

THE ANNUAL

Galilee

BUSINESS REPORT



GALILEE

C H U R C H

EST. 1888



February 8th, 2026

+

**Thank you for your dedication
while serving on the Vestry.
Your ministry is greatly appreciated.**

Wendy Pelton, *Senior Warden*
Linda Whitehead, *Junior Warden*
Michael Via, *Treasurer*
James Noel*, *Registrar*

Don Clarke, Betsy Cromwell*, Katie Denton*,
Susan Freese, Tom McAfee, Dee Oliver,
Bud Syme*, and Tony Zontini

*An asterisk indicates the conclusion of
the vestry member's term.

*Note: On Sunday morning – February 8th, 2026, we will confirm four new Vestry members:
Crystal Cameron-Schaad, Mary Fletcher, Bryant McGann, and Tim Stiffler.*

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Rector's Annual Report

Dear Galilee Family,

I am brimming with gratitude to the Lord, to you, and to the staff. Very few parishes enjoy the stability, growth and participation that we have at Galilee. You might take it for granted, as I do. However, when I gather with other clergy and see their discouragement and fatigue, then I remember what a unique and extraordinary community we have. Despite personal burdens and our individual deficiencies, we are rooted together in Christ, nourished by the Holy Spirit—on the solid foundation of the Scripture.

In 2026 we are among the 20 largest Episcopal parishes in the United States (#18). That is not by accident. It is a work of grace from the Lord, and it is the result of your work in this place. Of course, we can do nothing on our own: Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain (Psalm 127). Yet it is our Lord's pleasure to bless the good work done in His name—and so we “labor and strive” in His Vineyard (1 Timothy 4:10). There is a saying attributed to John Wesley: Pray as if everything depended on God. Work as if everything depended on you. We have done both in the last year, and the 2025 Annual Report reflects it in our mercy ministries (helping people) and spiritual formation ministries (growing people).

Spiritual growth always precedes numerical growth. So, while I'm glad to see our numbers increase, I know that it's a result of the core practices of prayer, study, service, mutual support and worship. Galilee is a place where we carry each others' burdens AND we grow together in Christ—and we happen to have fun along the way.

Thank you for putting your roots down here. I'm honored as always to be your Rector, and I look forward to the coming year.

Father Buchanan+





Senior Warden's Annual Report

Over the past year, Galilee has experienced meaningful growth, deepened engagement, and faithful stewardship. We are deeply grateful for the leadership, care, and vision of our clergy, whose guidance has shaped worship, Christian formation, and parish life throughout the year. The Vestry continued its work with the addition of new members and a collaborative liaison model that strengthened ministry support and mentorship. Our powerhouse is the multitude of lay leaders and parishioners who volunteer their time and talent to support our many ministries.

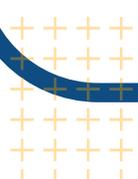
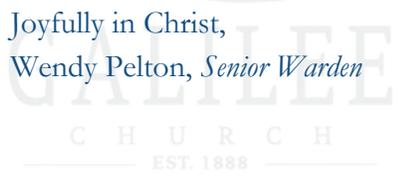
Worship, Christian formation, and fellowship have been vibrant throughout the year. We have experienced record attendance both during holiday services and throughout the year. From baptisms to confirmations and the welcoming of new members, Galilee has continued to thrive as a place of spiritual renewal for all ages. Abundant opportunities for growth exist through Bible studies, contemplative prayer offerings, and focused generational and intergenerational groups.

Parish life was enriched through special events, musical programs, retreats, and strong outreach partnerships, including ongoing local support for the Eastern Shore Chapel Food Pantry, People In Need, the Judeo-Christian Outreach Center, An Achievable Dream Academy, and the Crisis Pregnancy Center—as well as support for seven other national and international ministries. Hospitality remained a hallmark of Galilee, with newcomer dinners, community meals, and seasonal celebrations fostering connection.

Financially, the parish remained stable and generous, with steady giving throughout much of the year and a successful stewardship campaign. Significant progress was made on capital improvements, including organ installation and climate control upgrades, supporting worship and long-term sustainability.

As the Vestry looks ahead, planning for 2026 is grounded in Galilee's mission of renewal—emphasizing gratitude, mentorship, families growing together, and deeper reliance on Christ. We give thanks for God's faithfulness and look forward with hope to what lies ahead.

