



www.collegeparkchurch.com

Options for Children during the Worship Service



There are several child care options during the worship service: Wee Care (birth—24 months) Room 104 lower level, Wee Worship (3 yrs—Kindergarten) Room 110 lower level. Beginning 1st Grade your child is invited to stay in the service with you. Kids Worship binders are available with activities related to the sermon. Look for the bins at the front and back of the sanctuary.

New Addresses

Steve & Michelle Phillips 1200 Bear Hallow Road,
Greensboro 27410

Jack Miller's temporary address: 334 Cedar Run Drive,
Randleman NC 27317

Please wear your name tag on Sundays.

If you do not have a name tag, please contact the church office and one will be ordered for you.

336-273-1779 or cpbcgbo@bellsouth.net



Zumba classes meet Mondays (\$3), 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall (\$5 or \$20 for 5 classes) 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Be sure to join us for fun & fellowship!

Summer Worship Schedule Beginning June 9

8:30 am Tessera Worship
10 am Coffee & Fellowship
10:30 am Mosaic Worship

Prayer Requests

Please write prayer requests on a visitor information card and place in the offering plate or put prayer requests in the prayer box in the Prayer Room.



3 Ways 2 Give

For added convenience, we have three ways for you to give to the church general budget or special offerings:

- Write a check or give cash at one of our Sunday **services or at the office during the week**. If you don't have envelopes with an assigned number (for better record keeping), contact the church office.
- **Set up bill pay through your bank online. It's a favorite since there are usually no fees to you or the church, and it's very easy.**
- Pay online with a credit card at: www.CollegeParkChurch.com. Choose the option to cover the credit card fees or let the church pay them.

May GUM Donation

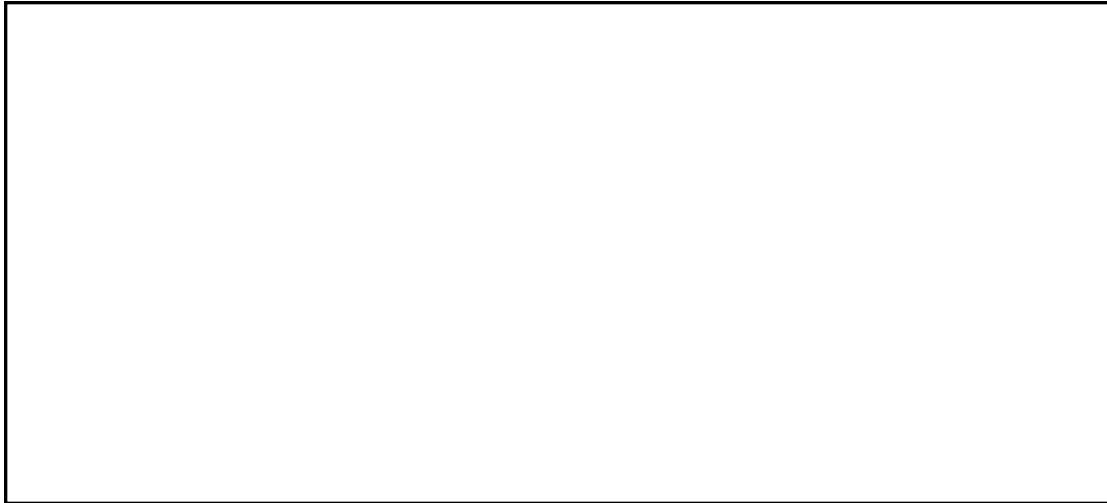
Dried Beans (1 lb Bag or larger)

Place donations in the wicker basket in the side foyer entrance (beside the bookshelves).



College Park
An American Baptist Church
1601 Walker Avenue
Greensboro, North Carolina 27403-2318

Return Service Requested



Church Telephone: (336) 273-1779; Fax: (336) 273-9637
Alliance of Baptists - American Baptist Churches
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

Every Member a Minister

James Blay, Interim Office & Media Manager
Phyllis Calvert, Treasurer
Jana Dye, Assistant Minister to Youth & Families
Darlene Johnson, Sexton
Christian McIvor, Minister of Music & Worship
Jack Miller, A Very Youthful 94
David Soyars, Organist
Lin Story-Bunce, Associate Minister
Andrea Turner, Deacon Chair
Michael S. Usey, Pastor

www.collegeparkchurch.com cpbcgbo@bellsouth.net
www.facebook.com/collegeparkchurch

Progressive - Diverse - Ecumenical