



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Do Justice • Love Kindness • Walk Humbly

October 9, 2016

Chris Tuttle
Pastor and Head of Staff
chris@wpcdurham.org

Betty Berghaus
Associate Pastor for
Congregational Care
betty@wpcdurham.org

Taylor Lewis Guthrie Hartman
Associate Pastor for
Youth Ministry
taylor@wpcdurham.org

Monica Umstaedt Rossman
Minister of Music
monica@wpcdurham.org

Heather Ferguson
Director of Christian Education
heather@wpcdurham.org

Elizabeth Takla
Office Manager
elizabeth@wpcdurham.org

Kara Pearce
Communication Coordinator
kara@wpcdurham.org

Barbara Schmidt
Administrative Assistant
bschmidt@wpcdurham.org

Thoko Manzini
Nursery Staff Supervisor
thoko@wpcdurham.org

Friends and fellow disciples,

Paul, in the heart of his long and magnificent letter to the church in Rome, opens chapter twelve by challenging his Christian brothers and sisters:

I appeal to you, therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.

As we begin stewardship season, the Stewardship Committee wants to offer a question:
How is God at work transforming you?

We have dared to presume that Jesus Christ is, in powerful ways, transforming us all – and transforming the world – through God’s own powerful, mysterious, uncontrollable grace. We have also dared to presume that this same God is at work in the church, this church, Christ’s own mission outpost on Old Chapel Hill Road in southwest Durham.

Each week we’ll engage certain parts of this question and share members’ answers to it. You’ll be hearing from them in worship each Sunday and in videos we’ll email each Friday of stewardship season. As you hear some of our beloved members reflect, we invite you to consider the question for yourself: How is God at work transforming you?

We believe that the church is, first and foremost, in the transformation business. God is a God who never stays still, but pushes and moves, creating and recreating, forming and reforming us each day. This same God is at work in the church: comforting us, challenging us, surrounding us in our weakness, and calling the gifts God has given us out to be shared for the benefit of ALL of God’s glorious world.

But we can’t be a church in the transformation business if we haven’t first been transformed ourselves. The God who created us and called us, who is at work in each of our lives, calls us to be good stewards of the gifts we have been given. Transformation happens when we give sacrificially of our time, energy, and money, beyond the “extra” we think we have. It is then that we become part of how God is praying and serving, feeding and clothing and housing, offering medical care, teaching Bible stories, laughing and playing, and being a family in a world of so many divisions.

We need you. We need everyone’s gift. Let us pray that God will call something new out of us, as good stewards, together. We look forward to sharing this journey with you.

In Christ,

Rev. Chris Tuttle, Pastor

Amy Simonson, Stewardship Chair

3639 Old Chapel Hill Road • Durham, North Carolina 27707-3616
(919) 489-4974 • Fax (919) 493-4553 • www.wpcdurham.org