Joyfully in Christ,
Wendy Pelton, *Senior Warden*





Junior Warden's Annual Report

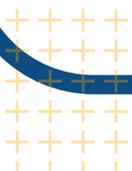
It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as Galilee's Junior Warden in 2025. I have had a behind-the-scenes look at the talent, teamwork, planning, and execution involved in completing many projects, along with a greater appreciation of the monies budgeted to keep our church and its property in top shape.

It has been a busy and productive year! Some highlights follow...

- In February, Jordan Hall received a new sound system and video rewiring. The new system was welcomed during the Galilee Women Galentine's event in February and during VBS in June.
- Quimby began the Chancel organ work in March. There have been many layers to this project, but it is nearing completion. The Chancel organ should be ready for Sunday services and special events by February.
- Phase 1 of the Skinner organ and pipes in the balcony began in January, with Phase 2 scheduled to begin after Easter.
- In March, the process of replacing the chiller began. After the installation a few issues needed to be addressed such as flushing out debris that had accumulated in the chiller, a need to add chemicals to prevent future buildup, and discovering a refrigerant leak which needed to be repaired. After a repair of some broken pipes, the chiller began working efficiently and the final payment was made in September.
- Roof repair was made over the left area of the Sanctuary in hopes of solving a water leak. In June copper gutters and downspouts were installed on the south and north side of the Sanctuary. Eventually, large sections of the plaster wallboard were cut out. After it was determined that there were no more leaks, and the concrete had time to dry, the rotted lath and wallboard were replaced. Painting was completed in December.
- In June a meeting was held to discuss safety concerns in areas of the Galilee parking lot. Since that time, posts have been added to prevent parking in areas that could block emergency vehicles entering the lot if necessary. Many new designated senior parking spaces have been added. In addition, a Parking Committee has been formed and a golf cart purchased. The Parking Committee has been most helpful in assisting with parking on Sundays and other special events at the church. Many parishioners enjoy being picked up by the volunteer golf cart drivers and driven up or down the hill of the parking lot.

If anyone would like more information about other projects completed in 2025, please read the monthly Vestry reports or feel free to contact me with questions/comments/suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Whitehead, *Junior Warden*



Treasurer's Annual Report

Galilee enjoyed a prosperous 2025, and we are in a healthy financial position.

For some background, a 2018 engineering study showed that a parish the size of Galilee should contribute \$287,123 each year to a capital improvements fund for expected and unexpected capital expenditures. Thanks to the congregation's generous giving and support, we are working to accomplish this. We were able to contribute \$100,000 in 2023, \$325,000 in 2024 and \$150,000 in 2025. \$300,000 is budgeted for 2026.

Illustrating the need for these contributions, this past year we finished installing the chiller for the HVAC system at a total cost of approximately \$333,000. Other unbudgeted capital expenses totaled approximately \$94,000, while budgeted repair and maintenance expenses totaled approximately \$437,300. It is anticipated that a new boiler in the next year or two will cost \$500,000.

Outside of capital improvements, organ expenditures to date total \$1.55 million, with approximately \$600,000 remaining in 2026. The organ installation will be completed this spring or early summer at a total of approximately \$2.15 million.

This past year, some changes in operations were begun or announced. After long struggling with the need to have a higher level of accounting than a typical church can afford, we decided to outsource our accounting function. We will save money while improving performance. Next year, Galilee Montessori School will relocate and become Coastal Montessori School. It is anticipated that relocating the Montessori School will more closely align with our mission, decrease our maintenance costs and free up space for our Sunday school activities. Due to the fact that two thirds of the revenue for the school comes in from September through December, but two thirds of the costs occur from January to August, we will accrue the expenses for June, July, and August of 2026 in the 2025 fiscal year. Despite this accrual, we were still able to fund our Capital Improvement Reserve in the previously mentioned amount of \$150,000.

Other 2026 budgeted items include a new clergy position for pastoral care.

In summary, 2025 financial activities show:

- Revenue grew \$152,422 or 4.4% over 2024.
- Expenses grew \$123,619 or 4.0% over 2024 (before accrual for GMS).

	Pledged	Given		Pledges
2019	\$ 1,380,649	\$ 1,401,892	102%	316
2020	\$ 1,501,924	\$ 1,451,512	97%	319
2021	\$ 1,450,687	\$ 1,381,121	95%	271
2022	\$ 1,585,157	\$ 1,530,510	97%	296
2023	\$ 1,594,540	\$ 1,606,506	101%	275
2024	\$ 1,773,583	\$ 1,738,590	98%	309
2025	\$ 2,043,292	\$ 1,946,834	95%	320
2026	\$ 2,377,350	\$		359

We look forward to an even more prosperous 2026. Thank you to our clergy, staff, vestry and all of you for your support and attention to Galilee's mission, ministries, congregation and community. Thanks be to God!

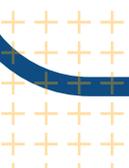
Respectfully,
Michael Via, *Treasurer*

2025 Financials

	2025 Actual	2026 Budget	Variance	% Variance
Revenue				
Annual Offerings	\$2,576,315	\$2,710,500	\$134,185	5.2%
Galilee Montessori	\$630,620	\$250,075	(\$380,545)	-60.3%
Other	\$345,041	\$330,546	(\$14,495)	-4.2%
Total Revenue	\$3,551,976	\$3,291,121	(\$260,855)	-7.3%
Expenses				
<i>General</i>				
Worship & Pastoral Care	\$464,262	\$537,165	\$72,903	15.7%
Administrative	\$435,453	\$414,097	(\$21,356)	-4.9%
Maint & Grounds	\$690,461	\$643,738	(\$46,723)	-6.8%
Interest Expense	\$13,480	\$12,000	(\$1,480)	-11.0%
Insurance	\$120,112	\$128,001	\$7,889	6.6%
Taxes (Payroll)	\$56,637	\$57,313	\$676	1.2%
<i>Subtotal General Expenses</i>	<i>\$1,780,405</i>	<i>\$1,792,314</i>	<i>\$11,909</i>	<i>0.7%</i>
Parish Life	\$41,887	\$66,025	\$24,138	57.6%
Music Ministry	\$186,661	\$181,994	(\$4,667)	-2.5%
Children's Ministry	\$190,381	\$185,740	(\$4,641)	-2.4%
40th Street Ministry	\$85,121	\$88,562	\$3,441	4.0%
Adult Ministry	\$82,815	\$79,716	(\$3,099)	-3.7%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$586,865</i>	<i>\$602,037</i>	<i>\$15,172</i>	<i>2.6%</i>
Designated Outreach	\$131,098	\$152,250	\$21,152	16.1%
Diocesan Pledge	\$74,000	\$76,000	\$2,000	2.7%
<i>Subtotal Outreach</i>	<i>\$205,098</i>	<i>\$228,250</i>	<i>\$23,152</i>	<i>11.3%</i>
Galilee Montessori	\$619,825	\$270,559	(\$349,266)	-56.3%
Other	\$55,640	\$46,675	(\$8,965)	-16.1%
Sub-Total Expenses	\$3,247,833	\$2,939,835	(\$307,998)	-9.5%
Operating Surplus	\$304,143	\$351,286	\$47,143	15.5%
Less Capital Improvement Reserve	\$150,000	\$300,000	\$150,000	100.0%
Less Montessori Accrual	\$137,053			
Net Cash Flow	\$17,090	\$51,286	N/A	N/A

	STEWARDSHIP 2025-2026			
	2025	2026	Variance	% Variance
Pledging "Units"	317	359	42	13.2%
Average Pledge Amount	\$6,425	\$6,622	\$197	3.1%
	\$2,036,713	\$2,377,350	\$340,637	16.7%

<u>Average Weekly Attendance</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>% Variance</u>
	485	529	588	11.2%



Ministry Reports

Family Ministry – Lillie Tillar

We are excited to report that our Family Ministry continues to grow and thrive, with participation and enthusiasm stronger than ever. Our Nursery/Toddler Ministry, Chapel, and Sunday School continue to expand each week through engaging Bible lessons and activities led by our dedicated childcare staff, Children's Team volunteers, and Student Leadership Team.



Over the past year, we have seen a blend of familiar faces and new ones, as friendships have grown, parents have formed meaningful connections, and children have eagerly soaked in God's Word each week. Each Sunday, children have the opportunity to participate in two distinct lessons. In Chapel, they gather for a whole-group, lectionary-based lesson paired with a coordinating craft. In Sunday School, children are grouped by age and explore the Old Testament through creative storytelling, hands on thematic activities, and engaging interactive games.

We are dedicated to creating a place where every child and teen feels truly seen, welcomed, and at home in our church. Through intentional relationships and a strong sense of community, we seek to nurture their faith and lay a lasting spiritual foundation for the years ahead.

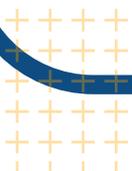
Family Ministry by the Numbers:

- Baptism Banners: 37 created
- Easter Egg Hunt: 4,000 eggs hidden
- First Communion Class: 21 children
- Confirmation: 16 students
- Graduate Recognition: 16 high school graduates
- Vacation Bible School: 283 toddlers, children, and teens supported by 56 amazing adult volunteers
- Pumpkin Party: 41 pumpkins carved
- Advent Wreath Making: 70 wreaths created
- College Care Packages: 40 mailed
- Christmas Pageant: 287 babies, children, and teenagers



Sunday Morning Average Attendance:

- Chapel: 53
- Sunday School: 40
- Student Leadership Team: 11
- Toddler Ministry: 30



Ministry Reports

Student Ministry – Ezra Boswell & Betty Michels

We are deeply grateful for your continued support of Galilee Student Ministries over the past year. This past October, 16 of our high school students were confirmed by the Bishop here at Galilee. It was a joyful and meaningful celebration as these students publicly affirmed their faith and their commitment to following Jesus.

Our Middle School and High School Youth Groups continue to grow and thrive, offering a fun and welcoming space where students build strong friendships while deepening their faith. Through a wide range of activities, games, and shared experiences, students engage with the Word of God in thoughtful and age-appropriate ways. Each gathering fosters connection, conversation, and spiritual growth, helping students strengthen their relationship with Christ and with one another.



Throughout the year, our students also served faithfully at many of Galilee's cherished traditions and family events. They helped host the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast, assisted with the Easter Egg Hunt, supported Vacation Bible School, and played an important role in bringing the Christmas Pageant to life. Through these opportunities, students not only served our church community but also experienced the joy of sharing their time and talents with others.

In late June, 23 high school students participated in our summer mission experience at the Boys Home in Covington, Virginia. It was a good week of service, reflection, and living out our faith together. Each year, we carefully and prayerfully select a service mission that allows our students to serve others and share the love of Christ in meaningful ways.

This year also marked an important transition in our Student Ministry leadership. We are deeply thankful for Nathan Horner and the wonderful work he did as Student Director, faithfully guiding and caring for our students during his time at Galilee. When Nathan stepped away, we were grateful to welcome Ezra Boswell into the role. Ezra has stepped seamlessly into Student Ministry leadership, bringing energy, heart, and dedication to our students and families. We are also thankful for Betty Michels, whose encouragement and support helped ensure a smooth and successful transition.



Ministry Reports

Adult Ministry – Ruth Wilkins

2025 marked a year of significant growth and spiritual formation within Galilee's Adult Ministry. Participation across our programs increased as parishioners sought deeper relationships and more opportunities to grow in faith together. Programs such as Father Buchanan's Book Club, Galilee Women Events, Lenten Lunches, No Cook Thursdays, Sunday Adult Forum, In It Together, Theology on Tap, and Women's Bible Study all experienced rising engagement, with more people gathering regularly for connection, learning, and fellowship.

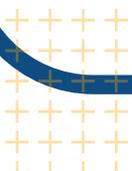
Our Sunday Morning Coffee Hour continues to thrive, with growing attendance, wonderful food, and lively conversation each Sunday morning. It has truly become a favorite gathering place for our church family, and we are deeply grateful to our dedicated coffee hour teams who make it all possible. Their hospitality and care create a welcoming space that keeps everyone coming back.



We welcomed 50 new members into our church family for 2025. We look ahead with excitement, eager to build on this momentum, to deepen relationships, nurture faith, and continue reaching more people.

Adult Ministry by the Numbers:

- Men's Retreat: 80 men attended
- Women's Retreat: 250 women attended
- Jeopardy Trivia Night: 47 participants
- GriefShare: 16 men and women
- Lenten Lunches: 75–100 participants
- Young Adult Gatherings: 20-30 participants
- Theology on Tap: 150–200 participants
- Fr. Buchanan's Summer Book Club: 50–100 participants
- Galilee Summer Pop-Ups: About 100 participants on average
- In It Together Parenting Group: 20–30 participants each Sunday
- Women's Bible Study (Wed. evenings & Thurs. mornings): Approx. 150 participants
- Galilee Women's Christmas Gathering: 150 participants



Ministry Reports

Music Ministry – Mary Dolch

What a year it has been for the Music Ministry at Galilee! With Part 1 of our pipe organ project now complete, and concerts and special services happening here each month, it's been a busy year! We continue to strive for excellence in our music at all three Sunday services: the 7:45 Rite I Service music consists of organ, hymns, and other occasional treats such as classical guitar, handbells and Gregorian Chant.



The 9:15 Contemporary Service has featured many of its wonderful team members in new ways, and the choir at the 11:00 Traditional Service continues to grow, as members of the wider community see and want to be part of what we're doing here at Galilee. We have also had other instrumental treats including guest brass, strings, and not one, not two, not three, but four flautists in Sunday morning worship! What a wonder!



Some other highlights from the music program this year include our Summer Music Series concerts, where we featured both guest artists and members of the congregation, heard our Chancel Organ for the very first time, and even a bagpipe concert with our very own Father Buchanan and his friend and colleague, Jim Roberts. The Requiem for All Souls in November was also deeply meaningful.

Our Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was so much fun, as were concerts by The Virginia Chorale, Norfolk State University Concert Choir, Galatea Chamber Ensemble, and our own Jennifer Gammill gave a wonderful and varied Christmas program here in December to promote her new CD! All these programs not only brought joy and lifted the hearts of our congregation, but also have been avenues of getting other people inside our doors for the first time.

2026 should see the finish of the installation of our Skinner pipe organ in the balcony, more collaborations with neighboring churches (including our children's choir that will travel to Norfolk for participation in an Evensong later this month!) and many exciting concerts. Praise be to God, from whom all these blessings flow!



Ministry Reports

Healing Prayer Ministry – The Rev. Nigel Mumford, Priest Associate

Prayer Team: 30 active prayer ministers. We welcomed Sadie Pitts to the prayer team. Denise Fergusson continues to oversee the Sunday Prayer Team scheduling.

Prayer + Worship Service: Overseen and coordinated by Fr. Buchanan on the first Tuesday of the month. The worship is led by Heather Mayes, Kyle Becker and Karen Lindval. A special evening to offer prayer and receive prayer. Fr. Nigel offers anointing and prayer, along with the prayer team, for healing prayer/laying-on-of-hands. The service is open to the community for all denominations. Attendance ranged from 72-85.

Soaking Prayer: Led by Fr. Nigel. Offered on the second Thursday of the month from 8:45-9:30am in St. Andrew's chapel. Soaking Prayer is a time of silent and peaceful prayer. "Soaking in and receiving in the Lord's presence." Average attendance 20-35.



Healing Ministry Teachings: Fr. Nigel led two classes in 2025 (The Foundation of Healing Ministry Level 1 & 2). In the spring course we had 38 students. This past fall, we had 26 students. We look forward to offering Level 3 in early 2026.

Individual Prayer Sessions: Personal or private prayer sessions with Fr. Nigel (along with a prayer minister assisting) are available Monday-Thursday between 9am and noon, by appointment. Prayers are available in-person or via Zoom (or by phone).

This year prayer sessions via Zoom have multiplied and gone global. Fr. Nigel (at times assisted by a few of his prayer ministers) is praying for those who traveled out of state to come to Galilee for healing prayer. Thanks to Zoom they are also ministering to those around the world: across the USA, UK, France, Korea, Ghana, Philippines, New Zealand, Germany, Hawaii, Singapore, Brazil, Australia, and Israel--to name a few. Lynn Mumford (Director of By His Wounds, Inc.) oversees and schedules all individual prayer sessions either by in-person or Via zoom.

Outreach Ministry: Fr. Nigel was invited to a podcast via CBN filmed at the Museum of the Bible in DC. He was also invited to a podcast via Zoom--all on the Ministry of Healing Prayer. Fr. Nigel was guest speaker for ACTSHeals Therapist Conference in FL, Order of St. Luke Healing Conference in Portland, Oregon, as well as Regent University for the C.S Lewis class. Fr. Nigel and Galilee will be leading the Welcome Home Initiative/After the Trauma: a program for combat veterans March 26-28, 2026.

Proposed Vestry Candidates for 2026



Crystal Cameron-Schaad - Prayer Team, Lector, Lay Eucharist Minister

As a small business owner, I have learned many invaluable skills such as leading a team, collaborating with others, serving clients with excellence, problem solving, and strategic planning. I would say my biggest strength is effective communication skills as I spent most of my career in media and public relations prior to opening my business. I am grateful for the outpouring of support and spiritual growth that my family and I have received at Galilee over the past decade. I especially love being on the Healing Prayer Team and witnessing so many breakthroughs. The Holy Spirit is working in profound ways and I can't wait to see what's next. It's a privilege and honor to serve the Galilee family as a member of the Vestry.



Mary Fletcher - In It Together, VB Fellows

I am a wife, mother of young children, and teacher who feels especially connected with the young adults, professionals, and parents of the Galilee community. I hope that my daily work within our home, church, and greater Virginia Beach community reflects how the steadfast love of the Lord is the most important part of my life. On paper, my background includes an amalgamation of cognitive neuroscience research at Dartmouth and Harvard, followed by finance law, and teaching Bible and English literature once our family moved back to Virginia Beach. I will bring strong faith, reverence, and a rather nerdy knack for picking up on seemingly disparate topics quite quickly in order to then extrapolate and teach to others through understanding. Galilee has been a spiritual home for me since 2018, and I am honored, humbled, curious, and excited to serve on the Vestry. Thank you for this opportunity to serve!



Bryant McGann

I am on the cusp of retiring as a commercial lawyer. Having come to Galilee relatively recently with my wife Martha in search of Jesus, I enjoy all things Galilee – the Christ-centered worship, altar guild, morning prayer, cart/parking ministry, men's breakfast, educational opportunities, and Christian fellowship. Relevant experience includes serving as treasurer, senior warden, endowment trustee, and steering committee member at our prior church, and serving as Church Attorney for the Diocese. I am truly humbled to have this opportunity to serve the Church that Martha and I have come to love. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me." Matthew 28:10.



Tim Stiffler

My family has been a member of Galilee Church since the early 1990's. We are so thankful for the many opportunities and support Galilee has offered us as we raised our two children in the Church. My wife and I have learned so much from other members of Galilee and appreciate the education offered by Alpha, the marriage classes and, most importantly, our church community at the 11:00 Sunday service. A commercial banker turned real estate developer by profession, I have enjoyed serving as co-chair of the Stewardship Committee, assisting with the sanctuary renovation and steeple replacement, and most recently helping with the organ installation. I look forward to working behind the scenes to ensure that Galilee is on solid footing both financially and structurally while helping to preserve the community treasure that Galilee represents as we all strive to follow God's plan for our lives.

Galilee 2025



Galilee 2025



Galilee Staff

The Reverend Dr. Andrew D. Buchanan – *Rector*

The Reverend Ben Randall – *Senior Associate Rector*

The Reverend Nigel Mumford – *Priest Associate for Prayer Ministry*

Mary Dolch

Organist & Choirmaster

Robbie Berndt

Parish Executive

Ruth Wilkins

Director of Adult Ministry

Lindsay McCaw

Receptionist/ Admin. Assistant

Lillie Tillar

Director of Family Ministry

Maria Honeycutt

Communications

Dorothy Hall

Assistant to Family Ministry

Erica Kent

Bookkeeper

Ezra Boswell

Director of Student Ministry

John Vlk

Sexton

Betty Michels

Assistant to Student Ministry

Josh Vlk

Video/ Sexton



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Scan the QR code to download Galilee's app, where you can watch our livestream on Sunday, check out our calendar, view past sermons, share a prayer request, register for events, sign up to serve, give online, and more!

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